

**Penn Cambria**

**High School Course Guide**

**2025-2026**



## Credit Requirements for Graduation

### Class of 2026

| VOCATIONAL | Class of 2026             | OTHER     |
|------------|---------------------------|-----------|
| 4          | ENGLISH                   | 4         |
| 4          | MATH                      | 5         |
| 3          | SCIENCE                   | 4         |
| 3          | SOCIAL STUDIES            | 4         |
| 1          | ARTS/HUMANITIES           | 3         |
| 1          | COMPUTERS                 | 1         |
| 2          | PHYSICAL EDUCATION/HEALTH | 2         |
| -          | ELECTIVES                 | 3         |
| 8          | VOCATIONAL CREDITS        | -         |
| <b>26</b>  | <b>TOTAL</b>              | <b>26</b> |

### Class of 2027 and Beyond

**Personal Finance** is required for all students. The course may count as a math credit or as an elective.

| VOCATIONAL | Class of 2027 & Beyond    | OTHER     |
|------------|---------------------------|-----------|
| 4          | ENGLISH                   | 4         |
| 4          | MATH                      | 5         |
| 3          | SCIENCE                   | 4         |
| 3          | SOCIAL STUDIES            | 4         |
| 1          | ARTS/HUMANITIES           | 3         |
| 1          | COMPUTERS                 | 1         |
| 1.5        | PHYSICAL EDUCATION/HEALTH | 1.5       |
| 0.5        | ELECTIVES                 | 3.5       |
| 8          | VOCATIONAL CREDITS        | -         |
| <b>26</b>  | <b>TOTAL</b>              | <b>26</b> |

DC= Dual Credit 1.10 GPA Grade Weight

\* = Honors 1.05 GPA Grade Weight

(H) = Humanities course

### Class of 2026 Credit Requirements

| 2026 Non-Vocational Credit Requirements |  | 2026 Vocational Credit Requirements |  |
|---|--|-------------------------------------|--|
| <b>ENGLISH (4 cr)</b>                   |  | <b>ENGLISH (4 cr)</b>               |  |
| English 9                               |  | English 9                           |  |
| English 10                              |  | English 10                          |  |
| English 11                              |  | English 11                          |  |
| English 12                              |  | English 12                          |  |
| <b>MATH (5 cr)</b>                      |  | <b>MATH (4 cr)</b>                  |  |
| Pre-Algebra                             |  | Pre-Algebra                         |  |
| Algebra 1                               |  | Algebra 1                           |  |
| Geometry                                |  | Geometry                            |  |
| Algebra 2                               |  | Algebra 2                           |  |
| Academic Math                           |  | Academic Math                       |  |
| Trig/Pre-Calculus                       |  | Trig/Pre-Calculus                   |  |
| Calculus                                |  | Calculus                            |  |
| Personal Finance                        |  | Personal Finance                    |  |
| <b>SCIENCE (4 cr)</b>                   |  | <b>SCIENCE (3 cr)</b>               |  |
| Earth Environmental                     |  | Earth Environmental                 |  |
| Biology                                 |  | Biology                             |  |
| Chemistry                               |  | Physical Science                    |  |
| Physics                                 |  |                                     |  |
| <b>SOCIAL STUDIES (4 cr)</b>            |  | <b>SOCIAL STUDIES (3 cr)</b>        |  |
| World History                           |  | World History                       |  |
| US History 1                            |  | US History 2 (or US 1)              |  |
| US History 2                            |  | Government/Econ                     |  |
| Government/Econ                         |  |                                     |  |
| <b>HEALTH/PE (2 cr)</b>                 |  | <b>HEALTH/PE (2 cr)</b>             |  |
| PE/Health                               |  | PE/Health                           |  |
| PE/Health                               |  | PE/Health                           |  |
| PE/Health                               |  | PE/Health                           |  |
| PE/Health                               |  | PE/Health                           |  |
| <b>COMPUTERS (1 cr)</b>                 |  | <b>COMPUTERS (1 cr)</b>             |  |
| Digital Concepts 9                      |  | Digital Concepts 9                  |  |
| <b>HUMANITIES (3 cr)</b>                |  | <b>HUMANITIES (1 cr)</b>            |  |
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| <b>ELECTIVES (3 cr)</b>                 |  | <b>APVTS VO-TECH (8 cr)</b>         |  |
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### Class of 2027 & Beyond Credit Requirements

| 2027+ Non-Vocational Credit Requirements |  | 2027+ Vocational Credit Requirements   |  |
|--|--|--|--|
| <b>ENGLISH (4 cr)</b>                    |  | <b>ENGLISH (4 cr)</b>                  |  |
| English 9                                |  | English 9                              |  |
| English 10                               |  | English 10                             |  |
| English 11                               |  | English 11                             |  |
| English 12                               |  | English 12                             |  |
| <b>MATH (5 cr)</b>                       |  | <b>MATH (4 cr)</b>                     |  |
| Pre-Algebra (prior to 25-26)             |  | Pre-Algebra (prior to 25-26)           |  |
| Algebra 1 (two credits starting 25-26)   |  | Algebra 1 (two credits starting 25-26) |  |
| Geometry                                 |  | Geometry                               |  |
| Algebra 2                                |  | Algebra 2                              |  |
| Academic Math                            |  | Academic Math                          |  |
| Trig/Pre-Calculus                        |  | Trig/Pre-Calculus                      |  |
| Calculus                                 |  | Calculus                               |  |
| Personal Finance <i>*Required*</i>       |  | Personal Finance <i>*Required*</i>     |  |
| <b>SCIENCE (4 cr)</b>                    |  | <b>SCIENCE (3 cr)</b>                  |  |
| Earth Environmental                      |  | Earth Environmental                    |  |
| Biology                                  |  | Biology                                |  |
| Chemistry                                |  | Physical Science                       |  |
| Physics                                  |  |  |  |
| <b>SOCIAL STUDIES (4 cr)</b>             |  | <b>SOCIAL STUDIES (3 cr)</b>           |  |
| World History                            |  | World History                          |  |
| US History 1                             |  | US History 2 (or US 1)                 |  |
| US History 2                             |  | Government/Econ                        |  |
| Government/Econ                          |  |  |  |
| <b>HEALTH/PE (1.5 cr)</b>                |  | <b>HEALTH/PE (1.5 cr)</b>              |  |
| HS Health                                |  | HS Health                              |  |
| PE                                       |  | PE                                     |  |
| PE or Strength                           |  | PE or Strength                         |  |
| <b>COMPUTERS (1 cr)</b>                  |  | <b>COMPUTERS (1 cr)</b>                |  |
| Digital Concepts 9                       |  | Digital Concepts 9                     |  |
| <b>HUMANITIES (3 cr)</b>                 |  | <b>HUMANITIES (1 cr)</b>               |  |
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| <b>ELECTIVES (3.5 cr)</b>                |  | <b>ELECTIVES (0.5 cr)</b>              |  |
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# Honors Level Curriculum Overview

## Honors Level Courses

Penn Cambria High School offers students a range of both honors level and dual credit course options for students. Honors level courses require a more in-depth understanding of the course concepts and incorporate more academic reading. Students in the honors level of a core course will be expected to engage in analysis, evaluation and synthesis level activities with more frequency and for a longer duration than that found in the non-honors level course.

### **Weighted at 1.05 for GPA**

Honors English 9  
Honors English 10  
Honors English 11  
Honors Algebra I  
Honors Algebra II  
Honors Geometry  
Honors Earth and Environmental Science  
Honors Biology I  
Honors Chemistry I  
Honors World History  
Honors U.S. History I  
Honors Government / Economics

## Dual Credit Courses

The following courses are offered with a dual credit option allowing students to elect to enroll in a local university in order to obtain both college credit and PCHS credit. Students are not required to dual enroll in order to take these courses.

### **Weighted at 1.10 GPA – Offered with dual credit options for students.**

Honors English 12-DC (*Mt. Aloysius College*)  
Honors Physics -DC (*St. Francis University*)  
Honors U.S. History II-DC (*Mt. Aloysius College*)  
European History-DC (*Mt. Aloysius College*)  
Biology II -DC (*Mt. Aloysius College*)  
Chemistry II -DC (*Mt. Aloysius College*)  
Anatomy and Physiology I -DC-(*Mt. Aloysius College*)  
Trigonometry/Pre-Calculus- DC (*St. Francis University*)  
Calculus-DC (*Mt. Aloysius College*)  
Spanish III -DC (*St. Francis University*)  
Spanish IV-DC (*St. Francis University*)

# English and Communications

## *Honors English 12 – DC*

**Course #:** 111 **Credits:** 1 (GPA grade weight 1.10)

**Prerequisite:** 93% in Honors English or 95% in English

Advanced English 12 is designed for the student with well-developed reading, writing, listening, and speaking skills. An Advanced English 12 student will be expected to complete a variety of individual reading and writing assignments and should have the ability to demonstrate critical analysis of reading selections. The focus of instruction and choice of reading materials will be centered on developing critical, analytical, and synthesis skills. Students in this course will examine world literature across genres, complete novel studies, and hone writing and speaking skills needed for college and career. Students will also demonstrate proficiency in using research to complete a persuasive project involving both a formal research paper and a formal presentation. This course may include recommended summer reading. Dual credit is offered through Mt. Aloysius College.

## *Academic English 12*

**Course #:** 110 **Credits:** 1

Academic English 12 is a standards-based course that is designed to improve student proficiency in reading, writing, speaking, listening and critical thinking. Students in this course will examine world literature across genres, complete novel studies, and demonstrate proficiency with writing and speaking skills needed for college and career. Students will also demonstrate proficiency in using research to complete a persuasive project involving both a formal research paper and a formal presentation.

## *Honors English 11\**

**Course #:** 108 **Credits:** 1 (GPA grade weight 1.05)

**Prerequisite:** 93% in Honors English or 95% in English

Honors English 11 is designed for the student with well-developed reading, writing, listening, and speaking skills. An Honors English 11 student will be expected to complete a variety of individual reading and writing assignments and should have the ability to demonstrate critical analysis of reading selections. The focus of instruction and choice of reading materials will be centered on developing critical, analytical, and synthesis skills. This course may include recommended summer reading.

## *Academic English 11*

**Course #:** 107 **Credits:** 1

Academic English 11 is based on critical analysis of American Literature with an emphasis on Pennsylvania Academic Standards. Students will make connections among the literary works they study during reading, writing, speaking, and mixed media opportunities.

## *Honors English 10\**

**Course #:** 105 **Credits:** 1 (GPA weight 1.05)

**Prerequisite:** 93% in Honors English or 95% in English

Honors English 10 is a more rigorous course with the same curricular focus as Academic English 10. Honors English 10 is designed for the student with well-developed reading, writing, listening, and speaking skills. An Honors English 10 student will be expected to complete a variety of individual reading and writing assignments and should have the ability to make informed, independent observations about and analyses of reading selections. The focus of instruction and on choice of reading materials will be centered on developing critical, analytical, and synthesis skills. This course may include recommended summer reading.

**\*\* This course will prepare students to take the Keystone Literature Assessment.\*\***

## *Academic English 10*

**Course #:** 104 **Credits:** 1

The focus of this course will be using fiction and nonfiction selections to demonstrate proficient skills with regards to literature and reading. The course will also contain novel study, a research component, and independent reading.

**\*\* This course will prepare students to take the Keystone Literature Assessment.\*\***

## *Honors English 9\**

**Course #:** 102 **Credits:** 1 (GPA grade weight 1.05)

**Prerequisite:** 93% in Honors English or 95% in English

Honors English 9 is a more rigorous course with the same curricular focus as Academic English 9. An Honors English 9 student will be expected to complete a variety of individual reading and writing assignments and should have the ability to make informed, independent observations about and analyses of reading selections. Students should have achieved mastery of basic grammar skills, as the focus of writing instruction will be centered on developing critical, analytical, and synthesis skills. This

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course may include recommended summer reading.

### *Academic English 9*

**Course #:** 101 **Credits:** 1

Academic English 9 provides an emphasis on formal, academic writing skills that are necessary to prepare students for college or career-readiness. In addition, the course will include a novel study and a study of drama through *Romeo and Juliet*. An introduction to research is presented with focus placed on the mechanical construction of a career research paper in MLA format and a formal presentation to develop public speaking skills.

### ***Electives in English & Communications - Offerings dependent upon sufficient enrollment***

#### *Modern Social & Workplace Communications (H)*

**Course #:** 123 **Credits:** 1

Social Communication will focus heavily on everyday interpersonal and social communication skills. In this course, students will learn and apply a variety of real-world communication skills including nonverbal communication skills, small group communication, presentation skills, listening skills, social writing skills, critical reading skills, and online and social media communication skills.

21<sup>st</sup> Century Workplace will focus heavily on career and workplace communication skills. In this course, students will learn and apply a variety of real-world communication skills both online and face-to-face including interpersonal skills, graphical communication, team communication, online modes of communication, communicating expectations, and accepting critical feedback.

#### *Public Speaking (H)*

**Course #:** 968 **Credits:** 1

**Schedule Note:** Course scheduling for 2025-2026 pending sufficient enrollment and teacher availability

Students will explore a variety of speech genres, original as well as published, to develop the fundamentals of public speaking. These include but are not limited to using basic verbal and nonverbal techniques, speech topic selection, writing an attention-getting opening, organization of ideas, using supporting materials, relating to the audience, creating and using effective visual aids, rehearsing strategies, and various relaxation techniques to overcome nervousness. The speaking techniques learned in this course will help the student to gain confidence in front of an audience and will benefit the student in a variety of everyday, real-world situations.

#### *Creative Writing (H)*

**Course #:** 969 **Credits:** 1

**Schedule Note:** Offered every other year (planned for 2025-2026)

Creative writing focuses on the four-step process writing model and the reading of professional writings to motivate students to create original essays, poems, and short stories. The writing assignments include narration and exposition. Students practice self-editing skills including detailed suggestions for the revision and refinement of work.

#### *Journalism/Yearbook (H)*

**Course #:** 970 **Credits:** 1

**Schedule Note:** This course is open to sophomores, juniors, and seniors. This course curriculum includes a three-year track option allowing students to take this elective offering up to three times in the high school career.

The Journalism/Yearbook course will provide students with an introduction to the field of journalism. Major topics of study include: an introduction to journalism, reporting basics, design basics, types of reporting, legal and ethical implications in journalism, and marketing. Students will apply learning by assisting with the production of the yearbook and a school newspaper. This course will be scheduled pending sufficient enrollment and instructor availability.

## Mathematics

### *Algebra I*

**Course #:** 405 **Credits:** 2

**Schedule Note:** This two-credit course is scheduled for double periods for a full year.

This two-credit high school course provides students with a solid foundation in pre-algebra before moving into a thorough study of Algebra 1 concepts. This course is a formal exploration of math that emphasizes physical models, graphs, and other mathematical representations. This course includes spiraled learning with concepts first introduced and then revisited at deeper levels throughout the school year.

**\*\*This course will prepare students to take the Keystone Algebra 1 assessment.\*\***

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### *Honors Algebra I\**

**Course #:** 402 **Credits:** 1 (GPA grade weight 1.05)

**Prerequisite:** 93% in Math 8

This is a rigorous course that includes an in-depth study of algebra at an accelerated pace including a heavy emphasis on problem solving, application, and extension activities. Course content includes operations with real numbers and expressions, linear equations, coordinate geometry, linear inequalities, polynomials, factoring, and data analysis.

**\*\*This course will prepare students to take the Keystone Algebra 1 assessment.\*\***

### *Algebra II*

**Course #:** 404 **Credits:** 1

Algebra II is designed to be an extension and application of graphic and algebraic solutions of linear equations first defined and introduced in Algebra I. The algebra curriculum will focus on a greater emphasis of conceptual understanding, on algebra as a means of representation, and on algebraic methods as a problem-solving tool.

### *Honors Algebra II\**

**Course #:** 415 **Credits:** 1 (GPA grade weight 1.05)

**Prerequisite:** 93% in Honors Algebra 1 or 95% in Algebra 1

This is a more rigorous course that includes the same curricular content as Keystone Algebra II. However, this course will include a more in-depth study with more analysis and problem solving as students develop skills necessary to progress towards higher level mathematics.

### *Geometry*

**Course #:** 406 **Credits:** 1

High School Geometry is a challenging course building on the strong conceptual foundation students develop in previous mathematical courses. Students should have opportunities to visualize and work with three-dimensional figures in order to develop spatial skills fundamental to everyday life and to many careers. The interplay between geometry and algebra strengthens students' ability to formulate and analyze problems from situations both within and outside mathematics.

### *Honors Geometry\**

**Course #:** 407 **Credits:** 1 (GPA grade weight 1.05)

**Prerequisite:** 93% in Honors Algebra or 95% in Algebra

This challenging and rigorous course teaches the theoretical and conceptual basis of geometry. It is designed to move the capable math student to a higher level of understanding of dimensional and spatial skills. Honors Geometry is intended for students with a scientific or mathematical career goal.

### *Academic Math*

**Course #:** 408 **Credits:** 1

**Schedule Note:** This course is open to students who have already completed Algebra 1.

This course will concentrate on the foundational math skills contained in the Pennsylvania Core Standards for Mathematics to provide students with a solid, well-rounded mathematics experience. There will be an emphasis on assessment anchors dealing with *operations, linear equations and inequalities, functions, coordinate geometry, and data analysis*.

### *Trigonometry/Pre-Calculus- DC*

**Course #:** 411 **Credits:** 1 (GPA grade weight 1.10)

**Prerequisite:** 85% in Algebra II or necessary remediation to ensure prerequisite skills

This is a rigorous course designed for a one-year Pre-calculus course that follows Algebra II. Students who successfully complete this course will be prepared to take a Calculus course or any other fifth year advanced mathematics course. Calculator and computer based graphing technology are incorporated in this course to enhance the teaching and learning of pre-calculus mathematics.

*This course may be taken as a dual credit course through St. Francis College for college credit.*

### *Calculus - DC*

**Course #:** 412 **Credits:** 1 (GPA grade weight 1.10)

**Prerequisite:** 85% or higher in Trig/Pre-Calculus

This is a rigorous and advanced course in the basic calculus sequence intended for students with mathematics, engineering, science, business, or statistics career goals. This course is designed to provide the opportunity for students to extend their

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mathematical knowledge beyond the current high school academic curriculum. This course gives students the opportunities to systematically and informally investigate the central ideas of calculus that contribute to a deepening of their understanding of function and its utility in representing and answering questions about real-world phenomena. It may be taken as a dual credit course through Mount Aloysius College for college credit.

### *Personal Finance*

**Course #:** 424 **Credits:** 1

**Schedule Note:** Open to juniors and seniors only. This course may be taught in math, social studies, family and consumer science, and/or business departments and still count as a math credit for graduation as per Act 91 of 2019.

This course emphasizes practical activities to help students develop skills in managing one's personal finances and become financially responsible citizens. Topics include banking basics, savings, credit, budgeting, investing, taxes, insurance, and financial pitfalls.

## Science

### *Earth Environment*

**Course #:** 501 **Credits:** 1

This course will focus on a study of the earth, environment and ecology concentrating on the interrelationship of the geosphere, the biosphere, the hydrosphere and the atmosphere. The course includes topics of current interest such as natural resources, pollution, watersheds and the impact of technological advances.

### *Honors Earth Environment \**

**Course #:** 500 **Credits:** 1 (GPA grade weight 1.05)

**Prerequisite:** 93% or higher in Science 8

This is a more rigorous course that includes the same units and content as Earth/Environmental Science. However, this course will involve a more in-depth study of the content including additional information, readings, activities, discussion and evaluation.

### *Biology I*

**Course #:** 503 **Credits:** 1

Biology 1 is an introductory level Biology course that studies living things and how living things interact with their environment. People study Biology to understand how life flourishes on Earth and to satisfy curiosity about life. Major topics of study include: Biology, Scientific Methods in Biology, the Chemical Basis of Life, Cell Biology, Genetics, Evolution, and Ecology. The course also includes an in-depth study of the microscope and a frog dissection.

\*\* This course will prepare students to take the PA Keystone Biology assessment.\*\*

### *Honors Biology I\**

**Course #:** 502 **Credits:** 1 (GPA grade weight 1.05)

**Prerequisite:** 88% in Honors Earth Environment or 93% in Earth Environment

This is a more rigorous course that includes the same curricular content as Biology I. However, this course will include a more in-depth study with class discussions, written analysis and outside readings.

Students must take Honors Biology 1 in order to meet the prerequisite for dual enrollment college credit in Honors Biology II.

\*\* This course will prepare students to take the PA Keystone Biology assessment.\*\*

### *Chemistry I*

**Course #:** 505 **Credits:** 1

The study of chemistry is an essential subject in secondary education and is related to many other fields. An understanding of chemistry will allow students to make knowledgeable decisions about political, social, and environmental issues. Using a variety of techniques, students will study scientific methods, matter, energy, atomic theory, periodic law, bonding, nomenclature, chemical reactions, stoichiometry and gas laws. Emphasis is placed on student participation in the laboratory for discovery, application, and reinforcement. Since some chemical mathematics is utilized, algebra skills are required.

### *Honors Chemistry I\**

**Course #:** 504 **Credits:** 1 (GPA grade weight 1.05)

**Prerequisite:** 88% in Honors Earth Environment or Honors Biology I -or- 93% in Earth Environment or Biology I

This is a more rigorous course that includes the same curricular content as Chemistry I. However, this course will include a more in-depth study with class discussions, written analysis and outside readings. Honors Chemistry I stresses chemical mathematics; therefore, a thorough foundation in algebra is essential. Students must take Honors Chemistry 1 in order to meet

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the prerequisite for dual enrollment college credit in Honors Chemistry II.

### *Physics*

**Course #:** 508 **Credits:** 1

Physics is the study of the physical world about us. It stresses real-life applications of physical principles and processes in order to create scientifically literate individuals. An understanding of physics will allow students to make knowledgeable decisions about political, social, and environmental issues. The course emphasizes critical thinking and problem solving skills. Using a variety of techniques, students will study scientific method, measurement, energy transformations, principles of motion, forces, work, power, waves and graphical analysis. Emphasis is placed on student participation in the laboratory for discovery, application and validation.

### *Honors Physics - DC*

**Course #:** 514 **Credits:** 1 (GPA grade weight 1.10)

**Prerequisite:** 85% in Algebra II or Geometry

This is a more rigorous course that includes essentially the same curricular content as Physics. However, this course will include a more in-depth study with class discussions, written analysis and outside readings. This course may be taken for college credit through Saint Francis University as a dual credit course.

### *Physical Science (Vocational Students)*

**Course #:** 507 **Credits:** 1

**Prerequisite:** No Chemistry or Physics credits previously earned.

Physical science is designed to provide vocational students with an understanding of chemistry and physics. Students will study the scientific method, matter and energy, atomic theory, the periodic table, chemical reactions, motion, machines, force, work, waves, heat, and electricity. The course incorporates hands-on laboratory experiments and activities to reinforce principles. Although mathematics is not emphasized, algebra skills are required.

## ***Electives in Science - Offerings dependent upon sufficient enrollment***

### *Ecology / Zoology*

**Course #:** 510 **Credits:** 1

Ecology/Zoology is an elective course designed to provide students with an overview of current environmental issues and their relationship to science and technology. Units of study include: Watersheds and Wetlands, Renewable and Non-renewable resources, Environmental Health, Integrated Pest Management, Ecosystems and their Interactions, Population Dynamics, Threatened, Endangered and Extinct Species, Humans and the Environment, Environmental Laws/Regulations, and Zoology. Application of knowledge will be emphasized. The course will also include a study of various Pennsylvania wildlife and their relationships with other living and non-living components of the environment.

### *Biology II - DC*

**Course #:** 509 **Credits:** 1 (GPA grade weight 1.10)

**Prerequisite:** 88% in Honors Biology I or 93% in Biology I

Biology II is an extension of Biology I. This course is designed to provide the student with an in-depth study of biology with an emphasis upon the relationships to man. Selected topics include: DNA, protein synthesis, genetics, human genetic diseases and treatments, cytology, evolution, bacteriology, virology, oncology, cloning, and stem cell research. Various scientists and their landmark works are studied in historical and social context. Biology II is designed for those students who plan on a career in the medical or science-related fields. After taking Biology I, this course may be taken for dual credit through Mount Aloysius College.

### *Chemistry II - DC*

**Course #:** 506 **Credits:** 1 (GPA grade weight 1.10)

**Prerequisite:** 88% in Honors Chemistry I or 93% in Chemistry I

Chemistry II is an extension of Chemistry I. It provides a stronger background for college programs requiring a more extensive foundation in chemistry. The course emphasizes critical thinking and problem-solving skills. Students will study solution chemistry, acid/base chemistry, chemical equilibrium, kinetics, redox, electrochemistry, and nuclear chemistry. Laboratory experience and proficiency are expected. After taking Chemistry I, this course may be taken for dual credit through Mount Aloysius College.

### *Anatomy & Physiology I - DC*

**Course #:** 511 **Credits:** 1 (GPA grade weight 1.10)

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**Prerequisite:** 88% in Honors Chemistry I or Honors Biology I -or- 93% in Chemistry I or Biology I

Anatomy and Physiology provides a background in the human body's structures and functions. It is designed for those students who plan on a career in the medical or biological fields. Using a variety of techniques, students will study body composition, cytology, histology, integument, and the muscular, skeletal and central nervous systems. The laboratory, specifically a cat dissection, is an essential component to understanding each of these concepts. Due to the volume of material covered, students are expected to invest time outside of class to master concepts. This course is equivalent to an introductory college course in Anatomy and Physiology and may be taken for college credit through a dual credit agreement with Mount Aloysius College (BL201- 4 credits).

## Social Studies

### *World History*

**Course #:** 201 **Credits:** 1

World History is a survey course that covers the political, social, and economic systems and characteristics of Africa, the Middle East, Africa, Latin America and Europe from the Renaissance to the present.

### *Honors World History\**

**Course #:** 202 **Credits:** 1 (GPA grade weight 1.05)

**Prerequisite:** 93% in Social Studies 8

This is a more rigorous course that includes the same curricular content as World History. However, this course will include a more in-depth, all-encompassing study of history and such areas as political institutions, public policy, social and economic change, diplomacy and international relations, and cultural and intellectual developments. This course has rigorous requirements regarding class participation, written analysis and outside reading.

### *U.S. History I*

**Course #:** 203 **Credits:** 1

The purpose of this course is to analyze United States history from the mid 1800's to the 1920's in terms of political, social and economic issues. Students will study the Jacksonian Era, expansion in the mid 1800's, reform movements in the 1800's, the Civil War, the settlement of the American West, Industrial Growth, the turn of the 20<sup>th</sup> Century, World War I and the Roaring 20's.

### *Honors U.S. History I\**

**Course #:** 204 **Credits:** 1 (GPA grade weight 1.05)

**Prerequisite:** 88% in Honors World History or 95% in World History

This is a more rigorous course that includes the same curricular content as U.S. History 1. However, this course will include a more in-depth, all-encompassing study of history and such areas as political institutions, public policy, social and economic change, diplomacy and international relations, and cultural and intellectual developments. This course has rigorous requirements regarding class participation, written analysis and outside reading.

### *U.S. History II*

**Course #:** 205 **Credits:** 1

This course examines the United States' political, social, and economic structures, contributions and activities as they relate to our region, state, nation, and world. U.S. History II continues the story of America where U.S. History I ended. Topics include: the Great Depression, the New Deal, World War II, the Cold War era, the Civil Rights Movement, the 60's and 70's, the 80's and 90's and major events of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century.

### *Honors U.S. History II-DC*

**Course #:** 206 **Credits:** 1 (GPA grade weight 1.10)

**Prerequisite:** 88% in Honors U.S. History I or 95% in U.S. History I

This is a more rigorous course that includes the same curricular content as U.S. History 2. However, this course will include a more in-depth study of history with class discussions, written analysis and outside reading. This course covers in depth such areas as political institutions and behavior, public policy, social and economic change, diplomacy and international relations, and cultural and intellectual developments. It is also a college dual credit course with Mount Aloysius College.

### *Government / Economics*

**Course #:** 210 **Credits:** 1

The focus of the U.S. Government component is on the Constitution and the functions of the United States government, with emphasis on the relationship of these to politics and current events. The functions of government are explored on the national,

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state, and local levels. The primary objective is to prepare students to become participants in the political process. The applied economics component uses the Junior Achievement Economics program, along with other resources, to provide a practical study of economics with a focus on basic characteristics of the U.S. economic system and how economic principles influence business decisions.

### *Honors Government/Economics\**

**Course #:** 211 **Credits:** 1 (GPA grade weight 1.05)

**Prerequisite:** 88% in Honors U.S. History II or 95% in U.S. History II.

This is a more rigorous course that includes the same curricular content as U.S. Government and Economics. It is designed to challenge the academic student. The course will include more in-depth coverage of concepts and material including class discussions, written analysis and outside readings.

## ***Electives in Social Studies - Offerings dependent upon sufficient enrollment***

### *European History-DC (H)*

**Course #:** 209 **Credits:** 1 (GPA grade weight 1.10)

**Prerequisite:** 93% average or weighted average in history coursework. Open to juniors and seniors only.

**Scheduling Note:** Course scheduling for 2025-2026 pending sufficient enrollment and teacher availability

European History provides a general narrative of events and movements from the Renaissance (1350) to the present. This is a rigorous course with complex expectations. The emphasis is on developing an understanding of some of the principle themes in modern European history, an ability to analyze historical evidence, and an ability to express that understanding in writing. The content involves three major areas; political and diplomatic history, intellectual and cultural history, and social and economic history. The course is divided into six units and utilizes 23 chapters of a college level text in addition to other documents and handouts. It is also a dual credit course with Mount Aloysius College. Offered pending scheduling availability.

### *Geography / PA History (H)*

**Course #:** 966 **Credits:** 1

This two-part course is offered as an elective course in grades 9 through 12. The study of geography focuses on the relationship of man to his environment. Emphasis within this course is placed on the interrelationship of geography and human interactions through current events and the five themes of geography. The PA History segment will include a survey of events in PA history, including current events.

### *Psychology / Sociology (H)*

**Course #:** 965 **Credits:** 1

Sociology is a systematic study of human social behavior. This involves everything related to the interaction of human beings in groups. The first part of this course will allow students to study people's beliefs, values and rules, along with family organizations, educational systems, religions, etc. Students also will study roles people assume within these systems. Topics such as social movements and contemporary social problems such as crime, prejudice, poverty, and overcrowding will also be analyzed. The systematic and scientific method of study will be used to identify the problems, develop hypotheses, and collect and analyze the data. Psychology is a study of human development and behavior that will help students cope with living in today's world. The second part of this course provides a foundation in the basic theories and principles of psychology and will guide students toward a greater understanding of their own capacity for growth. Traditional topics, such as personality theory, learning-thinking-creativity, social psychology, brain and consciousness, child development, adolescent development, and the troubled personality will be emphasized.

## **Physical Education, Health, and Safety**

### *HS Physical Education*

**Course #:** 001-002 **Credits:** 0.5

High School Physical Education is designed to promote wellness and fitness in our students through a variety of activities such as team sports, lifetime activities, aerobic fitness and physical fitness. The students will demonstrate knowledge and skill development appropriate to each grade level. Many of the activities have carryover value and can be used as lifetime activities. These activities are evaluated by class participation, effort, teacher observation, skill tests, written tests and physical fitness testing. A four-year progressive is available for this course.

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## *HS Health*

**Course #:** 003 **Credits:** 0.5

The goal of this course is to provide students with knowledge and skills to promote overall well-being and healthy lifestyles. Topics of study include: an introduction to health and wellness, nutrition, mental and emotional health, substance use and abuse, safety and injury prevention, consumer health choices, body systems and sexual education.

## *Strength Training for Fitness and Performance*

**Course #:** 004 **Credits:** 0.5

This course focuses on building strength, improving physical fitness, and enhancing athletic performance through structured strength training techniques. It's designed for students at any fitness level to develop physical abilities while improving overall fitness. The course allows for progressive levels of learning and changes in strength training plans. Students may take this course as an elective offering up to four times throughout their high school career.

## *Driver Education*

**Course #:** 964 **Credits:** 0.5

This course, for students in grades 10-12, will provide students with the content and hours necessary for the classroom instruction component of a Pennsylvania standardized driver education program. The content will include PA laws and regulations, vehicle operations, perceptual skill development, decision-making, driving conditions and influences upon driver performance.

# Foreign Language

## *Spanish I (H)*

**Course #:** 305 **Credits:** 1

To know a foreign language is to be able to do something in that language that would include the four modalities: reading, writing, listening and speaking. Although proficiency is not an immediate goal of this level 1 course, Spanish 1 recognizes it as the language outcome for this course. The development of a large vocabulary base is also essential to the success of any language.

## *Spanish II (H)*

**Course #:** 306 **Credits:** 1

To know a foreign language is to be able to do something in that language. This level 2 Spanish course focuses on further development of the four modalities: reading, writing, speaking and listening. Accompanied by an expanded grammar base and a larger vocabulary, students will effectively engage in conversation about people, places and things learned in level 1. Through reading and discussion of culturally authentic materials and texts, audiotapes and native speakers, students will obtain and utilize cultural and linguistic information for use in speaking and writing activities. Higher order thinking skills are inherent in language learning as students learn to view communication as problem solving.

## *Spanish III-DC (H)*

**Course #:** 307 **Credits:** 1 (GPA grade weight 1.10)

Spanish III is a challenging course. Accompanied by an expanded grammar base and a larger Spanish vocabulary, students will effectively engage in conversation about people, places and things learned in Levels 1 and 2. Through reading and discussion of culturally authentic materials and texts, audiotapes and native speakers, students will obtain and utilize cultural and linguistic information for use in speaking and writing activities. Prominent figures from the Hispanic culture are studied. Through classroom conversations and exposure to the language, students will grow to communicate and exchange ideas in Spanish with their classmates. Higher order thinking skills are inherent in language learning as students learn to view communication as problem solving. College credit is available through a dual credit agreement.

## *Spanish IV-DC (H)*

**Course #:** 308 **Credits:** 1 (GPA grade weight 1.10)

Spanish IV is a rigorous and advanced course concentrating on reaching and maintaining an appropriate level of reading, writing, speaking and listening in that language. Accompanied by an expanded grammar base and a larger Spanish vocabulary, students will effectively engage in conversation about people, places and things learned in Levels 1 and 2. Through reading and discussion of culturally authentic materials and texts, audiotapes and native speakers, students will obtain and utilize cultural and linguistic information for use in speaking and writing activities. Prominent figures from the Hispanic culture are studied. Higher order thinking skills are inherent in language learning as students learn to view communication as problem solving. College credit is available through a dual credit agreement.

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## *Foreign Language (Various Options)*

**Course #:** TBD **Credits:** 1

**Prerequisite:** Successful completion of Spanish I and Spanish II

A full credit Foreign Language (Level 1) will be available via an online course provider. The specific foreign language(s) offered will be determined based on the availability of a qualified online course provider/teacher. Students will be scheduled time for this course within the regular school day. However, the online teacher for this course will design lessons, support, and be responsible for grading. Successfully participating in an online course requires a student to be disciplined, self-motivated, and willing to work independently. Spanish will not be offered online.

## **Business, Computers & Technology**

### *Digital Concepts 9*

**Course #:** 603 **Credits:** 1

In this required freshman course, students will learn and demonstrate critical components of being an active and responsible digital citizen in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century while also demonstrating competency with word processing, spreadsheets, digital editing, coding basics, and a variety of other digital tools.

### *Accounting I*

**Course #:** 606 **Credits:** 1

The course emphasizes the basic principles, concepts, and procedures of accounting that every student must understand for a maximum opportunity when entering the world of business. This course progresses from the simple to the complex. It begins with preparing simple balance sheets and continues to adjusting and closing entries for a merchandising business organized as a partnership. Accounting 1 also uses business simulation to give the student a better understanding of the accounting procedures used in business.

### *Accounting II*

**Course #:** 607 **Credits:** 1

*Course offered pending sufficient enrollment and instructor availability*

Students taking this course should have a fundamental knowledge of Accounting I. The corporation is the form of business organization used in Accounting II. Instructional topics include: special journals, accounting for uncollectible accounts, plant assets & depreciation, inventory, notes and interest. Distributing dividends and preparing worksheets, financial statements and end-of-fiscal period entries for a corporation will also be presented. Business simulations are also used to enhance the learning process.

### *App & Game Development*

**Course #:** 625 **Credits:** 1

This course is designed to meet the needs of all students, not just those interested in computer careers. Prior knowledge of app and game development is not necessary. Students will learn to create interactive Android applications and Windows based and HTML based games using programs such as App Inventor, GameMaker, and Kodu.

### *Digital Video*

**Course #:** 610 **Credits:** 0.5

In this course, the students will work with video recording and editing. They will set up different camera shots, edit video, write a script, create a storyboard, and mix music and sound into their video. Students will create commercials for products, video themselves speaking about a topic of interest, and script, direct, and produce their own short film.

### *Digital Photo & Audio*

**Course #:** 611 **Credits:** 0.5

In this course, the students will demonstrate the ability to set up different camera shots, edit photographs, and organize their photos. Students will also record audio, edit audio, create a script, and convert their recordings to mp3 and other formats. The students will take photos, edit and alter existing photos, arrange their photos, enhance and add effects to their photos. The students will create audio commercials for products, script, direct, and produce their own short podcast, create sound effects, and manipulate audio to sound differently than the original recording.

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### *Basic Web Design*

**Course #:** 614 **Credits:** 0.5

This course is designed to meet the needs of all sophomore, junior, and senior students, not just those interested in computer careers. Prior knowledge of web design is not necessary. Students learn the basics of web design needed to be part of today's society and economy including Internet basics, elements of design for websites, copyright and page layout. In addition, students will learn how to create and publish a basic webpage using web design software and basic html.

### *Computer Science & Robotics I*

**Course #:** 616 **Credits:** 0.5

This elective is based on the first six units of the Carnegie Mellon University Computer Science Academy CS1 Introduction to Programming and Computer Science high school course. The course is appropriate for any student interested in learning more about computer science concepts. It provides a text-based graphical introduction to programming in Python. In addition, students will explore robotics as a way to apply computer science principles throughout the course.

### *Computer Science & Robotics II*

**Course #:** 617 **Credits:** 0.5

This elective is based on units 7-12 of the Carnegie Mellon University Computer Science Academy CS1 Introduction to Programming and Computer Science high school course. It provides a text-based graphical introduction to programming in Python. In addition, students will continue their exploration and work with robotics as a way to apply computer science principles throughout the course.

### *STEM-Engineering*

**Course #:** 613 **Credits:** 0.5

This course introduces students to fundamental engineering concepts, problem-solving skills, and hands-on design challenges. Students will explore the engineering design process, learn about different engineering disciplines, and apply STEM principles to real-world problems. The course includes hands-on projects, teamwork, and technical communication.

### *STEM-Robotics*

**Course #:** 618 **Credits:** 0.5

This course introduces students to integrated STEM concepts with a focus on robotics, hands-on learning, and real-world applications. Students will design, build, and program robots to complete challenges involving authentic tasks while developing problem-solving, teamwork, and critical thinking skills.

### *Intro to Esports*

**Course #:** 619 **Credits:** 0.5

**This is not a gaming course or club.** This course provides students with an introduction to the growing esports industry from multiple facets. Students will explore history, economics, marketing, media, organization and event management, science, health implications, ethics, career opportunities, and technological advancements through the lens of the esports industry.

## Family and Consumer Science

### *Child Development*

**Course #:** 701 **Credits:** 0.5

This child development course is designed to provide students with an understanding of cognitive, motor, and social stages of child development from infancy through early school age. The course will also explore family practices that optimize child development at various stages.

### *Basic Foods*

**Course #:** 702 **Credits:** 0.5

This course is designed for sophomores, juniors, and seniors. The Basic Foods program gives students a foundation in food, nutrition, and good health. This segment is designed to encourage students to make the best food decisions possible in today's complex world. The student's ability to select and prepare food successfully is a basic survival skill for good health and physical stability.

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## *Advanced Foods*

**Course #:** 703 **Credits:** 0.5

**Prerequisite:** Successful completion of Basic Foods

The Advanced Foods program builds on the foundation laid in Basic Foods and allows students to expand their culinary and baking skills and awareness. This course will focus on the development of both advanced kitchen skills and nutritional knowledge. This course will highlight the relationship between food and culture, as well as how food can impact a community. An independent study unit will also provide students with the opportunity to use technology to research, experience and perfect recipes and cooking styles. *Scheduled pending teacher availability and sufficient student enrollment only.*

## *Money and Civic Life*

**Course #:** 710 **Credits:** 0.5

This course explores personal and family financial decision-making, civic responsibility, and ways to balance family, work, and community responsibility. Students will explore the potential economic impacts of various decisions and choices throughout their lifetime as well as explore ways to use skills to help their communities.

# Art and Music

## *Sculpture (H)*

**Course #:** 811 **Credits:** 0.5

**Schedule Note:** Offered every other year. Planned to offer in 2025-2026

This course provides the opportunity to develop a tactile, visually aesthetic yet functional collection of sculpture. Students will study design concepts and how they relate to three-dimensional artwork. They will effectively and structurally analyze artwork via classroom presentations, evaluations and art essays. Combine with Fibers for a 1 credit elective.

## *Fibers (H)*

**Course #:** 809 **Credits:** 0.5

**Schedule Note:** Offered every other year. Planned to offer in 2025-2026

This course provides the opportunity to develop a tactile collection of art and a journal/sketchbook for post-secondary institutions. Students will review design elements, learn design principles, and see how they relate to applied arts. They will also perfect their skills in a variety of fiber projects (weaving, macramé, batik, stitching and needlepoint). Students will effectively and structurally analyze artwork via classroom presentations, evaluations, and an art essay. This course may be combined with Sculpture for a 1 credit elective.

## *Functional & Lite Industrial Art (H)*

**Course #:** 823 **Credits:** 0.5

**Schedule Note:** Offered every other year. Planned to offer in 2025-2026

Students will review design elements; learn design principles; and will build upon learned drawing, painting, and sculpting skills while using a variety of media (wood, metal, glass, clay, etc.). They will maintain a strong focus on functional artforms that are useful to both the artisans and industries of today's marketplace, which will provide each student with a well-rounded overview of possible post-secondary careers or hobbies. This course, while open to all students, provides students interested in pursuing a career in the arts the opportunity to develop a tactile collection of art styles and mediums in a portfolio for a post-secondary institution. This course may be combined with Exploring Creativity & Community Art for a 1 credit elective.

## *Exploring Creativity & Community Art (H)*

**Course #:** 824 **Credits:** 0.5

**Schedule Note:** Offered every other year. Planned to offer in 2025-2026

This course, while open to all students, provides students interested in pursuing a career in the arts the opportunity to develop a tactile collection of art styles and mediums in a portfolio for a post-secondary institution. Students will review design elements; learn design principles; and will build upon learned drawing, painting, and sculpting skills while using a variety of media (acrylic paints, found objects, foods, paper sculpting, etc.). They will maintain a strong focus on community and collaborative projects for the betterment and beautification of the school and community while applying knowledge of past examples of successful community installations through presentations and evaluations of both historical and personal works of art. This course may be combined with Functional & Lite Industrial Art for a 1 credit elective.

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### *Drawing (H)*

**Course #:** 808 **Credits:** 0.5

**Schedule Note:** Offered every other year. Planned to offer in 2026-2027

This course provides the opportunity to develop a portfolio and journal/sketchbook for a post-secondary institution. Students will review design elements, learn design principles, and will build upon learned drawing skills, using a variety of drawing media (pencil, ink, charcoal, pastels, and colored pencils). They will effectively and structurally analyze artwork via student presentations, evaluations and an art essay. This course may be combined with Painting for a 1 credit elective.

### *Painting (H)*

**Course #:** 813 **Credits:** 0.5

**Schedule Note:** Offered every other year. Planned to offer in 2026-2027

This course provides the opportunity to develop a portfolio and journal/sketchbook for a post-secondary institution. Students will review design elements, learn design principles, *and will build upon learned drawing skills, as they paint in acrylic and watercolor.* They will effectively and structurally analyze artwork via student presentations, evaluations and an art essay. This course may be combined with Drawing for a 1 credit elective.

### *Graphics & Illustration (H)*

**Course #:** 820 **Credits:** 0.5

**Schedule Note:** Offered every other year. Planned to offer in 2026-2027

This course functions as a survey of art with experiences in style, procedures and uses of materials in the production of Graphic Art and Illustration (Commercial Art). Students learn basic printmaking, techniques and procedures, followed by areas of Calligraphy, Poster design and Logo design. This course may be combined with Pottery & Art History for a 1 credit elective.

### *Pottery & Art History (H)*

**Course #:** 822 **Credits:** 0.5

**Schedule Note:** Offered every other year. Planned to offer in 2026-2027

This course functions as a survey of art with experiences in styles, procedures and uses of clay. Students will learn hand-building and wheel-thrown techniques to produce several decorative and functional pieces of art. The Art History unit will engage students in the process of aesthetic valuing as they learn about artists and their works in a thematic way. This course may be combined with Graphics & Illustration for a 1 credit elective.

### *HS Band (H)*

**Course #:** 951 **Credits:** 1

**Schedule Note:** Band may also be offered as a semester (0.5 credit) course. Students may choose to participate in a combined Band and Chorus (total credit limited to above).

The band is a concert / performance ensemble that performs numerous styles and genres of music.

It provides students with the opportunity to enhance their instrumental skills through practice, rehearsal, and performance. The course focuses on music theory, technique, and the development of ensemble playing. A four-year progression is available.

Students who do not participate in marching band may be required to submit alternate assignments to meet course objectives related to performance.

### *HS Chorus (H)*

**Course #:** 952 **Credits:** 1

**Schedule Note:** Chorus may also be offered as a semester (0.5 credit) course. Students may choose to participate in a combined Band and Chorus (total credit limited to above).

HS Chorus is an ensemble-based music course designed to develop students' vocal technique, musicianship, and appreciation for choral music. Students will learn to perform a wide variety of choral works. The course will focus on vocal techniques, diction, and harmony. Students will engage in sight-reading exercises, ear training, and music theory to deepen their understanding of music. This course is available as a four-year progression.

### *Modern Music Literacy (H)*

**Course #:** 959 **Credits:** 0.5

This elective course does not involve musical performance. It is designed to allow all students to explore various aspects of music in today's world. Topics of study will include modern music history, music theory, music in media, music therapy, and careers in music.

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# Admiral Peary Area Vocational Technical School

## Program Offerings for students in grades 10, 11, and 12

### **Automotive / Mechanics**

In the **Automotive Body Collision Repair** program, students learn the skills necessary to repair, reconstruct, and refinish automobile or truck bodies and external features.

In the **Automotive Technology** program students are offered the latest technology for gasoline-powered vehicles in the field using up-to-date equipment.

In the **Small Engine Mechanics** program students are prepared to apply skills to repair, service, and diagnose problems on a variety of small engines.

In the **Diesel Mechanics** program, students are prepared to specialize in the maintenance and repair of trucks, buses, and other commercial and industrial vehicles.

### **Education**

The **Early Childhood Teacher Education** program prepares students to work with young children in a variety of settings.

The **Aspiring Educators** program focuses on the general theory and practice of learning and teaching, the basic principles of educational psychology, the art of teaching, the planning and administration of educational activities, school safety and health issues, and the social foundations of education.

### **Engineering/Manufacturing**

The **Welding** program prepares students with the skills necessary for jobs as welders, cutters, and welding machine operators.

The **Engineering Technology** program incorporates a variety of engineering, AutoCAD, and machining concepts.

The **Electrical Technology** program prepares students to install, maintain, and service electrical equipment used in control applications, commercial and industrial distribution wiring.

### **Construction Trades**

In the **Masonry** program students develop the skills necessary to become block layers, bricklayers, stonemasons, and cement masons.

The **Carpentry** program is designed to prepare students for construction and finish carpentry.

The **Construction Trades** program prepares students for a variety of trade areas including carpentry, masonry, plumbing, heating, and electrical.

The **HVAC/R/P** program provides the fundamentals of installation, repair, and maintenance of equipment and accessory parts used for heating, air conditioning, and cooling systems.

### **Health and Human Services**

The **Cosmetology** program prepares students to work in the cosmetology/beauty service industry.

The **Health Assisting** program prepares students to enter the health field on an assistant level.

The **Culinary Arts** program provides students with the opportunity to learn culinary techniques and the practical application of all facets of food service.

### **Computer and Business Technology**

The **Digital Media and Cyber Security** program will prepare students to either enter the workforce or continue onto a post-secondary school.

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