

Paradise Independent School District

High School Course Catalog and Planning Guide

Grades 9-12



*Finding ways to be successful with every
student, every class, every day.*

Paradise High School High School Graduation Requirements

Paradise ISD recognizes the significance of a well-rounded curriculum, significant to changing demands from our society as well as the on-going technological advances of the 21st century. Therefore, the Paradise ISD School Board members endorse the Texas State Board of Education high school graduation programs with varied modifications from our local standpoint when dealing with the selections for electives and a prescribed sequence of courses for math and science.

	Subject Area	Recommended Program	Distinguished Achievement Program
1	ELA	English Language Arts 4	English Language Arts 4
2	Mathematics	Mathematics (Alg I, Geom, Alg II)* 4	Mathematics (Alg I, Geom, Alg II)* 4
3	Science	Science (Bio, Chem., Physics)* 4	Science (Bio, Chem, Physics)* 4
4	Social Studies	World Geography 1 World History 1 U.S. History 1 U.S. Government 1/2 Economics 1/2	World Geography 1 World History 1 U.S. History 1 U.S. Government 1/2 Economics 1/2
5	Speech	Communication Application 1/2	Communication Application 1/2
6	P.E.	Physical Education** 1	Physical Education** 1
7	Fine Arts	F.A. (Art, Band, Theatre, Dance) 1	F.A. (Art, Band, Theatre Dance) 1
8	Foreign Lang'	World Language (same language) 2	World Language (same language) 3
9	Electives	Electives 5 1/2	Electives 4 1/2
10	Components	Special Components	Four Advanced Measures
	Total Credits	26	26

Note: In addition to credit requirements, PHS students must successfully master the state EXIT LEVEL TAKS TEST or on state assessments recommended for students with disabilities.

* Four years of Math and Science is a new requirement beginning with the Freshman class of 2007-2008.

** Students who take Marching Band or Dance, upon successful completion of the Fall Semester will receive a waiver of the physical education requirement. Athletics taken in either the fall or spring semester may substitute for the PE requirement. All students are required to complete 1.0 credits of Physical Education for graduation purposes.

Academic Policies

Class Loads

Each student that is classified in grades 9, 10, and 11 are required to enroll in 8 courses each semester. Seniors have the liberty of enrolling in 6 courses if graduation requirements are not in jeopardy. Seniors are encouraged to register for additional electives since 8 courses are available during the school day.

Schedule Changes

Course selections during pre-registration are considered final. Any request for a change in a class after spring pre-registration must be made in writing to the High School Principal before the class rosters are established. **Students may not drop or add a course after four class days of attendance.** The random changing of courses at the beginning of school will not be honored due to the effect these changes have on classroom enrollment and the disruption of classroom instruction. Only changes pertaining to graduation plans and/or computer errors will be addressed after the school year begins. To receive credit for the classes enrolled in, a student must be in attendance for 90% of the class.

Pre-AP and AP Courses

The Pre-AP/AP courses offered by Paradise High School challenge student on a more disciplined, structured, higher academic level while introducing the students to and preparing them for a college education. Students who take AP exams may receive college credit while still in high school, saving both time and money. These classes are more challenging, stimulating, and require a considerable amount of time away from the classroom on assignments and research. Pre-AP/AP classes require energetic, involved and motivated students.

Dual Credit Courses

Students have the opportunity to be enrolled in college courses while still obtaining the needed 26 credits to graduate from Paradise High School. Students taking college classes are still required to register for at least 6 courses during the academic school day. The dual credit program is a cooperative effort between the Paradise Independent School District and Weatherford College. This program provides students an opportunity to enroll in courses typically not offered at the public school level, as well as an opportunity for enrichment in selected subject areas. The candidate for admission must seek the approval of your counselor and the previous teacher as part of the application process. The student must be approved by the admissions office of Weatherford College. The program allows Junior and Senior students the opportunity to earn high school and university credit concurrently. The student is responsible for the payment of all tuition, books and fees. Students should check with the school counselor for additional guidelines and suggestions before attempting to enroll in dual credit courses offered by Paradise ISD.

Course Descriptions

- English
- Mathematics
- Science
- Social Studies
- Physical Education / Athletics
- Foreign Language
- Fine Arts
- Career and Technology
- Other Electives

Pre-AP English II

Prerequisite: English I, Teacher Recommendation & Summer Assignment Semesters: 2
Grade level: 10 Credit: 1.0
Course weight: 5.0

The course broadens the skills introduced in Pre-AP English I. Students enhance their appreciation of the classics through exploration of various forms of world literature. Concepts in writing, language (vocabulary, grammar, and syntax), literature and reading are stressed. Students will be involved in enrichment activities and comprehension study both independently as well as in a cooperative learning setting. This course is preparing them for college and the English Language and Literature Advanced Placement tests. Summer readings will be required. Outside assignments will be expected.

English III

Prerequisite: English I and II Semesters: 2
Grade level: 11 Credit: 1.0
Course weight: 4.0

English II is the study of American literature. Students will read, interpret, and analyze poetry and prose written by various American authors. Students will also write various forms of discourse using increasingly sophisticated style and structure, produce and present complex research projects, develop vocabulary, and prepare for the TAKS Exit Level English Language Arts Test and the PSAT/SAT.

AP English III

Prerequisite: English I and II, teacher recommendation and completion of summer reading
Semesters: 2 Credit: 1.0
Grade level: 11 Course weight: 6.0

In AP English III, students are expected to read critically and closely for various levels of purpose and meaning and to talk and write about language as an effective tool in communicating. Emphasis is on American literature and effective rhetoric. Writing the various forms of discourse is required as is an in-depth study of literary genres and an extensive research project. Students will study vocabulary and learn strategies for improving PSAT/SAT scores. This course prepares students for the English Language and composition AP exam given in May. This class requires extensive outside reading and writing. A list of objectives required for AP English Language and Composition courses may be found on the College Board website.

English IV

Prerequisite: English I, II, and III
Grade level: 12
Course weight: 4.0

Semesters: 2
Credit: 1.0

Students in English IV will integrate all the language arts skills gained throughout their education. The curriculum both affirms these skills and equips the students to be life-long learners. Students continue to explore expressive, expository, argumentative and literary contexts with a focus on British Literature. A research project based on argumentation is a major course component.

English IV Dual Credit (English IV / College English 1301, 1302)

Prerequisite: Teacher recommendation / meet TSI requirements by presenting acceptable THEA/Compass/Accuplacer test scores or exemption status / registration at Weatherford College, plus payment of all tuition and fees / purchase of textbook / internet and computer access.

Semesters: 2
Credit: high school 1.0 / college 6 hours

Grade level: 12
Course weight: 6.0

This class follows the curriculum guidelines set forth by Weatherford College for English 1301 and 1302. The focus of 1301 is basic writing skills with practice in different writing modes, in addition to advanced grammar study. More advanced writing modes such as literary analysis (prose & poetry) and visual analysis, in addition to several research components, are the primary focus of 1302. All papers are subject to upload at Turnitin.com. The English IV credit portion of the course will consist of a “survey style” study of selected British Literature.

English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL)

Prerequisite: none
Grade level: 9 - 12
Course weight: 4.0

Semesters: 2
Credit: 1.0

This course is designed for students with no previous knowledge of English. Students will learn basic vocabulary and grammar in an oral/aural context. Students of ESOL I are expected to develop the four language skills of speaking, listening, basic reading and writing as well as an appreciation of American culture, geography, and history. Students will be exposed to native speakers of English in a variety of interactive activities and videos on the USA and other English speaking countries.

Mathematics

Algebra I

Prerequisite: none
Grade level: 9
Course weight: 4.0

Semesters: 2
Credit: 1.0

Algebra is the language of mathematics, learning to take real life situations and change them to a mathematic equation, solve it, and use the answer to apply to real situations. We will learn to write and solve linear and quadratic equations.

Pre AP Algebra I

Prerequisite: 7th and/or 8th Grade Math Teacher recommendation
Grade level: 9
Course weight: 5.0

Semesters: 2
Credit: 1.0

This course is intended for those who demonstrate an aptitude for mathematical skills beyond grade level requirements. It will address all the content of a regular Algebra I course, but will address it in more depth. Additionally, the course will allow students to begin exploration of more advanced topics, such as those they will see in Algebra 2/Pre AP Algebra 2 and Pre-calculus/Pre AP Pre-calculus.

Geometry

Prerequisite: Algebra I
Grade Level: 9 - 12
Course Weight: 4.0

Semesters: 2
Credit: 1

Students will develop reasoning and problem solving skills as they study topics such as congruence and similarity, and apply properties of lines, triangles, quadrilaterals, and circles. Students will also develop problem solving skills using length, perimeter, area, circumference, surface area, and volume to solve real-world problems.

Pre-AP Geometry

Prerequisite: Algebra I and teacher recommendation
Semesters: 2
Credit: 1

Grade Level: 9-10
Course Weight: 5.0

Students will develop reasoning and problem solving skills as they study topics such as congruence and similarity, and apply properties of lines, triangles, quadrilaterals, and circles. Students will also develop problem solving skills using length, perimeter, area, circumference, surface area, and volume to solve real-world problems. Pre-AP Geometry provides a more in-depth study of plane and solid geometry.

Mathematical Models Application

Prerequisite: Algebra I, Geometry
Grade level: 11
Course weight: 4.0

Semesters: 2
Credit: 1.0

This course will use algebraic, graphical and geometric reasoning to recognize patterns, to model information and solve problems involving money, data and science. Math Models will employ a variety of representations, tools, and technology while continuing to enhance algebraic skills learned in Algebra I and Geometry, thus establishing a strong foundation for Algebra II.

Algebra II

Prerequisite: Algebra I, Geometry
Grade Level: 10-12
Course Weight: 4.0

Semesters: 2
Credit: 1

Algebra II is designed to extend the algebraic foundations formed in Algebra I and Geometry. Algebra II will examine the relationship between algebra and geometry using the quadratic functions, conic sections and matrices. Algebra II will emphasize the use of the graphing calculator as a tool to find algebraic solutions.

Algebra 2 Pre-AP

Prerequisite: Geometry/Pre AP Geometry, Teacher Recommendation & Summer Assignment
Grade level: 10-11
Course weight: 5.0

Semesters: 2
Credit: 1.0

This course is designed for students showing an advanced aptitude toward mathematics. It covers the content of Algebra 2 and goes beyond the regular course in both content and depth.

Pre-Calculus

Prerequisite: Algebra 2/Pre AP Algebra 2
Grade level: 11-12
Course weight: 5.0

Semesters: 2
Credit: 1.0

Pre-calculus prepares the student for entry into college mathematics. The fall semester covers (as needed): linear and quadratic functions, matrices, systems of equations and inequalities, polynomial and rational functions, exponential and logarithmic functions, and sequences and series. The spring semester covers trigonometric functions, solutions of triangles, trigonometric identities and equations, inverse trigonometric functions, polar coordinates and complex numbers, conics, and vectors.

Pre AP Pre-Calculus

Prerequisite: Algebra 2/Pre AP Algebra 2, Teacher recommendation & summer assignment
Grade level: 11-12 Semesters: 2
Course weight: 6.0 Credit: 1.0

Pre AP Pre-calculus continues preparation of the student for AP Calculus AB. Graphing technology is utilized to a great degree. This course covers the content of Pre-calculus, but goes beyond the regular course in both content and depth. It is intended for college-bound students whose intent is a math-related major.

AP Calculus AB

Prerequisite: Pre-calculus/Pre AP Pre-calculus, Teacher recommendation, summer assignment
Grade level: 12 Semesters: 2
Course weight: 6.0 Credit: 1.0

The purpose of this course is to prepare students for the AP Calculus AB examination. The examination addresses three primary areas of study: limits, differentiation, and integration of functions.

Dual Credit Math (College Algebra 1314/Trigonometry 1316)

Prerequisite: Algebra 2 with a minimum of 85/teacher recommendation/acceptable THEA or state approved alternate test score or exemption status/registration at Weatherford College, plus payment of all tuition and fees/purchase of yearbook/computer access

Grade Level: 11-12 Semesters: 2
Course Weight: 6.0 Credit: 1
College Credit: 6 hours

This course covers the content of Pre-calculus along with the course competencies as outlined by Weatherford College for Math 1314 and Math 1316. College Algebra (Math 1314) will be taught during the fall semester and Plane Trigonometry (Math 1316) will be taught during the spring semester. A TI83 or TI84 Plus graphing calculator is required. (This course is for college-bound students whose intent is a non-math major.)

Science

Biology

Prerequisite: none
Grade level: 9 - 10
Course weight: 4.0

Semesters: 2
Credit: 1.0

Biology is the study of life. Students learn about living organisms, their makeup, and how these organisms interact with their environment and with each other. Students learn how to look at problems objectively and make intelligent decisions concerning biological issues. We will incorporate hands on learning (labs) to enhance and support curriculum. Requirements include the completion of chapter and unit assignments, projects, tests, and lab work.

Integrated Physics and Chemistry (IPC)

Prerequisite: Biology and Algebra 1
Grade level: 10 - 12
Course weight: 4.0

Semesters: 2
Credit: 1.0

Guidelines for the course are established by the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS). The material is divided into the major sections of Chemistry and Physics. Within these categories are introductory concepts such as energy and motion, electricity and energy resources, and the nature and interactions of matter. Students may also be required to complete individual projects during the year.

Chemistry

Prerequisite: Biology and Algebra 1
Grade level: 10 - 12
Course weight: 4.0

Semesters: 2
Credit: 1.0

Chemistry students conduct field and laboratory investigations, use scientific methods during investigations, and make informed decisions using critical thinking and scientific problem solving. Students study a variety of topics that include characteristics of matter, use of the periodic table, development of atomic theory and chemical bonding, chemical stoichiometry, gas laws, solution chemistry, thermo chemistry, and nuclear chemistry. Students will investigate how chemistry is an integral part of our daily lives

Environmental Systems

Prerequisite: Chemistry and Biology
Grade level: 11 - 12
Course weight: 4.0

Semesters: 2
Credit: 1.0

In Environmental Systems, students conduct laboratory and field investigations, use scientific methods during investigations, and make informed decisions using critical thinking and scientific problem solving. Students study a variety of topics that include: biotic and abiotic factors in habitats, ecosystems and biomes, interrelationships among resources and an environmental system, sources and flow of energy through an environmental system, relationship between carrying capacity and changes in populations and ecosystems, and changes in environments.

Anatomy and Physiology

Prerequisite:	Biology and Chemistry	Semesters: 2
Grade level:	11 - 12	Credit: 1.0
Course weight:	5.0	

The human anatomy and physiology class is offered to academically proficient students as a science elective. The student can expect this to be an introduction to college level anatomy and physiology course. All human systems will be studied in relation to their organization, form, and function. Dissections and projects are a major part of the course.

Physics

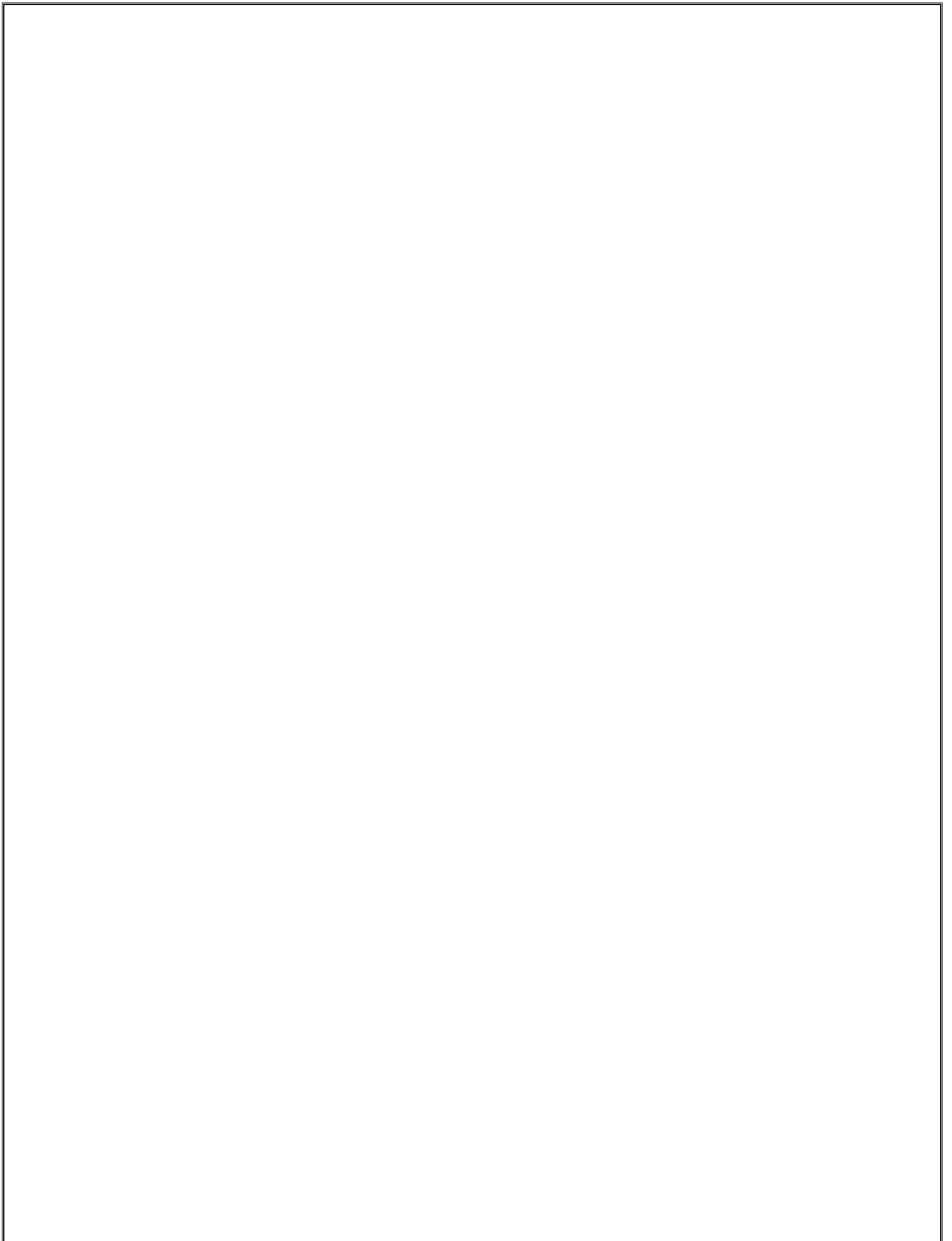
Prerequisite:	Chemistry and Algebra I	Semesters: 2
Grade level:	11 - 12	Credit: 1.0
Course weight:	5.0	

In Physics, students conduct laboratory and field investigations, use scientific methods during investigations, and make informed decisions using critical thinking and scientific problem solving. Students study a variety of topics that include: laws of motion; changes within physical systems and conservation of energy and momentum; forces; thermodynamics; characteristics and behavior of waves; and atomic, nuclear, and quantum physics. Students who successfully complete Physics will acquire factual knowledge within a conceptual framework, practice experimental design and interpretation, work collaboratively with colleagues, and develop critical thinking skills. Because mathematical models are used to examine physics concepts, students should have a thorough understanding of Algebra. Completion of Algebra II is preferred.

Principles of Technology

Prerequisite:	Biology, Chemistry and Algebra I	Semesters: 2
Grade level:	11 - 12	Credit: 1.0
Course weight:	4.0	

The student uses a systems approach to investigate mechanical, fluid, electrical, and thermal systems. The student is expected to apply the universal systems model to technological activities and identify the inputs, processes, outputs, and feedback associated with each of the systems. The student works safely with mechanical, fluid, electrical, and thermal technology. The student solves problems, thinks critically, and makes decisions related to technology.



Social Studies

World Geography

Prerequisite:	None	Semesters:	2
Grade level:	9	Credit:	1.0
Course weight:	4.0		

World Geography is the study of people, places and the environment from a physical and cultural perspective. This course is designed to help students increase their understanding and awareness of the modern world by examining relationships between people and their physical environment. The first major unit focuses upon topics such as the earth's physical factors, population and settlement patterns, cultural concepts, economic and political systems, as well as historical factors. In subsequent units, students study these factors as they apply to the world's major cultural regions.

World History

Prerequisite:	World Geography	Semesters:	2
Grade level:	10	Credit:	1.0
Course weight:	4.0		

World History is a survey course that offers an overview of the entire history of humankind, a study of man's Western heritage, and of significant non-Western cultures. The major emphasis is on the study of significant people, events and issues from the earliest times to the present.

Pre AP World History

Prerequisite:	World Geography, Teacher recommendation	Semesters:	2
Grade level:	10	Credit:	1.0
Course weight:	5.0		

Pre-AP World History is designed to blend social, political, economic, and cultural developments to help students understand people and their advancements from early times to the present at a more intense level. This course includes the study of man's Western heritage and the significant non-Western cultures with an emphasis on people, politics, cultures, and events. Critical thinking, independent study, and research are stressed in this class.

U.S. History 1877 to present

Prerequisite: None
Grade level: 11
Course weight: 4.0

Semesters: 2
Credit: 1.0

This survey course covers significant people, issues, and events from the Reconstruction Period to the present, emphasizing present day issues that have their roots in the past. It is an inquiry into the social, political, cultural and economic development of the United States during this period, including an emphasis on development and changes in United States foreign policy. The course will develop the student's ability to organize, interpret, and evaluate oral, printed and electronic sources of information concerning economic, social, political, and cultural history of the United States

US History 1603 to 1877 – Dual Credit

Prerequisite: Pass Reading portion of Compass test or 2200 on TAKS test
Semesters: 1
Credit: high school - 0 / college- 3 hrs.

Grade level: 11/12
Course weight: 0

The course will develop the student's ability to organize, interpret, and evaluate oral, printed and electronic sources of information concerning economic, social, political, and cultural history of the United States

US History 1877 to present – Dual Credit

Prerequisite: Pass Reading portion of Compass test or 2200 on TAKS test
Semesters: 1
Credit: high school -1.0 / college – 3 hrs.

Grade level: 11/12
Course weight: 6.0 (counted twice in GPA)

The course will develop the student's ability to organize, interpret, and evaluate oral, printed and electronic sources of information concerning economic, social, political, and cultural history of the United States

United States Government

Prerequisite: W. Geography/W. History/U.S. History
Grade level: 12
Course weight: 4.0

Semesters: 1
Credit: ½

Government is a one-semester course consisting of a relative study of the fundamental political and economic philosophies under which the present world nations maneuver. A working familiarity of the federal and state constitutions is emphasized to encourage the students to take part dynamically in the American political system. Community resources are included into the course in order to bring students into personal contact with wide-ranging aspects of our government.

United States Economics

Prerequisite: Government
Grade level: 12
Course weight: 4.0

Semesters: 1
Credit: ½

United States Economics is a one-semester course which enables the students to convey the process of events and conditions in the economy. Examples of study include: inflation, high unemployment, the energy crisis, and economic instability. The study of such occurrences are an attempt to enable the students to become better decision-makers for the future society.

Bible History - Old Testament

Prerequisite: None
Grade level: 11, 12
Course weight: 4.0

Semesters: 1
Credit: ½

This course studies the books of the Old Testament – looking at the connections the Bible has and has had to Western Civilization’s culture, literature, and history. Interpretations and open discussion of the Bible’s contents are welcome and encouraged. All ideas and perspectives are needed and appreciated. Any belief systems or non – belief systems are invited and welcome.

Bible History - New Testament

Prerequisite: None
Grade level: 11, 12
Course weight: 4.0

Semesters: 1
Credit: ½

This course studies the books of the New Testament – looking at the connections the Bible has and has had to Western Civilization’s culture, literature, and history. Interpretations and open discussion of the Bible’s contents are welcome and encouraged. All ideas and perspectives are needed and appreciated. Any belief systems or non – belief systems are invited and welcome.

Physical Education and Athletics

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Prerequisite: None Grade Level: 9-12
Semesters: 2 Course Weight: 4.0
Credit: 1.0

One credit of physical education to include one-half credit in Foundations of Personal Fitness.

Physical Education Substitutes:

A student may substitute certain physical activities for the one required credit of physical education, including the one-half credit of Foundations of Personal Fitness. The substitutions must be based on the physical activity involved in the following courses:

- Marching Band (Fall Semester)
- Dance (Fall and Spring)
- Athletics
- Athletic Training

Currently a student may not earn more than two credits in physical education toward state graduation requirements.

Athletic / Competitive Activities

The following athletic competitive team sports are offered at Paradise High School and are governed by the rules and regulations of the University Interscholastic League (UIL).

- Baseball
- Basketball
- Cross Country
- Football
- Golf
- Power Lifting
- Softball
- Tennis
- Track
- Volleyball

Students in grades 9-12 may select these courses and may count Athletics in lieu of Physical Education as required for graduation. One credit of P.E. are currently required to graduate, however four (4) credits are permitted to count toward graduation requirements.

The prerequisite for these courses is coach approval and participation in the off-season program. Students are encouraged to consult with their campus administration concerning off-season participation in hardship situations, state graduation credit requirements, or to participate in academic opportunities that may be in conflict with the schedule.

Athletic Student Manager/Trainer

Prerequisite: Coach Approval Grade Level: 9-12
Semesters: 2 Course Weight: 4.0
Credit: 1.0

Athletic Training (student trainer) is a course designed to provide hands-on opportunities for student to apply the knowledge and skills needed to become familiar with the role of an athletic manager or trainer. Students will serve as actual managers as they travel with various teams throughout UIL competitions. Student Athletic Trainers will aid the coaching staff with injury management, physical therapy, and rehabilitation techniques as appropriate for skill level.

Boy's/Girl's Physical Education

Prerequisite: None Grade Level: 9-12
Semesters: 1 Course Weight: 4.0
Credit: .5

Physical Education is a semester course designed to provide students with the opportunity to develop health-related fitness and an appreciation for teamwork and fair play through participation in a variety of team and individual sports. Aerobic activities are designed to aid students to develop and maintain a positive attitude and build the foundation of fitness for life. Individual and group sports are designed to provide students with the opportunity to develop health-related fitness and an appreciation of a variety of lifetime activities related to developing and maintaining an appropriated level of personal fitness.

Foundations of Personal Fitness

Prerequisite: None Grade Level: 9-12
Semesters: 1 Course Weight: 4.0
Credit: .5

Foundations of Personal Fitness are required for graduation and will be in conjunction with Boys/Girls Physical Education class. This course represents a new approach in physical education and the concept of personal fitness. The basic purpose of this course is to motivate students to strive for lifetime personal fitness with an emphasis on the health-related components of physical fitness.

Foreign Language

Spanish I

Prerequisite:	none	Semesters:	2
Grade level:	9-11	Credit:	1.0
Course weight:	4.0		

This course is designed for students with no previous knowledge of Spanish. Students will learn basic grammar in an oral/aural context. Students of Spanish I are expected to develop the four language skills of speaking, listening, basic reading and writing as well as an appreciation of Latino culture. Students will be exposed to native speakers of Spanish in a variety of interactive activities and videos on Spain and Spanish-America.

Spanish II

Prerequisite:	Spanish I	Semesters:	2
Grade level:	10 -12	Credit:	1.0
Course weight:	4.0		

This course is designed to expand student learning from Spanish I. Students will learn more advanced grammar with an emphasis on past tense and sentence structure. Students of Spanish II are expected to further develop the four language skills of speaking, listening, reading and writing as well as an appreciation of Latino culture. Students will be exposed to native speakers of Spanish in a variety of interactive activities and videos on Spain and Spanish-America.

Pre AP Spanish II

Prerequisite:	Spanish I / teacher recommendation	Semesters:	2
Grade level:	10 - 11	Credit:	1.0
Course weight:	5.0		

This course is designed to expand student learning from Spanish I. Students will learn advanced grammar with an emphasis on past tense and sentence structure. Students of Pre AP Spanish II are expected to further develop the four language skills of speaking listening, reading, and writing, and will gain an appreciation of Latino culture. Students will be exposed to native speakers of Spanish in a variety of interactive activities and videos on Spain and Spanish-America. This course will be taught in both English and Spanish and will incorporate an introduction to literature-based grammar instruction.

Spanish III

Prerequisite: Spanish I and II
Grade level: 11 - 12
Course weight: 5.0

Semesters: 2
Credit: 1.0

Students of Spanish III are expected to further develop the four language skills of speaking, listening, reading, and writing. This course will introduce the subjunctive mood, compound tenses, prepositions, and basic conversational skills. Speaking the language is greatly stressed at this level. Students will be exposed to native speakers of Spanish in a variety of interactive activities and videos on Spain and Spanish-America.

Pre AP Spanish III

Prerequisite: Spanish I and Pre AP Spanish II and/or teacher recommendation
Semesters: 2
Credit: 1.0

Grade level: 11 - 12
Course weight: 5.0

Students of Spanish Pre AP III are expected to further develop the four language skills of speaking, listening, reading, and writing. This course will introduce the subjunctive mood, compound tenses, prepositions, and basic conversational skills. Speaking the language is greatly stressed at this level. Students will be exposed to native speakers of Spanish in a variety of interactive activities and videos on Spain and Spanish-America. This course will be taught primarily in Spanish and will focus on learning in the context of literature, cultural writing, and current events.

Spanish IV

Prerequisite: Spanish 1, Spanish II Pre-AP & Spanish III Pre-AP and teacher recommendation
Semesters: 2
Credit: 1.0

Grade level: 12
Course weight: 5.0

This course will review what the students have already learned, expand on their previous years of Spanish, and more fully develop language skills. This is a grammar course with an emphasis on cultural and literary readings. All skills (reading, writing, listening, and speaking) as well as the three basic fields (grammar, literature, and culture) will be emphasized during this course. This course will be taught primarily in Spanish.

Fine Arts

Art I

Prerequisite: None
Grade level: 9 - 12
Course weight: 4.0

Semesters: 2
Credit: 1.0

Art I is an introduction to visual art. Students will be introduced to various art styles, media, and art history. Students will be encouraged to create original art. They will understand and apply media, techniques, and processes; use knowledge of structures and functions to evaluate the effectiveness of artworks; evaluate a wide range of subject matter, symbols, and ideas; and understand the visual arts in relation to history and cultures. Students will reflect upon and assess these characteristics in their work and the work of others. They will make a connection between visual arts and other disciplines.

Art II

Prerequisite: Art I
Grade level: 10 - 12
Course weight: 4.0

Semesters: 2
Credit: 1.0

Art II students create original works using pencils, charcoal, soft pastels, oil pastels, pen or brush and ink, markers, and mixed media. Students experiment with various types of papers and grounds. Students plan and execute complex works, such as perspectives, landscapes, portraits, self-portraits, and abstractions from sketchbooks, still life's, and models. Students develop their own artistic interests and themes by making several drawings with similar intent and subjects with changes in technique, format, and/or media.

Art III

Prerequisite: Art I and Art II
Grade level: 11 - 12
Course weight: 4.0

Semesters: 2
Credit: 1.0

Students will create original paintings with various techniques and media. They will investigate color schemes, including monochromatic, analogous, complementary, and original schemes. They will use inks, watercolors, acrylics, oils and mixed media. Students will create paintings and experiment with different types of paper and other grounds, such as canvas, masonite, and cardboard. Students will develop their own interests and artistic themes, and will investigate selected historical periods and styles by viewing paintings from accomplished historic and contemporary painters.

Art IV

Prerequisite: Art III
Grade Level: 9-12
Course Weight: 4.0

Semesters: 2
Credit: 1

Art IV students create original paintings using various techniques and media. They experiment with color, exploring its emotional content. Treatment of subjects emphasizes space and form through range of value, placement, reflection and shadow. Students analyze and interpret themes in art history as endless sources of inspiration for their works. Students investigate and period, style or movement in art, identifying cultural, historical and political influences.

Theater

Prerequisite: None
Grade Level: 9-12
Course Weight: 4.0

Semesters: 2
Credit: 1

Students will learn theatrical skills and performance techniques with emphasis on improvisation, pantomime, stage movement, oral interpretation, acting, directing, and theater heritage. Theater students will study the cultural contribution of theater, its structure, the play, and its performance. Technical aspects covered include stage construction, lighting, costumes, and special effects. Basic principles of production are studied and applied through performances in various theatrical applications. Production work required.

Dance 1, 2, 3, 4

Prerequisite: Audition
Grade level: 9-12
Course weight: 0

Semesters: 2
Credit: 1.0

The Dance class includes all members of the "Emeralds" drill team, and members of the varsity cheerleading squad. Members must audition up for the team during the spring semester. They must attend summer camp prior to the beginning of the school year. Uniforms are furnished by the school, but members are responsible for buying shoes, bags, and any other personalized items. Participation in fundraisers is mandatory. Students will attend all pep rallies, varsity football games, and numerous varsity basketball games, and travel to competition in the spring. Dance is offered in the fall and spring and may be substituted for PE credit.

Band (I, II, III, IV)

Prerequisite: None
Grade Level: 9 - 12
Course Weight: None

Semesters: 2
Credit: 1

The band program is designed to be a two semester course, which provides a laboratory for instrumental music students, allowing them the opportunity to further develop musical skills as the development intensifies. The skills include the development of physical coordination, improvement of musical performance, and the development of a lasting appreciation of music. During the school year, band is divided into the following ensembles: Marching Band, Concert Band, and Symphonic Band. There is further opportunity to participate in the Flag Corp (Color Guard), which is part of the Marching Band and is open to all students. Marching Band may substitute for the Physical Education requirement for the state of Texas. Membership in all band classes is by audition, and students must participate in and successfully complete the fall semester as a member of the Marching Band to be considered in any of the spring instrumental ensembles.

Jazz Band

Prerequisite: Band Member/Director's Approval
Grade Level: 10 - 12
Course Weight: None

Semesters: 2
Credit: 1

The Jazz Band provides the opportunity to perform a variety of jazz, rock, and popular styles. Students may explore opportunities for jazz improvisation and small group performances.

Digital Graphics and Animation

Prerequisite: BCIS
Grade Level: 10-12
Course Weight: 4.0

Semesters: 2
Credit: 1

Digital Graphics and Animation is an introductory course in design, typography, and imaging techniques. The course includes topics such as digital composition, color, imaging, editing, and animation. An integral component in other areas, understanding design elements is essential in the creation of a successful product in this course. The student will use the computer's set of tools, common to bitmapped and object-oriented software programs, to produce and edit digital designs as well as to incorporate design principles when capturing digital images with the scanner and camera.

Introduction to Computer Maintenance

Prerequisite: BCIS
Grade Level: 10-12
Course Weight: 4.0

Semesters: 2
Credit: 1

ICM teaches students how to work on computers. Students will learn basic hardware terms and will be able to inspect, install, diagnose, and replace those items in a computer. At the end of the course a student should be able to break a computer down to the individual parts and put it back together again in perfect working order. Students will be required to understand the current issues regarding system software, application software, viruses, spyware, and ethical issues relating to computers. Students will be required to understand all network components including routers, switches, access points, and routers.

Early Childhood Professions

Prerequisite: Parenting and Child Development
Grade Level: 10 - 12
Course Weight: 4.0

Semesters: 2
Credit: 2.0

This course will provide an introduction to theories and practices in early childhood care and education and opportunities to observe children in a variety of settings. Students will spend six hours a week in the classroom and four hours a week in the field. Field experience will consist of six-week rotations to include pre-kindergarten and kindergarten classes in elementary schools, licensed child care facilities, and child development centers at the high school or community college campus. Students who master this class at a satisfactory level can earn five college credit hours, applicable upon completion of a semester of work in a 2+2 Tech Prep Child Development program at a Texas community college.

Child Development

Prerequisite: Preparation for Parenting
Grade Level: 10 - 12
Course Weight: 4.0

Semesters: 1
Credit: 1/2

Students will gain knowledge and skills related to child growth and development which equip individuals to develop positive relationships with children and effective parenting and caregiver skills. Individuals use these skills to promote the well-being and healthy development of children, strengthen families in a culturally diverse society, and pursue careers related to the care and education of children.

Preparation for Parenting

Prerequisite:	None	Semesters:	1
Grade Level:	10 – 12	Credit:	1/2
Course Weight:	4.0		

Students will gain knowledge and skills related to child growth and development equip individuals to develop positive relationships with children and effective parenting and caregiver skills. Individuals use these skills to promote the well-being and healthy development of children, strengthen families in a culturally diverse society, and pursue careers related to the care and education of children.

Personal and Family Development

Prerequisite:	None	Semesters:	2
Grade Level:	9 - 12	Credit:	1
Course Weight:	4.0		

Family and Consumer Sciences education provides individuals and families with essential knowledge and skills for managing the challenges of living and working in a diverse, global society. Individuals utilize these skills to enhance career and personal effectiveness, promote family strength and well-being, and pursue career options.

Nutrition and Food Science

Prerequisite:	Personal and Family Development	Semesters:	1
Grade Level:	10 – 12	Credit:	1/2
Course Weight:	4.0		

Principles of food science, technology, and nutrition are interdependent with growth, development, health and wellness. Individuals utilize these principles to make informed choices, promote good health, and pursue careers related to food science, technology, and nutrition.

Food Science and Technology

Prerequisite:	Personal and Family Development	Semesters:	1
Grade Level:	10 - 12	Credit:	1/2
Course Weight:	4.0		

This laboratory course provides in-depth study of the significance of nutrition in food science. It addresses the knowledge and skills needed to study food science, processing, marketing, and technology involved in food/nutrition. The opportunities in food and nutrition occupational areas are explored as well as the concepts and skills related to managing the dual roles of homemaker and wage earner.

Apparel

Prerequisite: Personal and Family Development Semesters: 1
Grade Level: 10 – 12 Credit: 1/2
Course Weight: 4.0

The textile and apparel industries encompass the production, marketing, and consumption of textile and apparel products. Individuals use knowledge and skills to function effectively as consumers and in careers related to the textile and apparel industries.

Interior Design

Prerequisite: None Semesters: 1
Grade Level: 10 – 12 Credit: 1/2
Course Weight: 4.0

Environmental design addresses psychological, physiological, and sociological needs of individuals by enhancing the environments in which they live and work. Individuals use knowledge and skills related to interior and exterior environments, construction, and furnishings to make wise consumer decisions, increase productivity, and compete in industry.

Agriculture 101

Prerequisite: none Semesters: 1
Grade Level: 9-12 Credit: 1/2
Course Weight: 4.0

This course will prepare students for careers in the broad field agriculture/agribusiness. Students will attain academic skills and knowledge, to acquire knowledge and skills related to agriculture/agribusiness and the workplace, and to develop knowledge and skills regarding career opportunities, entry requirements, and industry expectations. Additional topics covered include safety in the work place, basic metal skills, and woodworking.

Agriculture 102

Prerequisite: Ag 101 Semesters: 1
Grade Level: 9-12 Credit: 1/2
Course Weight: 4.0

This course will prepare students for careers in the broad field agriculture/agribusiness. Students will attain academic skills and knowledge, to acquire knowledge and skills related to agriculture/agribusiness and the workplace, and to develop knowledge and skills regarding career opportunities, entry requirements, and industry expectations. Additional topics covered include basic metal skills, record keeping, and livestock evaluation.

Metal Fabrication

Prerequisite: Ag Mechanics
Grade Level: 10 -12
Course Weight: 4.0

Semesters: 1
Credit: 1/2

This course will prepare students for careers in mechanized agricultural systems. Students will attain academic skills and knowledge, to acquire knowledge and skills related to mechanized agricultural systems and the workplace, and to develop knowledge and skills regarding career opportunities, entry requirements, and industry expectations. Additional topics covered include metal joining technology, and processes relating to assembly of equipment in agricultural mechanics, bench metal techniques, and cost affective construction techniques.

Introduction to Agricultural Mechanics

Prerequisite: Ag 101 – 102
Grade Level: 10 – 12
Course Weight: 4.0

Semesters: 1
Credit: 1/2

This introductory course explores hands- on, many of the different agriculture mechanic systems and career available to students. This course explores careers and skills in the following areas: metal fabrication, basic electricity and wiring, basic plumbing, basic concrete, basic carpentry, and fencing method. Students also learn the importance of safety in each of the skill levels. Student will also be able to obtain industrial safety certification upon course completion.

Introduction to Horticulture

Prerequisite: Ag 101 – 102
Grade Level: 10 – 12
Course Weight: 4.0

Semesters: 1
Credit: 1/2

This course will provide students with the academic skills and knowledge related to horticultural systems and the workplace. Topics covered include employability characteristics, technical skills in dealing with horticultural plants, controlling common pests of horticultural plants, and marketing and management skills used in the operation of horticultural businesses.

Horticultural Plant Production

Prerequisite: Ag 101 – 102 / Intro to Horticulture
Grade Level: 10 – 12
Course Weight: 4.0

Semesters: 1
Credit: 1/2

This course will provide students with the academic skills and knowledge related to horticultural systems and the workplace. Topics covered include employability characteristics, basic plant structures, and physiological processes used in plant production; tools, media, equipment, and structures used in horticultural plant production; and principles related to the management and production of greenhouse and nursery crops.

Agricultural Metal Fabrication Technology

Prerequisite: Ag. 101 / 102; Intro to Ag Mechanics Semesters: 1
Grade Level: 11 – 12 Credit: 1/2
Course Weight: 4.0

This course will prepare students for careers in mechanized agricultural systems. Topics covered include metal joining technology and processes relating to assembly of equipment in agricultural mechanics, bench metal techniques, and cost effective construction techniques.

Wildlife and Recreation Management

Prerequisite: Ag. 101 / 102; Intro to Ag Mechanics Semesters: 1
Grade Level: 10 – 12 Credit: 1/2
Course Weight: 4.0

This course is designed to introduce students to the importance of wildlife and outdoor recreation with emphasis on using wildlife and natural resources. The course also includes wildlife/recreation management career development activities as well as leadership and record keeping opportunities. Student will be able to obtain hunters safety certification during this course sponsored by the Texas Parks & Wildlife Department.

Range Management and Ecology

Prerequisite: Ag. 101 & Ag. 102 Semesters: 1
Grade Level: 10 – 12 Credit: 1/2
Course Weight: 4.0

This course will provide students with the academic skills and knowledge related to environmental and natural resources and the workplace. Students will be given opportunities to learn, reinforce, apply and transfer their knowledge in a variety of settings. Topics covered include employability characteristics, native rangeland as a renewable resource, the rangeland ecosystem, and methods of improving rangeland for livestock and wildlife.

Animal Science

Prerequisite: Ag. 101 & Ag. 102 Semesters: 1
Grade Level: 10 – 12 Credit: 1/2
Course Weight: 4.0

The course will prepare students for careers in food and fiber production systems. Students will obtain academic skills and knowledge related to food and fiber production and the workplace, and will develop knowledge and skills regarding career opportunities, entry requirements, and industry expectations. Additional topics covered include animal anatomy and physiology related to nutrition, reproduction, health and management of ruminant and non-ruminant animals.

Advanced Animal Science

Prerequisite: Ag. 101/102 and Animal Science Semesters: 1
Grade Level: 11 – 12 Credit: 1/2
Course Weight: 4.0

Topics covered include principles relating to the interrelated human, scientific, and technological dimensions of scientific animal agriculture and the resources necessary for producing domesticated animals; principles of genetics and breeding to livestock improvement, animal anatomy and physiology in livestock species; policies and issues in animal science issues, slaughter livestock operations; and methods of marketing livestock.

Food Technology

Prerequisite: Ag. 101/102 and Animal Science Semesters: 1
Grade Level: 11 – 12 Credit: 1/2
Course Weight: 4.0

Topics covered include employability characteristics; impact of the food technology industry; nutritive value of food constituents; sanitation in the food industry; processing and labeling of foods; processing, packaging, quality analysis, and marketing of red meats, eggs, poultry, fish, fruits, nuts, vegetables, milk and dairy products and their by-products.

Equine Science

Prerequisite: Ag. 101 & Ag. 102; Animal Science Semesters: 1
Grade Level: 10 – 12 Credit: 1/2
Course Weight: 4.0

Topics covered include employability characteristics; equine science as it relates to the selection of horses; nutritional requirements of horses; and equine science as it relates to the management of horses.

Agricultural Mechanics 1 & 2

Prerequisite: Ag 101,102,221,222. Not required but recommended Ag 321 & 322
Semesters: 2 Grade Level: 11 – 12
Credit: 1 Course Weight: 4.0

This course prepares students for a career in mechanized agricultural systems; students need to attain academic skills and knowledge, to acquire knowledge and skills regarding career opportunities, entry requirements, and industry expectations. To prepare for success, students need to have opportunities to learn, reinforce, apply, and transfer their knowledge and skills and technologies in a variety of settings. Students will also be able to obtain Industrial safety certifications, and introductory welding safety and welding skill certifications. These certifications help jump start student's careers in this competitive environment.

Other Electives

Peer Assistance and Leadership I (PAL 1)

Prerequisite: Highly recommended students fill out a PAL application and turn in teacher recommendations, receiving an average of a 90% or higher in order to advance to an interview process with the PAL sponsor. The top applicants are accepted into PALS for the following school year.

Semesters: 2

Grade level: 11 - 12

Credit: 1.0

Course weight: 0

P.A.L. provides guidance and mentoring for peers and younger children on issues facing youth today. PALs will also enrich their community through service learning projects and extended volunteer activities.

Peer Assistance and Leadership II (PAL II)

Prerequisite: Completion of P.A.L I. All other requirements are the same as for PAL I.

Semesters: 2

Grade level: 12

Credit: 1.0

Course weight: 0

P.A.L. II continues to provide guidance and mentoring for peers and younger children on issues facing youth today. PAL II will also enrich their community through service learning projects and extended volunteer activities.

Yearbook

Prerequisite: see below

Semesters: 2

Grade level: 10 - 12

Credit: 1.0

Course weight: 4.0

Yearbook is designed to allow students to apply layout designs, plans, writing, and editing in the high school yearbook. Photography is also part of the staff responsibilities. Staff members learn and apply business skills such as selling business ads to the public, marketing the yearbook to the students and community, and practicing communication skills in a real business experience. Staff members are selected by the advisor and must meet the following prerequisites: Must have already taken BCIS and must have had or be currently enrolled in either BIMM or Web Mastering. Students must apply and be approved for staff positions. See advisor for application.

TAKS Remediation – Math

Prerequisite: Failure of previous TAKS test

Semesters: 1

Grade Level: 10-12

Credit: 1 (local)

Course Weight: 0

This course will provide remediation for students who failed the math section of the TAKS test. Algebra, geometry, statistical, and problem solving skills will be stressed, as well as test taking strategies

TAKS Remediation – Math

Prerequisite: Failure of previous TAKS test
Grade Level: 10-12
Course Weight: 0

Semesters: 1
Credit: 1 (local)

This course will provide remediation for students who failed the math section of the TAKS test. Algebra, geometry, statistical, and problem solving skills will be stressed, as well as test taking strategies.

TAKS Remediation – Social Studies

Prerequisite: Failure of previous TAKS test
Grade Level: 10-12
Course Weight: 0

Semesters: 1
Credit: 1 (local)

This course will provide remediation for students who failed the Social Studies section of the TAKS test. Students will review content of high school social study courses. All science TAKS objectives are reviewed. Practice tests are taken.

TAKS Remediation – English

Prerequisite: Failure of previous TAKS test
Grade Level: 10-12
Course Weight: 0

Semesters: 1
Credit: 1 (local)

This course addresses skills necessary to pass the English Language Arts TAKS test, grade 10 and Exit Level grade 11, providing individualized instruction to address weaknesses. Skills covered include: basic understanding of a text, textual analysis, interpretation and critical evaluation of texts, short answer questions, viewing and representing media, revising and editing, and the composition.

TAKS Remediation - Science

Prerequisite: Placement based on low TAKS score
Grade level: 9 - 12
Course weight: 0

Semesters: 1
Credit: ½ (local)

This course will provide remediation for students who have failed science TAKS or who need extra preparation for the science TAKS test. All science TAKS objectives are reviewed. Practice tests are taken.

Multisensory Teaching System (MTS)

Prerequisite:
Grade level: 9, 10, 11, and 12
Course weight: 0

Semesters: 2
Credit: 1.0

MTS addresses the structure of the English language, emphasizing the decoding aspect of reading. The curriculum includes direct instruction in both synthetic and analytic phonics, as well as syllable types, prefixes, suffixes, and syllable division processes. One of the most important aspects of MTS instruction is that students develop independent decoding skills for accessing words they do not remember, or may not have seen in print before.

Communication Application (Speech)

Prerequisite: None
Grade Level: 9 - 12
Course Weight: 4.0

Semesters: 1
Credit: 1/2

This course is designed to develop communication skills to be utilized in social and professional contexts. Students will learn to communicate effectively in interpersonal, small-group, and presentational situations. Students perform speeches for an audience.

Keyboarding

Prerequisite: None
Grade Level: 9 - 12
Course Weight: 4.0

Semesters: 1
Credit: 1/2

Introductory Computer Application course is for students that need to improve their general typing skills for the success in further Technology Application courses. Students will be taught the “Home Keys” of the keyboard and the functions of all keyboarding functions. Students will be introduced to various programming devices, including Microsoft Word, Excel, and Power Point. The general function of the class is to reinforce the needed word processing skills for the student to be successful in other areas, including Language Arts, History, and the Sciences.

Creative Writing

Prerequisite: None
Grade Level: 10 - 12
Course Weight: 4.0

Semesters: 1
Credit: 1/2

Creative Writing provides students the opportunity to produce original works that use sensory observation and concrete imagery. Students learn about structure, style, point of view, figurative language, and other effective language tools. Culminating efforts will allow students to publish original works. Course is offered in fall and spring.

Algebra Lab

Prerequisite: None
Grade Level: 9
Course Weight: None

Semesters: 2
Credit: 1 (Local)

The course is designed to provide students with an additional classroom setting for aid with Algebra homework and test preparation. The instructor will be present and be available to provide assistance for the students that may be struggling with the Algebraic formulas and computations.