

# Achievement House

CYBER CHARTER SCHOOL

# PROGRAM OF STUDIES

## 2021-2022



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## Foreword

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The Achievement House Cyber Charter School Program of Studies is designed to help students and parents/guardians choose, follow, and complete a path to graduation that will prepare students for success beyond high school. This document provides general information, including the policies, procedures and requirements of AHCCS, grades 7-12, and includes descriptions of all of our middle school and high school course offerings.

Our mission is for AHCCS students to experience an improved individual outcome, measured by academic achievement, in a personalized and rich learning environment that prepares them for success in a technology-driven world.

Together as teachers, staff members, and administrators, we strive to consistently improve our instructional practices in order to support student success. We encourage students and parents/guardians to become familiar with the contents of the Program of Studies to provide you with information that supports the successful education provided at AHCCS.

Achievement House offers a robust, balanced curriculum that is designed to meet each student's academic needs. Our highly qualified teachers are directly involved in creating the dynamic, customized curriculum that students access through live, virtual classes and asynchronous online assignments. Teachers are also available to work with students individually. Our helpful staff members are dedicated to providing a positive, engaging educational experience.

In addition to academics, students are encouraged to participate in a variety of clubs, extracurricular activities, and field trips. The combination of our dynamic curriculum and caring teachers is strengthened by close collaboration with parents to create an environment for student success.

**At Achievement House Cyber Charter School, our vision is:**

**Every student is a V. I. P.**

- **Valued as an individual**
- **Inspired to innovate**
- **Prepared for the future**

### Advanced Placement (AP) Courses

Advanced Placement, or AP, refers to college-level courses taught according to syllabi prescribed by The College Board Advanced Placement Program and/or to courses designed to prepare students for College Board AP Tests. Success in AP courses can be an important factor in admission to colleges and universities. Successful performance on AP tests (a score of 3, 4, or 5 on a five-point scale) may lead to college credit and/or advanced placement in college courses. AP courses receive appropriate weight when the Grade Point Average (GPA) is calculated.

### Career Courses

Career courses provide content learning that prepares students for college and/or careers by providing literacy and learning strategies that support students in mastering content. The courses provide a more structured learning environment, increased time spent in review, and reinforcement of major concepts to prepare for assessments and any outside assignments.

### College Preparatory (CP) Courses

College Preparatory courses provide rigorous, in-depth study through interpretation, application, analysis and synthesis of course concepts, content and standards. Both live instruction and outside assignments focus on teacher supported, guided practice followed by independent demonstration of learning.

### Core Courses

Core courses are offered in the following subject areas: Mathematics, English, Social Studies and Science.

### Credits

Credits are earned upon successful completion (passing grade) of a course.

### Elective Courses

Elective courses supplement a student's schedule and can be used to earn credits necessary for graduation. These courses will enhance students' educational experiences and allow them to explore possible career interests and college goals.

### Grade Point Average (GPA)

A student's Grade Point Average is a calculated average of any final grades they have earned. GPA is adjusted any time a student completes a course.

### Honors Courses

Honors courses allow students to explore topics in greater depth than non-honors courses. Honors students will complete projects that enrich their understanding of topics and the links between them. Honors level courses receive appropriate weight when the Grade Point Average (GPA) is calculated.

### Prerequisite

A prerequisite is a course that a student must complete in order to qualify for entry into another course. Before students can take Algebra 2, for example, they must have completed Algebra 1. Therefore, Algebra 1 is a prerequisite for Algebra 2.

## Middle School Program of Studies

### Course Selection

At Achievement House, the important process of course selection begins each spring for the following school year. Students are informed of course offerings through videos, e-mails, and announcements. With the help of their parents/guardians, students fill out an online scheduling request. Students have the option to meet with their school counselor to ask questions throughout the scheduling process. Schedules are finalized over the summer by the student's counselor, who takes into account graduation requirements, teacher input, survey responses, post-high school plans, past grades, and assessment scores. Our staff works hard to create the best academic schedule for our students.

### Grading Scale

Grade	Percent
A	95-100%
A -	90-94%
B +	86-89%
B	83-85%
B -	80-82%
C +	76-79%
C	73-75%
C -	70-72%
D+	67-69%
D	60-66%
F	0-59%

*Note: To calculate your final grade, add your quarterly percent totals and divide by 4.*

### Transfer Students

Final decisions on grade level placement for students transferring into AHCCS during the school year will be based on the previous grade level and the student's ability to meet the necessary requirements for promotion at the end of the current school year.

### Innovation Career Academy

Innovation Career Academy (ICA) provides elective coursework that equips students with valuable skills in STEAM related careers. The courses are organized into a collection of career pathways. Students may take multiple courses in a specific pathway or sample different courses in different pathways to explore different STEAM interests. All students are encouraged to try courses in the ICA to help guide them towards a future career interest. The ICA Pathways are: Engineering, Architecture and Construction, Audio Visual Communication Arts, Biomedical, Computer Science, Digital Graphic Arts, Drone Innovators, Engineering, Entrepreneurship, Fine Arts, Information Technology, Programming, and Robotics. Below is a list of ICA courses offered to Middle School students. A wider variety of courses is available with guidance recommendation. For a full list of ICA courses, please see the High School academics section.

**Design and Modeling (PLTW):** 0.5 credits — Are you interested in creating and building hands-on projects? Then this course is for you! Discover the design process and develop an understanding of the influence of creativity and innovation in your lives. In this Project Lead the Way course you will be challenged and empowered to use and apply what you learn to solve real-world problems by designing and building your own prototypes.

*Enrollment subject to seat availability. Guidance Counselor recommendation required.*

*Associated Pathways: Architecture, Construction*

**Green Architecture (PLTW):** 0.5 credits — In this hands-on, project-based course, students will dive into construction and architectural design. You will design homes in a way that keeps human carbon footprints small by using environmentally sustainable practices. Explore dimensioning, measuring, and design by building scale model homes and using a 3D architectural design software. *Associated Pathways: Architecture & Construction. Prerequisites: Design & Modeling.*

**Schoolyard Ventures Entrepreneurship Boot Camp:** 0.25 credits — Schoolyard Ventures, offered to Achievement House students, is an innovative program that helps teens launch businesses, non-profits and other real-world projects that are meaningful to them. Students can earn credit by completing all requirements. *Associated Pathways: Entrepreneurship*

**Schoolyard Ventures Entrepreneurship:** 0.75 credits — Schoolyard Ventures provides students with curriculum, workshops, mentorship, and micro-capital to help them launch their own businesses. Students are encouraged to experiment with various business ideas and progress in the program at their own pace. Instructors and mentors help with this process, as students work to bring their product to market. *Associated Pathways: Entrepreneurship. Prerequisite – Schoolyard Ventures Entrepreneurship Boot Camp.*

**Search and Rescue (SAR) by Drone I:** 0.25 credits — Be immersed in virtual search and rescue missions performed by drones. You will learn how drone SAR teams operate to get the job done. Drone technology is in your future. Search and rescue is just one of many ways drones will change how we do things - inspections, construction, law enforcement, and agriculture, to name a few. Learn about drones, autonomous flight, and the foundations of the FAA Part 107 Remote Pilot Exam! Instructor will travel to a variety of locations around the state so that students can have an opportunity to fly a DJI drone.

*Associated Pathway: Drone Innovators*

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## Middle School Program of Studies

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### Innovation Career Academy (continued)

**Search and Rescue (SAR) by Drone II:** 0.25 credits — In part 2, the SAR missions become trickier. How do we complete missions with drone flight safety regulations, FAA flight standards, flight principles, & drone design in mind? This course emphasizes drone flight safety and the law. FAA Part 107 Remote Pilot Exam safety and legal questions are discussed. Instructor will travel to a variety of locations around the state so that students can have an opportunity to fly a DJI drone. *Associated Pathways: Drone Innovators.*

**Prerequisite – successful completion of SAR by Drone I.**

**Technology Basics** — This course introduces students to skills that they will need in today's digital learning environment. They will learn keyboarding, basics of internet safety, copyright respect, acceptable use policy, basic word processing and presentation skills, and an introduction to webpage design.

### Academic Departments of Achievement House Cyber Charter School

*The following sections contain each content area and the courses offered through that department. Each subsection begins with an introduction to the content area and then a description of the courses offered. The content of each course aligns with Pennsylvania Academic Standards.*

#### English and Language Arts Department

*Department Requirements:*

Students must complete a core English course. Students are placed into appropriate courses by their guidance counselor.

**Advanced Language Arts 7** — This course is designed to prepare students for honors and AP courses at the high school level. This course will prepare students to take the 7th grade PSSA. Students will be challenged to analyze, evaluate, and synthesize author's purpose, points of view, and language development. Students will learn how to effectively write using persuasive, argumentative, expository, and descriptive writing styles. Students will display a mastery of reading, writing, listening, and speaking skills.

**English Language Arts 7** — This course will prepare students to take the 7th grade PSSA. This course is designed to help seventh grade students explore and respond to literature, including fictional and nonfictional novels, poetry, graphic novels, plays, informational texts, and short stories. Students will use the 6 Traits Writing Program to improve their skills and engage in a creative writing unit that will also address mechanics, conventions, and parts of speech.

**Advanced Language Arts 8** — This course will prepare students to take the 8th grade PSSA. This course is designed to prepare students for honors and AP courses at the high school level. Students will be challenged to analyze, evaluate, and synthesize author's purpose, points of view, and language development. Students will learn how to effectively write using persuasive, argumentative, expository, and descriptive writing styles. Students will display a mastery of reading, writing, listening, and speaking skills.



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## Middle School Program of Studies

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### English and Language Arts Department (continued)

**English Language Arts 8** — This course will prepare students to take the 8th grade PSSA. This course is designed to help eighth grade students explore and analyze literature, including fictional and nonfictional novels, poetry, graphic novels, plays, informational texts, and short stories. Students will be given the opportunity to master the 6 Traits Writing Program through a variety of engaging writing prompts.

### Mathematics Department

#### *Department Requirements:*

Students must complete a core Mathematics course each year. Students are placed into appropriate courses by their guidance counselor.

**Advanced Math 7** — This course will prepare students to take the 7th grade PSSA. Students will use algebraic expressions, real numbers, proportions, percents, equations, geometry, measurement, data analysis, and probability to solve real-world problems. This advanced level has the students delve deeper into the mathematical concepts listed above in preparation for more rigorous courses in high school.

**Advanced Math 8** — This course will prepare students to take the 8th grade PSSA. Students will authentically apply their learning towards solving problems involving linear equations (including systems) and inequalities, applications of radicals and exponents, geometric transformations, data analysis, and real-world geometry. This course will have students dive deeper into the mathematical concepts required in Algebra.

**Building Mathematical Mastery** — This is a companion course to Essentials of Middle School Math. Students will use an individualized, self-paced, adaptive math software program to bridge prior knowledge gaps while maintaining and building mathematical mastery of essential computational and problem solving skills.

**Essentials of Middle School Math** — This course will prepare students to take the PSSA. This course will allow students to build computational fluency with all real numbers including fractions, decimals, integers and rational numbers. Students will learn to solve problems involving proportions, percents, measurement, geometry, data analysis and probability. They will explore algebraic expressions and equations. This class also includes problem solving with direct real world applications. *Students in this course are automatically enrolled in the requisite companion course: Building Mathematical Mastery.*

**Math 7** — This course will prepare students to take the 7th grade PSSA. It is designed to equip students with a mastery of the standards and prepare them to meet success. Students will authentically apply their learning towards solving problems involving algebraic expressions, real numbers, proportions, percents, equations, geometry, measurement, data analysis, and probability to solve real world problems.

**Math 8** — This course will prepare students to take the 8th grade PSSA. It is designed to equip students with a mastery of the standards and prepare them to meet success. Students will authentically apply their learning towards solving problems involving linear equations (including systems) and inequalities, applications of radicals and exponents, geometric transformations, data analysis, and real world geometry.

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## Middle School Program of Studies

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### Mathematics Department (continued)

**Honors Algebra 1:** 1 credit — In this Pennsylvania Algebra I Keystone Exam aligned course, students will be introduced to linear equations and inequalities including models and graphs. This class will continue with the study of systems of linear equations and inequalities as well as exponents, polynomial expressions, radicals, quadratic functions, and data analysis. Students enrolled in this class are required to take the Pennsylvania Algebra 1 Keystone exam at the conclusion of this class. ***Prerequisite – A score of Advanced on PSSA's and recommendation from guidance counselor.***

### Science Department

*Department Requirements:*

Students must complete a core Science course each year. Students are placed in appropriate courses by their guidance counselor.

**Advanced Science 7** — This course is designed to prepare students for honors and AP courses at the high school level. Students will be challenged to analyze, evaluate, and synthesize informational text, as well as various theories of science. Further, this course will introduce students to fundamental science principles in the fields of biological, physical, and earth and space sciences. Topics covered will include structure and function of organisms, ecology, matter and energy, motion and force, earth features, weather and climate, and astronomy.

**Science 7** — This course will introduce students to fundamental science principles in the fields of biological, physical, and earth and space sciences. Topics covered will include structure and function of organisms, ecology, matter and energy, motion and force, earth features, weather and climate, and astronomy.

**Advanced Science 8** — This course will prepare students to take the 8th grade PSSA. This course is designed to prepare students for honors and AP courses at the high school level. Students will be challenged to analyze, evaluate, and synthesize informational text, as well as various theories of science. Further, this course is designed to support and reinforce mastery of the concepts in the fields of biological, physical, and earth and space sciences, with special focus on the nature of science. Topics include structure and function of organisms, ecological behavior and systems, properties of matter, energy transfer, principles of motion and force, atmospheric processes, and composition and structure of the universe.

**Science 8** — This course will prepare students to take the 8th grade PSSA. This course is designed to support and reinforce mastery of the concepts in the fields of biological, physical, and earth and space sciences, with special focus on the nature of science. Topics include structure and function of organisms, ecological behavior and systems, properties of matter, energy transfer, principles of motion and force, atmospheric processes, and composition and structure of the universe.

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## Middle School Program of Studies

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### Social Studies Department

#### *Department Requirements:*

Students must complete a core Social Studies course each year. Students are placed in appropriate courses by their guidance counselor.

**Advanced Geography and Cultures 7** — This course is designed to prepare students for honors and AP courses at the high school level. Students will be challenged to understand and evaluate the impact of physical and human characteristics upon places and regions. Further, students will understand, analyze, and evaluate the interactions between people and the environment.

**Geography and Cultures 7** — This course gives an overview of multiple topics in world history. Students will get a broad understanding of geography, early civilizations, ancient religions, and Egyptian and Roman history among other topics.

**Advanced American History 8** — This course is designed to prepare students for honors and AP courses at the high school level. Students will be challenged to interpret, evaluate, and analyze the role groups and individuals played in the social, political, cultural, and economic development of the United States. Students will compare historical documents and artifacts, which are critical to American history. In addition, students will analyze how continuity and change have impacted the development of the United States. Lastly, students will interpret, evaluate, and analyze how conflict and cooperation among groups and organizations impacted the growth and development of the United States.

**American History 8** — This course will guide students through the first half of American history with a special focus on Pennsylvania history. Beginning with the very first people to reach North America and ending around 1900, students will explore a diverse array of historical topics including Native American settlement; colonization; the American Revolution; the founding of the United States; and the Civil War.

### English Language Development Program

Achievement House provides a rigorous, standards-based educational program for English Learners (ELs) of all levels. Our English Learners build and develop their linguistic proficiency in a program that is both intensive and flexible. Identified English Learners attend an ELD (English Language Development) course taught by a certified ESL (English as a Second Language) teacher and designed to promote the continual development of English language reading, speaking, writing, and listening skills. Additionally, the ELD department collaborates closely with classroom teachers to ensure that academic curriculum is accessible so that your student can successfully meet standards and make gains in English language proficiency. Bilingual mentors and access to one-on-one help sessions further support students, ensuring positive outcomes for our English Learners.

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## Middle School Program of Studies

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### English Language Development Program (continued)

Upon enrolling, non-native English-speaking students are evaluated for placement into the ELD program. Achievement House adheres to the WIDA English Language Proficiency Standards and employs the WIDA Screener to accurately determine your student's English language proficiency. If it is determined that your student would benefit from English language development support, an individualized program is implemented to best help your student develop English language proficiency while achieving grade-level content standards.

Four different sections of ELD support the needs of students. Newcomer EL (NEL) serves the needs of brand-new English learners acquiring basic English skills, Beginning EL (BEL) serves the needs of students in levels 1-2 (Entering and Beginning); Intermediate EL (IEL) serves the needs of students in levels 3-4 (Developing and Expanding); and Advanced EL (AEL) serves the needs of students in level 5 (Bridging).

Achievement House English Learners can truly achieve the proficiency and literacy to effectively communicate in English, excel in their academic courses, and realize their higher education and professional goals after graduation.

**Newcomer EL** — This course is specially designed for recent immigrants who have very little or no English proficiency. Students in this program develop linguistic survival skills and support as they begin to adapt to their new surroundings. Placement in this course is based on scores on the WIDA Screener and teacher input.

**Beginning EL** — This course introduces identified English Learners to basic vocabulary and linguistic structures that they can put to practice in their content area courses. Students strengthen listening, reading, speaking, and writing proficiency in English. They learn specific language and phrases for real-world situations, as well as for their academic areas of math, science, social studies and language arts. The teacher provides support for students and teaches them tools and strategies to employ as they master the basics of the English language such as identifying the main idea, sequencing events, and sorting fact from opinion. Placement in this course is based on scores on the WIDA ACCESS or WIDA Screener and teacher input.

**Intermediate EL** — This course gives students opportunities to practice and continue to develop their English reading, writing, listening, and speaking skills. Students learn new grammatical structures and apply them in the academic areas of math, science, social studies, language arts, and everyday school situations. Among other skills, students learn how to successfully identify point of view, ask for clarification, describe and expand on topics in writing, solve problems, and express their opinions. Placement in this course is based on scores on the WIDA ACCESS or WIDA Screener and teacher input.

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## Middle School Program of Studies

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### English Language Development Program (continued)

**Advanced EL** — This course encourages students to continue to refine their English language proficiency. Students learn highly specialized and technical content-area language that they can apply directly to their content-area courses. They practice using a variety of sentence lengths of varying linguistic complexity in extended oral or written discourse such as stories, essays and reports. Other skills students continue to hone and develop include providing text evidence to support a position, identifying cause and effect, examining bias in writing, and supporting their opinions with examples. Placement in this course is based on scores on the WIDA ACCESS or WIDA Screener and teacher input.

### Special Subjects/Electives Department

**Career Readiness Middle School** — This course introduces students to the building blocks necessary to select and prepare for a career. By the end of 8th grade students will complete a career plan. Using the career exploration system, Naviance, students explore their interests and abilities, identify career options, and work to develop a high school and college/career plan. Various topics are introduced, including effective speaking and listening skills, cover letters and resumes, and social networking. Students will also create a career portfolio. The Career Readiness curriculum aligns with the Pennsylvania Department of Education Career Education Standards which include:

- Career Awareness and Preparation
- Career Acquisition (Getting a Job)
- Career Retention and Advancement
- Entrepreneurship

**Electives 7** — This course is a combination of various elective subjects that will help 7th graders explore opportunities available in 8th grade and high school.

**Electives 8** — This course is a combination of various elective subjects that will expose 8th graders to opportunities available in high school and beyond.

**Health/Physical Education 7** — In this course, students will complete both health and physical education assignments. They will cover topics such as nutrition, dealing with stress and conflict, the dangers of addiction and disease, and safety. They will also learn about healthy physical activity, and strategies to track it.

**Health/Physical Education 8** — In this course, students will complete both health and physical education assignments. They will cover topics such as drugs and alcohol, self-esteem and body image, mental and emotional health, and other important and relevant health topics. They will also learn about healthy physical activity, and strategies to track it.

### Special Subjects/Electives Department (continued)

**Independent Language** – AHCCS joins more than 20,000 schools and districts around the world that have integrated Rosetta Stone Solutions into their curriculum to support the growing need for language skills. The Dynamic Immersion® method used within this program allows student to engage with a language through images, repetition, and scaffolding without needing translation. Rosetta Stone also offers ease of learning through a mobile application for students on the go. A school facilitator will oversee student progress in this self-paced, online course, as well as grade assignments and help keep students on track to complete their language level in a timely manner. Each language typically has 3-5 levels of study available. Completion of a level is equal to one academic credit. The following languages are offered through Rosetta Stone Solutions. Please contact your school counselor if you are interested in taking a language that is not listed below.

- Arabic
- Mandarin
- Chinese
- French
- German
- Greek
- Hebrew
- Italian
- Japanese
- Korean
- Latin
- Spanish

*Students must have at least a B in all courses and receive approval from their guidance counselor in order to enroll in an independent language course.*

### STEM Project Lead the Way (PLTW)

PLTW prepares students to be innovative and productive leaders in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math). Through an engaging, hands-on curriculum, PLTW encourages the development of problem-solving skills, creative and innovative reasoning, and a love of learning.

***Prerequisite: Students must commit to regular live class attendance and receive guidance counselor recommendation.***

**Design and Modeling (PLTW)** — Are you interested in creating and building hands-on projects? Then this course is for you! In this course, students will discover the design process and develop an understanding of the influence of creativity and innovation in their lives. In this Project Lead the Way course students will be challenged and empowered to use and apply what they learn to solve real-world problems by designing and building their own prototypes. *Enrollment subject to seat availability. Guidance Counselor recommendation required.*

# Middle School Program of Studies

Updated on 6/11/2021.

To ensure you're reviewing the latest version, please visit [www.achievementcharter.com](http://www.achievementcharter.com).

Click on Academics and choose Middle School!

Expand each course section for up-to-date offerings and descriptions.

Achievement House  
CYBER CHARTER SCHOOL

WHO WE ARE LEARNING PATH INNOVATION ACADEMY ACADEMICS LEARN MORE HOW TO ENROLL School Login

MIDDLE SCHOOL

Home > Academics > Middle School

Overview  
Middle School  
High School  
Testing and Assessments  
Summer School and Extended School Year  
English Language Development (ELD)  
Special Education

For Middle School students, the combination of our dynamic curriculum, online classes, and caring teachers is strengthened by close collaboration with parents to create an environment for student success. Click [here](#) to download a printable Program of Studies.

Courses

- + ENGLISH
- + MATHEMATICS
- + SCIENCE
- + SOCIAL STUDIES
- + SPECIAL SUBJECTS/ELECTIVES
- + STEM PROJECT LEAD THE WAY



## Course Selection

At Achievement House, the important process of course selection begins each spring for the following school year. Students are informed of course offerings through videos, e-mails, and announcements. With the help of their parents/guardians, students fill out an online scheduling request. Students have the option to meet with their school counselor to ask questions throughout the scheduling process. Schedules are finalized over the summer by the student's counselor, who takes into account graduation requirements, teacher input, survey responses, post-high school plans, past grades, and assessment scores. Our staff works hard to create the best academic schedule for our students.

## Grading Scale

Grade	Percent	General Course GPA	Honors Course GPA	AP Course GPA
A	95-100%	4.0	4.4	5.0
A -	90-94%	3.7	4.1	4.6
B +	86-89%	3.3	3.6	4.1
B	83-85%	3.0	3.3	3.8
B -	80-82%	2.7	3.0	3.4
C +	76-79%	2.3	2.5	2.9
C	73-75%	2.0	2.2	2.5
C -	70-72%	1.7	1.9	2.1
D+	67-69%	1.3	1.4	1.6
D	60-66%	1.0	1.1	1.3
F	0-59%	0.0	0.0	0.0

**Note:** To calculate your final grade, add your quarterly percent totals and divide by 4.



## Graduation Requirements

Students must successfully complete 21.0 cumulative credits in grades 9-12 as follows:

- 4.0 credits in English to include 1 course in Literature and an English course to be taken each school year
- 3.0 credits in Mathematics to include 1 course in Algebra
- 3.0 credits in Science to include 1 course in Biology
- 3.0 credits in Social Studies to include 1 course in Civics (or Government)
- 1.0 credit in Health and Physical Education, to include Health (Wellness), and a PE course to be taken each school year.
- 2.0 credits in Arts and Humanities
- 5.0 credits in electives to include 0.25 credits in Graduation Project. Any course that has not been counted to fulfill other graduation requirements as indicated in this booklet shall also satisfy this requirement. Two credits in the Innovation Academy are highly encouraged, but not required.
- 21.0 total credits

## Leveling

At Achievement House, we offer students an academic program that is both challenging and innovative, but one that also allows them to progress and learn no matter what their academic background.

Students at our school are offered choices when it comes to the level of rigor they would like to experience in their core courses. Students can choose from the AP or Honors level, to College Prep for those planning to apply to a college program. We also have the “Career” level for those students looking to head immediately into the workforce upon graduation.

## NCAA Approved Courses

- Algebra 1 (H, CP)
- Algebra 2 (H, CP)
- American Literature (H, CP)
- AP Biology
- AP Calculus AB
- AP Calculus BC
- AP Chemistry
- AP Environmental Science
- AP English Language and Composition
- AP English Literature and Composition
- AP Statistics
- AP U.S. Government and Politics
- Biology (H, CP)
- Calculus (H, CP)
- Chemistry (H, CP)
- Civics (H, CP)
- Geometry (H, CP)
- Global Literature (H, CP)
- Literature and Composition 1 (H, CP)
- Literature and Composition 2 (H, CP)
- Modern World History (H, CP)
- Physics (H, CP)
- Pre-Calculus (H, CP)
- U.S. History (H, CP)

### National Honor Society

The National Honor Society (NHS) is one of the nation's premier organizations established to recognize outstanding high school students. Students must meet the following requirements to be eligible for NHS:

- Minimum of 3.0 cumulative GP A at time of application. Students are expected to maintain this GP A while they are members.
- Demonstration of excellence in leadership, service, scholarship and character which will be determined by a faculty council of 5 members. Students should participate in leadership and service opportunities in the classroom or in their community.
- Submission of a 1 page essay about themselves, in addition to the application and two teacher recommendations.

Transfer students who were NHS members in their previous school may send a picture of their pin and membership card to the AHCCS advisor to become part of our chapter .

### Promotion Requirements

Promotion from one grade to the next is based upon credits earned. Credits earned through summer programs may be acceptable if approved in advance by a school counselor . Parents will be informed following the fourth quarter report card whether or not a student has advanced or been retained. The promotion of a high school student is determined by cumulative credits earned. To be promoted, students must meet the minimum credit requirements, as confirmed by their counselor. Those requirements are as follows:

- Grade 9 to 10: Students must have earned at least 4.0 cumulative credits, to include 2.0 core course credits.
- Grade 10 to 11: Students must have earned at least 10.0 cumulative credits.
- Grade 11 to 12: Students must have earned at least 15.0 cumulative credits.

At all times, students in grades 9-11 must maintain a course schedule with sufficient credits to be eligible for promotion to the next grade. Students in grade 12 must maintain a course schedule with sufficient credits to qualify for June graduation (unless otherwise indicated in a student's Individualized Education Program). Students may not choose to repeat core academic courses that have been previously completed with a passing grade if doing so creates an inability to earn sufficient credits to achieve annual promotion or graduation.

### Schedule Changes

Students may add, drop, or change courses during the first 3 weeks of joining the course. After that point, regardless of whether or not a course is required for graduation, students cannot drop a course (unless approved by the principal).

### Summer School

Summer school is offered to AHCCS high school students in all four core subject areas: English, math, science, and social studies. Students are eligible to receive up to two summer school credits per summer.

### Transfer Students

Grade Placement: Final decisions on grade level placement for students transferring into AHCCS during the school year will be based on the previous grade level and the student's ability to meet the necessary requirements for promotion or graduation at the end of the current school year. Required Courses: Credit acceptance for students transferring into AHCCS will be granted for applicable courses. Completed courses required for graduation will be accepted for students transferring to AHCCS.

### Work Study Program

This program is designed to allow students to earn elective credit for participating in a weekly paid position or a non-paid internship.

**Work-Study:** 0.5 credits per quarter, 2 elective credits total – This course will provide students a framework with which to develop their work and career readiness skills. Students who have found paid employment, and who can work a minimum of 60 hours per 9 week quarterly period, will have the opportunity to earn .5 credits per quarter. Students will be responsible for weekly check-ins with their teacher, (to include adequate progress on their quarterly grade sheet), criteria based on a quarterly assessment (rubric will be provided), and a final presentation of their experience. Students must maintain a passing GP A in their core courses and appropriate school attendance, quarterly, to be eligible to remain in the program for the next quarterly period. Students with an Individualized Educational Program should contact their Learning Support teacher for alternative eligibility, prerequisite, and requirements. **Prerequisite – Students must be in at least the 10th grade or 16 years of age.**

### Innovation Career Academy

Innovation Career Academy (ICA) provides elective coursework that equips students with valuable skills in STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, Mathematics) related careers. The courses are organized into a collection of career pathways. Students may take multiple courses in a specific pathway or sample different courses in different pathways to explore different STEAM interests. All students are encouraged to try courses in ICA to help guide them towards a future career interest. The ICA Pathways are: Engineering, Architecture and Construction, Audio Visual Communication Arts, Biomedical, Computer Science, Digital Graphic Arts, Drone Innovators, Engineering, Entrepreneurship, Fine Arts, Information Technology, Programming, and Robotics. Below is a list of ICA courses. **For courses marked with an asterisk (\*), students may take an industry-recognized certification exam.**

**2D/3D Game Design with Unity I:** 1 credit — In this course students will create their own video game as they learn to program and use Unity gaming software. This is an introductory course to game design with components of graphic design, programming, math, and physics built into the curriculum. *Associated Pathway: Programming*

**3D Printing 1 - Let's Build It!:** 0.5 credits — Ever want to take design to the next level and make your creations come to life? In this course students will learn all about 3D design and learn to create in the third dimension using the 3D CAD program SketchUp. This is a hands-on class where we will mail out several materials to students for projects. Students design it, we print it, then mail individual designs directly to the student. Come explore the possibilities! *Associated Pathways: Engineering, Architecture & Construction, Robotics*

### Innovation Career Academy (continued)

**Anatomy - Look Inside Yourself:** 0.5 credits — This class investigates the study of anatomical structures, physiological systems, and body functions. Students will review human structural and functional organization at both the microscopic and macroscopic level. Units will include discussions of the basic body systems including the musculoskeletal, circulatory, nervous, and integumentary systems. The class also includes the study of recent advances in medical technology. *Associated Pathway: Biomedical*

**AP Computer Science A:** 1 credit — In this course, students will get familiar with the concepts and tools of computer science as they learn a subset of the Java programming language. Students will do hands-on work to design, write, and test computer programs that solve problems or accomplish tasks *Associated Pathway: Computer Science*

**AP Computer Science Principles:** 1 credit — In this course, students will learn the principles that underlie the science of computing and develop the thinking skills that computer scientists use. Students will work on their own and as part of a team to creatively address real-world issues using the tools and processes of computation. *Associated Pathway: Computer Science*

**Art 1 - Foundations:** 0.5 credits — In this course, students will focus on learning how to draw using elements and principles of design. Students will learn about art history and a variety of approaches to drawing. Form and value will be discovered using gesture and contour drawing, value studies of 3D forms, and still life paintings. Students will explore composition and figure/portrait development. *Associated Pathways: Fine Arts & Digital Graphic Arts*

**Art 2- Express Yourself:** 0.5 credits — Students will create a variety of art projects using the elements and principles of design. Projects will be based on various periods from Art history including Surrealism, pop art, and cultural art studies. Projects aim to help develop individual self-expression and style. *Associated Pathways: Fine Arts & Digital Graphic Arts. Prerequisite: Art 1.*

**Art Anatomy:** 0.5 — Students will explore several body systems and this knowledge will be the starting point for STEAM focused projects that utilize a student's creativity and creative thinking skills. Students will complete activities that are hands-on and based on the human body. Experimental data will be collected and analyzed and students will present student created graphics. Students will also create various art projects in relationship to the content and will learn anatomical structures through coloring book activities. *Associated Pathways: Biomedical, Fine Arts*

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## High School Program of Studies

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### Innovation Career Academy (continued)

**\*Communication Skills for Business:** 0.5 credits — In this course students will learn the skills to validate to a potential employer that they understand key communication principles and have the skills necessary to be effective and efficient in a work environment. Students will learn to describe basic communication principles, plan for effective communication, apply best practices for creating business deliverables and delivering your message, receiving communications, and analyzing communication scenarios. They'll learn the skills tested in the Communication Skills for Business (CSB) certification exam. Students will have the opportunity to make their resume stand out by sitting for and passing this certification exam. Students will earn the proof that they understand good communication and bring necessary skills to be effective and efficient in a job. *Associated Pathways: Entrepreneurship & Business*

**Digital Authorship:** 0.5 credits — Students will learn techniques to format text and/or video to enhance their intended meaning. Students will complete a full cycle of the writing process, resulting in a published work in the form of a personal blog, podcast, or YouTube video, choosing from a list of teacher-approved projects. *Associated Pathway: AV Communication Arts*

**Digital Photography - Picture Perfect:** 0.5 credits — This hands-on course will teach students about the history of the camera, as well as its ever-changing capabilities and functions the various types provide. Composition, lighting, and perspective are a few of the concepts covered throughout this course. Students will apply these concepts to their photographs and learn how to edit and manipulate photographic images for their portfolio. Personal smartphones accepted as camera device. If necessary, a camera will be provided. This course also qualifies as an ICA elective. *Associated Pathways: Fine Arts & Digital Graphic Arts*

**First Aid and CPR/AED:** 0.25 credits — This course is designed to give students an overview of the skills in first aid and CPR/AED. It will not certify students in these areas, but it will help prepare them for the certification exams through American Red Cross. *Associated Pathway: Biomedical*

**Forensics - Histories and Mysteries:** 0.5 credits — This course surveys key topics in forensic science, including the application of the scientific process to forensic analysis, procedures and principles of crime scene investigation, physical and trace evidence, and the law and courtroom procedures from the perspective of the forensic scientist. Through online lessons, virtual and hands-on labs, and analysis of fictional crime scenarios, students learn about forensic tools, technical resources, forming and testing hypotheses, proper data collection, and responsible conclusions. *Enrollment subject to seat availability. Prerequisite: Successful completion of at least two years of high school science including Biology and Chemistry.*

**Graphic Design - Logos, Letterheads, and Lots More!** 0.5 credits — This course will focus on the basics of Graphic Design. Students will learn how to edit and create their own images and marketing materials such as logos, album covers and t-shirts. Advertising techniques as well as the power of visual communication will be reviewed. *Associated Pathways: Fine Arts, Digital Graphic Arts, AV Communication Arts*

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## High School Program of Studies

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### Innovation Career Academy (continued)

**\*Intro to Computer Science/IC3 Exam Prep:** 1 credit — This course will guide students to develop the foundational set of skills necessary to not only navigate the digital world but to also comprehend its possibilities. They will work with Technology Basics, Digital Citizenship, Information Management, Content Creation, Communication, Collaboration, and Safety and Security. Students will learn the skills tested in the IC3 (Internet Core Competency Certification) Global Standard 6 exam. There are 3 exams with increasing depth of skill validation. When added to one's resume, the IC3 certification validates to potential employers that the applicant has the computer skills needed in today's world, as objectively measured by a global industry standard program. *Associated Pathway: Computer Science*

**Intro to Drawing:** 0.25 Credits — Drawing is a fundamental art form that is used in many different mediums. This course is an introduction to the foundation of both design and realistic drawing. Students will review the elements of drawing, while exploring drawing materials such as charcoal, graphite and ink. Students will work from observation and imagination to address topics such as proportion, perspective, light and shadows. All materials provided. *Associated Pathway: Fine Arts. Prerequisite: Art 1.*

**Intro to JavaScript:** 0.5 credits — Did you know that, alongside HTML and CSS, JavaScript is one of the core technologies of the World Wide Web? It enables interactive web pages and is an essential part of web applications. When you click a button and get a response, it is probably JavaScript that made that happen. In this course students can learn the fundamentals of this programming language. Join the class to learn some of the basics of timers and animation using JavaScript. *Associated Pathway: Programming*

**\*Intro to JavaScript II:** 0.5 credits — This is a continuation of Intro to JavaScript I. This course focuses on animation with JavaScript – Timers, Randomizers, Mouse Events, Keyboard Events, Graphics, and Collision Detection. Students will learn the skills tested in the JavaScript Level I certification exam. *Associated Pathway: Computer Science & Programming*

**Intro to Python - Automate Everything:** 0.25 credits — In this course students will learn to code a robot to move, create a virtual reality video game, or even program NASA's space shuttles? The first step to any of this is learning Python. This is a coding language that is being used in many newest technologies of today. This entry level course will open students up to a world of opportunities and give them the programming foundation needed to take the Raspberry Pi robotics courses. *Associated Pathways: Engineering & Robotics*

**Intro to Watercolors:** 0.25 credits — This introductory course will explore the artistic expression of watercolors. Starting with the basics and working your way through experimentation pieces to build your own style with your watercolor portfolio. All materials provided. *Associated Pathway: Fine Arts. Prerequisite: Art 1.*



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## High School Program of Studies

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### Innovation Career Academy (continued)

**\*Microsoft® IT Academy - Excel:** 0.5 credits — In this course, students can validate their skills in the fundamentals of creating and managing worksheets and workbooks, creating cells and ranges, creating tables, applying formulas and functions, and creating charts and objects. Students will learn the skills tested in the Microsoft Office Specialist – Excel certification exam. (Microsoft Word and PowerPoint certifications complete the requirements of the overall Microsoft Office Specialist Associate certification.) Students can make their resume stand out by sitting for and passing the Microsoft Office Specialist - Excel certification exam. No matter which career path you are pursuing, Microsoft Office proficiency is a valuable skill in today's job market! *Associated Pathway: Computer Science*

**\*Microsoft® IT Academy - PowerPoint:** 0.5 credits — In this course, students can validate their skills in creating and managing presentations, inserting, and formatting shapes and slides, creating slide content, applying transitions and animations, and managing multiple presentations. Students will learn the skills tested in the Microsoft Office Specialist - PowerPoint certification exam. (Microsoft Excel and Word certification exams complete the requirements of the overall Microsoft Office Specialist Associate certification.) Students can make their resume stand out by sitting for and passing the Microsoft Office Specialist – PowerPoint certification exam. No matter which career path you are pursuing, Microsoft Office proficiency is a valuable skill in today's job market! *Associated Pathway: Computer Science*

**\*Microsoft® IT Academy - Word:** 0.5 credits — In this course, students can validate their skills in Word tasks, such as creating and managing documents, formatting text, paragraphs, and sections, creating tables and lists, applying references, and inserting and formatting objects. Students will learn the skills tested in the Microsoft Office Specialist – Word certification exam (Microsoft Excel and PowerPoint certification exams complete the requirements for the overall Microsoft Office Specialist Associate certification.) Students can make their resume stand out by sitting for and passing the Microsoft Office Specialist - Word certification exam. No matter which career path you are pursuing, Microsoft Office proficiency is a valuable skill in today's job market! *Associated Pathway: Computer Science*

**\*Microsoft® Office Basics:** 0.5 credits — Designed for beginning high school students, this course introduces students to the three major Microsoft Office programs: PowerPoint, Word, and Excel. All three programs are relevant to a student's ability to communicate, present, and organize data into a logical format. They help set the student for success in conveying their information appropriately and is a necessary 21st Century skill for today's job market. *Associated Pathway: Computer Science*

**\*Photoshop:** 0.5 credit- In LearnKey's Photoshop CC course students will learn how to edit and retouch photos as well as create digital images and designs. Students will learn digital image formats, basic color theory, and how to retouch and apply other tonal adjustments to images. Students will explore editing tools through various projects while preparing for the Visual Communication Using Adobe Photoshop ACA exam. *Associated Pathway: Digital Graphic Arts. Prerequisites- Art 1 & Digital Photography.*

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## High School Program of Studies

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### Innovation Career Academy (continued)

**PLTW Civil Engineering and Architecture:** 1 credit — This honors level course is for students who enjoy working with their hands doing construction projects or who enjoy designs such as those seen on HGTV. In CEA students will learn about construction and architectural design with both residential and commercial projects. Students will create designs using the 3D architectural design software Autodesk Revit and will have the opportunity to get their professional certification for the 3D design software. Student in this course will need to take the PLTW End of Course Exam which has the potential for college credits. *Associated Pathways: Advanced Engineering, Architecture & Construction.* **Prerequisites: Green Architecture or Introduction to Engineering Design.**

**PLTW Design and Modeling:** 0.5 credits — Are you interested in creating and building hands-on projects? Then this course is for you! Discover the design process and develop an understanding of the influence of creativity and innovation in your lives. In this Project Lead the Way course you will be challenged and empowered to use and apply what you learn to solve real-world problems by designing and building your own prototypes. *Associated Pathways: Engineering, Architecture & Construction*

**PLTW Green Architecture:** 0.5 credits — In this hands-on, project-based course, students will dive into construction and architectural design. You will design homes in a way that keeps human carbon footprints small by using environmentally sustainable practices. Explore dimensioning, measuring, and design by building scale model homes and using a 3D architectural design software. *Associated Pathways: Architecture & Construction.* **Prerequisites: Design & Modeling.**

**\*PLTW Introduction to Engineering Design:** 1 credit — This Honors Level Project Lead the Way course is not just for future engineers. Students will solve real-world problems by designing prototypes as well as strengthen creative and innovative problem-solving skills that will open their minds to a world of possibilities. Students will design in 3D using Autodesk Fusion 360 software and will even have the opportunity to get their professional certification for the software program. Student in this course will need to take the PLTW End of Course Exam which has the potential for college credits. *Associated Pathways: Advanced Engineering & Engineering.* **Prerequisites: Design & Modeling and 3D Printing or Guidance Counselor Approval.**

**\*PLTW - Principles of Engineering:** 1 credit — In this honors level course, go beyond “myth buster” to solution builder! As students master the basic concepts needed to continue their education in engineering or engineering technology, they’ll apply them, tackling real world challenges using the VEX Robotics platform to design & build solutions! Principles of Engineering (POE) is a high school-level survey course of engineering. This course exposes students to some of the major concepts’ students will encounter in a post-secondary engineering course of study. Student in POE have the potential to earn college credits based on their score on the Project Lead The Way End of Course Exam which is required for students enrolled in the class. *Associated Pathways: Advanced Engineering & Engineering.* **Prerequisite: Civil Engineering & Architecture.**



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## High School Program of Studies

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### Innovation Career Academy (continued)

**Raspberry Pi Projects 1:** 0.25 credits — In this project-based course, you will dig deeper into the Python programming language and automate your very own robot! This course is centered around hands-on learning where students have the chance to design, program and build projects such as electronic whoopie cushions, race cars and more! *Associated Pathways: Engineering & Robotics.*

**Prerequisite:** *Intro to Python.*

**\*Schoolyard Ventures Entrepreneurship Boot Camp:** 0.25 credits — Schoolyard Ventures, offered to Achievement House students, is an innovative program that helps teens launch businesses, non-profits and other real-world projects that are meaningful to them. The Entrepreneurship Boot Camp gives students an introduction to the program and helps them develop ideas for starting their own business. *Associated Pathway: Entrepreneurship*

**\*Schoolyard Ventures Entrepreneurship:** 0.75 credits — Schoolyard Ventures provides students with curriculum, workshops, mentorship, and micro-capital to help them launch their own businesses. Students are encouraged to experiment with various business ideas and progress in the program at their own pace. Instructors and mentors help with this process, as students work to bring their product to market. *Associated Pathway: Entrepreneurship. Prerequisite – Schoolyard Ventures Entrepreneurship Boot Camp.*

**Search and Rescue (SAR) by Drones I:** 0.25 credits — Be immersed in virtual search and rescue missions performed by drones. Students will learn how drone SAR teams operate to get the job done. Search and rescue is just one of many ways drones will change how we do things - inspections, construction, law enforcement, and agriculture, to name a few. Learn about drones, autonomous flight, and the foundations of the FAA Part 107 Remote Pilot Exam. Instructor will travel to a variety of locations around the state so that students can have an opportunity to fly a DJI drone. *Associated Pathway: Drone Innovators*

**Search and Rescue (SAR) by Drone II:** 0.25 credits — In part 2, the SAR missions become trickier. How do we complete missions with drone flight safety regulations, FAA flight standards, flight principles, & drone design in mind? This course emphasizes drone flight safety and the law. FAA Part 107 Remote Pilot Exam safety and legal questions are discussed. Instructor will travel to a variety of locations around the state so that students can have an opportunity to fly a DJI drone. *Associated Pathway: Drone Innovators. Prerequisite – Search and Rescue (SAR) by Drone I.*

**Web Development I:** 0.5 credits — In this course, students will create their own webpage with their career goals so that they can wow potential colleges or employers with this valuable reference tool! They will learn how to write HTML (Hyper text Markup Language) and CSS (Cascading Style Sheets) which are two of the three basic programming languages on the Internet (JavaScript being the third). Students will also create your own live homepage to serve as a portfolio of their creations. *Associated Pathway: Programming*

**\*Web Development II:** 0.5 credits — Be able to explain how web pages are developed and viewed on the Internet, analyze and fix errors in existing websites, and create your very own multi page websites. Students will learn the foundations of user interface design, rapid prototyping, and user testing, and will work together to create professional, mobile responsive websites. Students will learn the skills tested in the Web Design Level I certification exam. *Associated Pathway: Programming*

### Academic Departments of Achievement House Cyber Charter School

As a public school, AHCCS has an outstanding staff that is directly involved in developing our customized curriculum and teaching live courses. As a cyber school, Achievement House partners with other online education resources to offer students an incredible range of courses that supplement and complement the AHCCS courses. This section of the booklet includes courses taught by AHCCS teachers as well as courses offered through our Independent Study Department. The content of each course aligns with Pennsylvania Academic Standards.

#### English and Language Arts Department

The English and Language Arts Department offers a variety of courses that provide a strong foundation in writing and literature while assuring that students possess skills necessary to succeed personally, academically, and professionally today and in the future. Each course focuses on strengthening reading, writing, listening, and speaking, and is designed to foster the unique creativity of each student and develop critical thinkers.

##### *Department Requirements:*

Students are required to complete 4.0 credits in English, to include 1 course in Literature and an English course to be taken each school year, during grades 9-12. Students are placed in appropriate courses by their school counselor. Courses marked (\*) meet the Literature requirement for this department.

##### *Core Courses:*

**AP English Language and Composition:** 1 credit — This course will model college-level composition courses with an emphasis on expository, analytical, argumentative, personal and reflective writing on a variety of subjects. Students will learn to write effectively through rhetorical choices appropriate to audience, message, and medium. Teacher and peer writing feedback and revisions will be a large component of the course. There will be an emphasis on vocabulary/diction, grammatical conventions, organization, and effective use of tone and voice to achieve desired goals of the compositions. The ultimate goal of the course is to prepare for the College Board AP English Language and Composition exam, which, with a qualifying score, can earn students college credit in English Composition at many post-secondary institutions.

**\*AP English Literature and Composition:** 1 credit — This highly advanced course engages students in the critical analysis of fiction. Students will study representative works from various genres and periods, concentrating on works of recognized literary merit. Critical analysis of literary works will include both social and historical perspectives so that students can reflect on multiple interpretations of literature. Students are strongly encouraged to read Fitzgerald's *The Great Gatsby* over the summer months. The ultimate goal of the course is to prepare for the College Board AP English Literature and Composition exam, which, with a qualifying score, can earn students college credit in English Composition at many post-secondary institutions.

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## High School Program of Studies

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### English and Language Arts Department (continued)

**American Literature:** 1 credit — This course will offer an in-depth study of the American experience through a rich variety of literature from Native American writings to modern novels. Students will learn about the major writers and time periods, as well as the various periods of American literature and the ideas that shaped the writing of those times. Students will be challenged to study how various genres of writing and speaking transformed over time as America grew and cities were built. Students will learn to understand authors in relation to their historical settings; gather biographical information; and write literary essays, research papers, and personal responses. *Available Sections: Honors, CP*

**English in the Workplace:** 1 credit — This class is designed to help seniors develop practical reading and writing skills for the workplace and life beyond high school. Areas of focus include craft choices in career- and goal-oriented fiction writing, structures of informational nonfiction writing, verbal and written communication, and persuasive writing. We will explore how literature can help students make personal and career choices, and we will practice how to research career options. Students will construct a personalized resume and cover letter. They will also practice working with documents they will see in the real world car loans, apartment leases, taxes, etc.

**English Survey 9:** 1 credit — This course is designed to develop student understanding of fictional works. Students will explore narrative structure and the impact that narrative elements have on not only the text but the reader as well. Students will study universal themes in literature and will learn to compare texts.

**English Survey 10:** 1 credit — This course will expose students to both fiction and nonfiction works. Through the study of nonfiction, students will explore ways in which literature serves as a vehicle for social change. A study of the drama genre will allow students to consider questions of personal destiny and corruption of power.

**\*Literature Survey 11:** 1 credit — This course will prepare students for the Literature Keystone Exam. Students will study word skills, vocabulary acquisition, narrative structures, figurative language, and dramatic and poetic elements. Students will develop constructed response skills.

**Global Literature:** 1 credit — Experience the cultures of the world through literature. In this course, students will read works from a variety of sources in order to explore what culture is, and how it shapes our perception of reality. Through reading, writing, research, and analysis, students will compare essential cultural elements, including religion, story-telling, parenting, and education, and examine the factors that cause culture to change. *Available Sections: Honors, CP*

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# High School Program of Studies

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## English and Language Arts Department (continued)

**Literature and Composition 1:** 1 credit — This class will introduce students to a variety of reading and writing skills that will help them to become familiar with literary terms, text structures, and reading strategies. They will learn how to develop their writing in response to the literature using narratives, argument writing, and informational writing. Students will read texts that will include short stories, poems, nonfiction texts, and drama. Students will begin to prepare for the Literature Keystone exam in this class. *Available Sections: Honors, CP, Career*

**\*Literature and Composition 2:** 1 credit — This class is a continuation of Literature and Composition 1 as students finish preparing for the Literature Keystone exam in the Spring. Students will read novels as well as online texts to show mastery of literature standards for fiction and nonfiction. They will be able to apply critical reading and thinking skills to help analyze and evaluate texts. They will continue to develop writing skills in response to the literature. *Available Sections: Honors, CP, Career. Prerequisite – Literature and Composition 1.*

**Reading and Writing Fundamentals - Language Arts Basic Training:** 1 credit — This course is designed around the pillars of literacy. It prioritizes reading fluency, reading comprehension, vocabulary acquisition, and written expression. The course actively monitors a student's progression as a reader and a writer.

### *Electives:*

**21st Century Writing - Not Your Parents' Comp Class:** 0.5 credits — Students will learn about the best ways to communicate in our digital world in order to share their thoughts and ideas. Students will explore some of the most popular types of writing such as narrative and argumentative. Students will be expected to respond using a variety of online media, such as blogs, forums, discussion boards, and images.

**Creative Writing - America's Next Top Author:** 0.5 credits — In this writing-intensive course, students will be introduced to the major genres of writing, including nonfiction, fiction, poetry, and drama. Through lessons, class discussions, and selected readings, students will learn about the elements of good writing. Students will build a variety of writing techniques and skills through both short- and long-term writing assignments.

**Digital Authorship:** 0.5 credits — Students will learn techniques to format text and/or video to enhance their intended meaning. Students will complete a full cycle of the writing process, resulting in a published work in the form of a personal blog, podcast, or YouTube video, choosing from a list of teacher-approved projects. This course also qualifies as an ICA elective. *Associated Pathway: AV Communication Arts*

**Graphic Novels:** 0.5 credits — This course will take a closer look at how graphic novels function as a story-telling medium. By reading a variety of graphic novels, including novel adaptations, superhero stories, memoirs, and historical, social, and personal commentary, students will gain a greater understanding and appreciation of the many purposes that graphic novels serve.

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## High School Program of Studies

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### English and Language Arts Department (continued)

**Reading Hollywood - From Page to Screen:** 0.5 credits — In this course, students will explore the relationship between print and screen, using literary criticism to examine authors' purpose in narrative and the cultural interpretation as it is transformed into an alternative media.

# High School Program of Studies

## English and Language Arts Course Sequences

To determine the most appropriate course for the upcoming school year, identify your current grade across the top, and look down that column until you find the course in which you are currently enrolled (or the closest equivalent). Then look to the right for the next courses in the sequence. Common course sequences with options are presented. Projected course and level offerings are subject to change depending on student needs and enrollment trends. For further assistance, please contact your school counselor.

9th Grade	10th Grade	11th Grade	12th Grade
Honors Literature and Composition 1	Honors Literature and Composition 2	AP Literature and Composition	AP Language and Composition
		Honors American Literature	Honors Global Literature
CP Literature and Composition 1	CP Literature and Composition 2	CP American Literature	CP Global Literature
Career Literature and Composition 1	Career Literature and Composition 2	Reading and Writing Fundamentals OR Elective(s)	English in the Workplace OR Elective(s)
English Survey 9	English Survey 10 OR Career Literature and Composition 1	Literature Survey 11 OR Career Literature and Composition 2	Reading and Writing Fundamentals OR English in the Workplace

### Mathematics Department

The Mathematics Department is designed to build each student's knowledge. The courses focus on teaching students to make sense of problems and persevere in solving them; reason abstractly and quantitatively; construct viable arguments and critique the reasoning of others; model with mathematics; use appropriate tools strategically; attend to precision; look for and make use of structure; and look for and express regularity in repeated reasoning.

#### *Department Requirements:*

Students are required to complete 3.0 credits in Mathematics, to include 1 course in Algebra during grades 9-12. Students are placed in appropriate courses by their guidance counselor. Courses marked (\*) meet the Algebra requirement for this department.

#### *Core Courses:*

**AP Calculus AB:** 1 credit — This is a college level course that covers material equal to one semester of college work. Students are required to have and use a graphing calculator. Students who successfully complete this course will be able to work with functions represented in a variety of ways, determine limits of expressions, understand the meaning of a derivative in terms of a rate of change and local linear approximation, define the derivative of a function and find the derivative and integral of functions, apply differentiation techniques to the Theory of Extrema to sketch functions, solve related rates problems, optimization problems, and apply the Mean Value Theorem, understand the meaning of the definite integral, apply integration techniques to area between curves, volumes, length of curves and average value of function, use trigonometric and algebraic substitutions, and solve differential equations. ***Prerequisite – Pre-Calculus.***

**AP Calculus BC:** 1 credit — This course is designed to prepare students, who have successfully completed AP Calculus AB, for the BC level Advanced Placement Examination of the College Board. It is a college level course that covers material equivalent to a 2nd course in college calculus. This is a rigorous course which requires mastery and recall of all AP Calculus AB topics. ***Prerequisite – AP Calculus AB.***

**AP Statistics AB:** 1 credit — This is a college level course that covers material equal to one semester of college work. This course is activity driven, with applications in gaming scenarios, population growth, and sports. Students who successfully complete this course will be able to perform exploratory analysis of data, making use of graphical and numerical techniques to study patterns, apply sampling techniques to estimate population statistics, anticipate patterns by producing models using probability and simulation, and make statistical inferences using appropriate models.

**\*Algebra 1:** 1 credit — In this Pennsylvania Algebra I Keystone Exam aligned course, students will be introduced to linear equations and inequalities including models and graphs. This class will continue with the study of systems of linear equations and inequalities as well as exponents, polynomial expressions, radicals, quadratic functions, and data analysis. Students enrolled in this class are required to take the Pennsylvania Algebra 1 Keystone exam at the conclusion of this class. *Available Sections: Honors, CP, Algebraic Concepts*



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## High School Program of Studies

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### Mathematics Department (continued)

**Algebra 2:** 1 credit — This course reviews the ideas and concepts taught in Algebra 1 along with a serious investigation of advanced algebraic concepts including: quadratic equations, systems of equations, complex numbers, exponential and logarithmic functions, matrices and determinants, polynomial functions and radical functions and exponents. *Available Sections: Honors, CP.*

**Prerequisite – Algebra 1.**

**\*Applications of Algebra:** 1 credit — This course covers the second half of Algebra 1. This class will focus primarily on systems of linear equations and inequalities as well as exponents, polynomial expressions, radicals, quadratic functions, and data analysis. Students enrolled in this class are required to take the Pennsylvania Algebra 1 Keystone exam at the conclusion of this class.

**Prerequisite – Introduction of Algebra.**

**Building Mathematical Mastery:** 0.5 credits — This is a companion course to Essentials of High School Math and Pre-Algebra. Students will use an individualized, self-paced, adaptive math software program to bridge prior knowledge gaps while maintaining and building mathematical mastery of essential computational and problem-solving skills.

**Calculus:** 1 credit — In this high school level course, students are expected to use their mathematical knowledge and practices to solve problems. This course strengthens students' understanding of functions in preparation for the process of differentiation and integration. Calculus concepts explored include limits and continuity, derivatives, definite integrals, exponential and logarithmic functions, trigonometric functions, and techniques of integration. Emphasis is placed on the exploration of real-world calculus applications. Instruction will include appropriate use of technology to facilitate continued development of students' high order thinking skills.

**Essentials of High School Math:** 1 credit — Build computational fluency with all real numbers including fractions, decimals, integers and rational numbers. Learn to solve problems involving exponents, proportions, data analysis and probability. Discover geometric transformations and the Pythagorean Theorem. Explore algebraic expressions, equations, and inequalities. Includes problem solving with direct real-world applications. *Students in this course are automatically enrolled in the requisite companion course: Building Mathematical Mastery*

**Geogebra 1:** 1 credit — This course is a bridge to prepare students for college-level math courses. This will include topics from Geometry, Algebra 1, and SAT preparations. Students will extend their learning through real world applications of algebraic, geometric, and statistical concepts. The course will include a review of the families of functions (linear, exponential, and quadratic), measures of central tendency, standard deviation, probability, combinations, permutations, properties of polygons, area and perimeter of two-dimensional figures, surface area and volume of three-dimensional figures, algebraic and geometric transformations, and right triangle trigonometry.

**Geometry:** 1 credit — This course will emphasize making connections within the concept of plane geometry. Students will be introduced to inductive and deductive reasoning, logic and proof including two column proofs, thinking logically and precisely, the basic principles of plane and coordinate geometry, development of problem solving skills, and full integration of algebra and geometry. Additionally, this course will prepare students for more advanced work in mathematics in other high school and college courses. *Available Sections: Honors, CP*



### Mathematics Department (continued)

**Introduction to Algebra - There are Letters in My Math:** 1 credit — This course is the first of two year-long courses in the alternative Algebra 1 sequence. This course will focus primarily on linear relationships, with an emphasis on the algebraic manipulation of linear expressions, equations, and inequalities, as well as graphing and modeling with linear functions.

**Personal Finance - Show Me the Money:** 1 credit — This course is designed to help prepare students for the financial challenges they will face in life after high school. Topics covered include the concept of “financial health” which compares the discipline required to maintain financial health to the discipline required to keep physically healthy; budgeting; and banking. The course will end with the “real world” calculator. Students have the opportunity to interact with a hypothetical post-graduation budget based on actual starting salary data for over 40 professional fields.

**Pre-Algebra:** 1 credit — Prepare for algebra through exploring the real number system, powers/roots, scientific notation and the laws of exponents. Study algebraic expressions, equations, and inequalities. Explore linear equations and functions. Includes problem solving with direct real-world applications. *Students in this course are automatically enrolled in the requisite companion course: Building Mathematical Mastery*

**Pre-Calculus:** 1 credit — Pre-Calculus is a high school level course designed for students who have successfully completed the Algebra II with Trigonometry course. This course is a prerequisite for success in Calculus. Algebraic, graphical, numerical, and verbal analyses are incorporated during investigations of the Pre-Calculus content standards. Parametric equations, polar relations, vector operations, conic sections, and limits are introduced. Content for this course also includes an expanded study of polynomial and rational functions, trigonometric functions, and logarithmic and exponential functions. Application-based problem solving is an integral part of the course. Instruction will include appropriate use of technology to facilitate continued development of students’ higher-order thinking skills.

#### **Prerequisite – Algebra 2**

#### *Electives:*

**Patterns and Puzzles - Crack the Code:** 0.5 credits — This semester-long course is designed for students who are interested in or challenged by puzzles and mathematical problems. Throughout the course, students will use the familiar operations as the starting point of intriguing investigations into a variety of math and logic puzzles.

**Probability - May the Odds be Ever in Your Favor:** 0.5 credits — This course is an introduction to the concepts of probability. Topics include randomness, theoretical and experimental probability, probability rules, counting rules, distributions, and calculating expected values. Students will develop analytical skills through interpreting data and making connections with actual events. This course pairs well with Statistics. It may be taken before, after, or independently of Statistics. *Enrollment subject to seat availability.*

### Mathematics Department (continued)

**Statistics - Standard Deviants:** 0.5 credits — This course is an introduction into concepts and methods of statistics. Topics include descriptive statistics of categorical and quantitative data, the normal model, scatter plots, data collection, and an introduction to inference. Students will develop analytical skills through interpreting data and making connections with actual events. *Enrollment subject to seat availability.*

# High School Program of Studies

## Mathematics Course Sequences

To determine the most appropriate course for the upcoming school year, identify your current grade across the top, look down that column until you find the course in which you are currently enrolled (or the closest equivalent). Then look to the right for the next courses in the sequence. Common course sequences are presented. Projected course and level offerings are subject to change depending on student needs and enrollment trends. For further assistance, please contact your school counselor

9th Grade		10th Grade	11th Grade	12th Grade
Must have passed Algebra 1 Keystone in 8th Grade	Honors Geometry	Honors Algebra 2	Honors Pre-Calculus	AP Calculus OR AP Statistics
				Honors Calculus
	CP Geometry	CP Algebra 2	CP Pre-Calculus	Calculus
Honors Algebra 1		Honors Geometry	Honors Algebra 2	Pre-Calculus, AP Statistics, OR Elective(s)
CP Algebra 1		CP Geometry	CP Algebra 2, Personal Finance, OR Elective(s)	
Introduction to Algebra		Applications of Algebra	Geogebra	Personal Finance OR Elective(s)
			Geogebra	
Pre Algebra		Introduction to Algebra	Applications of Algebra	Geogebra, Personal Finance, OR Elective(s)
Essentials of High School Math		Pre Algebra	Algebra 1	Geogebra, Personal Finance OR Elective(s)

### Science Department

The Science Department focuses on helping students to develop literacy in science. This is accomplished through lessons and units of study that address the process of Inquiry Learning. Students are required to examine information and resources, plan and conduct experiments and investigations, compare their findings to others, and communicate their results and conclusions.

#### *Department Requirements:*

Students are required to complete 3.0 credits in Science, to include 1 course in Biology, during grades 9-12. Students are placed in appropriate courses by their guidance counselor. Courses marked (\*) meet the Biology requirement for this department.

#### *Core Courses:*

**AP Environmental Science:** 1 credit — This course is designed for students who have an interest in biology/environmental themes. The course is an extension of environmental/ecology topics that were covered in the student's first year Biology course. This is a multi-disciplinary science course that applies scientific concepts to real world problems and dilemmas. Course topics include traditional and experimental ecology, types of pollution, energy sources, oceanography, global trends, economics, ethics, and sustainability

**\*Biology:** 1 credit — This Pennsylvania Keystone aligned course examines the concepts and processes of life science. Topics include cell chemistry and function, heredity, evolutionary theory and ecology. All topics will focus on the principles that govern biological processes observed in the natural world. Students enrolled in this course are required to take the physically proctored Pennsylvania Biology Keystone exam at the conclusion of the course. *Available Sections: Honors, CP, Career*

**Chemistry:** 1 credit — In this class, students will learn about matter: chemical structure, properties, and the physical and chemical changes that matter undergoes. Topics include atomic structure, conservation of matter, periodic trends, solutions-mixtures, ionic and covalent bonding, role of electrons in chemistry, molecular orbital theory, equilibrium. *Available Sections: Honors, CP, Career*

**Environmental Science - Every Day is Earth Day:** 1 credit — This course explores the complex interactions between living organisms and their non-living environments as well as current environmental concerns and strategies for conservation and preservation. It examines the vital role that humans play in the global ecosystem. All topics focus on the scientific principles that govern ecological processes that can be observed in the natural world.

**Earth Science:** 1 credit — Imagine being in the deepest part of the Earth or imagine being at the bottom of the ocean or outside of our Milky Way galaxy. These are a few places that students will explore as we move through our Earth Science course. In this course, students will be able to look at the dynamic Earth as it moves and works to bring different processes to life. They'll explore the four major branches of Earth Science: Geology, Meteorology, Oceanography, and Astronomy. By the end students will have learned the different ways Earth and surroundings can really be extraordinary.

**Life Science:** 1 credit — This course will introduce students to fundamental biological principles. Students will learn about the chemistry of life, the basics of cells and cell processes, genetics, and ecology. Students will also learn how other scientific fields, such as chemistry, play an important role in the functions of life.

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## High School Program of Studies

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### Science Department (continued)

**Physics:** 1 credit — Physics is an important, relevant, and enjoyable discipline which includes the topics of mechanics, electricity and magnetism, and optics. In the various levels of this science course, students learn by doing, experiencing practical applications as well as theoretical aspects of the discipline. Students gain an understanding of how Physics applies to everyday life while preparing for the challenges of science at the college level. *Available Sections: Honors, CP*

#### *Electives:*

**Anatomy - Look Inside Yourself:** 0.5 credits — This class investigates the study of anatomical structures, physiological systems, and body functions. Students will review human structural and functional organization at both the microscopic and macroscopic level. Units will include discussions of the basic body systems including the musculoskeletal, circulatory, nervous, and integumentary systems. The class also includes the study of recent advances in medical technology. This course also qualifies as an ICA elective. *Associated Pathway: Biomedical*

**Events and Disasters - What Could Go Wrong?:** 0.5 credits — This course explores nature's fury, and how we respond to, learn from, and try to prepare for the next disaster. From tornadoes, hurricanes, earthquakes and tsunamis, to avalanches and lightning storms, students will discover what causes these natural phenomena. Students also explore some of the worst natural events in human history, and how we are trying to prevent casualties and damage from future events. As Murphy has expressed so eloquently in his own "law," if something can go wrong, it will. One thing we know for sure - it's not a matter of if, it's a matter of when.

**Forensics - Histories and Mysteries:** 0.5 credits — This course surveys key topics in forensic science, including the application of the scientific process to forensic analysis, procedures and principles of crime scene investigation, physical and trace evidence, and the law and courtroom procedures from the perspective of the forensic scientist. Through online lessons, virtual and hands-on labs, and analysis of fictional crime scenarios, students learn about forensic tools, technical resources, forming and testing hypotheses, proper data collection, and responsible conclusions. This course also qualifies as an ICA elective. *Enrollment subject to seat availability. Prerequisite: Successful completion of at least two years of high school science including Biology and Chemistry.*

**Green Architecture (PLTW):** 0.5 credits — In this hands-on, project-based course, students will dive into construction and architectural design. You will design homes in a way that keeps human carbon footprints small by using environmentally sustainable practices. Explore dimensioning, measuring, and design by building scale model homes and using a 3D architectural design software. This course also qualifies as an ICA elective. *Associated Pathways: Architecture & Construction*

### Science Department (continued)

**Introduction to Astronomy:** 0.5 credits — This class is building off what the students learned in Middle school as well as 9th grade science. This will be a fun and exciting class to experience how we play a part in the universe around us. We will explore our solar system as well as beyond the limits of our solar system. We will observe Stars and breakdown what makes them hot and bright. In this class we will answer the questions of, how do we observe galaxies far away? And what are old and new ways of exploring space? They will apply critical thinking and discovery to the expanding universe and the objects that make it up. Learning about astronomy will be cool, but learning about Supernovae will be a blast.

# High School Program of Studies

## Science Course Sequences

To determine the most appropriate course for the upcoming school year, identify your current grade across the top, look down that column until you find the course in which you are currently enrolled (or the closest equivalent). Then look to the right for the next courses in the sequence. Common course sequences are presented. Projected course and level offerings are subject to change depending on student needs and enrollment trends. For further assistance, please contact your school counselor.

9th Grade		10th Grade	11th Grade	12th Grade
Must have passed Biology Keystone in 8th Grade	Honors Chemistry	Honors Physics OR Environmental Science	AP Biology, AP Chemistry, OR AP Environmental Science	
	Honors Biology	Honors Chemistry	Honors Physics OR Environmental Science	AP Biology, AP Chemistry, OR AP Environmental Science
Must have scored Proficient on PSSA in 8th Grade	CP Biology	CP Chemistry	CP Physics, Environmental Science, OR Elective(s)	
	Life Science	CP Biology	CP Chemistry OR Environmental Science	CP Chemistry, CP Physics OR Elective(s)
Life Science		Career Biology OR Earth Science	Career Biology OR Career Chemistry	
Earth Science		Life Science	Career Biology	

### Social Studies Department

The Social Studies Department consists of many different courses spanning all eras. The Department goal is to enable students to make connections between the American experience and the global one. America is not isolated, but is part of an ever-changing world. By studying both American and world history, students will learn from the past to be more informed citizens of the present and become better able to create context for the future using 21st century skills.

#### *Department Requirements:*

Students are required to complete 3.0 credits in Social Studies, to include 1 course in Civics or Government during grades 9-12. Students are placed in appropriate courses by their guidance counselor. **Courses marked (\*) meet the Civics requirement for this department.**

#### *Core Courses*

**AP U.S. Government and Politics:** 1 credit — This course requires students to analyze United States government and explore economic theory and practice. After examining the underpinnings of the U.S. Constitution, students will begin to interpret and apply the Constitution to governmental policy. Students will develop an understanding of the principles and processes of formal institutions and informal institutions. The course will introduce students to the economic perspective, and students will develop an understanding of economic indicators and the role of government in economic decision-making. The course will emphasize the importance of civic life and the rights and responsibilities of citizenship. Finally, students will examine civil liberties and public policy from both a legal/theoretical and a practical perspective.

**\*Foundations of Civics:** 1 credit — This class is designed to help students become active, productive citizens of the U.S. Throughout the class, students will learn what government is, how the American government functions, and what they can do to become an ideal citizen of the U.S. Topics covered include a study of citizenship and the American government. *Available Sections: Honors, CP, Career*

**Modern World History:** 1 credit — This course covers a time period that begins in the 1450s and continues to the end of World War II. By the end of the course, students will have focused on the events, people, conflicts, and ideas that have shaped our modern world. Students will develop an understanding of modern world history by studying topics such as the Renaissance, the Enlightenment, exploration, colonization, slavery, monarchies, revolutions, WWI, and WWII. *Available Sections: Honors, CP, Career*

**U.S. History :** 1 credit — This course investigates the events that occurred in the US as well as those that impacted the US during the 1800s through the 1970s. Throughout the course, students will explore major events that shaped the future decades and generations of the United States, its allies, and also its enemies. The course will also look to highlight the accomplishments and challenges of minorities throughout these periods and their contributions to the development of American history. Students will learn how to assess historical materials and to weigh the evidence and interpretations presented. *Available Sections: Honors, CP, Career*



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# High School Program of Studies

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## Social Studies Department (continued)

**World Regional Geography:** 1 credit — Do you consider yourself to be a world traveler and want to explore locations around the Earth? This course will explore the different elements geography and locations around the world. Students will explore the physical and cultural characteristics of these places while learning about the current problems they face. Current events and other ideas will be discussed.

### *Electives*

**African American History:** 0.5 credits — Using primary sources and firsthand accounts, this semester-long course will present an in-depth look at Black history in America, from enslavement through the Civil Rights Movement. While students will learn about the changing social, political, and economic discrimination African Americans faced from slavery, through the Jim Crow era, and during the Civil Rights Movement, emphasis will also be placed on the achievements and contributions African Americans have made to the U.S. By studying the past, students will also have a better understanding of current events.

**Economics:** 0.5 credits — This course is for any students who wants to learn how businesses make money. This course is designed to provide students with the fundamental tools for economic thinking. The course will examine decision-making by consumers and producers. Students will also analyze supply and demand, pricing and production, and providing goods and services. By the end of this course, students will have an opportunity to create their very own business plan.

**Law and Justice:** 1 credit — Do you want to become a lawyer or work in criminal justice? Have you ever wondered how law and justice work? This course will explore the many different areas of the criminal justice system, from crimes and courts to how society addresses different issues related to them in the present. The course will also examine activities and scenarios related to the criminal justice system to gain real world knowledge and experience of law and justice.

**Pennsylvania History:** 0.5 credit — This semester long course is designed to provide students with a deeper understanding and application of the history, geography, culture and politics of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. Students will apply their cumulative knowledge of major events in US History from colonial America to the present day to see how Pennsylvania and their local communities helped to directly or indirectly affect the development of the American story.

**Psychology:** 1 credit — Have you ever wondered about the brain and how it works? Or why we feel happy or sad? Psychology seeks to explain those things and more! In this full-year elective course, students will learn about and discuss the basics of psychology and the study of it. The course will explore how the brain works and thinks, why we feel and act the way we do, and much more!

**Women In History:** 0.5 credits — In this course, students will learn about the important roles that women played in America from the pre-colonial era up until the present day. Key topics include the contributions of women before and during the Revolutionary War, the abolitionist, suffrage, civil rights, and feminist movements, as well as key pieces of legislation, particularly those obtained during the 1970s. Current issues will also be examined.

## High School Program of Studies

### Social Studies Course Sequences

To determine the most appropriate course for the upcoming school year, identify your current grade across the top, look down that column until you find the course in which you are currently enrolled (or the closest equivalent). Then look to the right for the next courses in the sequence. Common course sequences are presented. Projected course and level offerings are subject to change depending on student needs and enrollment trends. For further assistance, please contact your school counselor.

9th Grade	10th Grade	11th Grade	12th Grade
Honors Modern World History	Honors U.S. History	Honors Civics	AP U.S. History OR AP US Government and Politics
CP Modern World History	CP U.S. History	CP Civics	CP Civics OR Elective(s)
Career World History	Career US History	Career Civics	

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## High School Program of Studies

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### Arts and Humanities Department

These courses study human culture and history as they apply to the visual and performing arts. Subjects of study include Art, Music, and Film. Students will find an appreciation of the arts and humanities in cultures around the world.

#### *Department Requirements:*

Students are required to complete 2 credits in Arts and Humanities during grades 9-12.

**21st Century Writing - Not Your Parents' Comp Class:** 0.5 credits — Students will learn about the best ways to communicate in our digital world in order to share their thoughts and ideas. Students will explore some of the most popular types of writing such as narrative and argumentative. Students will be expected to respond using a variety of online media, such as blogs, forums, discussion boards, and images.

**American Music:** 0.5 credits — This course will focus on the music created in America from the founding of our country to today. Students will learn about music in the early days of America and travel through time exploring many different genres. The course will focus mainly on jazz and rock and roll, but will also investigate the blues, musical theatre, film scores, and the music of today.

**Art 1 - Foundations:** 0.5 credits — In this course, students will focus on learning the Principles and Elements of Art. Students will experiment with various art mediums, explore famous artists throughout history and express their creativity. Surrealism and Pop Art as well as other cultural art studies. Projects aim to help develop individual self-expression and style. All materials provided. This course also qualifies as an ICA elective. *Associated Pathways: Fine Arts & Digital Graphic Arts*

**Art 2 - Express Yourself:** 0.5 credits — Students will investigate a wide array of art materials thought this course. Projects will be based on various periods and movements from art history including This course also qualifies as an ICA elective. *Associated Pathways: Fine Arts & Digital Graphic Arts. Prerequisite – Art 1.*

**Art Anatomy:** 0.5 — In this course, students will explore several body systems and this knowledge will be the starting point for STEAM focused projects that utilize a student's creativity and creative thinking skills. Students will complete activities that are hands-on and based on the human body. Experimental data will be collected and analyzed and students will present student created graphics. Students will also create various art projects in relationship to the content and will learn anatomical structures through coloring book activities. This course also qualifies as an ICA elective. *Associated Pathways: Biomedical, Fine Arts*

**Child Development and Parenting:** 0.5 credits — Studying children helps an individual understand the importance of personal development, the developmental processes of children, and careers in the childcare/educational field. By understanding how an child develops intellectually, socially, emotionally, and physically, students are empowered to make choices for themselves and others to optimize their quality of life. Students taking this course will also learn about the role of a parent and how to build self-esteem within the family.

### Arts and Humanities Department (continued)

**Creative Writing:** 0.5 credits — In this writing-intensive course, students will be introduced to the major genres of writing, including nonfiction, fiction, poetry, and drama. Through lessons, class discussions, and selected readings, students will learn about the elements of good writing. Students will build a variety of writing techniques and skills through both short- and long-term writing assignments.

**Digital Authorship:** 0.5 credits — Students will learn techniques to format text and/or video to enhance their intended meaning. Students will complete a full cycle of the writing process, resulting in a published work in the form of a personal blog, podcast, or YouTube video, choosing from a list of teacher-approved projects. This course also qualifies as an ICA elective. *Associated Pathway: AV Communication Arts*

**Digital Photography - Picture Perfect:** 0.5 credits — This hands-on course will teach students about the history of the camera, as well as its ever-changing capabilities and functions the various types provide. Composition, lighting, and perspective are a few of the concepts covered throughout this course. Students will apply these concepts to their photographs and learn how to edit and manipulate photographic images for their portfolio. Personal smartphones accepted as camera device. If necessary, a camera will be provided. This course also qualifies as an ICA elective. *Associated Pathways: Fine Arts & Digital Graphic Arts*

**Family and Consumer Science :** 0.5 credits — This course is designed to provide students with basic information and skills needed to function effectively within the family as well as a changing, complex society. They will delve into topics such as meal planning, grocery shopping, and dietary modifications. Students will also focus on financial concepts and making informed decisions when it comes to savings and debt. They will familiarize themselves with checking/savings accounts, interest, credit/debt, and the importance of a budget

**Graphic Design - Logos, Letterheads and Lots More!:** 0.5 credits — This course will focus on the basics of Graphic Design. Students will learn how to edit and create their own images and marketing materials such as logos, album covers and t-shirts. Advertising techniques as well as the power of visual communication will be reviewed. This course also qualifies as an ICA elective. *Associated Pathways: Fine Arts, Digital Graphic Arts, AV Communication Arts*

**Graphic Novels - It's Not Just Comics Anymore:** 0.5 credits — This asynchronous course will look at fictional and non-fictional storytelling techniques, both written and visual, as well as how this genre influences modern media. Works will include memoirs, interpretative history, and more conventional fiction.

**Independent Art:** 0.5 credits — Students will work collaboratively with teachers to design projects that are independently approved and relate to Art. Student evaluations will be conducted by the teacher upon completion of the course to determine whether course goals and objectives were met and award credit.

**Independent Family and Consumer Sciences:** 0.5 credits — Students will work collaboratively with teachers to design projects that are independently approved and relate to Family and Consumer Sciences. Student evaluations will be conducted by the teacher upon completion of the course to determine whether course goals and objectives were met and award credit.

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## High School Program of Studies

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### Arts and Humanities Department (continued)

**Independent Music:** 0.5 credits — Students will work collaboratively with teachers to design projects that are independently approved and relate to Music. Student evaluations will be conducted by the teacher upon completion of the course to determine whether course goals and objectives were met and award credit.

**Independent Study Creative Outlet:** 0.25 credits — This asynchronous course will allow students to showcase their talents which they have been doing outside of school. These talents can include, but are not limited to, artistic forms of expression such as music, dance, painting, cooking, cosmetology, jewelry making, etc.

**Intro to Watercolors:** 0.25 credits — This introductory course will explore the artistic expression of watercolors. Starting with the basics and working your way through experimentation pieces to build your own style with your watercolor portfolio. All materials provided. This course also qualifies as an ICA elective. *Associated Pathway: Fine Arts.*

**Prerequisite: Art 1.**

**Intro to Drawing:** 0.25 Credits — Drawing is a fundamental art form that is used in many different mediums. This course is an introduction to the foundation of both design and realistic drawing. Students will review the elements of drawing, while exploring drawing materials such as charcoal, graphite and ink. Students will work from observation and imagination to address topics such as proportion, perspective, light and shadows. All materials provided. This course also qualifies as an ICA elective. *Associated Pathway: Fine Arts. Prerequisite: Art 1.*

**Music Appreciation - Bach to Blues, the Evolution of Music:** 0.5 credits — This course is designed to expose students to the elements of music and the primary musical periods of traditional Western European classical music as well as World Music. Students will learn the basics of music reading, study a variety of composers and musicians, and listen to a variety of musical examples. Students will experience the music of many different cultures around the world.

**Photoshop:** 0.5 credit- In LearnKey's Photoshop CC course students will learn how to edit and retouch photos as well as create digital images and designs. Students will learn digital image formats, basic color theory, and how to retouch and apply other tonal adjustments to images. Students will explore editing tools through various projects while preparing for the Visual Communication Using Adobe Photoshop ACA exam. This course also qualifies as an ICA elective. *Associated Pathway: Digital Graphic Arts. Prerequisites- Art 1 & Digital Photography.*

**Reading Hollywood - From Page to Screen:** 0.5 credits — In this course, students will explore the relationship between print and screen, using literary criticism to examine authors' purpose in narrative and the cultural interpretation as it is transformed into an alternative media.

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## High School Program of Studies

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### Career and College Readiness Department

This department allows students to explore who they are, what is important to them, and what they would like to do. These courses allow students to develop the tools they need to create the kind of life they want. Courses marked (\*) meet the graduation requirement for this department.

**Career Readiness 9:** 0.25 credits — This course introduces students to the building blocks necessary to select and prepare for a career. Students explore their interests and abilities, identify career options, and work to develop a high school and college/career plan. Various topics are introduced, including effective speaking and listening skills, cover letters and resumes, and social networking. Students will also create a career portfolio.

**Career Readiness 10:** 0.25 credits — This course introduces students to the building blocks necessary to select and prepare for a career. Students explore their interests and abilities, identify career options, and work to develop a high school and college/career plan. Various topics are introduced, including effective speaking and listening skills, cover letters and resumes, and social networking. Students will also create a career portfolio.

**Career Readiness 11:** 0.5 credits — This course introduce students to the building blocks necessary to select and prepare for a career. Students explore their interests and abilities, identify career options, and work to develop a high school and college/career plan. Various topics are introduced, including effective speaking and listening skills, cover letters and resumes, and social networking. Students will also create a career portfolio.

**\*Graduation Project 10/11:** 0.25 credits — The graduation project is the culmination of knowledge, skills, and experience achieved throughout a student's high school career. The complete project will be presented to the Graduation Project Advisor who will ensure that all specific project requirements have been completed as mandated by the state and assign a presentation date. The graduation project must be completed in order to fulfill student graduation requirements. Students entering grades 10 and 11 may choose to complete their Graduation Project requirement by doing a career-based project. Completing the career- based project in 10th or 11th grade will mean not having to take the Graduation Project 12 course to complete it during the senior year.

**\*Graduation Project 12:** 0.25 credits — The graduation project is the culmination of knowledge, skills, and experience achieved throughout a student's high school career. The complete project will be presented to the Graduation Project Advisor who will ensure that all specific project requirements have been completed as mandated by the state and assign a presentation date. The graduation project must be completed in order to fulfill student graduation requirements.

**Your Path to College 9/10/11/12:** 0.5 credits — These asynchronous courses are designed for students who are interested in and plan to apply to a college program. A 2.0 or higher GPA is recommended, but not required. Students will use a program called OnTrack, which will provide them with online videos each week on how to succeed in high school, find the right college, and how to pay for it.



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## High School Program of Studies

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### English Language Development Program

Achievement House provides a rigorous, standards-based educational program for English Learners (ELs) of all levels. Our English Learners build and develop their linguistic proficiency in a program that is both intensive and flexible. Identified English Learners attend an ELD (English Language Development) course taught by a certified ESL (English as a Second Language) teacher and designed to promote the continual development of English language reading, speaking, writing, and listening skills. Additionally, the ELD department collaborates closely with classroom teachers to ensure that academic curriculum is accessible so that your student can successfully meet standards and make gains in English language proficiency. Bilingual mentors and access to one-on-one help sessions further support students, ensuring positive outcomes for our English Learners.

Upon enrolling, non-native English-speaking students are evaluated for placement into the ELD program. Achievement House adheres to the WIDA English Language Proficiency Standards and employs the WIDA Screener to accurately determine your student's English language proficiency. If it is determined that your student would benefit from English language development support, an individualized program is implemented to best help your student develop English language proficiency while achieving grade-level content standards.

Four different sections of ELD support the needs of students. Newcomer EL (NEL) serves the needs of brand-new English learners acquiring basic English skills, Beginning EL (BEL) serves the needs of students in levels 1-2 (Entering and Beginning); Intermediate EL (IEL) serves the needs of students in levels 3-4 (Developing and Expanding); and Advanced EL (AEL) serves the needs of students in level 5 (Bridging).

Achievement House English Learners can truly achieve the proficiency and literacy to effectively communicate in English, excel in their academic courses, and realize their higher education and professional goals after graduation.

**Newcomer EL:** 1 credit — This course is specially designed for recent immigrants who have little or no English proficiency. Students in this program develop foundational linguistic skills and receive support as they begin to adapt to their new culture. Furthermore, students begin to build the most basic language skills so that they may reach a level of proficiency where they are able to access state standards in English. This is a year-long course where students meet every school day for a 30-minute synchronous live session and are given 1 assignment to complete asynchronously per school day. Placement in this class is based on scores on the WIDA ACCESS or WIDA Screener and teacher input.

**Beginning EL:** 1 credit — This course introduces identified English Learners to basic vocabulary and linguistic structures that they can put to practice in their content area courses. Students strengthen listening, reading, speaking, and writing proficiency in English. They learn specific language and phrases for real-world situations, as well as for their academic areas of math, science, social studies, and language arts. The teacher provides support for students and teaches them tools and strategies to employ as they master the basics of the English language such as identifying the main idea, sequencing events, and sorting fact from opinion. Placement in this course is based on scores on the WIDA ACCESS or WIDA Screener and teacher input.



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# High School Program of Studies

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## English Language Development Program (continued)

**Intermediate EL:** 1 credit — This course gives students opportunities to practice and continue to develop their English reading, writing, listening, and speaking skills. Students learn new grammatical structures and apply them in the academic areas of math, science, social studies, language arts, and everyday school situations. Among other skills, students learn how to successfully identify point of view, ask for clarification, describe and expand on topics in writing, solve problems, and express their opinions. Placement in this course is based on scores on the WIDA ACCESS or WIDA Screener and teacher input.

**Advanced EL:** 1 credit — This course encourages students to continue to refine their English language proficiency. Students learn highly specialized and technical content-area language that they can apply directly to their content-area courses. They practice using a variety of sentence lengths of varying linguistic complexity in extended oral or written discourse such as stories, essays and reports. Other skills students continue to hone and develop include providing text evidence to support a position, identifying cause and effect, examining bias in writing, and supporting their opinions with examples. Placement in this course is based on scores on the WIDA ACCESS or WIDA Screener and teacher input.

## Health and Physical Education Department

The primary goal of the Health and Physical Education Department is for students to develop the attitudes, knowledge and skills needed to attain and maintain fitness and wellness throughout a lifetime.

### *Department Requirements:*

Students are required to complete 1.0 credit in Health/Physical Education, to include Health (Wellness) and a PE course to be taken each school year. Physical Education courses do not need to be taken consecutively.

### *Core Courses:*

**Fitness and Wellness 1:** 0.25 credits — In this introductory course, students are provided with instruction and practice in the ten health skills: communication, refusal skills, conflict resolution, accessing information, analyzing influences, practicing healthful behaviors, stress management, decision making, advocacy, and goal setting. Students show that regular physical activity is essential to good health and wellness. Students will learn basic fitness terminology as well as how physical activity benefits both the body and mind.

**Fitness and Wellness 2:** 0.25 credits — In this continuing course, students are provided with instruction and practice in the ten health skills: communication, refusal skills, conflict resolution, accessing information, analyzing influences, practicing healthful behaviors, stress management, decision making, advocacy, and goal setting. Studies show that regular physical activity is essential to good health and wellness. Students will learn basic fitness terminology as well as how physical activity benefits both the body and mind.

**High School Health:** 0.5 credits — Students will learn about a variety of health topics, ranging from stages of growth and development to different healthful living practices.

### Health and Physical Education Department (continued)

**Lifetime Physical Activities:** 0.25 credits — In this course, students will learn to make informed decisions that will assist them both now and in the future. Course work has been developed using scientific evidence that has shown regular physical activity is essential to good health and wellness. Students will learn basic fitness terminology as well as how physical activity benefits both the body and mind. Students will research and choose fitness activities that promote lifelong participation.

**Team and Individual Sports:** 0.25 credits — In this course, students will practice making informed health and fitness decisions that will assist them now and in the future. Many assignments in this course are based upon research from the American Heart Association indicating that the primary cause of death in the United States, heart disease, can be treated with daily participation in physical activity. Students will review basic fitness terminology and benefits. The students will also be introduced to the steps of the personalized fitness program design process.

#### *Electives:*

**Advanced Physical Education:** 0.25 credits — In this course, students will apply the skill of developing a workout routine and explore how to improve their current fitness levels. Students will complete a fitness test and log their progress towards their individual fitness goal.

**First Aid and CPR/AED - How to Save a Life:** 0.25 credits — This course is designed to give students an overview of the skills in first aid and CPR/AED. It will not certify students in these areas, but it will help prepare them for the certification exams through American Red Cross. This course also qualifies as an ICA elective. *Associated Pathway: Biomedical*

**Independent First Aid and CPR/AED:** 0.25 credits — In this course, students will complete a variety of scenarios pertaining to emergency situations in order to show mastery of previously learned First Aid and CPR skills. ***Prerequisite - Students must be certified in First Aid and CPR/AED through American Red Cross.***

**Independent Physical Education:** 0.5 credits — Students will work collaboratively with teachers to design projects that are independently approved and relate to Physical Education. Student evaluations will be conducted by the teacher upon completion of the course to determine whether course goals and objectives were met and award credit.

**Introduction to Yoga:** 0.25 credits — In this class students will learn a variety of different styles of Yoga, as well as keep a journal of different poses they have done. Students will be provided with a Yoga starter kit (if needed) and will be responsible for uploading pictures of themselves practicing Yoga.

### Independent Study Department

*Courses Offered Through AHCCS:*

**Driver's Education:** 0.25 credits — In this independent study course, students will be provided with all the information needed to earn their driver's license. Interactive lessons are used to examine up-to-date safe-driving techniques. Students who take this course will enjoy an effective, high-quality driver's education course that will teach them everything they need to know to become safe, confident drivers. The 24/7 online access is perfect for those students who may not have the time to attend traditional driver's education courses.

**Prerequisite - Students must be 16 years old by January 1st of the academic year.**

**Independent Art:** 0.5 credits — Students will work collaboratively with teachers to design projects that are independently approved and relate to Art. Student evaluations will be conducted by the teacher upon completion of the course to determine whether course goals and objectives were met and award credit.

**Independent First Aid and CPR/AED - How to Save a Life:** 0.25 credits — In this course, students will complete a variety of scenarios pertaining to emergency situations in order to show mastery of previously learned First Aid and CPR skills. **Prerequisite - Students must be certified in First Aid and CPR/AED through American Red Cross.**

**Independent Family and Consumer Sciences:** 0.5 credits — Students will work collaboratively with teachers to design projects that are independently approved and relate to Family and Consumer Sciences. Student evaluations will be conducted by the teacher upon completion of the course to determine whether course goals and objectives were met and award credit.

**Independent Music:** 0.5 credits — Students will work collaboratively with teachers to design projects that are independently approved and relate to Music. Student evaluations will be conducted by the teacher upon completion of the course to determine whether course goals and objectives were met and award credit.

**Independent Physical Education:** 0.5 credits — Students will work collaboratively with teachers to design projects that are independently approved and relate to Physical Education. Student evaluations will be conducted by the teacher upon completion of the course to determine whether course goals and objectives were met and award credit.

**Independent Study Creative Outlet:** 0.25 credits — This asynchronous course will allow students to showcase their talents which they have been doing outside of school. These talents can include, but are not limited to, artistic forms of expression such as music, dance, painting, cooking, cosmetology, jewelry making, etc.

### Seminar Courses

*Seminar Courses are interest-based. Speak to your Counselor for credit information.*

### Independent Study Department (continued)

Florida Virtual School (FLVS) – AHCCS offers its AP courses through FLVS, which is an online school dedicated to personalized learning. They offer dedicated, certified teachers, while AHCCS teachers are on hand to provide support as needed.

- AP Biology
- AP Calculus AB
- AP Calculus BC
- AP Computer Science
- AP Environmental Science
- AP English Language and Composition
- AP English Literature and Composition
- AP Psychology
- AP Statistics
- AP U.S. Government and Politics

**Independent Language** – AHCCS joins more than 20,000 schools and districts around the world that have integrated Rosetta Stone Solutions into their curriculum to support the growing need for language skills. The Dynamic Immersion® method used within this program allows student to engage with a language through images, repetition, and scaffolding without needing translation. Rosetta Stone also offers ease of learning through a mobile application for students on the go. A school facilitator will oversee student progress in this self-paced, online course, as well as grade assignments and help keep students on track to complete their language level in a timely manner. Each language typically has 3-5 levels of study available. Completion of a level is equal to one academic credit. The following languages are offered through Rosetta Stone Solutions. Please contact your school counselor if you are interested in taking a language that is not listed below.

- Arabic
- Mandarin
- Chinese
- French
- German
- Greek
- Hebrew
- Italian
- Japanese
- Korean
- Latin
- Spanish

*Students must have at least a B in all courses and receive approval from their guidance counselor in order to enroll in an independent language course.*

# High School Program of Studies

Updated on 6/11/2021.

To ensure you're reviewing the latest version, please visit [www.achievementcharter.com](http://www.achievementcharter.com).

Click on Academics and choose High School!

Expand each course section for up-to-date offerings and descriptions.

Achievement House  
CYBER CHARTER SCHOOL

WHO WE ARE | LEARNING PATH | INNOVATION ACADEMY | LEARN MORE | HOW TO ENROLL | School Login

## HIGH SCHOOL

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Overview  
Middle School  
**High School**  
Testing and Assessments  
Summer School and Extended School Year  
English Language Development (ELD)  
Special Education

Achievement House has an outstanding staff that is directly involved in developing our customized curriculum and teaching live online classes. We partner with other online education resources to offer students a range of courses that supplement and complement our courses. Click [here](#) to download our printable Program of Studies.

- + ENGLISH AND LANGUAGE ARTS
- + MATHEMATICS
- + SCIENCE
- + SOCIAL STUDIES
- + CAREER AND COLLEGE READINESS
- + ARTS AND HUMANITIES
- + HEALTH AND PHYSICAL EDUCATION
- + STEM PROJECT LEAD THE WAY
- + INNOVATION ACADEMY