



LANCERS

**La Crescent-Hokah High School
Course Description Book**

Grades 09 - 12

2024 – 2025

| | |
|--------------------------------------|----------------|
| <u>Art</u> | <u>Page 4</u> |
| <u>Business Education</u> | <u>Page 8</u> |
| <u>Family & Consumer Science</u> | <u>Page 11</u> |
| <u>Foreign Languages</u> | <u>Page 13</u> |
| <u>Trade and Industry</u> | <u>Page 16</u> |
| <u>Language Arts</u> | <u>Page 21</u> |
| <u>Mathematics</u> | <u>Page 26</u> |
| <u>Music</u> | <u>Page 31</u> |
| <u>Physical Education/Health</u> | <u>Page 35</u> |
| <u>Science</u> | <u>Page 38</u> |
| <u>Social Studies</u> | <u>Page 43</u> |
| <u>College In The Schools (CIS)</u> | <u>Page 49</u> |
| <u>Student Assistants</u> | <u>Page 51</u> |

Credit Requirements for Graduation

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|---------------------------|---|
| Language Arts | 8 Credits |
| Social Studies | 8 Credits (2 Civics, 2 US History, 2 World Cultures, 1 Economics, and 1 Human Geography) |
| Science | 6 Credits (2 Biology and 2 Chemistry or 2 Physics and Earth Science for the class of 2028 and after) |
| Mathematics | 6 Credits (2 Geometry and 2 Algebra 2) |
| Arts | 2 Credits (in the areas of music, visual arts or media arts) |
| Health | 1 Credit |
| Physical Education | 1 Credit |
| Electives | 16 Credits (including Personal Finance for the Class of 2028 and after) |
| Total Credits | 48 Credits |

At the end of the 2024 - 2025 school year:

Class of 2025 should have a minimum of 48 credits.

Class of 2026 should have a minimum of 36 credits.

Class of 2027 should have a minimum of 24 credits.

Class of 2028 should have a minimum of 12 credits.

NCAA Eligibility Criteria

Any NCAA College Bound Student Athletes interested in playing Division I or Division II athletics need to review the NCAA Eligibility criteria to ensure all requirements are met.

This information can be found at the NCAA Eligibility Center:

[NCAA Eligibility Center](#)

Interested students also need to review their La Crescent High School courses to ensure they are NCAA approved. This information can be found at the link below:

[NCAA Approved Courses at La Crescent](#)

You will need this code: CEEB/ACT Code: 241-293

ART

DEPARTMENT NOTES:

Introduction to Art is a prerequisite to many courses in the art department.

DESIGN (COURSE #021) (offered 2024-2025)

REQUIRED OR ELECTIVE: Elective

SEMESTER OFFERED: Semester 1 or 2

PREREQUISITES: None

This class meets the art standards requirement

Do you like to draw and use your mind? The intellectual art form of design deals with the invention, planning, and translation of ideas into presentable form. The basic elements and principles of drawing are learned in projects using a variety of materials, subjects, and styles! We explore both two dimensional and three dimensional art forms. This class is well suited for artists at any level who will take with him/her many tools and skills of artistic rendering.

MIXED MEDIA (COURSE #022) (offered 2025-2026)

(Formally Explore & Express Art)

REQUIRED OR ELECTIVE: Elective

SEMESTER OFFERED: Semester 1 or 2

PREREQUISITES: None

This class meets the art standards requirement

Students will explore a variety of contemporary art forms that focus on exploring art materials in alternative ways while allowing for personal expression. Our explorations may include but are not limited to altered books, visual journals, mono (Gelli) printing, mixed media collage, etc.

Offering- Every other year

\$15 lab fee

SCULPTURE (COURSE #024) (offered 2024-2025)

REQUIRED OR ELECTIVE: Elective

SEMESTER OFFERED: Semester 1 or 2

PREREQUISITES: None

This class meets the art standards requirement

Students would explore relief and sculpture in the round through a variety of materials, styles, and artists. This course can include but is not limited to ceramic, wire, found object, paper mache, plaster, and installations.

Offering- Every other year

\$15 lab fee

CERAMICS (COURSE #025) (Offered 2025-2026)

REQUIRED OR ELECTIVE: Elective

SEMESTER OFFERED: Semester 1 or 2

PREREQUISITES: Introduction to Art

This class meets the art standards requirement

This popular course explores the 3-dimensional art medium that has been around since the beginnings of time.....CLAY! In ceramics, students will create their own art forms (bowls, cups, vases, plates, etc.) by learning the clay techniques of hand built and wheel-thrown pottery, as well as glazing and firing.

Offering- Every other year

A FEE OF \$20 IS REQUIRED FOR THIS CLASS.

INTRODUCTION TO ART (COURSE #029) (Offered every year)

REQUIRED OR ELECTIVE: Elective

SEMESTER OFFERED: Semester 1 or 2

PREREQUISITES: None

This class meets the art standards requirement

This is a beginning art class that provides the foundation for all other art courses. *Intro to Art* is for everyone! You will not only learn to draw, but you will also learn to see, to imagine, to understand, to judge, and to create. You will amaze yourself! This one course is a prelude to the many art courses available, as it teaches the basics of drawing, design, painting, sculpture, and ceramics, as well as art history. In Art you are able to convey and represent what cannot be expressed in words, and there is no single right answer but many! Explore the language of art, and discover your own aptitude and interest for visual expression.

DRAWING (COURSE #036) (Offered 2025-2026)

REQUIRED OR ELECTIVE: Elective

SEMESTER OFFERED: Semester 1 or 2

PREREQUISITES: Introduction to Art

This class meets the art standards requirement

In this class, various subjects will be tackled in order to master the 2-dimensional art forms of drawing. Pencil, charcoal, pen and ink, colored pencil, oil pastel, and chalk, will be used to render subjects that include still lifes, landscapes and portraits. We will focus on creating realistic value and shading techniques. Students will improve their abilities to see and represent through drawing

Offering- Every other year

A FEE OF \$10 IS REQUIRED FOR THIS CLASS

PAINTING (COURSE #037) (Offered 2024-2025)

REQUIRED OR ELECTIVE: Elective

SEMESTER OFFERED: Semester 1 or 2

PREREQUISITES: Introduction to Art

This class meets the art standards requirement

Do you love color? In this class, we will focus on the wonderful world of color and color mixing. Students will get to use various paint mediums including acrylic **and** watercolor. Students will learn to stretch large canvases, too! We will improve our abilities to see and represent through painting.

Offering- Every other year

A FEE OF \$15 IS REQUIRED FOR THIS CLASS

ADVANCED ART (COURSE #030) (offered for 2024-2025)

REQUIRED OR ELECTIVE: Elective

SEMESTER OFFERED: Semester 1 or 2

PREREQUISITES: Introduction to Art, Drawing and/or Painting, and/or Ceramics

This class meets the art standards requirement

Having the artistic foundation provided by *Intro to Art* and *Drawing and Painting*, students in Advanced Art will work independently to produce a portfolio of art projects. Students will gain a deeper understanding of art and aesthetics while developing their own personal style. By the semesters' end each student will organize and host their own art show. This is a fun class for the serious art student.

Depending on concentration - prerequisites will be as follows:

- Drawing Advanced Art: Intro to Art & Drawing
- Painting Advanced Art: Intro to Art & Painting
- Ceramics Advanced Art: Intro to Art & Ceramics
- Mixed Advanced Art: Intro to Art & (must have taken at least two) Drawing, Painting, and/or Ceramics

A FEE OF \$20 IS REQUIRED FOR THIS CLASS

INTRO TO GRAPHIC DESIGN (COURSE #056)

REQUIRED OR ELECTIVE: Elective

SEMESTER OFFERED: Semester 1 or 2

PREREQUISITES: None

This class meets the art standards requirement

Introduction to Graphic Design is a creative journey into the world of visual communication and design. This course is designed to introduce you to the principles, tools, and techniques used in graphic design. Throughout the semester, we will explore the exciting realm of visual storytelling, learn how to convey messages through images, and develop the skills necessary to create captivating and effective design.

DIGITAL IMAGE EDITING (COURSE #065) (offered every year)

REQUIRED OR ELECTIVE: Elective

SEMESTER OFFERED: Semester 1 or 2

PREREQUISITES: None

This class meets the art standards requirement

This course is for students interested in using computers to enhance and modify digital images. Adobe Photoshop is an image-editing program that makes it possible to produce high-quality digital images and manipulate scanned images. Students will be introduced to the tools and capabilities of the Photoshop program and will learn all the important fundamental concepts and features needed to enhance photos. Students will retouch and restore images. A picture video will be created as an individual portfolio. **Some photography outside of class may be required.**

Business Education

ACCOUNTING I (COURSE #043) (offered 2025-26)

REQUIRED OR ELECTIVE: Elective

SEMESTER OFFERED: Semester 1

PREREQUISITES: None

Accounting I is the first semester of a two-semester course designed for students interested in a career in accounting or any business field. Accounting is vital for anyone planning to own their own business or planning to work for someone else. This course is designed both for the college-bound student who plans to major in business as well as for the student who wishes to secure an accounting job with little or no college education.

ACCOUNTING II (COURSE #044) (offered 2025-26)

REQUIRED OR ELECTIVE: Elective

SEMESTER OFFERED: Semester 2

PREREQUISITES: Accounting I with a C or higher

Accounting II adds onto the basics introduced in *Accounting I*. The course will add new concepts as well as increase the students understanding of the concepts introduced in *Accounting I*. Students will work through a business accounting simulation including payroll, accounts receivable, accounts payable, and creating end of year reports.

CAREER EXPLORATION (COURSE #047) (offered every year)

REQUIRED OR ELECTIVE: Elective

SEMESTER OFFERED: Semester 1 or 2

PREREQUISITES: None

This course will give students the opportunity to investigate the questions: "What do I want to do with my life? How can I better prepare for my future?" The student will complete a number of self-assessments to best evaluate talents and interests and will then use this information to study the job market. In addition, the student will investigate a number of careers, establish goals for their life, and determine strategies to arrive at these goals. Issues such as lifestyle considerations, and training/schooling options, etc., will be considered by students to help in determining their goals. A final outcome of the course is for the student to learn how to go about getting a job. This will include filling out the application, preparing the résumé, and interviewing for the job. This class may be taught by either the Business or Family and Consumer Science Department.

COMPUTER APPLICATIONS (COURSE #049) (offered every year)

REQUIRED OR ELECTIVE: Elective

SEMESTER OFFERED: Semester 1 or 2

PREREQUISITES: None

Computer Applications is a course designed to teach students how to use the computer as a business and personal tool through the use of applications software including spreadsheet, database, word processing, and presentation applications. Objectives for the course include integrating the software programs. Some previous keyboarding experience is recommended. Learn skills that are often required to be used in business and as a student on college campuses.

GAME PROGRAMMING (COURSE #059) (offered 2024-25)

REQUIRED OR ELECTIVE: Elective

SEMESTER OFFERED: Semester 1 or 2

PREREQUISITES: None

Students enrolled in *Game Programming* will be given an overview of computers and computer hardware. They will be given an introduction to basic logic and problem solving. The class will be introduced to a Game Studio programming language and other basic programming languages to reinforce aspects of logic through subprograms and modular design, decision logic, repetition logic, file structure and graphics. A good understanding of algebra would be very helpful for those enrolling in this course. Students will create, play, and evaluate 5-7 games during this course.

MARKETING (COURSE #075) (offered 2024-25)

REQUIRED OR ELECTIVE: Elective

SEMESTER OFFERED: Semester 1 or 2

PREREQUISITES: None

Have you ever wondered how such a small logo as the Nike Swoosh can become one of the most widely recognizable symbols associated with a company? This course is designed to give students the opportunity to learn the essentials of marketing. Students will gain an understanding of the role marketing plays in both personal and professional success and have the opportunity to evaluate marketing as a possible field for further study. Students will work closely with a business of their choice to help apply their newly acquired skills.

PERSONAL FINANCE (COURSE #081) (offered every year)

REQUIRED OR ELECTIVE: Elective

SEMESTER OFFERED: Semester 1 or 2

PREREQUISITES: None

Personal Finance will introduce students to the world of loans, credit, insurance and budgeting. Do you know how to manage a checking account? Do you know how to get a car loan? How about applying for insurance for your car? How old do you need to be to get a credit card? How does someone make a budget? What are stocks? This course will answer these questions and more. Students will gain an insight as to how money makes the world go round through lectures, discussions, simulations, and activities. **This class is articulated with Western Technical College. Students who earn a B or better in this class will have advanced standing at Western Technical College where they will be awarded credit for Personal Finance 1011412**

This class may be taught by either the Business or Family and Consumer Science Department.

WORK BASED LEARNING (Blended course) (Course# 078 - Sem 1 Course# 079 - Sem 2)

REQUIRED OR ELECTIVE: Elective Juniors and Seniors

SEMESTER OFFERED: Semester 1 and 2

PREREQUISITES: Career Explorations

Students in WBL (Work based learning) will be developing work related goals and be allowed to work off campus for 1 period a semester to accomplish these goals. Required to meet 64 hours of working hours per semester. Students will be expected to complete weekly assignments and time cards through a hybrid model. It is not required, but highly encouraged for students to have a job placement in mind. Students must be able to provide their own transportation to and from workplace and school

HOSPITALITY AND TOURISM (Course# 077)

REQUIRED OR ELECTIVE: Elective

SEMESTER OFFERED: Semester 1 or 2

PREREQUISITES: None

This course aligns with the American Hotel and Lodging Educational Institute (AHLEI) curriculum, preparing students for the certified Hospitality and Tourism Management Professional industry certification through AHLEI. Students learn to identify operational practices important in lodging operations and the management decision-making processes involved in projecting costs, room pricing, and future demand. Topics include marketing strategies to increase room revenue, comparison of various types of facilities, importance of quality and service, the relationship between a hotels' operational departments, and event planning venues and services.

Family and Consumer Science

FOUNDATIONS OF COOKING (COURSE #083)

REQUIRED OR ELECTIVE: Elective

SEMESTER OFFERED: Semester 1 or 2

PREREQUISITES: None

Have you wondered what it would be like to be a chef and create new foods to wow your friends and family? This course introduces students to basic culinary skills which include safety and sanitation, creating recipes, and food preparation. Students will learn about the hottest new food trends and get a chance to prepare and sample many of them. They will learn the art of cooking, baking, preserving food and grilling. Students will be exposed to many jobs related to the food industry and even practice being a food stylist and food critique. Kitchen groups compete in a variety of food contests such as the best burger, chopped challenge and gingerbread house/cake decorating. This is a great class to prepare students to engage in the culinary world, whether it is in food service or cooking for friends and family.

Due to the large volume of food used, a \$25.00 lab fee is required.

CULINARY ARTS (COURSE #85)

REQUIRED OR ELECTIVE: Elective

SEMESTER OFFERED: Semester 1 or 2

PREREQUISITES: Foundations of Cooking

Do you enjoy cooking, eating and the creative process of preparing food? In culinary Arts you will have the opportunity to see how the skill and art of cooking can be a way to make money or become a career. In this course you will be able to practice and perfect many different recipes and cooking techniques. You will be using your skills to create a Gourmet- to Go business, and have the opportunity to partner with the business department on a special Food Truck project.

CHILD DEVELOPMENT/PARENTING (COURSE #084)

REQUIRED OR ELECTIVE: Elective

SEMESTER OFFERED: Semester 1 or 2

PREREQUISITES: None

The child development/parenting program is a child care/human services program based on real-world child development occupations and will provide excellent opportunities for students interested in such fields as education, social work, or early childhood education.

This class is designed primarily for juniors or seniors. Students will spend 2 days a week working with small children in a daycare or preschool. The course covers the process of human development from birth through kindergarten as determined by heredity, society, and personal human interaction with an emphasis on established child development theory and implications for child guidance. Hands on experience will be part of this class caring for a newborn firsthand with Real Care infant simulators.

SENIOR STRATEGIES (COURSE #090)

REQUIRED OR ELECTIVE: Elective

SEMESTER OFFERED: Semester 1 or 2

PREREQUISITES: None

Senior Strategies is a course for 11th and 12 grade students. The course incorporates 6 areas of FACS: career awareness (interest inventories, career exploration, and job outlook), interpersonal relationships (roommates, and positive communication), resource management (financial institutions, budgeting, credit use/abuse, investing, and loans), food and nutrition (healthy breakfast choices, wise snacking, and comparison of products) interior design (furnishing a dorm or first apartment) and clothing (dressing for success). **There will be a \$15.00 lab fee to help cover the cost of food labs.**

Foreign Languages

SPANISH I-A (COURSE #216)

REQUIRED OR ELECTIVE: Elective

SEMESTER OFFERED: Semester 1

PREREQUISITES: None

Beginning level Spanish consists of how to converse one-on-one with someone as well as with a group of people in the target language. Within this, students learn the basics of verb conjugation, grammar, vocabulary, pronunciation, reading, listening, and writing skills.

Methods and activities include repetition, conversation practice, videos, audio activities, and special projects.

SPANISH I-B (COURSE #217)

REQUIRED OR ELECTIVE: Elective

SEMESTER OFFERED: Semester 2

PREREQUISITES: Spanish I-A

This class is a continuation of the first semester of *Beginning Spanish I*. The students will continue to listen to, speak, read, and write Spanish. The themes, activities, and methods will continue from the previous semester.

SPANISH 2-A (COURSE #218)

REQUIRED OR ELECTIVE: Elective

SEMESTER OFFERED: Semester 1

PREREQUISITES: Successful completion of Spanish I-A and I-B

The students continue to understand, speak, read and write in Spanish. In this semester, we review the regular and irregular present tense verbs. We discuss *gustar*, the reflexive verbs, and the object pronouns. A variety of activities and methods are used such as pair and group work, projects, reading, journaling, and listening activities.

SPANISH 2-B (COURSE #219)

REQUIRED OR ELECTIVE: Elective

SEMESTER OFFERED: Semester 2

PREREQUISITES: Successful completion of Spanish 2-A

This class is a continuation of semester one with the same elements emphasized. The past tense (preterit and imperfect) are studied as well as the future tense. The vocabulary sets include the tener expressions, the movies, the car, the house, and professions.

SPANISH 3-A (COURSE #220)

REQUIRED OR ELECTIVE: Elective

SEMESTER OFFERED: Semester 1

PREREQUISITES: Successful completion of Spanish 2-A and 2-B

Students continue with an increasing amount of simulated activities in the target language. Some of the topics include one's identity, art and related themes, the past and present civilizations, technology and communication. The students will continue using present and past forms of the verbs and also use future and conditional forms in speaking and writing. There are audio and video activities accompanying each thematic unit.

SPANISH 3-B (COURSE #221)

REQUIRED OR ELECTIVE: Elective

SEMESTER OFFERED: Semester 2

PREREQUISITES: Successful completion of Spanish 3-A

Students continue with an increasing amount of simulated activities in the target language. There is more and more creativity with the language and culture.

SPANISH 4-A (COURSE #222)

REQUIRED OR ELECTIVE: Elective

SEMESTER OFFERED: Semester 1

PREREQUISITES: Successful completion of Spanish 3-A and 3-B

The student will communicate in a variety of tenses with a strong emphasis on communicating only in Spanish. Fourth year students review difficult grammar concepts and subjunctive mood. Readings in the target language involving history and culture are more common, and written projects analyzing the readings are applied. A video series will be used for oral comprehension. Instruction is in the target language and conversation among students is graded. This course will prepare students for the college entrance exams in Spanish.

SPANISH 4-B (COURSE #223)

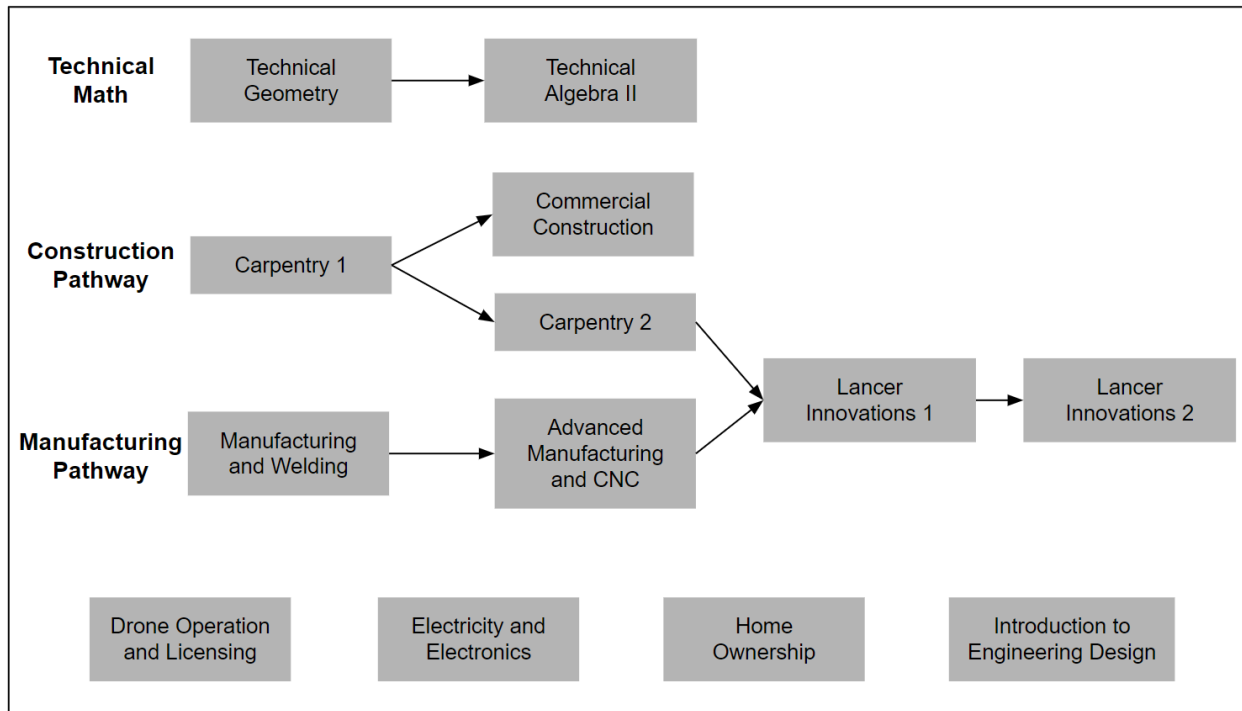
REQUIRED OR ELECTIVE: Elective

SEMESTER OFFERED: Semester 2

PREREQUISITES: Successful completion of Spanish 4-A

The student will communicate in a variety of tenses with a strong emphasis on communicating only in Spanish. This level is literature based. A variety of strategies are used. This course will prepare students for the college entrance exams in Spanish.

Trade and Industry



MANUFACTURING AND WELDING (COURSE #123)

(Formally Manufacturing & Welding 1, Beginning Metal Shop)

REQUIRED OR ELECTIVE: Elective

SEMESTER OFFERED: Semester 1 or 2

PREREQUISITES: None

This class meets the art standards requirement.

Let the sparks fly! *Manufacturing and Welding 1* is a course where students will study the Manufacturing industry, learning about materials, design, reading a plan, machine metal working, welding and sheet metal fabrication. The course will provide the student with the basic skills in metal technology. We will also be focusing on employability skills such as communication, positive attitude and problem solving.

ADVANCED MANUFACTURING AND CNC (COURSE # 147)

REQUIRED OR ELECTIVE: Elective

SEMESTER OFFERED: Semester 1 or 2

PREREQUISITES: An 'A' or 'B' in Manufacturing and Welding or teacher approval.

This class meets the art standards requirement.

Take your skills from Manufacturing and Welding 1 to the next level and enhance that skill set to incorporate CNC manufacturing. The students and teacher design an in-depth project and see it come to life through the skills they have acquired in class. The student will create a scaled drawing, list of materials, costs, and then build their project. Advanced Manufacturing and CNC students may be required to provide materials for their projects if the necessary supplies are not available.

CARPENTRY 1 (COURSE #126)

(Formally Beginning Wood Shop, Carpentry & Construction 1)

REQUIRED OR ELECTIVE: Elective

SEMESTER OFFERED: Semester 1 or 2

PREREQUISITES: None

This class meets the art standards requirement.

Students in this course will learn how to use hand tools and safely operate power tools. Students will study the woodworking industry and woodworking occupations. Through creative hands-on projects, this course will prepare students with the necessary information and skills to proceed in the Construction Pathway.

CARPENTRY 2 (COURSE #127)

(Formally Advanced Wood Shop, Carpentry & Construction 2)

REQUIRED OR ELECTIVE: Elective

SEMESTER OFFERED: Semester 1 or 2

PREREQUISITES: An 'A' or 'B' in Carpentry 1 or teacher approval.

This class meets the art standards requirement.

Students in this course will be furthering their skills and producing more complex and intricate projects. Students will pick some of their own projects and have choice in style, wood type and complexity. Carpentry 2 students may be required to provide materials for their projects if the necessary supplies are not available.

COMMERCIAL CONSTRUCTION (COURSE #130)

REQUIRED OR ELECTIVE: Elective

SEMESTER OFFERED: Semester 1 or 2 (Two hour course)

PREREQUISITES: An 'A' or 'B' in Carpentry 1 or teacher approval.

Commercial Construction provides students the opportunity to learn some of the skills needed to enter into a commercial construction occupation. Our goal in this class is to work with local contractors to give students a realistic experience of a commercial construction setting. Students will study construction occupations and learn what is needed to pursue a career in the construction industry.

LANCER INNOVATIONS 1 (COURSE #132)

REQUIRED OR ELECTIVE: Elective

SEMESTER OFFERED: Two hour, year long course (One hour course for 2023-24 school year)

PREREQUISITES: An 'A' or 'B' in Carpentry 2 or Advanced Manufacturing and CNC along with being accepted through an application process.

Join the Lancer Innovations team and work within our school based business. Students will build, design and promote projects that can be sold within our school business. Additionally, Lancer Innovations will take ideas and projects from the community and make them become reality. Students will be responsible for creating designs, project cost quotes, material lists and steps to complete their projects. We will focus on both the technical skills to create the projects along with the interpersonal skills to communicate with customers.

LANCER INNOVATIONS 2 (COURSE #133)

REQUIRED OR ELECTIVE: Elective

SEMESTER OFFERED: Two hour, year long course

PREREQUISITES: Lancer Innovations 1

Continue your work with Lancer Innovations for a second year and step up to take on a leadership role. You will now be given a specific role within our organization and help organize students in Lancer Innovations 1. Some of the roles we are looking for are Business Managers, Project Managers, Project Designers, Maintenance Technicians and CNC Operators. We are looking for students with excellent people skills, the ability to problem solve and an understanding of the Lancer Innovations school based business.

DRONE OPERATION (COURSE #144)

REQUIRED OR ELECTIVE: Elective

SEMESTER OFFERED: Semester 1 or 2

PREREQUISITES: None

This class meets the art standards requirement.

In Drone Operation we will discuss how the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) regulates commercial and recreational drone use. Students will learn what is required to obtain a Remote Pilot Certificate from the FAA. DJI drones will be used to complete various projects and to fly for fun.

ELECTRICITY AND ELECTRONICS (COURSE #135)

REQUIRED OR ELECTIVE: Elective

SEMESTER OFFERED: Semester 1 or 2

PREREQUISITES: None

Learn all about how the electricity in your house works; such as switches, outlets, and fixtures. . We will also explore electronics and automation through the use of PLC's. These powerful electronics are how area companies are able to make consistent products, quickly. The class will create a group project to mimic a real life manufacturing scenario. This could be anything from a pancake making machine to an automated pizza oven. We will explore career pathways with the Electrical and Electronics fields and understand what is needed to pursue those professions.

HOME OWNERSHIP (COURSE #142)

REQUIRED OR ELECTIVE: Elective

SEMESTER OFFERED: Semester 1 or 2

PREREQUISITES: None

Planning on owning your own home someday? Want to make sure you can take care of it? Home Ownership will cover maintenance and repairs of items found in a typical home. We will also look at what is required to purchase a home.

INTRODUCTION TO ENGINEERING DESIGN (Course #291)

(Formally 3D Design)

REQUIRED OR ELECTIVE: Elective

SEMESTER OFFERED: Semester 1 or 2

PREREQUISITES: None

Introduction to Engineering Design will offer students the experience to solve problems by applying a design development process. With the use of computer aided design (CAD) software, students will develop, analyze, and test product solutions models as well as communicate the features of those models. This course will use CAD-based projects to reinforce the design process, creative problem solving, aesthetics, time management, and basic mathematical principles.

Language Arts

FRESHMAN ENGLISH I (COURSE #161)

REQUIRED OR ELECTIVE: Required

SEMESTER OFFERED: Semester 1

PREREQUISITES: This course is taken by all freshmen

This course is a general language arts course that introduces students to basic high school skills related to reading, writing, speaking, and listening. Students will explore the purposes of communication in daily life and analyze characteristics of its many forms. Students will sharpen their formal English skills and use them in written work, thus, giving students a foundation for their sophomore language arts classes. Students will understand and analyze the basic elements of novels and learn to read critically and respond thoughtfully with relevant textual evidence. Students will build their vocabulary skills through weekly prefix activities. They will also improve their speaking and listening skills through small group discussion and more formal speaking opportunities. The major texts for this term will be the non-fiction text *7 Habits of Highly Effective Teens* and the novel *All American Boys*. The 9th grade Minnesota Academic Standards are delivered in the two semesters of Freshman English.

FRESHMAN ENGLISH II (COURSE #162)

REQUIRED OR ELECTIVE: Required

SEMESTER OFFERED: Semester 2

PREREQUISITES: This course is taken by all freshmen

This course continues the language arts curriculum from Semester 1 by developing students' skills in communication, formal English, literature, vocabulary, writing, and speaking. In this term, students will explore the major texts of *Romeo and Juliet* and the memoir *The Glass Castle*.

SOPHOMORE ENGLISH I (COURSE #171)

REQUIRED OR ELECTIVE: Required

SEMESTER OFFERED: Semester 1

PREREQUISITES: Sophomore Class Standing

This course is a general language arts course that integrates reading, writing, speaking, and listening. Students will develop an understanding of the basic elements of grammar and move towards an intermediate level of identification and application of language structures in their own writing.

Students will understand and analyze literary concepts and vocabulary in the context of their own writing and various types of literature, including short stories, fiction, poetry, nonfiction, and essays. Students will learn to read, think, and write critically through weekly contemporary nonfiction activities. Larger writing activities will focus on the development of paragraphs that support a central thesis statement and that are appropriate to the writing purpose and audience.

SOPHOMORE ENGLISH II (COURSE #172)

REQUIRED OR ELECTIVE: Required

SEMESTER OFFERED: Semester 2

PREREQUISITES: Sophomore Class Standing

This course builds on the concepts introduced in Sophomore English I in the same integrated manner while focusing on more advanced grammatical concepts and vocabulary as well as more in-depth literary analysis. Major written assignments include a literary analysis paper and a student-driven research paper. Students will gain speaking and listening skills through small group discussions, short presentations, and a formal speech.

SOPHOMORE ENGLISH I - Honors (COURSE #171H)

REQUIRED OR ELECTIVE: Required

SEMESTER OFFERED: Semester 1

PREREQUISITES: Sophomore Class Standing

This course is a language arts course that integrates reading, writing, speaking, and listening. It is designed for those students who plan to take college level courses in high school and to pursue a four-year college career. Students will develop an understanding of the elements of grammar and move towards a high-intermediate level of identification and application of language structures in their own writing.

This course has an emphasis on reading, and students will be expected to read multiple novels. Students will understand and analyze literary concepts and vocabulary in the context of their own writing and various types of literature, including short stories, fiction, poetry, essays, and novels.. Students will learn to read, think, and write critically through weekly contemporary nonfiction activities.

Writing activities will focus on the development of paragraphs that support a central thesis statement and that are appropriate to the writing purpose and audience. Students will be expected to compose an expository essay as well as a literary analysis essay.

Students will read several novels and learn how to use critical essays to help in the analysis of that which they read.. This course follows the same path as Sophomore English but requires more of students in the form of writing assignments, and extension activities for reading assignments. This course is offered based on the number of students enrolled.

SOPHOMORE ENGLISH II - Honors (COURSE #172H)

REQUIRED OR ELECTIVE: Required
SEMESTER OFFERED: Semester 2
PREREQUISITES: Sophomore Class Standing

This course is designed for those students who plan to take college level courses in high school and to pursue a four-year college career. This course builds on the concepts introduced in Sophomore English I - Honors in the same integrated manner while focusing on more advanced grammatical concepts and vocabulary as well as more in-depth literary analysis. Major written assignments include a literary analysis paper and a student-driven research paper. Students will further develop speaking and listening skills through small group discussions, short presentations, oral exams, and a formal speech.

JUNIOR ENGLISH I (COURSE #175)

REQUIRED OR ELECTIVE: Elective
SEMESTER OFFERED: Semester 1
PREREQUISITES: Junior Class Standing

English 11 - 1 is the first class in a four-semester course designed to deliver Junior and senior level Minnesota Academic Language Arts Standards. English 11 will focus on: 1) critical thinking and logical fallacies, 2) writing expository, persuasive, and analytical essays, 3) reading and analyzing various types of American literature, 4) mystery writing, and 5) grammar and vocabulary.

JUNIOR ENGLISH II (COURSE #176)

REQUIRED OR ELECTIVE: Elective
SEMESTER OFFERED: Semester 2
PREREQUISITES: Junior Class Standing

English 11 – 2 is the second class in a four-semester course designed to deliver Junior and Senior level Minnesota Academic Language Arts Standard. The second semester continues the survey of American literature, including John Steinbeck's *Of Mice and Men*. The class also includes: 1) research and citing sources, 2) study of American poetry, 3) choosing, reading, and preparing an oral presentation on a contemporary American author, 4) grammar, vocabulary, and critical thinking, and 5) essay writing.

JUNIOR ENGLISH I - HONORS (COURSE #173)

REQUIRED OR ELECTIVE: Elective

SEMESTER OFFERED: Semester 1

PREREQUISITES: Junior Class Standing

Junior English is a two-semester college preparatory class. It is designed to provide students with the thinking, reading, and writing skills to be successful in any of the senior English classes, including College English Literature and AP. The curriculum includes a survey of American literature and contemporary multi-ethnic choice novels, ACT preparation, the study of logical fallacies and argument forms, literary analysis, a heavy emphasis on improving writing skills, building grammar and vocabulary, developing oral presentation skills, a genre study of social protest novels, and learning and applying reading strategies. Texts include *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*, *The Crucible*, *The Grapes of Wrath*, *The Big Money*, a selection of contemporary multi-ethnic literature, short stories, poems, and essays. This course is recommended if you plan to take Senior English, AP, CIS, and attend a four-year college.

JUNIOR ENGLISH II - HONORS (COURSE #174)

REQUIRED OR ELECTIVE: Elective

SEMESTER OFFERED: Semester 2

PREREQUISITES: Junior Class Standing

Junior English is a two-semester course designed to provide students with thinking, reading, analytical, and writing skills. *Junior English II* continues the survey of American literature from Twain to the present. The curriculum includes: 1) literature research and analysis paper, 2) debate, 3) John Steinbeck's *The Grapes of Wrath*, 4) reading, analyzing, memorizing, and writing poetry, 5) reading, researching, and presenting an oral project on a modern American author, 6) grammar and vocabulary, and 7) projects, individual and group. This course is recommended if you are planning on attending a four-year college

SENIOR ENGLISH I (COURSE #187)

REQUIRED OR ELECTIVE: Elective

SEMESTER OFFERED: Semester 1

PREREQUISITES: Senior Class Standing

English 12 – 1 is the third class in a four-semester course designed to deliver the same Minnesota Academic Standards as Junior and Senior English. In the area of literature, students will study English literature and contemporary non-fiction. Students will be regularly tested on the content and themes studied throughout these units of literary instruction.

Vocabulary development will also be a major component of this course's curriculum. Weekly vocabulary quizzes and a cumulative exam will assess students' progress in this area. There will also be an emphasis on critical viewing and listening skills as they relate to documentaries, news coverage, and podcasts.

SENIOR ENGLISH II (COURSE #188)

REQUIRED OR ELECTIVE: Elective

SEMESTER OFFERED: Semester 2

PREREQUISITES: Senior Class Standing

English 12 – 2 is the fourth class in a four-semester course designed to deliver the same Minnesota Academic Standards as Junior and Senior English. This course is a continuation of semester one. Students will be reading the Shakespearean play *Othello/The Merchant of Venice* as part of their continuing studies of English literature. In addition, students will choose a contemporary novel from a teacher generated list for which they will be assessed in regards to literary analysis. Vocabulary instruction will continue with weekly assessments and a cumulative assessment. Writing instruction will focus primarily on critical analysis skills. Students will also be required to write an informal research paper.

SENIOR ENGLISH I – HONORS (COURSE #183)

REQUIRED OR ELECTIVE: Elective

SEMESTER OFFERED: Semester 1

PREREQUISITES: Junior English I and II or English 11 I and II

Senior English is designed to provide students with the skills necessary to succeed as a reader, writer, thinker, and communicator in a variety of post-secondary settings, including those related to college or technical school language arts classes and participating in the community as an informed and involved citizen. Students will read, write about, and discuss a variety of fiction and nonfiction texts in order to explore a variety of complex contemporary topics such as surveillance, immigration, race, political rhetoric, and war. Students will be expected to engage in a high level of awareness about relevant current and historical events related to these topics and will build their background knowledge through weekly reading, writing, and discussion activities of nonfiction from sources such as *The New York Times*, *The Atlantic*, *The LA Times*, *Washington Post*, *The Wall Street Journal*, *Rolling Stone*, *The Scientific American*, and other respected sources, including documentaries. Students will also analyze fiction, memoirs, and poetry, including excerpts from *The Things They Carried*, *The Latehomecomer*, *The House on Mango Street*, *Frankenstein*, *The Joy Luck Club*, and *The Arrival*.

SENIOR ENGLISH II - HONORS (Course #184)

REQUIRED OR ELECTIVE: Elective

SEMESTER OFFERED: Semester 2

PREREQUISITES: Senior English I or consent of the instructor

Senior English is designed to provide students with the skills necessary to succeed as a reader, writer, thinker, and communicator in a variety of post-secondary settings. The second semester of Senior English will continue to build upon the concepts and skills gained in the first semester. This semester, students will explore a variety of texts on contemporary topics such as Native Americans, religion in America, death, and civic engagement.

Mathematics

ALGEBRA 1 (Semester 1: Linear Algebra, Semester 2: Quadratic Algebra) (COURSE #243 & 244)

REQUIRED OR ELECTIVE: Elective (students will be assigned to take this course as needed)

SEMESTER OFFERED: Year long course

PREREQUISITES: None

Topics include: Expressions, Equations, and Functions; Properties of Real Numbers; Solving Linear Equations; Graphing Linear Equations and Functions; Writing Linear Equations; Solving and Graphing Linear Inequalities; Systems of Equations and Inequalities; Exponents and Exponential Functions; Radicals; Polynomials & Factoring; Quadratic Equations and Functions

GEOMETRY I (COURSE #261)

REQUIRED OR ELECTIVE: Two Geometry Credits are Required

SEMESTER OFFERED: Semester 1

PREREQUISITES: None

Semester 1 of Geometry covers the basics of plane geometry, proof basics, parallel and perpendicular lines, congruent figures/triangles, special characteristics of triangles, and probability. Algebraic fundamentals are combined with geometric principals leading to the next mathematics course, *Algebra 2*.

GEOMETRY II (COURSE #262)

REQUIRED OR ELECTIVE: Two Geometry Credits are Required

SEMESTER OFFERED: Semester 2

PREREQUISITES: Geometry I

Semester 2 of Geometry covers similar figures, transformations, right triangle trigonometry, area, surface area, volume, and statistics. Algebraic fundamentals are combined with geometric principles that lead to the next mathematics course, Algebra 2.

ALGEBRA 2 (COURSE #263 & 264)

REQUIRED OR ELECTIVE: Two Algebra 2 Credits are Required

SEMESTER OFFERED: Semester 1

PREREQUISITES: Geometry or Technical Geometry

Algebra 2 is a continuing exploration in algebraic topics. You will look more deeply into many of the topics from Algebra. Topics covered include solving linear and quadratic equations, problem-solving, polynomial expressions, graphing algebraic equations, polynomial functions, powers, roots, radicals and rational functions as well as an introduction to trigonometry.

ALGEBRA 2 HONORS (COURSE #263H & 264H)

REQUIRED OR ELECTIVE: Two Algebra 2 Credits are Required

SEMESTER OFFERED: Year long course

PREREQUISITES: Algebra with a grade of B or higher (also recommended: Geometry I and II)

Algebra 2 Honors is designed for pre-college students with better than average mathematical ability. This course is a prerequisite for *Pre-Calculus I*. This fast-paced math course includes topics of solving complex linear and quadratic equations, multi-variable problem-solving, simplifying rational expressions and solving rational algebraic equations, radical functions, exponential functions, logarithmic functions and trigonometry.

MATH APPLICATIONS I (COURSE #267)

REQUIRED OR ELECTIVE: Elective

SEMESTER OFFERED: Semester 1

PREREQUISITES: Geometry II

Note: This course does not meet NCAA math requirements. This course is designed for juniors and seniors who want to take an additional math course to keep their math skills sharp. Math topics like Problem Solving, Quick Computations, Logic, Mathematical Systems, and Consumer Math will be investigated. All math techniques will be associated with the world we live in.

MATH APPLICATIONS II (COURSE #268)

REQUIRED OR ELECTIVE: Elective

SEMESTER OFFERED: Semester 2

PREREQUISITES: Geometry II

Note: This course does not meet NCAA math requirements. This course is designed for juniors and seniors who want to take an additional math course to keep their math skills sharp. A variety of math topics will be explored but emphasis will be put on statistical analysis, probability, and modeling of real life math applications such as elections and codes.

PRE-CALCULUS I (COURSE #269)

REQUIRED OR ELECTIVE: Elective

SEMESTER OFFERED: Semester 1

PREREQUISITES: Algebra 2 Honors or (Algebra 2 with Teacher Recommendation)

This course includes the study of elementary mathematical functions. The course uses and strengthens the student's knowledge of algebra and geometry. Properties of graphs, including families, asymptotes, limits, and continuity, are covered. Exponential and logarithmic functions are also studied. Finally, we begin our study of trigonometry, including an in-depth look at radians, the unit circle, and techniques for solving triangles. This background should be adequate for the student who continues his/her education in mathematics, science, or liberal arts as well as the student who will apply it to business and/or the trades.

PRE-CALCULUS II (COURSE #270)

REQUIRED OR ELECTIVE: Elective

SEMESTER OFFERED: Semester 2

PREREQUISITES: Pre-Calculus I

This course continues the study of elementary mathematical functions. It focuses on the graphs of trigonometric functions and their inverses, trigonometric identities and equations, and sequences and series.

ADVANCED PLACEMENT STATISTICS (COURSE #275 & 276)

REQUIRED OR ELECTIVE: Elective

SEMESTER OFFERED: Semester 1 and 2 (This is a year-long course)

PREREQUISITES: Algebra 2 Honors OR Pre-Calculus

The purpose of this course is to provide an introduction to the major concepts and tools for collecting, analyzing, and drawing conclusions from data. There are four broad conceptual themes: exploring data, sampling and experimentation, anticipating patterns, and statistical inference. In this course students will use technology as well as hands-on activities to explore the use of data and statistics in common real life situations. The course and AP exam are designed to be equivalent to a one-semester, introductory, non-calculus-based, college course in statistics. At La Crescent High School, students will take AP Statistics over the entire year and will be encouraged to take the AP Statistics exam in May. If successful on the AP Statistics exam, students have the possibility of earning college credit.

COLLEGE PRE-CALCULUS I/II (COURSE #287 & 288)

REQUIRED OR ELECTIVE: Elective

SEMESTER OFFERED: Semester 1 and 2 (This is a year-long course which we complete at the beginning of June.)

PREREQUISITES: Algebra 2 Honors **Due to the pace and difficulty of College Credit Pre-Calculus, it is recommended that students who take it should have earned A's or A-'s both semesters in Algebra 2 Honors.

Students who pass the class will earn 5 college Pre-Calculus credits from Southwest Minnesota State University. The grade they earn in the class will become a part of their permanent college transcript (whether they pass the class or not). Generally, other Universities will require a C or better to accept the credit.

To be eligible to earn college credit, juniors must be in the top third of their class and have a 3.0 GPA or above, and seniors must be in the top half of their class and have a 3.0 GPA or above. Also, if you are taking these courses for college credit, you must take the class for the entire school year.

This course includes the study of elementary mathematical functions. The course uses and strengthens the student's knowledge of algebra and geometry. Topics include properties of graphs, polynomials, rational functions, logarithmic and exponential equations, matrices, systems of equations, and sequences and series. Trigonometry makes up a large part of the course; radians, the unit circle, techniques for solving triangles, vectors, the graphs of the trigonometric functions and their inverses, trigonometric identities, and trigonometric equations are covered in-depth. This background will be adequate for the student who continues his/her education in mathematics, science, or liberal arts as well as the student who will apply it to business and/or the trades.

COLLEGE CALCULUS I (COURSE #289 & #290)

REQUIRED OR ELECTIVE: Elective

SEMESTER OFFERED: Semester 1 and 2 (This is a year-long course which we complete at the beginning of June.)

PREREQUISITES: Pre-Calculus II or College Pre-Calculus

Students who pass the class will earn 5 college Calculus credits from Southwest Minnesota State University. The grade they earn in the class will become a part of their permanent college transcript (whether they pass the class or not). Generally, other Universities will require a C or better to accept the credit.

To be eligible to earn college credit, juniors must be in the top third of their class and have a 3.0 GPA or above, and seniors must be in the top half of their class and have a 3.0 GPA or above. Also, if you are taking these courses for college credit, you must take the class for the entire school year.

This course is fast-paced, rigorous math class that explores, in depth, the topics of limits, rates of changes, differentiation and integration. Students will learn all nuances of the vast number of functions they experienced in previous math classes. Technology is used to engage the student within these topics, however, conceptual learning is the key component and application of those concepts is a major aspect of the course. Calculus is a dynamic, yet difficult subject that challenges students to explore completely new ideas.

Music

CONCERT BAND I (COURSE #313) (Formally Lancer Band)

REQUIRED OR ELECTIVE: Elective

SEMESTER OFFERED: Semester 1

PREREQUISITES: No prerequisite, admission by audition

This class meets the art standards requirement

Concert Band, typically limited to 9th and 10th grade students, offers a performance-based curriculum in which students will develop and improve performance skills on their individual instruments. In addition, students will receive instruction in music theory, history, and appreciation.

The school year will include performances in marching and concert band settings, as well as solos and small ensembles. Students will also have the opportunity to participate in jazz band and pep band. The performances include football halftime shows, parades, concerts, festivals, and performance tours.

In addition to the full band rehearsal class, students will receive regular instruction in an individualized lesson setting.

As students progress through their course of study, they will develop the skills and knowledge necessary to move to the Concert Band.

CONCERT BAND II (COURSE #314) (Formally Lancer Band)

REQUIRED OR ELECTIVE: Elective

SEMESTER OFFERED: Semester 2

PREREQUISITES: No prerequisite, admission by audition

This class meets the art standards requirement

Concert Band, typically limited to 9th and 10th grade students, offers a performance-based curriculum in which students will develop and improve performance skills on their individual instruments. In addition, students will receive instruction in music theory, history, and appreciation.

The school year will include performances in marching and concert band settings, as well as solos and small ensembles. Students will also have the opportunity to participate in jazz band and pep band. The performances include football halftime shows, parades, concerts, festivals, and performance tours.

In addition to the full band rehearsal class, students will receive regular instruction in an individualized lesson setting. As students progress through their course of study, they will develop the skills and knowledge necessary to move to the Concert Band.

SYMPHONIC BAND I (COURSE #301)

REQUIRED OR ELECTIVE: Elective

SEMESTER OFFERED: Semester 1

PREREQUISITES: No prerequisites, admission by audition

This class meets the art standards requirement

Symphonic Band, typically limited to juniors and seniors, offers a performance-based curriculum in which students will develop and improve performance skills on their individual instruments. In addition, students will receive instruction in music theory, history, and appreciation.

The school year will include performances in the marching and concert band settings, as well as solos and small ensembles. Students will also have the opportunity to participate in jazz band and pep band. The performances include football half-time shows, parades, concerts, festivals, and performance tours.

In addition to the full band rehearsal class, students will receive regular instruction in an individualized lesson setting.

SYMPHONIC BAND II (COURSE #302)

REQUIRED OR ELECTIVE: Elective

SEMESTER OFFERED: Semester 2

PREREQUISITES: No prerequisites, admission by audition

This class meets the art standards requirement

Symphonic Band, typically limited to juniors and seniors, offers a performance-based curriculum in which students will develop and improve performance skills on their individual instruments. In addition, students will receive instruction in music theory, history, and appreciation.

The school year will include performances in the marching and concert band settings, as well as solos and small ensembles. Students will also have the opportunity to participate in jazz band and pep band. The performances include football half-time shows, parades, concerts, festivals, and performance tours.

In addition to the full band rehearsal class, students will receive regular instruction in an individualized lesson setting.

CONCERT CHOIR I (COURSE #306)

REQUIRED OR ELECTIVE: Elective

SEMESTER OFFERED: Semester 1

PREREQUISITES: None

This class meets the art standards requirement

Concert Choir is a non-auditioned group that is open to all singers of varying degrees of experience. A wide variety of music is performed in 4-5 public performances during the year. Rehearsals are 5 days per week with occasional sectional rehearsals held before or after school. Emphasis is on singing techniques required for varying styles, ensemble singing and sight-singing. Students will be exposed to the history, style and major choral composers (Renaissance—Contemporary) through various methods of study. Music is selected by the director. Students are required to prepare for and attend regular voice lessons (4-6 per quarter) in order to meet the rigors of this class and to improve their individual vocal technique. These are scheduled based on the student schedule and that of the instructor. Students will have the opportunity to participate in Solo/Ensemble Festival as well as group participation in the District Large Group Festival. It is expected that students make a yearlong commitment to this choir whenever possible. Besides the required 4-5 concerts, there are many opportunities for singers to perform at community and area events. Examples include the Holiday Craft Fair at the La Crosse Center, the TV taping of the Holiday Concert, Rotary meetings and other functions. Occasional field trip opportunities are also offered as well.

Co-curricular groups are offered to students for enrichment and challenge. There is no participation fee, however, students should expect to pay for personal dress items when necessary (\$10.00 - \$25.00).

Pop Choir Open to 8th thru 12th grade. Performs pop tunes, has movement. Meets during flex, and before and after school. Times determined by group.

CONCERT CHOIR II (COURSE #307)

REQUIRED OR ELECTIVE: Elective

SEMESTER OFFERED: Semester 2

PREREQUISITES: None

This class meets the art standards requirement

Concert Choir is a non-auditioned group that is open to all singers of varying degrees of experience. A wide variety of music is performed in 4-5 public performances during the year. Rehearsals are 5 days per week with occasional sectional rehearsals held before or after school. Emphasis is on singing techniques required for varying styles, ensemble singing and sight-singing. Students will be exposed to the history, style and major choral composers (Renaissance—Contemporary) through various methods of study. Music is selected by the director. Students are required to prepare for and attend regular voice lessons (4-6 per quarter) in order to meet the rigors of this class and to improve their individual vocal technique. These are scheduled based on the student schedule and that of the instructor. Students will have the opportunity to participate in Solo/Ensemble Festival as well as group participation in the District Large Group Festival. It is expected that students make a yearlong commitment to this choir whenever possible. Besides the required 4-5 concerts, there are many opportunities for singers to perform at community and area events. Examples include the Holiday Craft Fair at the La Crosse Center, the TV taping of the Holiday Concert, Rotary meetings and other functions. Occasional field trip opportunities are also offered as well.

Co-curricular groups are offered to students for enrichment and challenge. There is no participation fee, however, students should expect to pay for personal dress items when necessary (\$10.00 - \$25.00).

Pop Choir Open to 8th thru 12th grade. Performs pop tunes, has movement. Meets during flex, and before and after school. Times determined by group.

Physical Education

PHYSICAL EDUCATION (COURSE #340)

REQUIRED OR ELECTIVE: Required
SEMESTER OFFERED: Semester 1 or 2
PREREQUISITES: None

There are units of: Physical Fitness testing, basketball, softball, cooperative games, pickle ball, body toning, soccer, flag football, volleyball, team handball, badminton, La Crosse, archery, floor hockey, handball, and golf. Students are required to dress for activity.

SENIOR HIGH HEALTH (COURSE #350)

REQUIRED OR ELECTIVE: Required
SEMESTER OFFERED: Semester 1 or 2
PREREQUISITES: None

Senior High Health meets every day for one semester. Some of the topics covered throughout the class are personal health, mental health, nutrition, tobacco, drugs and alcohol. The students will learn about health issues that are relevant to their lives now and into the future, while also demonstrating effective refusal and communication skills and the ability to advocate for the health of others.

TEAM GAMES (COURSE #355)

REQUIRED OR ELECTIVE: Elective
SEMESTER OFFERED: Semester 1
PREREQUISITES: PE #340 (Repeatable up to 2 total credits)

This course is designed primarily for juniors and seniors. In this class you will have the chance to develop your leadership qualities. You will gain an understanding of and appreciation for a variety of traditional and non-traditional sport activities by teaching your peers and active participation. Emphasis will be on activities that you can choose to utilize your skills that will help you maintain your wellness goals throughout your life and enhance your cooperation and "team player" skills. Possible class activities will be related to team sports: Basketball, Volleyball, Football, Soccer, Baseball, Softball, Floor Hockey, Rugby, Lacrosse, Ultimate Frisbee, Badminton, Pickle ball and/or cooperative games.

PERSONAL LIFETIME FITNESS (COURSE #356)

REQUIRED OR ELECTIVE: Elective

SEMESTER OFFERED: Semester 1 or 2

PREREQUISITES: PE #340

In this course you will attain the tools and knowledge that will help you set, achieve, and maintain healthy short and long term fitness and wellness goals. You will also gain an understanding of proper nutrition that is essential in healthy living and meeting those fitness goals. Experience creating your own fitness and nutrition program and see the evidence that sticking to that program will help you meet your goals. You will also learn of a variety of fitness programming models that lead to different fitness goals you may have throughout your life. These are skills that will help you take charge of your personal health and wellness now, and throughout your life.

RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES (COURSE #357)

REQUIRED OR ELECTIVE: Elective

SEMESTER OFFERED: Semester 2

PREREQUISITES: PE #340 (Repeatable up to 2 total credits)

This course will provide students with a wide array of knowledge for non traditional fitness activities that promote wellness for life. The students will develop a basic skill level and understanding of these activities to transfer what is learned in the course into their daily lives. This course will offer a wide variety of activities including but not limited to: Frisbee golf, golf, bowling, badminton, biking, hiking, snowshoeing, fishing, pickleball, physical fitness (yoga, pilates, circuit training), archery, leisure activities, ice skating and/or cooperative games. This course will also offer an introduction to various camping and hunting skills, strategies and ethics; as well as a basic introduction to wilderness survival skills.

STRENGTH TRAINING I (COURSE #358)

REQUIRED OR ELECTIVE: Elective

SEMESTER OFFERED: Semester 1

PREREQUISITES: PE #340

Want to shape your body? Need to gain strength? Would you like more muscle? Want to boost your metabolism? Do you just need to get more exercise? Strength Training I will help you understand more about your body, and how to make improvements on it. You will learn about various aspects of strength training, proper terminology, how it can benefit us, and why it is an important life-long activity for both females and males. Each student will have their own workout regimen designed to maximize the time allowed in class. Students will learn a wide variety of strength training techniques that help to increase performance and limit injuries. Each student will utilize an individualized workout program. Students who have taken this class have seen the benefits and highly recommend it for any high school student.

STRENGTH TRAINING II (COURSE #359)

REQUIRED OR ELECTIVE: Elective

SEMESTER OFFERED: Semester 2

PREREQUISITES: Strength Training I or Personal Lifetime Fitness (Repeatable up to 2 total credits)

Are you ready to take things up a notch from Strength Training I? This class will allow students to make further improvements to the gains they made in Fall Semester. Students will learn more about the technology and training methods used throughout the world. They will continue with their individualized workout plan, and utilize various techniques and periodization to help their progress. Students will test themselves for strength gains, technique, and knowledge of building strength. As in the previous class, a fun, energetic atmosphere will accompany this class. So sign up with your friends and enjoy!

Science

EARTH SCIENCE I (COURSE #365)

REQUIRED OR ELECTIVE: Required

SEMESTER OFFERED: Semester 1

PREREQUISITES: This course is taken by all freshmen

Earth Science is the study and practice where students develop understanding of a wide range of topics in Earth and Space Science. They will use science and engineering practices and crosscutting concepts to develop a deeper understanding of Earth and Space.

In the two Earth Science courses, students will focus on four units of study: Earth's Systems and Weather, Global Climate Change, Earth's History and Astronomy. In Earth's Systems, students understand the dynamic and interrelated systems of the Earth including Earth materials, plate tectonics, and other large scale system interactions.

In Weather and Global Climate Change, students understand the system interactions that control weather and climate, with a major emphasis on the mechanisms and implications of climate change.

In Earth's History, students construct explanations for scales of time over which Earth processes operate and make inferences about events in Earth's history based on the data record.

In Astronomy, students examine the processes governing the formation, evolution, and workings of the universe and Earth's place in it.

EARTH SCIENCE II (COURSE #366)

REQUIRED OR ELECTIVE: Required

SEMESTER OFFERED: Semester 2

PREREQUISITES: This course is taken by all freshmen

Earth Science II is a continuation of Earth Science I

BIOLOGY I (COURSE #371)

REQUIRED OR ELECTIVE: Required

SEMESTER OFFERED: Semester 1

PREREQUISITES: This course is taken by all sophomores

Biology is the study of living things. In this course, students will learn more about themselves as living organisms and the world around them.

Through a study of various storylines, students will work to prepare for a life-long appreciation for the diversity of the world around them. Through models of ecosystems, organisms and cells, students will study homeostasis, genetic variation and heredity. Students will study how various diseases (inherited, cancers and infections) affect the human body.

At the end of biology, students will take the life science Minnesota Comprehensive Assessment (MCA).

BIOLOGY II (COURSE #372)

REQUIRED OR ELECTIVE: Required

SEMESTER OFFERED: Semester 2

PREREQUISITES: This course is taken by all sophomores

Biology II is a continuation of *Biology I*.

INVESTIGATIVE BIOLOGY (COURSE #384)

REQUIRED OR ELECTIVE: Elective

SEMESTER OFFERED: Semester 1

PREREQUISITES: Biology I and Biology II

Investigative Biology is a semester-long course that explores the science of investigating crimes. Topics include such things as DNA, bones, fingerprints, blood, entomology, and toxicology.

Laboratory experience, critical thinking and crime scene analysis are key components of this class.

Students who need this course for graduation will be given registration priority. Investigative Biology along with Environmental Studies will fulfill the chemistry graduation requirement.

ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES (COURSE #385)

REQUIRED OR ELECTIVE: Elective

SEMESTER OFFERED: Semester 2

PREREQUISITES: Biology II

The environmental studies course is intended for students who are interested in learning more about the environmental issues we are facing. This will include ways in which we humans influence these interactions as well as depend on them. Other topics include climate change, water quality and toxic chemicals.

During the course, you can expect to go out of doors and carry out studies of how organisms interact with each other, i.e., examine a plot of land or a water source.

The course will be beneficial to anyone who has an interest in how the natural world around him or her works. The information will be useful in the future for deciding how to vote in elections, whether products you purchase are environmentally wise and whether you wish to pursue a career in an environmental field.

Investigative Biology along with Environmental Studies will fulfill the chemistry graduation requirement.

CHEMISTRY I (COURSE #386)

REQUIRED OR ELECTIVE: Elective

SEMESTER OFFERED: Semester 1

PREREQUISITES: 1 year of algebra (recommend Cs or better)
(Sophomores have a B+ or better in 9th grade Science)

Chemistry is a study of the structure and composition of matter. Any student considering a career in science, engineering, or any medical field (doctor, nurse, lab technician, etc.) should plan to take at least two semesters of high school chemistry. Students planning to attend either college or technical school would also benefit from the study skills of this course, as would anyone with an interest in the world around him or her. Most four-year colleges today require three years of science for admission. *Chemistry* is a good choice for one of the required three.

Topics studied include atomic structure, chemical bonding, patterns in the periodic table and chemical reactions, stoichiometry, thermochemistry, water and solutions, and reaction rates.

CHEMISTRY II (COURSE #387)

REQUIRED OR ELECTIVE: Elective

SEMESTER OFFERED: Semester 2

PREREQUISITES: Chemistry I (Recommendation of a C in Chemistry I)

Chemistry II is a continuation of Chemistry I.

ANATOMY AND PHYSIOLOGY I (COURSE #380)

REQUIRED OR ELECTIVE: Elective

SEMESTER OFFERED: Semester 1

PREREQUISITES: Successful completion of Biology (a grade of A or B is recommended); completion of Chemistry or concurrent enrollment in Chemistry, with science instructor approval.

Anatomy and Physiology is a year-long course in the study of the structure and function of the human body. Laboratory work, including dissection, will be an integral part of the course. This course is recommended for any student interested in learning more about the human body, and especially students that intend to pursue a career in the health sciences. Students intending to pursue post-secondary programs such as Nursing, Pre-Med, Physician's Assistant, Physical Therapy, Dental Hygiene & Dentistry, and Veterinary Medicine, will benefit from the background gained in this course.

ANATOMY AND PHYSIOLOGY II (COURSE #381)

REQUIRED OR ELECTIVE: Elective

SEMESTER OFFERED: Semester 2

PREREQUISITES: Successful completion of Biology (a grade of A or B is recommended); completion of Chemistry or concurrent enrollment in Chemistry, with science instructor approval, and successful completion of Anatomy and Physiology I

Anatomy and Physiology II is a continuation of *Anatomy and Physiology I*.

PHYSICS I (COURSE #388) (offered 2025-26)

REQUIRED OR ELECTIVE: Elective

SEMESTER OFFERED: Semester 1

PREREQUISITES: Physical Science or Earth Science and Geometry

Physics is the science that examines the relationship between matter and energy. The primary goal of physics is to gain an understanding of how our universe operates. Topics studied in this course will include kinetics (the study of motion), mechanics (the study of forces and energy), and dynamics (the study of forces and motion) – including non-uniform and non-linear motion-,

This course is recommended for students pursuing careers in science or engineering, as well as for students with a curiosity about how the world around them works. Students planning to attend either college or technical school would benefit from this course. During each semester, students will be expected to read their textbook, conduct lab experiments and complete lab reports. Students will also –design experiments and use computer equipment and video analysis equipment to determine outcomes.

PHYSICS II (COURSE #389) (offered 2025-26)

REQUIRED OR ELECTIVE: Elective

SEMESTER OFFERED: Semester 2

PREREQUISITES: Physics I

Physics II is a continuation of Physics I

NATURAL DISASTERS (COURSE #392) (offered 2024-25)

REQUIRED OR ELECTIVE: Elective

SEMESTER OFFERED: Semester 2

PREREQUISITES: Junior or Senior

Natural Disasters will talk about real world applications of Earth Science principles that we experience in our daily lives and on the news. We will cover the science behind Natural Disasters; such as Wildfires, Earthquakes and severe weather. There is a focus on how these disasters impact humans and how human activity can worsen impacts felt from these disasters. Students will evaluate competing solutions for preventing and mitigating human and ecological damages from natural disasters.

ADVANCED BIOCHEM (COURSE #393) (offered 2024-25)

REQUIRED OR ELECTIVE: Elective

SEMESTER OFFERED: Semester 1

PREREQUISITES: Biology II and Chemistry II (Grades of A or B are recommended with lab experiences)

Advanced biochemistry is a deeper study into the biology and chemistry topics that students will expect to see in the first years of biology and chemistry in college. We will go deeper into stoichiometry, reaction rates and equilibrium from chemistry. We will study more details of molecular genetics and cellular biology. Like a college lab class, students should expect to spend about 25% of class time on lab work.

Social Studies

CIVICS I (COURSE #401)

REQUIRED OR ELECTIVE: Required

SEMESTER OFFERED: Semester 1

PREREQUISITES: Taken by all freshman

Civics is the study of politics and government. Not only government institutions, but also the decision-makers and the effects they have on we the people.

This course provides students with an overview of the United States government. Emphasis will be placed upon the foundations of government, the U.S. Constitution, and basic structure and function of government.

HUMAN GEOGRAPHY (COURSE #417F)

REQUIRED OR ELECTIVE: Required

SEMESTER OFFERED: Semester 2

PREREQUISITES: Taken by all freshman

Human Geography is a one semester course designed to give you a greater insight into the geography and early history of the world. What do archaeology and anthropology teach us about prehistoric humans? What were some of the Empires of the Ancient World and how were they governed? How does geography influence the history of the world? Students will learn early human history, applying the basic geographic components of population, migration, culture, political geography, agriculture, and urbanization

THEMES OF U.S. HISTORY I (COURSE #411)

REQUIRED OR ELECTIVE: Required
SEMESTER OFFERED: Semester 1
PREREQUISITES: Taken by all sophomores

Themes of US History I continues the narrative from 8th grade US History, beginning with Reconstruction in the 1860s and ending in the 1930s, and ending with the Great Depression. This course includes the Themes of U. S. History standard, which will meet the Minnesota Grad Standard under the topic of People and Cultures. This dynamic course's guiding question is: what is the American experience? In the pursuit of answering this complex question, students will have the opportunity to process skills in debate, oral reporting, cooperative group work, and the dynamics of effective and accurate research, and discussion.

THEMES OF U.S. HISTORY II (COURSE #412)

REQUIRED OR ELECTIVE: Required
SEMESTER OFFERED: Semester 2
PREREQUISITES: Taken by all sophomores

Themes of US History II begins with the late 1930s and the onset of World War II, which contributed greatly to the geographical and political make-up of our present world. From there, the course will continue on through the remainder of the 20th century, where the course will culminate at the present-day.. This course's focus continues to be addressing the American experience and what it means to be an American.

WORLD CULTURES I and II (COURSE #415 & #416)

REQUIRED OR ELECTIVE: Required (unless enrolled in AP World History)
SEMESTER OFFERED: Semester 1 and 2
PREREQUISITES: Taken by juniors

How can differing political and religious philosophies influence a culture and cause conflict? How was society influenced and changed during medieval times? How did invasions of land influence the dynasties in Ancient China? How have World Wars and conflicts influenced where we stand on global issues today?

These are just a few of the questions that will be answered in the World Cultures class. Students will explore the fascinating contrasts throughout the world. Special stress will be on the lifestyle of the people and their relationship with the rest of the world. Students will also learn the history, the geography, the political systems, and cultural life of the various areas of the world.

AP WORLD HISTORY I and II (COURSE #468 & #469)

REQUIRED OR ELECTIVE: Required (unless enrolled in World Cultures)

SEMESTER OFFERED: Semester 1 and 2

PREREQUISITES: Taken by juniors or seniors

AP World History is an introductory college-level modern world history course. Students cultivate their understanding of world history from c. 1200 CE to the present through analyzing historical sources and learning to make connections and craft historical arguments as they explore concepts like humans and the environment, cultural developments and interactions, governance, economic systems, social interactions and organization, and technology and innovation. This course satisfies the social studies requirement for the 11th grade and would be taken in place of World Cultures. Seniors may enroll for elective credit if space permits.

CIVICS II (COURSE #402)

REQUIRED OR ELECTIVE: Required

SEMESTER OFFERED: Semester 1

PREREQUISITES: Taken by all Seniors

Civics is the study of politics and government. Not only government institutions, but also the decision-makers and the effects they have on we the people.

This course provides citizenship education so that students can participate in our democratic form of government. Wiser, perceptive citizens make better decisions. They will have an appreciation of and a positive attitude towards democracy. The skills and knowledge they learn will make them successful citizens. *Civics II* will focus on state and local government and the issues they deal with and application of the U.S. Constitution.

ECONOMICS (COURSE #422)

REQUIRED OR ELECTIVE: Required

SEMESTER OFFERED: Semester 1 or 2

PREREQUISITES: Taken by all seniors

Expectations: The students will be expected to do extensive reading, portfolios, essay writing, economic analysis, tests, and projects.

All of us are contributors to the economy as consumers, producers, savers and investors. As a member of our financial system we are all asked to make economic decisions. We will explore the importance of decision making and goal setting. We will also evaluate the cost versus benefits of making a choice. This course will help you understand how supply, demand and price are determined in our marketplace and the factors that influence production. You also will learn how our economic system relates to other economic systems in the world. Finally we will study, investments, the stock market and business ownership in relation to the free market economic system that exists in the United States and globalization

HUMAN GEOGRAPHY (COURSE #417)

REQUIRED OR ELECTIVE: Required

SEMESTER OFFERED: Semester 2

PREREQUISITES: Taken by all Seniors (class of 2025 and 2026), Taken by Freshman (starting class of 2027)

Human Geography is a one semester course designed to give you a greater insight into the geography of the world. Human Geography offers an opportunity to explore mapping, planning, and exploring the world around us in an exciting way. Students will learn basics of the following geographical components: population, migration, culture, political geography, agriculture, and urbanization. Studies will also focus on the various regions of the world, applying principles and delving deeper into the human aspects of the world.

PSYCHOLOGY (COURSE #426)

REQUIRED OR ELECTIVE: Elective

SEMESTER OFFERED: Semester 1 or 2

PREREQUISITES: None

Who are you? What makes you, you? Why do people act the way they do? These questions and more will be explored in this course.

Psychology is the scientific study of behavior and mental processes. Throughout this course we will cover a broad range of topics within the vast world of psychology. As a result of this course, you will gain a deeper understanding of your own mental processes and why people make choices.

This course utilizes a combination of activities, discussion, readings, and projects designed to make psychology a fun topic of study. We will learn about psychological disorders, memory, learning, the brain, social psychology and more!

SOCIOLOGY (COURSE #429)

REQUIRED OR ELECTIVE: Elective

SEMESTER OFFERED: Semester 1 or 2

PREREQUISITES: None

Sociology is the study of human social relationships and institutions. It is an exciting and illuminating field of study that analyzes and explains important matters in our personal lives, our communities, and the world. By studying others, we not only broaden our perspectives and diminish ignorance, but we also gain insight into our own behaviors. The knowledge and skills learned in this course are relevant and helpful in today's society.

Sociology will dig deeper into the issues plaguing our society. We will discuss culture, social divisions, deviance, crime, the criminal justice system, racism, and social inequality. This exciting course is designed to help you understand the world around you and become more thoughtful and informed individuals.

COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP (COURSE #455)

REQUIRED OR ELECTIVE: Elective

SEMESTER OFFERED: Semester 2

PREREQUISITES: Junior or Senior Class standing with driver's license; Good standing discipline/attendance records and grades. Students must have a 2.0 GPA or higher (appeal process is available through Mr. Braun), provide own transportation, have parental approval to leave school (requiring signed liability form), and have proof of auto and health insurance. *After this upcoming semester, students will be required to receive a signature from Mr. Braun before registering.*

Community Leadership is a semester-long elective course that emphasizes service-based learning and servant leadership. Beginning with structured classroom experiences outlining leadership theory (emphasis on Robert Greenleaf's Servant Leadership), this course will transition to the reinforcement of these skills through partnership with organizations within our community. This course seeks to reinforce our district's/community's culture as well as the value and impact of service.

After an introductory period during which course objectives and responsibilities will be introduced, this course will shift to a 20% in-the-classroom, 80% out-of-the-classroom model. Students will need to arrange transportation to scheduled sites (if outside of the middle/high school building) and will work alongside a mentor that is a member/employee of that organization. All students will be required to have a liability waiver signed before going to any sites.

Current partnerships include: La Crescent-Hokah Middle/High and Elementary Schools, Traditions of La Crescent (Senior/Assisted Living), First Steps Early Learning Center, and others as they become available. The course instructor will conduct observations for each student in order to provide support and maintain accountability. Since this is a service-based course, this will be the primary form of assessment/grading.

In addition to community partnership, students will plan and facilitate the Food Drive, Blood Drive, Community Cleanup, as well as additional events as needed. This course requires significant time both during and after scheduled school hours - attendance and active participation is required.

AP PSYCHOLOGY I & II (COURSE #466 & 467)

REQUIRED OR ELECTIVE: Elective

SEMESTER OFFERED: Year Long Course

PREREQUISITES: None

Advanced Placement Psychology is a course designed to introduce students to the systematic and scientific study of the behavior and mental processes of human beings. Students are exposed to the psychological facts, principles, and phenomena associated with each of the major subfields of psychology. Students will also learn the basic skills of psychology research and develop critical thinking skills.

The advanced placement psychology course aims to provide students with a learning experience equivalent to that of most college introductory psychology courses. This is a yearlong course designed to prepare students to successfully complete the AP Psychology Exam in the spring. AP Psychology is a great option for students wishing for an extra challenge and the opportunity to gain college credit in psychology.

INTRODUCTION TO THEATRE (COURSE # 470)

REQUIRED OR ELECTIVE: Elective

SEMESTER OFFERED: Semester 1 or 2

PREREQUISITES: None

Students in Introduction to Theatre will learn basic theatre principles, theatre history, and the basic theatre production process. Students will learn about stage movement, voice, diction, and pantomime and practice techniques to overcome stage-fright and develop self-confidence, concentrate on improvisational techniques and acting skills for in-class performance and video projects. Students will also write original scenes as well as act in established scenes. In addition to performance, students will also learn about the technical aspects of theatre, such as stage management, scenic design, lighting, sound, and costuming.

College In The Schools

PLEASE NOTE: IF YOU CHOOSE TO DROP A COLLEGE IN THE SCHOOLS (CIS) COURSE, YOU WILL NEED TO CHECK WITH THE GUIDANCE OFFICE TO SEE IF YOU WILL BE CHARGED FOR THE COURSE.

COLLEGE PRE-CALCULUS I/II (COURSE #287 & 288)

REQUIRED OR ELECTIVE: Elective

SEMESTER OFFERED: Semester 1 and 2 (This is a year-long course which we complete at the beginning of June.)

PREREQUISITES: Advanced Algebra II Honors **Due to the pace and difficulty of College Credit Pre-Calculus, it is recommended that students who take it should have earned A's or A-'s both semesters in Advanced Algebra Honors.

Students who pass the class will earn 5 college Pre-Calculus credits from Southwest Minnesota State University. The grade they earn in the class will become a part of their permanent college transcript (whether they pass the class or not). Generally, other Universities will require a C or better to accept the credit.

To be eligible to earn college credit, juniors must be in the top third of their class and have a 3.0 GPA or better, and seniors must be in the top half of their class and have a 3.0 GPA or better.

Also, if you are taking these courses for college credit, you must take the class for the entire school year.

This course includes the study of elementary mathematical functions. The course uses and strengthens the student's knowledge of algebra and geometry. Topics include properties of graphs, polynomials, rational functions, logarithmic and exponential equations, matrices, systems of equations, and sequences and series. Trigonometry makes up a large part of the course; radians, the unit circle, techniques for solving triangles, vectors, the graphs of the trigonometric functions and their inverses, trigonometric identities, and trigonometric equations are covered in-depth. This background will be adequate for the student who continues his/her education in mathematics, science, or liberal arts as well as the student who will apply it to business and/or the trades.

COLLEGE CALCULUS I (COURSE #289 & #290)

REQUIRED OR ELECTIVE: Elective

SEMESTER OFFERED: Semester 1 and 2 (This is a year-long course which we complete at the beginning of June.)

PREREQUISITES: Pre-Calculus II or College Pre-Calculus

Students who pass the class will earn 5 college Calculus credits from Southwest Minnesota State University. The grade they earn in the class will become a part of their permanent college transcript (whether they pass the class or not). Generally, other Universities will require a C or better to accept the credit.

To be eligible to earn college credit, juniors must be in the top third of their class and have a 3.0 GPA or above, and seniors must be in the top half of their class and have a 3.0 GPA or above. Also, if you are taking these courses for college credit, you must take the class for the entire school year.

This course is fast-paced, rigorous math class that explores, in depth, the topics of limits, rates of changes, differentiation and integration. Students will learn all nuances of the vast number of functions they experienced in previous math classes. Technology is used to engage the student within these topics, however, conceptual learning is the key component and application of those concepts is a major aspect of the course. Calculus is a dynamic, yet difficult subject that challenges students to explore completely new ideas.

Student Assistants

The following conditions will apply to all assistant positions:

- Only one-half (1/2) credit per semester may be earned through the assistant position.
- The assistant program is available to grades 9-12 for credit.
- Student assistants must be enrolled in a full course load (6 classes that earn 6 credits) in order to qualify for the assistant program.
- A student must have a cumulative GPA of at least 2.5 to enroll as an assistant.
- A maximum of 2 credits from assistant programs will apply toward graduation credits.

The following specific student assistant positions are available. Students should check with the Guidance Office for specifics on how to enroll for an assistant position.

CLASSROOM ASSISTANT

Classroom assistants will assist teachers in the carrying out of daily activities. Responsibilities would include: organizing teacher prepared materials, sorting and collating of materials, individual assistance to students or small groups, assisting students with make up work, gathering of resource materials, material duplication, organizing equipment, materials, and other duties as requested or assigned by the teacher.