

# H EALTH AND WELLNESS



## Curriculum Guide 2024-2025

# S ERVICE TO OTHERS







# McHenry Community High School District 156 Course Guide 2024-2025

## FRAMING YOUR FUTURE



### Freshmen will...

- Develop a 4 year high school plan with a school counselor
- Increase understanding of postsecondary opportunities by attending the MCHS College and Career Fair
- Become familiar with the elements of a resume and craft an objective statement
- Research and write about a career of interest

### Freshmen can...

- Explore one or two career clusters with a school counselor
- Learn how community service and extracurricular activities can impact postsecondary and career plans
- Discover general cost ranges of postsecondary options
- Attend the Manufacturing, Trades, and Industry (MTI) Career Expo
- Discuss the relationship between HS coursework, attendance, and grades to postsecondary plans with a school counselor and teachers
- Have discussions regarding eligibility for Reach and Get Ahead courses during course selection process with a school counselor

### Sophomores will...

- Build upon a 4 year high school plan with a school counselor
- Explore postsecondary opportunities based on career clusters of interest at the MCHS College and Career Fair
- Identify one or two career clusters with a school counselor
- Determine the 2-3 adults who will act as a support system throughout the college/career selection process
- Discuss eligibility for Reach and Get Ahead courses during course selection process with teachers and a school counselor

### Sophomores can...

- Determine the educational requirements, cost, and expected salary for a chosen career of interest
- Observe various careers via site visits, interviews, videos, etc.
- Understand the general timing of PSAT/NMSQT, SAT, and other entrance exams
- Discuss the benefit of dual credit opportunities to postsecondary access and completion
- Complete a mock scholarship application
- Discuss the connection between Reach courses and the postsecondary benefits (e.g. AP courses, Dual Credit options, CLEP tests, etc.)

### Juniors will...

- Retake a career interest survey
- Interact with postsecondary representatives at the MCHS College and Career Fair
- Learn interview techniques
- Create a personalized resume with an objective statement
- Continue discussions regarding eligibility for Reach courses during course selection process
- Take the SAT
- Identify 3-5 match institutions, one safety, one Reach school for postsecondary program of study

### Juniors can...

- Discover application deadlines, cost, and preparation for industry-based certification and postsecondary programs of study
- Identify financial aid deadlines for chosen postsecondary options
- Discuss the impact of remediation on postsecondary goals
- Discuss opportunities related to a career path (e.g. internships, job shadowing, coursework, volunteer)
- Connect with at least 3 postsecondary institutions

### Seniors will...

- Discuss internship opportunities related to a career path
- Understand how career path courses and experiences align to programs at postsecondary options
- Complete 3 or more admissions applications to PS institutions (one match, one safety, one reach) by the end of 1st semester
- Meet with a school counselor to ensure all steps in the postsecondary admissions process are completed by the end of 1st semester
- Estimate the cost of each postsecondary option
- Understand the affordability of postsecondary options in relation to expected entry-level career salary and anticipated debt
- Attend a FAFSA completion workshop by the end of 1st semester
- Complete the FAFSA independently or as part of a local workshop by the end of 1st semester
- Break down the terms and conditions of any scholarship or loan
- Finalize Warrior Resume to use for post-secondary opportunities

### Seniors can...

- Address remedial needs in math and English career path
- Complete one or more Reach or capstone courses
- Attend a financial aid award letter workshop
- Apply for scholarship opportunities related to postsecondary plans
- Attend the Manufacturing, Trades, and Industry (MTI) Career Expo





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McHenry Community High School  
District 156 WELCOMES YOU!

November 1, 2023

Dear Students and Parents,

Welcome to McHenry Community High School (MCHS) District 156 where our mission is to provide all students with the skills they need to be lifelong learners and productive citizens. This curriculum guide is designed to help students plan programs of study. In addition to being especially useful as students begin their high school education, this guide will also help students select courses throughout grades 9-12 and plan for career choices after graduation.

This curriculum guide contains a listing of courses offered for selection. The courses are described along with the specific prerequisites required for registration. A student will not be denied any course selection based upon color, national origin, ancestry, sex, ethnicity, language, religion, disability, economic, or social condition, and actual or potential marital or parental status.

Since students may not be able to take all of the courses they desire, they must select courses carefully, keeping their goals, career choices, and personal objectives in mind. Counselors and faculty members will recommend specific courses for students based upon potential and past achievement records. MCHS believes that students participating in the most rigorous and appropriate courses will be best prepared for post-secondary college and careers.

The complexity of class or course scheduling for a school district this size requires an early and accurate collection of student course requests. Therefore, the recommendation and registration process will begin early in the second semester.

The entire MCHS staff, administration, and Board of Education wish you a rewarding and successful high school experience!

*McHenry Community High School District 156  
Board of Education and Administration*







# **McHenry Community High School District 156**

## **Course Guide 2024-2025**

### **EQUAL EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES**

Equal educational opportunities shall be available to all students without regard to race, color, national origin, ancestry, sex, ethnicity, language, religion, disability, economic or social condition, and actual or potential marital or parental status. This school district prohibits discrimination, harassment or retaliation on the basis of any of the foregoing characteristics, of or by any student, employee, agent or third party participating in an activity reasonably related to school. Any student may file a discrimination, harassment or retaliation grievance by contacting the District's Complaint Manager and following the grievance procedure enumerated within the Board's Uniform Grievance Policy. Specific contact information for the Complaint Manager shall be printed annually within the Student Handbook. No student shall be denied equal access to programs, activities, services, or benefits or be limited in the exercise of any right, privilege, advantage, or denied equal access to educational and/or extracurricular programs and activities based on sex. Complaints regarding sex equity may be filed with the District Complaint Manager pursuant to the grievance procedure enumerated within the Board's Uniform Grievance Policy.

#### **DISTRICT COMPLAINT MANAGER:**

**Principal**

**McHenry Community High School D156**  
**4724 W Crystal Lake Road**  
**McHenry, Illinois 60050**  
**(815) 385-7900**

### **DATA-DRIVEN COURSE ENROLLMENT AND PLACEMENT PHILOSOPHY**

McHenry Community High School District 156 strives to offer a comprehensive array of college and career pathways and associated courses. Students and parents are encouraged to explore a wide variety of curricular opportunities to determine their interests and strengths that produce future careers. McHenry High School is a "growth mindset" organization and seeks to stretch all students to reach their fullest academic potential. MCHS utilizes a data-driven course recommendation and advisement process. Standardized tests, course performance data, common formative assessments, and teacher recommendations are used to guide placement for students into the most rigorous courses appropriate in relation to the skills and abilities of each learner. MCHS teachers, counselors, and administrators are skilled, professional practitioners who use all information available to assist in the determination of the most appropriate course selection and placement that will help the students attain their highest levels of achievement. Student interests and parent participation are vital components of this process. While the final determination of student placement rests with the professional educators of McHenry High School, we look forward to working with students and parents to determine the very best course placement for our students.

### **ACCELERATED PLACEMENT**

In accordance with the [Illinois Accelerated Placement Act](#) and [Board Policy 6:135](#), MCHS will automatically enroll students who meet the following academic standards in honors, advanced placement, or dual credit coursework. Parents will be able to request re-evaluation of all placements through the standard level change process.

The automatic enrollment, in the following school term, of a student into the next most rigorous level of advanced coursework offered by the high school if the student meets or exceeds State standards in English language arts, mathematics, or science on a State assessment as follows:

- A student who meets or exceeds State standards in English language arts shall be automatically enrolled into the next most rigorous level of advanced coursework in English, social studies, humanities, or related subjects.
- A student who meets or exceeds State standards in mathematics shall be automatically enrolled into the next most rigorous level of advanced coursework in mathematics.
- A student who meets or exceeds State standards in science shall be automatically enrolled into the next most rigorous level of advanced coursework in science."

Illinois School Code [105 ILCS 5/2-3.64a-5](#)



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## CAREER CLUSTERS AND PATHWAYS

MCHS has a robust curriculum geared towards providing all students with a myriad of opportunities to explore a variety of fields of study that will prepare them for future opportunities for rewarding careers. No student can explore all the electives and fields of study available. For this reason, the student course selection process should be driven by careful planning of career interests and postsecondary goals. Annual course selection decisions should be an ongoing planning process involving the student, parents, school counselor, and teachers. We strongly encourage students and parents to refer to the Career Clusters and Pathways Guide located at the end of this document and on the district website.



McHenry High School offers a four-year program (freshman through senior years) which promotes overall student EXCELLENCE called the **Distinguished Warrior Graduate Program**

**Tiered Distinctions -- Distinguished Warrior and Distinguished Warrior Scholar**

The Distinguished Warrior Graduates are publicly recognized during their high school graduation ceremony with a specially designed orange stole displaying the warrior emblem. MCHS students graduating with this distinction will have met the following criteria:

**DISTINGUISHED WARRIOR SCHOLAR (Stole with Emblem and “Scholar” embroidered)**

- All DW Criteria met AND
- GPA: 3.75
- SAT 1400 or ACT 30

**DISTINGUISHED WARRIOR (Orange Stole with emblem)**

- 2.8 GPA
- 95% Overall Attendance Junior and Senior Year
- One ELA and One Math Indicator (see table on next page)
- Three Career Ready Indicators Junior/Senior Year (see table on next page)
- No ISS and No OSS
- No Code of Conduct Violations





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DW CAREER READY INDICATORS (Minimum of Three)
Two or More Organized School Extra/Co-Curricular Activities
25+ Hours of Community Service
Pathway “Capstone” Course
Career Development Experience (Practicum or Internship)
Industry Certification
Military Service or ASVAB 31+
Career Dual Credit Course (Credit Earned)
12 Month of Consistent Employment or Consecutive Summer Employment

DW ACADEMIC INDICATORS	
English/ Language Arts Indicators (One)	Mathematics Indicators (One)
SAT EBRW Score: 540	SAT Math Score: 540
ACT English 18 Reading 22	ACT Math 22 and Senior Year Math Class
Dual Credit English Course (A,B,C)	Dual Credit Math Course (A,B,C)
ELA Advanced Placement Course (A,B,C)	Transitional Math Course (A,B,C)
ELA Advanced Placement Exam (3+)	Math Advanced Placement Course (A,B,C)
College and Career Writing Class (A,B,C)	Math Advanced Placement Exam (3+)
	College Algebra with Trigonometry (A,B,C)
	Intro to Statistics and Analytics (A,B,C)
	Algebra II (A,B,C)



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### HONORS DESIGNATIONS

MCHS graduating seniors shall be recognized for outstanding academic achievement using the following designations and criteria:

- Highest Honors: Students with a cumulative grade point average of 4.3 and higher
- High Honors: Students with a cumulative grade point average of 4.0 to 4.299
- Honors: Students with a cumulative grade point average of 3.8 to 3.999

Students will be awarded these designations based upon the cumulative grade point averages of seven semesters.

### DECEMBER GRADUATION

Students may request the privilege of seventh semester (December) graduation. In accordance with MCHS graduation policy, it is possible for a student to complete all graduation requirements at the end of seven semesters of attendance, provided administrative and parental approval are given. To request approval from the building principal, a student must complete the request form and submit it to their counselor during course selection in the winter of the student's junior year.

To be eligible for seventh semester (December) graduation, students must begin their 7th semester with 20.0 credits.

All December graduates will be eligible and are encouraged to participate in graduation activities including the seniors' honors program and commencement, which will be held in May. With the exception of graduation activities, prom, and year-end banquets, a December graduate may not participate in any school activities or interscholastic athletics during second semester of his or her senior year.

### GRADE WEIGHTING SYSTEM

#### COURSE CATEGORIES:

**GENERAL** - These courses are designed to teach students the concepts and principles of specific subject matter as well as the necessary skills to promote subject mastery. Materials and assignments are appropriate to student ability levels.

**HONORS** - Honors courses are designed to prepare students for advanced placement course work. They are for students who show exceptional ability in a specific learning area. These courses will help satisfy the college admission requirements established by the state universities in Illinois. Each honors course shall require rigorous academic work including specific research, laboratory experimentation and/or term assignments.

**ADVANCED PLACEMENT (AP)** - MCHS offers several Advanced Placement courses. Enrollment in these courses prepares a student to take the Advanced Placement exams in the spring. Successful completion of the Advanced Placement Exam can result in a student receiving college/university credit before beginning his/her freshman year.

**WEIGHTING SCALE** - The current grade point average system is divided into two categories: General and Advanced Placement/Honors. The final grade point average (GPA) is a cumulative average based upon 8 semesters of high school work. To determine GPA, use the following scale:





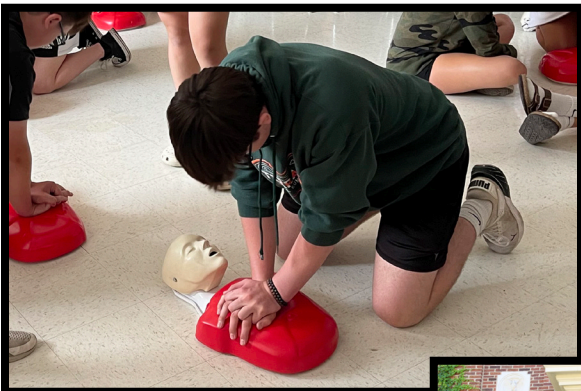
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Grade	Advanced Placement and Honors	General
A	5.0	4.0
B	4.0	3.0
C	3.0	2.0
D	2.0	1.0
F	0	0

A student may transfer a weighted grade to MCHS providing a similar weighted course is offered in our curriculum

## EARNED HONORS CREDIT (EHC)

MCHS offers some courses to provide students the opportunity to earn honors credit while participating in the same course section as their regular level peers. Students complete one or more enrichment activities or modules for each unit of instruction and may also be exposed to additional assessment items of higher levels of rigor. The purpose of earned honors credit courses is for all students to have an equal opportunity to earn honors credit or for honors students to be able to participate in elective classes without negatively impacting their grade point averages. MCHS hopes to add more EHC classes in the future as part of district equity initiatives.





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ADVANCED PLACEMENT AND HONORS COURSES RECEIVING WEIGHTED GRADING:	
Honors Pre-Calculus	Honors Dual Credit Calc. and Analytic Geometry III
Leadership in Action (Earned Honors Credit EHC)	Advanced Placement Calculus AB
Honors Dual Credit Speech	Advanced Placement Calculus BC
Honors American Studies (English and History)	Advanced Placement Statistics
Honors English I	Algebra I - (when Earned Honors Credit EHC)
Honors English II	Honors Algebra II
Advanced Placement Language and Composition	Honors Geometry
Advanced Placement Literature and Composition	Advanced Placement Biology
Honors College Composition / English 151 (Dual Credit MCC)	Honors Biology
Honors College Composition / English 152 (Dual Credit MCC)	Advanced Placement Chemistry
Honors Dual Credit U.S. History	Honors Chemistry / Honors Chemistry 164 (Dual Credit MCC)
Advanced Placement U.S. History	Advanced Placement Physics I
Advanced Placement Human Geography	Advanced Placement Physics II
Advanced Placement U.S. Government and Politics	Advanced Placement Environmental Science
Advanced Placement World History	Honors Dual Credit Accounting II
Advanced Placement Psychology	Honors Principles of Biomedical Science (PLTW)
Jazz Band (Earned Honors Credit EHC)	Honors Human Body Systems (PLTW)
Jazz Band Ensemble (Earned Honors Credit EHC)	Honors Medical Interventions (PLTW)
Concert Band (Earned Honors Credit EHC)	Honors Innovations (PLTW)
Symphonic Band (Earned Honors Credit EHC)	Honors Introduction to Computer Science
Wind Ensemble (Earned Honors Credit EHC)	Honors Computer Science Principles
Advanced Placement Music Theory	Honors Computer Science A
Honors Dual Credit French III / French 151 and 152 (DUAL CREDIT MCC)	Honors Advanced Computer Science
Honors Dual Credit French IV / French 251 and 252 (DUAL CREDIT MCC)	Honors Introduction to Engineering Design (PLTW)
Honors Dual Credit German III / German 151 and 152 (DUAL CREDIT MCC)	Honors Principles of Engineering (PLTW)
Honors Dual Credit German IV / German 251 and 252 (DUAL CREDIT MCC)	Honors Engineering Design and Development (PLTW)
Honors Spanish III and IV	Honors Drone Operations and Flight Training
Honors Spanish for Heritage Learners III	Honors INCubatoredu (Dual Credit MCC)
Advanced Placement Spanish Language and Culture	Honors Studio Art Portfolio / Honors Studio
Advanced Placement Studio Art Portfolio - AP Drawing, AP 2D Art & Design, AP 3D Art & Design	

Note: All other courses in our curriculum are considered general education courses.





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## ADVANCED PLACEMENT FINAL EXAM EXEMPTION

The MCHS Advanced Placement Program offers a variety of rigorous college-level courses with an opportunity of earning college credit by passing the culminating AP Examination held in May of each year. MCHS has an expectation that students cap off the experience by taking the AP exam associated with each course. All AP teachers will offer their students the opportunity to be exempt from the second semester final examination for all students who take the AP test for that course. To be eligible for this incentive, AP students must have a 70% average in the course and have participated in prep activities. This could include attending a prep session or completing prep assignments as determined by the teacher. A cumulative examination may be given prior to the AP test as a preparatory experience.

Students who choose to be exempt from the second semester final examination shall have a grade comprised of 100% semester grade and 0% final examination grade. Students may opt to take the final examination to raise their grade for the course. Students who do not elect to take the AP Examination will be required to take the second semester course final exam.

## REQUIREMENTS FOR GRADUATION

The District 156 Board of Education has specified certain criteria, which must be met for graduation from MCHS. All requirements must be fulfilled prior to participation in graduation ceremonies.

### CURRENT MCHS GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS:

1. Eight semesters of attendance or seven semesters of attendance with written parental request for December graduation and with the approval of the administration provided all other graduation requirements have been met.
2. Twenty-four total credits
3. Twenty and one-half academic credits and three and one-half physical education credits must include:
  - a. Four credits of English
  - b. Three credits of mathematics to include one credit of Algebra I and one credit for a course that includes geometry content
  - c. Two and one-half credits of social science to consist of Advanced Placement Human Geography or Issues of the 21st Century during their freshman year, Revolutions Throughout History or AP World History during their sophomore year, one credit of U.S. History during their junior year and one-half credit of American Government during their senior year. During these courses students must pass the U.S. Government test, the Illinois Constitution test, and a flag test.
  - d. One-half credit of consumer education
  - e. Three credits of science to include one credit of life science
  - f. One-half credit of health education
  - g. One credit of art, music, world language or vocational education
  - h. Three and one-half credits of physical education





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4. Students are required to successfully complete two credits of writing intensive courses as part of the
5. English Language Arts curriculum.
6. Driver education classroom instruction (30 hours) must be completed. Successful participation in the school day SAT.

As part of the requirements in high school and to support the college and career readiness focus, additional requirements have been identified and are described below. **It is also the intent of the educational program at MCHS, that students will progress through the sequences of courses in order and with continuity, especially in core areas.**

Beginning with the Class of 2026, students must complete one year of a course that includes intensive instruction in computer/digital literacy, which may be English, social studies, or any other subject and may be counted toward the fulfillment of other graduation requirements. Students will also be required to complete a course with one unit of media literacy instruction in one or more course in the curriculum.

MCHS addresses the spirit and skills of the Computer and Media Literacy Mandate in courses including, but not limited to, English I, English II, Digital Citizenship, Government and Civics, Computer Literacy, and Health.

**Completion of the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)** - In an effort to break down barriers to access to higher education, the State of Illinois is requiring all senior families to complete this process as a requirement for graduation. All senior families must complete the FAFSA process or submit a non-participation form.

**Completion of four-year high school plan** - Counselors will meet with every student individually throughout their freshman and sophomore years. Starting with the Class of 2023, every student will create a four year high school plan by the end of their 10th grade year.

**Building and creating a College and Career resume**- Based on the importance for all graduating students to be ready for college and career and able to seize a myriad of opportunities, MCHS will be requiring all students to create a college and career resume as a graduation requirement. While all content areas and student services may assist with the creating of resume credentials, the resume will be completed and documented in upper level English and social science courses.

Transcripts for transfer students must show evidence of classes equal to those required by MCHS before a diploma may be issued.

## REQUIREMENTS “ON-TRACK” STATUS GRADUATION ADVANCEMENT

In order to enable a student to assume responsibility for earning the district’s requirements for graduation, a minimum level of credits must be reached to be considered “on-track” for graduation.

1. To be considered “On-Track” as a sophomore, a student must have earned 6 total credits.
2. To be considered “On-Track” as a junior, a student must have earned 12 total credits.
3. To be considered “On-Track” as a senior, a student must have earned 18 total credits and must have participated in the school day SAT during their junior year.
4. To graduate, a student must earn 24.0 credits.



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If a student is considered “Off-Track” they will be required to develop a plan for recovery with their school counselor and parent. This plan will likely involve required summer school, remediation periods in their schedule, and an elimination of opportunities to take study halls or elective courses.

### MINIMUM CREDIT EXPECTATIONS

The following table represents the minimum credits for full-time student enrollment each semester. Any exceptions to these expectations will need to be approved by the Superintendent or designee.

Grade Level	Required Credit Load
Freshmen	5 Academic and 1.0 PE
Sophomores	5 Academic and 1.0 PE/Health
Juniors	5 Academic and 1.0 PE
Seniors	No less than 4 academic and 1.0 PE

### CREDITS FOR NON-DISTRICT EXPERIENCES

The student must seek approval from the superintendent or designee to receive graduation credit for any non-district course or experience. The Superintendent or designee shall determine the amount of credit and whether a proficiency examination is required before the credit is awarded. As approval is not guaranteed, students should seek conditional approval of the experience before participating in a non-District course or experience. The student assumes responsibility for any fee, tuition, supply, or other expense. The student seeking credit is responsible for (1) providing documents or transcripts that demonstrate successful completion of the experience, and (2) taking a proficiency examination, if requested. The Superintendent or designee shall determine which, if any, non-District courses or experiences, will count toward a student’s grade point average, class rank, and eligibility for athletic and extracurricular activities. This section does not govern the transfer of credits for students transferring into the District.

### PASS-FAIL PROGRAM

This program allows a student the following pass/fail options:

A junior or senior may declare a maximum of one course credit per year on pass-fail if the student still maintains four academic credits on the grading scale and the course selected is not a subject required for graduation. In addition, a student in grades 11-12 may opt to take a required physical education course on pass-fail in grades 11-12. No student may take more than one full credit of pass-fail excluding physical education in a given school year. **Pass-fail grades may be viewed unfavorably by the NCAA eligibility center for students who intend to play intercollegiate athletics.**

#### GENERAL GUIDELINES:

1. Pass-fail must be declared prior to the end of the tenth week of each semester course.
2. All course work must still be completed on the pass-fail program. The advantage is that the letter grade and its effect on class rank and grade point average is removed.
3. “Pass” (P) will be awarded to students who earn a 60% or higher for the semester. Grades below a 60% will appear as





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fail (XF).

### COURSE REPEAT POLICY

1. Students wishing to repeat a course to improve content mastery shall be encouraged to do so. Although the grades earned shall be recorded on the cumulative transcript, the second attempt and grade shall replace the first attempt and the grade in computing the overall grade point average. Only courses taken within the District 156 instructional program shall be utilized for any such replacement. Further, a course that is part of a sequence within a curricular area must be taken for replacement of grade/credit earned prior to a student beginning the next course in the sequence.
2. An approved homebound-tutoring situation shall be treated as a District 156 instructional program.
3. In the case of any courses retaken outside of the District 156 instructional program, such as an approved correspondence program or tutored course, both attempts and grades shall be used to calculate the grade point average subject to the principal's discretion.
4. Students shall be discouraged from taking courses from tutors as the quality of such courses and instruction cannot be controlled.

### SCHEDULE CHANGES

Every effort is made on the part of the administration, counselors, teachers, parents and students to determine the most appropriate courses for students. Courses will be selected which best fulfill the student's needs, interests and capabilities.

1. Once courses are selected, they are placed into the computer and class lists are printed.
2. The teachers in each department examine their specific class lists, making changes determined by the student's ability level.
3. Counselor and student discuss any changes and select appropriate substitute courses.
4. A master schedule is designed with all student requests placed in the computer, resulting in student schedules.
5. Students with courses in conflict with one another or with courses that cannot be offered due to insufficient enrollments are contacted so appropriate changes can be made.
6. A final schedule is developed over the summer in which the student receives prior to the start of school.
7. No student may drop an AP or Honors course after June 1 without consultation with the division chair and principal via level change form process.

Once the final schedule has been printed, schedule changes are strongly discouraged. A student who needs a schedule change for a valid educational reason should request that change from a counselor as soon as possible. No schedule changes or requests for new classes can be made after the fifth day of each semester.

Even though dropping courses is and should be highly discouraged once the semester begins, it is understandable that there are instances when it is in the best interest of the student for a schedule change (course drop) to occur. It is preferable that this procedure be executed with the communication and consent of all parties involved: teacher, students, parents and counselor. No schedule changes or requests for new classes can be made after the fifth day of each semester.

The procedure is as follows:

Following the tenth week second progress report of each semester, any course drop will result in the grade of "WF". The grade will be printed on the report card/transcript and calculated in the Grade Point Average.



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### ZERO HOUR CLASSES

MCHS offers several classes during an additional morning period called Zero Hour. Students who take Zero Hour must agree to arrive at school at the appropriate time and must provide their own transportation to school. Zero Hour is advantageous for students with complex schedules. Students primarily opt to take a Zero Hour course to access a class they could not get into their schedule or to access an additional academic class.

#### **For 2023-2024, MCHS offers the following courses as Zero Hour classes:**

- Physical Education, Fit for Life, or Strength and Conditioning
- Jazz Band
- Jazz Band Ensemble

#### **Zero Hour Class Time:**

**Upper Campus - 6:34am-7:30am**

**Freshman Campus - 6:24am-7:20am**

#### PHYSICAL EDUCATION EXEMPTION POLICY

**All students in grades 9 through 12 must take physical education and are not allowed exemptions or waivers except for the following scenarios:**

1. The student has a medical waiver.
2. The student in grade 11 or 12 provides written evidence from an institution of higher education that a specific course not included in existing state or local school minimum graduation standards is required for admission. School district staff must verify that the student's present and proposed schedule will not permit completion of the needed course, because the student is already at the maximum course load.
3. The student in grade 11 or 12 lacks either sufficient course credit or one or more courses required by state statute or local school board policies for graduation. Students who have failed required courses, transferred into the district with deficient credits or lack credits due to other causes will be eligible to apply for this exemption if they are carrying the maximum course load.

### POST-SECONDARY SCHOOL PLANS

Although MCHS offers only one diploma, students may follow different courses of study in order to meet the requirements for graduation. Courses of study include both college preparatory and technical training. Upon entering and throughout the four years of high school, students should carefully consider post-secondary plans. In terms of technical training, students can choose from registered nursing, computer-aided design, early childhood education, automotive technology, office systems technology, manufacturing technology, and graphic arts. Goals may change so it is best to provide some flexibility in selecting courses. The following information provides directions to be considered for the future:

#### PRE-PLANNED COLLEGE VISITATION OR JOB SHADOWING

Juniors and seniors are allowed two excused absences per year for the purpose of visiting colleges, trade schools or tech schools. Additionally, a junior or senior student may have one excused absence per year for job shadowing at an approved site. Absences for job shadowing or college visits in the second semester are counted toward the five absences allowed for senior final exemption.



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College visitation forms are available in the counseling office and should be completed and returned at least five days prior to the visit. The verification portion of the form must be returned to the attendance office following the college visit.

Job shadowing forms are also available in the counseling office. The guidelines are similar to the college visitation guidelines.

## COLLEGE INFORMATION

High school graduation requirements often differ from college admissions requirements. To meet minimum 4-year college admissions requirements, students are advised to plan course selections using the information below. Students considering specific colleges are strongly urged to research that college's course-based admissions requirements. Course rigor and grades are prominent admissions factors with many 4-year colleges.

1. Two important considerations for most colleges and universities in judging applicants for admissions are subjects studied and grades earned. The grades earned will determine grade point average and class rank.
2. Each student who has a particular college or university in mind is urged to learn about the entrance requirements of that college and university early in his or her high school career. Admission requirements vary for each college, university, technical school, art school, or other post high school institution. Information on many schools is available in the counseling office at each campus.
3. The following courses are required for admission to the majority of colleges and universities throughout the U.S., including Illinois colleges and universities:
  - a. English: 4.0 credits of English courses emphasizing written and oral communication and literature.
  - b. Mathematics: 3.0 credits of which 1.0 Algebra I, 1.0 Geometry, and 1.0 Algebra II are recommended. Highly competitive colleges and/or STEM programs may require 4.0 mathematics credits.
  - c. Science: 3.0 credits, of which 1.0 Biology, 1.0 Chemistry, and 1.0 Physics are recommended. Highly competitive colleges and/or STEM programs may require 4.0 science credits.
  - d. Social Science. Six semesters of social science.
  - e. World Language, Fine Arts or Vocational Education: 2.0 credits of art, world language, music or vocational education. Some colleges require 2.0 world language credits of the same language. Some colleges will allow students who complete 4.0 world language credits of the same language in high school to proficiency out of world language requirements.
4. Most colleges and universities require entrance examinations. The following is a brief description of the college entrance examinations:
5. SAT: All juniors will take the SAT exam in the spring. The state requires that no student can be identified as a senior until the school day SAT has been completed. MCHS will provide an opportunity for students to take the suite of assessments that lead to the SAT. The SAT suite of assessments will gauge college readiness and provide parents, students, and staff with valuable information about each student's skill level with which to make plans for improvement. The SAT consists of a verbal test, mathematical test, and writing test. National test dates are offered several times throughout the year at various nearby locations. Spring test dates make juniors eligible for the Illinois State Scholar Competition.





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6. Additional tests, highly recommended for college preparation, are the PSAT 8/9 and the PSAT/NMSQT.

**PSAT/NMSQT (Preliminary Scholastic Aptitude Test/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test):** This test measures developed verbal and mathematical reasoning abilities that are important for college work. It is offered once each year, and is part of the SAT suite of assessments. All juniors take the test each fall to assess their abilities to do college work and to enter the scholarship programs administered by the National Merit Scholarship Corporation (NMSC).

## NCAA ELIGIBILITY AND CORE COURSES

Potential Student Athletes for NCAA Division I and II colleges:

NCAA requires you to complete a minimum of 16 NCAA-approved core courses while in high school in the following areas: English, Math, Science, Social Science, and World Language. To check the approved core list, visit the NCAA website: [www.eligibilitycenter.org](http://www.eligibilitycenter.org) and enter your high school code number McHenry Community High School: 142830. Check this website regularly as approved courses may change. Athletes need to register with the NCAA Eligibility Center at the beginning of their sophomore year of high school.

Note: Student bulletins, registration information, and test dates are available in the counseling offices at each campus.

### Classes at MCHS that are not approved as a Core Course by the NCAA:

Stagecraft: An Introduction to Technical Theatre  
Musical Theatre  
Intermediate Algebra  
Introduction to Theatre  
Journalism  
Newspaper  
Broadcast Journalism  
Yearbook  
Philosophy of Leadership  
Rhetorical Analysis of the Media  
Transition to College Mathematics



## FINANCIAL AID

### What is Financial Aid?

Financial aid is the combination of resources that supplement the amount that parents and students are able to contribute to meet the costs of college education.

Financial need is determined by subtracting an estimated family contribution from the total cost of an education.

### What various types of Financial Aid are available?

Financial aid comes in various forms that can be categorized as follows:

1. **State and Federal Grants** - For families that qualify financially or for students who achieve high academic standards,



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these monies are granted and are not “paid back.” (PEL Grants, Illinois State Scholarships, MAP Awards)

2. **Federal Loans** - Stafford Loans can be either subsidized or unsubsidized by the Federal Government. When subsidized, students are only responsible for a fraction of the interest rates on such loans.
3. **University Scholarships and Grants** - Monies awarded for academic achievement, leadership, community service, et.al, are awarded by specific universities to qualifying students. Private colleges and universities make significant offers to students as part of the total financial aid package. It is their way of competing with state-supported universities.
4. **Other Scholarships** - Many national, state, and local organizations have scholarship monies available. These are not part of a student’s financial aid package from a college. Most applications can be secured from the high school counseling office.
5. **Work Study** - The Federal Government subsidizes work study programs on campuses. This money is paid directly to the student but is counted as part of the financial aid package.

### Why is the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) a state graduation requirement?

Beginning with the graduating class of 2021, the state of Illinois has made the FAFSA a graduation requirement. Completing the FAFSA can increase the number of students who are able to further their education beyond high school by breaking down financial barriers. The FAFSA can provide students with financial aid and financial resources that would not be possible without completing the application.

### How do we begin the Financial Aid process?

By the beginning of the senior year, students should have their college choices narrowed down to a short list of two to six schools. Students should begin the process by contacting these colleges for a list of their scholarships and grants.

Check with the counseling office for a listing of available local scholarships. Applications for these scholarships begin arriving in October of each year. Many colleges and universities also have their own financial aid application used to supplement the free Federal form. Be sure to ask. All students, regardless of family finances, must complete a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). This form must be completed online at: <http://www.FAFSA.ed.gov> and is available beginning October 1st. These forms cannot be completed until after parents complete their income tax forms; however, McHenry County College (MCC) can give you an estimate of your financial aid. It is recommended that tax forms and the FAFSA be submitted as early as possible. Local scholarships are provided through several school organizations as well as community service clubs, civic clubs, and private organizations.

Special interest groups such as professional organizations, trade unions, large firms, national associations, religious groups, etc., provide scholarship monies. These scholarships are advertised throughout the year through bulletins from the counseling offices at both campuses. For additional scholarships that may be available, check with employers, clergy, unions or any organizations.

## OTHER EDUCATIONAL OPTIONS

If a student is unsure about the investment of time and/or money needed to pursue a four-year college education, other options might be explored. Community colleges offer students a variety of educational options. Many students go to community colleges pursuing education that will lead to a satisfying career.

Some directions one might wish to pursue at MCC are:



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### TRANSFER EDUCATION

The students who attend MCC can earn credits that may transfer to a four-year college or university. MCC offers a wide range of programs designed to prepare students for completion of a four-year bachelor's degree.

The Associate of Arts is a two-year degree for students desiring to pursue a bachelor's degree in one of the following areas of study:

- Arts and Sciences (General)
- Communications
- Education
- Humanities
- Social Science

The Associate of Science is a two-year degree for students desiring to pursue a bachelor's degree in one of the following areas of study:

- Business
- Engineering
- Pre-Medicine
- Natural Sciences
- Mathematics

Classes in these programs parallel those offered in the first two years of a four-year institution. A student formally completing a two-year degree may transfer to a college or university, entering as a junior. For specific information on courses transferable to programs at a specific college or university, students should consult a counselor at MCC.

### CAREER and TECHNICAL EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS

#### *GENERAL REQUIREMENTS FOR ALL ASSOCIATE OF APPLIED SCIENCE DEGREE PROGRAMS AND CERTIFICATE OF COMPLETION PROGRAMS*

Each program is primarily designed to prepare a student for entry-level employment in the occupation with which the curriculum is associated. These programs can be completed in two years or less, by students who attend full-time.

While designed primarily for direct employment, the career and technical education programs are not necessarily "terminal." A student, completing an Associate of Applied Science Degree Program and decides to pursue further study at a four-year college or university, should refer to that institution's catalog for the baccalaureate degree requirements in a particular field of interest. Many institutions have developed "capstone" programs for students who wish to continue studying after completing a career and technical education program at a community college. A counselor at MCC can assist students desiring the necessary information.

Some of the career and technical education programs offered at MCC are focused primarily upon skill development and culminate in a Certificate of Completion. Others are designed as degree programs which combine skill development, the acquisition of related theory, and general education. MCC offers many career and technical education degrees and/or certificate programs. For more details visit MCC's website at <https://www.mchenry.edu/>.





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McHenry Community High School and McHenry County College partner together to offer students several ways to earn college credit while in high school.

## Articulated Credit

Articulated college credit through MCC is awarded to students who complete a MCHS specific course and who enroll in an approved Certification or Associate of Applied Science degree at MCC.

MCHS	MCC Course(s)/ Credits
Automobile Service I & Automotive Diagnostics (2.0 credits, taken over two school years)	AMT 100 Principles of Automotive Tech (4 Credits)  <i>Qualifying MCC programs:</i> Automotive Technology Associate of Applied Science Degree
Child Development & Preschool Lab (1.5 credits, taken over two school years)	ECE 290 Topics in Early Childhood Education (3 Credits)  <i>Qualifying MCC programs:</i> Early Childhood Education - 12 Hour Certificate Early Childhood Education - 30 Hour Certificate Early Childhood Associate of Applied Science Degree
Transitions to College Mathematics (1.0 credit)	Articulated Credit as determined by each college
College & Career Writing (0.5 credit)	Articulated Credit as determined by each college

## Dual Enrollment

Students completing Dual Enrollment courses receive both MCHS high school credit and college credit earned through MCC. College credit may transfer to 4-year colleges/universities, depending on each institution's transfer credit policies. We recommend contacting the admissions offices of 4-year schools a student may be interested in to see if credit transfers to that school. Dual Enrollment courses are offered at MCC's facilities. Students must arrange for their own transportation and must pay MCC's tuition, fees, and other course expenses.

MCHS	MCC Course(s)/ Credits
Dual Credit MCC Basic Nurse Assistant (1.0 credit)	NAE 100 Basic Nursing Assistant (7 credits)
Dual Credit MCC Criminal Justice (1.0 credit)	FRS 100 Introduction to Emergency Services (2 credits) EMS 105 First Responder Emergency Aid (3 credits) CJS 101 Introduction to Criminal Justice (3 credits) CJS 290 Topics in Criminal Justice (2 credits)
Dual Credit MCC Fire Science (1.0 credit)	FRS 100 Introduction to Emergency Services (2 credits) EMS 105 First Responder Emergency Aid (3 credits) FRS 101 Introduction to Fire Science (3 credits) FRS 250 Fire Science Internship (2 credits)
Heating, Ventilation, & Air Conditioning/HVAC (1.0 credit)	HVA 101 Introduction to Refrigeration (4 credits) HVA 114 HVAC Codes (2 credits) HVA 112 EPA Section 608 Certification (2 credits)



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### Dual Credit

Students completing Dual Credit courses receive both MCHS high school credit and college credit earned through MCC. College credit may transfer to 4-year colleges/universities, depending on each institution's transfer credit policies. We recommend contacting the admissions offices of 4-year schools a student may be interested in to see if credit transfers to that school. Dual Credit courses are offered at MCHS and are taught by Dual Credit-credentialed MCHS teachers. Students will be responsible to pay a small course fee established annually by MCC.

MCHS	MCC Course(s)/ Credits
Honors Dual Credit Accounting II (1.0 credit)	ACC 110 Basic Accounting (3 credits)*
Honors Dual Credit Business INCubator (1.0 credit)	BUS 160 Introduction to Entrepreneurship (3 credits)
Honors Dual Credit Calculus and Analytic Geometry III (1.0 credit)	MAT 255 Calculus with Analytic Geometry III (4 cr.)
Honors Dual Credit Chemistry (1.0 credit)	CHM 164 Introductory Chemistry (4 credits)
Dual Credit College Algebra w/ Trigonometry (1.0 credit)	MAT 165 College Algebra w/ Trigonometry (5 credits)
Honors Dual Credit College Composition I (0.5 credit)	ENG 151 Composition I (3 credits)
Honors Dual Credit College Composition II (0.5 credit)	ENG 152 Composition II (3 credits)
Dual Credit Computer Literacy (0.5 credit)	CDM 110 Computer Literacy for Windows (3 credits)
Honors Dual Credit French III (1.0 credit)	FRE 151 Elementary French I (4 credits) FRE 152 Elementary French II (4 credits)
Honors Dual Credit French IV (1.0 credit)	FRE 251 Intermediate French I (4 credits) FRE 252 Intermediate French II (4 credits)
Dual Credit General Education Statistics (1.0 credit)	MAT 120 General Education Statistics (3 credits)
Honors Dual Credit German III (1.0 credit)	GER 151 Elementary German I (4 credits) GER 152 Elementary German II (4 credits)
Honors Dual Credit German IV (1.0 credit)	GER 251 Intermediate German I (4 credits) GER 252 Intermediate German II (4 credits)
Dual Credit Manufacturing I (1.0 credit)	IMT 105 Introduction to Manual Machining (3 credits)
Dual Credit Manufacturing II (1.0 credit)	IMT 106 Manual Machining (3 credits)
Dual Credit Metals I (0.5 credit)	IMT 100 Introduction to Manufacturing (3 credits)
Dual Credit Teaching as a Profession II (0.5 credit)	EDU 251 Introduction to Education (3 credits)
Honors Dual Credit Speech (0.5 credit)	SPE 151 Introduction to Speech (3 credits)
Honors Dual Credit United States History (1.0 credit)	HIST 170 U.S. History I (3 credits) HIST 172 U.S. History II (3 credits)



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### **CAREER and TECHNICAL EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS WITH OTHER COMMUNITY COLLEGES**

While MCC offers many programs designed to prepare individuals for career employment, it is not possible for the college to offer on its campus every type of program that might be desired by residents of the college district. Therefore, in order to offer to its district residents those programs not available at MCC, joint educational agreements have been made with the following area schools:

- College of Lake County
- Elgin Community College
- Kishwaukee College
- Rock Valley College
- William Rainey Harper College
- Triton College

A current MCC catalog will indicate the numerous courses listed in this joint agreement program.

### **APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAMS**

Apprenticeship is an employer's training program that includes on-the-job training and related classroom work to prepare a person for a specific skilled trade. Apprenticeship is based upon a written agreement between the apprentice and the employer. In an apprenticeship, the worker learns a skilled craft or trade while working, usually for a period of one or more years of on-the-job training.

Requirements for apprenticeships vary somewhat from place to place and skill union to skill union. Some trades require a high school diploma or its equivalent, while others do not. An entrance test is usually required. Applicants must be able to work with head and hands, demonstrating both the academic and the physical abilities necessary for performing the work of the trade. In addition, general skill competencies in the areas of English usage, mathematics, reading, and study skills are assumed.

Apprenticeship programs for carpenters, machinists, tool and die makers and mold makers are offered by MCC in conjunction with community industries and training associations. Further information is available at MCC.

### **MCHENRY COUNTY COOPERATIVE FOR EMPLOYMENT EDUCATION (MCCEE)**

In order for all students in McHenry County to have equal opportunity to participate in the variety of occupational programs offered at the various high schools and/or training facilities in the county, the CEE has been formed. The CEE member schools are all high schools in McHenry County with linkages to community colleges. This program will assist local districts in offering new and improved and more diversified vocational/employment educational experience for students.





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## BLENDED AND DIGITAL LEARNING COURSES

As part of the Vision 156 Innovation Plan, MCHS has developed a series of blended learning courses to enhance instructional delivery options for our students and teachers. MCHS believes that blended learning methods can meet the needs of our learners and improve the efficiency of learning time in and outside of the classroom.

Blended learning can be defined as a combination of in class, face-to-face instruction and out of class digital activities where students have some control over the time, place, path, and pace of their learning.

Students will be exposed to many blended teaching methods throughout most of our standard courses at MCHS in grades 10-12. When students are allowed to learn outside of the classroom and in other parts of the building, this is called “flexing”. MCHS provides in class certification activities so that both students and teachers can learn how to best use “flex” strategies. If students and teachers meet the criteria for certification- flexing can occur on select days throughout the building.

Benefits of the blended learning methods for the student and teacher include:

- Increased student motivation for learning
- Student-centered learning
- Independent learning skills
- Time management and prioritization skills
- Flexible scheduling based on content/student needs
- Enhanced communication skills
- Differentiated learning and additional time for teachers with struggling students

MCHS currently has one completely digital course option, Digital Consumer Education for seniors. Senior students who meet the academic criteria may apply to take this course digitally. The course will not occupy a period of their schedule and they may select an additional elective in its place. Students will work through the course in Schoology and correspond with the teacher outside of school hours. Students meet twice in person to take the midterm and final examinations.

For more information on Blended Learning in District 156, please visit the following link:

[Blended Learning Website](#)



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**SUMMER SCHOOL**  
GROWING FORWARD

## PHILOSOPHY OF SUMMER SCHOOL

MCHS seeks to offer a vibrant offering of courses during the summer for students to serve two basic ends: remediation and enrichment. In today’s world, college and career readiness is paramount and summer school attendance can be a major component for a high percentage of MCHS students to meet these ends. Annually, several hundred students enroll to complete required courses to make room in their schedules for more rigorous courses or electives they are interested in.

Students who need to recover credit or remediate skill deficiencies are also prime candidates for summer school. It is the expectation of our district that all students who fail math and English should be enrolled in summer school to recover the credit, remediate their missing skills, and be able to move on during the following school year. A primary focus of this skill remediation will be Algebra 1, geometry, and all English courses.

### MCHS Summer School “Get Ahead Program”

Students are encouraged to consider “getting ahead” of grade level requirements by taking certain courses to free up space in their schedules to explore other electives and programs. Each summer the following courses are available for the following grade levels.

Entering 9th Grade	Entering 10th Grade	Entering 11th Grade	Entering 12th Grade
Health *Students who take Health in the summer can replace Health during their 10th grade year with another elective instead of PE.  Issues of the 21st Century  Spanish I	Revolutions Throughout History  Health	Government and Civics  Consumer Education	Government and Civics  Consumer Education

### Other Course Offerings for Remediation and Elective Purposes:

Math Enrichment      CR: Math                      CR: Blended Biology      CR: English  
  
CR: Chemistry

Other courses vary by demand and design.

[Summer School Website](#)



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## MCHS COURSES OFFERED GRADES 9-12

Below is a listing of all courses offered, by subject area, at McHenry High School District 156. More detailed course descriptions are outlined on the following pages.

0 1 year or 1 semester, No Credits + ½ or 1 Credit ++ 1 Year 2 Credits, or 1 Semester 1 Credit * Denotes a Distinguished Warrior Capstone Course	T- Traditional Course B- Blended Course D- Digital Course
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### DIVISION OF MATH

MATHEMATICS CURRICULUM	S	B	D	9	10	11	12	Cr.
Algebra Academy	S			X				1
Algebra I (EHC)	S			X				1
Algebra II	S				X	X		1
Honors Algebra II	S			X	X	X		1
Honors Geometry	S			X	X			1
Geometry	S				X			1
Intermediate Algebra	S					X	X	1
Transition to College Mathematics * (Articulated credit with MCC)	S						X	1
Dual Credit College Algebra with Trigonometry/MAT 165*	S					X	X	1
Honors Pre-Calculus *	S				X	X	X	1
Dual Credit General Education Statistics/MAT 120*	S					X	X	1
Advanced Placement Calculus AB*	S					X	X	1
Advanced Placement Calculus BC*	S					X	X	1
Advanced Placement Calculus Statistics*	S					X	X	1
Honors Dual Credit Calculus and Analytic Geometry III/MAT 255*	S					X	X	1

### DIVISION OF SCIENCE

SCIENCE CURRICULUM	S	B	D	9	10	11	12	Cr.
Honors Biology	S			X				1
Biology	S			X	X	X		1
Earth Science	S					X	X	½
Astronomy	S					X	X	½
Honors Chemistry/ MCC 164	S				X			1
Honors Chemistry	S				X			1
Chemistry	S				X			1
Physics	S					X	X	1
Forensics	S					X	X	½
Advanced Placement Biology *	S					X	X	1
Advanced Placement Chemistry *	S					X	X	1
Advanced Placement Physics I *	S					X	X	1
Advanced Placement Physics II *	S					X	X	1



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Advanced Placement Environmental Science *	S					X	X	1
Honors Principles of Biomedical Science (PLTW)	S			X	X	X	X	1
Honors Human Body Systems (PLTW)	S				X	X	X	1
Honors Medical Interventions (PLTW) *	S					X	X	1
Honors Biomedical Innovations (PLTW)* <b>Biomed Block</b>		B					X	1
Biomedical Experiences (EHC) * <b>Biomed Block</b>		B					X	½

### DIVISION OF ENGLISH

ENGLISH CURRICULUM	S	B	D	9	10	11	12	Cr.
Honors English I	S			X				1
English I	S			X				1
Honors English II	S				X			1
English II	S				X			1
English III	S					X		1
English IV	S						X	½
Creative Writing	S					X	X	½
Journalism	S			X	X	X	X	½
Newspaper	S				X	X	X	1
Broadcast Journalism	S				X	X	X	½
Yearbook	S				X	X	X	1
Honors Dual Credit Speech *	S					X	X	½
Honors College Composition/English 151 *	S						X	½
Honors College Composition/English 152 *	S						X	½
Honors American Studies English	S					X		1
Rhetorical Analysis of Media	S					X	X	½
Advanced Placement Language and Composition *	S					X		1
Advanced Placement Literature and Composition *	S						X	1
College and Career Writing *	S						X	½
Writing and Publishing	S					X	X	½

### DIVISION OF SOCIAL SCIENCE

SOCIAL SCIENCE CURRICULUM	S	B	D	9	10	11	12	Cr.
Issues of the 21st Century	S			X				½
Advanced Placement Human Geography *	S			X				1
Revolutions Throughout History	S				X			½
Advanced Placement World History *	S				X			1
U.S. History	S					X		1





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Honors American Studies U.S. History	S					X		1
Honors Dual Credit U.S. History	S					X		1
Advanced Placement U.S. History *	S					X		1
Government and Civics	S						X	½
Advanced Placement U.S. Government and Politics	S						X	1
Youth and the Law	S				X	X	X	½
Economics	S				X	X	X	½
Philosophy of Leadership	S			X	X	X	X	½
Sociology	S				X	X	X	½
Psychology in the World Today	S				X	X	X	½
Advanced Placement Psychology *	S				X	X	X	1
Leadership in Action (EHC)		B					X	1
Social Science Internship		B					X	½

### DIVISION OF FINE ARTS & WORLD LANGUAGE

ART CURRICULUM	S	B	D	9	10	11	12	Cr.
Art & Design I	S			X	X	X	X	½
Art & Design II	S				X	X	X	½
Drawing & Painting I	S				X	X	X	½
Drawing & Painting II	S				X	X	X	½
Ceramics & Sculpture I	S				X	X	X	½
Ceramics & Sculpture II	S				X	X	X	½
Photography I	S			X	X	X	X	½
Photography II	S				X	X	X	½
Advanced Placement Studio Art Portfolio - AP Drawing, AP 2D Art & Design, AP 3D Art & Design*		B				X	X	1
Honors Studio Art Portfolio*		B				X	X	1
Independent Studio Art		B				X	X	1
MUSIC CURRICULUM	S	B	D	9	10	11	12	CR.
Jazz Band (Zero Hour) (EHC)		B		X	X	X	X	1
Jazz Ensemble (Zero Hour) (EHC)		B		X	X	X	X	1
Concert Band (EHC)	S			X				1
Symphonic Band (EHC)	S				X	X	X	1
Percussion (EHC)	S				X	X	X	1
Wind Ensemble (EHC)	S				X	X	X	1
Freshman Choir^	S			X				+
Cadet Choir ^	S				X	X	X	+
Concert Choir		B			X	X	X	1
Surround Sound	S				X	X	X	1



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Music Technology and Production	S				X	X	X	½
Introduction to Music Theory	S				X	X	X	½
Advanced Placement Music Theory *	S				X	X	X	1
Guitar I	S				X	X	X	½
Guitar II Ensemble	S				X	X	X	½
<b>THEATRE PATHWAY</b>	S	B	D	9	10	11	12	Cr.
Introduction to Theatre	S			X	X	X	X	½
Stagecraft: An Introduction to Technical Theatre	S				X	X	X	½
Fundamentals of Acting	S				X	X	X	½
Musical Theatre	S				X	X	X	½
Scene Study	S				X	X	X	½
<b>WORLD LANGUAGE CURRICULUM</b>	S	B	D	9	10	11	12	CR.
French I	S			X	X	X	X	1
French II	S				X	X	X	1
Honors Dual Credit French III/French 151 and 152 (Dual Credit at MCHS & MCC)	S					X	X	1
Honors Dual Credit French IV/French 251 and 252 * (Dual Credit at MCHS & MCC)	S						X	1
German I	S			X	X	X	X	1
German II	S				X	X	X	1
Honors Dual Credit German III/German 151 and 152 (Dual Credit at MCHS & MCC)	S					X	X	1
Honors Dual Credit German IV/German 251 and 252 * (Dual Credit at MCHS & MCC)	S						X	1
Spanish I	S			X	X	X	X	1
Spanish II	S				X	X	X	1
Honors Spanish III	S				X	X	X	1
Honors Spanish IV *	S						X	1
Advanced Placement Spanish Language and Culture *	S						X	1
Spanish for Heritage Learners I	S			X	X	X	X	1
Spanish for Heritage Learners II	S				X	X	X	1
Honors Spanish for Heritage Learners III	S					X	X	1
<b>MULTILINGUAL LEARNERS (ML)</b>	S	B	D	9	10	11	12	CR.
Transitions English	S			X	X	X	X	1
English Lab for Multilinguals (ELM)	S			X	X	X	X	1



# McHenry Community High School District 156

## Course Guide 2024-2025

### DIVISION OF CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION (CTE)

BUSINESS EDUCATION CURRICULUM								
	S	B	D	9	10	11	12	Cr.
Introduction to Business	S			X	X	X	X	½
Accounting I	S				X	X	X	1
Marketing	S				X	X	X	½
Honors Accounting II ** / ACC110	S					X	X	1
Business Management	S				X	X	X	½
Honors INCubatoredu * ** / BUS160	S					X	X	1
Computer Literacy / CDM110	S			X	X	X	X	½
Consumer Education	S		D				X	½
Practicum in Technical Careers *	S						X	++
** One Year of Business Elective required.								
FAMILY AND CONSUMER SCIENCE (FACS) CURRICULUM								
	S	B	D	9	10	11	12	Cr.
Culinary I	S			X	X	X		½
Culinary II	S				X	X	X	½
Baking and Pastry	S				X	X	X	½
Warrior Chef * **	S					X	X	1
Child Development	S			X	X	X	X	½
Preschool Lab *	S				X	X	X	1
Seminar in Child Care	S						X	+
Independent Living	S					X	X	1
Teaching as a Profession (TAP) I	S					X	X	½
Teaching as a Profession (TAP) II/EDU 251	S					X	X	½
Practicum in Education	S						X	++
** Must take Cullinary II and Baking and Pastry before taking Warrior Chef								
INDUSTRIAL & APPLIED TECHNOLOGY CURRICULUM								
	S	B	D	9	10	11	12	Cr.
Power Mechanics	S			X				½
Automobile Service I	S				X	X	X	1
Automotive Diagnostics *	S					X	X	1
Advanced Automotive Diagnostics	S						X	+
Graphic Communications Design I	S			X	X	X	X	½
Graphic Communications Design II	S				X	X	X	1
Graphic Communications Production *	S					X	X	1
Advanced Graphic Communications Production	S						X	+
Honors Introduction to Computer Science	S			X	X	X	X	½
Honors Computer Science Principles	S				X	X	X	½
Honors Computer Science A	S				X	X	X	1
Honors Advanced Computer Science	S						X	1
Honors Drone Operation and Pilot Training	S					X	X	½
Honors Introduction to Engineering Design (PLTW)	S			X	X	X	X	1



# McHenry Community High School District 156

## Course Guide 2024-2025

Honors Principles of Engineering (PLTW)	S				X	X	X	1
Honors Engineering Design and Development (PLTW) *	S					X	X	1
Metals / IMT100	S			X	X	X	X	½
Manufacturing I / IMT105	S				X	X	X	1
Manufacturing II * / IMT106	S					X	X	1
Seminar in Manufacturing	S						X	+
Woods I	S			X	X	X	X	½
Woods II *	S				X	X	X	1
DIY (Do It Yourself)	S				X	X	X	½
Construction Education *	S				X	X	X	1
Honors Basic Nursing Assistant Program	S						X	1
Practicum in Technical Careers	S						X	++

### DIVISION OF PHYSICAL EDUCATION, HEALTH & DRIVERS EDUCATION

PHYSICAL EDUCATION CURRICULUM	S	B	D	9	10	11	12	Cr.
Freshman PE	S			X				½
Sophomore PE	S				X			½
Team Sports	S					X	X	½
Physical Education, Fitness for Life, OR Strength Conditioning (Zero Hour)	S			X	X	X	X	½
Adaptive Physical Education	S			X	X	X	X	1
Intro to Fitness for Life	S			X				½
Fitness for Life	S				X	X	X	½
Intro to Strength	S			X				1
Strength and Fitness	S				X	X	X	½
Strength and Sport Performance	S				X	X	X	½
Advanced Strength and Sport Performance	S					X	X	½
Intro to Dance	S			X				½
Dance	S				X	X	X	½
Advanced Dance	S				X	X	X	1
Swimming Basics	S				X	X	X	½
Lifeguard Training	S				X	X	X	½
Aquatic Fitness Course	S				X	X	X	½
Adventure Education	S					X	X	1
Junior Leadership Training *	S					X		1
Senior Leadership Training *	S						X	1
Drivers Education	S				X	X	X	½
Health Education	S				X			½





# McHenry Community High School District 156 Course Guide 2024-2025

## DEPARTMENT OF SPECIAL EDUCATION

SPECIAL EDUCATION CURRICULUM	T	B	D	9	10	11	12	Cr.
Reading (Elective credit only)	T			X	X	X	X	1
General Math with Geometry Concepts	T			X				1
Algebra I-A	T			X	X	X		1
Algebra I-B	T			X				1
Pre-Algebra	T			X	X	X	X	1
Self-Awareness	T			X	X	X	X	½
Strategies for Learning	T				X	X	X	½

## NON-DEPARTMENTAL COURSE OFFERINGS

OTHER ELECTIVES	T	B	D	9	10	11	12	Cr.
AVID 9 (Advancement Via Individual Determination)	T			X				½
AVID 10 (Advancement Via Individual Determination)	T				X			½
Junior College and Career Seminar		B				X		½

COMMUNITY SERVICE CURRICULUM	S	B	D	9	10	11	12	Cr.
Warrior Opportunities for In-school Service (non-credit)	S				X	X	X	0
Teacher Assistant in Education and Technical Careers	S				X	X	X	+
Practicum in Education or Technical Careers *	S						X	++
DUEL CREDIT COURSES	S	B	D	9	10	11	12	Cr.
Honors Dual Credit Accounting II	S					X	X	1
Basic Nurse Assistant *	S						X	1
Honors Chemistry/ Chem 164	S							
Honors Dual Credit Speech*	S					X	X	½
Honors College Composition/English 151 *	S						X	½
Honors College Composition/English 152 *	S						X	½
Fire Science, Emergency Medical Service, Criminal Justice *	S						X	1
Fitness Instruction Training *	S					X	X	2
Culinary Management *	S					X	X	2
Computer Literacy	S			X	X	X	X	½
Honors INCubatoredu *	S					X	X	½
Metals / IMT 100	S			X	X	X	X	½
Manufacturing I / 105	S				X	X	X	1
Manufacturing II / 106	S					X	X	1
Dual Credit Teaching as a Profession II/EDU 251	S					X	X	½
Honors Dual Credit French IV/French 151 and 152*	S					X	X	1
Honors Dual Credit German IV/German 151 and 152*	S					X	X	1
Honors Dual Credit French IV/French 251 and 252*	S						X	1
Honors Dual Credit German IV/German 251 and 252*	S						X	1
Honors Dual Credit United States History	S					X		1



# McHenry Community High School District 156 Course Guide 2024-2025

## INDEX TO COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

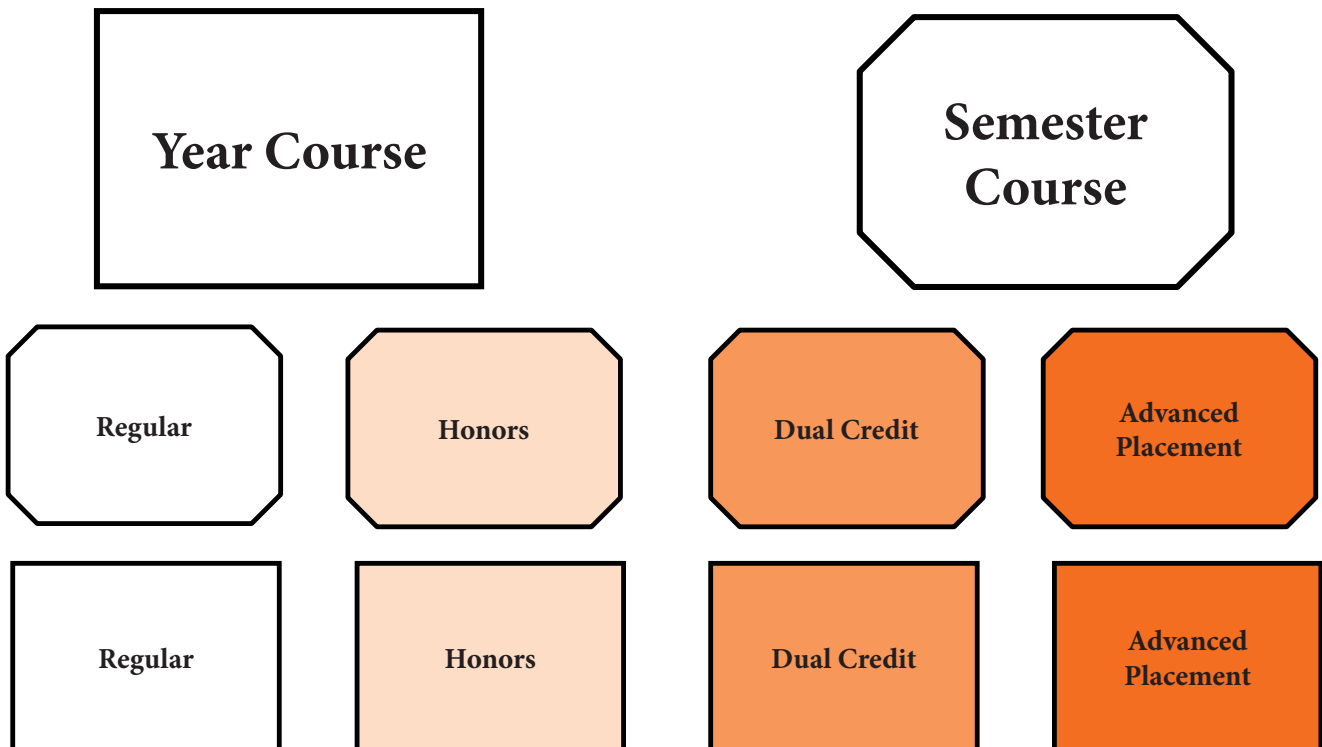
**SCHOOL YEAR AND SEMESTER** - Each semester consists of an eighteen-week grading period. During these grading periods, grades will be posted and updates will occur via the district online grade book (Parent Portal).

**UNIT OF CREDIT** - The measure of school credit used at MCHS. A student will receive one unit of credit for successfully completing one full year of work in an academic course. For a semester, a student will receive one-half unit of credit.

**PREREQUISITE** - A requirement that must be met before a student may be permitted to enroll in a course. For example: Spanish I is a prerequisite for Spanish II.

**SEQUENCES OF COURSES** - Possible courses that a student might take to reach a specific career goal, or courses in a specific MCHS curricular area that a student, depending on his or her ability, might take throughout high school. It is the intent of the educational program at MCHS, that students will progress through the sequences of courses in order and with continuity, especially in core areas.

With regard to the course sequence charts found on the following pages, the symbols used for year-long and semester-long courses are:





# McHenry Community High School District 156 Course Guide 2024-2025

## NON-DEPARTMENTAL COURSE OFFERINGS

Other Electives:

AVID 9  
11

AVID 10  
11

Junior College and  
Career Seminar  
11

### AVID 9 (Advancement Via Individual Determination)

**1 Year 1 Credit**

**Prerequisite: Freshman standing and admission via application process**

AVID 9 is a two semester course that establishes students' foundation in the college prep strategies that represent the backbone of AVID. Students work to master the Cornell notetaking method, understand and use Costa's Levels of Thinking and Questioning, and become effective collaborators in peer tutorials. Beyond learning the basic study and learning strategies of AVID, students in AVID 9 begin general college research and awareness activities. They also start building their college and career resumes. Students in AVID 9 engage in personal writing to begin anticipating the college application and scholarship essays that they will write later in their high school careers. They also start exploring their personal academic strengths and areas of growth needed as they prepare to improve on the PSAT9.



### AVID 10 (Advancement Via Individual Determination)

**1 Year 1 Credit**

**Prerequisite: Sophomore standing, AVID 9, or admission via application process**

AVID 10 is a two semester course that establishes students' foundation in the college prep strategies that represent the backbone of AVID. Students work to master the Cornell notetaking method, understand and use Costa's Levels of Thinking and Questioning, and become effective collaborators in peer tutorials. Beyond the application of the study and learning strategies of AVID, students in AVID 10 will emphasize development of the student success skills necessary for future success. AVID 10 will be a vital support for the transition to the Upper Campus as students gain more exposure to rigorous coursework. Career and college speakers and field experiences will also be utilized.

### JUNIOR COLLEGE AND CAREER SEMINAR

**1 Semester 1/2 Credit**

**Prerequisite: Junior standing.**

Prerequisite: All Juniors take at least one semester unless seven classes are taken

This course will be a semester-long blended course that juniors will take as Pass/Audit for 0.5 credit. This seminar is taken in conjunction with a study hall or open period. The seminar will be primarily project based with some instruction. Instruction will revolve around SAT prep and test taking techniques. The projects will be focused on career and college exploration. Students will learn how to complete resumes, job applications, college applications, and FAFSA applications. They will also do two research projects, one about colleges and one about careers. Additionally, students will be working on their post-secondary plan by using the guidelines outlined in the MCHS post-secondary framework, "Framing Your Future". Goal setting and Khan Academy prep work will also be an integral component of the course.



# McHenry Community High School District 156 Course Guide 2024-2025

## DIVISION OF MATH

Algebra Academy 9	Algebra I with EHC 9	
	Geometry 10	Honors Geometry 9, 10
Intermediate Algebra 11, 12	Algebra II 11, 12	Honors Algebra II 9, 10, 11
Transition to College Math 12	College Algebra with Trigonometry 11, 12	Honors Pre-Calculus 10, 11, 12
DC College Algebra with Trigonometry 11, 12	DC Statistics 11, 12	AP Statistics 11, 12
AP Calculus AB 11, 12	AP Calculus BC 11, 12	DC Calculus III 11, 12





# McHenry Community High School District 156

## Course Guide 2024-2025

### MATH

#### **ENRICHMENT IN HIGH SCHOOL MATH**

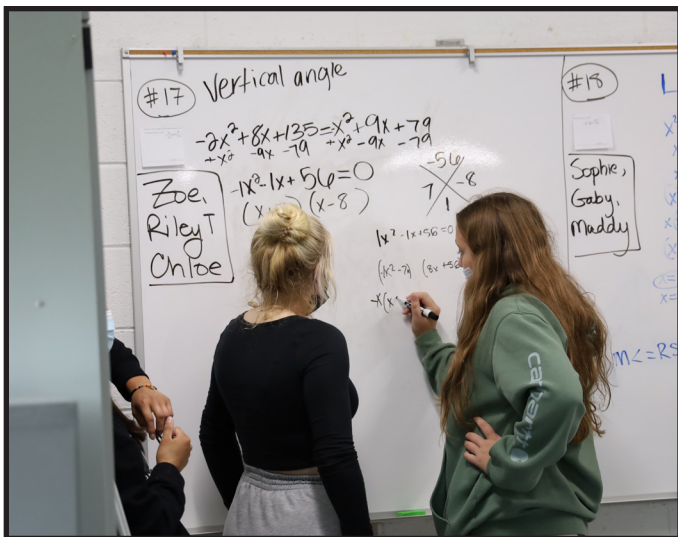
**(SUMMER ONLY)**

**1 Semester 1/4 Credit**

**Prerequisite: None**

Enrichment in High School Math is a summer school course designed for all students who may need additional exposure to math concepts. Students will engage with the computer application ALEKS several days a week to advance and complete their course “pie.” They will also have the opportunity to work with math teachers individually and in small groups. As the students complete the “pie” for their course, they can advance to the next course in the sequence. The ALEKS program license will be available for the individual students throughout the following school year as a supportive tool and foundation of learning in subsequent coursework.

**Graphing calculator required: TI-83 or TI-84**



#### **ALGEBRA I (EARNED HONORS CREDIT - EHC)**

**1 Year 1 Credit**

**Prerequisite: Consent of High School Division Chair per uniform placement process**

In Algebra I, students will study the structure of mathematics and the methods for working with signed

numbers, equations, inequalities, polynomials, factoring, graphs, radicals, and applications of algebra. Algebra is required for graduation in Illinois and MCHS believes that it is a foundation for future success in mathematics courses for all students. Daily written assignments to be completed outside of class will be required of all students. All students also have the opportunity to earn honors credit by completing enrichment modules and advanced assessment items.

**Graphing calculator required: TI-83 or TI-84**

#### **ALGEBRA ACADEMY**

**1 Year 1 Credit**

**Prerequisite: Consent of High School Division Chair per uniform placement process**

**Prerequisite: Consent of High School Division Chair per uniform placement process**

Students who are identified as needing extra support to be successful in Algebra 1 will be placed into Algebra Academy as an elective credit, as well as enrolled in Algebra 1 w/ EHC. Students will work on skills that are prerequisite to Algebra 1 as they are learning Algebra 1. Pre-assessments will be utilized to identify students’ growth opportunities, and an online program will be used to supplement and track student growth through the year.

**Graphing calculator required: TI-83 or TI-84**

#### **ALGEBRA II**

**1 Year 1 Credit**

**Prerequisite: Successful completion of Honors Geometry or Geometry, a grade of B or higher in Intermediate Algebra. Grade of C or higher in Algebra I is highly recommended.**

All topics covered initially in Algebra I are reviewed and studied in depth. Some of advanced study and application include linear equations and inequalities; linear systems and matrices; quadratic functions and factoring; polynomials; rational exponents and radical functions; logarithms; quadratic relations and conic sections; data analysis and statistics; sequences and series; trig ratios, functions, graphs, identities, and equations. The student will, in general, need to spend at least as much time outside of class as scheduled class time to meet the requirements of the course.

**Graphing calculator required: TI-83 or TI-84**

**[Return to Course Selection](#)**



# McHenry Community High School District 156

## Course Guide 2024-2025

### MATH

#### **HONORS ALGEBRA II** 1 Year 1 Credit

**Prerequisite:** Successful completion of Honors Geometry or Geometry, a grade of B or higher in Intermediate Algebra. Grade of C or higher in Algebra I is highly recommended.

This course is intended for sophomore students with a strong interest and aptitude in mathematics. Students in this level are encouraged to take four years of math, including Calculus. All topics in Algebra I are reviewed and studied in depth. Additional areas of study include the complex number system, quadratic functions, systems of equations, logarithms, and conic sections. Although many of the same topics as Algebra II will be covered, this course is intended to be more rigorous and will examine topics in greater depth. Students are expected to have excellent homework habits since time on coursework outside of class will equal or exceed the time spent in class.

**Graphing calculator required: TI-83 or TI-84**

#### **HONORS GEOMETRY** 1 Year 1 Credit

**Prerequisite:** Consent of High School Division Chair per uniform placement process. Grade of A in MCHS Algebra I or grade of B or higher in Honors Algebra I.

This course is a geometry course for freshmen students with a strong interest and aptitude in mathematics. Students in this level are encouraged to take four years of math, including Calculus. Although many of the same topics as Geometry will be covered, this course is intended to be more rigorous and will examine the topics in greater depth. Daily written assignments will be required of all students. Because of the nature of the course, students should expect to spend a considerable amount of time outside of class on assignments.

**Graphing calculator required: TI-83 or TI-84**

#### **GEOMETRY** 1 Year 1 Credit

**Prerequisite:** Successful completion of Algebra I or Honors Algebra I

Geometry develops the techniques of logical thinking, an awareness of the geometric aspects of our environments, and insight into many of the types of problems found on college entrance exams. This course

is designed for, but not limited to, students planning to attend college or a career requiring knowledge of geometry. Students will study the properties of lines and segments, angles, triangles, circles, and polygons as well as review the concepts developed in Algebra I. Daily written assignments will be required of all students. Because of the nature of the course, students should expect to spend a considerable amount of time outside of class on assignments.

**Students may be requested to purchase some geometry supplies. Graphing calculator required: TI-83 or TI-84**

#### **INTERMEDIATE ALGEBRA** 1 Year 1 Credit

**Prerequisite:** Grade of D in Algebra I and Senior standing. This course does not qualify as a core course for the purposes of NCAA eligibility.

The focus of this course will be building on Algebra I skills and preparing students to find success in post-secondary mathematics. Topics will include solving and graphing linear equations, systems of equations, quadratic equations, absolute value, and inequalities with an introduction to radicals, exponents and probability. This course will count as a math credit, but will not be NCAA eligible. Daily written assignments to be completed outside of class will be required of all students.

**Graphing calculator required: TI-83 or TI-84**

#### **TRANSITION TO COLLEGE MATHEMATICS (ARTICULATED CREDIT WITH MCC)**

**1 Year 1 Credit**  
**Prerequisite:** Senior standing, must have earned credit in Algebra I, Geometry, and Algebra II. This course does not qualify as a core course for the purposes of NCAA eligibility.

This course will fulfill the requirements for the articulation agreement with MCC. Students who take this course and pass with a "C" or better will be allowed to enroll in any 100 level course available to them if they meet the requirements established by MCC. The first portion of this course will cover operations and applications dealing with integers, linear equations, ratios, proportions, exponents, polynomials, factoring,



# McHenry Community High School District 156

## Course Guide 2024-2025

### MATH

graphing linear equations, graphing linear inequalities, and solving linear systems. The remainder of the course will cover problem solving, factoring, rational expressions, graphing, rational exponents, radicals, logarithms, and quadratic equations. At least 25% of the course will consist of real world application projects and assessments. All students will take the same semester exams as given to MCC students in the equivalent courses.

**Graphing calculator required: TI-83 or TI-84**

**ALL STUDENTS WILL TAKE SEMESTER FINALS FOR THIS COURSE. NO ONE IS EXEMPT FROM FINALS IN THIS COURSE. This exam must count at least 15% of their final semester grade. This exam is provided by MCC to be administered by District 156.**

#### COLLEGE ALGEBRA WITH TRIGONOMETRY

**1 Year 1 Credit**

**Prerequisite: Senior standing with a grade of C or higher in Algebra I, Geometry and Algebra II OR Junior standing with successful completion of Honors Geometry and Honors Algebra II**

This course covers equations and inequalities, exponential functions, logarithmic functions, trigonometric functions, solutions of triangles, trigonometric identities, graphs, and various topics in geometry.

**Graphing calculator required: TI-83 or TI-84**



#### DUAL CREDIT COLLEGE ALGEBRA with TRIGONOMETRY / MCC MAT 165

**1 Year 1 Credit 5 MCC Credits**

**Prerequisite: Successful completion of Honors Algebra 2 or Algebra 2 (C or higher both semesters).**

College Algebra and Trigonometry covers equations and inequalities, exponential and logarithmic functions, trigonometric functions, solution of triangles, identities, graphs, and topics in analytic geometry.

**Graphing calculator required: TI-83 or TI-84**

#### HONORS PRE-CALCULUS **1 Year 1 Credit**

**Prerequisite: Grade of C or higher in Honors Algebra II**

This course is designed for students who wish to complete their preparation for Calculus. Students will review the topics covered in Algebra II and review these topics in greater depth. Additional topics from Pre-Calculus and basic Calculus will be covered, which include sequences and series, limits, rational functions. Upon completion of this course, a student should be prepared to enter a Calculus course. The student will need to spend at least as much time outside of class as scheduled class time to meet the requirements of the course.

**Graphing calculator required: TI-83 or TI-84**

#### ADVANCED PLACEMENT CALCULUS AB

**1 Year 1 Credit**

**Prerequisite: Grade of B or higher in Honors Pre-Calculus. Teacher recommendation required.**

This is a college-level course in introductory Calculus. This course will cover the standards for the Advanced Placement Calculus AB course. Units of study include: limits and continuity, derivatives, derivative applications, definite integrals, differential equations, applications of definite integrals. This course prepares students to take the Advanced Placement (AP) Calculus AB exam.

**Graphing calculator required: TI-83 or TI-84**





# McHenry Community High School District 156

## Course Guide 2024-2025

### MATH

#### ADVANCED PLACEMENT CALCULUS BC

**1 Year 1 Credit**

**Prerequisite:** Grade of A or higher in Honors Pre-Calculus. Teacher recommendation required.

This AP Calculus BC course covers topics typically found in a first-year college Calculus I and Calculus II course. Major themes include differential and integral calculus. This course prepares students to take the Advanced Placement (AP) Calculus BC exam.

**Graphing calculator required: TI-83 or TI-84**



#### HONORS DUAL CREDIT CALCULUS and ANALYTIC GEOMETRY III / MCC MAT 225

**1 Year 1 Credit 4 MCC Credits**

**Prerequisite:** Successful completion of AP Calculus BC

Calculus with Analytic Geometry III is the last of three courses in calculus and analytic geometry. It studies three dimensional spaces, vector functions, partial differentiation, double and triple integrals, divergence and curl, line and surface integrals, and the theorems of Green, Stokes, and Gauss.

**Graphing calculator required: TI-83 or TI-84**

#### DUAL CREDIT GENERAL EDUCATION STATISTICS / MCC MAT 120

**1 Year 1 Credit 3 MCC Credits**

**Prerequisite:** Successful completion of Honors Algebra 2 or Algebra 2 (C or higher both semesters).

General Education Statistics covers elementary statistics to meet the general education requirement. Students acquire a reasonable level of statistical literacy and reasoning in this hands-on course. They learn to use statistics to analyze and develop solutions for professional, societal and even personal problems.

**Graphing calculator required: TI-83 or TI-84**

#### ADVANCED PLACEMENT STATISTICS

**1 Year 1 Credit**

**Prerequisite:** Completion of three years of math courses including Honors Pre-Calculus, College Algebra, or Honors Algebra II, a grade of A in College Algebra and a C in Honors Algebra II are highly recommended. Teacher recommendation required.

The purpose of the Advanced Placement course in statistics is to introduce students to the major concepts and tools for collecting, analyzing and drawing conclusions from data. Students are exposed to four broad conceptual themes: 1.) Exploring Data – describing patterns and departures from patterns, 2.) Sampling and Experimentation – planning and conducting a study, 3.) Anticipating Patterns – exploring random phenomena using probability and simulation, and 4.) Statistical Inference – estimating population parameters and testing hypotheses. Students who successfully complete the course and exam may receive credit, advanced placement or both for a one-semester introductory college statistics course. Students enrolled in Advanced Placement Statistics should expect 30 to 45 minutes of homework each night. Advanced Placement Statistics is a college-level course that moves at an accelerated pace.

**Graphing calculator required: TI-83 or TI-84**





# McHenry Community High School District 156 Course Guide 2024-2025

## DIVISION OF SCIENCE

### Freshman:

Honors Biology  
9

Biology  
9

### Sophomore:

Honors Chemistry  
10

Chemistry  
10

Honors Chemistry /  
Chem 164  
(Dual Credit MCHS &  
MCC  
10

### Junior/Senior:

Physics  
11, 12

Astronomy  
11, 12

Forensics  
11, 12

Earth Science  
(11, 12)

Advanced Placement  
Biology  
11, 12

Advanced Placement  
Chemistry  
11, 12

Advanced Placement  
Environmental Science  
11, 12

Advanced Placement  
Physics I  
11, 12

Advanced Placement  
Physics II  
11, 12

### Biomedical Science:

Honors Principles of  
Biomedical Science  
(PLTW)  
9, 10, 11, 12

Honors Human Body  
Systems  
(PLTW)  
10, 11, 12

Honors Medical  
Interventions  
(PLTW)  
11, 12

Honors Biomedical  
Innovations (PLTW)  
12

BIOMEDICAL  
EXPERIENCES  
(EHC)  
12

All Science courses include safety education in the curriculum.



# McHenry Community High School District 156

## Course Guide 2024-2025

### SCIENCE

#### HONORS BIOLOGY

**1 Year 1 Credit**

**Prerequisite: Consent of High School Division Chair per uniform placement process**

This course is a biology course for students with a strong interest and aptitude in science. Students in this level are encouraged to take four years of science in preparation for college. The topics covered during the year include molecules to organisms, ecosystems, heredity and evolution. The rigor and pacing of the class are at an accelerated level. A strong emphasis is placed on the science and engineering practices and the cross-cutting concepts throughout science.

#### BIOLOGY

**1 Year 1 Credit**

**Prerequisite: Consent of High School Division Chair per uniform placement process**

This course is a general biology class designed for all students. This class meets the graduation requirements for the district as well as most college entrance requirements. The topics covered during the year include molecules to organisms, ecosystems, heredity and evolution. A strong emphasis is placed on the science and engineering practices and the cross-cutting concepts throughout science.

#### EARTH SCIENCE

**1 Semester 1/2 Credit**

**Prerequisite: Successful completion of Biology, Algebra, and minimum concurrence with Chemistry**

This program is designed for students who have an interest in the world around them. Class work will consist of development in critical thinking, problem solving and experimental design. The units of study include mapping, measurement and density, earth history, earth system, weather and human impacts.

#### HONORS DUAL CREDIT CHEMISTRY/ MCC

##### CHEM 164

**1 Year 1 Credit 4 MCC Credits**

**Prerequisite: Grade of B or higher in ninth grade, honors math course and recommendation of Honors Biology teacher. Students must pass the MCC 099 math exam and internal MCHS placement exam.**

Dual credit chemistry is an opportunity to differentiate and meet the needs of all students in chemistry while

also earning credit for the completion of the course CHM 164 at MCC. The blended aspect of this course allows students the opportunity to work at their own pace and individualize some aspects of their educational experience. All students will gain experience in hands-on learning while performing the exact same laboratory experiments performed in CHM 164. Upon completion of the course, the student will have the content of a full semester of collegiate level chemistry and familiarity with the laboratory practices that accompany this knowledge and familiarity with the laboratory practices that accompany this knowledge.

#### HONORS CHEMISTRY

**1 Year 1 Credit**

**Prerequisite: Successful completion of Honors Biology and Algebra or divisional consent**

This course is a chemistry course for students with a strong interest and aptitude in science. Students in this level are encouraged to take four years of science in preparation for college. The topics covered during the year include atomic structure, the periodic table, nuclear chemistry, intramolecular forces, intermolecular forces, chemical reactions, kinetics and equilibrium, stoichiometry, gases, solutions, acids and bases, thermodynamics, and electrochemistry. The rigor and pacing of the class are at an accelerated level. A strong emphasis is placed on the science and engineering practices and the cross-cutting concepts throughout science

#### CHEMISTRY

**1 Year 1 Credit**

**Prerequisite: Successful completion of Biology**

This course is a general chemistry class designed for all students. This class meets the graduation requirements for the district as well as most college entrance requirements. The topics covered during the year include atomic structure, the periodic table, nuclear chemistry, intramolecular forces, intermolecular forces, chemical reactions, kinetics and equilibrium, stoichiometry, gases, solutions, acids and bases, and thermodynamics. A strong emphasis is placed on the science and engineering practices and the cross-cutting concepts throughout science.

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# McHenry Community High School District 156

## Course Guide 2024-2025

### SCIENCE

#### **PHYSICS**

**1 Year 1 Credit**

**Prerequisite: Successful completion of Chemistry and successful completion of Algebra I**

This course is designed for college bound students. Physics will provide the student with the opportunity to use and apply mathematics, and will prepare the student with a good foundation for taking an initial general physics course at the college level. The course will cover the following areas: problem solving, motion, forces, energy and momentum, electricity, light, and sound. A variety of experiments will be performed throughout the school year to enhance and demonstrate concepts and to develop proper laboratory techniques. Students can expect an average of at least one half hour of work outside of class each day. This course will challenge and enlighten those students who wish to prepare themselves for the challenge of the college science curriculum.

#### **ASTRONOMY**

**1 Semester 1/2 Credit**

**Prerequisite: Successful completion of Biology, Algebra 1, and minimum concurrence with Chemistry**

The course curriculum would entail the following (NGSS State Standards for Space Science): Methods and measurement, lifespan of the sun and the role of nuclear fusion in the sun's core to release energy that eventually reaches earth in the form of radiation, Big Bang theory based on astronomical evidence of light spectra, motion of distant galaxies, and composition of matter in the universe, star life cycles and the motion of orbiting objects in the solar system, as well as astronomical organization.

#### **FORENSICS**

**1 Semester 1/2 Credit**

**Prerequisite: Successful completion of Biology, Algebra, and minimum concurrence with Chemistry**

Forensic Science is the study of physical evidence left at the scene of a crime. Students will be involved in the collections of physical evidence from the simulated crime scenes. Students will use standard scientific procedures and current techniques to analyze collected evidence. Local law enforcement experts will be invited to speak to students on various topics.

#### **HONORS PRINCIPLES OF BIOMEDICAL SCIENCE (PLTW)**

**1 Year 1 Credit**

**Prerequisite: Freshman through Senior standing. Strong interest in medical fields and concurrent enrollment in required science courses (if applicable).**

In the introductory course of the PLTW Biomedical Science program, students explore concepts of Biology and medicine as they take on roles of different medical professionals to solve real-world problems. Over the course of the year, students are challenged in various scenarios including investigating a crime scene to solve a mystery, diagnosing and proposing treatment to patients in a family medical practice, to tracking down and containing a medical outbreak at a local hospital, stabilizing a patient during an emergency, and collaborating with others to design solutions to local and global medical problems. The rigor and pacing of the course are at an accelerated level.

#### **HONORS HUMAN BODY SYSTEMS (PLTW)**

**1 Year 1 Credit**

**Prerequisite: Sophomore through Senior standing. Strong interest in medical fields and successful completion of Honors Principles of Biomedical Science (C or higher). Students are also expected to be concurrently enrolled in the required second year science class.**

In this second course of the PLTW Biomedical Science Program, students will examine the interactions of human body systems as they explore identity, power, movement, protection, and homeostasis in the body. Exploring science in action, students will build organs and tissues on a skeletal Maniken®, use data acquisition software to monitor body functions such as muscle movement, reflex and voluntary action, and respiration, and take on the roles of biomedical professionals to solve real-world medical cases. The rigor and pacing of the course are at an accelerated level.



# McHenry Community High School District 156

## Course Guide 2024-2025

### SCIENCE

#### HONORS MEDICAL

#### INTERVENTIONS (PLTW) 1 Year 1 Credit

**Prerequisite:** Junior or Senior standing. **Strong interest in medical fields and successful completion of both Honors Principles of Biomedical Science (C or higher) and Human Body Systems (C or higher). Concurrent enrollment in required science courses (if applicable).**

In this third course in the PLTW Biomedical Science Program, students follow the life of a fictitious family as they investigate how to prevent, diagnose, and treat disease. Students explore how to detect and fight infection, screen and evaluate the code in human DNA, evaluate cancer treatment options, and prevail when the organs of the body begin to fail. Through real-world cases, students are exposed to a range of interventions related to immunology, surgery, genetics, pharmacology, medical devices, and diagnostics. The rigor and pacing of the course are at an accelerated level.

#### HONORS BIOMEDICAL INNOVATIONS (PLTW)

#### 1 Year 1 Credit

**Prerequisite:** Senior standing with application process. **Successful completion (C or better) in Honors Principles of Biomedical Science and Honors Human Body Systems. Preferred successful completion of Honors Medical Interventions..**

Students enrolled in the McHenry High School Medical In this capstone course, students apply their knowledge and skills to answer questions or solve problems related to the biomedical sciences. Students design innovative solutions for the health challenges of the 21st century as they work through progressively challenging open-ended problems, addressing topics such as clinical medicine, physiology, biomedical engineering, and public health.

#### BIOMEDICAL EXPERIENCES (EHC)

#### 1 Semester 1/2 Credit

**Prerequisite:** Senior standing with application process. **Successful completion (C or better) in Honors Principles of Biomedical Science and Honors Human Body Systems. Preferred successful completion of Honors Medical**

#### **Interventions.**

Students enrolled in the McHenry High School Biomedical Experiences course will participate in monthly visits to Northwestern Medicine McHenry Hospital. They will be exposed to real world settings and collaborate alongside medical professionals. Each month of the course will focus on a different theme within the healthcare field, such as Current Trends & Innovations in Healthcare, Primary Care, Integrated Comprehensive Care, Nursing, Medical Specialties, Surgical Specialties, Laboratory Services, Pharmacy, Imaging & Radiology, Emergency Medicine & Emergency Medical Services, Women's Health, Allied Health and Leadership in Healthcare. Students will also be expected to arrange two shadowing experiences each month, in addition to these hospital visits. A network of connections will be provided to students to select from, however, they may also arrange for experiences outside of our network to truly customize their experience. Students can also choose to pursue independent research projects and design their own experimentation if they want more lab-based experiences to add to their resumes. Students will be required to provide their own transportation to and from the hospital and shadowing sites.

**Required Course Fee for Biomedical Science Block: \$60 for MCHS medical scrubs**

#### ADVANCED PLACEMENT BIOLOGY

#### 1 Year 1 Credit

**Prerequisite: Successful completion of Biology and Chemistry, a minimum concurrence in Algebra II, with Division Chair consent**

AP Biology is an advanced course. Successful completion of the course will prepare the student to take the advanced placement examination to qualify for college credit in this field. Students will study the core scientific principles, theories, and processes that govern living organisms and biological systems. Topics include the chemistry of life, cell structure and function, cellular energetics, cell communication and cell cycle, heredity, gene expression and regulation, natural selection, and ecology. Laboratory experiences will be used to investigate these natural phenomena.





# McHenry Community High School District 156

## Course Guide 2024-2025

### SCIENCE

#### ADVANCED PLACEMENT CHEMISTRY

1 Year 1 Credit

**Prerequisite: Successful completion of Biology and Chemistry, a minimum concurrence in Algebra II, with Division Chair consent**

AP Chemistry is an advanced course. Successful completion of the course will prepare the student to take the advanced placement examination to qualify for college credit in this field. Students will study the fundamental concepts of chemistry including structure and states of matter, intermolecular forces, and reactions. Topics include atomic structure and properties, molecular and ionic compound structure and properties, intermolecular forces and properties, chemical reactions, kinetics, thermodynamics, equilibrium, acids and bases, and applications of thermodynamics. Laboratory investigations and chemical calculations will be used to solve problems.

#### ADVANCED PLACEMENT PHYSICS I

1 Year 1 Credit

**Prerequisite: Successful completion of Biology and Chemistry, a minimum concurrence in Algebra II, with Division Chair consent**

AP Physics I is an advanced course. Successful completion of the course will prepare the student to take the advanced placement examination to qualify for college credit in this field. Students will learn about the foundational principles of physics as they explore Newtonian mechanics; work, energy, and power; mechanical waves and sound; and introductory, simple circuits. Topics include kinematics, dynamics, circular motion and gravitation, energy, momentum, simple harmonic motion, torque and rotational motion, electric charge and electric force, DC circuits, and mechanical waves and sound. Laboratory experiences will be used to investigate these phenomena.

#### ADVANCED PLACEMENT PHYSICS II

1 Year 1 Credit

**Prerequisite: Successful completion of Biology and Chemistry, a minimum concurrence in Algebra II, with Division Chair consent**

AP Physics II is an advanced course. Successful completion of the course will prepare the student to take the advanced placement examination to qualify for college credit in this field. Students will expand their understanding of physics as they explore fluids; thermodynamics; electric force, field, and potential; electric circuits; magnetism and electromagnetic induction; geometric and physical optics; and quantum, atomic, and nuclear physics. Laboratory experiences and inquiry-based activities will be used to investigate these natural phenomena.



#### ADVANCED PLACEMENT ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE

1 Year 1 Credit

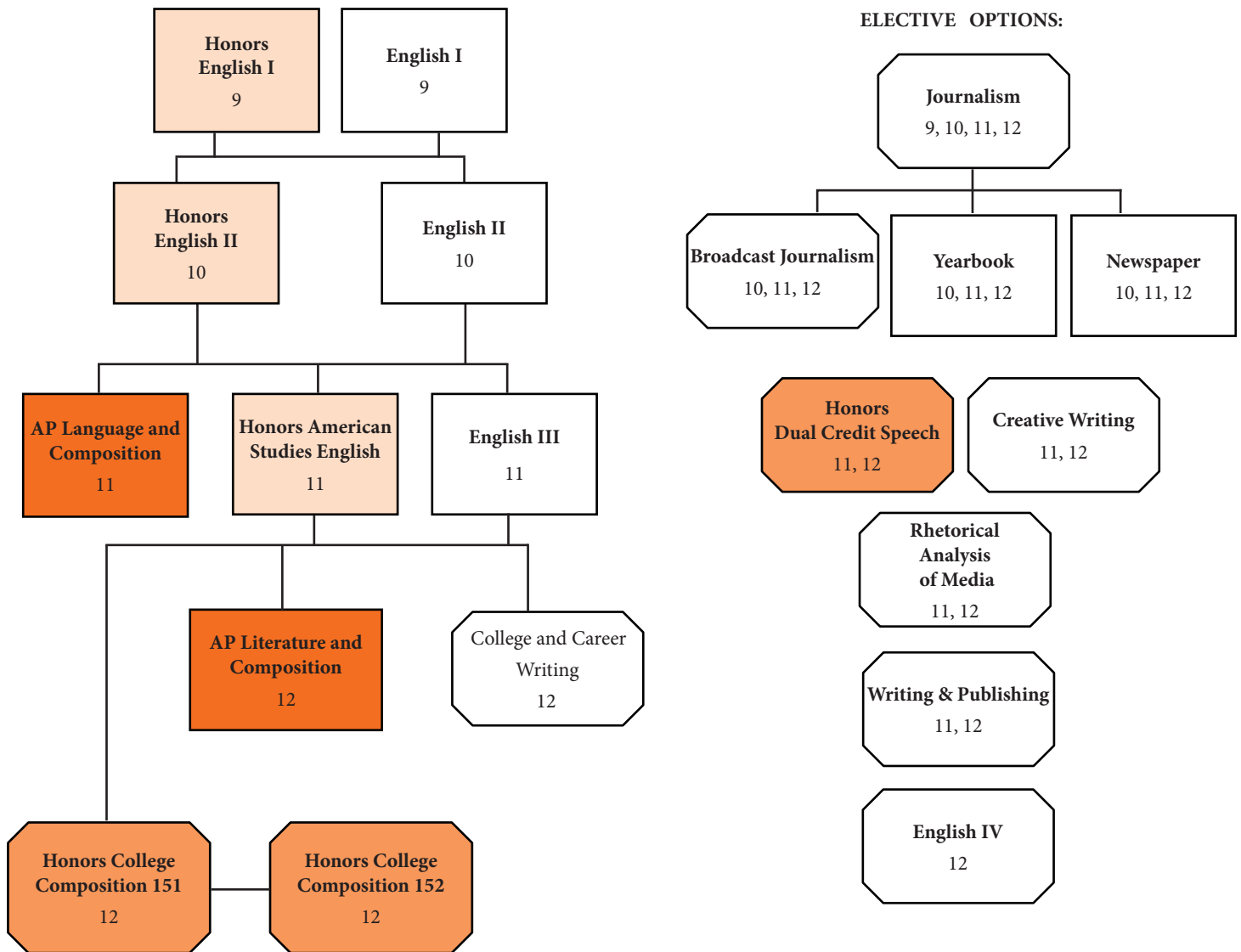
**Prerequisite: Successful completion of Biology and Chemistry, a minimum concurrence in Algebra II, with divisional consent**

AP Environmental Science is an advanced course. Successful completion of the course will prepare the student to take the advanced placement examination to qualify for college credit in this field. Students will explore and investigate the interrelationships of the natural world and analyze environmental problems, both natural and human-made. Topics include ecosystems, biodiversity, populations, earth systems and resources, land and water use, energy resources and consumption, atmospheric pollution, aquatic and terrestrial pollution, and global change. Laboratory and field experiences will be used to investigate these natural phenomena.



# McHenry Community High School District 156 Course Guide 2024-2025

## DIVISION OF ENGLISH



Students should check with the colleges or universities that they would like to attend to see if the course satisfies the admissions requirements of those colleges or universities.



# McHenry Community High School District 156

## Course Guide 2024-2025

### ENGLISH

#### HONORS ENGLISH I, ENGLISH I

1 Year 1 Credit

**Prerequisite:** Freshman standing

Students enrolled in English I are introduced to the literary elements and taught how to analyze these elements in order to identify a theme and analyze characterization. Students will learn numerous reading strategies through class activities. Students will receive instruction on how to write a structured, evidence-based paragraph that supports a claim. Creativity is developed through a narrative writing unit. Speaking and listening opportunities are integrated throughout the course.

#### HONORS ENGLISH II, ENGLISH II

1 Year 1 Credit

**Prerequisite:** Sophomore standing

Students enrolled in English II review the literary elements and analyze how an author develops a theme throughout a story. Students learn how making inferences and analyzing an author's tone can help one determine a theme. Students write thematic statements and provide textual evidence as support. Creativity is developed through a poetry unit. Speaking and listening opportunities are integrated throughout the course.

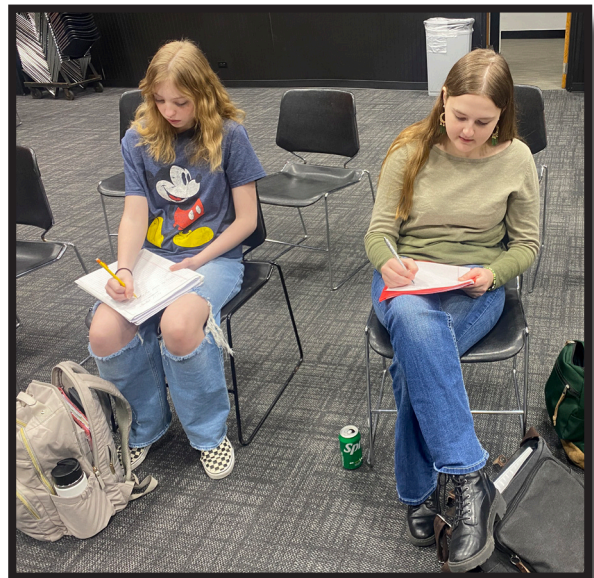


#### ENGLISH III

1 Year 1 Credit

**Prerequisite:** Junior standing

Students enrolled in English III participate in speaking and listening activities that open each thematic unit. Students read classic American works and write on various themes present within American society past and present. Students learn how to develop an argument to deliver in a debate.



#### ENGLISH IV

1 Semester 1/2 Credit

**Prerequisite:** Senior standing

Students enrolled in English IV read a variety of literature from different time periods and use textual evidence to defend claims they create based on their reading. Students examine multiple interpretations of texts and evaluate the effectiveness of each interpretation by analyzing the author's or artist's choices. As the semester continues, students develop their ability to analyze language and its impact on tone, mood, and meaning as well as determine the themes that emerge from a text. Speaking and listening opportunities are integrated throughout the course.





# McHenry Community High School District 156

## Course Guide 2024-2025

### ENGLISH

#### CREATIVE WRITING

**1 Semester 1/2 Credit**

**Prerequisite: Junior or Senior standing**

Creative Writing is a one-semester, one-half-credit writing course designed for juniors or seniors who have mastered the basics of grammar and expository writing and would like to explore more creative forms of writing. Students will study the meaning and impact of language, theme and purpose, imagery and description, storytelling, and revision. They will write in various creative writing genres.



#### JOURNALISM

**1 Semester 1/2 Credit**

**Prerequisite: Freshman through Senior standing. This course does not qualify as a core course for the purposes of NCAA eligibility.**

Journalism is a semester long course in which students of all levels - ranging from freshmen to seniors learn the basics of reporting and commenting on the communities around them. After learning the basics of journalism, including interviewing strategies and ethical foundations, students write a wide variety of journalistic pieces, including news features, editorials, opinion pieces, sports stories, and reviews, all the while applying AP Style. Additionally, students acquire other essential New Media skills, such as editing copy and the basics of photojournalism, including basic compositional techniques. At the end of the semester, students submit a comprehensive multimedia piece that combines the skills covered in the class--and may appear in one of the school's publications.

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#### NEWSPAPER

**1 Year 1 Credit**

**Prerequisite: Sophomore through Senior standing. This course does not qualify as a core course for the purposes of NCAA eligibility.**

Newspaper is a year-long course in which students of all levels ranging from sophomores to seniors will write a wide variety of journalistic pieces, including news features, editorials, opinion pieces, sports stories, and reviews, all while applying AP Style. Additionally, students will acquire other essential New Media skills such as editing copy and the basics of photojournalism, including basic compositional techniques. Students will participate in publishing writings in both print and online media formats.

#### BROADCAST JOURNALISM

**1 Semester 1/2 Credit**

**Prerequisite: Sophomore through Senior standing. This course does not qualify as a core course for the purposes of NCAA eligibility.**

Broadcast is a semester long course in which students of all levels - ranging from sophomores to seniors learn the basics of reporting and commenting on the communities around them. After learning the basics of journalism in Introduction to Journalism, students will refine their interviewing skills and continue seeking journalistic opportunities and producing them in a media-market format. Additionally, students will focus on the following three areas, specifically: news-writing, anchoring/reporting, and editing/producing media. Students may repeat this elective course for credit.

#### PUBLICATIONS: YEARBOOK

**1 Year 1 Credit**

**Prerequisite: None**

**This course does not qualify as a core course for the purposes of NCAA eligibility.**

For yearbook, students will learn the basics of photography, caption writing, feature writing, interviewing, headlines, sidebars, and layout, and will combine these skills to construct the yearbook during the school year. Though students will not be required to work outside of school, proficiency may be easier to acquire if they put in extra work outside of school to cover school events and practice skills. Students may repeat this elective course for credit.





# McHenry Community High School District 156

## Course Guide 2024-2025

### ENGLISH

#### HONORS COLLEGE COMPOSITION/ MCC

##### ENG 151

**1 Semester 1/2 Credit 3 MCC CREDIT**

**Prerequisite: Senior standing, successful completion of the MCC placement test, consent of the instructor.**

This course offers seniors the opportunity to earn three college credits while earning a semester of high school English credit. The curriculum is the same as College Composition. Students must register at McHenry County College. Upon completion, students will be issued grades for both their high school and college transcripts. This course is taught at the high school.

#### HONORS COLLEGE COMPOSITION/ MCC

##### ENG 152

**1 Semester 1/2 Credit 3 MCC Credits**

**Prerequisite: Completion of Honors College Composition 151 with a C or higher**

College Composition 152 Honors is a dual credit course offered through McHenry County College. Students receive college credit if they earn a C or higher in the course. College Composition 152 Honors builds on the knowledge and skills gained in College Composition 151 Honors. Students continue to practice essay writing with a focus on research papers supported by scholarly evidence, as well as the critical analysis of literature. This course requires advanced reading and advanced writing.

#### HONORS AMERICAN STUDIES ENGLISH

**1 Year 1 Credit**

**Prerequisite: Junior standing or consent of the counselor or instructor**

This course is a combined study of America through its literature and history. English groups will read numerous novels, plays, and shorter works. History groups will study the historical, social, and governmental aspects of America's growth. The relationship between the two classes and advanced composition skills will be stressed. Students will participate in two semester long projects, Chautauqua 1st semester and History Fair 2nd semester. This course meets the English and U.S.

**[Return to Course Selection](#)**

History requirements for the junior year, as well as prepares students for a demanding and challenging college curriculum.

**Students will be required to purchase supplemental reading for this course (i.e. novel, play, etc.). The cost is not anticipated to exceed \$20.**

#### HONORS DUAL CREDIT SPEECH / MCC SPE

##### 151

**1 Semester 1/2 Credit 3 MCC Credits**

**Prerequisite: Junior or Senior standing**

Students will develop interpersonal communication skills through a variety of speaking tasks for different occasions. Students will complete a variety of speaking and listening tasks for different occasion with a focus on the extemporaneous method of presenting speeches. Students will learn skills that they will be able to apply during interviews, public speaking, argumentation, and debate.

#### WRITING AND PUBLISHING

**1 Semester 1/2 Credit**

**Prerequisite: Junior or Senior Standing with**

successful completion of English II Writing and Publishing is a semester-long course where students are challenged to learn about various writing markets and platforms. Students will join a writing community that supports each other as they seek publication in external newspapers, magazines, and journals. They will also compete in local and national writing competitions, and for scholarship money. Students with an interest in creative writing, including fiction, poetry, and a variety of nonfiction genres are encouraged to join this class and see where their writing talents can take them. WRITING AND PUBLISHING.



# McHenry Community High School District 156

## Course Guide 2024-2025

### ENGLISH

#### RHETORICAL ANALYSIS

##### OF MEDIA

1 Semester 1/2 Credit

**Prerequisite:** Junior or Senior standing.

**This course does not qualify as a core course for the purposes of NCAA eligibility.**

This course is a study of media and its impact on society. Students will understand the structure, purpose and effectiveness of messages and information in media such as film, art, TV, electronic, and print media. Students will create various media demonstrating the author's purpose, language style, and structure for the intended audience. Upon completion of the course, students will be responsible consumers of knowledge acquired through the media and informational texts.

#### ADVANCED PLACEMENT LANGUAGE AND COMPOSITION

1 Year 1 Credit

**Prerequisite:** Junior standing; successful completion of English II; teacher recommendation; and proficiency in the area of reading, literary analysis, writing, grammar usage, oral communication and research.

This year-long course is for juniors who wish to prepare for the AP Language and Composition test and is willing to take on the challenge of a college-level introductory composition course. This non-fiction focused class engages students in becoming skilled readers of prose written in a variety of periods, disciplines and rhetorical contexts, and in becoming skilled writers of expository, analytical and argumentative forms. Both their writing and their reading should make students aware of the interactions among a writer's purposes, audience expectations, and subjects as well as the way generic conventions and the resources of language contribute to effectiveness in writing.

**During the course of the school year, students will be required to purchase one supplemental reading (i.e. nov, play, etc.) for this course. The cost is not anticipated to exceed \$20. Summer assignments may be required for this course.**

#### ADVANCED PLACEMENT LITERATURE AND COMPOSITION

1 Year 1 Credit

**Prerequisite:** Senior standing

The blended version of this course covers all standards and targets described in the traditional version described above. The course will begin with all students attending for approximately six weeks for norms, expectations and foundational skill sets. After this, the course will run on a rotation between face-to-face and online instruction depending on our unit of study. Students should expect to meet in class 2-3 days a week either for whole class instruction or small group workshopping. Students will always have the option to come in for additional face-to-face assistance. If students are identified as struggling, they may be required to come in for additional face-to-face support. This course prepares the upper level student for the Advanced Placement test in Literature and Composition, a test for which many colleges grant college credit.

**During the school year, students in this course will be required to purchase one supplemental reading (i.e. a novel, play, etc.). The cost is not anticipated to exceed \$20. Summer assignments may be required.**

#### COLLEGE AND CAREER WRITING

1 Semester 1/2 Credit

**Prerequisite:** Senior standing

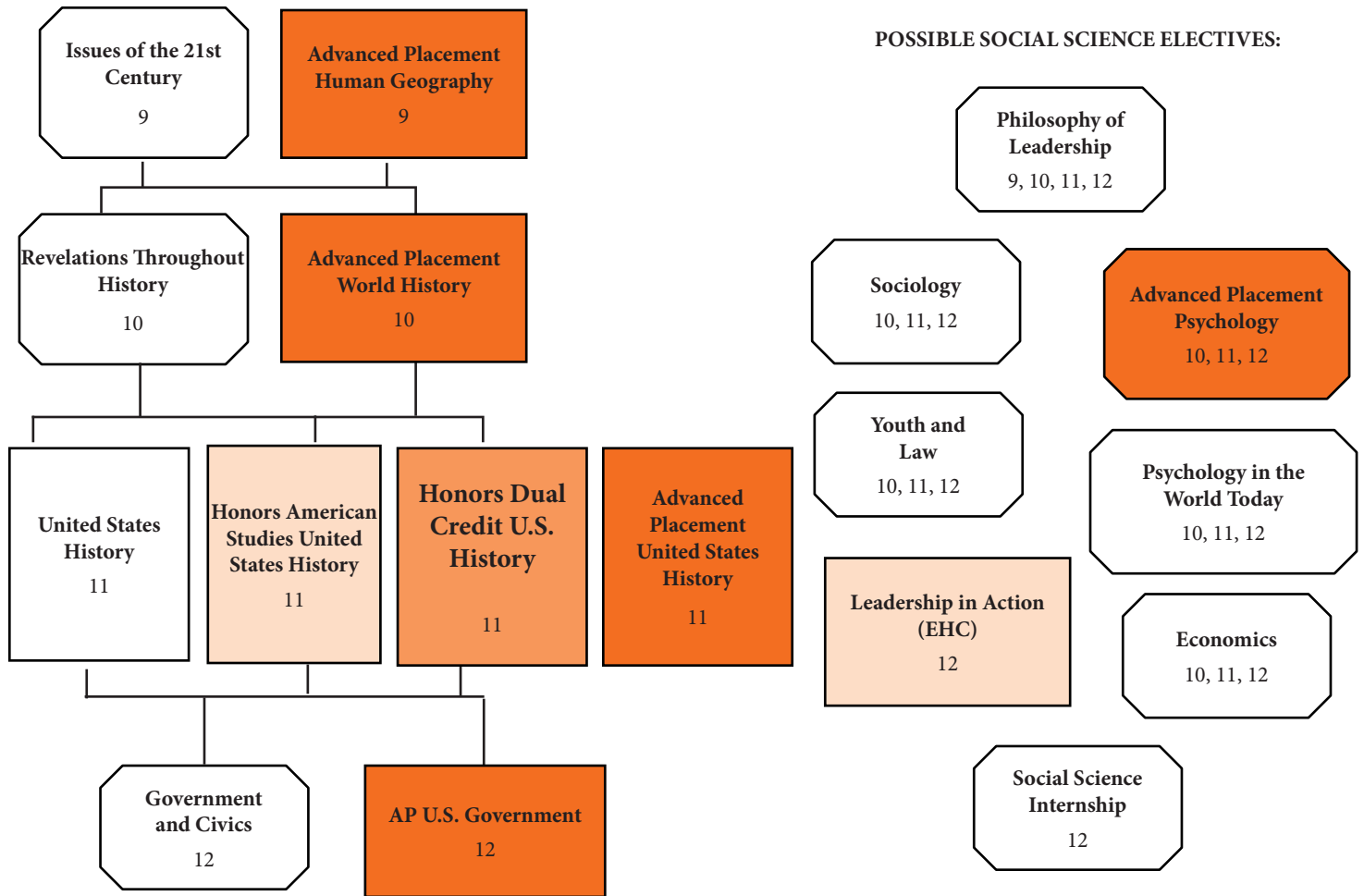
Throughout the semester, students will strengthen their writing skills in preparation for college and career writing. Specifically, students will gain an understanding of sentence structure, usage, punctuation, paragraphing, prewriting, organization, drafting, editing, and proofreading. This course is designed to prepare students to pass a college English placement test and to write effectively for a variety of career pathways.



# McHenry Community High School District 156

## Course Guide 2024-2025

### DIVISION OF SOCIAL SCIENCE





# McHenry Community High School District 156

## Course Guide 2024-2025

### SOCIAL SCIENCE

#### ISSUES OF THE 21st CENTURY

1 Semester 1/2 Credit

**Prerequisite:** Freshman standing

As an introduction to the Social Sciences at the high school level, students will learn about important issues facing our country and world today through the use of media, primary source documents, personal experience, etc. in order to make them more aware members of our society. As part of their study of relevant issues, students will also be introduced to techniques they can use to help them become more active participants in their own learning such as research, how to analyze texts and documentation, thinking critically about information they have received, and presentation/communication skills.



#### REVOLUTIONS THROUGHOUT HISTORY

1 Semester 1/2 Credit

**Prerequisite:** Issues of the 21st Century, Sophomore standing

Throughout the semester students will dive deep into a wide variety of inquiry-based units that explore the political, economic, geographic, and social origins of revolutions that occurred throughout history. Several of these topics include and are not limited to the American Revolution, the French Revolution, the Mexican Revolution and the comparison between the Renaissance and the technological revolution of the 21st-century. As a culminating project to end the course, students will select a revolution of their choice and demonstrate mastery for all of the skills and frameworks needed to thoroughly understand their topic and educate others.

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#### ADVANCED PLACEMENT HUMAN GEOGRAPHY

1 Year 1 Credit

**Prerequisite:** Freshman standing with criteria driven by uniform district placement process

This course is designed to introduce students to the historical, sociological, economical, and political forces which shape society. We will examine and discuss national and international policies and attitudes, and look at their impact on today's global connections. The emphasis of this class is learning through discovery and critical thinking, and we will use many of geography's scientific methods and tools to explore a wide range of similar and differing worldwide viewpoints.

#### YOUTH AND THE LAW

1 Semester 1/2 Credit

**Prerequisite:** Sophomore, Junior or Senior standing

This course introduces students to the basic aspects of civil and criminal law. Students will study the nature of civil and criminal law, types of civil and criminal laws, causes of crime and violent behavior, violence prevention and conflict resolution, criminal procedures, sexual assault awareness, landmark cases, forensics, theories and types of punishments, and juvenile justice, gang awareness and related current events. Students will participate in mock trials.

#### GOVERNMENT AND CIVICS

1 Semester 1/2 Credit

**Prerequisite:** Senior required course

This course will give the student an opportunity to learn how local, state and the federal governments operate. The student will have an opportunity to learn how to participate in the governmental process, service learning, and other elements of civic involvement. Topics to be emphasized will be American patriotism and government, the rights and civic responsibilities of citizens, current and controversial issues, decision making in the different levels of government, pressure groups and how they operate, and the role of political parties and the voting process. The US and Illinois constitution test will be administered in this course.





# McHenry Community High School District 156

## Course Guide 2024-2025

### SOCIAL SCIENCE

#### U.S. HISTORY

**1 Year 1 Credit**

**Prerequisite: Junior required course**

The successful completion of this course is needed to meet graduation requirements. The course will begin with the divide of America as our country entered a Civil War and will continue through time to the late 20th century. The course will develop an understanding of social, political, economical, cultural, and military experiences that have played a crucial role in shaping the history of our country. Emphasis will be placed on the development of the American economic system, the growth of American ideals, the changing American social structure, and the reflection of these in contemporary American values. As a blended course, students will participate in both “structured learning” and “independent learning.” The amount of time will vary depending on the week and teacher. When students are not meeting with a teacher, they will engage in digital learning. During digital learning, students participate in online activities that will direct their studies. Students are expected to access their blended course digitally on a daily basis. On blended days, teachers will be available to help struggling students by providing more one-on-one instruction and in small groups seeking assistance.



#### ECONOMICS

**1 Semester 1/2 Credit**

**Prerequisite: Sophomore, Junior or Senior standing**

The economics course gives an overview of the U.S. economy and compares the U.S. economy with the economic systems of other nations. Students will develop “economic literacy” – the ability to understand economic concepts. In this course students will learn to identify, analyze, and evaluate the causes and consequences of individual economic decisions and public policy, including issues raised by the constraints imposed by scarcity, how economies, how markets work, and the benefits and costs of economic interaction. Students evaluate personal finance as they will analyze, reason, and problem solve to make decisions specific to various roles, including that of consumer, producer, saver, investor, and responsible citizen. Current U.S. problems, such as inflation, the national debt, energy problems, and government regulations will also be investigated. As this course is blended, students will participate in both “structured learning” and “independent learning.” Times during which students meet with the teacher in class are designated as “structured learning”. When students are not meeting in class, they will engage in digital learning. During digital learning, students participate in online activities that will direct their learning. Students will have access to content, discussions, and collaborative experiences. Students are expected to access their blended course digitally on a daily basis.

#### PHILOSOPHY OF LEADERSHIP

**1 Semester 1/2 Credit**

**Prerequisite: Freshman-Senior Standing. This course does not qualify as a core course for the purposes of NCAA eligibility.**

This course is designed for aspiring leaders and students who would like to maximize their personal potential. It will provide students with an intricate study of leadership styles and philosophies as they relate to history, society, and the school culture of the MCHS.



# McHenry Community High School District 156

## Course Guide 2024-2025

### SOCIAL SCIENCE

#### SOCIOLOGY

**1 Semester 1/2 Credit**

**Prerequisite: Sophomore through Senior standing**

This course is a general survey of society dealing with the ideas used by sociologists. Sociology aims to have students investigate the following: How does Sociology help you as an individual? How did you become the person you became? Why do people conform to or deviate from the norm? Is socialization and globalization our path to a brighter future? Through thorough analysis of our daily social interactions, students will be empowered to explore how society shapes their everyday lives. Topics to be explored are: culture, social norms and sanctions, socialization, crime, conformity, deviance, ethics and morals, cults, drug addiction, alcoholism, suicide, problems of cities, effects of technology, globalization, population problems and the criminal justice system.

#### PSYCHOLOGY IN THE WORLD TODAY

**1 Semester 1/2 Credit**

**Prerequisite: Sophomore through Senior standing**

Psychology is meant to be a survey course exposing students to the basic concepts of psychology as well as how this ties to their daily lives and potential careers. Not only will a student gain an understanding of their own growth and development, but they will also realize how these concepts can be applied to their potential career path, or open them to ideas they may not have known about.

#### ADVANCED PLACEMENT PSYCHOLOGY

**1 Year 1 Credit**

**Prerequisite: Sophomore through Senior standing**

This course is designed to introduce students to the systematic and scientific study of the behavior and mental processes of human beings and other animals. Students are exposed to the psychological facts, principles, and phenomena associated with each of the major subfields within psychology. Subfields include categories such as history, research methods, biology of behavior, sensation/perception, consciousness, learning, motivation/emotions, personality, and abnormal behavior. Students also learn about the ethics and methods psychologists use in their science and practice.

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### HONORS AMERICAN STUDIES U.S. HISTORY

**1 Year 1 Credit**

**Prerequisite: Junior standing**

This course is a combined study of America through its literature and history. History groups will study the historical, social, and governmental aspects of America's growth. English groups will read several plays, novels, and shorter works. The relationships between the two classes will be stressed, as well as opportunities for independent learning and research, and advanced composition skills. This course meets the English and U.S. History requirement for the junior year as it covers the same issues including black history and women in history.

**During the course of the school year students will be required to purchase one supplemental reading (i.e. novel, play, etc.) for this course. The cost is not anticipated to exceed \$20. Summer assignments may be required for this course.**



### HONORS DUAL CREDIT UNITED STATES HISTORY / MCC HIST 170 and 172

**1 Year 1 Credit**

**Prerequisite: Junior standing**

This honors level, dual credit course is a survey in U.S. History. The curriculum for semester 1 covers the Colonial Era through the Civil War. Semester 2 curriculum covers the late 19th century through the post Cold War Era. This skills-based class will emphasize historical thinking skills such as: Historical Analysis, Sourcing, Discussion-based practices and evaluating historical significance. This is a college-level course and a rigorous study of U.S. History. required for this course.



# McHenry Community High School District 156

## Course Guide 2024-2025

### SOCIAL SCIENCE

#### **ADVANCED PLACEMENT U.S. GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS**

**1 Year 1 Credit**

**Prerequisite: Senior standing, U.S. History, American Studies, or AP U.S. History**

This year-long course covers the American government and emphasizes an analytical understanding of the political culture, structures, and practices of the U.S. Government. Topics include applications of civil rights, the challenges of the presidency and congress, personal freedoms, national and state elections, and the cases of the U.S. Supreme Court. The Federal and Illinois State Constitution tests are taken during the first semester of the course. Students are strongly encouraged to take the AP test for this course. Summer assignments may be required for this course.

#### **ADVANCED PLACEMENT WORLD HISTORY**

**1 Year 1 Credit**

**Prerequisite: 21st Century or AP Human Geography, Sophomore standing**

This course is structured around the investigation of five course themes (interaction between humans and environment; development and interaction of culture; state building, expansion, and conflict; creation, expansion and interaction of economic systems; and development and transformation of social structures) and 19 key concepts in six different chronological periods, from approximately 8000 B.C.E. to the present. The six chronological periods of study are as follows: technological and environmental transformations, organization and reorganization of human, regional and trans-regional interactions, global interactions, industrialization and global integration, and accelerating global change and realignments. The course framework defines a set of shared historical thinking skills, which allows teachers to make more informed choices about appropriate ways of linking content and thinking skills. These include drafting historical arguments from historical evidence, chronological reasoning, comparison and contextualization, and historical interpretation and analysis. Students will acquire knowledge through rigorous reading of numerous

primary source materials, supplemental readings, and the textbook. Their knowledge will be assessed through the use of multiple choice quizzes and tests, free response questions, and document based questions. These will also serve as preparation for the AP exam in May.

#### **LEADERSHIP IN ACTION (EHC)**

**1 Year 1 Credit**

**Prerequisite: Senior standing**

Leadership in Action facilitates student academic learning through meaningful service experiences, which encourage and enable MCHS faculty and students to positively impact the school and community. Leadership in Action seeks to bring school and community together in partnership to share resources, meet real school and community needs, and help to educate students to become the change agents of tomorrow. Each student will be required to create a portfolio for which one artifact will be a community project of their own design. The Honors option requires implementing the Community Project. **Students must provide their own transportation when traveling to the Freshman Campus**

#### **SOCIAL SCIENCE INTERNSHIP**

**1 Semester 1/2 Credit**

**Prerequisite: Senior Standing - Seats are limited based on the number of internship partnerships. Students must provide their own transportation to the internship organizations.**

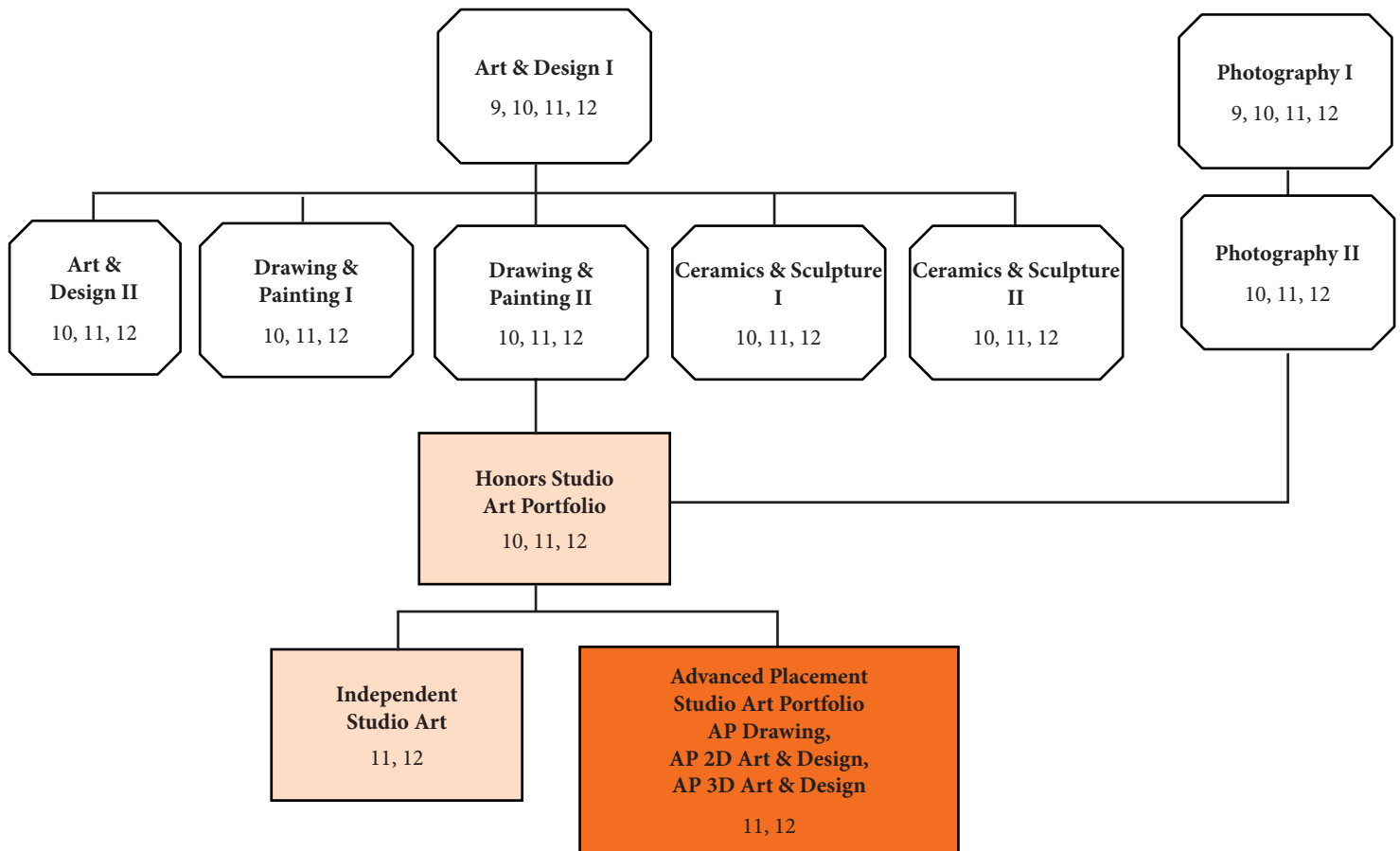
This capstone social science experience will match seniors interested in gaining experience within social science fields with a community partner to shadow and assist for 2-3 hours per week. Students will attend a discussion based class 2-3 days per week where they will learn elements of professionalism, share their experiences with classmates, and complete a semester-long portfolio project. Students interested in careers in social science pathways including social services, government and public service, and law and public safety should consider this capstone experience.



# McHenry Community High School District 156 Course Guide 2024-2025

## DIVISION OF FINE ARTS & WORLD LANGUAGE

### ART







# McHenry Community High School District 156

## Course Guide 2024-2025

### ART

#### **ART & DESIGN I**                      1 Semester 1/2 Credit **Prerequisite: None**

Students in this course will draw, paint, design, and sculpt works of art. Students will experiment with a variety of mark-making tools and materials, while exploring different compositional structures and ideas. This course meets the prerequisite for all remaining art courses. This course can be offered in both first and second semester.

#### **ART & DESIGN II**                      1 Semester 1/2 Credit **Prerequisite: ART & DESIGN I and Sophomore through Senior standing**

Students in this second-semester course will draw, paint, design, and sculpt works of art. Students will experiment with a variety of mark-making tools and materials, while exploring different compositional structures and ideas. Students will learn how to maintain a focus throughout their work through interpreting two 'big ideas' and expand their perceptions in creating three or more related artworks within each series.

#### **DRAWING & PAINTING I**                      1 Semester 1/2 Credit **Prerequisite: ART & DESIGN I and Sophomore through Senior standing**

Students in this first-semester course will create drawings, paintings, and prints, while experimenting with a variety of mark-making tools and materials. Students will develop different compositional structures and ideas as they explore their own place and core beliefs in society.

#### **DRAWING & PAINTING II**                      1 Semester 1/2 Credit **Prerequisite: ART & DESIGN I and Sophomore through Senior standing**

Students in this second-semester course will create drawings, paintings, and prints, while experimenting with a variety of mark-making tools and materials. Students will develop different compositional structures and ideas as they explore environmental, political, and cultural issues that influence their thoughts and actions.

#### **CERAMICS & SCULPTURE I**                      1 Semester 1/2 Credit **Prerequisite: ART & DESIGN I and Sophomore through Senior standing**

Students in this first-semester course will work with clay, papier-mâché, plaster, and cardboard, while experimenting with different compositional structures, techniques and ideas. Students will explore additive and subtractive techniques within functional and decorative sculptures methods while creating works of art that reflect their personal observations and ideas.

#### **CERAMICS & SCULPTURE II**                      1 Semester 1/2 Credit **Prerequisite: ART & DESIGN I and Sophomore through Senior standing**

Students in this second-semester course will work with clay, packing tape, plaster, and found materials, while experimenting with different compositional structures, techniques and ideas. Students will explore additive and subtractive techniques within functional and decorative sculpture methods while creating works of art that reflect their perceptions of various environmental and social ideas.

#### **PHOTOGRAPHY I**                      1 Semester 1/2 Credit **Prerequisite: None**

This course provides students with an introduction to camera basics including techniques using smartphones and photo-editing apps such as PhotoshopCC. In addition to the basics of understanding composition and exploring concepts through photography, students will respond to artists from the past through present and make their own connections. Students will be expected to take pictures both in and outside of class.



# McHenry Community High School District 156

## Course Guide 2024-2025

### ART

#### **PHOTOGRAPHY II** 1 Semester 1/2 Credit

**Prerequisite:** PHOTOGRAPHY I (B or higher recommended) and Sophomore-Senior standing

This course will build upon the learning achieved in PHOTOGRAPHY I and move forward with advanced camera techniques using DSLR cameras. Students will be exposed to a variety of approaches that push the boundaries of photography while exploring and developing personal concepts for their artist portfolio. Students will be expected to take pictures outside of class. Cameras will be provided.

#### **HONORS STUDIO ART PORTFOLIO**

1 Year 1 Credit

**Prerequisite:** Sophomore, Junior or Senior standing. Portfolio Pending with completion of Level II Art Course in one of the following areas: DRAWING & PAINTING I or II, CERAMIC & SCULPTURE I or II.

This course is structured as a pre-AP studio course that bridges the honors courses described below with the AP STUDIO ART courses. This will provide students with the technical range of approaches to prepare them for Advanced Placement Studio Art coursework. This course employs “blended learning” methods where students have a combination of face-to-face time with the teacher and out-of-class time to complete projects and learn independently. Students will choose to focus on one of the following lenses:

- **Honors Drawing Portfolio**

This portfolio is designated for work that focuses on the use of mark-making. The focus of this course is to explore two-dimensional drawing and painting techniques.

- **Honors 2D Art & Design Portfolio**

These portfolios are designated for work that focuses on the use of two-dimensional (2-D) elements and principles of art and design. The focus of this course is to explore composition.

- **Honors 3D Art & Design Portfolio**

This portfolio is designated for work that focuses on the use of three-dimensional (3-D) elements and principles of art and design. The focus of this course is to explore sculptural art and designs.

#### **INDEPENDENT STUDIO ART**

1/2 OR 1 Year 1/2 OR 1 Credit\*\*

**Prerequisite:** Junior or Senior standing. Completion of four semesters of Art Courses or Photography 1 and Photography 2.

This course will provide students an opportunity to independently create a technical, compositional, and conceptual focus for each of their works of art. Students may focus specifically on photography, drawing, design, sculpture, etc., or work within a variety of different art forms of their choosing. During each semester, students will develop six or more works of art while exploring and investigating media, tools, compositional structures and ideas.

\*\*Students have the option to take this course for 1/2 or 1 credit.





# McHenry Community High School District 156

## Course Guide 2024-2025

### ART

#### ADVANCED PLACEMENT STUDIO ART PORTFOLIO – AP DRAWING, AP 2D ART & DESIGN, AP 3D ART & DESIGN

1 Year 1 Credit

**Prerequisite: Junior or Senior standing. Honors Studio Art Portfolio recommended. Completion of four semesters of Art Courses and Portfolio pending.**

This course is structured to coincide with the AP Studio Art courses as described by College Board. Students will choose to focus on one of the following lenses:

- **AP Drawing Portfolio Exam**

This portfolio is designated for work that focuses on the use of mark-making, line, surface, space, light and shade, and composition. Students should consider marks that can be used to make drawings, the arrangement of marks, the materials and processes used to make marks, and relationships of marks and ideas. Students can work with any materials, processes, and ideas. Drawing (analog and digital), painting, printmaking, and mixed media work are among the possibilities for submission. Still images from videos or film are accepted. Composite images may be submitted.

- **AP 2D Art and Design Portfolio Exam**

These portfolios are designated for work that focuses on the use of two-dimensional (2D) elements and principles of art and design, including point, line, shape, plane, layer, form, space, texture, color, value, opacity, transparency, time, unity, variety, rhythm, movement, proportion, scale, balance, emphasis, contrast, repetition, figure/ground relationship, connection, juxtaposition, and hierarchy. Students should consider how materials, processes, and ideas can be used to make work that exists on a flat surface. Students can work with any materials, processes, and ideas. Graphic design, digital imaging, photography, collage, fabric design, weaving, fashion design, fashion illustration, painting, and printmaking are among the possibilities for submission. Still images from videos or film are accepted. Composite images may be submitted.



- **AP 3D Art and Design Portfolio Exam**

This portfolio is designated for work that focuses on the use of three-dimensional (3D) elements and principles of art and design, including point, line, shape, plane, layer, form, volume, mass, occupied/unoccupied space, texture, color, value, opacity, transparency, time, unity, variety, rhythm, movement, proportion, scale, balance, emphasis, contrast, repetition, connection, juxtaposition, and hierarchy. Students should consider how materials, processes, and ideas can be used to make work that involves space and form. Students can work with any materials, processes, and ideas. Figurative or non figurative sculptures, architectural models, metal work, ceramics, glasswork, installation, performance, assemblage, and 3-D fabric/fiber arts are among the possibilities for submission. Still images from videos or film are accepted. Composite images may be submitted. course is to explore sculptural art and designs.

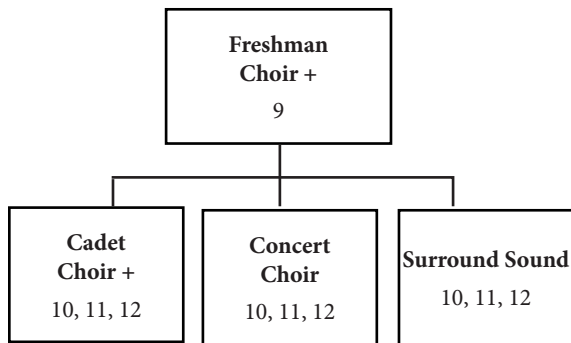


# McHenry Community High School District 156 Course Guide 2024-2025

## DIVISION OF FINE ARTS & WORLD LANGUAGE

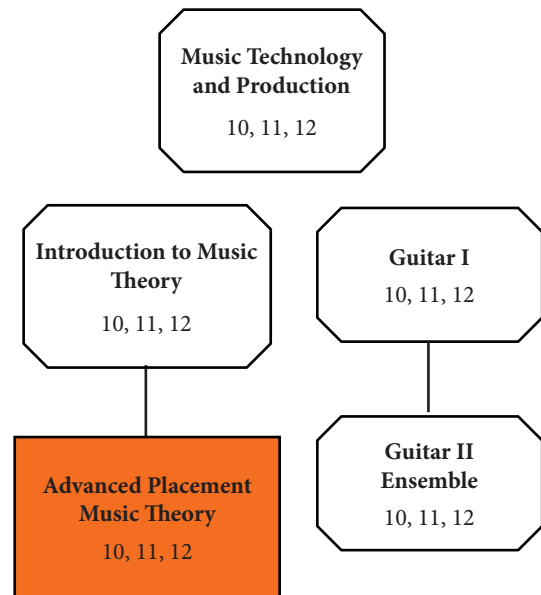
### MUSIC

#### VOCAL

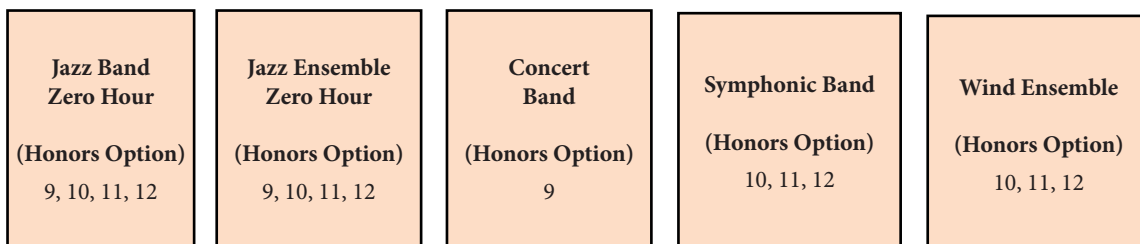


+ Freshman and sophomore students have the option to take 1/2 or 1 credit.

#### GENERAL



#### BAND







# McHenry Community High School District 156

## Course Guide 2024-2025

### MUSIC

#### CONCERT BAND (EARNED HONORS CREDIT - EHC) 1 Year 1 Credit

**Prerequisite:** Freshman standing

Concert Band is open for intermediate to advanced wind and percussion instrumentalists in all grade levels. The course emphasizes the development of performance skills, musical interpretation and individual technique. Through rehearsals, clinics and performances, students will broaden their musical abilities with the study of intermediate to advanced literature of various musical styles and historical periods. Students will play in four band concerts and one festival performance every year and will regularly work with guest clinicians to enhance their playing ability. Concert Band will perform at regularly scheduled concerts and various school community functions.

#### SYMPHONIC BAND (EARNED HONORS CREDIT - EHC) 1 Year 1 Credit

**Prerequisite:** Sophomore-Senior standing.  
**Audition and consent of the instructor.**

Symphonic Band is open for intermediate to advanced wind instrumentalists in grades 10-12. The course emphasizes the development of performance skills, musical interpretation and individual technique. Through rehearsals, clinics and performances, students will broaden their musical abilities with the study of intermediate to advanced literature of various musical styles and historical periods. Students will play on four band concerts and one festival performance every year and will regularly work with outside of MCHS clinicians to enhance their playing ability. Concert Band will perform at regularly scheduled concerts and various school community functions. The honors option will run concurrently with the non-honors option for this course. The honors option will include additional coursework and performance requirements as well as a more rigorous evaluation of students for non-honors coursework and evaluations.

#### WIND ENSEMBLE (EARNED HONORS CREDIT EHC) 1 Year 1 Credit

**Prerequisite:** Sophomore-Senior standing.  
**Audition and consent of the instructor.**

Wind Ensemble is the premier concert band at MCHS. Students will perform music of advanced high school/early college grade level in both traditional and contemporary music genres while developing advanced techniques and concepts in music performance, history, and beginning music theory. Performances will include both regularly scheduled, on-campus concerts and numerous off campus community and festival performances. Membership is by audition only, with auditions held the first two weeks of April. This is a full year ensemble open to students in grades 10-12. The honors option will run concurrently with the non-honors option for this course. The honors option will include additional coursework and performance requirements as well as a more rigorous evaluation of students for non-honors coursework and evaluations.

#### JAZZ BAND (ZERO HOUR) (EARNED HONORS CREDIT - EHC) 1 Year 1 Credit

**Prerequisite:** Concurrent enrollment in Concert or Symphonic Band and consent of the instructor.

Students in Jazz Band will learn the basics of improvisation, swing style, and jazz ensemble playing. Students will play jazz ensemble music ranging from 1920s swing to 80s funk to current contemporary jazz compositions. Jazz Band will also attend jazz festivals during the school year and host a variety of guest artists and educators to further the education of the jazz ensemble. Students must audition for jazz band AND be enrolled in either concert band or symphonic band during the school day in order to register for jazz band. This zero hour course will meet two days a week. The remaining instructional time will consist of teacher assigned, formative practice through the use of technology. Students will have the flexibility to complete this practice when most convenient within their daily schedule. This is a yearlong course and is offered to students in grades 9-12.

**Students MUST have the ability to get to school without the use of bus transportation.**



# McHenry Community High School District 156

## Course Guide 2024-2025

### MUSIC

#### JAZZ ENSEMBLE (ZERO HOUR) (EARNED HONORS CREDIT - EHC)

**1 Year 1 Credit**

**Prerequisite: Concurrent enrollment in Concert or Symphonic Band and consent of the instructor**

The Jazz Ensemble is the premier jazz band at McHenry Community High School. Students in Jazz Ensemble will be learning advanced concepts related to jazz improvisation, ensemble performance, and transcription. It is open to all grade levels and meets twice before school. The remaining instructional time will consist of teacher assigned, formative practice through the use of technology. This is a yearlong course and is offered to students in grades 9-12. Private lessons are strongly encouraged to develop stylistic, technical, and improvisational skills. For students who need assistance, there is lesson scholarship money available. An audition for Jazz Ensemble is required AND students must be enrolled in either concert band or symphonic band during the school day. The honors option is for students who audition for IMEA and Jazz in the Fall, as well as perform solos at every concert/festival. The honors option and Jazz Ensemble will run concurrently with Zero Hour Jazz Band.

**Students MUST have the ability to get to school without the use of bus transportation.**



#### FRESHMAN CHOIR 1/2 OR 1 Year 1/2 OR 1 Credit \*\*

**Prerequisite: Freshman standing**

Freshman Choir provides an opportunity for 9th graders to develop basic fundamentals of their voices. Students will focus on developing basic knowledge in various styles of music, theory, history, and performing. The choir will perform at various concerts, festivals, and other school related activities.

**\*\*Students have the option to take this course for 1/2 or 1 credit.**

#### CADET CHOIR 1/2 OR 1 Year 1/2 OR 1 Credit \*\*

**Prerequisite: Sophomore-Senior standing, audition and consent of the instructor**

Cadet Choir provides an opportunity for beginning and intermediate musicians to develop basic fundamentals of their voices. Students will focus on developing basic knowledge in various styles of music, theory, history, and performing. The choir will perform at various concerts, festivals and other school related activities. The Cadet Choir will be open to any students interested in developing their voices.

**\*\*Students will have the option to take this course for 1/2 or 1 credit.**

#### CONCERT CHOIR 1 Year 1 Credit

**Prerequisite: Sophomore-Senior standing, audition and consent of the instructor**

Students in Concert Choir will continue developing skills on their voice part while learning to perform within the largest ensemble offered (100 students). Vocal music will include secular and sacred music from the Classical, Romantic, and Contemporary genres. The focus of this ensemble will be performing at the highest level possible while interpreting the inner meaning of the text through analysis. Music theory and rehearsal techniques will also be utilized. This blended course will run on a three-day rotation with Soprano/Alto meeting one day, Bass/Tenor meeting the next, and then both groups meeting for a combined class on



# McHenry Community High School District 156

## Course Guide 2024-2025

### MUSIC

the third before beginning the rotation again. On days where students are not required to be in class, there will be individual listening and theory tools to use and complete. All Concert Choir members will be required to participate in many curricular and extracurricular activities that will be scheduled with at least two weeks prior notice. Performances will include presentations at school events, festivals, civic functions, clinics, tours, and regularly scheduled concerts. Membership in this ensemble is by audition only, with auditions held the first two weeks of April.

#### **GUITAR I**                      **1 Semester 1/2 Credit** **Prerequisite: Sophomore-Senior standing**

Guitar I introduces students to basic concepts of guitar performance allowing students to perform basic melody performances utilized in folk, pop, and jazz styles. Additionally, this course will teach students about the fundamentals of basic music notation, chord symbols, and tab notation as well as fundamental concepts of popular and folk music styles and histories.

#### **GUITAR II ENSEMBLE**    **1 Semester 1/2 Credit** **Prerequisite: Sophomore-Senior standing, Guitar I or consent of the instructor**

The semester-long course will expand upon technical and theoretical practices established in Guitar I including greater emphasis on pop music theory, music composition, expanded use of barre chords and picking patterns, solo techniques, and musical independence. Ensemble performance will also be introduced with the inclusion of ensemble performance opportunities. This course may be repeated to allow for continued engagement in ensemble guitar and development of musical skills.

#### **SURROUND SOUND**                      **1 Year 1 Credit** **Prerequisite: Sophomore-Senior standing, audition and consent of the instructor**

Surround Sound is the premier vocal ensemble offered at MCHS. Students will become advanced musicians through the study of quality secular and sacred chamber choir literature from the Baroque, Renaissance, Romantic, Contemporary and Jazz genres. Surround Sound members will be required to participate in many curricular and extracurricular activities that will be scheduled with at least two weeks prior notice. The focus of this ensemble will be performing at the highest level possible while learning how to critique their own performances through clinics and critical listening. Performances will include presentations at school events, festivals, civic functions, clinics, tours, regularly scheduled concerts and honor invitations. Membership in this ensemble is by audition only, with auditions held the first two weeks of April.







# McHenry Community High School District 156

## Course Guide 2024-2025

### MUSIC

#### **MUSIC TECHNOLOGY AND PRODUCTION**

**1 Semester 1/2 Credit**

**Prerequisite: Sophomore-Senior standing**

This semester-long course will be to give students the theoretical and hands-on training needed to understand, set-up and run all of the technology needed to make any 21st century stage production a success. Students will study all components that are needed to run a successful sound rig, draw sound schemes for the needs of any school or private function, and be able to properly manage levels for corded and wireless applications. Sound recording, editing, and mixing using Audacity® and other audio platforms will also be studied. Students will learn how to create a lighting scheme and set appropriate cues into any auditorium or professional application and be prepared to use “industry standard” equipment.

#### **ADVANCED PLACEMENT**

#### **MUSIC THEORY**

**1 Year 1 Credit**

**Prerequisite: Sophomore-Senior standing, Introduction to Music Theory or passing of proficiency test**

AP Music Theory serves as a detailed study of music theory, composition, aural skills, and history in preparation for the AP Music Theory test. The course will address the topics typically covered in the first year of collegiate music study including notation fundamentals, functional tonality key and chord studies, modulations, form, texture, and history. This course is written in accordance with the expectations of the College Board for the AP Music Theory exam.



#### **INTRODUCTION TO MUSIC THEORY**

**1 Semester 1/2 Credit**

**Prerequisite: Sophomore-Senior standing**

Introduction to Music Theory is a one-semester course intended to prepare students for intensive study of music theory at the AP level. No prior music experience is necessary, though exposure to music through private instruction or a performance course is encouraged. This course focuses on the fundamental background knowledge for advanced music theory study including notation, key, scales, basic chord structure, introductory aural skills, beginning composition, and introductory music literature.



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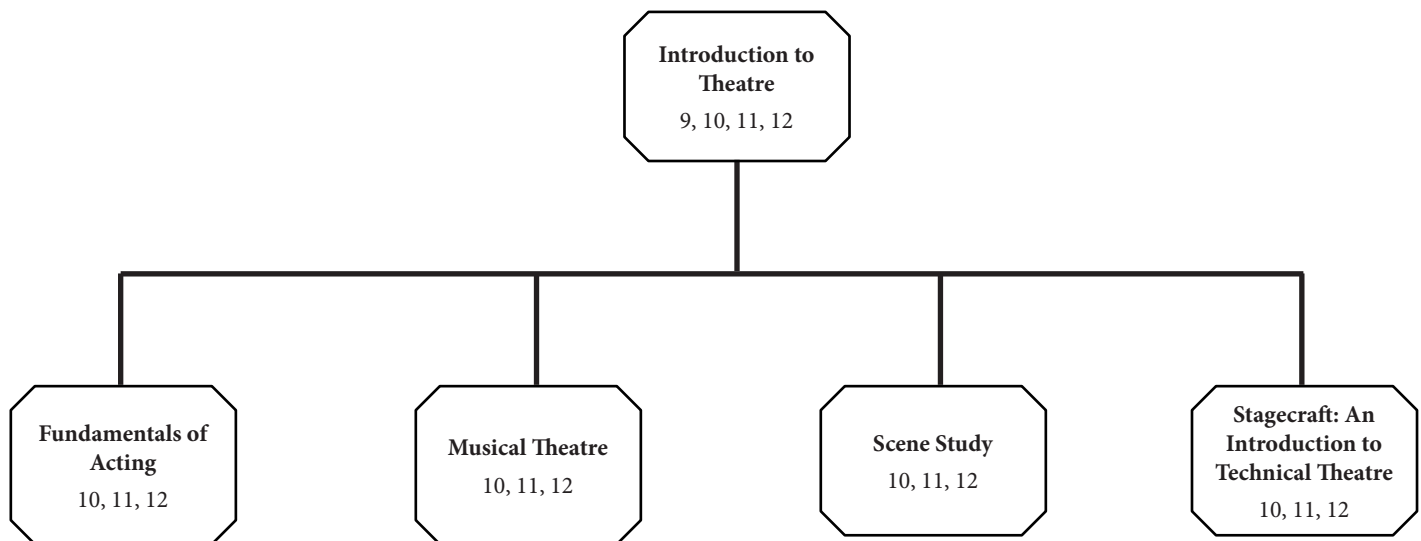


# McHenry Community High School District 156

## Course Guide 2024-2025

### DIVISION OF FINE ARTS & WORLD LANGUAGE

### THEATRE





# McHenry Community High School District 156

## Course Guide 2024-2025

### THEATRE

#### INTRODUCTION TO THEATRE

**1 Semester 1/2 Credit**

**Prerequisite: Freshman through Senior standing. This course does not qualify as a core course for the purposes of NCAA eligibility.**

The course will include theatre history, introduction to the stage and drama production, choosing and casting a play, technical theatre, and acting techniques. This “hands on” course is based on experimental learning. Evaluation will be based on participation, tests, a minimum of four themes, and a research project.

#### FUNDAMENTALS OF ACTING

**1 Semester 1/2 Credit**

**Prerequisite: Sophomore through Senior standing. Introduction to Theatre course work preferred, but not required.**

This course does not qualify as a core course for the purposes of NCAA eligibility. The course will include theatre history, introduction to the stage and drama production, choosing and casting a play, technical theatre, and acting techniques. This “hands on” course is based on experiential learning. Evaluation will be based on participation, tests, a minimum of four themes, and a research project.

#### MUSICAL THEATRE

**1 Semester 1/2 Credit**

**Prerequisite: Sophomore through Senior standing. Introduction to Theatre course work preferred, but not required.**

This semester-long course will introduce students to the techniques used by actors/singers to play musical theatre scenes believably, honestly and dynamically. Basic acting techniques will be taught as well as work in singing, text analysis, movement and speech. Students will begin with individual songs, then prepare, rehearse and present two-person musical scenes from classic and contemporary musical theatre.

#### SCENE STUDY

**1 Semester 1/2 Credit**

**Prerequisite: Sophomore through Senior standing. Introduction to Theatre course work preferred, but not required.**

In this semester-long course, students will take the principles from Intro and Musical Theatre and apply them in greater detail from monologue to scene to act or full play. Previous courses graze over the basics of acting and directing, this course will make them the focus. Students will begin with the basics of dramaturgy (script research, playwright motivation, social context, etc.) to analyze the backbone of a variety of scripts and genres before moving on to creating a directing plan. This course will culminate in an evening of one-acts directed, acted, and at times written by the students.

#### STAGECRAFT: AN INTRODUCTION TO TECHNICAL THEATRE

**1 Semester 1/2 Credit**

**Prerequisite: Sophomore through Senior standing. Introduction to Theatre course work preferred, but not required.**

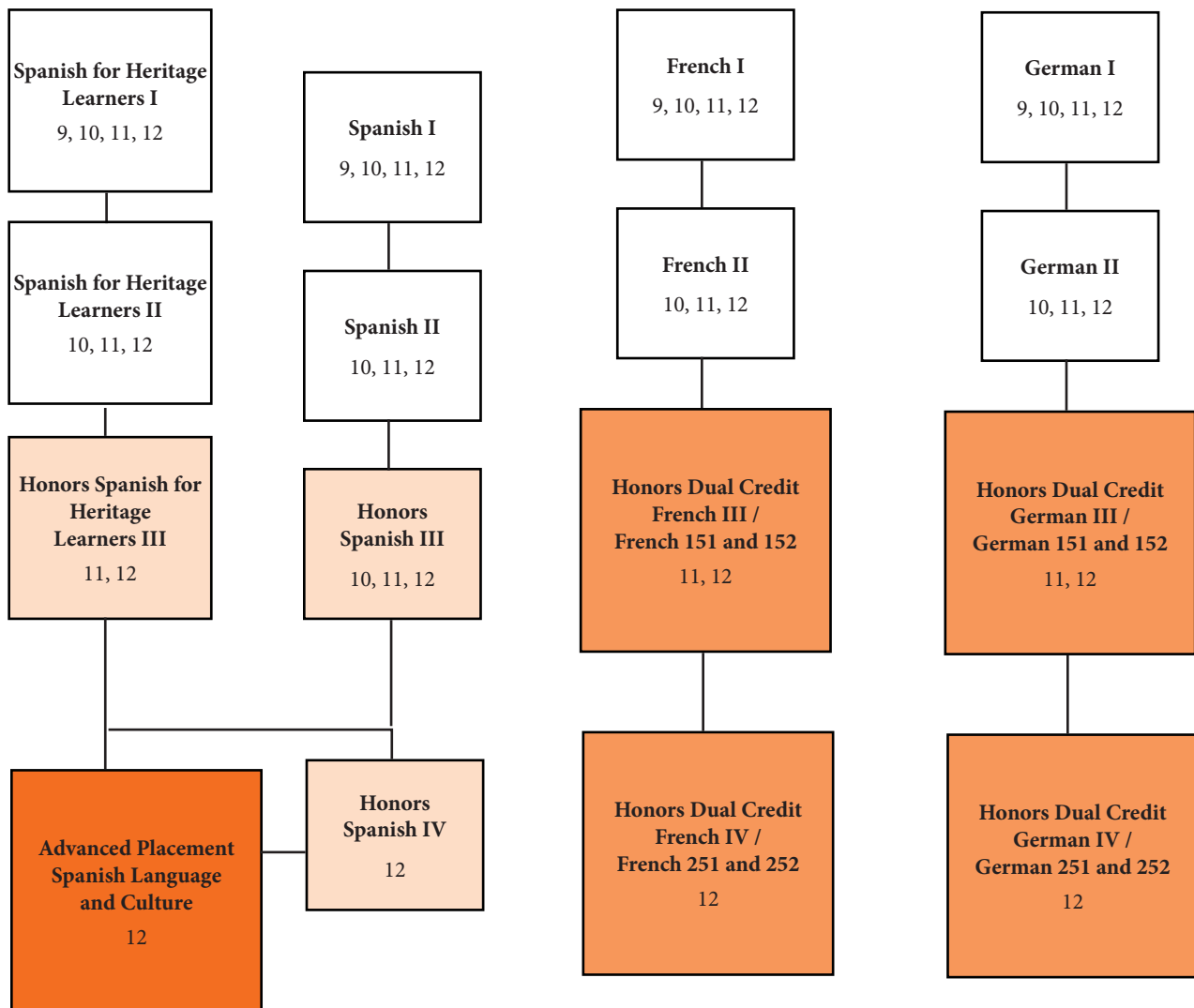
This course will introduce the student to the fundamental elements and principles of technical theatre through hands-on learning that makes use of the production facilities, operations, methods, and technologies used at McHenry Community High School, and to relate these practices to those used in professional, amateur, and educational theaters. The course will include a brief history of theatrical stages and technology and an overview of all technical aspects of design and production for the stage. Students will learn the functions of the creative team, production staff, technicians and stage crew. Basic elements of scenic construction, design concepts, theatrical lighting, sound technologies, costume and makeup design and stage management will be introduced and assessed through practical application.



# McHenry Community High School District 156 Course Guide 2024-2025

## DIVISION OF FINE ARTS & WORLD LANGUAGE

### WORLD LANGUAGE





# McHenry Community High School District 156

## Course Guide 2024-2025

### WORLD LANGUAGE

#### SPANISH FOR HERITAGE

##### LEARNERS I

1 Year 1 Credit

**Prerequisite:** Intermediate-mid level of Spanish-speaking proficiency or consent of the instructor

This course is designed to shape and practice the reading and writing skills of the Spanish-speaking student. It will be used to learn grammar and basic composition skills by means of contemporary literature. In addition to the reading and writing aspect of the course, social and cultural differences between the U.S. and Hispanic countries will be analyzed and discussed.

#### SPANISH FOR HERITAGE

##### LEARNERS II

1 Year 1 Credit

**Prerequisite:** Completion of Spanish for Heritage Learners I or consent of the instructor

This course is a year-long class with two alternating curriculums, enabling students to take two additional years of Spanish and designed to continue shaping and practicing the reading and writing skills of the Spanish-speaking student. It will further the development of grammar and basic composition skills by means of contemporary literature and film. In addition to the reading and writing aspect of the course, social and cultural aspects of Hispanic American life will be analyzed and discussed.

#### HONORS SPANISH FOR HERITAGE

##### LEARNERS III

1 Year 1 Credit

**Prerequisite:** Satisfactory performance in Spanish for Heritage Learners II, or consent of the instructor

This course is a year-long class with two alternating curriculums, enabling students to take two additional years of Spanish and designed to continue shaping and practicing the reading and writing skills of the Spanish speaking student. It will further the development of grammar and basic composition skills by means of contemporary literature and film. In addition to the reading and writing aspect of the course, social and cultural aspects of Hispanic American life will be analyzed and discussed. The course will also include demonstration and implementation of real life skills.

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#### ADVANCED PLACEMENT SPANISH

##### LANGUAGE AND CULTURE

1 Year 1 Credit

**Prerequisite:** Satisfactory performance in Spanish III, Heritage III, or Spanish IV, student desire, or consent of the instructor

This is a rigorous course instructed completely in Spanish. The expectations and workload will be considerably higher than Spanish IV Honors and students will be expected to use only Spanish. This course is intended to equate to the rigor of a college course through the application of the major skills on AP suggested themes. Reading, listening, speaking, and writing will be practiced daily through the use of authentic sources and scenarios. Students will also integrate a variety of vocabulary and grammar across a variety of themes. The course will culminate with the opportunity for students to take the AP exam in May.

##### SPANISH I

1 Year 1 Credit

**Prerequisite:** None

Through listening, speaking, reading, and writing, students will learn the basics of the Spanish language. Correct pronunciation of words, everyday phrases, useful vocabulary, and both the present tense and past tense of regular and irregular verbs will help develop communication skills. Cross-cultural comparisons between Hispanic countries will be presented.

##### SPANISH II

1 Year 1 Credit

**Prerequisite:** Spanish I, or consent of the instructor

This is a continuation of the first year program with an emphasis on increasing knowledge of the Spanish language. Speaking, reading, and writing in Spanish will be emphasized.

##### HONORS SPANISH III

1 Year 1 Credit

**Prerequisite:** Satisfactory performance in Spanish II, or consent of the instructor

In Spanish III, there is continued development of the four communication skills: listening, speaking, reading, and writing. In addition to the course of study of Spanish grammar and vocabulary, students will read, write short compositions, and communicate in the target language. The student should also be aware that much of the course content is presented in Spanish.





# McHenry Community High School District 156

## Course Guide 2024-2025

### WORLD LANGUAGE

#### HONORS SPANISH IV

**1 Year 1 Credit**

**Prerequisite: Satisfactory performance in Spanish III, or consent of the instructor**

Students will read, answer questions, and discuss literary works from Spain and Latin America. There will be an extensive grammar review, new vocabulary, and a focus on verbal and written communication skills. The student should be aware that the majority of the course content is taught in Spanish. The country and culture of Spain will be highlighted.

#### FRENCH I

**1 Year 1 Credit**

**Prerequisite: None**

Students enrolled in French I begin using the language in context from the first day. Authentic materials, such as advertisements, film, magazines, etc. directly from the target cultures are used to enhance learning of the basic skills of reading, writing, speaking, and listening. Focus is placed on authentic, practical language production. The teaching of cultures across the Francophone world, including Africa, Canada, and Asia, permeates the curriculum. Most of the class content is taught in French.

#### FRENCH II

**1 Year 1 Credit**

**Prerequisite: French I, or consent of the instructor**

French II expands upon the basic skills acquired in French I. The French language continues to be used and produced daily in the classroom. Culture is a main focus, as exploration of the distinct regions within France are highlighted. Students examine more complex language, such as overheard conversations, taking quick messages, and retelling stories in the past. Students can expect to read short literary passages, as well. Most of the class content is taught in French.

#### HONORS FRENCH III / FRENCH 151 and 152

DUAL CREDIT MCC)

**1 Year 1 Credit**

**Prerequisite: Satisfactory work in French II or consent of the instructor**

In French III, students continue their acquisition of practical language to include narrating in the present, past, and future. Daily application of the language includes contemporary cultural study, geography, and

daily life. Film and literature are frequently encountered. There is a continued development and refinement of the four basic skills: listening, speaking, reading, and writing. A grammar text containing reinforcement exercises in all four areas will be used. Most of the class content is taught in French. This course is offered in conjunction with MCC as a dual credit course. Students will earn 8 college credits with a grade of C or higher.

#### HONORS FRENCH IV / FRENCH 251 and 252 (DUAL CREDIT MCC)

**1 Year 1 Credit**

**Prerequisite: Satisfactory work in French III, or consent of the instructor**

Students will have the opportunity to develop their fluency in speaking French through discussions based on literary selections or magazine articles. The students will further develop grammatical skills by writing short compositions. There is a continued development and refinement of the four basic skills: listening, speaking, reading, and writing. A grammar text containing reinforcement exercises in all four areas will be used. The student should also be aware that much of the course content is presented in French. This capstone course is offered in conjunction with MCC as a dual credit course. Students will earn 8 college credits with a grade of C or higher.





# McHenry Community High School District 156

## Course Guide 2024-2025

### WORLD LANGUAGE

#### **GERMAN I**

**1 Year 1 Credit**

**Prerequisite: None**

Students will study the German language, developing skills of understanding, speaking, reading, and writing. Acquisition of useful, contemporary vocabulary is stressed, along with a natural and basic conversational level of language. Also stressed are the lifestyles, interests and activities of people from German-speaking countries.

#### **GERMAN II**

**1 Year 1 Credit**

**Prerequisite: German I, or consent of the instructor**

German II continues to develop skills in vocabulary, speaking, reading, and writing. There is emphasis on grammar concepts along with comprehension of the German culture.

#### **HONORS GERMAN III / GERMAN 151 and 152 (DUAL CREDIT MCC)**

**1 Year 1 Credit**

**Prerequisite: Successful completion of German II, or consent of the instructor**

The grammatical forms and vocabulary needed for formal writing are taught. Contemporary cultural material is used for the enlargement and enrichment of vocabulary, and as a basis for oral work and written composition in German. The textbook material will be enhanced through authentic materials. The students should be aware that much of the course content is presented in German. This course is offered in conjunction with MCC as a dual credit course. Students will earn 8 college credits with a grade of C or higher.



#### **HONORS GERMAN IV / GERMAN 251 and 252 (DUAL CREDIT MCC)**

**1 Year 1 Credit**

**Prerequisite: C or higher in German III or consent of the instructor**

Students will have the opportunity to develop their fluency in speaking German through discussions based on authentic texts. The students will further develop grammatical skills by writing short compositions. There is a continued development and refinement of the four basic skills: listening, speaking, reading, and writing. A grammar text containing reinforcement exercises in all four areas will be used. The student should also be aware that much of the course content is presented in German. This capstone course is offered in conjunction with MCC as a dual credit course. Students will earn 8 college credits with a grade of C or higher.



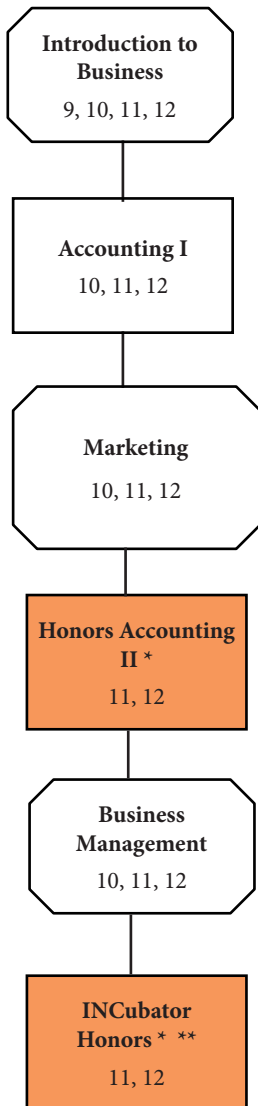
# McHenry Community High School District 156 Course Guide 2024-2025

## DIVISION OF CAREER & TECHNICAL EDUCATION (CTE)

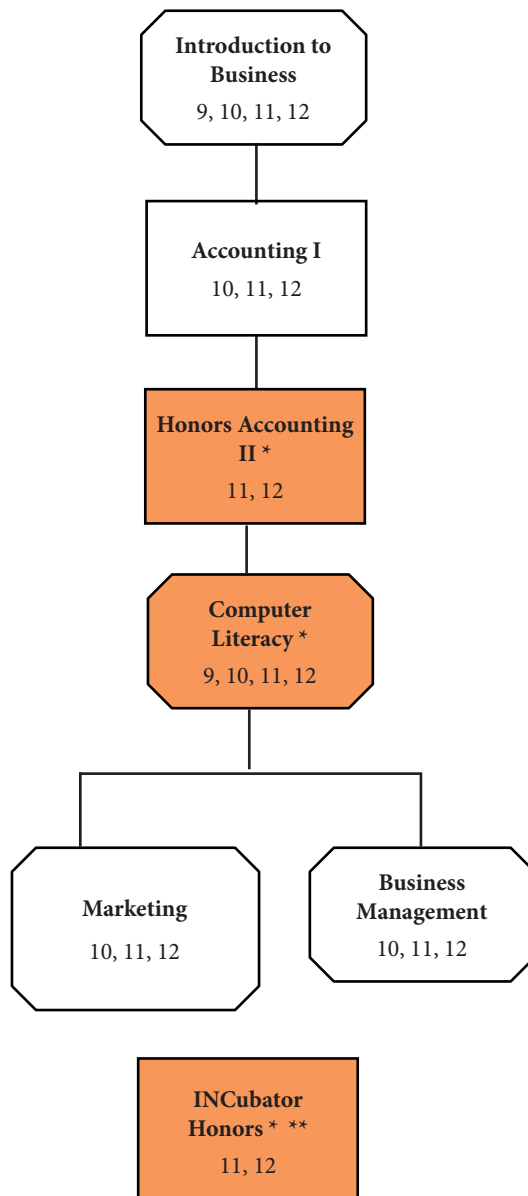
### BUSINESS EDUCATION

Possible sequences of courses in Business Education Curriculum

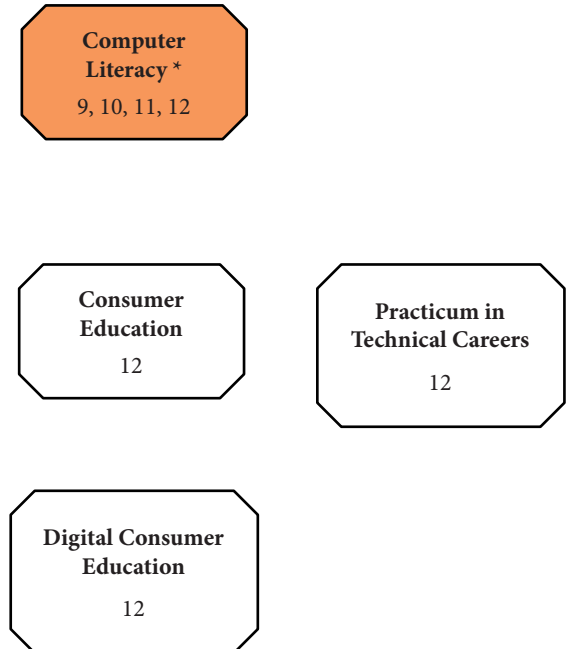
#### Accounting Emphasis:



#### Marketing Emphasis:



#### Technology Emphasis:



\* Dual Credit Course through MCC where the credits transfer to most colleges and universities.

\*\* One year of any Business Electives required.



# McHenry Community High School District 156

## Course Guide 2024-2025

### BUSINESS EDUCATION

#### INTRODUCTION TO

#### BUSINESS

**1 Semester 1/2 Credit**

**Prerequisite: None**

This course is an introduction to the world of business and includes the following topics: business ownership and management, marketing operations, careers in business, basic economic concepts, business ethics, and computer technology. This is a highly recommended course for any student wanting to pursue a career in business or wishing to take additional business courses in high school.

#### BUSINESS

#### MANAGEMENT

**1 Semester 1/2 Credit**

**Prerequisite: Sophomore, Junior or Senior standing**

Business Management is a semester course that will be a solid foundation for college-bound students or students entering the business world after graduation. Students will gain a clear understanding of the characteristics, organization and operations of business, as well as an understanding of the importance of business and management in our economic system. Topics covered include the business environment, forms of business organizations, legal principles of business, government regulations, business ethics, information and communication systems, financial management, production and marketing management, and human resources management.

#### MARKETING

**1 Semester 1/2 Credit**

**Prerequisite: Sophomore, Junior or Senior standing**

Students in Marketing will gain a basic understanding of what marketing is, as well as selling, market research and promotion. Students will learn these concepts through a variety of high-energy methods such as projects, videos, activities, and traditional classroom instruction. Marketing gives students the unique ability to exercise their teamwork, creativity, and business skills. It is recommended that students who plan to pursue a business or marketing career take this course.

#### ACCOUNTING I

**1 Year 1 Credit**

**Prerequisite: Sophomore, Junior or Senior standing**

Accounting I is a skill-level course that is of value to all students pursuing a background in business, marketing, and management; however, it also teaches students to maintain their own individual financial records, thus, it is important even for those students not planning any further study in the area. In addition to learning basic fundamentals and terminology of accounting, students will understand the preparation of financial budgets and reports as associated with a sole proprietorship, partnership, and corporation. Accounting computer applications will be integrated throughout the course where applicable. Simulations with business papers will be used to emphasize actual business records management.

#### HONORS ACCOUNTING II (Dual Credit MCC)

**1 Year 1 Credit**

**Prerequisite: Accounting I**

This second year course is specifically career oriented. It is planned for the student who is planning on entering college as a Business and/or Accounting major. Units of study will include departmentalized accounting, cost accounting, financial accounting, and managerial accounting. There will be a strong emphasis on the analysis of financial statements for increased business performance and production.







# McHenry Community High School District 156

## Course Guide 2024-2025

### BUSINESS EDUCATION

#### HONORS INCUBATOREDU (DUAL CREDIT MCC)

**1 Year 1 Credit**

**Prerequisite: Two semesters of Business or PLTW Engineering or Comp. Science courses not including Consumer Education.**

The INCubatoredu entrepreneurship course is designed to get students excited about becoming true entrepreneurs by giving them the opportunity to create and fully develop their own product or service. Real-world entrepreneurs and business experts will serve as coaches and mentors guiding student teams through the process of ideation, market research, and business model development. Over the course of the year, student teams will learn about marketing, finance, as well as the legal aspects of starting a business. They will have access to a network of professionals to further develop their skills (teamwork, problem solving, presentation, communication) for college and career readiness. The program will culminate with Pitch Week. Pitch Week helps further fire the entrepreneurship spirit by putting student teams in front of actual investors so they can pitch their innovative idea to win funding and turn their wishful thinking into a reality.

#### COMPUTER LITERACY

#### (DUAL CREDIT MCC) 1 Semester 1/2 Credit

**Prerequisite: None**

Computer Literacy offers an overview of computer use in a rapidly changing high-tech society. Students get hands-on experience with word processing, spreadsheets, database management, presentation software, Internet use and Windows. Computer components, terminology and ethical considerations in our digital society are also discussed. Students will be assessed a small fee for the MCC online resources needed to complete the class. Students will earn 3 MCC credits by earning a "C" or above in this course.

#### CONSUMER EDUCATION

**1 Semester 1/2 Credit**

**Prerequisite: Senior standing**

Consumer Education is a required course which gives students information that allows them to make better use of their consumer dollars. Topics covered in this course include: economic systems,

advertising, budgets, banking, investing, credit, transportation, housing, insurance, careers and taxes. Through project-based learning, students will monitor the stock market, manage a personal checking/savings account, complete state and federal income tax forms and explore the process of comparison shopping. The blended format of Consumer Education is an opportunity for students to complete their assignments and projects at their own pace. Struggling students will be identified to provide extra support and interventions to help them be successful in individualized learning. This course will give the opportunity to differentiate learning to meet the needs of all students enrolled.



#### CONSUMER EDUCATION

#### (DIGITAL)

**1 Semester 1/2 Credit**

**Prerequisite: Senior standing. Minimum cumulative GPA of 3.5**

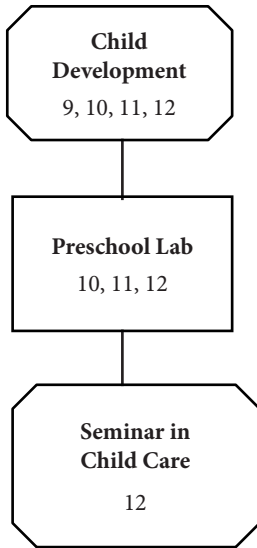
This is a fully digital course where students will be responsible for completing all the learning, discussion posts, projects and quizzes on their own. Only highly motivated, independent, and responsible students should consider this course. Digital Consumer Education does not meet during the school day with a teacher; however, there will be a teacher assigned to this class to provide assistance to students as needed. Students will also be required to meet in person for a midterm and final examination. Consumer Education is a required course which gives students information that allows them to make better use of their consumer dollars. Topics covered in this course include: economic systems, investing, money management, credit, housing, transportation, insurance, and taxes.



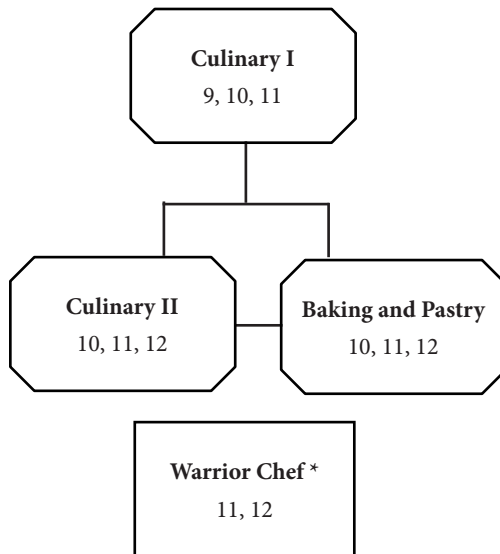
# McHenry Community High School District 156 Course Guide 2024-2025

## FAMILY AND CONSUMER SCIENCES (FACS)

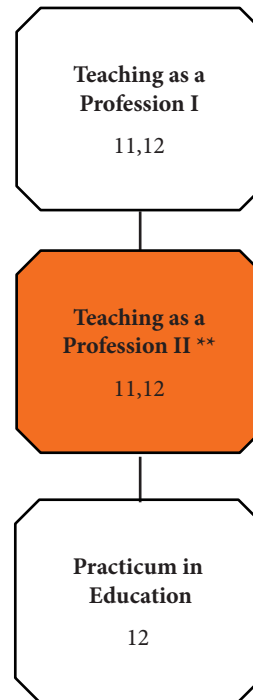
### Child and Day Care Opportunities:



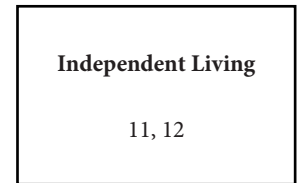
### Culinary Pathway:



### Education Pathway:



### Possible Electives:



\* Student must take Culinary II *AND* Baking and Pastry before taking Warrior Chef.

\*\* Dual Credit Course through MCC where credits transfer to most colleges and universities.



# McHenry Community High School District 156

## Course Guide 2024-2025

### FACS

**CULINARY ARTS I** 1 Semester 1/2 Credit  
**Prerequisite:** Freshman through Junior standing.  
**Students may only take one culinary course per school year.**

This course is designed to develop a basic understanding of food principles and knowledge. Included are nutrition, safety, sanitation, meal planning, table setting and service, food preparation, management techniques, and the development of personal qualities needed for employment success. Through classroom experiences, a variety of culinary careers will be explored.

**CULINARY ARTS II** 1 Semester 1/2 Credit  
**Prerequisite:** Sophomore through Senior standing and Culinary Arts I. **Students may only take one culinary course per school year.**

This culinary course is designed for students interested in advanced food techniques and gourmet cookery. The students receive laboratory experiences preparing food in quantity, and serving food. Safety and sanitation are emphasized. Students will prepare appetizers, soups, sauces, salads, sandwiches, pasta, meat, poultry, and ethnic foods.

**BAKING AND PASTRY** 1 Semester 1/2 Credit  
**Prerequisite:** Sophomore through Senior standing and Culinary Arts I. **Students may only take one culinary course per school year.**

Students will explore the science of baking by practicing techniques essential to the production of a variety of breads, cakes, pies, pastries, candies, and desserts. Students will study cake decorating and apply basic techniques in plating and food preparation. Culinary professions and food industry occupations are reviewed.



**WARRIOR CHEF** 1 Year 1 Credit  
**Prerequisite:** Junior/Senior standing with an application process and Culinary Arts I, Culinary Arts II AND Baking and Pastry

This course is designed to provide students interested in a career in food service with the information and practical experiences needed to be successful. Students who take this course are required to complete and pay for their Food and Handlers Certificate which will make them marketable in the job industry. Through classroom experiences, a variety of culinary careers will be explored. Opportunities for experiences in quantity food production and service are provided.

**CHILD DEVELOPMENT** 1 Semester 1/2 Credit  
**Prerequisite:** None

This course emphasizes learning experiences which help students gain knowledge and understanding of the intellectual, physical, social, and emotional development of children from conception to adolescence. Students will study personality, decision-making, goal setting, family and interpersonal relationships, human reproduction, prenatal health and care of the newborn and toddlers. Childcare career opportunities will be explored.

**PRESCHOOL LAB** 1 Year 1 Credit  
**Prerequisite:** Sophomore standing. **Introduction to Child Care and Development, or consent of the instructor.**

This course is designed to provide students interested in child and daycare occupations with experiences needed for career-related competencies. Students will be provided laboratory experiences in either a school-based or extended-campus facility. Classroom study is concerned with management of the preschool which is run by the students several days per week.





# McHenry Community High School District 156

## Course Guide 2024-2025

### FACS

#### SEMINAR IN CHILD CARE

**1 Year 1 Credit OR 1 Semester 1/2 Credit**

**Prerequisite: Senior standing and ECE certification required\*\***

This course is designed and approved by the instructor for a limited number of senior students who wish to do advanced study in childcare. Areas of concentration will be chosen each semester. Work completed as a lab assistant may be part of the evaluation. Emphasis will be on attainment of maximum growth toward self-set goals, and may include off-campus activities.

\*\* Students will have the option to take this course for 1/2 or 1 credit

#### INDEPENDENT LIVING

**1 Year 1 Credit**

**Prerequisite: Junior or Senior standing**

This course offers a challenging learning opportunity for capable juniors and seniors to study and analyze current consumer topics such as loans, comparison shopping, budgeting, banking, credit, housing, automobiles, and insurance. Extensive use of current events will lead students through a year-long budget project to give them real life experience in living on their own. This course meets the requirements for Consumer Education instruction as required by the School Code of Illinois (Section 27-12.1). The blended format of Independent Living is an opportunity for students to complete their assignments and projects at their own pace. Struggling students will be identified to provide extra support and interventions to help them be successful in individualized learning. This course will give the opportunity to differentiate learning to meet the needs of all students enrolled.

#### TEACHING AS A PROFESSION (TAP) I

**1 Semester 1/2 Credit**

**Prerequisite: Junior or Senior standing**

This course provides the prospective teacher with a historical and philosophical overview of American public education. Topics include: What makes an effective teacher; the path to becoming a teacher; skills for college & career; and current society and education.

#### DUAL CREDIT TEACHING AS A PROFESSION II (TAP) / EDU 251

**1 Semester 1/2 Credit**

**Prerequisite: Junior or Senior standing; successful completion of TAP I**

A class introducing students to the field of teaching. Topics include current planning for instruction, instructional methods, technology for instruction, the role of assessment, classroom management, and the challenges of teaching. This course provides students with the opportunity to explore the field of teaching, reflect on their interest in education, and develop connections with other future educators. Students in this course will be observing in the elementary, middle and high school classrooms for a total of 15 hours. for college & career; and current society and education.

#### PRACTICUM IN EDUCATION

**1 Semester 1/2 Credit**

**Prerequisite: Senior standing only. TAP I, or Teacher Assistant in Education and Technical Careers, or with strong teacher recommendation.**

This is a one semester or one-year course that will seek to place students in real world practical experiences in education. The target population is senior students who have a legitimate interest to explore education as a career. Potential placements for interested and qualified students include elementary, middle schools, high schools, or preschools. Students will have a two period release and will need to maintain qualifications and produce a culminating project or portfolio. This is a two period experience



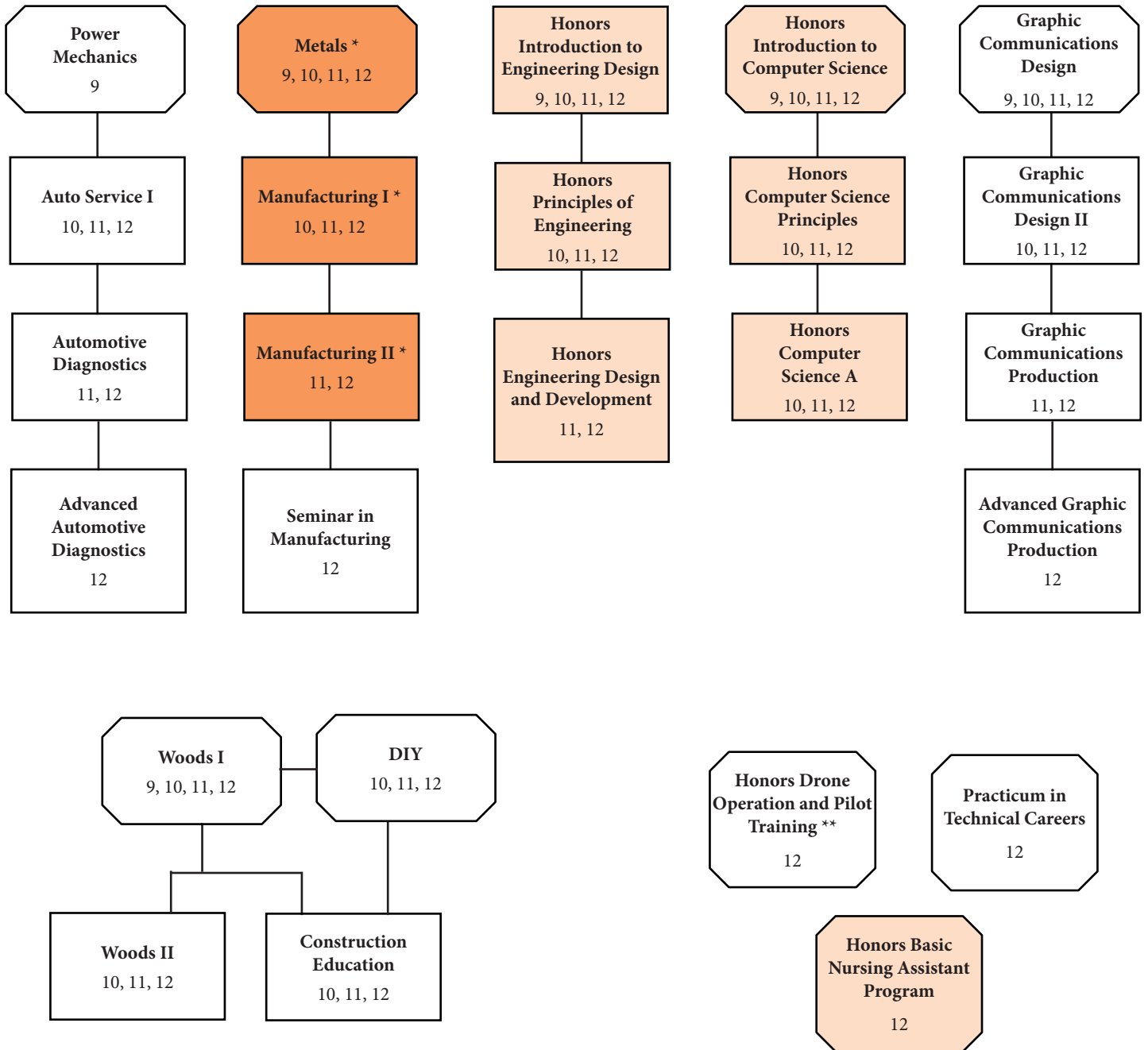




# McHenry Community High School District 156

## Course Guide 2024-2025

### INDUSTRIAL & APPLIED TECHNOLOGY



\* Dual Credit Course through MCC where credits transfer to most colleges and universities.

\*\* One year of Computer Science or Engineering required.



# McHenry Community High School District 156

## Course Guide 2024-2025

### INDUSTRIAL & APPLIED TECHNOLOGY

#### **POWER MECHANICS** 1 Semester 1/2 Credit **Prerequisite: Freshman standing**

Power Mechanics is designed to offer a solid background of principles, information and skills in the areas of tools, small engines, measurement and safety. Principles, knowledge and skills are developed which apply directly to Automobile Services I and II. The knowledge and skills developed in this course are beneficial to students advancing to Automotive Services I and II; although, it is not required.

#### **AUTOMOBILE SERVICE I** 1 Year 1 Credit **Prerequisite: Sophomore-Senior Standing**

This course provides students with an introduction to the automotive industry. Students will become acquainted with the major vehicle subsystems and components, identify their function and importance, and learn their service requirements. This general overview course covers shop safety, hazardous materials, basic physics principles, steering, chassis, suspension, brakes, internal combustion engines, electricity, drivetrain systems, and basic diagnostics. The lab portion of this course offers hands-on experience that reinforces the theories and service procedures presented in the classroom. This course is a prerequisite to Auto Service II.

#### **AUTOMOTIVE DIAGNOSTICS** 1 Year 1 Credit **Prerequisite: Passing grade in Automobile Service I or consent of the instructor**

This course is available to any student with a satisfactory performance in Automobile Service I. The purpose of the course is to prepare the student for a career in the field of auto mechanics. Students will study suspension, drive-train, air conditioning, engine analysis, volt-amp testing welding principles as applied to the automotive industry and limited engine overhaul. Activities include reading and writing, viewing audio-visual programs, taking local field trips, listening to lecture/ demonstrations and shop practice. No body repair work is practiced in this course.

**[Return to Course Selection](#)**

#### **ADVANCED AUTOMOTIVE DIAGNOSTICS**

1 Year 1 Credit

**Prerequisite: Senior Standing, consent of the instructor, and passed Automotive Diagnostics**

This course provides an advanced study of engine systems, transmissions, heating and cooling systems, and steering and brakes. Students will use multimeters, oscilloscopes, and scan tools to test engine sensors and emission systems. Scan tools will also be used to test electronic steering control, ABS function, and traction control. Upon successful completion of this course, students will be prepared for an apprenticeship in the automotive industry and/or post-secondary automotive program study.

#### **METALS (DUAL CREDIT MCC)**

1 Semester 1/2 Credit

**Prerequisite: None**

This course is a general metalworking course introducing Precision Machining as it applies to Manufacturing. Students will be introduced to power machinery such as milling machines, lathes and grinders. Related projects and exercises will be provided. Safety will be highly stressed. Courses in Drafting are highly recommended in conjunction with Metals. This is a dual credit course with MCC (IMT-100) and students may receive college credit for this course by meeting the academic criteria.

#### **MANUFACTURING I (DUAL CREDIT MCC)**

1 Year 1 Credit

**Prerequisite: Passing grade in Metals or consent of the instructor**

The first twelve weeks of the course will be lathe operations, SMAW welding, print reading and employability skills. At twelve weeks, students will use their experiences from Metals I and the beginning of this course to determine if they would like to specialize in Welding or Manufacturing. Students will write resumes, put together portfolios and interview for the pathway they prefer. The remainder of the year will be developing skills in that chosen pathway. Using a flipped classroom model, students will have access to course content, tutorial videos and online resources that pertain to their pathway. The instructor will guide both Welding and Manufacturing groups toward industry certifications and assist both groups during the same class period. Certifications will include NIMS Safety, Measurement and Materials, Turning Between Centers and Chucking



# McHenry Community High School District 156

## Course Guide 2024-2025

### INDUSTRIAL & APPLIED TECHNOLOGY

Skills as well as AWS D1.1 3G Welder Certification and AWS SENSE Modules 1-5. This is a dual credit course with MCC (IMT-100) and students may receive college credit for this course by meeting the academic criteria.

#### MANUFACTURING II (DUAL CREDIT MCC)

**1 Year 1 Credit**

**Prerequisite: Passing grade in Manufacturing I or consent of the instructor**

This is an advanced course in Manufacturing or Welding. Students will continue on their pathway from Manufacturing I. The class will be a flipped model, with students utilizing Schoology, online content and coursework, online resources and teacher guidance to work toward industry certification in either Welding or Manufacturing. Manufacturing content will be centered around milling and CNC programming and operations. Welding will be centered around GMAW, GTAW, and Fabrication techniques. Students will be working toward NIMS Manual Milling Skills I, CNC Operator and Milling, Programming, Set-up and Operations certifications for Manufacturing. Students will be working toward AWS D1.1 FCAW 3G Welder certification as well as completing AWS SENSE Level I certification. CTSO competitions will include State Skills USA as well as TMA Machining competitions. Upon completion of the program, students may enroll in a practicum experience with one of our industry partners or, if in their senior year, they could be placed into an apprenticeship to further their education in the field.

#### SEMINAR IN MANUFACTURING

**1 Year 1 Credit**

**Prerequisite: Senior standing, consent of the instructor, and passed the Level II of the preceding course**

This is an individual study course designed for a limited number of senior students who wish to do advanced lab work and career investigation in manufacturing. Areas of concentration and requirements will be decided upon by the student and teacher, and a contract will be written for each semester. Student is expected to fulfill the requirements of the contract. Emphasis will be on attainment of maximum growth toward self-set goals.

[Return to Course Selection](#)

#### HONORS INTRODUCTION TO ENGINEERING DESIGN (PLTW)

**1 Year 1 Credit**

**Prerequisite: Students should be enrolled in college preparatory mathematics and science courses.**

IED exposes students to a design process, professional communication and collaboration methods, design ethics, and technical documentation. It gives students the opportunity to develop skills in research and analysis, teamwork, technical writing, engineering graphics, and problem solving through activity, project, and problem-based learning. This is a hands-on, real-world problem-solving approach to learning. Students learn and apply the design process, acquire strong teamwork and communication proficiency, and develop organizational, critical-thinking, and problem-solving skills. Using math, science and technology concepts, they will discover the answers to questions of how things are made and what processes go into creating products. Students will use the same industry-leading 3D design software as major companies. They will explore aerodynamics, astronautics, and space life sciences. Students will apply biological and engineering concepts related to biomechanics (robotics). Students will design, test, and construct circuits and devices such as smart phones and tablets while working collaboratively on culminating a capstone project.

#### HONORS PRINCIPLES OF ENGINEERING (PLTW)

**1 Year 1 Credit**

**Prerequisite: Successful completion of Honors Introduction to Engineering Design**

Through problems that engage and challenge, students explore a broad range of engineering topics, including mechanisms, the strength of structures and materials, and automation. Students develop skills in problem solving, research, and design while learning strategies for design process documentation, collaboration, and presentation. This course is the second in the series of three that is the intended path for pre-engineering students at McHenry. This series of classes not only prepares students for the rigors of college engineering curriculum and workplace expectations but also serves as a career exploration and selection tool.



# McHenry Community High School District 156

## Course Guide 2024-2025

### INDUSTRIAL & APPLIED TECHNOLOGY

#### HONORS ENGINEERING DESIGN AND DEVELOPMENT (PLTW) 1 Year 1 Credit

**Prerequisite: Successful completion of Honors Principles of Engineering**

This course is the third in the series of three that is the intended path for pre-engineering students at McHenry. This series of classes not only prepares students for the rigors of college engineering curriculum and workplace expectations but also serves as a career exploration and selection tool. Through problems that engage and challenge, students explore a broad range of engineering topics, including mechanisms, the strength of structures and materials, and automation. Students develop skills in problem solving, research, and design while learning strategies for design process documentation, collaboration, and presentation.



#### HONORS INTRODUCTION TO COMPUTER SCIENCE 1 Semester 1/2 Credit

**Prerequisite: None**

Introduction to Computer Science (ICS) is designed as a half-year high school course in Project Lead the Way (PLTW). In each module, student teams create an Android® interface to solve a problem the team defines. Students learn fundamental computer science (CS) concepts using MIT App Inventor. The course aims to develop computational thinking and build student excitement. Several days in each module are targeted to build career awareness about computing skills in all fields and to improve students' cyber hygiene.

[Return to Course Selection](#)

#### HONORS COMPUTER SCIENCE PRINCIPLES 1 Year 1 Credit

**Prerequisite: Introduction to Computer Science or consent of the instructor**

Using Python® as a primary tool and incorporating multiple platforms and languages for computation, this course aims to develop computational thinking, generate excitement about career paths that utilize computing, and introduce professional tools that foster creativity and collaboration. Computer Science Principles helps students develop programming expertise and explore the workings of the Internet. Projects and problems include app development, visualization of data, cybersecurity, and simulation. PLTW is recognized by the College Board as an endorsed provider of curriculum and professional development for AP® Computer Science Principles (AP CSP). This endorsement affirms that all components of PLTW CSP's offerings are aligned to the AP Curriculum Framework standards and the AP CSP assessment. This course will lead to future courses in PLTW-Computer Science coming in 2019-20.

#### HONORS COMPUTER SCIENCE A 1 Year 1 Credit

**Prerequisite: Successful completion of Honors Computer Science Principles**

Computer Science A focuses on further developing computational-thinking skills through the medium of Android™ App development for mobile platforms. The course utilizes industry-standard tools such as Android Studio, Java™ programming language, SML, and device emulators. Students collaborate to create original solutions to problems of their own choosing by designing and implementing user interfaces and web-based databases. This course aligns with the AP CS A course.

#### ADVANCED COMPUTER SCIENCE (HONORS) 1 Year 1 Credit

**Prerequisite: Successful completion of Computer Science A**

Advanced Computer Science is a technical introduction to the fundamentals of programming with an emphasis on producing clear, robust, and reasonably efficient





# McHenry Community High School District 156

## Course Guide 2024-2025

### INDUSTRIAL & APPLIED TECHNOLOGY

code using top-down design, informal analysis, and effective testing and debugging. Starting from first principles, we will cover a large subset of the Python programming language, including its standard libraries and programming paradigms. This is a rigorous and fast-paced course that requires successful completion of Computer Science A and permission from the instructor.

#### GRAPHIC COMMUNICATIONS

##### DESIGN

**1 Semester 1/2 Credit**

**Prerequisite: Freshman-Senior Standing**

This course provides an introduction to the graphic communications/ design areas of the printing industry. Students will build specialized skills stressing the areas of design, desktop publishing, digital manipulation, digital press operations, screen-printing, vinyl, and web based creations. Students will be introduced to the Adobe Creative Suite and will create projects for their own use. This course is designed to prepare a student with entry-level job skills in areas of the print industry, as well as continuing education in graphic communications & graphic arts.

#### GRAPHIC COMMUNICATIONS

##### DESIGN II

**1 Year 1 Credit**

**Prerequisite: Graphics Communications Design I**

This course provides an introduction to the graphic arts/communications areas of the printing industry. Students will build specialized skills stressing the areas of design, desktop publishing, digital photography, digital press operations, screen-printing, vinyl, large format printing, vinyl installation and web based creations. Students will be continue to the learn Adobe Creative Suite and will create projects for their own use as well as assist the District Print Shop production company MCHS Warriors Ink. This course is designed to prepare a student with entry-level job skills in areas of the print industry, as well as continuing education in graphic communications & graphic arts.

[Return to Course Selection](#)

#### GRAPHIC COMMUNICATIONS

##### PRODUCTION

**1 Year 1 Credit**

**Prerequisite: Graphic Communications Design II**

This course provides an advanced study of the graphic arts/communications areas of the printing industry and focuses on occupational preparation and production. Simulated on-the-job experiences from the District's Print Shop production company MCHS Warriors Ink will provide students with opportunities to enhance their specialized skills. During non-production time students will be expected to work on projects of their choice and produce a portfolio based on their time in the Graphic Arts/Communications Program. This course is designed to prepare a student with entry-level job skills in specialized areas of the printing industry, as well as continuing education in graphic communications/ arts.



#### ADVANCED GRAPHIC COMMUNICATIONS

##### PRODUCTION

##### (WARRIORS INK)

**1 Year 1 Credit**

**Prerequisite: Graphic Communications Design II**

**Prerequisite: Senior standing, consent of the instructor, and passed the Level of the preceding course.**

These are individual study courses designed for a limited number of senior students who wish to do advanced lab work and career investigation in a subject area. Areas of concentration and requirements will be decided upon by the student and teacher, and a contract will be written for each semester. Students are expected to fulfill the requirements of the contract. Emphasis will be on attainment of maximum growth toward self-set goals.



# McHenry Community High School District 156

## Course Guide 2024-2025

### INDUSTRIAL & APPLIED TECHNOLOGY

#### **WOODS I**

**1 Semester 1/2 Credit**

**Prerequisite: None**

This course will introduce the principles and concepts related to the safe use of hand tools and machine tools in modern woodworking. Additional units of instruction will include wood technology, measurement, wood joints and finishing techniques. This course is project based and students will construct projects throughout the semester. It is recommended that students enroll in Drafting as background information for Woods.

#### **WOODS II**

**1 Year 1 Credit**

**Prerequisite: Passing grade in Woods or consent of the instructor**

This course is an advanced woodworking class emphasizing the safe use of hand tools and woodworking machines used in modern woodworking. Additional units of instruction will include wood technology, project design, wood joints, machine techniques, assembly techniques, and finishing operations. Students will learn and improve techniques through a hands-on, project-oriented approach, constructing projects throughout the school year.

#### **DIY**

**1 Semester 1/2 Credit**

**Prerequisite: Sophomore-Senior Standing**

This course is designed to give students the opportunity to learn many of the skills necessary to maintain and update a home, condominium, or townhome. Units on plumbing, electrical, drywall, flooring, safety, and others that make up the construction industry will all be covered, giving every student in the class exposure to many different possible and lucrative career paths.

#### **CONSTRUCTION EDUCATION** 1 Year 1 Credit

**Prerequisite: DIY or Woods I**

Construction Education is a course designed to provide students with an in-depth learning experience based on the many different steps both residential and commercial construction projects. This course will also provide students with multiple career options within the construction industry. From the beginning of a construction project where bidding and estimating jobs are calculated, to finish carpentry where trim and buttoning up a construction project are completed, this class is designed to provide students with knowledge and understanding of the different steps that are taken in the many different disciplines within the construction industry. In this class, students will learn communication skills (both written and oral), mathematics skills, and hands on skills that are vital for success in the construction industry. Construction Education class will provide students exposure to many different disciplines within the construction industry though traditional classroom/shop lessons, job site field trips, guest speakers, and hands on construction projects.





# McHenry Community High School District 156

## Course Guide 2024-2025

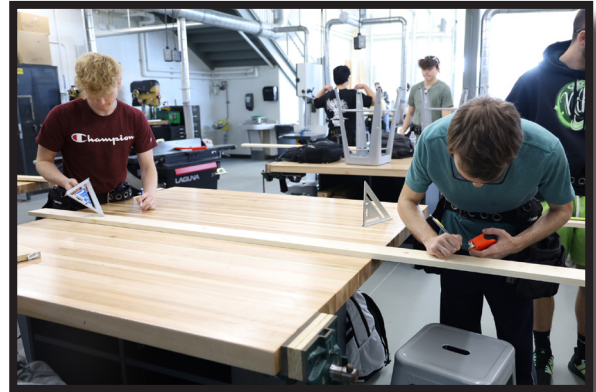
### INDUSTRIAL & APPLIED TECHNOLOGY

#### DRONE OPERATIONS AND PILOT TRAINING

**1 Semester 1/2 Credit**

**Prerequisite:** Junior/Senior standing with one year of PLTW Engineering, Computer Science, or consent of the instructor

This course provides knowledge about the regulations and procedures governing the legal operation of Small Unmanned Aerial Systems (sUAS) in the United States. Students will prepare to take the Federal Aviation Administration's (FAA's) Part 107 airman knowledge test for a Remote Pilot sUAS License. In addition, students will learn to fly various sUAS (drones) including DJI Mini 2 and Mavic 2 Pro with the goal of becoming NIST certified for flight proficiency. Hands on activities will also cover safety procedures, mission planning best practices, maintenance protocols, and flight proficiency. **\$35 Fee for the course and possible additional fee to take FAA Part 107 Exam**



#### PRACTICUM IN TECHNICAL CAREERS – OFF CAMPUS

**1 Year 2 Credit OR 1 Semester 1 Credit**

**Prerequisite:** Senior standing only. Teacher assistant in technical careers, as a culmination at the end of a careers class, or with strong teacher recommendation.

This is a one semester or one-year course that will seek to place students in real world practical experiences in technical careers. The target population is senior students who have a legitimate interest to explore one of the many fields identified. Potential placements for interested and qualified students include local restaurants, industries or other businesses associated with our career tracks. Students will have a two period release and will need to maintain qualifications and produce a culminating project or portfolio. This is a two period experience.

#### HONORS BASIC NURSING ASSISTANT TRAINING PROGRAM

**1 Semester 1 Credit**

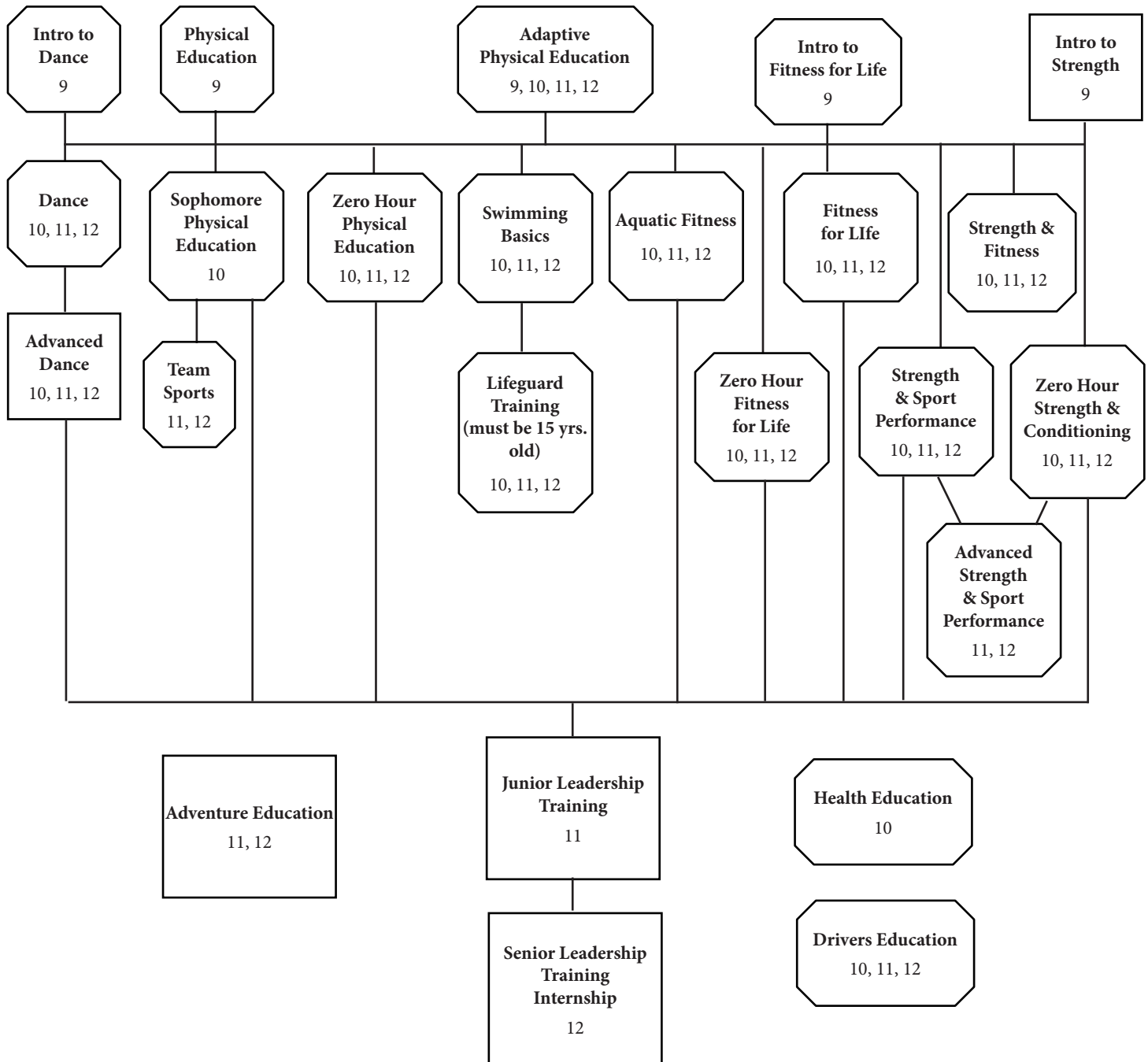
**Prerequisite:** Senior standing with application process. Priority enrollment will go to students accepted into the Biomedical Science senior block.

This semester-long, double-period course is designed to prepare nursing assistants to work under the direction of the licensed professional nurse to provide care in various health care settings. Coursework includes the development of basic nursing skills through lectures, laboratory demonstration and practice, and clinical experience. After a student successfully completes the Basic Nursing Assistant Certificate Program, they are eligible to take the written State Nursing Aide Competency Exam. When they pass the Nurse Aide Competency Exam, their name is added to the Healthcare Worker Registry, and they can be employed as a Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA). Required Course Fee: \$225 covers the fingerprinting, clinical hours, lab supplies, and workbook. Students will have to register on their own for the CNA exam fee of \$85.



# McHenry Community High School District 156 Course Guide 2024-2025

## DIVISION OF PHYSICAL EDUCATION, HEALTH, & DRIVERS EDUCATION







# McHenry Community High School District 156

## Course Guide 2024-2025

### PHYSICAL EDUCATION | HEALTH | DRIVERS ED

#### FRESHMEN PHYSICAL EDUCATION

**1 Semester 1/2 Credit**

**Prerequisite: Freshman standing**

In all Freshmen Physical Education courses, students will gain knowledge in nutrition, the cardiovascular benefits of exercise, the five components of fitness, types of resistance training, the FITT principles, and create fitness goals. Students will use a heart rate monitor and learn how to adjust their workout to reach their individual or class goals. In this course students are exposed to a variety of daily activities that include team sports, individual sports, and fitness. Basic skill development and reinforcement of skills is emphasized throughout the units. Students will also get some exposure to weight training, total body fitness activities, and dance.

#### SOPHOMORE PHYSICAL EDUCATION

**1 Semester 1/2 Credit**

**Prerequisite: Sophomore standing**

Physical Education addresses a health need for students to be physically active on a daily basis. Students will continue to practice concepts in relation to nutrition, the cardiovascular benefits of exercise, the five components of fitness, types of resistance training, the FITT principles, and create fitness goals. Students will use a heart rate monitor and learn how to adjust their workout to reach their individual or class goals. Students are expected to actively participate in a variety of daily activities that include team sports, individual sports, fitness, and aquatics. Basic skill development and reinforcement of skills is emphasized in this course. The goal of physical education is for students to develop positive attitudes toward keeping physically active on a daily basis in their adult lives.

#### TEAM SPORTS

**1 Semester 1/2 Credit**

**Prerequisite: Junior-Senior standing**

Physical Education addresses a health need for students to be physically active on a daily basis. Students are expected to actively participate in a variety of daily activities that include team sports, individual

sports, and personal fitness. Reinforcement of basic skills and competition/tournament play is emphasized. Students will use a heart rate monitor and learn how to adjust their workout to reach their individual or class goals. Through their high school experience in physical education, students should gain the knowledge necessary to develop their own personal exercise plan. The goal of physical education is for students to develop positive attitudes toward keeping physically active on a daily basis in their adult lives.

#### PHYSICAL EDUCATION, FIT FOR LIFE, or STRENGTH AND CONDITIONING (ZERO HOUR OPTION)

**1 Semester 1/2 Credit**

**Prerequisite: Freshman, Sophomore, Junior or Senior standing**

This course is designed for students who desire to take physical education, fitness for life, OR strength and conditioning earlier in the morning to allow for a greater number of electives in their schedule. Fitness testing will be conducted each semester. Seniors will have first priority in registering for this class. Zero Hour Course will not meet on Wednesdays/Early Release dates. Therefore, the length of the class time is longer each of the four class periods to equal the same number of minutes as a class meeting during the traditional school day.

**Students MUST have the ability to get to school without the use of bus transportation.**

#### ADAPTIVE PHYSICAL EDUCATION

**1 Semester 1/2 Credit**

**Prerequisite: Consent of the counselor and the SPED Program Department**

Adaptive Physical Education is designed to meet the individualized needs of the participants. Students are recommended for this course. The purpose of the course is to teach both fundamental physical skills and recreational sports. Focus is on gross movement throughout the environment.

#### INTRODUCTION TO FITNESS FOR LIFE

**1 Semester 1/2 Credit**

**Prerequisite: Freshman standing**

This course is designed to provide students an opportunity to demonstrate both individual and



# McHenry Community High School District 156

## Course Guide 2024-2025

### PHYSICAL EDUCATION | HEALTH | DRIVERS ED

cooperative skills while participating in structured physical activities in the areas of aerobics, HITT training, strength training, muscle balance, and flexibility. Students will also get some exposure to weight training, dance, and some traditional games. In all Freshmen Physical Education courses, students will gain knowledge in nutrition, the cardiovascular benefits of exercise, the five components of fitness, types of resistance training, the FITT principles, and create fitness goals. Students will use a heart rate monitor and learn how to adjust their workout to reach their individual or class goals.

#### **FITNESS FOR LIFE**      **1 Semester 1/2 Credit** **Prerequisite: Sophomore, Junior or Senior standing**

This course is designed to provide students an opportunity to demonstrate both individual and cooperative skills while participating in structured physical activities in the areas of aerobics, strength training, muscle balance, nutrition, and flexibility. Activities such as kickboxing, Pilates, plyometrics, weight training, swimming, yoga, and running are among some of the options that will be considered. Students in this class will be expected to prepare a personal fitness plan while maintaining regular goal setting and journaling.

#### **INTRODUCTION TO STRENGTH**      **1 Year 1 Credit** **Prerequisite: Freshman standing**

In Introduction to Strength students will start with learning athletic safety as a top priority. The course will focus on technique and Injury prevention through evaluation of movements and technique instruction. In all Freshmen Physical Education courses, students will gain knowledge in nutrition, the cardiovascular benefits of exercise, the five components of fitness, types of resistance training, the FITT principles, and create fitness goals. Students will use a heart rate monitor and learn how to adjust their workout to reach their individual or class goals.

**[Return to Course Selection](#)**

#### **STRENGTH & FITNESS**

**1 Semester 1/2 Credit**

**Prerequisite: Sophomore, Junior or Senior standing**

This course will focus on overall fitness vs. sport specific or sport performance focus. Strength & Fitness training would be more of a functional training/total body focus. Students will learn basic progressions and safety protocols. Students will learn how to strength train with minimal equipment. The focus of this course and associated weekly activities will be on overall total fitness in cardiovascular improvement, different energy systems, as well as a functional training / total body focus. Registration preference will be given to NON MCHS athletes.

#### **STRENGTH AND SPORT PERFORMANCE**

**1 Semester 1/2 Credit**

**Prerequisite: Sophomore, Junior or Senior standing**

Students will be instructed in basic lifting techniques and safety. Pre and post-tests will be performed in both strength and cardiovascular conditioning. Students will participate in strength training and speed training, as well as athletic enhancement workouts. Students will learn how to design their own workouts to achieve desired results and will keep track of their performance in order to reach personal goals. Registration preference will be given to MCHS athletes.

#### **ADVANCED STRENGTH AND SPORT PERFORMANCE**      **1 Semester 1/2 Credit** **Prerequisite: Junior or Senior standing.** **Completed a Strength Class and approval by PE Teacher.**

This class is designed for Junior/Senior students that have already completed (at least) one semester of Strength and Sport Performance and a recommendation from their Strength and Sport Performance teacher. The setup of this class is for students who want to enhance their personal focus on fitness and for those participating in MCHS athletics, as a way to best serve their specific sport/activity needs. Instruction and workouts can/will vary depending on the type of activity and fitness level the student is training for. Students must expect high intensity workouts and instruction suited for dedicated participants with a focus on velocity training and sport performance. Registration preference will be given to MCHS athletes.



# McHenry Community High School District 156

## Course Guide 2024-2025

### PHYSICAL EDUCATION | HEALTH | DRIVERS ED

#### INTRODUCTION TO DANCE

**1 Semester 1/2 Credit**

**Prerequisite: Freshman standing**

This course is designed to provide students an introduction to beginning dance techniques, movement exploration, dance composition, and cooperative learning. They will participate in dances choreographed by the course instructor. Students will also get some exposure to weight training, total body fitness activities, and some traditional games. In all Freshmen Physical Education courses, students will gain knowledge in nutrition, the cardiovascular benefits of exercise, the five components of fitness, types of resistance training, the FITT principles, and create fitness goals. Students will use a heart rate monitor and learn how to adjust their workout to reach their individual or class goals.

#### DANCE

**1 Semester 1/2 Credit**

**Prerequisite: Sophomore, Junior or Senior standing**

Dance is an introduction to dance history, beginning dance techniques, movement exploration, dance composition, and cooperative learning. The students will perform in the PE Dance showcase(s). They will participate in dances choreographed by the course instructor.

#### ADVANCED DANCE

**1 Year 1 Credit**

**Prerequisite: Dance and application** The students in Advanced Dance will further develop their current dance background by receiving advanced skill technique training, advanced flexibility and strengthening workouts and choreography development training. Advanced skills include: Double/triple pirouettes, capezio/calypso, c-jump, turning c-jump, grand jete a la seconde, fouettes a la secondes, toe touch, and turning disk. Advanced flexibility and strengthening workouts include ballet barre and center work, free weights and thera-bands. Choreography training will include the basic elements of a dance: shape, space, time and energy, inspiration

and choreography documentation. The students will perform in PE Dance showcases. They will participate in dances choreographed by the course instructor as well as dances choreographed by their peers.

#### AQUATIC FITNESS

**1 Semester 1/2 Credit**

**Prerequisite: Sophomore, Junior or Senior standing**

This course is designed to provide students with a personalized swim fitness program with swimming workouts, games and activities in the pool in place of a traditional curriculum program. Students will work on improving their cardiovascular fitness through lap swim and circuit training while in a pool environment.

#### SWIMMING BASICS

**1 Semester 1/2 Credit**

**Prerequisite: Sophomore, Junior or Senior standing.**

Aquatic skills can be an excellent lifelong activity leading into adulthood. This course is for students who are looking to improve their personal swimming skills. This course will focus on providing students with a skill set to keep them safe and comfortable in a water setting. Students will work on learning front crawl, back crawl, elementary backstroke, breaststroke, floating skills, and how to tread water. This class can utilize the whole pool but it is very likely that student skills will keep students mostly in the shallow end of the pool. Students will use a heart rate monitor and learn how to adjust their workout to reach their individual or class goals.

#### LIFEGUARD TRAINING

**1 Semester 1/2 Credit**

**Prerequisite: Sophomore, Junior or Senior standing. Students must be adequate swimmers and able to successfully complete the skills test. Students must also be 15 years old by the end of the semester.**

Lifeguarding is designed for students who want to pursue a job as a lifeguard. Students will learn water rescue techniques, first aid, CPR for the professional rescuer and how to use an AED. Students will complete the swimming skills test during the first weeks of class. The skills test includes: swimming 300 yards continuously demonstrating breath control and rhythmic breathing using front crawl and breaststroke, treading water for 2 minutes using only the legs,





# McHenry Community High School District 156

## Course Guide 2024-2025

### PHYSICAL EDUCATION | HEALTH | DRIVERS ED

and a 20 yard swim to retrieve a 10 lb. object from 7-10 feet of water then swim 20 yards back to the starting point with the object. Students must pass these requirements to become certified. Students who do not pass the skills tests required for certification can stay in class for credit, but will not qualify for certification. Course Fee: \$65.00 (\$45 for Certificate and \$20 for Equipment)

**Successful completion of this course will result in the student being a Red Cross Certified LifeGuard.**  
**Course fee: \$65**

#### **ADVENTURE EDUCATION**      1 Year 1 Credit **Prerequisite: Junior or Senior standing**

Adventure Education allows students to gain knowledge and insight into a variety of challenging outdoor activities. Lifelong skills are acquired through participation in team building exercises, geocaching, archery, mountain biking, camping, recreational games, different water skills, snow shoeing, climbing, outdoor survival skills, and first aid CPR/AED training. As participants in these activities, students will gain self-confidence, learn to build trust, develop effective communication skills, and learn important cooperative behaviors.

#### **PE LEADERSHIP PROGRAM**

**2 Years 2 Credits**

**Prerequisite: Enrollment by application and recommendation only. This is a two-year course:**  
**Year 1 (Junior Year) – Training Experience**  
**Year 2 (Senior Year) – Internship Experience**

The McHenry High School Physical Education Department offers a leadership program for juniors and seniors. The Physical Education Leadership curriculum is supportive of our PE Department's department goal, "Encouraging students towards the development of lifelong fitness skills and a practical understanding of a healthy lifestyle!" The PE Leadership Program is an elective two-year course designed to provide a comprehensive curriculum of activity-based leadership principles, team-building activities and cooperative-based learning strategies. Students will have an opportunity to explore leadership roles, build positive

and respectful relationships with peers and teachers, demonstrate skills and acquire knowledge related to the field of physical education. Students will gain an advanced knowledge in the area of physical education, first aid & accident prevention, and leadership principles. The course also provides an opportunity for peer teaching and mentoring, as well as off-site teaching and mentoring experiences. Junior Leaders train one full year prior to their Senior Leadership Internship Experience.

#### **DRIVER EDUCATION**      1 Semester 1/2 Credit **Prerequisite: Completion of Freshman year. Must have passed at least 8 courses during the 2 previous semesters.**

The major objective of this course is to teach students to safely operate a motor vehicle, including but not limited to instruction on defensive driving, distractions and driving, and drinking and driving. The two phases, Classroom and Driving, are taken during the same semester (or summer).

**Students are scheduled by birth date so that the youngest sophomores will be taking the entire course during the summer.**  
**Course Fee: \$75**

#### **HEALTH EDUCATION**

**1 Semester 1/2 Credit**

**Prerequisite: Sophomore standing**

Every sophomore must take Health Education as a requirement for graduation. Units of study to be covered are: overall health and wellness, nutrition, exercise and fitness, tobacco and alcohol, anabolic steroids, cancer instruction, violence prevention and conflict resolution, drug and drug abuse, disease and illness, abstinence, reproduction and pregnancy, sexual assault awareness, internet safety, and safety and first aid. Basic facts and practical skills needed to stay healthy are presented.





# McHenry Community High School District 156

## Course Guide 2024-2025

### SPECIAL EDUCATION

The Special Education department operates under federal and state regulations with regard to Special Education programs and services. Student involvement in the various programs and/or services provided by the Special Education department, is determined by a staffing process in which all relevant educational, psychological, and social history regarding a student is reviewed and a placement decision, involving parent input, is made. An Individual Educational Plan (I.E.P.) is then developed for that pupil. The Special Education staff will work to assist a student to be successful in the Least Restrictive Environment.

#### **READING** **1 Year 1 Credit** **Prerequisite: Consent of the Special Education Department**

This course is designed to assist students struggling with reading. It is to be taken in addition to English. Instruction will focus on developing skills to improve reading including: vocabulary, phonetic awareness, fluency, decoding, comprehension and reading with technology. This course does not fulfill the English requirement.

#### **GENERAL MATH WITH GEOMETRY CONCEPTS** **1 Year 1 Credit** **Prerequisite: Consent of the Special Education Department. This course does not qualify as a core course for the purposes of NCAA eligibility.**

This course is designed for students who are not ready for Pre-Algebra and need a basic understanding of mathematics concepts and operations. Students will review basic math skills and study basic math skills and study basic concepts of whole numbers, decimals, fractions, and percentages related to everyday situations helping students connect math instruction with practical application.

#### **ALGEBRA I-A** **1 Year 1 Credit** **Prerequisite: Consent of the Special Education Department**

This course will cover in one year what a traditional algebra course would cover in one semester. The slower pace of the course is combined with a more simplified approach to traditional Algebra I topics. Topics that will be included in the first part of this course are variables, exponents, equations, and operations involving positive and negative numbers like terms. First semester will also include solving equations, linear equations as well as ratios and percentages. Second semester will extend the concepts learned first

semester and will include graphing linear equations, forms of linear equations, and ending with solving and graphing inequalities, and systems of linear equations with an emphasis on substitution and elimination.

#### **ALGEBRA I-B** **1 Year 1 Credit** **Prerequisite: Consent of the Special Education Department**

This course will cover in one year what a traditional algebra course would cover in one semester. The slower pace of the course is combined with a more simplified approach to traditional Algebra I topics that are typically taught in the second semester of an Algebra I course. Topics that will be included in the first part of this course are systems of linear equations and inequalities, properties of exponents and exponential functions, simplifying radicals and topics involving quadratic functions. Topics covered in the second semester include operations involving polynomials, factoring polynomials, operations involving rational expressions and equations, radical equations, and Pythagorean Theorem (includes distance formula, midpoint formula).

#### **PRE-ALGEBRA** **1 Year 1 Credit** **Prerequisite: Consent of the Special Education Department**

This course is designed for students who are not ready for Algebra 1. Students will develop their mathematics skills to prepare them for Algebra 1 by focusing on: algebraic foundations, solving linear equations, exponents, graphing linear equations, writing linear equations, solving and analyzing linear systems, solving and graphing inequalities, and interpreting and analyzing data. Daily assignments requiring time outside of class will be expected of all students.



# McHenry Community High School District 156

## Course Guide 2024-2025

### SPECIAL EDUCATION

#### **EARTH SCIENCE** 1 Year 1 Credit **Prerequisite: Consent of the Special Education Department**

This course is designed to increase student knowledge in areas of mapping, measurement and density, space, earth history, earth system, weather, and human impacts. Students will be involved in projects, reading assignments, class discussions, and writing assignments.

#### **PHYSICAL SCIENCE** 1 Year 1 Credit **Prerequisite: Consent of the Special Education Department**

This course is designed for students who have an interest in the world around them. Class work will consist of development in critical thinking, problem solving and experimental design. The units of study include matter and its interactions, motion and stability, energy, waves, and their application.

#### **WORLD HISTORY** 1 Year 1 Credit **Prerequisite: Consent of the Special Education Department**

This course is designed to increase student learning about important issues facing our country and world today through the use of media, primary source documents, personal experiences in order to make them more aware members of our society. Students will also explore the development of ancient empires and/or the modern world through conflict, art, science, and innovation.

#### **CAREERS** 1 Semester 1/2 Credit **Prerequisite: Consent of the Special Education Department**

This course will concentrate on transition planning for students in the Special Education department. Topics covered will include careers, resumes, portfolios, applications, and interview skills. Students will be required to address goals related to post-secondary education and/or training.

#### **SELF-AWARENESS** 1 Year 1 Credit **Prerequisite: Consent of the Special Education Department**

Self-Awareness is designed to study intellectual, social, and emotional well-being of the student. Activities are designed to maximize student growth through development of intrapersonal and self-management skills.

#### **STRATEGIES FOR LEARNING** 1 Semester 1/2 Credit **Prerequisite: Consent of the Special Education Department**

This course is offered to students requiring assistance in the development of learning strategies for success in their core curriculum subjects. Students focus on strategies in study skills, note-taking, and test-taking. Literacy strategies including vocabulary development are also incorporated into the curriculum. Skills taught in this course are integrated with the students' required subjects by developing activities that incorporate the learning activities and assignments that the students receive from their other instructors. The purpose of this course is to help students develop effective study skills and a positive self-concept.

#### **PATHWAYS TO SUCCESS** 1 Semester 1/2 Credit **Prerequisite: Consent of the Special Education Department**

**“Pass / No Credit” grade only**

Pathways to Success is designed to prepare incoming freshmen for the challenges and opportunities presented upon entering high school. As part of the class, students will learn helpful study skills that apply across subjects. They will be exposed to a self-awareness curriculum that invites exploration and encourages self-advocacy. This course will also familiarize students with using the district provided technology and other platforms they will be exposed to throughout their academic career including the topic of digital responsibility. Finally, the class will provide an opportunity for students to share, collaborate, and interact with peers as they learn school policies, rules, and social norms.



# McHenry Community High School District 156 Course Guide 2024-2025

## COMMUNITY SERVICE PROGRAMS

### WARRIOR OPPORTUNITIES FOR IN-SCHOOL SERVICE – ON CAMPUS

**1 Year 0 Credit OR 1 Semester 0 Credit**

**Prerequisite: Minimum Sophomore standing and administrator/instructor's signature**

This is a non-credit course available to students to fill a spot on their schedule, create opportunities to work with staff, build character, and encourage students to advance for future service and practicum opportunities. Students will serve as volunteer labor for offices and departments within the District performing such tasks as running passes, sorting papers, delivering mail, filing items, etc. Students will be awarded up to 5 service hours towards the Distinguished Warrior Graduate program. This is a one period experience.



### TEACHER ASSISTANT IN EDUCATION – ON CAMPUS

**1 Year 1 Credit OR 1 Semester 1/2 Credit**

**Prerequisite: Minimum Sophomore standing and successful completion of Warrior Opportunities for In-School Service, or teacher recommendation**

This is a one semester or one-year course designed for students who wish to assist their peers through tutoring in a variety of settings throughout McHenry High School. Students who take this course seek a more rigorous and relevant experience assisting a limited number of teachers in specific lab-based classes. Students must be prepared to tutor their peers and/or will be expected to assist pre-approved instructors with important tasks and essential job functions. Students will be asked to keep a journal of class activities and turn in a culminating assignment. This is a one period experience.





# McHenry Community High School District 156

## Course Guide 2024-2025

### DUAL ENROLLMENT COURSES

The following courses are offered at MCC. Some of them will meet during the school day and counselors will attempt to schedule these classes. Students are responsible for tuition, fees, books and transportation to MCC. Interested students must complete the High School Plus forms that are available in the counseling office. Some courses will require MCC placement testing to be given at MCC. Students will receive MCC and high school credit for these courses. Since these are college classes, they will always appear on your college transcripts. Some colleges may or may not grant credit for these courses. Students are responsible to check their college choices. All students attending MCC will be required to fill out a High School Plus form available in the counseling office.

#### BASIC NURSE ASSISTANT (DUAL CREDIT

#### MCC)

**1 Semester 1 Credit  
7 MCC Credit Hours**

**Prerequisite: Seniors have scheduling priority, 2.0 cumulative Grade Point Average and/or recommendation of counselor**

This certification will prepare individuals to assist the licensed Health Care Provider in delivering care in various healthcare settings. This course includes theory, lab practice, and practical components. This course is approved by the Illinois Department of Public Health. Successful completion of this course leads to eligibility to take written Illinois Nurse Assistant/Home Health Aide Competency Exam for employment and certification as a Certified Nurse Assistant (CNA).

#### FIRE SCIENCE

#### (DUAL CREDIT MCC)

**1 Semester 1 Credit  
10 MCC Credit Hours**

**Prerequisite: Second Semester Senior standing, 2.0 cumulative Grade Point Average, and good attendance**

This is a one-semester course offered at MCC during the spring semester of senior year. The time slot for the program is 7:00am–9:00am, Monday through Friday.

**MCC courses include: Intro to Emergency Services, First Responder Emergency Aid, Intro to Fire Science, and Fire Science Internship.**

#### CRIMINAL JUSTICE

#### (DUAL CREDIT MCC)

**1 Semester 1 Credit  
10 MCC Credit Hours**

**Prerequisite: Second Semester Senior standing, 2.0 cumulative Grade Point Average, and good attendance**

This is a one-semester course offered at MCC during the spring semester of senior year. The time slot for the program is 7:00am–9:00am, Monday through Friday.

**MCC courses include: Intro to Emergency Services, First Responder Emergency Aid, Intro to Criminal Justice, and Topics in Criminal Justice.**

#### Return to Course Selection

#### CULINARY MANAGEMENT (DUAL CREDIT

#### MCC)

**1 Year 2 Credits  
14 MCC Credit Hours**

**No Prerequisite: None**

Semester 1 introduces students to a commercial kitchen. They learn how to handle knives safely and effectively; identify, operate and maintain kitchen equipment; evaluate recipes and make successful conversions; identify various spices and herbs and cook with them; and identify and demonstrate proper cooking methods. Semester 2 teaches students how to prepare stocks, soups and sauces; identify and cook vegetables; identify and understand the role of starches; identify fruits; cook eggs and other breakfast foods; and prepare hot and cold sandwiches. The course also emphasizes employability and presentation skills.

**NOTE: MCC chef's uniform (coat, pants and shoes) is required for this course.**

#### HEATING, VENTILATION, & AIR

#### CONDITIONING/HVAC (DUAL CREDIT MCC)

**1 Semester 2 Credit  
8 MCC Credit Hours**

**Prerequisite: Second Semester Senior standing, 2.0 cumulative Grade Point Average, and good attendance**

This is a two-semester program offered at MCC during senior year. This class will occur at MCC and run Mondays through Thursdays from 7:00am - 8:50am. Students must provide their own transportation and pay MCC's per-credit-hour tuition rate. This program provides learning opportunities in residential and commercial heating, ventilation, and air conditioning.

**MCC courses include: Introduction to Refrigeration (4 credit hours), HVAC Codes (2 credit hours), & EPA Section 608 Certification (2 credit hours)**





# McHenry Community High School District 156 Course Guide 2024-2025



## Career Cluster: Agriculture, Food, & Natural Resources



The **Agriculture, Food, & Natural Resources Career Cluster** prepares learners for careers in the planning, implementation, production, management, processing, and/or marketing of agricultural commodities and services, including food, fiber, wood products, natural resources, horticulture, and other plant and animal products. It also includes related professional, technical, and educational services.

**Cluster Pathways:** Agribusiness Systems; Animal Systems; Environmental Service Systems; Food Products and Processing Systems; Natural Resources Systems; Plant Systems; Power, Structural, Technical Systems Architecture and Construction

### Advanced Placement, Dual Credit, & Capstone Courses

- AP Biology
- AP Chemistry
- AP Environmental Science
- AP Human Geography
- Honors Chemistry Dual Credit 164
- Culinary Management at MCC
- Practicum in Education and Technical Careers
- Warrior Chef

### Other Related Courses

- Baking and Pastry
- Business Management
- Culinary Arts I
- Culinary Arts II
- Introduction to Business



## Career Cluster: Architecture and Construction



The **Architecture and Construction Career Cluster** prepares individuals for careers in designing, planning, managing, building, and maintaining the built environment. Individuals pursuing a career in the Architecture and Construction cluster work on new structures, restorations, additions, alterations, and repairs.

**Cluster Pathways:** Construction; Design and Pre-Construction; Maintenance and Operations

### Advanced Placement, Dual Credit, & Capstone Courses

- AP Calculus AB
- AP Calculus BC
- AP Environmental Science
- AP Physics 1 and 2
- AP World Languages (Spanish)
- Dual Credit World Languages (French and German)
- Construction Education
- Honors Engineering Design and Development
- Manufacturing II (Dual Credit)
- Practicum in Education and Technical Careers

### Other Related Courses

- Art & Design I and II
- DIY
- Honors Introduction to Engineering and Design
- Manufacturing I (Dual Credit)
- Metals (Dual Credit)
- Honors Principles of Engineering
- Stagecraft: An Introduction to Technical Theater
- Woods I
- Woods II
- World Languages (Spanish, French, German)



# McHenry Community High School District 156

## Course Guide 2024-2025



### Career Cluster: Arts, A/V, Technology, & Communications



Individuals pursuing a career in the **Arts, Audio/Video Technology & Communication Career Cluster** are offered two different avenues of concentration. Careers in the Performing Arts, Visual Arts or certain aspects of Journalism, Broadcasting and Film require courses and activities that challenge students' creative talents; while careers in Audio-Video Communications Technology, Telecommunications or Printing Technology require strong backgrounds in computer and electronic-based technology and a solid foundation in math and science.

**Cluster Pathways:** A/V, Technology, and Film; Journalism and Broadcasting; Performing Arts; Printing Technology; Telecommunications; Visual Arts

Advanced Placement, Dual Credit, & Capstone Courses	Other Related Courses/Sequences
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> AP Language and Composition</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> AP Music Theory</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> AP Photography</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> AP Studio Art (AP Drawing, AP 2D, AP 3D)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Computer Literacy (Dual Credit)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Honors College Composition 151 (Dual Credit)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Honors College Composition 152 (Dual Credit)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Speech (Dual Credit)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Advanced Graphic Communications Production</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Art &amp; Design I and II</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Cadet and Concert Choir</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Ceramics &amp; Sculpture I and II</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Concert and Symphonic Band</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Creative Writing</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Drawing &amp; Painting I and II</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Graphic Communications and Design Courses</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Guitar I and II</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Honors Studio Photography</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Honors Studio Art</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Introduction to Broadcast</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Independent Studio Art</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Introduction to Music Theory</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Introduction to Theater</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Musical Theatre</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Stagecraft: An Introduction to Technical Theater</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Fundamentals of Acting</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Jazz Band</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Journalism</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Music Technology &amp; Production</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Newspaper</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Percussion</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Photography I and II</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Surround Sound</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Yearbook</li> </ul>



# McHenry Community High School District 156 Course Guide 2024-2025



## Career Cluster: Business Management & Administration



The **Business Management and Administration Career Cluster** prepares learners for careers in planning, organizing, directing and evaluating business functions essential to efficient and productive business operations. Career opportunities are available in every sector of the economy and require specific skills in organization, time management, customer service and communication.

**Cluster Pathways:** Administrative Support; Business Information Management; General Management; Human Resources Management; Operations Management

Advanced Placement, Dual Credit, & Capstone Courses	Other Related Courses
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> AP Language and Composition</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> AP Statistics</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Dual Credit General Education Statistics (MCC MAT 120)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> AP World Languages (Spanish)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> AP Psychology</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Dual Credit World Languages (French and German)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Computer Literacy (Dual Credit)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Honors College Composition 151 (Dual Credit)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Honors College Composition 152 (Dual Credit)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Speech (Dual Credit)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Honors INCubatoredu (Dual Credit)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Honors Accounting II (Dual Credit)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Practicum in Education and Technical Careers</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Accounting I</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Business Management</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Economics</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Introduction to Business</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Introduction to Psychology</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Introduction to Statistics and Analytics</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Marketing for Sports and Entertainment</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Philosophy of Leadership</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Sociology</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> World Languages (Spanish, French, German)</li> </ul>



# McHenry Community High School District 156 Course Guide 2024-2025



## Career Cluster: Education and Training



The **Education and Training Career Cluster** prepares learners for careers in planning, managing and providing education and training services, and related learning support services. Millions of learners each year train for careers in education and training in a variety of settings that offer academic instruction, career and technical instruction, and other education and training services.

**Cluster Pathways:** Administration and Administrative Support; Professional Support Services; Teaching and Training

### Advanced Placement, Dual Credit, & Capstone Courses

- AP Language and Composition
- AP Music Theory
- AP Psychology
- AP Studio Art
- AP Seminar
- AP Statistics
- Dual Credit General Education Statistics (MCC MAT 120)
- AP World Languages (Spanish)
- Dual Credit World Languages (French and German)
- Honors College Composition 151 (Dual Credit)
- Honors College Composition 152 (Dual Credit)
- Speech (Dual Credit)
- Practicum in Education and Technical Careers
- Preschool Lab

### Other Related Courses

- Business Management
- Cadet and Concert Choir
- Child Development
- Concert and Symphonic Band
- Freshman Band
- Introduction to Music Theory
- Introduction to Psychology
- Jazz Band and Jazz Ensemble
- Music Technology & Production
- Percussion
- Philosophy of Leadership
- Sociology
- Surround Sound
- Teacher Assistant in Education and Technical Careers
- Visual Arts (Art & Design, Drawing & Painting)
- World Languages (Spanish, French, German)
- Introduction to Statistics and Analytics



## Career Cluster: Finance



The **Finance Career Cluster** prepares learners for careers in financial and investment planning, banking, insurance and business financial management. Career opportunities are available in every sector of the economy and require specific skills in organization, time management, customer service and communication.

**Cluster Pathways:** Accounting; Banking Services; Business Finance; Insurance; Securities and Investments

### Advanced Placement, Dual Credit, & Capstone Courses

- AP Calculus AB or BC
- AP Statistics
- Dual Credit General Education Statistics (MCC MAT 120)
- AP World Languages (Spanish)
- Dual Credit World Languages (French and German)
- Honors College Composition 151 (Dual Credit)
- Honors College Composition 152 (Dual Credit)
- Speech (Dual Credit)
- Honors INCubatoredu (Dual Credit)
- Practicum in Education and Technical Careers
- Honors Accounting II (Dual Credit)
- Dual Credit College Algebra with Trigonometry (MCC MAT 165)

### Other Related Courses

- Accounting I
- Business Management
- Economics
- Honors Pre-Calculus
- Introduction to Business
- Introduction to Statistics and Analytics
- Marketing for Sports and Entertainment
- World Languages (Spanish, French, German)





# McHenry Community High School District 156 Course Guide 2024-2025



## Career Cluster: Government and Public Administration



The **Government and Public Administration Career Cluster** focuses on those careers that are unique to government. Government affects Americans in countless ways. In a democratic society, government is the means of expressing the public will. This includes a variety of activities. In fact, virtually every occupation can be found within the government. There are, however, some activities that are unique to the government. The federal government defends us from foreign aggression; represents American interests abroad; deliberates, passes, and enforces laws; and administers many different programs. State and local governments pass laws or ordinances and provide vital services to constituents.

**Cluster Pathways:** Foreign Service; Governance; National Security; Planning; Public Management and Administration; Regulation; Revenue and Taxation

### Advanced Placement, Dual Credit, & Capstone Courses

- AP Environmental Science
- AP Government
- AP Psychology
- AP Statistics
- Dual Credit General Education Statistics (MCC MAT 120)
- AP US History
- AP World History
- Speech (Dual Credit)
- AP World Languages (Spanish)
- Dual Credit World Languages (French and German)
- Social Science Internship (SSI) starting in 2021

### Other Related Courses

- Business Management
- Economics
- Youth and Law
- Introduction to Psychology
- Introduction to Statistics and Analytics
- Philosophy of Leadership
- Sociology
- Journalism
- Newspaper
- World Languages (Spanish, French, German)
- Honors Cultural Studies
- Government
- Intro to Business



## Career Cluster: Health Sciences



The **Health Science Career Cluster** orients students to careers that promote health, wellness, and diagnosis as well as treat injuries and diseases. Some of the careers involve working directly with people, while others involve research into diseases or collecting and formatting data and information. Work locations are varied and may be in hospitals, medical or dental offices or laboratories, cruise ships, medi-vac units, sports arenas, space centers, or within the community.

**Cluster Pathways:** Biotechnology Research and Development; Diagnostic Services; Health Informatics; Support Services; Therapeutic Services

### Advanced Placement, Dual Credit, & Capstone Courses

- AP Biology
- AP Calculus AB or BC
- AP Chemistry
- AP Physics 1 and 2
- AP Psychology
- AP Statistics
- Dual Credit General Education Statistics (MCC MAT 120)
- AP World Languages (Spanish)
- Honors Chemistry Dual Credit 164
- Dual Credit World Languages (French and German)
- Dual-Credit Basic Nursing Assistant Training (at MCC)
- Dual-Credit Fire Science, Emergency Medical Services, & Criminal Justice (at MCC)
- Dual-Credit Fitness Instruction (at MCC)
- Honors Biomedical Innovations/Biomedical Experiences
- Dual Credit General Education Statistics (MCC MAT 120)
- Dual Credit College Algebra with Trigonometry (MCC MAT 165)

### Other Related Courses

- Honors Basic Nursing Assistant Certificate Program (at MCHS)
- Honors Principles of Biomedical Science
- Honors Human Body Systems
- Honors Medical Interventions
- World Languages (Spanish, French, German)
- Intro to Psychology
- Forensics



# McHenry Community High School District 156 Course Guide 2024-2025

 <h2>Career Cluster: Hospitality and Tourism</h2>	
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The **Hospitality & Tourism Career Cluster** prepares learners for careers in the management, marketing and operations of restaurants and other food services, lodging, attractions, recreational events and travel-related services. Hospitality operations are located in communities throughout the world.

**Cluster Pathways:** Lodging; Recreation, Amusements, and Attractions; Restaurants and Food and Beverage Services; Travel and Tourism

Advanced Placement, Dual Credit, & Capstone Courses	Other Related Courses
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> AP World Languages (Spanish)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Dual Credit World Languages (French and German)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Dual Credit Culinary Management</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Warrior Chef</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Baking and Pastry</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Intro to Business</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Business Management</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Culinary Arts I</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Culinary Arts II</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Marketing for Sports and Entertainment</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Philosophy of Leadership</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Sociology</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> World Languages (Spanish, French, German)</li> </ul>

 <h2>Career Cluster: Human Services</h2>	
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The **Human Services Career Cluster** prepares individuals for employment in career pathways related to families and human needs.

**Cluster Pathways:** Consumer Services; Counseling and Mental Health Services; Early Childhood Development and Services; Family and Community Services; Personal Care Services

Advanced Placement, Dual Credit, & Capstone Courses	Other Related Courses
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> AP Biology</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> AP Psychology</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> AP World Languages (Spanish)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Dual Credit World Languages (French and German)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Practicum in Education and Technical Careers</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Preschool Lab</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Social Science Internship (SSI) starting in 2021</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Honors Biomedical Innovations/Biomedical Experiences</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Child Development</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Psychology in the World Today</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Sociology</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> World Languages (Spanish, French, German)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Honors Basic Nursing Assistant Certificate Program (at MCHS)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Honors Principles of Biomedical Science</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Honors Human Body Systems</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Honors Medical Interventions</li> </ul>



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## Career Cluster: Information Technology



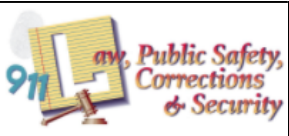
Careers in the **Information Technology Career Cluster** involve the design, development, support and management of hardware, software, multimedia and systems integration services. The IT industry is a dynamic and entrepreneurial working environment that has a revolutionary impact on the economy and society. In addition to careers in the IT industry, IT careers are available in every sector of the economy from Financial Services to Medical Services, from Business to Engineering and Environmental Services.

**Cluster Pathways:** Information Support and Services; Network Systems; Programming and Software Development; Web and Digital Communications

Advanced Placement, Dual Credit, & Capstone Courses	Other Related Courses
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> AP Biology</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> AP Physics 1 and 2</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> AP Statistics</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Dual Credit General Education Statistics (MCC MAT 120)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> AP Studio Art</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Computer Literacy (Dual Credit)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Honors Computer Science A</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Honors Advanced Computer Science</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Advanced Graphic Communication Production</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Art &amp; Design I and II</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Creative Writing</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Computer Literacy</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Honors and Independent Studio Art</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Honors Computer Science Principles</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Honors Introduction to Computer Science</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Graphic Communications and Design Courses</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Introduction to Statistics and Analytics</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Computer Science Principles</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Music Technology &amp; Production</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Learning in a Digital World</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Honors Pre-Calculus</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Algebra 2</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Honors Algebra 2</li> </ul>



## Career Cluster: Law, Public Safety, Corrections, and Security



The **Law, Public Safety, Corrections and Security Career Cluster** helps prepare students for careers in planning, managing, and providing legal, public safety, protective services and homeland security, including professional and technical support services.

**Cluster Pathways:** Correction Services; Emergency and Fire Management Services; Law Enforcement Services; Legal Services; Security and Protective Services

Advanced Placement, Dual Credit, & Capstone Courses	Other Related Courses
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> AP World Languages (Spanish)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> AP Psychology</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Dual Credit World Languages (French and German)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Dual-Credit Fire Science, Emergency Medical Services, &amp; Criminal Justice (at MCC)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Honors Biomedical Innovations/Biomedical Experiences</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Social Science Internship (SSI)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Forensics</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Honors Principles of Biomedical Science</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Honors Human Body Systems</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Honors Medical Interventions</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Psychology in the World Today</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Sociology</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> World Languages (Spanish, French, German)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Youth and Law</li> </ul>



# McHenry Community High School District 156

## Course Guide 2024-2025

### Career Cluster: Manufacturing

The **Manufacturing Career Cluster** prepares learners for careers in planning, managing, and performing the processing of materials into intermediate or final products. Careers also include related professional and technical support activities such as production planning and control, maintenance and manufacturing/process engineering.

**Cluster Pathways:** Health, Safety and Environmental Assurance; Logistics and Inventory Control; Maintenance, Installation and Repair; Manufacturing Production Process Development; Production; Quality Assurance

Advanced Placement, Dual Credit, & Capstone Courses	Other Related Courses
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> AP Calculus AB or BC</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> AP Environmental Science</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> AP Physics 1 and 2</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> AP Statistics</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Dual Credit General Education Statistics (MCC MAT 120)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Construction Education</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Manufacturing II (Dual Credit)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Practicum in Education and Technical Careers</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Manufacturing I (Dual Credit)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Metals I (Dual Credit)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Woods I, II</li> </ul>

### Career Cluster: Marketing

The **Marketing Career Cluster** prepares learners for careers in planning, managing, and performing marketing activities to reach organizational objectives.

**Cluster Pathways:** Marketing Communications; Marketing Management; Marketing Research; Merchandising; and Professional Sales

Advanced Placement, Dual Credit, & Capstone Courses	Other Related Courses
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> AP Language and Composition</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> AP Psychology</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> AP Statistics</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Dual Credit General Education Statistics (MCC MAT 120)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> AP World Languages (Spanish)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Broadcast Journalism</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Dual Credit French (French 151/152 and 251/252)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Dual Credit German (German 151/152 and 251/252)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Honors College Composition 151 (Dual Credit)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Honors College Composition 152 (Dual Credit)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Speech (Dual Credit)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> INCubatoredu (Dual Credit)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Advanced Graphics Communication Production</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Honors Accounting II (Dual Credit)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Accounting I</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Business Management</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Graphic Communications and Design Courses</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Introduction to Business</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Introduction to Psychology</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Introduction to Statistics and Analytics</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Marketing for Sports and Entertainment</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Music Technology &amp; Production</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Statistics</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Philosophy of Leadership</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> World Languages (Spanish, French, German)</li> </ul>





# McHenry Community High School District 156 Course Guide 2024-2025



## Career Cluster: Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics



A career in the **Science, Technology, Engineering & Mathematics Career Cluster** will be involved in planning, managing, and providing scientific research and professional and technical services including laboratory and testing services, and research and development services.

### Cluster Pathways: Engineering and Technology; Science and Mathematics

Advanced Placement, Dual Credit, & Capstone Courses	Other Related Courses
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> AP Biology</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> AP Calculus AB or BC</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> AP Chemistry</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> AP Environmental Science</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> AP Statistics</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> AP Physics 1 and 2</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Honors Chemistry Dual Credit 164</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Honors College Composition 151 (Dual Credit)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Honors College Composition 152 (Dual Credit)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Honors Speech (Dual Credit)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Dual-Credit Robotics Systems Engineering (at MCC)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Honors Engineering Design and Development</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Honors Computer Science A</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Honors Advanced Computer Science</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Honors Dual Credit Calculus and Analytic Geometry III (MCC MAT 255)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Dual Credit General Education Statistics (MCC MAT 120)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Dual Credit College Algebra with Trigonometry (MCC MAT 165)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Honors Biomedical Innovations/Biomedical Experiences</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Astronomy</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Honors Computer Science Principles</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Computer Literacy</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Forensics</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Honors Introduction to Computer Science</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Honors Introduction to Engineering and Design</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Introduction to Statistics and Analytics</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Principles of Engineering</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Sociology</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Honors Pre-Calculus</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Honors Principles of Biomedical Science</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Honors Human Body Systems</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Honors Medical Interventions</li> </ul>



## Career Cluster: Transportation, Distribution, and Logistics



The **Transportation, Distribution and Logistics Career Cluster** emphasizes the planning, management, and movement of people, materials, and products by road, air, rail and water. It also includes related professional and technical support services such as infrastructure planning and management, logistics services, and the maintenance of mobile equipment and facilities.

### Cluster Pathways: Facility and Mobile Equipment Maintenance; Health, Safety, and Environmental Management; Logistics Planning and Management Services; Sales and Service; Transportation Operations; Transportation Systems and Infrastructure Planning, Management, and Regulation; Warehousing and Distribution Center Operations

Advanced Placement, Dual Credit, & Capstone Courses	Other Related Courses
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> AP Calculus AB or BC</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> AP Environmental</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> AP Physics 1 or 2</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> AP Statistics</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Advanced Automotive Diagnostics</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Practicum in Education and Technical Careers</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Dual Credit General Education Statistics (MCC MAT 120)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Autos I</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Automotive Diagnostics</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Business Management</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> College and Career Writing</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Introduction to Business</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Introduction to Statistics and Analytics</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Power Mechanics</li> </ul>



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feel free to click on the course to view course details

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DW CAREER READY INDICATORS (Minimum of Three)
Two or More Organized School Extra/Co-Curricular Activities
25+ Hours of Community Service
Pathway “Capstone” Course
Career Development Experience (Practicum or Internship)
Industry Certification
Military Service or ASVAB 31+
Career Dual Credit Course (Credit Earned)
12 Month of Consistent Employment or Consecutive Summer Employment

DW ACADEMIC INDICATORS	
English/ Language Arts Indicators (One)	Mathematics Indicators (One)
SAT EBRW Score: 540	SAT Math Score: 540
ACT English 18 Reading 22	ACT Math 22 and Senior Year Math Class
Dual Credit English Course (A,B,C)	Dual Credit Math Course (A,B,C)
ELA Advanced Placement Course (A,B,C)	Transitional Math Course (A,B,C)
ELA Advanced Placement Exam (3+)	Math Advanced Placement Course (A,B,C)
College and Career Writing Class (A,B,C)	Math Advanced Placement Exam (3+)
	College Algebra with Trigonometry (A,B,C)
	Intro to Statistics and Analytics (A,B,C)
	Algebra II (A,B,C)





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## ADVANCED PLACEMENT AND CAPSTONE COURSE LIST

Distinguished Warrior Graduate candidates are required to take at least ONE of the following Advanced Placement, or Capstone courses during their high school career. Long-term course selection planning is recommended for students to achieve this honor and make the most out of their high school careers.

### MATHEMATICS

Honors Pre-Calculus (as 4th Math class)  
Transitions to College Mathematics  
AP Calculus AB  
AP Calculus BC  
AP Statistics  
Introduction to Statistics and Analytics  
College Algebra w/ Trigonometry (as 4th Math class)  
Honors Dual Credit Calculus III

### ENGLISH

AP Language and Composition  
AP Literature and Composition  
Honors Rhetoric and Research  
Honors College Composition / English 151  
Honors College Composition / English 152  
College and Career Writing

### CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION

Honors INCubatoredu  
Honors Accounting II  
Practicum in Education  
Practicum in Technical Careers  
Preschool Lab  
Warrior Chef  
Woods II  
Manufacturing II  
Advanced Automotive Diagnostics  
Advanced Graphic Communications Production  
Construction Education  
Honors Computer Science A  
Honors Advanced Computer Science  
Honors Engineering Design and Development (PLTW)  
Teaching as a Profession II (TAP 2)  
Basic Nurse Assistant Training Program

### SCIENCE

AP Physics I and AP Physics II  
AP Biology  
AP Chemistry  
AP Environmental Science  
Honors Biomedical Innovations (PLTW)  
Honors Biomedical Experiences

### SOCIAL SCIENCE

AP World History  
AP Human Geography  
AP Psychology  
AP United States History  
AP US Government & Politics  
Honors Dual Credit US History  
Leadership in Action (Honors Option)  
Social Science Internship

### FINE ARTS AND WORLD LANGUAGES

Honors Spanish IV  
AP Spanish Language and Culture  
Honors Dual Credit French IV / 251 & 252  
Honors Dual Credit German IV / 251 & 252  
AP Music Theory  
Honors Studio Art Portfolio  
AP Studio Art Portfolio - AP Drawing,  
AP 2D Art & Design,  
AP 3D Art & Design

### PHYSICAL EDUCATION

PE Leadership Program (2 years required)

### DUAL ENROLLMENT CREDIT (MCC)

Fire Science  
Criminal Justice

Revised: 11/1/2023

# MEANINGFUL LEARNING



# COURAGEOUS CHARACTER

