

# Geneva High School

## Memorandum

**To:** Board of Education  
**From:** Tom Rogers and Doug Drexler  
**Date:** October 21, 2019  
**Re:** GHS New and Modified Courses for 2020-2021  
**Cc:** Dr. Mutchler, Dr. Barrett, Mrs. Sims

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Although it seems as if the current school year is just getting underway, we have already been hard at work planning for the 2020-2021 school year. We are recommending four new courses – all but one of them replacements for existing courses, as well as relatively minor naming modifications to two existing courses. These changes to our course offerings will better enable us to meet the continually evolving needs of our students. The recommendations for 2020-2021 are likely to require minimal changes in staffing, space, and materials.

To date, these new and modified courses have been reviewed by the GHS Department Chairs, Building Leadership Team, Building Administration, Secondary Principals, and the Administrative Cabinet. We await your approval before allowing students to register for these courses.

Please let us know if you have any questions about the proposed changes that appear in this report. We are requesting that this appear on the October 28<sup>th</sup> Board of Education agenda for an informational presentation, with a subsequent vote for approval at the November 11<sup>th</sup> Board of Education meeting.

### Summary of Curriculum Proposals from GHS Fall 2019

#### Proposals to Modify Existing Courses:

<b>Department:</b>	<b>Course:</b>	<b>Summary of Proposed Change:</b>	<b>Anticipated Materials and Training Costs:</b>
Art	AP Art + Design	The College Board has renamed the existing AP Studio Art course to be AP Art + Design. The AP Art + Design course is umbrella over three different types of art portfolios that students can submit: AP 2-D Art + Design, AP 3-D Art + Design, and AP Drawing. Students enrolled in this course will choose one of these areas to focus on, and the transcript will reflect the version of AP Art + Design that the student submits a portfolio for. Students may repeat this course if they pursue a different type of portfolio.	None
Technology Education	TSI Plus	While students already have the ability to repeat TSI (Technology Support Internship), the new "Plus" designation for repeat students will accomplish two objectives: 1) allowing us to more effectively schedule these advanced students, and 2) allowing students to identify advanced technology skills on their transcript.	None

<b>Proposals for New Courses:</b>			
<b>Department:</b>	<b>Course:</b>	<b>Summary of Proposed Change:</b>	<b>Anticipated Materials and Training Costs:</b>
English	Social Media and Sports Journalism	This course will introduce students to the converging fields of sports journalism and digital media. Students will learn how to produce, film, and edit stories for an on-air monthly sports program. Students will also have the opportunity to produce podcasts while using social media platforms such as Twitter, Instagram, and Facebook for promotional purposes. These techniques are valuable skills that help to make students more marketable in a world increasingly driven by these media forms. As part of this course, students will be expected to attend various athletic events outside of school hours. This course will be open to all students who have completed the Film Production course, and it will replace the existing Sitcom Production course.	\$1,400
Family & Consumer Sciences	Introduction to Teaching (Dual Credit)	This course will serve students in grades 10-12 who are interested in pursuing a teaching career at any level. GHS currently has many students who take courses in Early Childhood Education and/or Child Development. Additionally, there are several GHS students in the Teaching Assistant program that are placed from PreK-High School within the district. The Introduction to Teaching course will be another option for these students, as well as being open to students as the first course they take in this area. This course will be a suggested pre-requisite for the Teaching Assistant program. This course will be classified as a Dual Credit course with Waubensee Community College (Education 200: Introduction to Education), meaning that GHS students can earn both high school and college credit simultaneously.	\$2,760
Social Studies	AP Human Geography	This course will replace the existing World History Honors course that students can currently take during their freshman year. AP Human Geography will cover 5 intertwined themes within the field of geography: population, economics, culture, politics, and urbanization. Historical information will also be an important component of this course as the impacts of globalism, colonialism, and the human-environment relationships on places, regions, cultural landscapes, and patterns of interaction around the world are studied.	\$20,160

Social Studies	AP Psychology	Psychology is one of the most popular electives offered within the GHS Social Studies Department, with several sections of both Psychology I and Psychology II offered each year. AP Psychology will run as a yearlong course that is open to both juniors and seniors. Psychology II will no longer be offered once AP Psychology begins, but Psychology I will continue as an elective. AP Psychology will provide students with an enriched, rigorous opportunity to explore the scientific study of behavior and mental processes of individuals at a more advanced level than the Psychology I course.	\$14,330
<b><u>Existing courses to be offered in both traditional and blended learning formats beginning in 2020-2021:</u></b>			<b>Anticipated Materials and Training Costs:</b>
English	AP English Language		\$1,400
English	Creative Writing II		\$1,400