

## High School Curriculum Handbook

This registration booklet has been prepared to provide you with direction as you plan your Blue Hill High School education program. Students and parents should become familiar with the information contained in this booklet and design a course of study which is consistent with post-graduate plans.

Blue Hill High School provides the opportunity for a well-rounded program of studies which will help you fulfill your role as an informed, responsible citizen. Of utmost importance to your success is your willingness to plan your course of study. The benefits you will receive from school will increase if you plan your course of study carefully. Each student and his/her parents must take an active role in the planning process.

It is essential that each student be aware of the graduation requirements. It is also essential that all elective classes be chosen with a specific goal in mind. This booklet is designed to assist in planning.

Your high school years can serve as a doorway to better employment opportunities and a greater enjoyment of life. The faculty of Blue Hill High School is committed to helping you plan toward the fulfillment of your individual goals.

**Update 4/09**

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## Guidance

Counseling services are made available to all Blue Hill High School Students. The counselor provides a variety of services and works with all students in the following ways:

1. Educational planning: Information about high school elective subjects, aid in planning high school courses of study, information about business, technical schools and colleges, and information about financial aid for postsecondary study.
2. Occupational planning: information on a variety of occupations is available. All sophomores will use Nebraska Career Connections and other sources. ([www.nebraskacareerconnections.org](http://www.nebraskacareerconnections.org)) to take interest, skills, and values assessments. Students also receive individualized guidance on career exploration and create a resume for use during high school. In addition, they will continue to update their Personal Learning Plans.
3. Understanding abilities and interests: interpretation of assessments ranging from college aptitude tests to achievements tests to career interest inventories, along with discussion of topics such as progress in school, activities, and goals.
4. Students requesting counseling: topics and issues may include study skills, future plans, selection of school subjects, problems concerning adjustment to school, getting along with others, and personal problems.
5. Financial aid: help in obtaining financial aid for post-high school education.
6. College admissions: aid in obtaining college materials and filling out appropriate forms.
7. College admissions tests: notification of test dates, aid in registration, and test prep for the PLAN, PSAT, ACT, ASSET/Compass, and SAT
8. Scholarship applications: applications and guidance may be obtained in the guidance office where an extensive scholarship file exists. Students will also be exposed occasionally during class time and through the daily announcements to various scholarship opportunities.

## **Blue Hill High School Class Registration Procedure**

The guidance counselor or principal will visit classes to explain the registration process. Each student will receive a handbook of classes and a registration sheet. Students should complete and sign the form, obtain their parent/guardian signature, and return the form to the guidance counselor or principal in a timely manner. Students with special circumstances such as failures or who are having difficulty in deciding what classes are required for college or work should visit with the guidance counselor. Great care, thought, and consideration should be given to the choices.

Students should become well-rounded. There are a wide variety of courses to choose from. Career planning is extremely important and courses should be selected with that in mind. A student with an aptitude and/or a career interest should take high school courses that prepare him or her for that field. Students and parents should seriously consider their class selection so future opportunities are not jeopardized by omitting some high school courses. (See next page.)

Students will have ample time to make choices and discuss them with their parents, counselor, and friends. After the decisions are made, the student is formally registered for the coming year. Limited schedule changes will be made for conflicts and class failures.

## Graduation Requirements

A total of 220 semester hours must be earned by the student, of which 180 must be academic. All students must carry a minimum of 35 hours per semester. A student must pass in each semester course to receive credit for both semesters. The state graduation requirements are minimum requirements. To be certain of meeting college entry requirements, check with the guidance counselor.

### Required Courses:

English	40 hours (English I, English II, English II or Personal Communications I, and either English 4 or Personal Communication 2) Note: PC courses will not meet college English requirements.
Math	30 hours (Any combination of math credits will meet this requirement.) Note that business classes such as Accounting I or Accounting II do NOT fulfill math requirements.
Social Studies	30 hours (This includes at least 15 credits, 5 of which must come from each of the following: World Studies, American History, and Civics. Additional credits may come from the aforementioned classes or from other social studies offerings.)
Science	30 hours (must include 10 hours each from General Science and Biology)
Personal Health & Physical. Fitness	10 hours (required of all Freshmen)
Business	10 hours (Consisting of any combination of business/computer classes.)

### **Honors Designations for Graduation**

Beginning with the class of 2011, only seniors who have taken a rigorous high school course schedule will be eligible for Valedictorian/Salutatorian/Honors designations at graduation.

A rigorous course schedule is defined as including upper level courses which have a non-college prep. alternative. These courses would be the following:

<u>Math</u>	<u>Science</u>	<u>English</u>
Trig/Pre-calc	Chemistry	English III
Calculus	Physics	English IV
Statistics	Anatomy & Physiology	

From the list above, students must take both English courses and a combination of at least three other courses which draw from both the math and science offerings.

## **College Preparatory Curriculum Guidelines:**

The University of Nebraska at Lincoln is among the most selective colleges in the state. Its entrance requirements may serve as a guideline to students planning to attend a four-year university. (Some four-year colleges may waive the fourth year math requirement.) The NCAA (National College Athletic Association), which governs students participating in intermural collegiate competitive athletic teams, also has specific guidelines. See the guidance counselor for details.

### **UNL Admissions Requirements:**

English	<b>4 units</b> (40 credits) including English 1, English 2, English 3, and English 4 (Personal Communication and Speech do not qualify.)
Math	<b>4 units</b> (40 credits) including Algebra I, Algebra II, Geometry, and one additional unit that builds on a knowledge of Algebra or Geometry
Social Studies	<b>3 units</b> At least <b>1 unit</b> (10 credits) of American and/or world history and <b>one additional unit</b> of history, American Government, and/or geography, <b>and a third unit</b> drawn from any social science discipline
Natural Science	<b>3 units</b> (30 credits). At least two of the three units selected from biology, chemistry, physics, and earth sciences. One of the units must include laboratory instruction.
Foreign Language	<b>2 units</b> (20 credits). Students who are unable to take two years of foreign language in high school may still qualify for admission. Such students will be required to take two semesters of foreign language at the University of Nebraska. These students are still required to complete 16 units of academic coursework for admission.

Students will have ample time to make choices and discuss them with their parents, counselor, and friends. After the decisions are made, the student is formally registered for the coming year. Limited schedule changes will be made for conflicts and class failures.

### **Grant Information Guidelines**

Note: To be considered for the Academic Competitiveness Grant, which is offered at all public and private 2- and 4-year colleges in Nebraska, students must take the following courses while in high school:

- 3 years of math: Algebra I and higher
- 4 years of English (Personal Communications classes do NOT count.)
- 3 years of science: Phys. Science, Biology, and either Chemistry or Physics
- 3 years of social studies
- 1 year of foreign language

## Tech Prep (Free College Credit!)

Blue Hill High School is a member of the Tech Prep Consortium for the south central region of Nebraska. This consortium allows instructors at BHHS to align their vocational course curricula with those of courses offered through Central Community College of Hastings, Grand Island, and Columbus.

By aligning our courses with those of the college programs, our students can take courses here which are recognized as college credit by CCC, as well as by many other colleges across the state (and a few outside the state). Students must maintain a “B” average or above to prove proficiency before college credit can be awarded. Once credit is awarded, the student will have a college transcript at CCC which lists his/her college courses. This transcript can be requested at any time and may be sent to other colleges.

The chart below outlines the Tech Prep courses currently offered at Blue Hill High School and their equivalent college courses. College credits are denoted in parentheses.

<b>HIGH SCHOOL COURSE</b>	<b>=</b>	<b>CCC COLLEGE COURSE</b>
Animal Science	=	AGRI 1990 (2)
Natural Resources		AGRI 1990 (2)
Horticulture	=	COMH 1350 (2) COMH 1423 (1) COMH 1432 (1) COMH 1434 (1)
Intro to Ag. Mechanics	=	COMH 1541 (2)
Intro to Welding	=	WELD 1280 (3) WELD 1451 (1)
Ag. Business	=	AGRI 1110 (4) AGRI 1990 (2)
Accounting I	=	ACCT 1100 (3)
Computer Programming	=	INFO 1980 (3)
Computer Applications		INFO 1120 (3)

For more information about the Tech Prep Program, feel free to visit with the principal or counselor.

## High School Plan

When choosing classes, the students should be mature and responsible enough to live with their choices. Students should accept responsibility for the difficulty level of their course choices, and the fact of who the teacher and other students in the class are should not impact their decision.

Parents are asked to be involved in the course selection from the very beginning to avoid problems and to keep them informed regarding their child’s education. If there are any questions regarding changes, please contact the Guidance Counselor or Principal.

## High School Four-Year Plan

Subject	9th Grade	10th Grade	11th Grade	12th Grade
English	English 1	English 2	English 3 or Pers. Communication 1	English 4 or Pers. Communication 2
Science	Physical Science	Biology		
Math	Alg. I/Gen. Math/Alg. II			
Health/P.E.	Health/P.E.			
Social Studies	World Geography		American History	Civics
Computers/Business				
Electives				
<b>Total Credit Hours</b>	70-80	80	80	70-80

A personal learning plan is also available online in each student's portfolio. This can be accessed at [www.nebraskacareerconnections.org](http://www.nebraskacareerconnections.org).

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## **ACCOUNTING I**

This course places the emphasis on the foundation of accounting concepts, procedures, and vocabulary. The student will learn the accounting cycle for sole proprietorship, will manage a merchandising business organized as a partnership, and will begin the process for a merchandising business organized as a corporation. Students will also complete business simulations for a sole proprietorship and for a merchandising business organized as a partnership. Knowledge of basic mathematical functions is very helpful. Accounting I is a junior/senior course offering. This course is the equivalent of Small Business Accounting at Central Community College.

**TECH PREP CLASS: Equivalent to BSAD 1100 (3 credits)**

## **ACCOUNTING II (Prerequisite: Accounting I with grade of C or higher)**

This course is an extension of Accounting I and emphasizes the foundations of accounting concepts, procedures, and vocabulary. The students will learn the concepts of Departmentalized Accounting, Accounting Control Systems, General Accounting Adjustments, Corporation Accounting, Management Accounting, and Cost Accounting.

## **AG ED: ADVANCED AG MECHANICS (Prerequisite: Intro to Ag. Mechanics/Intro to Welding)**

This semester-long course is designed for students who have an interest in furthering their skills in ag mechanics. Topics in this course will rotate each fall semester in order that a student will have the opportunity to take this course in both the junior and senior years. The topics will include the following: advanced electricity, electric motors, introduction to hydraulics, and advanced welding techniques. Students will also be required to pass the safety test prior to entering the shop.

## **AG ED: AG SCIENCE**

This course is designed for freshmen entering agriculture education, but it is open to any student entering ag ed for the first time also. Introduction to agriculture and the FFA organization are covered, as well as parliamentary procedure, how to build an SAE, and keep record books. Introduction to agriculture include agriscience in the information age, careers in the agriculture industry, natural resources management, beginning plant sciences, beginning animal science, food science, and communications.

## **AG ED: AGRIBUSINESS MANAGEMENT**

This course is open to seniors who have an interest in the business aspects of agriculture. Students will be able to identify and describe the economic principles that influence the creation and conduct of business in a free market economy including the nature of international trade. Students will learn the elements of financial accounting and financial planning for success, as well as recognize the importance of human relation skills in successful business management. Topics included are ag sales, marketing, ag. law, and farm and ranch business management. **TECH PREP CLASS: Equivalent to AGRI 1110 (3), and AGRI 1990\* (2). Total of 5 college credits. (AGRI 1990 is an independent course fulfillment.)**

**AG ED: ANIMAL SCIENCE****OFFERED ALTERNATING YEARS: AVAILABLE IN 2010-2011**

This course will consist of the study of three major production areas: beef, sheep, and swine. The student will learn selection and judging techniques for all three species. Management and care for the herd including nutrition, health, and genetics will also be taught. This course will also incorporate effective marketing techniques and economics that impact the industry. This course counts for most agriculture majors in college.

**TECH PREP CLASS: Equivalent to AGRI 1990 (2), and AGRI 1990 (2) for a total of four credits. (AGRI is an independent course fulfillment.)**

**AG ED: HORTICULTURE (Prerequisite: Biology)****OFFERED ALTERNATING YEARS: AVAILABLE IN 20011-2012****(Semester 1)**

This course consists of plant identification, propagation techniques, and chemical safety while utilizing management operations necessary for growing plants in a greenhouse environment. Basic soil science will also be taught as well as environmental issues, careers in the horticulture industry, and successful marketing strategies of products. Students will identify career opportunities in the landscaping and turf management industry, describe the elements of growing and managing turf and landscape plants, and perform the necessary procedures of site analysis and evaluation.

**(Semester 2)**

This course consists of identifying career opportunities in the floriculture industry, selection and handling techniques for the care of plants, principles and mechanics of the floral design, and strategies necessary to operate a floral shop. Students will also learn about vegetable and fruit production, as well as successful gardening techniques. This course counts toward a commercial horticulture degree.

**TECH PREP CLASS: Equivalent to COMH 1350 (2), COMH 1423 (1), COMH 1432 (1), and COMH 1434 (1) Total of 5 college credits.**

**AG ED: INTRO. TO AG. MECHANICS/WELDING****(Semester 1)****INTRO TO AG MECHANICS**

This semester-long course is designed to familiarize the student with basic theory and specialized skills. Skills will be developed in the areas of tool identification and safe use, electricity, and small engines. Students must successfully complete this course **before** they are allowed to enter the second semester segment, as well as move into the advanced course. Activities include small engine maintenance and electric wiring boards.

**TECH PREP CLASS: Equivalent to COMH 1541-2 (2 credits)**

**(Semester 2)****AG ED: INTRO TO WELDING (Prerequisite: Intro to Ag Mechanics)**

This semester-long course is designed for students who have an interest in welding and project construction. Students will learn welding techniques for arc, oxy-acetylene, mig, and aluminum mig welding. Students will be required to turn in welds for grades, and learn safety procedures for welding prior to entering the shop. Activities include the district welding contest, welding boards, and small project construction. (Continued on next page.)

**TECH PREP CLASS: Equivalent to WELD 128.0 (3), and WELD 145.1 (1). Total of four college credits.**

## **AG ED: NATURAL RESOURCES**

**OFFERED ALTERNATING YEARS: AVAILABLE IN 2010-11.**

### **(First Semester)**

This course will focus on two main areas of natural sciences: native rangeland and soils. Students will be able to identify various range plants and correct management strategies for rangeland conservation. The next segment of this course is land management. Students will identify different soil types and later distinguish between various land classes and uses which promote erosion control. Activities include District Range Judging Contest and District Land Judging Contest.

### **(Second Semester)**

The first segment of this course will focus on crop production. Students will learn how to identify environmentally compatible pest management strategies which promote efficient field crop production. Students will learn the basics of plant and weed science and apply them to production of crops. The next segment of the course will focus on water science, recycling, and wildlife management where students will learn the basics of conservation and pollution control. Activities include District Range Judging Contest and District Land Judging Contest. This course counts as college credit toward many agricultural degrees in college.

**TECH PREP CLASS: Equivalent to AGRI 134.0 (2 credits)**

## **ALGEBRA I (Prerequisite: math placement test, grade, and/or teacher recommendation)**

This course introduces students to variable equations, expressions, and inequalities. Students will learn how to use tables and graphs as tools of interpretation. They will learn to solve a wide range of problems involving complex equations and story problems.

## **ALGEBRA II (Prerequisite: Algebra I)**

This course helps in the development of algebra skills, concepts, and problem-solving strategies introduced in Algebra I. The applications are enhanced by connecting algebra to other mathematical topics and to real-world situations.

## **AMERICAN HISTORY/COLLEGE AMERICAN HISTORY**

While this is a high school level course, students will have the option of taking it for college credit through Central Community College with the payment of CCC's current tuition rate. The course (HIST 201 and HIST 202) is transferable at most Nebraska postsecondary institutions as a general education requirement. **Students taking this course for college credit must first have appropriate ASSET, Compass, or ACT scores.**

Semester 1 of this course is a survey of American history from the age of discovery through the Civil War. Emphasis is on the political, economic, and social problems in the growth of the American nation. **(3 credits from CCC)**

Semester 2 of the course surveys American history from the end of the Civil War to the present day. Emphasis is on political, economic, and social problems in the growth of the American nation. **(3 credits from CCC)**

## **APPLIED SCIENCE**

This class provides fundamental instruction on the diversity of science for better performance in most types of work not requiring a 4-year college degree. It is a practical situational problem-solving course. The class includes projects such as bridges, mousetrap cars, rockets, etc.

## **ART I**

This elective is open to 9-12<sup>th</sup> grade students. The course provides an opportunity for the student to be introduced to several areas of art. Students will learn many techniques and have the opportunity to produce projects. Study will include drawing, self-portrait, pottery, art principles and elements, painting, art history, and art criticism.

## **ART II (prerequisite Art I)**

This elective is designed to give students the chance to expand and develop their artistic abilities. Emphasis is placed on students being creative and developing their own style and ideas. Areas of study include drawing, pottery, painting, printing, airbrush, and sculpture..

## **ART III**

Art III is a semester-long course designed to allow the student exposure to computer-aided graphic design. Students will learn to use Adobe Photoshop and create their own designs.

## **ART IV (prerequisite Art II)**

This is an independent art course, with the student doing individualized projects under instructor supervision. Students may register for this with instructor permission.

## **BAND**

The high school band is a performing organization that is made up of students who have at least two years experience on a wind or percussion instrument. Exceptions to this prerequisite could be students who have a background in other instruments such as piano or guitar and/or who can demonstrate a strong musical aptitude and desire to play in the high school band. All students who are in the high school band provide their own instruments with the exception of those students who play the large or unusual instruments such as bass clarinet, baritone saxophone, tuba, oboe, bassoon, and some of the larger percussion instruments. Any student who enters high school band without owning his/her own instrument will be allowed to do so on the basis of musical ability and need for particular instruments as determined by the band director.

## **BIOLOGY**

This is a comprehensive view of life from the cellular and molecular level with emphasis on structure as related to function. This is achieved through broad areas such as genetics, microbiology, and anatomy and physiology of the human body.

## **BUSINESS LAW**

This one-semester course will cover the foundations of American law. Business ethics, contractual business, and other topics will be covered.

**BUSINESS MATH (recommended for Juniors and Seniors only)  
OFFERED ALTERNATING YEARS; AVAILABLE IN 2011-2012.**

Focusing on basic math skills, the content includes managing money, figuring gross and net income, recordkeeping, using checking and savings accounts, managing expenses with cash purchases, and charge accounts and credit cards. Financial decisions are discussed about vehicle transportation, housing, insurance, and investments. Making business decisions, personnel purchasing, inventory, sales and marketing are analyzed. Business, finance, accounting, records, and management topics are also covered.

**CALCULUS (Prerequisites: Alg. I, Alg. II, Geometry, and at least one semester of Trig.)**

This course provides preparation for those students who intend to continue their study of mathematics in college. Students will have a recap of math skills that have been learned in their previous math classes during the first nine weeks of class. They then will be introduced to finding limits of functions, taking derivatives of functions, learning integration techniques, working with exponential, logarithmic and trigonometric functions.

**CHEMISTRY (Prerequisite: Algebra I)**

Chemistry is a comprehensive view of matter and its changes, classifications, and patterns. This is achieved through broad areas such as periodic law, quantum mechanics, and inorganic and organic chemistry.

**CIVICS**

Students are introduced to the major types of governments in the American system, as well as others used in foreign lands. Emphasis is also on one's civil rights, the voting process, how government works, and how one can affect government. Students will be required to increase their awareness of current government and political events through TV cable news, newspapers, magazines, and research.

**CHOIR**

Choir is a performing organization that provides students opportunities to sample in depth music of quality from various periods of music history. It fosters the recreational aspect of music, promoting the value of involvement by the students as a music-maker, as well as a listener.

**COMPUTER APPLICATIONS (recommended for junior or senior year)**

This one-semester course covers more advanced work in Word Processing (Word 2007), as well as instruction for Spreadsheets (Excel 2007), Data Bases (Access 2007), and presentations (Power Point 2007). If time allows students will work on imovies. Students will be given time in class to complete projects relating to the above-mentioned software programs.

**TECH PREP CLASS: Equivalent to INFO 112 (3 credits)**

**COMPUTER PROGRAMMING (Java Script)**

This one-semester course introduces students to basic programming skills. Students will learn the language of the computer and be able to write simple programs including graphics and animation. This class counts toward college credit in the Electronics Technology area at Central Community College and may also be recognized as an elective course.

**TECH PREP CREDIT: Equivalent to ELNS 198 (3 credits)**

## **CONSUMER EDUCATION (F.A.C.S.)**

### **OFFERED ALTERNATING YEARS; AVAILABLE IN 2011-2012.**

Students will be provided skills in this one-semester class to empower them to be effective citizens in the marketplace. Some of the units included are the following:

- How to purchase, finance, insure, and maintain a car.
- Use and abuse of credit, choosing a card wisely, dangers and downfalls of credit, rights, and resources.
- How to buy, sell, navigate, and communicate online safely and efficiently.
- Cost-of-living reality check, budgeting, apartment rental agreements, landlord-tenant rights, utilities.
- Investing and basic knowledge of the stock market.

## **ECONOMICS**

### **OFFERED ALTERNATING YEARS; AVAILABLE IN 2010-2011.**

This course deals with both micro and macroeconomics. The concepts of supply, demand, and competitive vs. monopolistic pricing will be covered on the microeconomics side, while total income, output, production, and prices are covered in macroeconomics. Students will gain exposure to the stock market as well.

## **ENGLISH I**

This course will include a basic review of grammar during second and fourth quarters. Literature exploration will include Shakespeare's Romeo and Juliet, Dicken's Great Expectations, Greene's Summer of My German Soldier, and a variety of short stories. Students will also be required to do independent reading for the Accelerated Reader program. Textbooks used include Literature: Gold (Paramount Ed.) and Warriner's English Workshop (3rd Course).

## **ENGLISH II**

This course emphasizes grammar, vocabulary study, writing, and learning library skills during first semester. Second semester focuses on literature by acquainting students with various selections of world literature, including some of the classics like The Odyssey and Julius Caesar. Special topics throughout the year include journal writing, writing book reports, and group projects.

## **ENGLISH III**

The first quarter of this course focuses on genres of American literature such as essays, short stories, and journals from the text Literature: The American Experience. Second quarter emphasizes grammar. Individual book reports are also required. During second semester, a video study of the English classic Hamlet is studied, as well as the American literature novels To Kill a Mockingbird, and My Antonia. A research paper is also required, as well as an oral presentation based on the paper. Grammar text is Warriner's English Workshop (5th Course).

## **ENGLISH IV**

The materials used in the English IV curriculum are college prep level taken from various sources. The literature study covers various eras of British literature from Old English to Modern English. Students learn to write college level essays by writing an essay over each novel. Students also write an eight-page term paper on a topic of the student's choice. A term

paper guidebook is used, which includes grammar. English IV is recommended for the college-bound student, as its emphasis is on composition.

### **EXPLORATORY DESIGN (Prerequisite Algebra I)**

Students will be using the software, Chief Architect, to create computer-aided floor plans. Chief Architect is specifically designed for the residential and light commercial design professional. The student will be able to efficiently and accurately draft in 2D while helping communicate and illustrate a 3D model of the project.

### **FAMILY LIVING**

**OFFERED ALTERNATING YEARS; AVAILABLE IN 2009-2010.**

**(Family Living/Independent Living offered alternating years; available in 2009-2010)**

This one-semester course focuses on developing the communication and interpersonal skills necessary for satisfying personal and family relationships both now and in the future. Students have the opportunity to explore and discuss a wide variety of topics, including marriage, parenting, balancing work and family responsibilities, adapting to life cycle changes, and consumerism.

### **FOODS I/FOODS II**

**OFFERED ALTERNATING YEARS; AVAILABLE IN 2010-2011.**

These courses may be taken individually or in combination; each course is one semester. Foods, nutrition, and culinary arts will be the main subjects of this course. Topics will include the psychological and social factors affecting food choices, proper nutrition for a balanced diet, nutrition throughout the life cycle, food safety and sanitation, food preparation, food presentation, and kitchen management.

### **GENERAL ANATOMY & PHYSIOLOGY I (Concurrent Credit with CCC)**

**OFFERED ALTERNATING YEARS; AVAILABLE IN 2011-2012.**

This course is a study of microscopic and macroscopic study of the organ systems of the human body integrated with physiological functions. Lab work is included. (3 college credits available)

### **GENERAL MATH**

**OFFERED ALTERNATING YEARS; AVAILABLE IN 2011-2012.**

General Mathematics is a mathematics course that reviews the basic concepts learned in upper elementary/junior high mathematics. It focuses on a review of basic math skills, including whole numbers, fractions, decimals, percents, the geometry of perimeter, area and volume, and basic statistics. Drill and repetition are paramount.

### **GEOMETRY (Prerequisite: Algebra I)**

Skill, reasoning, applying mathematics, procedural knowledge, and factual knowledge set the standard for this college-prep geometry. The course follows the sequence Algebra I and/or Algebra II. Based on the coordinate plane, it begins with undefined terms, defined terms, and postulates and theorems. Topics covered include the distance formula, slope, Pythagorean Theorem, the study of angles, congruent and similar triangles, ratios, polygons, basic trigonometry, analyzing circles, surface area, coordinate geometry, loci, and transformation of figures.

## **GERMAN I**

**OFFERED ALTERNATING YEARS; AVAILABLE IN 2012.**

**Students taking a foreign language course need to have a competent skill level in their native language. It is recommended they have a "B" average in English.**

The beginning course in German is taught over Distance Learning which emphasizes listening comprehension, pronunciation, basic grammar, conversation, and culture, which includes geography, history, German cuisine, customs, holidays, and topics of interest to youth. Highlights of the year include individual projects and a virtual field trip to German-speaking countries.

## **GERMAN II (Prerequisite: German I)**

**OFFERED ALTERNATING YEARS; AVAILABLE IN 2010-2011.**

German II is taught over Distance Learning. It is recommended that students have maintained a "B" average in German I. This course is designed to broaden the student's skills in speaking, listening, reading, and writing. Continued cultural awareness is emphasized, including current events, careers in foreign language, and German influence in America.

## **HEALTH**

This course is designed to prepare students for healthy, productive lives. Various topics that are discussed and explored include, but are not limited to the following: major health problems (heart disease, respiratory disease, cancer, communicable diseases, etc.), C.P.R., basic first aid, emotional health, environmental health, nutrition, and other relevant health topics of the day. The course utilizes lecture, note taking, audio/visual, and hands-on work.

## **INDEPENDENT LIVING**

**OFFERED ALTERNATING YEARS; AVAILABLE IN 2011-2012.**

This one-semester course helps students understand and cope with personal, family consumerism and social challenges. Emphasis is placed on consumer education, communication, decision-making skills, and building stable relationships with family and peers. The course enables students to implement positive coping mechanisms and promotes understanding of self. It addresses issues that impact teenagers: self-concept, empowering the student to be effective citizens in the marketplace, family and peer

## **JOURNALISM**

Students will be expected to have writing skills in place in order to write short human interest stories and to conduct interviews of school personnel and students. Journalism students should possess excellent grammar and word processing knowledge.

## **MODERN PROBLEMS**

**OFFERED ALTERNATING YEARS; AVAILABLE IN 2011-2012.**

This course delves into the political, cultural, and other diverse problems of modern society. Students will enter into discussions, conduct research, and present information on topics relevant to contemporary issues.

## **OCCUPATIONAL MATH (for Juniors and Seniors only)**

**Offered during school year 2010-2011.**

This course exposes students to vocational and financial applications involving mathematical operations, measurement systems, geometric relationships, and basic statistical and algebraic concepts. This course is the equivalent to MATH 105 at Central Community College, Hastings. Its depth allows the student to learn/relearn all basic mathematics from whole numbers, fractions, decimals, ratios, proportion, percents, percent increase and decrease, wages, home expenses, banking, reading graphs, basic statistics, measure in English and metric, energy and power, rational numbers, basic algebra, basic geometry, and similar and congruent triangles.

## **PERSONAL COMMUNICATIONS I**

This course is designed for those students NOT going to a four-year college, but perhaps to a tech. school or directly into the work force after graduation. This course will focus on reading comprehension, a review of grammar, and exercises to improve writing skills and vocabulary.

## **PERSONAL COMMUNICATIONS II**

This course will focus on employment-seeking skills. The student will gain experience in writing letters of application, preparing a resume, and learning job interview skills. Also included in this course are a review of grammar and exercises to improve spelling and writing skills and enrich the student's vocabulary. The student will also gain experience and skills in public speaking.

## **PHYSICAL EDUCATION**

This course will concentrate on the rules of and fundamental skills necessary for various sporting activities including the following: softball, soccer, basketball, tumbling, touch football, badminton, horseshoes, and track and field. The student will learn teamwork and good sportsmanship.

## **PHYSICAL SCIENCE**

Physical Science is a comprehensive view of the basic concepts of chemistry and physics. This is achieved through broad areas such as light, sound, and matter and their patterns and changes.

## **PHYSICS (Prerequisite: Algebra II or instructor permission)**

Physics is a comprehensive view of the relationship between matter and energy. This is achieved through broad areas including Newtonian mechanics, quantum mechanics, quantum mechanics, nuclear physics, electricity, magnetism, and wave mechanics.

## **PRE-ALGEBRA (Take as preparation for Algebra I if needed.)**

**OFFERED ALTERNATING YEARS; AVAILABLE IN 2010-2011.**

Pre-Algebra is a mathematics course that sequences the general math. In addition to basic skills, this course uses algebra principles and properties of both positive and negative rational numbers. Using variables and solving two-step equations; adding and subtracting, multiplying, and dividing integers; solving and graphing two-step inequalities; graphing the linear equation; ratio, percents, and proportions; and basic geometry of congruent triangles, polygons, and slope are topics covered. If the material is learned, this course leads to Algebra I.

## **PSYCHOLOGY**

### **OFFERED ALTERNATING YEARS; AVAILABLE IN 2010-2011.**

This is an introductory course that explores different schools and key figures in psychology. The class explores many of the aspects of psychology and how it may affect the students and the world around them.

## **SOCIOLOGY**

### **OFFERED ALTERNATING YEARS; AVAILABLE IN 2011-2012.**

This course covers the various aspects of culture and interaction among societal groups. Students will explore the impact of cultural and other differences and explore their own sociologic opinions and actions.

## **SPANISH I**

**Students taking a foreign language need to have a competent skill level in their native language. It is recommended that they have a "B" average in English.**

The beginning course in Spanish emphasizes listening comprehension, pronunciation, basic grammar, conversation, and culture, which includes geography, history, Spanish cuisine, customs, holidays, and topics of interest to youth. Highlights of the year include individual projects and vocabulary games.

## **SPANISH II (Prerequisite: Spanish I)**

Spanish II is designed to broaden students' skills in speaking, listening, reading, and writing. Continued cultural awareness is emphasized, including current events, careers in foreign language, and Spanish influence in America. One of the highlights of the year includes teaching elementary students in a mini-course format.

## **SPANISH III (Prerequisite: Grade of A in Spanish II or instructor permission.)**

Spanish III is designed to increase students' skills in listening, reading, writing, and especially speaking. Cultural awareness is emphasized. Individual projects and translation from outside resources is required.

## **SPANISH IV (Prerequisite: Grade of A in Spanish III or instructor permission.)**

Spanish IV emphasizes translation, speaking, and reading literature at an advanced level.

## **SPEECH/DRAMA**

The speech component provides students with an opportunity to learn various forms of public speaking. Students will focus on all aspects of presentation, ranging from voice to visual aides. Examples of required speeches will be the entertainment speech, the informative speech, and the persuasive speech. The drama component introduces various aspects of drama and acting. Students will gain exposure to presentations formats, and they will be given the opportunity to improve their skills in areas such as monologues, duets, and others. A basic background of theater will also be covered.

## **STATISTICS**

This course follows a nontheoretical approach to statistics without formal proofs. Contents include data collecting and sampling techniques; frequency distributions and graphs; data

description; variation and standard deviation; Chebyshev's Theorem; percentiles, quartiles, and deciles; probability; probability distributions; normal distributions; confidence intervals and sample size; testing; correlation and regression; and other analysis data. The data includes problems in business, sports health, architecture, education, entertainment, political science, psychology, history, criminal justice, the environment, transportation, physical sciences, demographics, eating habits, and travel and leisure.

### **STRENGTH TRAINING AND CONDITIONING**

This course will concentrate on weight lifting and conditioning. Lifting will focus on core lifts and supplementary lifts to improve strength and performance.

### **TRIG/PRE-CALCULUS (Prerequisites: Algebra I, Geometry, Algebra II)**

Course content includes trig and functions, their graphs, inverses and translations; solving right triangles, Law of Sines, Law of Cosines, the ambiguous case, degree and radian measure, velocity, trig identities of sum, difference, double angle, half angle, and others; .

### **WEIGHT TRAINING**

This course introduces students to the regimen of weightlifting. Three days per week, students will do a basic program of core lifts, as well as supplementary lifts. The other days will be spent on various conditioning exercises and activities.

### **WORLD STUDIES**

Emphasis is placed on geography, culture, and brief histories of the major regions of the world. The politics of the regions is also studied. Early in the course, students will review fundamental geography concepts and terms.

### **YEARBOOK**

This is a full-year course in which students plan, create, and produce the high school yearbook and elementary memory book. Members of the yearbook staff are expected to have a high level of maturity and the ability to work independently. Students must have an English grade of 86% or better. This class is open to sophomores, juniors and seniors and is limited to ten students. Each student will learn to use the computer to develop new skills in digital technology, exercise his or her creativity, photograph and arrange pictures, conduct polls and interviews, write stories and captions, edit and rewrite copy, sell advertising, and market the yearbook.