Ponder High School Course Guide

2023-2024

Some of the courses listed in this guide may not be offered every year due to sequencing, or due to low enrollment. If there are scheduling conflicts and/or classes are closed due to low enrollment, a student may not be able to register for every course he/she plans to take. Due to this, students should have in mind alternate courses in case the first choice is not available.

GENERAL INFORMATION

ADVANCED ACADEMIC COURSES:

Dual Credit (DC) Courses: While in high school, students may earn credit for both college and high school by participating in and successfully completing a dual credit course. Dual credit means that the grade the student earns in the course will count for both college credit and high school credit. Students must meet admission requirements and potential prerequisites for the college in order to participate in dual credit courses, as well as meet the standard on the Texas Success Initiative (TSI) Assessment. Each dual credit course will have specific TSI and prerequisite information as well as the corresponding high school credit equivalent. Students will have to also register for dual credit courses with the college after selecting the dual credit course for PISD.

OnRamps: Similar to dual credit, by participating in a dual enrollment course, a student is working in a college-level curriculum while in high school. However, dual enrollment means that there is a separate college course grade earned and a separate high school course grade earned. The University of Texas at Austin OnRamps courses are an example of this course type. Each dual enrollment course will have the corresponding HS credit equivalent. Students will register for dual enrollment courses with UT Austin at the beginning of the school year after selecting the dual enrollment course for PISD. *OnRamps classes are weighted.

Honors: Academic courses that are considered to be more academically challenging. They entail more demanding coursework and are intended to be more rigorous. Students will have to meet certain prerequisites to gain admissions into Honors courses. *Honors classes are weighted.

Advanced Placement (AP): Advanced Placement courses (AP) follow a college-level curriculum in order to prepare students for participation and success on the AP Exam given at the end of each school year. By achieving a successful qualifying score on the AP Exam, a student may earn college credit from his/her respective college or university. *AP classes are weighted.

GRADE POINT AVERAGE AND CLASS RANK

To determine class rank, course grades are totaled then divided by the number of courses taken. AP, OnRamps and Honors courses are weighted. The averages are then placed in order from highest to lowest to show each student's rank in class. **In order to receive a weighted grade in an AP Course, students must take the AP Exam. ***Please also note that our GPA/Ranking process is in the process of being evaluated.*

CREDITS REQUIRED

The foundation graduation program requires completion of the following credits:

Course Area	Number of Credits: Foundation Graduation Program	Numer of Credits: Foundation Graduation Program with an Endorsement
English/Language Arts	4	4
Mathematics	3	4
Science	3	4
Social Studies, including Economics	3	4
Physical Education	1	1
Languge Other Than English	2	2
Fine Arts	1	1
Speech/CCR Prep	0.5/0.5	0.5/0.5
Electives	4	5
Total	22	26

Additional considerations apply in some course areas, including:

- Mathematics. To obtain the distinguished level of achievement under the foundation graduation program, which will be included on a student's transcript and is a requirement to be considered for automatic admission to a Texas four-year college or university, a student must complete an endorsement and take Algebra II as one of the 4 mathematics credits.
- Physical education. A student who is unable to participate in physical activity due to a disability or illness may be able to substitute a course in English language arts, mathematics, science, social studies, or another locally determined credit-bearing course for the required credit of physical education. This determination will be made by the student's ARD committee, Section 504 committee, or other campus committee, as applicable.

- Language other than English. Students are required to earn two credits in the same language other than English to graduate. Any student may substitute computer programming languages for these credits. In limited circumstances, a student may be able to substitute this requirement with other courses, as determined by a district committee authorized by law to make these decisions for the student.

AVAILABLE ENDORSEMENTS

Beginning with the 2021-2022 school year, all incoming 9th grade students will be placed on the Multidisciplinary Studies endorsement pathway. <u>This requires students to take four years of math, English, science and social studies.</u> Please note that if a student earns an additional endorsement based on the courses they take while in high school, that endorsement will be added to the student's transcript along with the multidisciplinary endorsement.

- Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (5 course Math Track)
- Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (5 course Science Track)
- Business and Industry (See pathways starting on page 22)
- Arts and Humanities (4 years of any fine arts)
- Public Service (See pathways starting on page 22)
- Multidisciplinary Studies (4 years of math, English, science and social studies)

PERFORMANCE ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Performance acknowledgments require high performance beyond that expected of students in high school. Performance acknowledgments will be noted on the transcript. A Performance acknowledgment can be earned by completing one of the following:

Outstanding Performance in Dual Credit

1) Completion of a minimum of 12 hours of college academic courses, including dual credit and advanced technical credit courses with a grade equivalent of 3.0 or higher on a 4.0 scale.
2) Earning an associate degree while in high school.

Outstanding Performance in Bilingualism and Biliteracy

1) By demonstrating proficiency in two or more languages by:
    - Completing all language arts requirements and maintaining a minimum GPA of the equivalent of 80% and by satisfying one of the following: 1) Completion of 3 credits in the same language other than English with a minimum GPA of the equivalent of 80%; or
    - Proficiency in the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills for Level IV or higher in a language other the English with a minimum GPA of the equivalent of 80%; or
    - Completion of at least three credits in foundation subject area courses in a language other than English with a minimum GPA of the equivalent of 80%; or

- Demonstrated proficiency in one or more languages other than English through one of the following methods:
    - A score of 3 or higher on a College Board advanced placement examination for a language other than English; or
    - A score of 4 or higher on an International Baccalaureate (Transfer Students only) examination for a higher-level language other than English course; or
    - Performance on a national assessment of language proficiency in a language other than English of at least Intermediate High or its equivalent.
- In addition to meeting the requirements of paragraph (1), to earn a performance acknowledgement in bilingualism and biliteracy, an English Language Learner (ELL) must also have:
    - Participated in and met the exit criteria for a bilingual or English as a second language (ESL) program; and
    - Scored at the Advanced High level on the Texas English Language Proficiency Assessment System (TELPAS).

Outstanding Performance on a College Board Advanced Placement test or International Baccalaureate examination

1) A score of 3, 4 or 5 on a College Board advanced placement examination; or
2) A score of 4 or above on an International Baccalaureate examination (Transfer Students only) for a higher- level course.

Outstanding Performance on the PSAT, the ACT Aspire, the SAT or the ACT by:

1) Earning a score on PSAT/NMSQT as a commended scholar or higher by the College Board and National Merit Scholarship Corporation, as part of the National Hispanic Recognition Program of the College Board or as part of the National Achievement Scholarship Program of the National Merit Scholarship Corporation;
2) Achieving the college readiness benchmark score on at least two of the four subject tests on ACT Aspire examination;
3) Earning scores of at least 410 on the evidence-based reading section and 520 on the mathematics section of the SAT; or 4.) Earning a composite score on the ACT exam of 28 (excluding the writing subscore)

Nationally/Internationally Recognized Business or Industry Certification or License

1) Performance on an examination or series of examinations sufficient to obtain a nationally or internationally recognized business or industry certification; or
2) Performance on an examination sufficient to obtain a government-required credential to practice a profession.

COLLEGE PREPARATION & TESTING INFORMATION

STAAR EOC (End of Course) Assessments

Students are required to earn a passing score on the following five STAAR EOC assessments: English I, English II, Algebra I, Biology, and US History. Assessments are typically given in the following grades:
English I- 9th Grade Year
Algebra I- 9th Grade Year
Biology- 9th Grade Year
English II- 10th Grade Year
U.S. History- 11th Grade Year
*If a student does not earn a passing score on an EOC assessment, they will be required to retake it during the summer, December, and/or spring administration until a passing score is earned (unless there is some special programming consideration for the student).

The PSAT

The Preliminary Scholastic Aptitude Test (PSAT) provides PISD students an opportunity to take a practice test structured in the same format and content as the SAT. For juniors, the Preliminary SAT®/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (PSAT/NMSQT®) may qualify them to enter the competitions for prestigious scholarships and participate in recognition programs that could generate additional scholarship opportunities. *Any 9th-11th grader is eligible to take the PSAT*.

The ACT

The ACT is a three-hour multiple-choice test measuring achievement in four areas: English, mathematics, reading, and science reasoning. The optional writing test measures skill in planning and writing a short essay. Each sub-test yields a score of 1-36. Averaging the four subtests produces a composite score that also is reported on a scale of 1-36.

The SAT

The SAT (Reasoning Test) is a three-hour test of writing/critical language and mathematical abilities with an optional fifty-minute essay (which is scored separately on a 2-8 scale) administered by the College Board. Students will receive a Total Score in the range of 400-1600 which is the sum of the Evidence-Based Reading and Writing section score (200-800) and the Math section score (200-800). **All juniors will take the SAT spring semester of their 11th grade year at the expense of the District.*

Advanced Placement (AP) Exams

Each AP course provides students the opportunity to earn college credit while in high school by successfully achieving a qualifying score (3+) on the AP exam, which is administered at the end of the

course. These AP courses and exams are based upon a national course outline equivalent to a college course. By achieving a qualifying score of 3 or higher, colleges may grant credit on the student's college transcript. Exam credit policies can vary from college to college and it is recommended to consult the prospective institution's policy on AP credit. Students who achieve a qualifying score (3+) are automatically awarded credit from Texas public colleges and universities. The college or university will determine what type of credit is awarded, such as core or elective.

Texas Success Initiative Assessment (TSIA2)

Dual Credit TSI Eligibility

The Texas Success Initiative (TSI) is an untimed assessment program designed to determine if a student is ready for college-level course work in the general areas of reading language arts and mathematics. This assessment is required for students wanting to take dual credit. In addition, this program will also help determine what type of support may be needed to best meet the student's needs and to assist in becoming better prepared for college-level course work. **The District will provide an opportunity for all students to take the TSIA2. TSI exemptions are also available with certain scores on the SAT and/or ACT. See counselor for details.*

ACADEMIC COURSES

English Pathways:

Foundation with/without Endorsement	Honors Foundation with Endorsement
English I	Honors English I
↓	↓
English II	Honors English II
↓	↓
English III	Dual Credit English
↓	↓
English IV	Dual Credit English

Mathematics Pathways:

Foundation Pathway with Endorsement

- Algebra 1
- ↓
- Geometry
- ↓
- Algebra 2
- ↓
- Pre Cal
  Statistics

Honors Foundation with Endorsement

- Honors Geometry
  Honors Alg 1 taken in 8th
- ↓
- Honors Algebra 2
- ↓
- OnRamps Pre Cal
  Pre Cal
- ↓
- AP Calculus

Foundation- No Endorsement

- Algebra 1
- ↓
- Geometry
  Math Models
- ↓
- Geometry
  Math Models

Science Pathways:

Foundation with Endorsement

Biology

↓

Chemistry

↓

Physics
Anatomy Physiology

↓

Physics
Anatomy Physiology

Honors Foundation with Endorsement

Honors Biology

↓

Honors Chemistry

↓

OnRamps Physics

↓

OnRamps Biology

Foundation- No Endorsement

Integrated Physics & Chemistry
Biology

↓

Integrated Physics & Chemistry
Biology

↓

Chemistry

Social Studies Pathways:

Foundation with Endorsement

World Geography

↓

World History

↓

U.S. History

↓

Government/Economics

Honors Foundation with Endorsement

World Geography

↓

Honors World History

↓

Dual Credit US History

↓

Dual Credit Government/Econ

Foundation- No Endorsement

World Geography

↓

World History

↓

U.S. History

↓

Government/Economics

CORE CLASS DESCRIPTIONS

ENGLISH

English I, II, III, IV- English I, II, III, and IV develop skills and concepts in the areas of reading, writing, speaking, and listening. Emphasis is placed on various domains of writing, the use of written and oral Standard English, study of literary genres, vocabulary enrichment, and the use of critical thinking skills. *End of Course (EOC) Exam that is required for graduation for English I and English II.
Prerequisite: English I= 9th grade; English II= 10th grade; English III= 11th grade; English IV= 12th grade;* ***Credits: 1*
****Grade(s): 9-12***

Honors English I & II- Honors English is designed for students who have shown exceptional mastery and understanding of the essential skills in grammar, writing, spelling, and reading. Honors English includes an in depth study of literary genres, models of writing, grammar as needed and in relation to composition, and vocabulary study. Students are expected to read outside of class in addition to completing the assignments in class. *Summer reading prior to the course will also be required. *End of Course (EOC) Exam that is required for graduation.
Prerequisite: Meeting specific criteria will be required for enrollment;* ***Credits: 1*
****Grade(s): 9 & 10***

Dual Credit English (1301 & 1302)- This course requires rigorous study of and practice in writing processes, from invention, researching to drafting, revising, and editing, both individually and collaboratively. To complete registration for all dual credit courses, students must apply and register through the college. This course offering is a Texas Core Curriculum course.
Prerequisite: English I & II; TSI Complete in ELAR;* ***Credits: 1*
****Grade(s): 11***

Dual Credit English (2301 & 2302)- This course requires rigorous study of and practice in writing processes, from invention, researching to drafting, revising, and editing, both individually and collaboratively. To complete registration for all dual credit courses, students must apply and register through the college. This course offering is a Texas Core Curriculum course.
Prerequisite: English I & II; TSI Complete in ELAR;* ***Credits: 1*
****Grade(s): 12***

MATHEMATICS

Algebra I- In this course students will build on the knowledge and skills from mathematics in Grades 6-8, which provide a foundation in linear relationships, number and operations, and proportionality. Students will study linear, quadratic, and exponential functions and their related transformations, equations, and associated solutions. *End of Course (EOC) Exam that is required for graduation.
Prerequisite: None;* ***Credits: 1*
****Grade(s): 9***
Honors Algebra I- This course includes the same course of study designed for Algebra I. In addition, students will develop advanced problem solving and symbol manipulation skills. Honor students will be expected to take course concepts to advanced levels of development, understanding, and justification. *End of Course (EOC) Exam that is required for graduation.
Prerequisite: Meeting specific criteria will be required for enrollment;* ***Credits: 1*
Grades: 9 (or 8th if applicable)

Math Models- This course focuses on basic concepts, solving both routine and non-routine problems, study patterns and analyzing data. Students also focus on probability models, functional relationships, algebraic formulas, graphs, and amortization models.
Prerequisite: Algebra I;* ***Credits: 1*
****Grade(s): 10-11***

Geometry- In this course students will build on the knowledge and skills for mathematics in Kindergarten-Grade 8 and Algebra I to strengthen their mathematical reasoning skills in geometric contexts. Within the course, students will begin to focus on more precise terminology, symbolic representations, and the development of proofs. Students will connect previous knowledge from Algebra I to Geometry through the coordinate and transformational geometry strand.
Prerequisite: Algebra 1;* ***Credits: 1*
****Grade(s): 10***

Honors Geometry- This course includes the same course of study designed for Geometry. In addition, students will develop advanced problem solving and symbol manipulation skills. Honor students will be expected to take course concepts to advanced levels of development, understanding, and justification.
Prerequisite: Algebra I; Meeting specific criteria will be required for enrollment;* ***Credits: 1*
****Grade(s): 9-10***

Algebra II- In this course, students will build on the knowledge and skills for mathematics in Kindergarten-Grade 8 and Algebra I. Students will broaden their knowledge of quadratic functions, exponential functions, and systems of equations. Students will study logarithmic, square root, cubic, cube root, absolute value, rational functions, and their related equations.
Prerequisite: Geometry;* ***Credits: 1*
****Grade(s): 11***

Honors Algebra II- This course includes the same course of study designed for Algebra II. In addition, students will develop advanced problem solving and symbol manipulation skills. Honor students will be expected to take course concepts to advanced levels of development, understanding, and justification.
Prerequisite: Geometry; Meeting specific criteria will also be required for enrollment;* ***Credits: 1*
****Grade(s): 10-11***

Precalculus- In this course students systematically work with functions and their multiple representations. The study of Precalculus deepens students' mathematical understanding and fluency with algebra and trigonometry and extends their ability to make connections and apply concepts and procedures at higher levels.
Prerequisite: Algebra II;* ***Credits: 1*
****Grade(s): 12***

OnRamps Precalculus- In this course students will be enrolled in both the high school course as well as the UT OnRamps course with the opportunity to earn a grade in both. This course helps students extend their knowledge of functions, graphs, and equations so they can successfully work with the concepts in a rigorous university-level calculus course.
Prerequisite: Algebra II; Meeting specific criteria will also be required for enrollment;* ***Credits: 1*
****Grade(s): 11-12***

Statistics- In this course students will collect, analyze, present and interpret data, and probability. The analysis will include descriptive statistics, correlation and regression, confidence intervals and hypothesis testing.
Prerequisite: Math Models and/or Algebra II;* ***Credits: 1*
****Grade(s): 12***

Financial Math- Financial Mathematics is a course about personal money management. Students will apply critical-thinking skills to analyze personal financial decisions based on current and projected economic factors.
Prerequisite: Math Models and/or Algebra II;* ***Credits: 1*
****Grade(s): 11-12***

AP Calculus- Topics are taught at the college level and studied in depth: limits of a function, graphical analysis, differentiation, integration (both definite and indefinite), and their application to real world problems. The district expectation is that the student will take the appropriate AP Exam for each AP course in which he/she is enrolled. **In order to receive a weighted grade in an AP Course, students must take the AP Exam.
Prerequisite: Pre Calculus; Meeting specific criteria will also be required for enrollment;* ***Credits: 1*
****Grade(s): 12***

SCIENCES

Integrated Physics & Chemistry-Integrated Physics and Chemistry (IPC) is the study of physical and chemical interactions of matter. Semester I covers introductory concept in Physics, while Semester II covers introductory concepts in Chemistry. This course provides an excellent foundation in science for students who are not pursuing a STEM endorsement and need to build capacity in science.
Prerequisite: None;* ***Credits: 1*
****Grade(s): 9-10***
Biology- Biology is the study of the structure, growth, and function of the life systems of organisms. Students learn the basics of structures and functions of living things and how those structures and functions change. *End of Course (EOC) Exam that is required for graduation.
Prerequisite: None;* ***Credits: 1*
****Grade(s): 9-10***

Honors Biology- This course includes the same course of study designed for Biology. This course will also have an emphasis on lab experiences that provide opportunities for students to engage in gathering and processing complex data in order to produce high quality technical conclusions based on that data.
*End of Course (EOC) Exam that is required for graduation.
Prerequisite: Meeting specific criteria will be required for enrollment;* ***Credits: 1*
****Grade(s): 9***

Chemistry- In this course students will study the composition of substances and the changes they undergo. Chemistry focuses on the skills of gathering and analyzing both qualitative (observational) and quantitative (numerical) data. A conceptual understanding of fundamental mathematical concepts is needed for this course as the same type of thinking is required.
Prerequisite: Biology;* ***Credits: 1*
****Grade(s): 10***

Honors Chemistry- This course includes an in-depth study of basic concepts taught in Chemistry with emphasis on problem solving and laboratory. Honors Chemistry provides students opportunities to engage in higher level lab experiences that emphasize collection and analysis of complex data in order to produce high quality technical conclusions based on the data. Additional emphasis is placed on technical writing.
Prerequisite: Biology;* ***Credits: 1*
****Grade(s): 10***

Physics- In this course students will focus on the relationships between matter and energy. Data analysis and problem solving skills are emphasized and real world applications, and data collection devices are used to teach process and skill.
Prerequisite: Biology, Chemistry;* ***Credits: 1*
****Grade(s): 11-12***

OnRamps Physics- In this course students will be enrolled in both the high school course as well as the UT OnRamps course with the opportunity to earn a grade in both. This course will focus on the sequential study of the physical principles that govern the behavior of matter. It includes mechanics, heat, and sound.
Prerequisite: Algebra II, Biology, Chemistry; Meeting specific criteria will also be required for enrollment;* ***Credits: 1*
****Grade(s): 11***
Anatomy & Physiology- Students in Anatomy and Physiology will study a variety of topics, including the structure and function of the human body and the interaction of body systems for maintaining homeostasis.
Prerequisite: Biology, Chemistry;* ***Credits: 1*
****Grade(s): 11-12***

Environmental Systems- In Environmental Systems, students conduct laboratory and field investigations, use scientific methods during investigations, and make informed decisions using critical thinking and scientific problem solving. Students study a variety of topics that include biotic and abiotic factors in habitats, ecosystems and biomes, interrelationships among resources and an environmental system, sources and flow of energy through an environmental system, relationship between carrying capacity and changes in populations and ecosystems, natural changes in the environment, and human activities that impact the natural environment
Prerequisite: Biology, Chemistry;* ***Credits: 1*
****Grade(s): 11-12***

OnRamps Biology- Molecular and cellular biology is the focus of this introductory biology course. This year-long course explores three big ideas of biology: the structure and function of biomolecules, the flow of energy through living systems via photosynthesis and cellular respiration, and how genetic information is expressed and transmitted both within and between cells.
Prerequisite: Biology, Chemistry; Meeting specific criteria will also be required for enrollment;* ***Credits: 1*
****Grade(s): 12***

SOCIAL STUDIES

World Geography- It is recommended to participate in this course during the 9th grade year. This course will focus on physical, economic, and cultural geography. Emphasis will also be placed on understanding the impact that environment has on the social, cultural, and economic life of a region.
Prerequisite: None;* ***Credits: 1*
****Grade(s): 9***

World History- It is recommended to participate in this course during the 10th grade year. World History traces the development of both Western and non- Western cultures. An emphasis is placed upon the role of geography in shaping history beginning with the study of developments in the 20th century and ending with the problems of the 21st century.

*Prerequisite: None; **Credits: 1***
Grade(s): 10

Honors World History- This course includes the same course of study designed for World History; however, there will be an emphasis on critical thinking, problem solving and essay writing. Students will also participate in collaborative groups and class presentations that focus on developing communication and higher level thinking skills.
*Prerequisite: Meeting specific criteria will be required for enrollment; **Credits: 1***
Grade(s): 10

United States History- This course is designed to be the study of the United States beginning with the pre-Columbian era, to the Civil War/Reconstruction period, all the way to the present. It addresses American culture, religion, civil and human rights, technological changes, creation and expansion of the federal government, and US foreign policy.
*Prerequisite: World Geography and/or World History; **Credits: 1***
Grade(s): 11

Dual Credit US History- This course includes the same course of study designed for US History at a more rigorous level. To complete registration for all dual credit courses, students must apply and register through the college. This course offering is a Texas Core Curriculum course. *End of Course (EOC) Exam that is required for graduation.
*Prerequisite: World Geography and/or World History; Meeting specific criteria will be required for enrollment; **Credits: 1***
Grade(s): 11

US Government- This course is designed to explain the foundations, developments, structures, and functions of the United States political system. Students will study the evolution of the government, the United States Constitution, the Bill of Rights, and important Supreme Court decisions.
*Prerequisite: World Geography and/or World History; US History; **Credits: .5***
Grade(s): 12

Dual Credit US Government- This college course is designed to explain the origin and development of the US Constitution, structure and powers of the national government including the legislative, executive, and judicial branches, federalism, political participation, the national election process, public policy, civil liberties and civil rights. To complete registration for all dual credit courses, students must apply and register through the college. This course offering is a Texas Core Curriculum course.
*Prerequisite: World Geography and/or World History; US History; *TSI complete in Reading; **Credits: .5***
Grade(s): 12

Economics- This course provides the opportunity for students to study the characteristics, benefits, and goals of the American free enterprise system. Students will evaluate the causes of economical problems and the solutions, and will acquire the skills necessary to function as effective consumers and workers in today's society.

*Prerequisite: World Geography and/or World History; US History; **Credits: .5***
Grade(s): 12

Dual Credit Economics- In this course students will analyze the economy as a whole covering topics such as supply and demand, national income, inflation, and unemployment. To complete registration for all dual credit courses, students must apply and register through the college. This course offering is a Texas Core Curriculum course.
*Prerequisite: World Geography and/or World History; US History; *TSI complete in Reading; **Credits: .5***
Grade(s): 12

ELECTIVE DESCRIPTIONS

FINE ARTS

Theatre Arts I- This course is an introductory survey course with emphasis on the major historical periods of theatrical development. Students will participate in readings and rehearsals of plays from each period as they develop their skills as actors, playwrights, and designers.
*Theatre I is a prerequisite for all other theatre classes; **Credits: 1***
Recommended for grades 9-12

Theatre Arts II-IV-This course is the advanced level acting course that enhances performance skills and techniques used by the actor on stage. Students will explore methods of characterization, research, and role preparation. Emphasis placed on the development of essential acting techniques includes characterization, objectives, action and script analysis.
Prerequisite: Theatre I; **Credits: 1*
Recommended for grades 10-12

Art I – Art I is an introduction to the use of the elements and principles of design, and the different materials used for self-expression. The student will be given opportunities to design and create original works of art. This course may require an Art fee.
Art I is a prerequisite for all other art classes. **Credits: 1*
Recommended for grades 9-12

Art II-Drawing I– This course is a continuation of the use of the elements and principles of design. Students will be provided an opportunity to work in drawing, painting, mixed media, and more while gaining an understanding of self and others through creative expression. This course may require an Art fee.
*Prerequisite: Art I; **Credits: 1***
Recommended for grades 10-12

Art II-Sculpture– Art II Sculpture is designed for students to further develop their skills in three-dimensional based media and processes. This course provides students with opportunities to experiment with three-dimensional media such as clay, paper- mache, plaster, cardboard, wire, wood, etc. This course may require an Art fee.
Prerequisite: Art I;* ***Credits: 1*
****Recommended for grades 10-12***

Art III-Drawing II– In this course students will demonstrate their abilities to work on a wide variety of drawing/design problems. This course may require an Art fee.
Prerequisite: Art I, Art II-Drawing I;* ***Credits: 1*
****Recommended for grades 11-12***

Art IV-Drawing III– This course is a continuation of the use of the elements and principles of design. Students will demonstrate advanced abilities through work in drawing, painting, mixed media, and creative expression.
Prerequisite: Art III-Drawing II;* ***Credits: 1*
****Recommended for grades 12***

Digital Art & Animation– This class consists of computer images and animations created with digital imaging software. Digital Art and Animation has applications in many careers, including graphic design, advertising, web design, animation, corporate communications, illustration, character development, script writing, storyboarding, directing, producing, inking, project management, editing, and the magazine, television, film, and game industries. Students in this course will produce the campus yearbook and newspaper.
Prerequisite: Art 1;* ***Credits: 1*
****Recommended for grades 10-12***

Band I, II, III, IV-Through large group, small group, and individual instruction, students are taught instrumental technique, creative self-expression, perception skills, and historical/cultural heritage in a performance-based classroom. Enrollment in this class includes participation in marching band, summer band camp, early morning rehearsals, and extracurricular performances (football games, marching contests, etc…). Students' grades are based on musical performance with their instrument. **Students receive ½ Physical Education credit (fall semester only), and 1 Fine Arts credit.**
Band I is a prerequisite for all other Band classes.* ***Credits: 1*
****Recommended for grades 9-12***
Prerequisites for II, III, IV- Band I, II & III;* ***Credits: 1*
****Recommended for grades 10-12***

Choir-This choir is open to any interested student. Members of this performing group will study basic singing technique and music reading skills. The variety of music performed will provide students' knowledge of music in a historical and cultural context. Students will be required to participate in concerts during the school year.
Choir I is a prerequisite for all other Choir classes.* ***Credits: 1*

Recommended for grades 9-12
*Prerequisites for II, III, IV- Choir I, II & III; **Credits: 1***
Recommended for grades 10-12

Advanced Choir- Through large group, small group, and individual instruction, students are taught choral technique through the performance of madrigals and popular music. Students will perform at concerts, solo and ensemble contests.
Prerequisite: Choir 1 & acceptance into the course through tryouts.* ***Credits: 1*
****Recommended for grades 10-12***

FOREIGN LANGUAGE

Spanish I- Spanish I introduces students to the Spanish language and Hispanic culture. Communication focuses on using the four basic language skills of listening, speaking, reading, and writing so students have ample opportunities to experience and practice Spanish in meaningful ways to hold brief conversations.
Spanish I is a prerequisite for all other Spanish classes.* ***Credits: 1*
****All students must have a minimum of two years of a foreign language.***

Spanish II- Spanish II reviews what was learned in Spanish I and continues to build the skills across all four language skills: listening, speaking, reading and writing, with emphasis on the ability to communicate orally.
Prerequisite: Spanish I.* ***Credits: 1*
****All students must have a minimum of two years of a foreign language.***

Honors Spanish III- Spanish III, conducted mainly in Spanish, will provide opportunities for the student to develop oral discussions from assigned literary selections and news items in periodicals. Students will review formal grammar through paragraph writing and essay writing. Students will be exposed to an understanding of historical and cultural backgrounds of Spanish-speaking countries.
Prerequisite: Spanish I, II.* ***Credits: 1*
****Recommended for grades 10-12***

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Physical Education- Students enrolled in this course are exposed to a variety of fitness activities including individual sports, team sports, aerobic fitness, strength and toning.
*Prerequisite: None; ***Credits: 1***
****Recommended for grades 9-12***

Boys Athletics- If a student plans on participating in football, basketball, baseball, or powerlifting, they need to register to be in the athletic period. If a student is only participating in track, tennis, cross

country or golf, they do not necessarily have to be in the class period. A conversation with the sport-specific coach is encouraged.
*Prerequisite: None; ***Credits: 1***
Recommended for grades 9-12

Girls Athletics- If a student plans on participating in volleyball, basketball, softball, or powerlifting, they need to register to be in the athletic period. If a student is only participating in track, tennis, cross country or golf, they do not necessarily have to be in the class period. A conversation with the sport-specific coach is encouraged.
*Prerequisite: None; ***Credits: 1***
Recommended for grades 9-12

Cheerleading- If a student tries out and makes the cheerleading team, they are qualified to participate in the cheerleading class.
*Prerequisite: Tryouts; ***Credits: 1***
Recommended for grades 9-12

Dance Team (Legacies)**-** If a student tries out and makes the dance team, they are qualified to participate in the dance team class.
*Prerequisite: Tryouts; ***Credits: 1***
Recommended for grades 9-12

TECHNOLOGY APPLICATIONS

Computer Science I- This course teaches students a set of core ideas that shape the landscape of computer science, and how to apply critical thinking, problem solving, and communications skills within a project-based learning framework.
*Prerequisite: None; ***Credits: 1***
*** Recommended for grades 11-12***

SPEECH

Professional Communications- The student will learn to demonstrate knowledge of various communication processes in professional and social contexts. This course includes using appropriate interpersonal communication strategies, effective group communications, and the ability to deliver and evaluate formal and informal professional presentations.
*Prerequisite: None; ***Credits: .5***
*** Recommended for grades 9-10***
Required elective at PISD for graduation.

OTHER & LOCAL CREDIT ELECTIVES

Debate- A course designed to introduce and develop the concept of formalized argument, the skills of persuasion, and to examine the power of rhetoric. The student will learn to prepare affirmative and negative briefs, with evidence, in preparation for participation in tournament level debating.
Prerequisite: None;* ***Credits: 1*
**** Recommended for grades 9-12***

PALS 1, PALS 2- PALS stands for Peer Assistance Leadership. Students will work with at risk kids in Ponder ISD, by serving as mentors for these students. They will be responsible for countless activities and will demonstrate leadership skills in the process. Students are carefully selected by PALS sponsors from a selection of applications, interviews, and teacher recommendations. They will sign contracts to stay drug free, maintain passing grades in all classes, and display a positive role model image both in and out of school.
Prerequisite: Application Process;* ***Credits: 1*
**** Recommended for grades 11-12***

CCR Prep- College Career Readiness Prep is a course designed to prepare students to be college and/or career ready when they leave PHS. Students will explore the TSIA2, ACT/SAT, and career opportunities with prep resources that are tailored to what the student needs.
*******Prerequisite: None****; Credits: 0.5***
****Grades: 10***

TMSCA Prep- Students who participate in academic UIL events and/or compete in TMSCA are allowed to take this locally developed course.
*******Local Credit****; Credits: 1***
****Grades: 9-12***

UIL- Students who participate in academic UIL events are allowed to take this locally developed course.
*******Local Credit****; Credits: 1***
****Grades: 9-12***

Tutorials- Tutorials are utilized as a study hall for students who need additional time in their school day to complete academic tasks.
*******Local Credit****; Credits: 1***
****Grades: 9-12***

Denton ATC (Advanced Technology Complex)- Students have the opportunity to take elective classes offered in Denton, at the ATC beginning junior year. For a full list of offerings, please visit the following site:
https://www.dentonisd.org/site/Default.aspx?PageType=1&SiteID=4300&ChannelID=4366&DirectoryType=6

CTE PATHWAYS

Agriculture, Food, & Natural Resources

Business, Marketing, & Finance

Arts, Audio Video Technology, & Communications

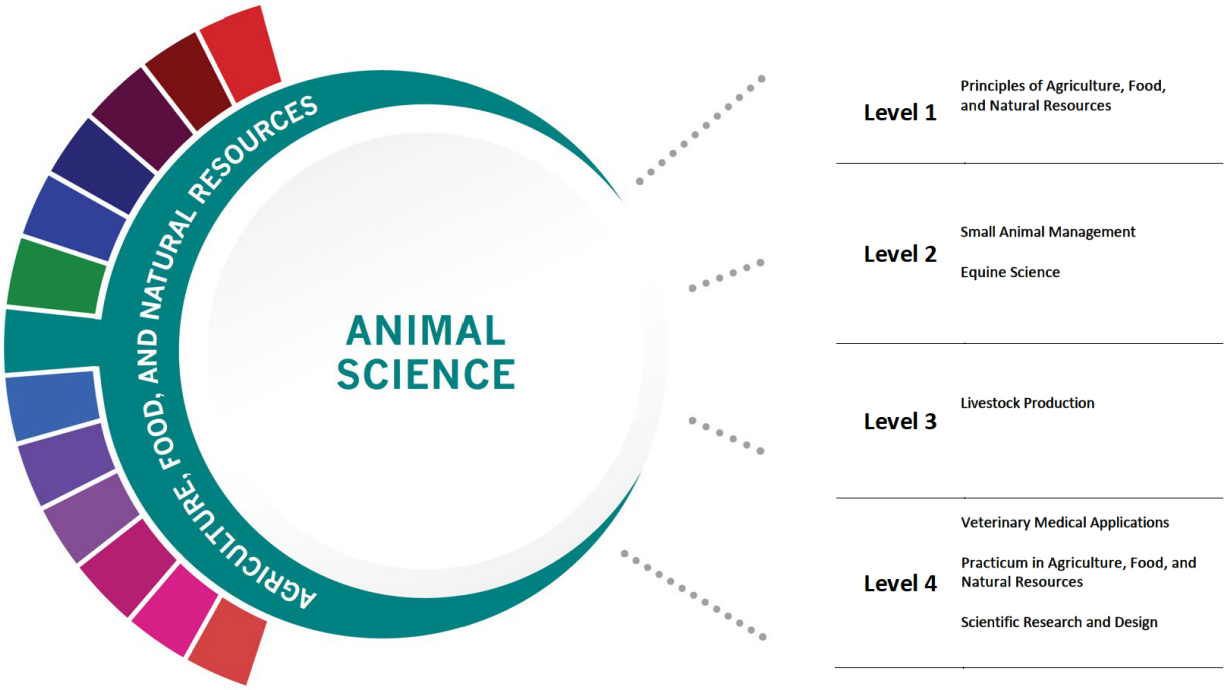
Health Sciences

Education and Training

AGRICULTURE, FOOD, & NATURAL RESOURCES

Business & Industry Endorsement

ANIMAL SCIENCE



Principles of Agriculture, Food, and Natural Resources- Students learn a variety of introductory skills and knowledge related to the field of agricultural sciences, food, and natural resources. Students also gain insight about the FFA Organization, parliamentary procedure, and develop their leadership potential. This course is the entry level course for all agriculture classes offered at Ponder High School.
**This is the first course for all Agriculture, Food & Natural Resources pathways.*
Prerequisite: None;* ***Credits: 1*
***** ***Recommended for grades 8-12***

Small Animal Management- This course is designed to emphasize the selection, production, and marketing of small animals. In student's schedules, this course is paired with Equine Science whenever possible.
Prerequisite: Principles of Ag.;* ***Credits: .5*
***** ***Recommended for grades 9-12***

Equine Science- In Equine Science, students will acquire knowledge and skills related to equine animal systems and the equine industry. Equine Science may address topics related to horses, donkeys, and mules. In student's schedules, this course is paired with Small Animal Management whenever possible.
Prerequisite: Principles of Ag.;* ***Credits: .5*
***** ***Recommended for grades 9-12***

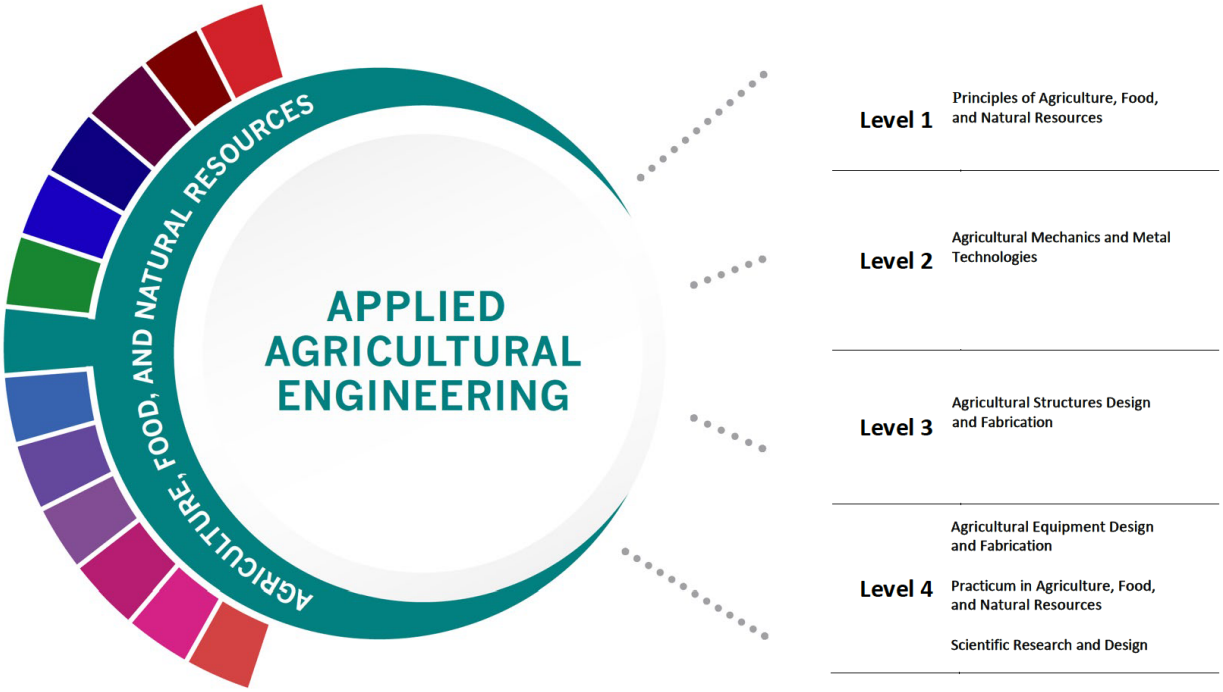
Livestock Production- Students will explore nutrition, reproduction, health, and management of livestock and poultry. This course will study topics such as: common livestock and poultry breeds; internal and external anatomies; evaluation of livestock; feeds and feeding techniques; breeding advancements; and management skills.
Prerequisite: Small Animal Management and Equine Science;* ***Credits: 1*
**** Recommended for grades 10-12***

Veterinary Medical Applications- Veterinary Medical Applications is a hands-on introduction to the concepts and skills related to the veterinary science industry while preparing students for a Veterinary Assistant Level 1 certification exam. Students develop competencies in the health, nutrition and safe handling of small and large animals, as well as the regulations for surgical preparations, vaccine predation and injection technique, and medical terminology in relation to the anatomy, physiology, and infectious diseases of animals. Live animals will be used in this class for skill development.
Prerequisite: Livestock Production;* ***Credits: 2*
**** Recommended for grades 11-12***

Practicum in Agriculture, Food, and Natural Resources- This course is designed to give students supervised practical application of knowledge and skills. Practicum experience can occur in a variety of locations appropriate to the nature and level of experiences such as employment, independent study, internships, mentorships or laboratories.
Prerequisite: Livestock Production;* ***Credits: 2*
**** Recommended for grades 11-12***

Scientific Research & Design- Scientific Research and Design is a broad-based course focused on engineering science within a specific program (examples: STEM or Agriculture). This course focuses on problem identification, investigation design, data collection, data analysis, formulation, and presentation of the conclusions. These components are integrated with the career and technical education emphasis of helping students gain entry level employment in high-skill, high-wage jobs and/ or continue their education.
Prerequisite: Biology, Chemistry or IPC;* ***Credits: 1*
**** Recommended for grades 11-12***

Applied Agricultural Engineering



Principles of Agriculture, Food, and Natural Resources- Students learn a variety of introductory skills and knowledge related to the field of agricultural sciences, food, and natural resources. Students also gain insight about the FFA Organization, parliamentary procedure, and develop their leadership potential. This course is the entry level course for all agriculture classes offered at Ponder High School.
**This is the first course for all Agriculture, Food & Natural Resources pathways.*
Prerequisite: None;* ***Credits: 1*
***** ***Recommended for grades 8-12***

Agricultural Mechanics & Metal Technologies- Students will learn the fundamentals of metal fabrication and skills needed to advance to Facilities Design and Fabrication. The basic fundamentals needed for independent metal project success will be the focus of the class.
Prerequisite: Principles of Ag;* ***Credits: 1*
***** ***Recommended for grades 9-12***

Agricultural Structure Design and Fabrication- This course is a continuation of Agricultural Mechanics and Metal Technology. Students will learn how to apply appropriate technology to metal construction related to agricultural structures design and fabrication.
Prerequisite: Principles of Ag, & Ag Mechanics;* ***Credits: 1*
***** ***Recommended for grades 10-12***

Agricultural Equipment Design & Fabrication- In Agricultural Equipment Design and Fabrication, students will acquire knowledge and skills related to the design and fabrication of agricultural equipment.
Prerequisite: Principles of Ag, Ag Mech. & Metal Tech., & Ag Design & Fabrication;* ***Credits: 1*
**** Recommended for grades 11-12***

Practicum in Agriculture Food, and Natural Resources- This course is designed to give students supervised practical application of knowledge and skills. Practicum experience can occur in a variety of locations appropriate to the nature and level of experiences such as employment, independent study, internships, mentorships or laboratories.
Prerequisite: Livestock Production;* ***Credits: 2*
**** Recommended for grades 11-12***

Scientific Research & Design- Scientific Research and Design is a broad-based course focused on engineering science within a specific program (examples: STEM or Agriculture). This course focuses on problem identification, investigation design, data collection, data analysis, formulation, and presentation of the conclusions. These components are integrated with the career and technical education emphasis of helping students gain entry level employment in high-skill, high-wage jobs and/ or continue their education.
Prerequisite: Biology, Chemistry or IPC;* ***Credits: 1*
**** Recommended for grades 11-12***

BUSINESS, MARKETING, & FINANCE

Business & Industry Endorsement

Accounting & Financial Services

Level 1	Business Information Management I Money Matters
Level 2	Accounting I Financial Mathematics
Level 3	Accounting II
Level 4	Practicum in Business Management Practicum in Entrepreneurship (TBD) Career Preparation I

Business Information Management I- In Business Information Management I, students implement personal and interpersonal skills to strengthen individual performance in the workplace and in society and make a successful transition to the workforce and postsecondary education. Students apply technical skills to address business applications of emerging technologies, create word-processing documents, develop a spreadsheet, formulate a database, and make an electronic presentation using appropriate software.
Prerequisite: None;* ***Credits: 1*
**** Recommended for grades 9-10***

Money Matters- In Money Matters, students will investigate money management from a personal financial perceptive. Students will apply critical-thinking skills to analyze financial options based on current and projected economic factors. Students will gain knowledge and skills necessary to establish short-term and long-term financial goals. Students will examine various methods of achieving short-term and long-term financial goals through various methods such as investing, tax planning, asset allocation, risk management, retirement planning, and estate planning.
Prerequisite: None;* ***Credits: 1*
**** Recommended for grades 9-12***

Accounting I- In Accounting I, students will investigate the field of accounting, including how it is impacted by industry standards as well as economic, financial, technological, international, social, legal, and ethical factors. Students will reflect on this knowledge as they engage in the process of recording, classifying, summarizing, analyzing, and communicating accounting information. Students will formulate

and interpret financial information for use in management decision making. Accounting includes such activities as bookkeeping, systems design, analysis, and interpretation of accounting information.
Prerequisite: None;* ***Credits: 1*
**** Recommended for grades 11-12***

Accounting II- In this course, students will continue the investigation of the field of accounting, including how it is impacted by industry standards as well as economic, financial, technological, international, social, legal, and ethical factors. Students will reflect on this knowledge as they engage in various managerial, financial, and operational accounting activities. Students will formulate, interpret, and communicate financial information for use in management decision making. Students will use equations, graphical representations, accounting tools, spreadsheet software, and accounting systems in real-world situations to maintain, monitor, control, and plan the use of financial resources.
Prerequisite: Accounting I;* ***Credits: 1*
**** Recommended for grades 11-12***

Financial Math- Financial Mathematics is a course about personal money management. Students will apply critical-thinking skills to analyze personal financial decisions based on current and projected economic factors.
Prerequisite: Algebra II;* ***Credits: 1*
****Grade(s): 12***

Career Prep- This course provides opportunities for students to participate in a work-based learning experience that combines classroom instruction with business and industry employment experiences. The goal is to prepare students with a variety of skills for a changing workplace. Career preparation is relevant and rigorous, supports student attainment of academic standards, and effectively prepares students for college and career success
Prerequisite: Accounting II;* ***Credits: 2*
****Grades: 11-12***

Practicum in Business Management- The Practicum is designed to give students supervised practical application of previously studied knowledge and skills. Students implement personal and interpersonal skills to strengthen individual performance in the workplace and in society and to make a successful transition to the workforce or postsecondary education. Students apply technical skills to address business applications of emerging technologies. Students enhance reading, writing, computing, communication and reasoning skills and apply them to the business environment. Students incorporate a broad base of knowledge that includes the legal, managerial, marketing, financial, ethical and international dimensions of business to make appropriate business decisions.
**Prerequisite: Any combo of accounting and financial services courses*
**** Recommended for grades 11-12***

Practicum in Entrepreneurship- The Practicum in Entrepreneurship provides students the opportunity to apply classroom learnings and experiences to real-world business problems and opportunities, while expanding their skill sets and professional relationships as a real or simulated business owner versus the

experience one would have as an employee. Students will prepare for an entrepreneurial career in their area of interest in their career cluster and build on and apply the knowledge and skills gained from courses taken in an array of career areas. Practicum experiences occur in a paid or unpaid arrangement and a variety of locations appropriate to the nature and level of the student's need for work-based learning experience. Students implement personal and interpersonal skills to strengthen individual performance in the workplace and in society and to make a successful transition to the workforce or postsecondary education. It is recommended that students are paired with local business owners or employers in their specific industry program of study.

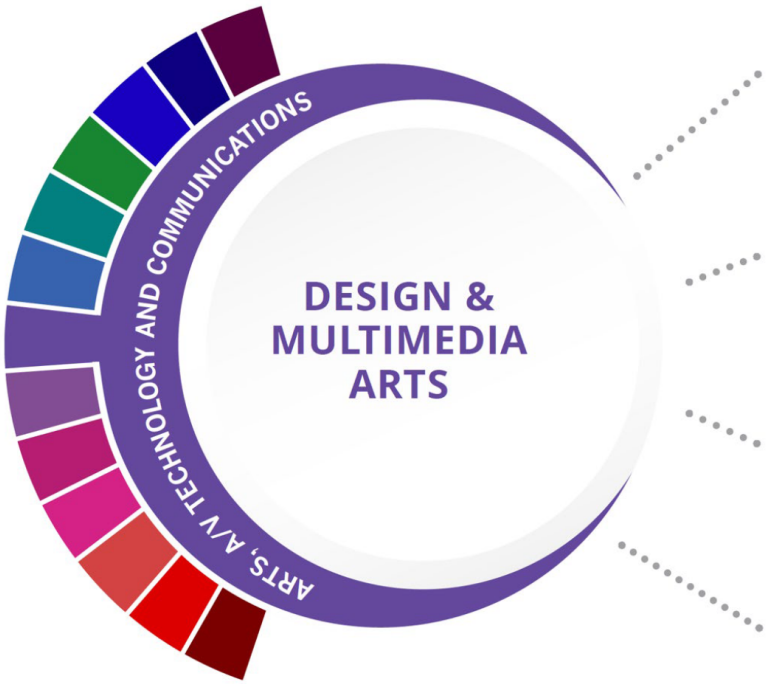
**Prerequisite: Any combo of accounting and financial services courses*

**** Recommended for grades 11-12***

ARTS, AUDIO VIDEO TECHNOLOGY, & COMMUNICATIONS

Business & Industry Endorsement

Design & Multimedia



Level 1	Principles of Arts, A/V Technology, and Communications Video Game Design Digital Media
Level 2	Graphic Design and Illustration I Video Game Programming
Level 3	Graphic Design and Illustration II Web Game Development
Level 4	Practicum in Graphic Design and Illustration Practicum in Entrepreneurship (TBD) Career Preparation I

Principles of Arts, A/V Technology, and Communications- This course is the introductory course for Design & Multimedia Arts. The course includes an introduction to audio and video production, graphic design and illustration, and principles of animation. Adobe Creative Cloud Applications, such as Photoshop and Illustrator.
Prerequisite: None;* ***Credits: 1*
****Recommended for grades 9-10***

Digital Media- Students will develop beginner-intermediate skills in Adobe Creative Suite software including InDesign, Photoshop Extended, Acrobat Professional, Illustrator, and Fireworks. Become a multimedia, presentation master! In this course the students design and create original interactive computer generated multimedia projects and presentations. Students will learn to use digital cameras and scan and edit photographs. Students create animation and dynamic web content while learning about careers and the ethical, acceptable use of multimedia. Portfolio development, along with correct oral and written communication skills will be integral in all aspects of this course.
Prerequisite: None;* ***Credits: 1*
****Recommended for grades 9-10***

Video Game Design- Video Game Design will allow students to explore one of the largest industries in the global marketplace and the new emerging careers it provides in the field of technology. Students will

learn gaming, computerized gaming, evolution of gaming, artistic aspects of perspective, design, animation, technical concepts of collision theory, and programming logic. Students will participate in a simulation of a real video game design team while developing technical proficiency in constructing an original game design.
*Prerequisite: None; **Credits: 1***
Recommended for grades 9-10

Graphic Design & Illustration I- In this course, in addition to developing knowledge and skills needed for success in the Arts, Audio/Video Technology, and Communications Career Cluster, students will be expected to develop an understanding of the industry with a focus on fundamental elements and principles of visual art and design
*Prerequisite: Video Game Design; **Credits: 1***
Recommended for grades 10-12

Video Game Programming- Video Game Programming will allow students to explore one of the largest industries in the global marketplace and the new emerging careers it provides in the field of technology. Students will learn gaming, computerized gaming, evolution of gaming, artistic aspects of perspective, design, animation, technical concepts of collision theory, and programming logic. Students will participate in a simulation of a real video game design team while developing technical proficiency in constructing an original game design.
*Prerequisite: Video Game Design; **Credits: 1***
Recommended for grades 10-12

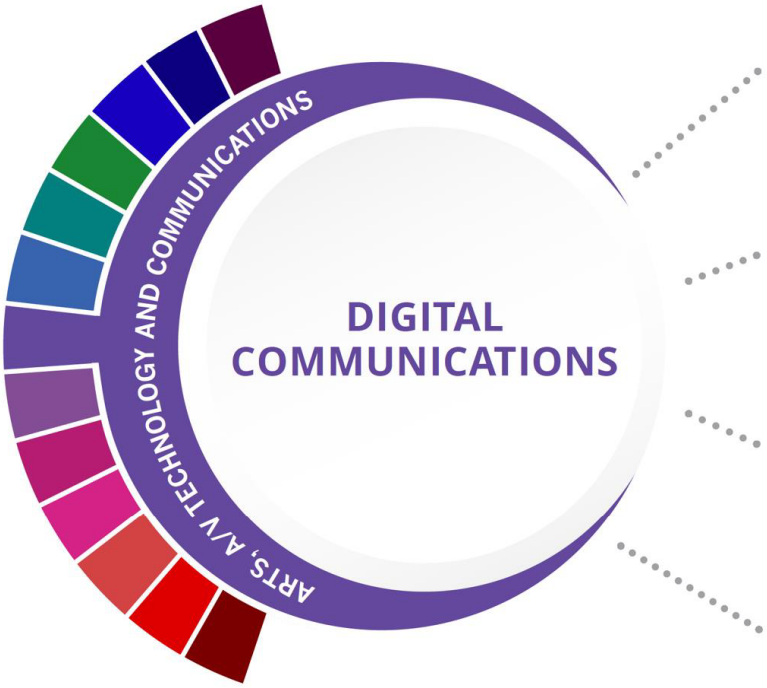
Graphic Design and Illustration II- In this course, students will be expected to develop an advanced understanding of the industry with a focus on mastery of content knowledge and skills.
*Prerequisites: Graphic Design & Illustration I; **Credits: 1***
Recommended for grades 12

Web Game Development- Web Game Development will allow students to demonstrate creative thinking, develop innovative strategies, and use digital and communication tools necessary to develop fully functional online games. Web Game Development has career applications for many aspects of the game industry, including programming, art principles, graphics, web design, storyboarding and scripting, and business and marketing. The six strands include creativity and innovation; communication and collaboration; research and information fluency; critical thinking; problem solving, and decision making; digital citizenship; and technology operations and concepts.
*Prerequisites: None; **Credits: 1***
Recommended for grades 11-12
Practicum in Graphic Design and Illustration- This course is a portfolio building and client based class. Students will consistently work for different clients to help build their portfolio, perfect their style and understand the graphic design market.
*Prerequisites: Graphic Design & Illustration II; **Credits: 1***
Recommended for grades 12

Career Prep- This course provides opportunities for students to participate in a work-based learning experience that combines classroom instruction with business and industry employment experiences. The goal is to prepare students with a variety of skills for a changing workplace. Career preparation is relevant and rigorous, supports student attainment of academic standards, and effectively prepares students for college and career success
Prerequisite: Graphic Design & Illustration II;* ***Credits: 2*
Grades: 11-12

Practicum in Entrepreneurship- The Practicum in Entrepreneurship provides students the opportunity to apply classroom learnings and experiences to real-world business problems and opportunities, while expanding their skill sets and professional relationships as a real or simulated business owner versus the experience one would have as an employee. Students will prepare for an entrepreneurial career in their area of interest in their career cluster and build on and apply the knowledge and skills gained from courses taken in an array of career areas. Practicum experiences occur in a paid or unpaid arrangement and a variety of locations appropriate to the nature and level of the student's need for work-based learning experience. Students implement personal and interpersonal skills to strengthen individual performance in the workplace and in society and to make a successful transition to the workforce or postsecondary education. It is recommended that students are paired with local business owners or employers in their specific industry program of study.
Prerequisite: Any combo of graphic design and multimedia courses
*** Recommended for grades 11-12***

Digital Communications



Level 1	Principles of Arts, A/V Technology, and Communications Professional Communications
Level 2	Audio/Video Production I
Level 3	Audio Video Production II
Level 4	Practicum of Audio/Video Production Practicum in Entrepreneurship Career Preparation I

Principles of Arts, A/V Technology, and Communications- This course is the introductory course for Design & Multimedia Arts. The course includes an introduction to audio and video production, graphic design and illustration, and principles of animation. Adobe Creative Cloud Applications, such as Photoshop and Illustrator.
Prerequisite: None;* ***Credits: 1*
****Recommended for grades 9-10***

Professional Communications- Professional Communications blends written, oral, and graphic communication in a career-based environment. Careers in the global economy require individuals to be creative and have a strong background in computer and technology applications, a strong and solid academic foundation, and a proficiency in professional oral and written communication. Within this context, students will be expected to develop and expand the ability to write, read, edit, speak, listen, apply software applications, manipulate computer graphics, and conduct Internet research.
Prerequisite: None;* ***Credits: .5*
****Recommended for grades 9-12***

Audio Video Production I- This course will explore the Audio and Video production industry and its postsecondary educational and career opportunities. Students will be involved with small group audio, video, and film style production projects with emphasis on live multi-camera video and film style production projects.
Prerequisite: Principles of Arts, A/V Technology, and Communications;* ***Credits: 1*
****Recommended for grades 9-10***

Audio Video Production II- This course will be a continuance of Audio Video Production I where students will work on several audio and/or video productions created for television, cable television, education, radio, entertainment, business and/or industry.
Prerequisite: Audio Video Production I;* ***Credits: 1*
****Recommended for grades 10-11***

Practicum in Audio Video Production- Students in this class will develop advanced knowledge and skills in their chosen field of study related to audio and video production. They will develop their portfolio of work that reflects their knowledge of AVP.
Prerequisite: Audio Video Production II;* ***Credits: 1*
****Recommended for grades 11-12***

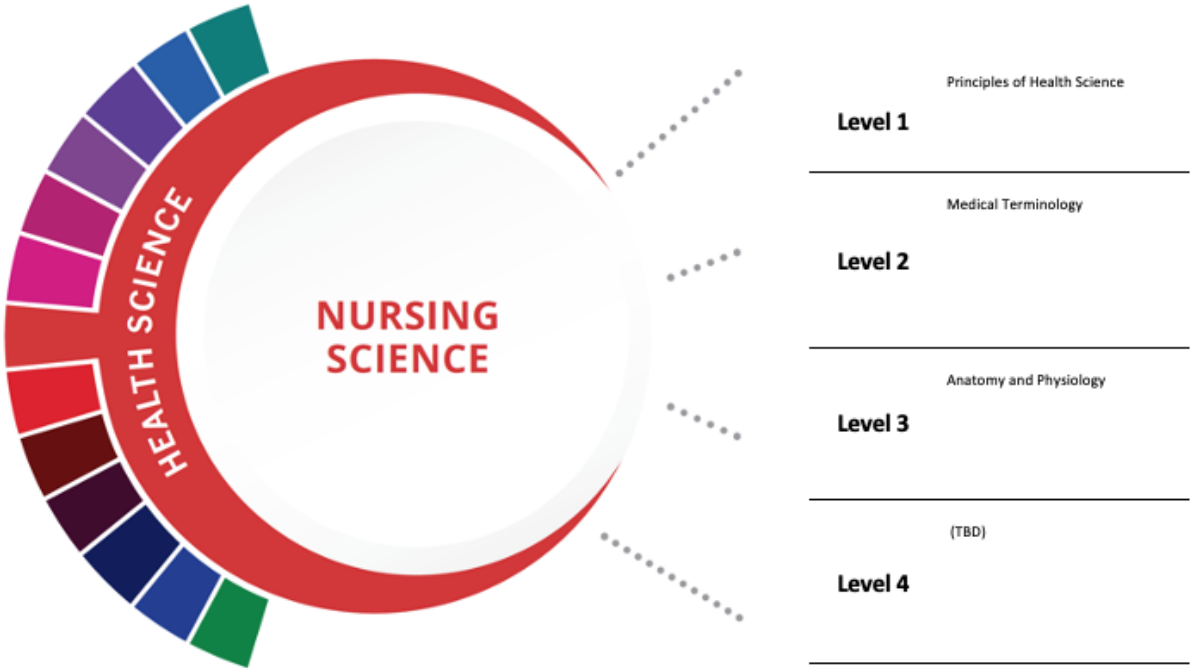
Career Prep- This course provides opportunities for students to participate in a work-based learning experience that combines classroom instruction with business and industry employment experiences. The goal is to prepare students with a variety of skills for a changing workplace. Career preparation is relevant and rigorous, supports student attainment of academic standards, and effectively prepares students for college and career success
Prerequisite: Graphic Design & Illustration II;* ***Credits: 2
****Grades: 11-12***

Practicum in Entrepreneurship- The Practicum in Entrepreneurship provides students the opportunity to apply classroom learnings and experiences to real-world business problems and opportunities, while expanding their skill sets and professional relationships as a real or simulated business owner versus the experience one would have as an employee. Students will prepare for an entrepreneurial career in their area of interest in their career cluster and build on and apply the knowledge and skills gained from courses taken in an array of career areas. Practicum experiences occur in a paid or unpaid arrangement and a variety of locations appropriate to the nature and level of the student's need for work-based learning experience. Students implement personal and interpersonal skills to strengthen individual performance in the workplace and in society and to make a successful transition to the workforce or postsecondary education. It is recommended that students are paired with local business owners or employers in their specific industry program of study.
**Prerequisite: Any combo of digital communications courses*
**** Recommended for grades 11-12***

Health Science

Public Service Endorsement

Nursing Science



Principles of Health Science- The Principles of Health Science course is designed to provide an overview of the therapeutic, diagnostic, health informatics, support services, and biotechnology research and development systems of the healthcare industry.
Prerequisite: None;* ***Credits: 1*
****Recommended for grades 9-10***

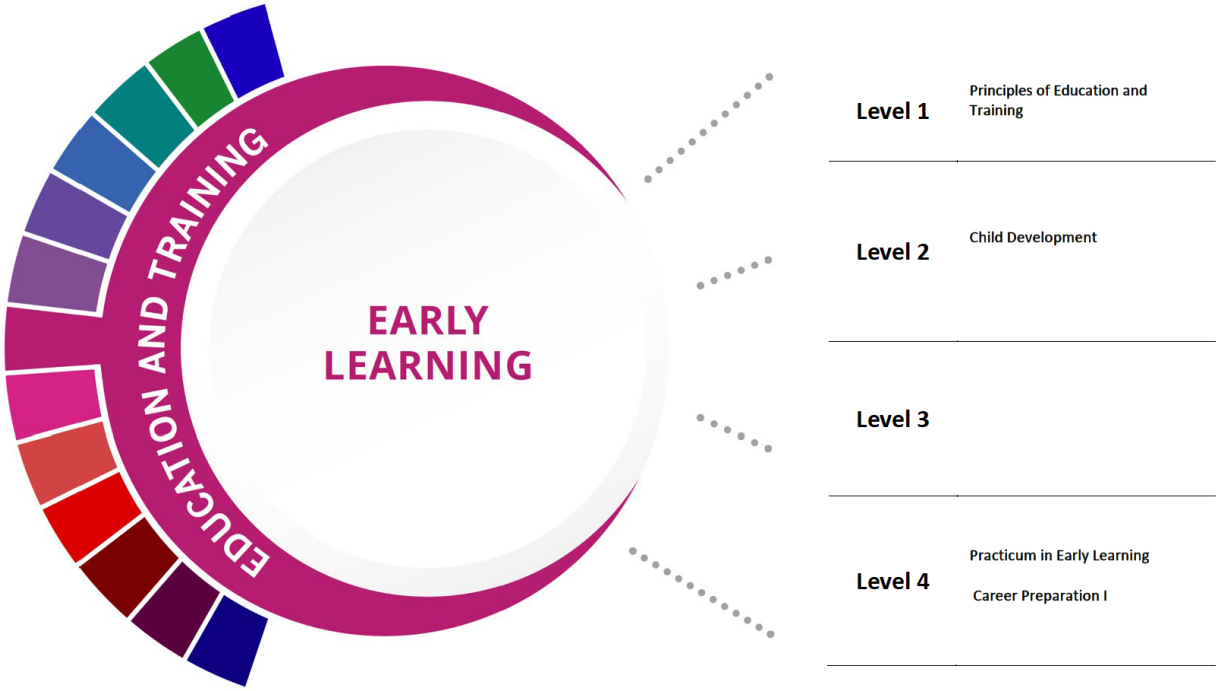
Medical Terminology- The Medical Terminology course is designed to introduce students to the structure of medical terms, including prefixes, suffixes, word roots, singular and plural forms, and medical abbreviations. The course allows students to achieve comprehension of medical vocabulary appropriate to medical procedures, human anatomy and physiology, and pathophysiology.
Prerequisite: Principles of Health Science;* ***Credits: 1*
****Recommended for grades 10***

Anatomy & Physiology- The Anatomy and Physiology course is designed for students to conduct laboratory and field investigations, use scientific methods during investigations, and make informed decisions using critical thinking and scientific problem solving. Students in Anatomy and Physiology will study a variety of topics, including the structure and function of the human body and the interaction of body systems for maintaining homeostasis.
Prerequisite: Medical Terminology;* ***Credits: 1*
****Recommended for grades 11-12***

Education in Training

Public Service Endorsement

Early Learning



Principles of Education and Training- This course covers a variety of topics including learning processes, education theory, classroom management, child development and lesson planning. Students will research careers and topics in education including teacher training, interview processes and ethics in the workplace.
Prerequisite: None;* ***Credits: 1*
****Recommended for grades 9-10***

Child Development- Child Development is a technical laboratory course that addresses knowledge and skills related to child growth and development from prenatal through school-age children, equipping students with child development skills. Students use these skills to promote the well-being and healthy development of children and investigate careers related to the care and education of children.
Recommended Prerequisite: Principles of Education and Training;* ***Credits: 1*
****Recommended for grades 9-10***

Practicum in Early Learning- Practicum in Early Learning is a field-based internship that provides students background knowledge of early childhood development principles as well as principles of effective teaching and training practices. Students in the course work under the joint direction and supervision of both a teacher facilitator and an exemplary industry professional. Students learn to plan and direct individualized instruction and group activities, prepare instructional materials, assist with record keeping, make physical arrangements, and complete other responsibilities of early learning teachers, trainers, paraprofessionals, or other educational personnel.
Prerequisite: Child Guidance;* ***Credits: 2*

**** Recommended for grades 11-12***

Career Prep- This course provides opportunities for students to participate in a work-based learning experience that combines classroom instruction with business and industry employment experiences. The goal is to prepare students with a variety of skills for a changing workplace. Career preparation is relevant and rigorous, supports student attainment of academic standards, and effectively prepares students for college and career success
Prerequisite: Graphic Design & Illustration II;* ***Credits: 2*
****Grades: 11-12***

QUESTIONS FOR ALL CLASS OFFERINGS- Contact PHS Counselor for details.