Williamson High School

“Success is a journey, not a destination.”

~Ben Sweetland

Academic Excellence
Marauder Pride

COURSE DESCRIPTION HANDBOOK
2017-2018
Mission:

To provide an effective, high-quality learning experience, every day, for every student, with the goal of preparing students to be successful at each level and to be contributing members of society.

Vision:

Active learning in a supportive, respectful environment.
# GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

| Required Courses | Regents Diploma | Regents Diploma  
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>English</td>
<td>4.0</td>
<td>English</td>
<td>4.0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social Studies</td>
<td>4.0</td>
<td>Social Studies</td>
<td>4.0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Math</td>
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<td>Math</td>
<td>3.0</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Science</td>
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<td>Science</td>
<td>3.0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Language Other Than English</td>
<td>1.0</td>
<td>Language Other Than English</td>
<td>3.0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Arts (Music, Art)</td>
<td>1.0</td>
<td>The Arts (Music, Art)</td>
<td>1.0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Physical Education</td>
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<td>Physical Education</td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health</td>
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<td>Health</td>
<td>0.5</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Electives</td>
<td>3.5</td>
<td>Electives</td>
<td>1.5</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>22.0</td>
<td>Total</td>
<td>22.0</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Required Regents Exams | Regents Diploma | Regents Diploma  
<table>
<thead>
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<th></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(passing score of 65)</td>
<td></td>
<td>(passing score of 65)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>English Language Arts</td>
<td></td>
<td>English Language Arts</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>One Social Studies exam</td>
<td></td>
<td>One Social Studies exam</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>One Mathematics exam</td>
<td></td>
<td>Three Mathematics exams</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Algebra 1, Geometry, or Algebra 2)</td>
<td></td>
<td>(Algebra 1, Geometry, and Algebra 2)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>One Science exam</td>
<td></td>
<td>Two Science exam</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>One Pathway exam</td>
<td></td>
<td>(one life science and one physical science)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(see Pathway Assessment Options)</td>
<td></td>
<td>One Language Other Than English exam</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>One Pathway exam</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>(see Pathway Assessment Options)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

For more information:
Pathway Assessment Options

This option permits a student to pass four Regents exams and a comparably rigorous technical, arts or other assessment for the fifth examination required for graduation. All students must pass the following 4 required Regents exams or the corresponding Department alternative examination: 1 Math Regents exam, 1 Science Regents exam, 1 Social Studies Regents exam, and the English Language Arts Regents exam. In addition, all students must choose 1 of the following assessments:

- Additional Math Regents exam in a different course or Department approved alternative, or
- Additional Science Regents exam in a different course or Department approved alternative, or
- Additional Social Studies Regents exam in a different course or Department approved alternative, or
- Additional English assessment in a different course selected from the Department approved alternatives list, or
- An approved CTE assessment after successfully completing an approved CTE program
- A Department approved pathway assessment in the Arts
- A Department approved pathway assessment in a Language Other Than English (LOTE)
## Diploma Options

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Diploma Type</th>
<th>Available to</th>
<th>Link for More Information</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Regents with Advanced Designation</td>
<td>All Student Populations</td>
<td><a href="http://www.p12.nysed.gov/part100/pages/1005.html#regentsAD">http://www.p12.nysed.gov/part100/pages/1005.html#regentsAD</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Regents Diploma</td>
<td>All Student Populations</td>
<td><a href="http://www.p12.nysed.gov/part100/pages/1005.html#regentsdiploma">http://www.p12.nysed.gov/part100/pages/1005.html#regentsdiploma</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Regents Diploma (through appeal)</td>
<td>All Student Populations</td>
<td><a href="http://www.p12.nysed.gov/part100/pages/1005.html#regpasscore">http://www.p12.nysed.gov/part100/pages/1005.html#regpasscore</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Local Diploma (through appeal)</td>
<td>All Student Populations</td>
<td><a href="http://www.p12.nysed.gov/part100/pages/1005.html#regpasscore">http://www.p12.nysed.gov/part100/pages/1005.html#regpasscore</a></td>
</tr>
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</table>

## Non-diploma High School Exiting Credentials

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Credential Type</th>
<th>Available to</th>
<th>Link for More Information</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Skills and Achievement Commencement Credential</td>
<td>Students with severe disabilities that are assessed using the NYS Alternate Assessment</td>
<td><a href="http://www.p12.nysed.gov/part100/pages/1006.html">http://www.p12.nysed.gov/part100/pages/1006.html</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## Designations of Academic Achievements

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Diploma Type</th>
<th>Available to</th>
<th>Link for More Information</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Regents with Advanced Designation with annotation that denotes <strong>Mastery in Math</strong></td>
<td>All Student Populations</td>
<td><a href="http://www.p12.nysed.gov/part100/pages/1005.html#regentsAD">http://www.p12.nysed.gov/part100/pages/1005.html#regentsAD</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Regents with Advanced Designation with annotation that denotes <strong>Mastery in Science</strong></td>
<td>All Student Populations</td>
<td><a href="http://www.p12.nysed.gov/part100/pages/1005.html#regentsAD">http://www.p12.nysed.gov/part100/pages/1005.html#regentsAD</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Local Diploma, Regents Diploma, Regents Diploma with Advanced Designation (with or without Honors), with a Career and Technical Education Endorsement</td>
<td>All Student Populations</td>
<td><a href="http://www.p12.nysed.gov/part100/pages/1005.html#carteched">http://www.p12.nysed.gov/part100/pages/1005.html#carteched</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**Community Service Graduation Requirement**

Each student must complete 20 hours of community service by February 15th of their graduation year (at least two different sites). It is recommended that students begin their community service in ninth grade.

**Requirements for Student Course Load**

All students must take a minimum of 5-credits plus physical education each semester (minimum of 5.5-credits), and have no more than 2-periods of study hall or early dismissal (senior privilege) per semester.

**Add/Drop Period**

Students will have 10 days from the start of the semester to add/drop full year courses and 5 days to add/drop half year courses. Any potential course changes after the deadline will be only considered through a full staffing process involving the student, parent/guardian, teacher, counselor, and administrator.

**Academic Intervention Services**

Academic Intervention Services (AIS) are provided to students in the Williamson Central School District who demonstrate the need for additional assistance in Reading, Writing, Math, Social Studies, and Science. Services are provided in accordance with New York State Education Department (NYSED) regulations and are part of the public school program that the district is obligated to provide. As stated in NYSED regulations, students are exited from AIS when satisfactory academic growth is demonstrated and may not be exited based on parent request.

**Grade Level Promotion**

Grade level and homeroom placement is determined by the number of credits that a student has earned. Grade level in grades 9-12 is based on the number of accumulated credits as follows:

- **10th grade**: 5 earned credits
- **11th grade**: 10 earned credits
- **12th grade**: 15 earned credits
**Alternative Ways of Earning Credit**

Students can be approved to earn credit this way if it is determined they will benefit academically by exercising this alternative; have the option of earning up to 6½ credits without completing specific courses of study. This may be done as follows:

1. The student achieves 85% or better on state-developed (e.g. Regents exams, proficiency exams) or state-approved exams and passes an oral examination or completes a special project.
2. In the areas of science and occupational education, where credit is through examination, laboratory requirements will be met through special projects demonstrating appropriate skills.
3. Art and music credit may be earned through participation in a performing group or by participating in advanced, out-of-school art or music activity as approved by the local district.

**Foreign Language Exemption**

Students seeking an Advanced Regents diploma who pursue a five-unit sequence in art, music, business or occupational education may be exempted from the second language requirements. Students identified as having a learning disability may be exempt from the second language requirement for the Regents diploma if the student’s IEP or 504 Plan states that the requirement is not appropriate.
College Level Courses offered at WHS

Williamson High School is proud to offer an assortment of college level classes. There are three different types of college level courses available, *Gemini, Advanced Placement (AP)*, and *Project Lead the Way (PLTW)*. There are many benefits to taking college courses during high school including:

- earning college credits at a reduced cost
- preparing for the necessary study habits and rigorous demands of college academics
- enhancing college applications by demonstrating success in college level work
- potential benefits once at college, such as reducing a course load or creating time for students to explore their studies in depth, or in other areas

**Gemini/Dual Credit Courses**

Courses designated as Gemini are college credit bearing courses offered at WHS through Finger Lakes Community College (FLCC.) The anticipated fee for these classes is $5 per credit hour each semester. Students who are eligible for free and reduced lunch will have the fee waived. Students must self-identify their eligibility for the waived fee on their registration form. Students are expected to have an overall 80% Grade Point Average to enroll in a Gemini course. Only students prepared to take a college course should be in a Gemini class. Students are expected to assume the cost of the course textbooks. The following is a list of anticipated courses with the Gemini option for the 2017-2018 school year:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>High School Title</th>
<th>High School Credits</th>
<th>College Title</th>
<th>College Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>English 12 Gemini</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>ENG 101: Composition I</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>ENG 102: Intro. to Literature</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U.S. History Gemini</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>HIS 110: U.S. History I</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>HIS 111: U.S. History II</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sociology Gemini</td>
<td>½</td>
<td>SOC 100: Intro. to Sociology</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Psychology Gemini</td>
<td>½</td>
<td>PSY 100: Intro. to Psychology</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pre-Calculus Gemini</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>MAT 152: Pre-Calculus</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>French 4 Gemini</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>FRN 201: French III</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>FRN 202: French IV</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spanish 4 Gemini</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>SPN 201: Spanish III</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>SPN 202: Spanish IV</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spanish 5 Gemini</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>SPN 203: Advanced Spanish: Vistazos Hispanos</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>SPN 204: Advanced Spanish: Perspectivas Hispanoamericanas</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Environmental Science Gemini</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>BIO 103: Environmental Science</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Biology Gemini</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>BIO 121: General Bio I</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>BIO 110: Fundamentals of Human Anatomy And Physiology Gemini</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Project Lead the Way (PLTW) Courses
PLTW includes pre-engineering and technology classes which provide students the opportunity to earn college credit from the Rochester Institute of Technology based on a qualifying final exam score and an overall 85% course average. There are four courses currently being offered in this program: Drawing and Design for Production, Principles of Engineering, Digital Electronics, and Civil/Architectural Engineering.

Advanced Placement Courses
Courses designated as Advanced Placement are college credit bearing courses offered at WHS through a cooperative educational endeavor between secondary schools, colleges and universities through the College Board. Advanced Placement has provided motivated high school students with the opportunity to take college-level courses in a high school setting. Students who participate in the AP Program not only gain college-level skills, but in many cases they also earn college credit while they are still in high school. Students are required to take the designated AP Examination for the course they are enrolled in. The cost of the AP Examination is approximately $95.00 per exam. Scores on the AP Examination range from 1 – 5. Each college individually reviews AP Examination scores and determines the amount of college credit they will award for a course. The following is a list of anticipated Advanced Placement courses for the 2016-2017 school year:

- AP Calculus AB
- AP English Literature and Composition (Alternating Years)
- AP English Language and Composition (Alternating Years)
- AP Studio Art: 2-D Design
- AP Chemistry
**Weighted Grading**

The primary purpose of a weighted grading system is to encourage students to take more challenging courses such as Project Lead the Way, AP and Gemini classes.

**Which courses will be weighted?**

Courses that are weighted present a different and more challenging level of content and amount of material covered than typical classes. The following courses will be weighted:

- AP Classes
- Gemini Classes
- Project Lead the Way

**Method for Weighting**

A weight of 3% will be applied to the overall average for qualified courses. A weighted course average will be used to determine the overall weighted average.

**Example**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Student Grade</th>
<th>Weighting</th>
<th>Grade(Used in Avg.)</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>US History Regents</td>
<td>85</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>1.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>US History Gemini</td>
<td>85</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>1.03</td>
</tr>
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</table>

**Elective Courses offered at WHS**

Williamson High School is proud to offer an assortment of elective classes. Elective classes can truly be enriching and students should look to try new things and to always learn new things. It is important to note that **elective courses are dependent on staffing and the number of students enrolled.**
ENGLISH COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

ENGLISH 9
1 year - 1 credit

A mandatory course that builds on English skills previously taught in the areas of reading, writing, listening, and speaking. Skills focus on utilizing text-based evidence to reach conclusions. Regents level rigor and attention to detail are emphasized, as well as exploration of self and the world through various themes, units, genres, projects, and assessments. Integration of technology, deep levels of analysis and synthesis, and academic integrity are essential. Common Core shifts are emphasized.

ENGLISH 10
1 year - 1 credit

English 10 continues the close reading and critical questioning work begun in English 9. The reading will include rigorous texts such as, *The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks*, *The Crucible*, and *The Life of Pi*. Short selections from *The Joy Luck Club*, *Friday Night Lights*, poems by authors around the world, and Dr. Martin Luther King’s “Letter from Birmingham Jail” are also studied. The common purpose is to develop deep reading skills to use with challenging texts, analyze author’s claims, support the conclusions with text, and write fluently about our understandings. Students will keep a notebook with a cumulative list of college vocabulary words and their roots. This course prepares students for the English Regents exam in 11th grade and promotes college/career readiness.

ENGLISH 11
1 year - 1 credit

Students in English 11 read classic and contemporary pieces. Units of study include novels, drama, poetry, short stories and nonfiction. There is heavy emphasis on writing skills: recognition and analysis of literary elements, development of essays with strong and specific support, and overall sophistication and clarity of written work. A research paper written in MLA style is required. **Students take the New York State Regents English Language Arts assessment as a final examination and as a graduation requirement.**
ENGLISH 12 1 year - 1 credit

English 12 provides a variety of differentiated learning experiences designed to meet the needs of students who will be branching off into different environments for the next year: college, military, or the workplace. Critical reading and writing skills are emphasized. Units may include short stories, poetry, novels, plays and nonfiction. A final exam is required for students who have under a 90% cumulative grade for the year.

COLLEGE ENGLISH SKILLS ½ year – ½ credit

This course is designed to improve students’ reading and writing skills while preparing them for college-level English courses. Emphasis is placed on the development of vocabulary skills along with literal and critical comprehension skills and to construct effective sentences, paragraphs and essays. Student admittance to this course is recommended and based on Accuplacer Testing that determines student knowledge in reading/writing for preparation to enroll in college-level courses.

CONTEMPORARY FICTION ½ year – ½ credit
CONTEMPORARY NONFICTION ½ year - ½ credit

Contemporary Fiction and Contemporary Nonfiction are intended for junior and senior students who enjoy reading, and would like to study literature published in the twenty-first century. A central question to these classes will be to decipher who we are today, and to look at how authors are addressing our current culture through their fiction and nonfiction. These courses also introduce regent patterns or changes in literature, poetry and literary theory. Students will read a range of novels, poetry, short stories, essays, memoirs, biographies, and autobiographies from a diverse group of cutting-edge writers, and the class will frequently hold “book club” style discussions, reflecting upon the themes, style and form of the various reading assignments. Participation, journals and projects will be the predominant assessments. Expect nightly independent reading.
ENGLISH 12 GEMINI (ENG 101/102) 1 year – 1 credit

First Semester (ENG101)

This college level course is designed to train students to write in the various modes that will be required by their other college courses, including a 6-8 page documented research paper. The readings will be prescribed as models for study; they are generally short pieces from the textbook. Students will undertake an extensive review of basic grammar and sentence structures, while learning to master new techniques in style and voice. Students should expect regular homework and a fair amount of writing and revising. The course is designed for students who are willing to work hard.

Second Semester (ENG102)

Students will study various genres of literature, such as the novel, short stories, poetry, and plays. Prerequisite skills include planning, writing a thesis statement, proving support, and correct grammar/punctuation usage. Therefore, more emphasis is placed upon how to analyze and interpret literature. Students should expect frequent reading homework, regular quizzes, frequent short writing assignments, and approximately one full-length essay per unit. The course is designed for students who are willing to work hard.

ADVANCED PLACEMENT ENGLISH LITERATURE & COMPOSITION 1 year – 1 credit

Prerequisite(s): Successful completion of English 11 (Regents)

Advanced Placement English Literature and Composition can be taken in place of English 12. The Advanced Placement English Literature and Composition course engages students in the careful reading and critical analysis of literature. Through the close reading of selected texts, students deepen their understanding of the ways writers use language to provide both meaning and pleasure for their readers. As they read, students consider a work’s structure, style, and themes as well as such smaller-scale elements as the use of figurative language, imagery, symbolism, and tone. Emphasis is placed on classical Literature. Students will write short papers on the literature they read. Summer reading and the AP Literature and Composition Exam are required. College credit can be granted depending on the student’s AP Exam score and the student's college AP credit policy. This course will be offered in alternate years.
ADVANCED PLACEMENT ENGLISH
LANGUAGE & COMPOSITION 1 year – 1 credit
Prerequisite(s): Successful completion of English 11 (Regents)

Advanced Placement English Language and Composition can be taken in place of English 12. The AP English Language and Composition course engages students in becoming skilled readers of prose written in a variety of periods, disciplines, and rhetorical contexts, and in becoming skilled writers who compose for a variety of purposes. Both their writing and reading should make students aware of the interactions among a writer’s purposes, audience expectations, and subjects as well as the way generic conventions and the resources of language contribute to the effectiveness in writing. This course emphasizes expository, analytical, and argumentative writing that forms the basis of academic and professional communication, as well as the personal and reflective writing that fosters the development of writing facility in any context. In addition, this composition course teaches students that the expository, analytical, and argumentative writing they must do in college is based on reading, not solely on personal experience and observation. Summer reading and the AP Language and Composition Exam are required. College credit can be granted depending on the student’s AP Exam score and the student's college AP credit policy. This course will be offered in alternate years.
GLOBAL STUDIES

Grade 9
Grade 10

1 year - 1 credit
1 year - 1 credit

Global Studies is a two-year course of study culminating in a Regents Examination at the end of 10th grade. The course is an examination of the chain of events that affected the peoples of different cultures and times. Students will develop an awareness of past human experience. It is through the study of this human experience that a student becomes aware of the struggles that free societies have endured over the years. Reflection on past experiences is the only realistic guide to the present and the future.

The course provides the students with the tools and methods they need to analyze vast amounts of detail. These tools include historical interpretation, geographic awareness, economic assessment and political analysis.

The course is divided into two halves. The first half (grade 9) covers human development from the Stone Age up through the French Revolution. The second half of the course (grade 10) begins after the French Revolution and continues to modern day.

U.S. HISTORY & GOVERNMENT

1 year - 1 credit

This course is a chronological study of American History with a major theme of recognizing and studying basic Constitutional issues and the application of Constitutional principles to both historical and contemporary life. Units include: Constitutional Foundations for the United States Democratic Republic, Industrialization of U.S. Prosperity, Depression and War 1917 -1940, U.S. in an Age of Global Crisis, A World in Uncertain Times - 1950 - present, and Looking Backward. The U.S. History and Government Regents exam is given at the end of the year.
U.S. HISTORY GEMINI (HIS 110/111)  
1 year - 1 credit

This college level course is a study of the foundation of American History with emphasis on political, economic, social, and intellectual ideas from its settlement through today.

United States History I: This is a study of the foundation of American History with emphasis on political, economic, social, and intellectual ideas from settlement through 1877. (1st Semester)

United States History II: This is a study of American History with emphasis on political, economic, social, and intellectual ideas from 1877 through today. (2nd Semester)

Students have the option of taking the AP US History Exam in May. The United States History & Government Regents Exam is given at the end of the year.

SOCIAL STUDIES 12
ECONOMICS  
½ year - ½ credit

This course of study is designed to effectively prepare a student to become a functioning citizen who can demonstrate the ability to make rational and informed decisions about economic choices confronting him/her, the society, and their increasingly interdependent world.

PUBLIC POLICY  
½ year - ½ credit

This course of study is designed to teach seniors how public policy is formulated and how citizens in a democratic society can become involved in the formulation and implementation of public policy at the local, state, and national level.
PERSONAL FINANCE  
1 year - 1 credit

This is a year long course covering many aspects of “spending money” and making personal financial decisions. Students look at a wide variety of topics including the following: steps to decision making (personal, financial, school and employment); banking (how to write and balance a checkbook, how to select a bank, ATM cards, debit cards, savings); credit (credit cards, personal loans, car loans, use and abuse of credit); investment (different investment instruments, savings versus investment, mutual funds, stocks and bonds); reduction of risk (insurance – all types of auto, life, home and personal); budgeting (how to build and maintain a personal budget); taxes (how to file simple state and federal income tax returns); consumer fraud; buying consumer goods; and buying a new or used car.

VIETNAM ERA  
½ year – ½ credit

This is unique course will shed light on the turbulent time period in American and world history when the United States and other countries were conducting an unpopular military engagement that would become one of America’s longest armed conflicts. We are investigating the effects on American society of this time period.

CONTEMPORARY ISSUES  
½ year – ½ credit

This unique course will be driven by student interest and dialogue on issues in real time. We will identify and examine current events/issues that affect modern society then discuss and debate them. Each student will evaluate the impact and importance of selected current events and issues on individuals and groups. Students are required to read, watch, and listen to different mass media in order to find reliable information to create an intellectual and well-informed opinion about several contemporary topics. Students will explore and analyze new subject matters, and learn to respect others’ opinions on those matters while developing their own.

SOCIOLOGY GEMINI (SOC 100)  
½ year – ½ credit

Introduction to Sociology is a college level course. Sociology is the scientific study of human societies and human group behavior. Students will examine the many causes of social behavior, examine the dynamics of other cultures, and explore the relevance of sociology to their lives. Selected topics covered are culture, values, norms, ethnocentrism, socialization, social interaction, status, roles, deviance, conformity, the social institutions of family, religion and education, and global inequity and prejudice.
Introduction to Psychology is a college level course. Psychology is a study of human behavior and mental processes. Topics examined in this introductory course include the workings of the nervous system, perception, memory, learning, intelligence, personality, social attitudes, and interaction between individuals in social settings, abnormal behavior; and ways of treating abnormal behavior. The course is designed to provide an overview of the theories and methods used by psychologists.
MATHEMATICS COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

All students at WHS are required to successfully complete three units of math for high school graduation. The Math Department strongly recommends that students take a complete four year program. All Regents level courses require a final written Regents Examination.

**Recommended Math Sequence**
- Algebra 1
- Geometry
- Algebra 2

**Alternative Math Sequence**
- Algebra 1 Extended
- Geometry Extended
- Algebra 2 Extended

**Elective Courses in Math**
- Pre-Calculus or Pre-Calculus Gemini
- Advanced Placement Calculus AB
- Advanced Placement Calculus BC (online)
- Advanced Placement Statistics (online)
- Accounting (listed in Business Course Descriptions)
- Principles of Engineering (listed in Technology Course Descriptions)

**ALGEBRA 1**

1 year - 1 credit

Algebra 1 represents the beginning of the new NYS sequence for mathematics. The fundamental purpose of this course is to formalize and extend the mathematics that students learned in the middle grades. Because it is built on the middle grades standards, this is more ambitious version of Algebra 1 than has generally been offered. The modules deepen and extend understanding of linear and exponential relationships by contrasting them with each other and by applying linear models to data that exhibit a linear trend, and students engage in methods for analyzing, solving and using quadratic functions. The Mathematical Practice Standards apply throughout each course and, together with the content standards, prescribe that students experience mathematics as coherent, useful, and logical subject that makes use of their ability to make sense of problem situations.

Topics include: Relationships between quantities and reasoning with equations and their graphs, descriptive statistics, linear and exponential functions, polynomial and quadratic expressions, equations and functions and a synthesis of modeling with equations and functions.

The NYS Examination for Common Core Algebra 1 is the final examination for this course.
ALGEBRA 1 EXTENDED  
1 year – 1 ½ credit

This course is designed for the student who would benefit from additional time for skills development in preparation for the NYS Examination for Algebra 1. Students who received scores of 1 or 2 on the Math 8 State Test may be recommended to be in this course. Students in Algebra 1 Extended will have one period of Algebra 1 Extended class every day and two periods of Algebra 1 Extended every other day. See Algebra 1 for a more specific course description.

GEOMETRY  
1 year - 1 credit

Prerequisite(s): Algebra 1 or Algebra 1 Extended

Geometry is the second course of the new NYS sequence for high school mathematics. Topics include geometric relationships, logic and geometric proofs, transformations, similar and congruent triangles, properties of triangles, polygons and quadrilaterals, coordinate geometry, geometry of circles, geometric relationships between solids, and constructions of locus of points. The NYS Common Core Geometry Regents is the final examination for this course.

GEOMETRY EXTENDED  
1 year – 1 ½ credits

Prerequisite(s): Algebra 1 or Algebra 1 Extended

This course is designed for the student who would benefit from additional time for skill development in preparation for the NYS Geometry Regents Examination. Students in Geometry Extended will have one period of Geometry Extended every day and two periods of Geometry Extended every other day. Topics include geometric relationships, logic and geometric proofs, transformations, similar and congruent triangles, properties of triangles, polygons and quadrilaterals, coordinate geometry, geometry of circles, geometric relationships between solids, and constructions of locus of points. The NYS Common Core Geometry Regents is the final examination for this course.
ALGEBRA 2  
Prerequisite(s): Geometry or Geometry Extended

Algebra 2 represents the 3rd year of the new Common Core NY sequence for mathematics. High school students need to pass this Regents for the Regents Diploma with Advanced Designation. Building on their work from Algebra 1, students extend their repertoire of functions to include polynomial, rational, and radical functions. The Mathematical Practical Standards apply throughout the course, and together with the content standards, prescribe that students experience math as a coherent, useful, and logical subject that makes use of their problem solving skills. The critical areas for this course, organized into four units, are as follows: 1) Polynomials and integers, 2) Extend what was learned in Algebra 1 and Geometry to work on algebra 2 trig in the coordinate plane 3) Using math and statistics to problem solve 4) Probability and data driven problem solving. Students will take the NYS Common Core Regents Algebra 2 as the final examination for this course.

ALGEBRA 2 EXTENDED  
Prerequisite(s): Geometry or Geometry Extended

This course is designed for the student who would benefit from additional time for skill development in preparation for the new Common Core NYS Algebra 2 Regents Examination. Algebra 2 represents the 3rd year of the new Common Core NY sequence for mathematics. High school students need to pass this Regents for the Regents Diploma with Advanced Designation. Building on their work from Algebra 1, students extend their repertoire of functions to include polynomial, rational, and radical functions. The Mathematical Practical Standards apply throughout the course, and together with the content standards, prescribe that students experience math as a coherent, useful, and logical subject that makes use of their problem solving skills. The critical areas for this course, organized into four units, are as follows: 1) Polynomials and integers, 2) Extend what was learned in Algebra 1 and Geometry to work on algebra 2 trig in the coordinate plane 3) Using math and statistics to problem solve 4) Probability and data driven problem solving. Students will take the NYS Common Core Algebra 2 Regents as the final examination for this course.
PRE-COLLEGE MATHEMATICS & ALGEBRA

SKILLS

½ year – ½ credit

This class is designed to prepare students for further pursuits in college-level algebra or statistics. Topics include integers, algebraic expressions, exponents, one variable first degree equations and inequalities, applied problems, algebraic fractions with whole number denominators, exponent rules, graphing lines and slope of a line. Student admittance to this course is recommended and based on Accuplacer Testing that determines student knowledge in math for preparation to enroll in college-level courses.

PRE-CALCULUS

1 year – 1 credit

This fourth year of mathematics is a one-year course that prepares students for the study of calculus. Topics include: equations and inequalities, functions and their graphs, exponential and logarithmic functions, trigonometry, rational functions and conics, and an introduction to limits.

PRE-CALCULUS GEMINI (MAT 152)

1 year – 1 credit

This college level course prepares students for the study of calculus. The theme of the course is the extensive study of functions: modeling change, linear, notation, exponential, logarithmic, transformational, trigonometric, and compositional. Eleventh grade students will be prepared for the study of AP Calculus.

ADVANCED PLACEMENT CALCULUS AB

1 year – 1 credit

AP Calculus AB is the fifth year of mathematics and is a one-year course on the differential and integral calculus of the functions of one variable. This calculus course covers functions and graphs; limits and continuity; derivatives; applications of derivatives; antiderivatives and definite integrals; applications of integrals; and sequences, series, and polynomial approximations. The AP Calculus AB Exam is required as well as a full exam after school in the month before the AP Exam. College credit can be granted depending on the student’s AP Exam score and the student's college AP credit policy.
SCIENCE COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

All students at WHS are required to successfully complete three units of science for high school graduation. The Science Department strongly recommends that students take a complete program including Living Environment, Earth Science, Chemistry, and Physics. All Regents level courses require successful completion of written laboratory reports and a final written Regents Examination.

Recommended Science Sequence
Physical Setting: Earth Science
Living Environment
Physical Setting: Chemistry
Physical Setting: Physics or Gemini Physics

Elective Courses in Science
Environmental Science
Advanced Placement in Chemistry
Biology Gemini
Principles of Engineering (listed in Technology Course Descriptions)
Environmental Science Gemini

LIVING ENVIRONMENT

This course is designed to provide a broad, general understanding of the fundamental principles of Biology. Labs are used to strongly support lecture material and to give students "hands-on" experience. Topics include: Ecology, Human Physiology, Genetics, Living Things, Reproduction and Development, and Evolution. A separate lab period is required. Students will take the Living Environment Regents Examination in June.

EARTH SCIENCE

Earth Science introduces the student to the study of the composition, structure and processes of the earth, its geologic history and its place in the universe. The four branches of Earth Science studied are geology, meteorology, oceanography and astronomy. A separate lab period is required. Students will take the Earth Science Regents Exam in June which consists of a written exam and a lab performance test given in lab class.
ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE
Prerequisite(s): Living Environment and Earth Science

Environmental Science is a multidisciplinary field that draws from ecology, biology, chemistry, and geology, as well as other fields to better help students understand the relationship between humans and the environment. The study of living environment focuses on three main areas: conservation and protection of resources, environmental education and communication, and environmental research. The units of study are the following: Ecology, Populations, Water, Air and Land, Mineral and Energy Resources and Health and Our Future.

This course is for students who need a required third year of science. The goals of this course are to enhance students’ scientific thinking skills and meet all science requirements to earn a Regents Diploma.

CHEMISTRY
Prerequisite: Integrated Algebra

This course is designed to prepare students for a college level science course. It is based on the New York State Syllabus, which covers the broad range of general chemistry. The course is designed to develop a problem-solving method using the information taught throughout the year. The course also contains a weekly lab requirement. The NYS Chemistry Regents examination is the final exam for this course.

ADVANCED PLACEMENT CHEMISTRY
Prerequisite: Successful completion of the Chemistry Regents Examination

AP Chemistry is an introductory college level chemistry course. It goes beyond the basics of Regents Chemistry to a broader and more in depth study of chemistry. AP Chemistry is excellent preparation for students planning on a career in sciences or engineering related fields. Students must have a good knowledge of both chemistry and algebra and the desire to work hard. This course provides students with the conceptual framework, knowledge, and analytical skills necessary to deal critically with the science of chemistry. Both short and long term laboratory investigations are an integral part of the curriculum. The AP Chemistry topic outline includes: atomic theory, quantum mechanics, atomic and molecular structures, chemical bonding, kinetics, thermodynamics, equilibrium, solution chemistry, periodicity, and the laws for phases of matter. The AP Chemistry Exam is required. College credit can be granted depending on the student’s AP Exam score and the student's college AP credit policy.
PHYSICAL SETTING/PHYSICS  
1 year – 1 credit  
Prerequisite: Successful completion of the Integrated Algebra, Successful completion of Algebra 2 (or concurrent enrollment with teacher recommendation)  

This is a Physics course that allows state guidelines in content and achievement level. This college preparatory course is considered a prerequisite for most four-year college programs. Students will study problem solving techniques and participate in laboratory activities in mechanics, electricity and magnetism, waves and optics, and modern physics. The skills and concepts developed will help prepare students for demands of our ever-growing technical society. It is a course that is enjoyed by all and is necessary for those who want a well-rounded science background. The Regents examination in Physics is required. This lab also has a 30-hour laboratory requirement.

BIOLOGY GEMINI (BIO 121)  
½ year - ½ credit  
Prerequisite(s): Living Environment and Chemistry  

The Biology Gemini course is a college-level introductory biology course. The intent of the course is to expose students to higher-level biological principles, concepts, and skills and allow them the opportunity to apply their knowledge to real-life applications. Student are expected to develop an understanding of basic principles of biology, photosynthesis and respiration, levels of cellular complexity, genetics and evolution.

FUNDAMENTALS OF HUMAN ANATOMY AND PHYSIOLOGY GEMINI (BIO 110)  
½ year - ½ credit  

Study of the basics of human anatomy and physiology including anatomical terminology, basic biochemistry, cells and tissues, and the integumentary, skeletal, muscular, nervous, endocrine, cardiovascular, lymphatic/immune, respiratory, digestive, and urinary systems. Introduction to common human disease processes. Prerequisite may be waived with instructor’s approval.
ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE GEMINI (BIO 103)  1 year - 1 credit
Prerequisite(s): Successful completion of Living Environment Regents and Earth Science Regents

This course investigates the interactions and relationships between humans and the Earth. It provides the scientific foundation for analyzing today’s pressing environmental issues and the solutions for a sustainable future. Students will gain an understanding and appreciation of the impact of humans on other living organisms, water resources, air quality, and energy and mineral resources. In analyzing potential solutions to these environmental issues, students will evaluate the impact of their own choices on the Earth’s resources as well as the relative role of governments in setting sustainable policies. In the laboratory component of the course, students will learn scientific methodology, sampling procedures and methods used to test environmental quality. A portion of the lab will include outdoor experiences. (Also listed as CON 103)
LANGUAGES OTHER THAN ENGLISH COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

FRENCH 1
1 year - 1 credit

French 1 is an introduction to the French language. Students will develop the basic skills of speaking, listening, reading, and writing. There is an emphasis on everyday vocabulary and basic sentence structure. Students have an opportunity to learn about different Francophone cultures and customs throughout the world. Topics covered will include personal identification, family life, community and neighborhood, meal taking, health, leisure, shopping, travel, and current events.

FRENCH 2
1 year - 1 credit

French 2 is the continuation of the study begun in French 1. Emphasis is on the four skills of listening, reading, writing and speaking as well as on vocabulary acquisition and the investigation of grammatical concepts. Students will expand their ability to communicate about present events and gain the ability to discuss past events. Topics include a review and broadening of those from French 1, as well as the addition of house and home, chores, daily routines, food stores and food shopping, travel, professions and arts and entertainment.

FRENCH 3
1 year - 1 credit

French 3 presents a continued emphasis on the skills of listening, reading, writing and speaking. Concepts are reviewed to help students gain proficiency in French. Students will learn more advanced grammatical structures. Further study of Francophone cultures will provide enhanced cross-cultural understanding. Students take the Comprehensive French Regents exam at the end of this course.

FRENCH 4 GEMINI (FRN 201/202)
1 year - 1 credit

This college level course includes a continued emphasis on speaking, listening, reading and writing. Students will also be encouraged to continue improvement of spoken French and develop a fluency of the language. Students will read short stories, and magazine articles. Videotapes and films will also provide students opportunities for communication and understanding French culture. Topics to be covered include travel, communication, family and values, environment, identity, business interactions, and social interactions, and the media.
FRENCH 5  
1 year – 1 credit

French 5 will be an independent study which will require that the students work independently the majority of the time. French 5 is part of a combined French 4/5 class, where students will be required to come into the French 4 classroom setting at least once a week and help lead French 4 students in various projects and assignments. The independent study will focus on French and francophone civilization and culture. Students will be asked to research (in the target language) the culture and society of francophone cultures by using a variety of resources. These resources will include online articles and websites, literature, and blogging. Students will practice reading comprehension, writing and listening through these resources. The speaking aspect of the course will be practiced when they integrate into the French 4 classroom to help lead a subject or topic. The main objective of the French 5 independent study is that students maintain exposure to the French language while learning a more advanced aspect of French culture.

SPANISH 1  
1 year - 1 credit

Spanish 1 is an introduction to the Spanish language. Students will develop the basic skills of speaking, listening, reading, and writing. There is an emphasis on everyday vocabulary and basic sentence structure. Students have an opportunity to learn about different Hispanic cultures and customs throughout the world. Topics covered will include personal identification, family life, community and neighborhood, meal taking (food and drink), health, leisure, shopping, travel, and current events.

SPANISH 2  
1 year - 1 credit

This course is a continuation of Spanish 1. There is a continued emphasis on reading, writing, speaking, and listening. Students will continue studying the grammatical structures of Spanish as well as increasing their Spanish vocabulary. Some of the topics covered include shopping, stores, city life, family traditions, education, and Hispanic American culture.

SPANISH 3  
1 year - 1 credit

Spanish 3 presents a continued emphasis on spoken language and communication. Concepts are reviewed to help students gain proficiency in Spanish. Students will learn more advanced grammatical structures. Further study of Spanish speaking areas will provide additional reading and speaking practice. Students take the Comprehensive Spanish exam at the end of Spanish 3.
SPANISH 4 GEMINI (SPN 201/202) 1 year - 1 credit

This Gemini course allows students to continue working on reading and writing skills in Spanish. Students will also be encouraged to communicate orally and in written form, as well as develop a fluency of the language. Short stories and films provide opportunities for a deeper understanding of the culture of the Spanish speaking world. Some of the topics covered include memories, the environment, travel, health, shopping, persuasion, relationships and values, modern society, social interactions and the media.

SPANISH 5 GEMINI (SPN 203/204) 1 year – 1 credit

This Gemini course will continue to fine-tune students’ skills of listening, speaking, reading, and writing while exploring Spain and Latin America. This course also enables students to use previously mastered material on a daily basis as they read and speak about a variety of topics and literature. Students will be assessed using a variety of methods including: oral assignments, presentations, dialogues, short compositions, and other displays. Students are expected to participate using the target language. This course will focus on Hispanic culture and history. Students will maintain exposure to the language while developing further knowledge of culture.
BUSINESS COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

CAREERS FOR THE 21ST CENTURY  
½ year - ½ credit

This course introduces the student to the world of business and helps prepare them for the roles of consumer, worker, and citizen. During the course, students will have the opportunity to explore their interests and abilities in relation to future career choices. The course will assist students with consumer decision making, prepare them for future employment and help the students effectively perform their responsibilities as a citizen. It will also provide students the opportunity to acquire basic transferable skills.

KEYBOARDING  
½ year – ½ credit

This course is designed to develop alphabetic as well as numeric keyboarding skills needed for both occupational and personal use. Modules include learning the computer keyboard, business and personal letters, tables, term papers, outlines, and other forms.

ACCOUNTING I  
1 year - 1 credit

This full-year course is designed to develop occupational competencies in accounting. The content includes the entire accounting cycle and provides the students with an understanding of double-entry accounting. In addition, the student is introduced to applications of manual accounting systems as well as computerized systems. Simulations using actual business papers will be used. This course can count for the third year of math requirement.

SPORTS AND ENTERTAINMENT MARKETING  
1 year - 1 credit

Sports and Entertainment Marketing is a 1-unit course that introduces students to the important role that marketing plays in our economic system. Content revolves around the basic marketing functions of financing, risk management, selling, promotion, pricing, purchasing, marketing information management, product/service/idea planning and distribution. Although students are given the opportunity to refine entry-level employment skills, the course focuses on more advanced career-sustaining skills associated with employment in various marketing sub-systems. The course will tie into the school store, which lends itself on first-hand experience. This course will be offered on alternate years.
BUSINESS/CRIMINAL LAW

1 year - 1 credit

Business/Criminal Law is a full-year course that emphasizes the individual as he/she encounters business law in his/her personal, family and occupational life. From the study of business law, students should gain a genuine respect and intelligent application for a segment of the law that affects them both at home and at work. Modules covered include: the legal environment, contracts, bailments, real property, insurance, financial transfers, employment and agency relationships, and business ownership. This course will be offered in alternate years.

GOOGLE APPLICATIONS

½ year - ½ credit

GOOGLE Applications is a half year, half credit course open to students of all grades. The course will introduce the GOOGLE suite and other google applications that will help students during their High School, Post Secondary, and future careers. We will cover the basics of creating and using a google account; as well as Web Search tools and Chrome. GOOGLE calendar and other apps that will help student productivity will be taught. Also, a major focus will be the GOOGLE suite, GOOGLE Docs, Sheets, and Slides.
TECHNOLOGY COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

DRAWING AND DESIGN FOR PRODUCTION (DDP) 1 year – 1 credit

Drawing and Design for Production is one of the three foundation courses in the Project Lead the Way program. The course applies and concurrently develops secondary level knowledge and skills in mathematics, science and technology. Drawing and Design for Production is intended to serve as a foundation course within the Project Lead the Way course sequence. All of the topics learned in this course will be used in future courses. Drawing and Design for Production (DDP) is a high school level course that is appropriate for 9th thru 12th grade students who are interested in design and engineering or for students looking to fulfill their Art or Music requirements for graduation. The major focus of the DDP course is to expose students to design process, research and analysis, teamwork, communication methods, global and human impacts, engineering standards, and technical documentation. DDP gives students the opportunity to develop skills and understanding of course concepts through activity based projects, and problem-based learning used in combination with a teaming approach.

The course assumes no previous knowledge. Student will employ engineering and scientific concepts in the solution of engineering design problems. In addition, students use a state of the art 3D solid modeling design software package (Inventor) to help them design solutions to solve proposed problems. Students will develop problem-solving skills and apply their knowledge of research and design to create solutions to various challenges that increase in difficulty throughout the course. Students will also learn how to document their work and communicate their solutions to their peers. Students may earn college credit through Rochester Institute of Technology if all requirements are met and reduced tuition fee is paid.
DIGITAL ELECTRONICS (DE) 1 year – 1 credit
Prerequisite: Successful completion of DDP, Algebra and Geometry
Open to grades 10-12

Digital electronics is a course of study in applied digital logic. Students will study the application of electronic logic circuits and devices. Strong connections will be made to mathematics, as Boolean methods of algebra and logic will govern the solution of problems. Watches, calculators, video games, and computers all have such circuits. The use of smart circuits is present in virtually all aspects of our lives, and its use is increasing rapidly, making digital electronics an important course of study for a student exploring a career in engineering or engineering technology. Students will test and analyze simple and complex digital multi-meters, etc. Students will also use computer simulation to learn about the logic of electronics as they design, test, and actually construct circuits and devices. Students may earn college credit through Rochester Institute if all requirements are met and the reduced tuition fee is paid.

PRINCIPLES OF ENGINEERING (POE) 1 year – 1 credit

This course is the second course in the PLTW series of High School Technology courses. This course may be used for a High School Math or Science credit. It is not necessary but helpful to have previously taken DDP.

This course is designed to help students understand the field of engineering and engineering technology. Exploring various technology systems and manufacturing processes help students learn how engineers and technicians use math, science and technology in an engineering problem solving process to benefit people. The course also includes concerns about social and political consequences of technological change.

POE will engage students through a combination of activity-based, project-based, and problem-solving learning. This will create an environment for applying engineering concepts to “real” problems and prepare students to: solve problems, work in a team setting, lead groups, conduct research, analyze data, and understand real-world impacts. This class is designed for 10th thru 12th grade students, particularly for those students entering technical fields, engineering, design, or construction. Students may earn college credit through Rochester Institute of Technology if all requirements are met and reduced tuition fee is paid.
CIVIL ENGINEERING & ARCHITECTURE (CEA)  1 year – 1 credit

The major focus of this course is completing long-term projects that involve the development of property sites. As students learn about various aspects of civil engineering and architecture, they apply what they learn to the design and development of a property. The course provides students with the freedom to develop the property as a simulation or for students to model the experiences that civil engineers and architects face. Students work individually or in teams, exploring hands-on activities and projects to learn the characteristics of civil engineering and architecture including estimating and calculating building needs and budgets. In addition, students use 3D design software to help them design solutions to solve major course projects. Students learn about documenting their project through detailed drawings, solving problems, and communicating their solutions to their peers. Students may earn college credit through Rochester Institute of Technology if all requirements are met and the reduced tuition fee is paid.

WOODWORKING I  ½ year – ½ credit

Woodworking is a hands-on course in the study of wood and the products made from this renewable resource. Students will have the opportunity to familiarize themselves with several types of domestic hardwoods, their characteristics and common uses for each species. Students will be able to safely use several woodworking power tools and hand tools to create and build a project made of wood. Other areas of study may include joinery, adhesives and fasteners used in woodworking, abrasives, and wood finishes. This course may be taken as an elective by 9th thru 12th graders.

ADVANCED WOODWORKING  ½ year – ½ credit
Prerequisite: Successful completion of Woodworking I and instructor recommendation

Advanced woodworking will be a continuation of the skills and projects from Woodworking I. Students will work primarily independently and will guide their course of study by choosing the projects they wish to complete. Students will have the opportunity to create larger scale projects when they are ready and have developed the necessary skills. Students taking this course must be able to set goals for themselves and manage their time to complete projects within the allotted amount of time.
INTRO TO COMPUTER SCIENCE

In Intro to Computer Science, students will use visual, block-based programming and seamlessly transition to text-based programming with languages such as Python to create apps and develop websites, and learn how to make computers work together to put their design into practice. They’ll apply computational thinking practices, build their vocabulary, and collaborate just as computing professionals do to create products that address topics and problems important to them.

VEX ROBOTICS

VEX Robotics Curriculum is divided up into twelve primary units and one optional unit. In a flexible format, students learn about engineering and engineering problem solving. They will be given introductions to the VEX Robotics Design System and Autodesk® Inventor® while learning key STEM principles through a process that captures the excitement and engagement of robotics competition. The curriculum is heavily focused on mechatronic principles; as such, programming is not required.
MUSIC COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

A well-balanced school curriculum includes music, drama, painting poetry, sculpture, and architecture along with other important subjects such as mathematics, history and science. The objective of our high school music program is to continue the promotion and enjoyment of music presently and for later life, and to provide an opportunity for social and emotional growth as a member of a group in cooperative expression. Our major groups at Williamson are Concert Band, Marching Band, Concert Chorus, Jazz Band and many varied small vocal and instrumental ensembles. The student also has an opportunity to take class instrumental lessons, class voice lessons and Fundamentals of Music Theory.

MUSIC IN OUR LIVES 1 year - 1 credit

Music in Our Lives is designed to give students an understanding and appreciation for a wide variety of music. A survey of performers and composers of various periods of music history are examined and many different styles of music from different cultures and time periods are introduced and explored. Basic music appreciation is the focus via hands-on experiences. No prior musical experience is necessary. This course satisfies the graduation requirement of one credit of high school art and/or music.

CONCERT CHOIR 1 year – ½ credit

Bi-weekly voice class and concert participation required

The chorus is open to any student in the high school who desire to enroll. Members are exposed to a variety of choral literature representing different musical styles, including singing in different languages. Emphasis is placed on effort, the development of good musicianship, and basic music skills.

PERFORMANCE OPPORTUNITIES for all chorus students include three required concerts, and opportunities to audition for smaller ensembles, all-county and all-state chorus, and for parts in the spring musical.
SELECT CHOIR 1 year – ½ credit
Co-Requirement: Membership in Concert Choir

This course is designed to explore difficult choral repertoire, enhance listening abilities and teach advanced vocal technique in a small ensemble. The Select Choir will be made up of students through either teacher selection or an audition process. The ensemble will be expected to perform at events outside of the school day. This course satisfies ½ of the graduation requirement of one credit of high school art and/or music.

PERFORMING ARTS I 1 year – 1 credit

This course is designed to introduce students to drama and theatre arts. Through study materials, videotaped experiences, and hands on experience, students will explore their capabilities in acting, public speaking, movement, set design and construction, and technical stagecraft. Participation in class productions as well as school dramatic productions is a requirement for the course. This course satisfies the graduation requirement of one credit of high school art and/or music.

PERFORMING ARTS II 1 year – 1 credit
Prerequisite: Performing Arts I

Performing Arts II is a more in-depth study of theater including theater history, state make-up, set design, directing and stage management culminating in a theatrical production. Participation in class production is a requirement for the course.

MUSIC THEORY I/II 1 year – 1 credit

Music theory should be studied by all music students in order that they may further the development of their musicianship, whether they are vocalists, pianists and instrumentalists. In Music Theory I, a study of all of the fundamentals of music is included, beginning with basic notation and progressing through the aspects of modern harmonization and composition. Completion of this course will give the school music student keener insight and a practical knowledge into the language and structure of music. Theory II is a continuation of Theory I with an emphasis placed on arranging a composition of both vocal and instrumental music. Music Theory II is offered on alternating years, based upon interest and enrollment.
SENIOR HIGH CONCERT BAND

Prerequisite(s): Prior Formal Instrumental Music Experience
Requirement(s): Concert Participation
                  Participation in Marching Band
                  Weekly Instrumental Class Lessons
                  Individual Weekly Practice

The Senior High Concert Band is open to 9th through 12th grade students with prior instrumental music experience. The goal of the Concert Band is to advance the musical skills of developing students and to aid in their quest to become an independent musician. This will be achieved by engaging students in various musical experiences and challenges which will give them a strong foundation from which they can grow as instrumentalists. Enrollment in band is a prerequisite for participation in small performing ensembles. This course satisfies ½ of the graduation requirement of one credit of high school art and/or music.

SENIOR HIGH JAZZ BAND

Prerequisite(s): Concert Band
Requirement(s): Participation in Concert Band
                  Concert Participation
                  Individual Weekly Practice

The Senior High Jazz Band is open to 9th – 12th grade students who participate in the High School Concert Band. Exceptions to this rule will be considered by the band director if one or all of the positions of the rhythm section are not filled. (Rhythm section includes drum set, guitar, bass guitar and piano). Those who are interested in playing in the rhythm section and who are NOT in concert band, may audition for one of these positions. Students who would like to audition can made arrangements with the band director to do so. The goal of the Jazz Band is to advance the musical skills of developing students and to explore the art and style of jazz which includes improvisational techniques. This course satisfies ½ of the graduation requirement of one credit of high school art and/or music.
ART COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

STUDIO ART

This class covers many fundamentals in the visual arts. Topics covered include: the elements and principles of art, color theory, art history, techniques, critiques, and art vocabulary. The main objective of this class is to introduce and involve students in various two and three-dimensional art projects, giving them a broad understanding and appreciation for many different materials and techniques in art. Students will explore a variety of media including: drawing, painting, printmaking, and ceramics, along with many more. This course is for those students considering an art sequence and is a prerequisite for all other art courses. Each marking period there are graded sketchbook assignments, although the majority of their grade is based on projects done in class. Students are required to purchase a sketchbook and permanent markers for this course. This class satisfies the graduation requirement for one credit of Art/Music.

DRAWING AND PAINTING I

Prerequisite(s): Studio Art

This course concentrates on strengthening drawing and painting skills and explores concepts that were introduced in Studio Art in greater depth. Students develop their personal style and skills as they apply what they have learned to charcoal, colored pencils, pastels, watercolor, and acrylic paint, among other media. The majority of the year will be spent creating two-dimensional pieces, although some three-dimensional media may be explored, with an emphasis on painting. Each marking period there are graded sketchbook assignments, although the majority of the grade is based on projects done in class. Art history, art critiques, and art vocabulary are included in each unit studied throughout the year. Students are required to purchase a sketchbook and permanent markers for this class.
DRAWING AND PAINTING II

1 year - 1 credit

Prerequisite(s): Studio Art and Drawing & Painting I

Throughout this course students will continue to expand their knowledge in the elements and principles of art as a means of exploring creative problem solving using a wide variety of media. Students will work to not only improve skills, but develop mastery in concept, composition, and execution of design. Working with the teacher, students will design the concepts behind many of their own projects based on what their portfolio is currently lacking to ensure the creation of a well-rounded portfolio. All projects will be finished in a professional manner, with pieces being mounted or matted, and basic college information will also be provided. Each marking period there are graded sketchbook assignments, although the majority of the grade is based on projects. Students are required to purchase a sketchbook and permanent markers for this class.

CERAMICS/SCULPTURE

½ year – ½ credit

During this course student will use clay, plaster, and other media to explore the creation of various types of three-dimensional art. They will create hand-built clay pieces exploring various tools and using different techniques of construction such as pinch, coil, and slab. Students may also have the opportunity to learn how to throw a piece of pottery on a potter’s wheel. The design skills learned in Studio Art are expanded through new media in this class. Historical and cultural aspects of sculpture, a working knowledge of art vocabulary, and assessment strategies will be emphasized throughout the course. The majority of time will be spent creating three-dimensional work, with some time spent drawing and planning out projects as well.
ADVANCED PLACEMENT STUDIO ART  
1 year - 1 credit
Prerequisite(s): Studio Art, Drawing & Painting I, Drawing & Painting II

AP Studio Art is not based on a written AP exam; instead, students submit portfolios for evaluation in May. AP portfolios contain three distinct sections: quality, concentration, and breadth. Each portfolio must reflect the student's ability to utilize both formal and conceptual issues of 2-D design, show technical skill in a variety of media, and express a sophisticated level of creativity and originality. Although creative expression and experimentation are important aspects of what is accomplished in this course, the quality of each work should be college-level. Students will not only create the required work, but they must also strive to make their art as interesting, creative, and unique as possible. Students will work to not only improve skills, but develop mastery in concept, composition, and execution of design. All projects will be finished in a professional manner, with pieces being mounted or matted, and college information and portfolio review dates will also be provided. Each month there are graded sketchbook checks with a focus on showing a distinct progression in concentration ideas, although the majority of the students’ grades are based on projects. Students are required to purchase a sketchbook and permanent markers for this class.

PHOTOGRAPHY  
½ year, ½ credit

This course emphasizes the art of black and white photography, built on a foundation of essential technical skills. Students will compose, shoot, develop and print their own photographs using a 35mm camera. Topics covered include the development, care, and handling of black and white negatives. Students will become comfortable making prints in the darkroom using an enlarger and variable contrast lenses. The two-dimensional design skills learned in Studio Art are expanded through a new media in this class. All photographs need to be mounted or matted as students will present their independent projects for class critiques. There is a $40 lab fee for chemicals, film and paper.
COMPUTER GRAPHICS

Prerequisite(s): Studio Art

½ year - ½ credit

In Computer Graphics students will explore the potential of digital imaging, computer software, and creating graphic effects, along with many other computer imaging techniques. The two-dimensional design skills learned in Studio Art will be expanded through digital media in this class. Students will have the opportunity to create and manipulate digital imagery from various sources. Topics covered include digital photography, scanning images, using appropriate internet content, and incorporating fonts into design, among others. A firm understanding of Adobe Photoshop will be established.
HEALTH COURSE DESCRIPTION

HEALTH

½ year – ½ credit

The Health program at Williamson High School is centered on mental health and psychology. The course deals with the simple question: Why do we abuse our minds and bodies? Every topic we study whether it is drug abuse, rape or obesity, is examined from a psychological standpoint. It is hoped that our students will leave Health class with a better understanding of the workings of the mind and body, and thus lead a more successful and healthy life.
PHYSICAL EDUCATION COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

PHYSICAL EDUCATION 1 year – ½ credit

The Physical Education curriculum offers students opportunities for challenging and innovative activities to promote positive, healthy attitudes and behaviors towards fitness and lifelong activities. Students are provided a general foundation of knowledge so they can make effective choices regarding their physical activity; the attainment of physical fitness and a desire to maintain this fitness throughout their lives. Activities offered include, cross-country skiing, snowshoeing, roller-skating, golf, ultimate Frisbee, weight training, self-defense, dance, various team and individual sport activities.

Physical Education is a course mandated by the State of New York requiring that each student earn 2 credits in order to graduate. Classes meet every other day for the full year. Students earn 1/2 credit for each year of Physical Education.

Stress Reduction ½ year – ½ credit

Research has shown that there are several strategies that can be used to reduce and manage the amount of stress in our lives. Throughout this course, we will explore many of these strategies and the benefits that go along with them. We will spend time identifying the specific mental, physical and emotional benefits of reducing stress while searching out effective and fulfilling strategies to meet one’s needs. Some of the strategies include breath training, journaling, money and time management, nutrition, assertiveness training, art and humor therapy, and a variety of physical exercises as well.

SPORTS OFFICIATING 1 year – ½ credit

This course will allow students to gain a foundational understanding of sports officiating. Students will learn how to communicate and interpret game rules, how to use correct signals and mechanics to communicate, and the psychology of officiating. Focus sports may include soccer, basketball, volleyball, or those pertaining to the specific time of year.
ONLINE COURSE OPPORTUNITIES

There are a number of online courses available to our students including but not limited to: Anthropology, Coastal Ecology, Forensic Science, Oceanography, and Wellness and Nutrition. Students can discuss these opportunities with their counselor.
21st CENTURY TECHNOLOGY COURSES – MARION HIGH SCHOOL

Students must meet academic and attendance criteria to attend this new opportunity.

COMPUTER GENERATED IMAGES ½ year – ½ credit

This course is an introduction to exploring the potential of multimedia computer software, special graphic effects and computer imaging techniques.

VIDEO PRODUCTION AND ANIMATION ½ year – ½ credit
(Prerequisites: Mac for Beginners and Mac Advanced)

This course is an introduction to producing video presentation in electronic field production with an emphasis on use of portable equipment, lighting, audio and video skills. Explores creative aspects of video camcorders capable of capturing stop motion animations and the use of computers to edit and create special visual effects. This course will focus on the professional software application Final Cut Pro.

TECH TOOLS ½ year – ½ credit

In the class students learn about Web 2.0/3.0 tools that will help with their class work. This course will teach students the various ways they can present information in new and innovative ways using up-to-date technology and web resources.

MAC FOR BEGINNERS ½ year – ½ credit

This course is an introduction to the Macintosh platform that includes navigating the Mac interface, installing and using applications for Mac, using iLife (Garage Band, iPhoto, iMovie and iWeb), and iWork (Pages, Numbers and Keynote) and connecting peripherals. The course will also focus on the iLife Suite (iPhoto, iMovie, iDVD, iWEB and Garage Band), but there will be many projects that will allow students to learn how to use the Apple products to their fullest extent.
Students must meet academic and attendance criteria to attend a Vocational Program. All Vocational courses, except Cosmetology, can be taken for one year as elective credit or as part of an extended Occupational Education sequence. College credit is available for some WTCC programs.

**ANIMAL SCIENCE** - The Animal Science Program prepares students for a wide range of careers related to animal care. Students receive instruction in veterinary care, nutrition, animal anatomy, physiology and animal behavior. The classroom houses many domestic and exotic pets. Students operate a grooming parlor that is used as a learning model for the handling and caretaking of animals.

**AUTO BODY REPAIR** - A two-year sequence to prepare for major collision repair, parts replacement, hardware repair and service, painting and refinishing the auto.

**AUTO TECHNOLOGY** - A two-year sequence to develop skill in the use of tools and equipment employed in automotive service work, and to instill a broad understanding of the principles of the mechanical and electrical system found in the modern auto.

**Carpentry** - A two-year sequence intended to develop skills in the use of tools and equipment practices commonly employed in the area of carpentry. Students earn OSHA 10 certification. Students build a variety of large projects on and off campus as part of their experience.

**Network Technician** - In the Network Technician Program students acquire the hands on technical expertise to become valuable IT professionals. In addition to the practical experience, students prepare for industry standard certification exams. Students study computer hardware, operating systems, servers and networking. The highest performing students will have the opportunity to put their knowledge to work in exciting internship opportunities at local companies.
COMPUTER PROGRAMMING AND VIDEO GAMING DESIGN - The program enables students to learn to be software developers or video game programmers. Students learn the essentials of programming and practice their skills by writing their own computer games. Students are taught concepts from geometry, trigonometry, and algebra needed to model real world physics in their games.

COSMETOLOGY - A two year and five week summer course in preparation to qualify for the New York State License in Cosmetology. To continue in the program for the second year, students must complete the necessary hours in the summer between their junior and senior year. If these hours are not completed, the student will not be eligible for continued participation in the program.

CRIMINAL JUSTICE - This program is designed to provide students with a variety of skills required in the broad field of Public Security. When the course is completed, students will understand techniques and procedures involved in conducting investigations, safety and environmental audits, tactical field operations and ballistics and firearms identification and management. They will also gain first-hand knowledge of effective security systems, traffic control, CPR and First Aid.

CULINARY ARTS - A two-year sequence teaching the basic skills needed in the preparation and serving of food. Students will receive instruction in baking, broiling and other methods of preparing food, and in the use and care of kitchen equipment. This program provides students the work experience and classroom learning they need to succeed in restaurant/food service careers. Students will have the opportunity to earn their ServSafe Managers certification.

EDUCATION PROFESSIONS – Students enrolled in the Education Professions Program at WTCC will be immersed into a culture that expands their knowledge of the many varied career opportunities available in the field of education. Students will create age-appropriate lesson plans and interact with young children in the center’s community-based, on-site preschool. Students will also choose from a selection of off-site work-based learning rotations in their specific fields of interest. Completing seniors may be eligible to apply for Level I NYS Teacher Assistant Certification.

ELECTRICAL TRADES – Students will be prepared for entry-level employment in the various electrical trades. Throughout the program, students gain daily practical experience working with residential, commercial and industrial wiring in addition, the students will have the opportunity to experience training to become a Network Cabling Specialist.
HEALTH DIMENSIONS - A one year program that provides the basic knowledge and competencies considered common to careers in the health field. Students will explore many areas of employment through discussion, field trips and hands-on experiences before choosing a specialized course of study. Students take part in summer clinical experience that provides the additional training and education requirements needed to sit for the NYS Nurse Assistants Exam and may include exploration of, and exposure to additional health related careers.

ADVANCED MANUFACTURING AND ENGINEERING ACADEMY – Over the two year program students are exposed to Precision Machining Computer Aided Design and Welding Technologies, experiencing the interaction of multiple technologies in a real manufacturing environment and from field trips to local industries. All students will follow approved industry methods and engineering standards while learning to fabricate industry specific metal products.

POWER MECHANICS - In Power Mechanics, students learn the maintenance and repair of diesel and gasoline vehicles, farm machinery, earth-moving equipment and small power equipment used in agriculture, conservation and landscaping. Basic skills are developed in welding/fabrication and troubleshooting.

CONSERVATION - In the Conservation Program your “classroom” can be in the forest one day and the local park the next. Students are introduced to the career areas in heavy equipment operation/maintenance and forest management. They will learn skills in landscaping, forestry, fish and wildlife management. Students will also have the opportunity to compete in the annual Conservation competition. Students will earn their OSHA 10 card and forklift certification. They will have the opportunity to prepare for a New York State Commercial Driver’s License (CDL class B). The Conservation Program also runs a successful on-campus greenhouse.

HEALTH INFORMATICS -

NEW VISIONS MEDICAL – This program blends academics and career education aimed at High school seniors with an interest in medical careers. This program is geared toward students who are planning to attend college in some area of the medical field and have taken three years of Regents Mathematics and Science. The program places students in a hospital setting with access to all hospital operations. Application required.
NEW VISIONS NURSING - This program blends the academics and career education aimed at high school seniors with an interest in the nursing profession. Students will rotate throughout the year in a number of different departments at Newark Wayne Community Hospital working directly with healthcare professionals. This program provides seniors with the opportunity to explore the nursing profession within an interdisciplinary environment to gain insight into the role of nursing in healthcare. Students in the program develop the skills and knowledge needed for the rapidly growing healthcare industry. Application required.

NEW VISIONS VETERINARY SCIENCE - The New Vision Veterinary Science Program is designed to provide high school seniors the opportunity to intensely investigate future college and professional career pathways within the field of Veterinary Science. Both theory and hands-on experiences are introduced in the Veterinary Science program. New Vision Veterinary Science students earn certification as a veterinary assistant. Application required.
Williamson High School Activities and Clubs

**Clubs**
- Spanish Club
- Newspaper Club
- French Club
- Ski Club
- Yearbook
- MasterMinds
- GSA (Gay Straight Alliance)
- Robotics
- International Club/Model UN
- Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA)
- Volunteer Club
- Literature Circle
- Art Club

**Leadership Opportunities**
- Student Council
- Class Officer
- Class Projects
- Link Crew

**Extra-Curricular Events**

#### Band and Chorus Performances
- Marching Band
- Pit Band (musical)
- Solo Festivals
- Drill Team
- Jazz Ensemble

#### School Musical and/or Drama
- Performers
- Ushers
- Set Design/Construction
- Graphic Arts
- Technical Crew
- Stage Crew

**Sports**

#### Boys
- **Fall**
  - Cross Country
  - Soccer
  - Volleyball (with Sodus)
- **Winter**
  - Basketball
  - Cheerleading
  - Indoor Track
  - Wrestling
  - Swimming (with Sodus)
- **Spring**
  - Baseball
  - Track
  - Tennis
  - Golf

#### Girls
- **Fall**
  - Cross Country
  - Soccer
  - Volleyball
- **Winter**
  - Basketball
  - Cheerleading
  - Indoor Track
  - Swimming (with Sodus)
- **Spring**
  - Softball
  - Track
  - Tennis
  - Golf
The Williamson Central School District does not discriminate on the basis of sex, race, color, national origin, handicapping conditions or age in the educational program or activities which it operates. This policy of nondiscrimination includes the following areas: recruitment, and appointment of employees; employment pay and benefits; counseling services for students; access by students to educational programs, course offering and student activities.

Inquiries concerning this policy may be referred to the Assistant Superintendent for Business, Title 9/Section 504 Coordinator, Williamson Central School District Office, Miller Street, Williamson, New York 14589. The phone number is 315-589-9661.