

## **ART**

**ART I** – 2 semesters; 1 credit per year (Fr., So., Jr., Sr.)

Introduction to Art is open to all high school students. It is a very general art/studio orientation course. The elements and principles of art/design and artistic awareness are stressed. There will be an interesting sampling/use of art medium and techniques. Students are encouraged to express, invent, transfer, learning from one medium to another. The specific program content includes basic drawing, perspective drawing, drawing in ink, drawing/design, an extensive color study, art vocabulary, and a survey of art history is introduced. Basic 3-D materials include clay. Weekly sketchbook assignments are required. Note: Students **MUST** take Art I first semester in order to take Art I second semester.

**ART II** – 2 semesters; 1 credit per year (So., Jr., Sr.)

Prerequisite: Art I with a grade of “C” or better

This course exposes students to a wide variety of techniques and mediums. Drawing instructions include portrait, perspective, and enlargement. Painting experiences include watercolor, tempera, acrylic, mixed media and collage techniques. Design will include radial and symmetrical projects. Other experiences are linoleum printmaking, learning how to mat, scratchboard, mosaics, and how to do lettering. 3-D projects always include paper mache and clay and may include other media as time allows.

**ART III** – 2 semesters; 1 credit per year (Jr., Sr.)

Prerequisite: Art II with a “C” or better

This course offers the advanced development of skills and techniques in a variety of two and three-dimensional areas. These areas include: advanced drawing, scratchboard, collage and mosaics. Advanced watercolor transparent techniques and introduction to airbrush design are included in the painting experience. Students will also be exposed to glass etching and design. Students in this class are usually thinking of vocational art and continue on to Art IV. A weekly sketchbook assignment is required.

**ART IV** – 2 semesters; 1 credit per year (Sr.)

Pre-requisites: Art I, II and III, and consent of instructor.

This is an advanced academic/studio course. Students that intend to further their art training in an advanced institution will find Art IV very helpful, as it encourages independent study in Art and increases skills and techniques. In addition to all of the previously used media, new concepts in design and 3-D activities are introduced. Weekly sketchbook assignments are required.

**GRAPHIC ART** – 2 semesters; 1 credit per year (Jr. Sr.)

Prerequisites –At least one year of art, and previous computer course.

This course is limited to 15 juniors and seniors, with priority given to seniors. The core of this course is to become proficient at computer generated Art, layout, and commercial graphics. A basic sampling of Adobe Photo Shop is taught.

## **BUSINESS**

### **ACCOUNTING I** – 2 semesters; 1 credit (So. Jr., Sr.)

The principles of double entry bookkeeping, as used by businesses, are studied and applied by working problems involving these principles. Students will work with various specific journals, a general journal, and three ledgers. Emphasis is also placed on the preparation of business reports that represent the condition of the business. Through the use of practice sets and computer applications, the student experiences the principles and practices of accounting.

### **WORD PROCESSING I** – 1 semester; ½ credit (Fr., So., Jr., Sr.)

The first part of the class will begin by reviewing proper keyboard technique, speed, and accuracy. The emphasis is on increasing typing speed and accuracy. The second part of the course deals with basic letter formatting, memorandums, business and academic report formatting using Microsoft Word.

### **INFORMATION PROCESSING** – 1 semester; ½ credit (Fr., So., Jr., Sr.)

Prerequisite: Word Processing I

This course will combine aspects of word processing, database, spreadsheet, and presentation graphics. Students will gain knowledge in all aspects of software applications and how to combine these to accomplish basic tasks performed by employees in the business occupational area.

### **DESKTOP PUBLISHING** – 1 semester; ½ credit (Fr., So., Jr., Sr.)

Prerequisite: Word Processing I or permission of the teacher.

This course is designed to teach students the basics of desktop publishing, graphics, and typography to create visually appealing copy. Students will use several software applications and will create newsletters, flyers, resumes, business cards, announcements, reports, and web pages.

### **MARKETING** – 1 semester; ½ credit (So., Jr., Sr.)

This course focuses on how products/services are produced and the processes involved in getting the product/service to the consumer. Topics include wholesale and retail marketing, advertising, selecting target markets, packaging and merchandising. Students will be required to participate in one marketing project to be completed during the semester.

### **PRACTICAL LAW** – 1 semester; ½ credit (So., Jr., Sr.)

This course introduces students to the history, the basis, the need for, and the operation of law. Its purpose is to enable the student to understand legal and moral rights and responsibilities in today's society. Areas covered include: when, where, and why to get a lawyer; criminal law; tort law; insurance, contracts; information laws; guarantees, and others. Actual trips to court and legislative proceeding will be made if possible.

## **FINANCIAL PLANNING** – 1 semester; ½ credit (So., Jr., Sr.)

Topics in finance will be discussed as they relate to real world simulations. Students will have an opportunity to learn about the present and future value of money, return on investment, on-line trading, stocks and bonds, mutual funds, investment strategies, and how to create a million dollar net worth (on paper). Students will develop their own financial plan for post-secondary education and beyond.

## **ENGLISH**

### **ENGLISH I, II, III, IV**

Students at Argenta-Oreana High School are required to take four years of English for graduation. The English I, II, III, and IV classes are designed to prepare students for post-secondary education or direct entry into the workplace. Instruction is based on the premise that students develop skills in English through application across curricular areas. Exposure to significant literature is instrumental in helping each student develop as a lifelong learner. These skills are developed as interrelated components, rather than as isolated areas of learning.

The curriculum will develop student performance in the following areas:

- \*critical and analytical listening and thinking
- \*reading, comprehension, interpretation, evaluation, and use of written materials
- \*correct and effective use of written language
- \*examination of the function and evolution of language literature, including drama, of different cultures, eras, and ideas.

**English I:** Essay writing will begin with narrative, descriptive, and 5 paragraph essays in addition to creative writing assignments. Language skills will be taught and reinforced. Students will learn basic elements of literature, such as plot, conflict, theme, analogy, and point of view. The literature used to teach these concepts will be a mix of prose (short, stories, essays, and novels), drama, and poetry. The forms of each of these will be learned as they are read. Public speaking and research skills will also be addressed.

**English II:** Students will be writing persuasive and cause-effect essays and gaining revision skills, along with creative writing assignments. Language skills will be taught and reinforced. Students will learn about figurative language, irony, satire, allusion, and inference, among other literary concepts through literature including prose, drama, and poetry.

**English III:** Students will write informative and critical analysis essays and gain proofreading skills. In addition, students will have creative writing assignments. Students will learn such concepts as paradox, hubris, allegory, and context and subtext through their reading of prose, drama, and poetry. The emphasis in English III is American literature, which is presented chronologically. Language skills will be taught and reinforced.

**English IV:** Students will build on research skills to prepare a correctly formatted research paper. Language skills will be taught and reinforced. English IV consists of a chronological exploration of British literature. Through their reading of prose, drama, and poetry, students will learn such concepts as epiphany, archetypes, stream of consciousness, the muses, and anti-heroes.

## **ENGLISH SKILLS CURRICULUM – I, II, III, IV**

This curriculum is designed as a remediation course for students whose reading and/or writing ability level is significantly below grade level. Placement in Skills courses is based on teacher recommendation, past performance, and test scores. These courses focus on basic language skills and reading comprehension. Differentiated instruction will be stressed to address individual needs.

## **ENGLISH ENRICHED I, II**

An accelerated and intensive English program designed to challenge students who have demonstrated an aptitude for the language arts and are motivated to learn. Approval for this course will be based on teacher recommendations, standardized test scores, writing samples, and previous grades in English. These courses are meant to prepare students for the Honors English courses. However, enrollment in Enrichment courses does not automatically qualify a student to continue into Honors courses.

## **HONORS ENGLISH III – 2 semesters, 1 credit per year (Jr)**

Prerequisite: A or B in Enriched English I & II (some exceptions), test scores, teacher recommendation. Students in Honors English III may elect to take the AP Language test at the end of the course, which may earn college credit for the student if he or she performs well.

The Honors English III class is designed for the student who has demonstrated the ability to read critically and to write with an ability to clearly express him/herself in various rhetorical formats (situations). The course is designed as an overview of American literature as influenced by historical, economic, cultural, and societal events. Various types of literature (short stories, poems, essays, letters, and novels) will be read. Outside reading to supplement the class will be required. A college-bound list will be given to students from which they may choose. Students will be expected to turn in 2-3 pages (typewritten) of writing each Friday.

## **HONORS ENGLISH IV – 2 semesters; 1 credit per year (Sr)**

Prerequisite: Students will be selected for this course by examination of test scores, teacher recommendation, writing samples, and personal interview by the instructor. Students in Honors English IV may elect to take the AP English Literature test at the end of the course, which may earn college credit for the student if he or she performs well.

The Honors English IV class is designed for the student who already possesses the basic English skills necessary to read and interpret literature and to express himself or herself well in writing through an understanding and use of basic grammar skills, punctuation, spelling, vocabulary, and word usage. Students will be expected to express themselves well in writing, discussion, and critical thinking as well as be able to analyze form and content of literature. The course is arranged to provide a sampling of world literature in a variety of permutations. The interaction with literature will be at a level of intensity equivalent to a college course. Students will read a combination of novels, short stories, plays, and poems that may include Greek tragedy, Shakespeare, a novel of world literature, a Victorian novel and a contemporary novel.

## **SPEECH I – 1 semester, ½ credit (So., Jr., Sr.)**

Although an English elective, this course does not fulfill the English requirement for graduation.

As an introductory course, Speech I will emphasize developing the student's ability to express thoughts and feelings effectively and understandably. Typical activities include informational,

persuasive, and personal experience speeches. A considerable amount of time will be spent on developing skills that will enhance the student's ability to gather and organize information.

**DRAMATIC PERFORMANCE** – 1 semester, ½ credit (So., Jr., Sr.)

This course will be offered alternate years; next offered in 2010-2011.

The Dramatic Performance class will improve students' oral communication skills through activities that call on creative expression. Students will analyze written materials for the purpose of clear and artistic communication, perform oral interpretations of prose and poetry, and engage in acting exercises. The cumulative project will be the performance of a one-act play.

**FILM STUDIES** – 1 semester; ½ credit (So., Jr., Sr.)

This course will be offered alternate years; it will be offered in 2009-2010.

This course will cover the history of motion pictures, film production techniques, and basic critical theory of film. Assignments and activities may include critical analysis essays focusing on different elements of a film, routine viewing of films in class, with written responses and other forms of assessment, an essay on an individual filmmaker and corresponding research, testing over material from lectures, and creative projects, such as pre-production film-making and possible some actual filming. This course is an elective English credit and does not count toward the four-year English requirement.

**YEARBOOK** – 2 semesters; 1 credit per year (So., Jr., Sr.)

Prerequisite: At least one year of a computer class is **STRONGLY** recommended; preferably Desktop Publishing or Graphic Arts class.

The yearbook class is designed to produce the yearbook. The majority of the first semester is spent in classroom instruction to learn terminology, layout design, copy and editing techniques, photography skills, and the InDesign program. The second semester is devoted to producing the yearbook. The yearbook is produced entirely (layout, photos, and copy) using computers. The class is an elective and may be taken two years for credit. (second year placement is dependent upon success in the first year.) It does not count as a required English credit, nor replacement for an English credit. Juniors and seniors are given priority for placement in this class.

## **FAMILY AND CONSUMER SCIENCES**

**CAREER EXPLORATION** – 1 semester; ½ credit (Sophomore)

Students generally pair this semester course up with the required Health course.

This required class is designed to help students explore careers and make a career plan for their future. Students will have an opportunity to research careers of their choice, along with the needed preparation and skills used in today's job market.

**ORIENTATION TO FAMILY AND CONSUMER SCIENCES**- 2 sem.; 1 credit (Fr, So)

This course is an introduction to many areas of family and consumer sciences. It includes the areas of foods and nutrition and clothing construction. Students will participate in laboratory experiences.

**FOODS AND NUTRITION I** – 1 semester; ½ credit per year (So. Jr. Sr.)

In this semester class students will work in small groups to plan, prepare, and evaluate food products in a tasty, attractive, efficient and healthy manner. Personal work skill and management

techniques will be applied in lab and classroom activities. Some of the topics will include sanitation, safety, equipment, basic nutrition product comparisons, shopping and meal planning. Principles of cookery for bread, cheese and sugar products are included. Career information will be shared with students.

**FOOD AND NUTRITION II** – 1 semester; ½ credit per year (So., Jr., Sr.)

Prerequisite: Foods and Nutrition I or Orientation to Family & Consumer Sciences

This one semester course is planned to assist students in achieving a more complete knowledge of meal preparation and nutrition. There will be emphasis on foods of foreign countries, which will include menu and meal preparation. Also, emphasis will be placed on nutrition and its relationship to good health.

**CLOTHING I, II** - 2 semesters; .5 credit per semester (So, Jr., Sr)

The Clothing I and II courses instruct the students on the role of clothing and textiles in everyday life. Emphasis will be on basic sewing construction techniques and fashion design. As our world becomes more “high tech”, it is important for students to experience hands-on projects. In this course, students will make a variety of projects that teach basic hand and machine sewing. This course will assist students interested in the fashion merchandising and clothing industry, but also prepare them to be better consumers as they learn about various fabric characteristics and fabric care. Clothing I focuses on basic sewing machine functions and basic construction components, while II focuses more on actual garment construction. No prior sewing experience is required. Clothing I in the fall is a prerequisite for Clothing II class second semester unless the student has consent of the instructor based on a prior knowledge of sewing.

**PARENTING** – 1 semester; ½ credit (So., Jr., Sr.)

This course is designed to help students consider the responsibilities, satisfactions, and stresses of parenthood, from before pregnancy through age one. The course content includes: applying the basic principles of the parenting process; practicing health and safety standards; providing experiences which encourage parents and children to make the most of their resources; encouraging skills of human relations; managing parenting; and evaluating the impact on parenting of family and career changes. Different types of parenting situations are examined, including teenage parenting and readiness for parenting. A field trip to a local hospital is planned.

**CHILD DEVELOPMENT/CHILD CARE** – 1 semester; ½ credit (So., Jr., Sr.)

This course can be taken separately or after the Parenting class. The preschool child (ages 1-4) and school age child (ages 5-10) are studied featuring physical, emotional, social and intellectual development. Management of special situations such as divorce death, adoption, child abuse and handicapped children is included. Careers in child care services and others related to children are explored. During 4<sup>th</sup> quarter class we will have a two-week pre-school for 3,4,and 5 year olds.

**LIVING ENVIRONMENTS** – 1 semester; (Jr., Sr.)

Residential Housing and Interiors class will explore the world of planning, building, decorating, and landscaping a home. Information is provided to help students make wise decisions about planning a home and selecting materials, and furniture choices. The quarter is spent designing and decorating a home of the student’s choice. Field trips to new home constructions, apartments, and older Decatur homes are planned.

**ADULT LIVING** – 1 semester; (Jr., Sr.)

This course covers all aspects of family life. Numerous topics will be discussed that will affect future decision-making, including personality, relationship with parents, dating, communicable diseases, family crises, relationship abuse, alcoholism, suicide, teen pregnancy, and death. Guest speakers from the area are included in the course.

**CONSUMER ECONOMICS** – 1 semester; ½ credit (Jr)

This course will provide the student an opportunity to look at problems the consumer is facing every day. Other topics include: Rights and responsibilities of the consumer, frauds and swindles in the marketplace, credit, insurance, taxes, financial planning and a checkbook packet. This course meets the State of Illinois Consumer Education graduation requirement.

**FOREIGN LANGUAGE**

**SPANISH I** – 2 semesters; 1 credit per year (Fr., So, Jr., Sr.)

Spanish I is open to any high school student with a “C” average or above in English. The study includes vocabulary building, basic grammar study (including the three groups of regular verbs and some common irregular verbs in the present tense.) Listening, speaking, reading, and writing teach the language. Oral participation is greatly emphasized. A broad cultural awareness is developed. Students are required to do daily class work, both written and oral. Both daily work and tests count for credit toward the quarter grade.

**SPANISH II** – 2 semesters; 1 credit per year. Pre-requisites “C” in Span. I (So., Jr., Sr.)

Spanish II starts with a thorough review of Spanish I. More complex grammar takes place with the introduction of stem changing verbs, the preterit, and imperfect tense. Reading comprehension and writing skills are developed. Studies are required to do daily class work and homework and to take tests and unit tests. These requirements all count for credit toward the quarter grade.

**SPANISH III** – 2 semesters; 1 credit per year (Jr., Sr.)

Prerequisite: “C” average in Spanish II

Attention is given to more advanced grammar which included the study of all the verb tenses. Speaking and writing skills are developed with the inclusion of short stories using the verb tenses studied. Grades are dependent upon the student’s conversational skills, written tests in Spanish and the ability to comprehend the literature covered.

**SPANISH IV** -- 2 semesters; 1 credit per year (Sr.)

Prerequisite: Above grades in Spanish III

Spanish IV covers the following objectives: the ability to comprehend spoken Spanish, the acquisition of vocabulary to allow the reading of modern literature in Spanish, the ability to compose expository passages, and to express ideas orally with accuracy. Spanish IV follows the outline for the AP exam although it is not an AP class. The curriculum covers composition based on short literary passages; conversation and short novels.

## **HEALTH, DRIVER'S ED. AND PHYSICAL EDUCATION**

### **HEALTH** – 1 semester; ½ credit per year (Sophomore)

State graduation requirement

The course in Health Education is developed around the three concepts of growth and development, interaction and decision-making. Topics include personal care, hygiene, nutrition, mental health, personality, drug abuse, first aid, and environmental health. The goals of the class are to provide each student with health knowledge so that he/she knows what health is, to encourage each student to want to be in the best of health, and to encourage each student to be a promoter of good health by being a good example for others and to possibly be a future employee in the many areas of health services.

### **DRIVER'S EDUCATION** – 1 semester; ½ credit per year (Fr., So. depending on birth date)

Driver's Education is a course designed to teach people how to drive successfully. The course has two phases: the classroom phase, which consists of nine weeks or 30 plus hours, and a six-hour behind the wheel phase. In the classroom phase, students will be required to successfully complete written examinations from subject content presented. Weekly reports will be assigned from outside reading sources. Audio visual aids will be used to supplement other materials. Approximately six weeks will be devoted to the Illinois Rules of the Road Booklet.

### **CO-ED PHYSICAL EDUCATION** 2 semesters; 1 credit per year (Fr., So., Jr., Sr.)

The Co-ed physical education class is designed to develop students into well-rounded people both physically and mentally. Students will develop physically through different activities. These activities range from team and individual sports to life long activities. Students will also be charted as to their own physical growth. The content of the class is subject to change yearly.

### **WEIGHT LIFTING/CONDITIONING** ( So., Jr., Sr.)

The co-ed course is designed to cover three basic areas: muscular growth, cardiovascular conditioning and lifelong knowledge of the importance of total physical fitness. This class is geared to the student who wants to work physically and maintain a higher fitness level. Written work and record keeping will also be required. Students must have proven superior performance in physical education class in order to be eligible for Weight Conditioning.

## **MATHEMATICS**

### **GENERAL MATH** – 2 semesters; 1 credit per year (Fr.)

Approval based on junior high school math grades and placement tests

This course develops skill in the computation of whole numbers, fractions, decimals, and percents. These skills are applied in the metric system and simple measurement skills, mathematics, and other practical life skills.

### **ALGEBRA CONCEPTS** -- 2 semesters; 1 credit per year (So.)

Prerequisite: Successful completion of General Math at the high school level.

Algebra Concepts is a slower paced course that reviews concepts previously learned, to build upon mathematical skills. In addition to review, Algebra Concepts will bring understanding and importance to the material found in an Algebra I course. Topics covered include integers, solving equations, proportions, rational numbers, measurement, percents, ratios, and some geometry.

**PRE-ALGEBRA** – 2 semesters; 1 credit per year (Fr., So., Jr., Sr.)

Prerequisite: Successful completion of general math at the junior high level and approval based on junior high school math grades and placement tests; or, successful completion of general math at the high school level.

This course will successfully prepare students for the Algebra I course. Topics covered include introduction of variables; use of integers; solving equations; graphs and data analysis; exploration of rational numbers; use of ratio, proportion, and percent; and basic geometry concepts.

**ALGEBRA I** – 2 semesters; 1 credit per year (Fr., So., Jr., Sr.)

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Pre-Algebra, either at the junior high or in high school.

The first semester of this course provides the student with an introduction to the basics of algebra. Simplifying expressions and translating words into mathematical expressions will prepare the student for working with the set of real numbers and discovering their properties. Other first semester topics include simple and multi-step equations, ratios, proportions, percents, and solving and graphing inequalities. The second semester topics include linear functions and their graphs, systems of equations and inequalities, exponents, exponential functions, polynomials, factoring, simple quadratics, and simple radicals. Real-life applications are stressed throughout the course.

**ALGEBRA II** – 2 semesters; 1 credit per year (So., Jr., Sr.)

Prerequisite: Algebra I and Formal Geometry with a C average or better

Algebra II expands on the concepts learned in primary algebra courses. New topics such as inequalities, linear algebra, polynomials, rational expressions, irrational and complex numbers, and quadratic equations and functions will be introduced. Students will be asked to use technology to gain understanding of the concepts.

**HONORS ALGEBRA II** - 2 semesters; 1 credit per year (So.)

Prerequisite: Grade of an A or B in Algebra I and Formal Geometry and math teacher recommendation

The first semester of this course includes a brief review of Algebra I concepts, skills and applications. Other topics include linear functions, equations, inequalities and graphs, absolute value equations, inequalities and graphs, linear systems and matrices. The second semester topics include quadratic equations and functions, polynomials and polynomial functions, radical functions and radical exponents, exponential and logarithmic functions and rational functions. This course requires students to use higher order thinking skills in questioning, discussions, and daily work assignments. The pace is **more rigorous** than the traditional Algebra II course. Graphing calculators are used in conjunction with this course.

**INFORMAL GEOMETRY** – 2 semesters; 1 credit per year (Jr., Sr.)

Prerequisite: General Math. Algebra Concepts, or recommendation of math department  
This basic geometry course is offered for those students who have met the prerequisites stated above. The basic concepts and interference patterns from logic are presented to the student to build an understanding of inductive and deductive reasoning which are the foundation of geometry's postulates and theorems. Throughout most of the course the students will focus on

the two dimensional plane. They will discover how the postulates and theorems structure geometric discovery through the use of hands-on activities as well as textbook-driven activities. Students should discover, learn, and apply geometry by connecting real-life applications to abstract concepts. Three-dimensional geometry is studied in the second semester and utilizes the geometric concepts of the two-dimensional plane.

**FORMAL GEOMETRY** – 2 semesters; 1 credit per year (So., Jr. w/ permission of Algebra teacher)

Prerequisite: Algebra I (grade of C or better, or teacher recommendation)

Formal Geometry is a course offered for those students who have met the prerequisite stated above. The basic concepts and inference patterns from logic are presented to the student to build an understanding of inductive and deductive reasoning which are the foundation of geometry's postulates and theorems. Basic vocabulary, symbolic notation, and the undefined terms of point, line and plane form the basis of this course. Students will use deductive reasoning to investigate, discuss and prove the relationships that exist between segments, lines, and geometric figures, such as congruent triangles, quadrilaterals and similar polygons. Second semester topics include right triangles, circles, areas and volumes of plane figures, and coordinate geometry.

**FRESHMAN GEOMETRY** – 2 semesters; 1 credit per year (Freshmen only)

Prerequisite: 8<sup>th</sup> grade Algebra with a grade of C or better.

In this course the basic concepts and inference patterns from logic are presented to the student to build an understanding of inductive and deductive reasoning which are the foundation of geometry's postulates and theorems. Basic vocabulary, symbolic notation and the undefined terms of point, line and plane, form the basis of this course. In the first semester, students will use deductive reasoning to investigate, discuss and prove the relationships that exist between segments, lines, geometric figures, and congruent triangles. Second semester topics include quadrilaterals, similar polygons, right triangles, circles, areas and volumes of plane figures, and coordinate geometry. This course requires students to use higher order thinking skills in questioning, discussions, and daily work assignments. The pace is **more rigorous** than the traditional Formal Geometry course.

**TRIGONOMETRY/PRE-CALCULUS** – 2 semesters; 1 credit per year (Jr. Sr.)

Prerequisite: Algebra I, Geometry, and Algebra II (C average required)

The purpose of this course is to gain a better understanding of previously studied topics and their applications. The pre-calculus portion of this course provides review and further development of all previous math courses, including exponential functions, logarithmic functions, matrices, and determinants. The trigonometric portion of this course involves the study of angles and triangles as they relate to the six trigonometric ratios and the unit circle. Analytic trigonometry and vectors are additional topics addressed in the second semester.

**CALCULUS** - 2 semesters; 1 credit per year (Sr.)

Prerequisite: Algebra I, Geometry, Algebra II, and Trigonometry/Pre-Calculus with a B average recommended.

This course ties together concepts learned in previous math courses and introduces the new concepts of Calculus. The two major concepts of Calculus; the derivative and the integral are thoroughly discussed. Additional topics to be covered are limits, continuity, and the practical applications of calculus.

## MUSIC

**CHORUS** - 2 semesters; 1 credit per year (Fr., So., Jr., Sr.)

Prerequisite: Serious intent towards performance and a positive attitude in rehearsals.

This course is for the student who has a feeling of respect for music. The intent of the music selection for this group is that it is well rounded to the extent of bestowing a tasteful musical background upon each student. It includes music from the standard choral repertoire—such as madrigals, sacred and contemporary pieces, and popular songs. The Argenta-Oreana High School Chorus is primarily a performing group. There are approximately five required performances. Students will gain knowledge of musical terms and how to read rhythms and intervals to become a better sight-reader. The student's grade is made up of test grades over material presented, attendance at required performances, participation, attitude, cooperation and ability to follow accepted classroom procedure used to generate good singing.

**BAND** – 2 semesters; 1 credit per year (Fr., So., Jr., Sr.)

High School Band is made up of students (grades 9-12) with previous instrumental experience. The director determines eligibility for membership. Students will participate in marching band, pep band, and concert band performances. Attending all full band performances is a course requirement. A wide variety of challenging and engaging music will be studied and performed throughout the year. In addition, students will have individual opportunities to participate in optional events like Solo and Ensemble Contest, IMEA, and other Band Festivals. The ultimate goal of band is to instill a high level of musicianship in the students so they may appreciate the personal gratification and aesthetic value of music and carry these experiences on to all areas of life.

**MUSIC THEORY** – 2 semesters; 1 credit per year (Fr., So., Jr., Sr.)

Music Theory/Composition is made up of any student in grades 9-12 with a desire to learn the analytical and creative process of music. Students will learn the theory behind music through analytical exercises, listening exercises, historical topics, composer projects, and composition exercises. Students will learn to compose in several styles of music ranging from classical to pop. Students will participate in individual and group composition projects. Students will also learn how to theoretically analyze many styles of music. The ultimate goal of Music Theory/Composition is to introduce the theory of music in a creative environment.

## SCIENCE

**COMPREHENSIVE BIOLOGY** – 2 semesters; 1 credit per year (So., Jr., Sr.)

Prerequisite: Comprehensive Biology is designed for students who have had below average grades in junior high school science courses and have taken General Science. This course is not recommended for college bound students or those who will enroll in advanced science courses. This course is offered on alternate years with General Science. It will be offered in the 2009-2010 school year.

This course covers major topics and concepts related to living things. Topics include the features of life and the cell, classification, the 5 living kingdoms, the relationship between living things, and some basic concepts of heredity and evolution.

**GENERAL SCIENCE** – 2 semesters; 1 credit per year (Fr., So.)

Prerequisite: General Science is designed for students who have had below average grades in junior high school or who have taken Comprehensive Biology. This course is not recommended for college bound students or those who will enroll in advanced science courses. This course is offered on alternative years with Comprehensive Biology. It will be offered in the 2008-2009 school year.

This course will focus on “general” topics in physical science. Students will be introduced to concepts in physics, chemistry, and earth and space science. Specific topics include electricity, weather, the solar system and the universe, properties of atoms, motion, forces, and momentum. This class is designed for students who require a physical science class which is not heavily laden in mathematics.

**PHYSICAL SCIENCE** – 2 semesters; 1 credit per year (Fr., So.)

This course is a mixture of both general and physical science. The first semester will focus on general science topics and the second semester will focus on physical science. This class is an alternative for students who have not reached the math level required for IPC. This class will be less math intensive than IPC.

**INTEGRATED PHYSICS AND CHEMISTRY (IPC)** – 2 semesters; 1 credit per year (Fr)

Prerequisite: Must have completed Algebra I or be currently enrolled in Algebra I with an “A” average in Pre-Algebra. Students must have obtained a grade of A or B in their most recent science course.

This class is an introductory or prep class for students who are interested in one day taking Physics and Chemistry. The course is heavily math laden. The first semester will focus on Physics and the second semester focus will be on Chemistry. This course will lay a strong foundation for students who will be taking Physics and/or Chemistry later on in high school.

**BIOLOGY**- 2 semesters; 1 credit per year (\*Fr., So., Jr., Sr.)

The purpose of the course is to introduce students to the major disciplines of biology and the concepts and theories that are part of those disciplines. Also, students will examine technologies and occupations related to biology. Some of the major areas that are covered are cells, reproduction, inheritance, evolution, classification, and ecology. A considerable amount of class time will be spent working on laboratory activities.

\*Fr. who are serious science students will be considered for approval to take Biology while taking their Physical Science class for the purpose of taking Chemistry I the sophomore year and advanced science courses the junior and senior year. (as space permits)

**ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE**- 2 semesters; 1 credit per year (Jr. Sr.)

Prerequisite: One course in a physical science and one course in a biological science. *This course is not offered every year; if enough students are interested, it will be offered in 2009-2010.*

Environmental Science uses facts learned in Biology and Physical Science classes to answer questions about how things happen the way they do in the environment. Major topics include ecosystems, water resources, air pollution, land use, climate, food supply, population growth, energy sources, and biodiversity. The emphasis is on the interrelationship between all living things and abiotic factors, man’s effect on the ecosystem and solutions to environmental problems. A field trip to Decatur’s water treatment plant, sanitary district and landfill is included.

**BOTANY** – 2 semesters; 1 credit per year Prerequisite – C average in Biology or an A/B in Comprehensive Biology and teacher approval. (So, Jr. Sr.)

This course is offered on alternate years; it will be offered in 2008-2009.

This second year biology class explores in depth the anatomy, adaptations and life cycles of plants from mosses, ferns, gymnosperms, and angiosperms, with emphasis on the flowering plants. Students will learn to identify local trees and make a leaf collection. The class may include experiments on plant nutritional needs, grafting or trophisms. Recommended for college bound students and those interested in conservation, agriculture, or horticulture.

**ZOOLOGY** –2 semesters; ½ credit per year Prerequisite – C average in Biology or A/B in Comprehensive Biology and teacher approval. (So, Jr., Sr.)

This second year biology class is designed to explore animals in depth by studying characteristics of the nine animal phyla in an evolutionary order from sponges to chordates. Representatives of each order will be studied in detail – anatomy, behavior, and advancements – with specimens of each phylum to observe and/or dissect. At least 7 dissections will be required and participation is mandatory. The course concludes with a comparison of vertebrate animal systems and with a field trip to a zoo, museum or aquarium. Recommended for college bound students and those interested in animal care, health professions, or the desire to study animals.

**CHEMISTRY** – 2 semesters; 1 credit per year (So. Jr., Sr.)

Prerequisite: One year of Biology I or Physical Science and Algebra I. It is also recommended that students will have completed or are concurrently enrolled in Algebra II.

This course deals with the study of matter, including solutions, atomic theory, nuclear chemistry, states of matter, relationships between matter and energy, and different types of reactions. Also, students will investigate how chemical principals are used in technologies. Students will do decision making activities such as analyzing the technologies as to the risk of versus the benefit of using them. A considerable amount of class time will be used for performing laboratory work. Students will have to collect data, analyze it, and draw conclusions from it.

**ANATOMY AND PHYSIOLOGY** – 2 semesters; 1 credit per year. (Jr, Sr)

Prerequisite: Biology I

This course is intended to be a college prep level course. It is especially useful for students who plan to further their studies in biology or any of the medical fields. The anatomy (structure) and physiology (function) of the human is examined in terms of the ten organ systems. A considerable amount of time is spent on lab work, which includes, among other activities, dissection.

**PHYSICS** – 2 semesters; 1 credit per year (Jr., Sr.)

Prerequisite: One year of Biology or Physical Science and Algebra II.  
Concurrent enrollment or completion of Trig. is recommended.

This course deals with the study of matter and the various forms of energy. The study of motion and forces is also included. Laboratory experiments are performed in each of the preceding areas. This course meets college requirements for introductory physics.

**ADVANCED CHEMISTRY** – 2 semesters; 1 credit per year (Jr., Sr.)

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Chem. I and Algebra II.

This course is a college prep level course. It is designed for students who will take chemistry in college. (Most science-related college majors require chemistry). The topics and lab work covered in this course should give students a better foundation for college chemistry than Chemistry alone. Students who were interested in chemistry or plan to pursue a science related career should find this course to be beneficial. Lab work will be emphasized.

## **SOCIAL STUDIES**

### **GEOGRAPHY** – 2 semesters; 1 credit per year (Fr)

This course includes in the first several weeks a review of basic map skills, the importance of world resources, and an overview of the earth and its people. The course primarily concentrates on increasing awareness of the world. Emphasis is placed on cultural background, physical topography, political systems, economic units, and current global affairs.

### **GOVERNMENT** – 1 semester; ½ credit (Jr.) (AOHS graduation requirement)

The course will examine our Government on the national, state and local levels. A detailed study on the background, writing, and contents of the U.S. Constitution and the Illinois Constitution will be included.

### **AMERICAN HISTORY** – 2 semesters; 1 credit per year (Jr.)

This course covers the Civil War era through the Vietnam War era. Special emphasis will be placed on connecting political, economic, and social aspects of past societies to our current society. Major cultural events, conspiracies and cover-ups, 20<sup>th</sup> century personalities, monumental achievements, and U.S. successes/failures will be explored. Students will participate in lectures, discussions, readings, projects, and videos to better understand our nation's past. This course meets the Illinois one year US History requirement for graduation.

### **AMERICAN AND GLOBAL ISSUES** -- 2 semesters; 1 credit per year (So, Jr, Sr) Prerequisite: World Geography

This class will provide a broad survey of early cultures and civilizations followed by a much more detailed view of American History from the Vietnam War era to the present. Early cultures will be discussed in theme format, such as the Greek and Roman heritage, the Middle Ages, the Renaissance, the Exploration Age, and the Industrial Age. American societal trends, environmental concerns, disasters, cultural trends, and terrorism are among the included topics which concern contemporary Americans. This class will be an upbeat, challenging look at America's place in the world.

### **CURRENT EVENTS** – 2 semesters; 1 credit per year (Seniors only)

This course is designed to look at current events, explore the past since 1945, and to provide critical thinking activities. Projects, videos, and other media will be used to achieve these goals.

## **RICHLAND ON (AO) CAMPUS DUAL CREDIT CLASSES**

**INTRO TO SOCIOLOGY (SOC 110)** – 1 semester, ½ high school credit, 3 college credits (Jr., Sr.), Must pass the Richland placement test. Class fulfills a group requirement for an associate degree

Provides a basic introduction to the discipline of sociology. The course explores the basic perspectives and methods of sociological inquiry, the relationships between humans, their society, and their culture, and the concept of social organization.

**INTRO TO PSYCHOLOGY (PSYCH 110)** – 1 semester, ½ high school credit, 3 college credits (Jr., Sr.) Must pass the Richland placement test. Class fulfills a group requirement for an associate degree.

Examines major psychological approaches to the study of human behavior and mental processes. It includes topics on the biological bases of behavior, learning, motivation, personality, stress, mental illness, memory and perception.

### **HALF DAY RICHLAND OPTION**

Seniors who have at least a 4.0 cumulative GPA and are on track for graduation may be considered for the half-day Richland Community College option. All tuition, books, and fees are the financial responsibility of the student. Coursework at the college is taken on Richland's campus in Decatur, and the student provides his / her own transportation to and from RCC campus. All coursework is taken as Dual Credit / Dual Enrollment. The senior is required to take 4-6 credits each semester they participate in this option. Each course will count as .5 credit at the high school, and the grades for each course will be figured in as part of the student's high school grade point average.

To participate, students must pass the Richland Community College placement tests, which give them eligibility to take college level coursework. The tests are administered in the high school computer lab during a regular school day in the spring. There is no cost for the placement test.

If a student should fail a Richland course in the fall, he or she will not be allowed to take the half day option for the spring semester. A dropped course results in an F on the student's high school transcript and GPA.

## **PROGRAMS OFFERED THROUGH THE DECATUR AREA TECHNICAL ACADEMY**

The Decatur Area Technical Academy allows students to gain hands-on experience in a wide variety of career fields. The Tech Academy provides the opportunity for students to develop career related employment skills. These programs have been designed for students who plan to further their education after graduating from high school.

Argenta-Oreana High School juniors and seniors may apply to attend the Decatur Area Technical Academy. Students must meet eligibility requirements including good attendance and minimum grade point average requirements of "C" (3.0). There is an additional fee for attending the DATA.

### Agriscience Technology (courses offered at Richland Community College)

1 or 2 year program made up for 4 semester classes:

Ag Science

Ag Biotechnology/Environmental Science

Biological Science Applications in Agriculture

Pre-Veterinary Studies/Work Based Learning

### Business and Computer Information Technology

Office Technology

Web Programming

### Arts and A/V Technology and Communications

Broadcast Production

Graphic Arts (course offered at Richland Community College)

### Allied Health and Human Services

Cosmetology (course offered at Mr. John's School of Cosmetology)

Criminal Justice

Culinary Arts/Hospitality

Early Childhood Education

Fire Fighting (course offered at Richland Community College)

Health Occupations

### Industrial and Engineering Related Technology

Auto Body

Auto Technology

Building Trades

Computer Assisted Drafting (CAD) (course offered at Richland Community College)

Computer Networking

Computer Repair

Industrial Manufacturing Occupations

Welding