

Fort Dodge Senior High Course Catalog (2025-2026)



“Education is one thing no one can take away from you.”

-Elin Nordegren

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Fort Dodge Community Schools

Equity and Compliance Information

TITLE V (Promoting Informed Parent Choice and Innovative Programs),
TITLE IX (Sex Discrimination and Harassment), -AND-
SECTION 504 (Rehabilitation Act)

The FDCSD offers career and technical programs in the following categories: Applied Sciences, Technology, Engineering, Manufacturing, Business, Finance, Marketing, Management, Health Services, and Human Services.

It is the policy of Fort Dodge Community School District not to discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, religion, creed, age (for employment), marital status (for programs), sexual orientation, gender identity, and socioeconomic status (for programs) in its educational programs and its employment practices. If you have questions or grievances related to this policy, please contact Aaron Davidson, Executive Director Educational Services, 515-576-1161, adavidson@fdschools.org, located at Central Administration Office, 109 North 25th Street, Fort Dodge, IA 50501, or contact the Office for Civil Rights Midwestern Division for U. S. Department of Education Office, John C. Kluczynski Federal Building 230 S. Dearborn St., 37th Floor, Chicago, IL 60604 (Alternate for Section 504 is Branwyn Greathouse, Director of Special Education/Special Needs, 515-574-5675, bgreathouse@fdschools.org, Central Administration Office, 109 North 25th Street, Fort Dodge, IA 50501).

To Parents and Students

This book will help you plan an educational program to best fit your future needs. We strongly encourage students to consider non-traditional courses when planning their schedules.

It is important to evaluate the courses you are considering not only in relation to your interests and abilities but also in relation to your future vocational plans. Careful and thoughtful registration eliminates many problems for you and the school when the year begins. If we determine from the registration that some courses are so limited in enrollment that they cannot be economically taught, they will be dropped and you will be asked to choose another course.

We encourage you to make thoughtful and informed choices when choosing your courses in your four-year plan. Consider the following when creating or updating your four-year plan:

1. Check the requirements for graduation listed in this section of the booklet.
2. Grade point, credits, and prerequisites are among the terms defined in this book. An understanding of these words will be helpful for all students to use in checking their progress in high school.
3. Course descriptions are designed to help you understand what is taught in each class. Prerequisites and grade-level requirements are also listed. You are encouraged to examine those of interest.
4. Select courses in light of your specific needs. The goal is to have a well-rounded education if you include a variety of elective courses in addition to the required courses.

It is our intent that courses listed in the registration be considered as final as possible. Some schedule changes may be considered at a later date, particularly if it is determined necessary to facilitate the scheduling process.

It is important that you make decisions that will help you to achieve future goals. Careful use of all available information helps to ensure wise decisions. If you have further questions or wish more complete information, consult your School Counselors.

School Counseling Department

One aspect of counseling services is to assist you in making the best possible use of opportunities, curricular and extracurricular, available to you at Fort Dodge Senior High. This means planning the best course of study for you while helping you gather information and develop your skills in making your career and post-high school educational plans.

You will be assigned to a School Counselor who will work with you throughout high school. You are welcome to come in to see your School Counselor before or after school, or during school with an e-hallpass.

We encourage you to become acquainted with your School Counselor and the services available through the Counseling Department. As School Counselors, we look forward to getting to know you and helping you have a valuable and enjoyable high school experience.

Our Vision

All students of Fort Dodge Community School District graduate as lifelong learners that are making a positive impact. Our students are productive citizens who have developed the necessary skills, are college and career-ready, and are meeting the challenges of the 21st century.

Our Mission

The mission of the Fort Dodge Community School District School Counseling Program is to provide a comprehensive and developmental program. In partnership with teachers, administrators, families, and a caring community, we will address the academic, career, social/emotional development of all students and assist them in acquiring skills, knowledge, and attitudes they need to become productive citizens of their community.

Beliefs

The Fort Dodge Senior High Counseling department believes all students should have access to post-secondary options that align with the individual student's talents and skills. We also believe all students will be held to high academic standards that will ensure them to reach their full potential.

We look forward to working with you!

School Counselors for the 2025-2026 School Year

Jolene Hays

Last Names A-D & ELL Students
(English Language Learners)

Sydney Beck

Last Names E-J

Scott Timmerman

Last Names K-P

Marcy Weinzetl

Last Names Q-Z

Definition of Terms

Credit: One credit is earned for successfully completing a course that meets the equivalent of one 60 minute period per day over a 60 day term. The 3600 minutes is in line with the current Carnegie System used by the state of Iowa and equates to ½ Carnegie Unit. (1 FDSH Credit = ½ Carnegie Unit)

Elective: A subject or course that may be chosen for study as distinguished from courses which are required for graduation.

Prerequisite: Specific preliminary requirements must be successfully completed in order to advance to the next course of a sequence within certain disciplines. “Successfully completed” means that a student should have a passing grade of A, B, C or D. The purpose of a prerequisite is to help ensure that students will be successful in subsequent courses. This will facilitate the preparation of planning for desired goals in education. Exemptions may be made through a conference with the parents, students, teacher, counselor, and administrator.

Co-Requisite: A course that may be taken simultaneously with another. For example: in the Vocational Education programs, the class instruction must be taken simultaneously with the on-the-job training.

Required Course: Any course required for graduation.

Zero Hour: These courses begin at 6:45 and can be used to add another course to a student’s schedule that wishes to take an array of courses and needs an extra period to accomplish their career exploration.

Independent Study: A means by which a student may pursue, in depth, a course previously taken. For example; if a student has done well in and wishes to continue beyond the objectives of the course he/she may develop a contract with the instructor to work on an extended basis or an additional term. This plan must be developed prior to the beginning of term as well as approved by the teacher and an administrator.

Grade Point System

A = 4.0000	B- = 2.6667	D+ = 1.3333
A- = 3.6667	C+ = 2.3333	D = 1.0000
B+ = 3.3333	C = 2.0000	D- = 0.6667
B = 3.0000	C- = 1.6667	F = 0.0000

Which elective course should I take?

As you use this guide, keep these things in mind:

1. Select several occupation fields in which you are interested.
2. Notice that many courses are important to practically all occupations. If you plan wisely, you can change or modify your occupational objectives without losing the value of the courses you have taken.
3. Select a course in light of your specific needs. You will have a well-rounded education if you include a variety of elective courses.
4. Evaluate the course you should take not only in relation to occupational objectives, but also in relation to your interests, abilities, and past performance.
5. Study the course descriptions so you will fully understand what the course is about and what will be expected of you.
6. Be ready to sit down with your School Counselor and plan your high school program.

Graduation Requirements

Summary of the Graduation Requirements

Credits required: A minimum of 48 credits is required for graduation.

Courses required: In order to meet the 48 credit minimum requirement, **the following courses are the graduation requirements for the Classes of 2026-2028.**

In order to ensure our students have the essential skills and concepts outlined in the Iowa Core Curriculum the following graduation requirements have been established:

English – 8 Credits: Must include successful completion of English 9 and English 10. In addition, it must include a Composition course, a Literature course, and a Communications course.

Math – 6 Credits: Must include successful completion of Algebra 1 and Geometry.

Science – 6 Credits: Must include successful completion of Biology, Chemistry, and Physics.

Social Studies – 6 Credits: Must include successful completion of World Studies, American History, American Government, and a Behavioral Science course.

Physical Education – 4 Credits: Must take one course each year throughout high school.

Health – 1 Credit.

Financial Literacy – 1 Credit.

Summary of the Graduation Requirements

Credits required: A minimum of 48 credits is required for graduation.

Courses required: In order to meet the 48 credit minimum requirement, **the following courses are the graduation requirements for the Class of 2029.**

In order to ensure our students have the essential skills and concepts outlined in the Iowa Core Curriculum the following graduation requirements have been established:

English – 8 Credits: Must include successful completion of English 9 and English 10. In addition, it must include a Composition course, a Literature course, and a Communications course.

Math – 6 Credits: Must include successful completion of Algebra 1 and Geometry.

Science – 6 Credits: Must include successful completion of Biology, Chemistry, and Physics.

Social Studies – 6 Credits: Must include successful completion of World History, American History, American Government, a Behavioral Science course, and a Social Studies elective.

Physical Education – 4 Credits: Must take one course each year throughout high school.

Health – 1 Credit.

Financial Literacy – 1 Credit.

High School Graduation

In order to graduate from FDSH students must earn 48 credits including specific credits in Mathematics, Science, English, American Government, American History, World Studies, Physical Education, Health, and Personal Finance.

Transfer students in good standing at their previous school must assume the requirements at Fort Dodge Senior High School effective at the time of their transfer. In order to receive a diploma from Fort Dodge Senior High, a student must complete a minimum of six credits of class work at FDSH. No limit has been placed on the number of credits that a student can earn from a department.

An alternative educational program may include but not be limited to online and competency-based courses, home schooling, and learning centers. Credits earned at an alternative educational program will be evaluated by the student's School Counselor and recommended for approval/denial to the Director of Educational Services and the high school Principal. Evaluation considerations will be made based on documentation of student performance or achievement, resource materials and activities used in instruction.

Students who have not successfully completed all requirements for graduation from FDSH, or have had disciplinary consequences, or outstanding fees/fines, will not be allowed to participate in graduation ceremonies. The Principal and the Superintendent of school will evaluate all exceptional or unusual circumstances concerning graduation.

Regional Admission Index (RAI)

Iowa resident students who achieve at least a 245 RAI score and who meet minimum high school course requirements are automatically offered admission to any of the three Regent universities. Students who achieve less than a 245 RAI score and who meet the minimum high school course requirements will continue to receive individual review from the Regent University to which they applied.

The index combines three factors that strongly predict success at regent universities: ACT or SAT test score, high school cumulative grade-point average, and the number of completed high school core courses (only NCAA Approved courses will be counted). Please utilize the RAI calculator on your Naviance Family Connection site or the [Board of Regent's RAI calculator](#).

Regent Admission Index Formula

$$\begin{aligned} & (3 \times \text{ACT composite score}) \\ & \quad + \\ & (30 \times \text{Cumulative GPA}) \\ & \quad + \\ & (5 \times \text{Number of years of high school courses completed in the core subject areas}) \end{aligned}$$

Iowa Regent University High School Course Requirements

In addition to meeting the Regent Admission Index requirement, students must complete the minimum number of high school courses specified below for the institution to which they're applying. A copy of high school recommendations for college preparation can be found at the [Board of Regents website](#).

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

Should I plan to graduate early my senior year?

Students, particularly those who are college-bound, can profit considerably from the additional term of preparation. Early graduation may be a good option for those students who plan to begin their studies in college immediately. On the other hand, being out of school early would not be advisable for most students. Some students graduate mid-year to enter the labor market full time. In all cases preparation and plans for the future should be carefully considered.

How important is my Grade Point Average (GPA)?

Although the grade point average is one of the criteria used for college admission, a factor of equal importance is taking the proper courses to gain the background required for your chosen major.

How important are test scores?

You will have the opportunity to take a variety of interest inventories and ability tests while in high school. A primary purpose of all of the inventories and tests is to provide information, which can help you clarify and evaluate your interests and abilities. This information can help you make appropriate educational and career choices.

When should I begin selecting a trade/technical school or college?

Selection of a trade school, technical school, or college can be a difficult process. Part of this process is identifying the criteria important to you in selecting an institution of higher learning. Cost, location, size, and course offerings are factors which should be considered in your decision. Obviously, the more time you spend in the selection process, the more likely your selection will meet the criteria important to you. Your School Counselor will be able to suggest career planning aids and will be able to help you with the post-secondary planning process.

Should I plan my classes so I can have an easy senior year?

One thing students should avoid if at all possible is minimum preparation for future plans. Since most students have more credits than required for graduation, "easing off" can be attractive during the senior year. Students should continually strive to meet or surpass the preparation of those against whom they will be competing. Regardless of future plans, carrying a full student class load during the senior year is highly advisable. In some cases, this may save time and money later.

Who is responsible for making sure I have earned all of the requirements for graduation?

Since the requirements for graduation are explicitly stated in the registration and book, it is the student's and his/her parent's responsibilities to see those graduation requirements are met. The School Counselor, however, can work closely with students in planning their high school programs to best prepare them for their future plans. Take the initiative to see your School Counselor often each year.

When should I begin visiting with college representatives?

Representatives from most Iowa colleges and many out-of-state colleges visit our high school each year. Visiting with these representatives can be helpful in selecting a college. If possible, you should visit with some of the college representatives prior to your senior year. You may be excused from a class to visit with a college representative.

How do I find out about scholarships and financial aid for further education?

Information about scholarships and financial aid opportunities are available from your School Counselor.

Should I become involved in school activities?

Involvement in school activities can be both educational and enjoyable. Some of the activities include: debate, speech, drama, athletics, music, and journalism. Participation in activities may help you gain experience in one of your interest areas and, at the same time, you will receive enjoyment from accomplishing something with your friends.

How do I know if I'm academically eligible to participate in extracurricular interscholastic competition?

Fort Dodge Senior High School eligibility is determined in accordance with the Iowa Department of Education "NO PASS NO PLAY" legislation. A student must receive passing grades in all courses to remain eligible. During a student's freshman year at FDSH, the "No Pass No Play" policy is in effect for all activities in which a student chooses to participate. Also, students must be considered full-time students (enrolled in at least 4 classes) to be eligible. For detailed information regarding the eligibility policy, contact Mr. Brandon Ruffridge, the Athletic and Activities Director.

Special Testing Programs

There are numerous tests administered by organizations other than the high schools for special purposes such as college admission, scholarships, placement, and vocational guidance. Therefore, it is necessary that students begin planning early. The choice of college will determine which tests are needed. Information about these tests may be obtained in the school counseling department. Students are encouraged to discuss their individual needs with a School Counselor.

Advanced Placement (AP)

These tests are used by some colleges to allow students advanced standing, advanced credit or both before they actually enroll as freshmen at that college. Fort Dodge Senior High offers several advanced placement courses. Students are strongly advised to check the policy of their prospective college regarding advanced credit or placement before taking these tests.

American College Testing (ACT) Program

Most four-year Midwestern colleges for admission, placement, and scholarships use the ACT. This test is most often taken during the spring (April) of the junior year but can be taken at the beginning (September) of the senior year. Registration materials are available in the school counseling department.

College Entrance Examination Board (SAT I & II)

Some colleges and some national scholarships require the SAT I – reasoning test and/or SAT II – subject tests. These tests are mainly for seniors although some juniors may wish to take them in the spring or summer. Students should consult their School Counselor for testing dates and centers. Registration materials are available in the school counseling department.

College Level Examination Program (CLEP)

These tests are specific to a given subject. Some colleges award credit based upon the CLEP score students achieved. Students should work closely with their prospective college to be certain credit can be earned. CLEP tests are given at Iowa Central. Contact your School Counselor for more information.

Pre-SAT/National Merit Scholastic Qualifying Test (PSAT/NMSQT)

This test is an elective test administered to sophomores and juniors during the fall term. It provides practice for the SAT I and, for juniors, initiates the selection process for National Merit Scholarship winners. A registration fee is required.

Accuplacer and ALEKS Testing

Before enrolling in courses at Iowa Central, all first-time, full-time students; all part-time students taking math, English, reading; and/or any students whose program requires it must present assessment scores (from the last 3 years), Iowa Central requires ALEKS®, ACT, ACCUPLACER®, SAT, or Iowa Assessments (junior year) scores so it can guide students to appropriate coursework and to eventual academic success.

ALEKS Assessment

The [ALEKS Assessment](#) is Iowa Central's math placement assessment. If students have not taken any prior math placement assessments, they can take the ALEKS Assessment at any of the Iowa Central centers, free-of-charge. The computerized ALEKS Assessment is not timed and provides a built-in calculator that can be used for some of the problems. The average time for the ALEKS Assessment is 90 minutes. Once you have completed the first assessment, you will have access to an online Prep and Learning Module where you can work through a series of problems specific to your proficient/deficient math subject areas.

ACCUPLACER® Assessment

The [ACCUPLACER® Assessments](#) are Iowa Central's reading and writing (English) placement assessments. The computerized ACCUPLACER® Reading Comprehension is an untimed test comprising 20 questions and measures your ability to understand what you read, to identify main ideas, and to make inferences. You need to distinguish between direct statements and secondary or supporting ideas.

The computerized ACCUPLACER® WritePlacer® assessment is 60-minutes in length and will require an examinee to compose a 300-600 word, typed essay. The WritePlacer® test measures your ability to write effectively, which is critical to academic success. Your writing sample will be scored on the basis of how effectively it communicates a whole message to the readers for the stated purpose. Your score is based on your ability to express, organize and support your opinions and ideas, not the position you take on the essay topic.

Iowa Seal of Biliteracy Guidance

Introduction

The Seal of Biliteracy is an award given by a district to recognize students who have attained proficiency in two or more languages, one of which is English, by high school graduation.

Governor Kim Reynolds signed SF475 into law during the 2018 legislative session. The language of the bill is as follows: Sec. 17. Section 256.9, Code 2017, is amended by adding the following new subsection:

Develop and administer a seal of biliteracy program to recognize students graduating from high school who have demonstrated proficiency in two or more world languages, one of which must be English. Participation in the program by a school district, attendance center, or accredited nonpublic school shall be voluntary. The department shall work with stakeholders to identify standardized tests that may be used to demonstrate proficiency. The department shall produce a seal of biliteracy, which may include but need not be limited to a sticker that may be affixed to a student's high school transcript or a certificate that may be awarded to the student. A participating school district or school shall notify the department of the names of the students who have qualified for the seal and the department shall provide the school district or school with the appropriate number of seals or other authorized endorsement. The department may charge a nominal fee to cover printing and postage charges related to issuance of the biliteracy seal under this subsection.

Why is the Seal of Biliteracy Important?

Being able to know and use more than one language is a critical skill for the 21st century. The seal of biliteracy:

- Values language as an asset.
- Recognizes the value of language diversity & cultural identity.
- Prepares students with 21st century skills that will benefit them in the labor market and the global society.
- Provides employers, universities, and grant/scholarship providers with a method to recognize applicants for their dedication to attainment of biliteracy.

What is Language Proficiency?

The seal of biliteracy focuses not on “seat time” or completion of language courses; it relies on demonstrating proficiency in a given language. The American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages (ACTFL) outlines the meaning of language proficiency, and they use the terms novice, intermediate, advanced, superior and distinguished to indicate levels of proficiency. For the purposes of this seal, a score that mirrors the ACTFL intermediate level is considered proficient. To learn more about how ACTFL outlines levels of language proficiency see the appendix.

Requirements to Demonstrate Knowledge of English

To be eligible to be awarded the Iowa Seal of Biliteracy, each student shall demonstrate proficiency in English. The requirement must be met during the course of each student's high school years. See your counselor for a list of the assessment options that a student may choose from to demonstrate proficiency in English.

Where can I find more information about the Iowa Seal of Biliteracy?

You can find more information at <https://educateiowa.gov/pk-12/instruction/biliteracy-seal>.

Edgenuity/e2020 Policies and Procedures

Edgenuity (formerly known as e2020) is Fort Dodge Senior High's online learning platform. Online classes through Edgenuity are typically for students who are credit deficient or are in our alternative education program. The following are the Edgenuity policies and procedures:

- Students will be required to watch the Orientation Video prior to starting course work for the first time.
- The passing threshold for Quizzes and Tests will be set at 60%. Students will automatically move forward when they have reached the passing threshold. Students may be moved forward at the discretion of a teacher, counselor, or administrator once they have re-taken the same assessment multiple times if they have received a score above 60%.
- Students will be allowed three attempts for each quiz to reach the automatic passing threshold. Once the student has unsuccessfully taken a given quiz three times, the corresponding "Direct Instruction" will be reset, requiring the student to view the lecture content again before being granted additional quiz attempts.
- Tests and Cumulative Exams will be locked and only unlocked for students when they are supervised by school personnel.
- Students wishing to take a required course online as part of their regular education curriculum at Senior High must have previously unsuccessfully taken the same course in the classroom setting or receive administrative approval to do so.
- Students receiving administrative approval to take a required course prior to taking the course in the classroom setting will be required to work through the entire course curriculum (prescriptive and pre-testing features will be turned off).

Agricultural Science Department

Introduction to Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources (AFNR)

Grades 9-12

Prerequisites: None

2 Credits

This course introduces students to the range of agricultural opportunities and the pathways of study they may pursue. Students participating in the Introduction to Agriculture, Food, and Natural Resources course will experience hands-on activities, projects, and problems. Student experiences will involve the study of communication, the science of agriculture, plants, animals, natural resources, and agricultural mechanics. While surveying the opportunities available in agriculture and natural resources, students will learn to solve problems, conduct research, analyze data, work in teams, and take responsibility for their work, actions and learning. **Note: This course consists of two terms. Students must take Intro to Agriculture A before taking Intro to Agriculture B.*

Natural Resources and Ecology

Grades 9-12

Prerequisites: Intro to AFNR A & B

1 Credit

Natural Resources and Ecology is a foundation-level course within the CASE program of study. The course provides students a variety of experiences in the fields of natural resources and ecology. Students explore hands-on projects and activities while studying topics such as land use, water quality, stewardship, and environmental agencies. Study of the natural world including biomes, land, air, water, energy, use and care as well as a focus on issues surrounding man's interaction with the Earth is addressed in this course. and management, soil management, outdoor recreation, careers in natural resources, energy and mineral resources, and forestry resources.

Students select an ecosystem to study throughout the course and apply principles of natural resources and ecology from each unit of study to that ecosystem. Students will understand specific connections between the course's lesson and Supervised Agricultural Experience and FFA components of agricultural education programs. Students will improve investigative, experimental and communication skills.

Principles of Agricultural Science – Animal

Grades 10-12

Prerequisites: Intro to AFNR A & B

2 Credits

The major focus of the Principles of Agricultural Science – Animal (ASA) course is to expose students to agriculture, animal science, and related career options. Students participating in the ASA course will have experiences in various animal science concepts with exciting hands-on activities, projects, and problems. Students' experiences will involve the study of animal anatomy, physiology, behavior, nutrition, reproduction, health, selection, and marketing. For example, students will acquire skills in meeting the nutritional needs of animals while developing balanced, economical rations. Throughout the course, students will consider the perceptions and preferences of individuals within local, regional, and world markets. Students will explore hands-on projects and activities to learn the characteristics of animal science and work on major projects and problems similar to those that animal science specialists, such as veterinarians, zoologists, livestock producers, and industry personnel, face in their respective careers. In addition, students will understand specific connections between animal science lessons and Supervised Agricultural Experience and FFA components that are important for the development of an informed agricultural education student. Students will investigate, experiment, and learn about documenting a project, solving problems, and communicating their solutions to their peers and members of the

professional community.

Principles for Agricultural Science – Plant

Grades 10-12

Prerequisites: Intro to AFNR A & B

2 Credits

This course provides a foundation of plant science knowledge and skills. Students will experience various plant science concepts through exciting “hands-on” activities, projects, and problems. Student experiences will include the study of plant anatomy and physiology, classification, and the fundamentals of production and harvesting. Students will learn how to apply scientific knowledge and skills to use plants effectively for agronomic, forestry, and horticultural industries. Students will discover the value of plant production and its impact on the individual, the local, and the global economy. Students will work on major projects and problems similar to those that plant science specialists, such as horticulturalists, agronomists, greenhouse and nursery managers, and plant research specialists, face in their respective careers. Students will understand specific connections between the course’s lesson and Supervised Agricultural Experience and FFA components of agricultural education programs. Students will improve investigative, experimental and communication skills. The ASP course is intended to build a foundation on the Introduction to Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources course. The course is structured to enable all students to have a variety of experiences that will provide an overview of the plant industries. To complete the Plant Program of Study, CASE offers specialization courses (Animal and Plant Biotechnology or Food Science and Safety) and the capstone course, Agricultural Research and Development. The knowledge and skills students develop will be used in the specialization and capstone courses within the CASE program.

Agricultural Business Foundations

Grades 10-12

Prerequisites: Intro to AFNR A & B

1 Credit

This course includes various topics, including starting a business, financial documents, risk management, and writing a business plan. Throughout the course are practical and engaging activities, projects, and problems to develop and improve business and employability skills. Additionally, students investigate and develop viable business plans in order to solve local problems. The business plan ideas are communicated to student peers and professional community members.

Art Department

Art Studio

Grades 9-12

Prerequisites: None

1 Credit

This course deals with the fundamental Elements and Principles of Design through numerous projects. It provides basic experiences in most media, introducing skills and concepts from the spectrum of classes offered in the Art Department. Students must demonstrate proficiency in the Art Studio benchmarks in order to move forward in the Art Department.

Drawing I

Grades 9-12

Prerequisites: Art Studio

1 Credit

This course provides opportunities to develop composition skills and extensively explore drawing, using a variety of media and subject matter. Students will acquire skills in proportion, perspective, shading, and realism.

Drawing II

Grades 9-12

Prerequisites: Art Studio, Drawing I

1 Credit

This course provides the student with the opportunity to further develop the skills introduced in Drawing I. Students will continue to be challenged to create multiple 2D works, improving on their observation skills and personal expression. Additional skills will also be introduced, such as the drawing of models and drawing from their imagination. Students will investigate the process that artists use to develop their artwork and interpret the work of others.

Painting I

Grades 9-12

Prerequisites: Art Studio

1 Credit

This course provides the student with the opportunity to create works on paper as well as easel paintings. Students will explore a variety of painting styles and techniques, using watercolor, acrylic and collage. Individualized interests will be enhanced through the creative application of the elements and principles of design.

Painting II

Grades 9-12

Prerequisites: Art Studio, Painting I

1 Credit

This course provides the student with the opportunity to advance their skills from Painting I. The basic techniques from Painting I will be expanded on to create more complex pieces. Students will continue to be challenged to create multiple pieces to demonstrate their understanding of Elements and Principles of Design. The use of models and painting from observation will be studied. This course will provide the opportunity to explore modern and contemporary painting methods including painting on stretched canvases to create pieces. Students will explore a variety of painting styles, techniques, and painting mediums including oil paint. Students will investigate the process that artists use to develop their artwork and interpret the work of others.

Photography I

Grades 9-12

Prerequisites: Art Studio

1 Credit

This is a basic course in digital photography. The Elements of Composition are emphasized to learn best practices for using the viewfinder and to assist in the exploration of various compositional principles. Digital processing techniques are introduced using Adobe Photoshop. Photoshoots will include landscapes, architectural work, farm animals, etc. which require some traveling throughout the term. A driving permission slip will need to be signed by parents at the beginning of class.

Photography II

Grades 9-12

Prerequisites: Art Studio, Photography I

1 Credit

This course will allow students to advance their knowledge in photography. Various camera settings will be learned to offer greater creativity and technical control. In this course, students will experiment with altering their photographs in Adobe Photoshop to develop deeper personal expression. Students will investigate the process that photographers use to create their artwork and will learn to interpret the work of others. Photoshoots will require some traveling throughout the term, so a driving permission slip will need to be signed by parents at the beginning of class.

Graphic Design I

Grades 9-12

Prerequisites: Art Studio

1 Credit

This course is an introduction to the world of graphic design and its processes, with all projects being computer generated works. Students will explore the creation of both fine art and commercial art, using Adobe Photoshop. There will be a variety of challenges that encourage design creativity through image editing, image manipulation, typography, layout, etc.

Graphic Design II

Grades 9-12

Prerequisites: Art Studio, Graphic Design I

1 Credit

This course is an introduction to the world of graphic design and its processes, with all projects being computer generated works. Students will explore the creation of both fine art and commercial art, using Adobe Photoshop. There will be a variety of challenges that encourage design creativity through image editing, image manipulation, typography, layout, etc.

Ceramics I

Grades 9-12

Prerequisites: Art Studio

1 Credit

This course introduces basic techniques to create sculptural and functional ceramic pieces. This course will cover the techniques of hand building, slab building, coil building, and wheel throwing. It will introduce basic decorating techniques to finish a ceramic piece: glazing, painting, engraving, slip trailing, and relief. Students are expected to comply with safety measures.

Ceramics II

Grades 9-12

Prerequisites: Art Studio, Ceramics I

1 Credit

This course will allow students to advance the skills introduced in Ceramics I. The basic techniques from Ceramics I will be expanded on to create more complex pieces. Students will explore more decorating techniques to finish their ceramic pieces. In this course, students will have a focus on wheel throwing to advance their skills and to create uniformed set pieces. Students will investigate the process that artists use to develop their artwork and interpret the work of others. Students are expected to comply with safety measures.

Sculpture

Grades 9-12

Prerequisites: Art Studio

1 Credit

This course introduces basic techniques to create pieces of 3-D artwork. Students are given the opportunity to explore a variety of materials: cardboard, wire, plaster, clay, found objects, etc. The exploration of materials allows the students to work with a variety of tools to produce art projects. This course experiments with different types of media and techniques to have a successful product. Students are expected to comply with safety measures.

Art Appreciation

Grades 11-12

Prerequisites: None

1 Credit

This course is designed for students of varying artistic abilities and backgrounds. This course will enhance an interest, appreciation and understanding of visual arts. Students will encounter a variety of art works; working on recognition of elements and principles of design, the role of visual art in society and learn about different eras and works of art in history. We will also explore the many careers available in the world of art.

Business Education Department

Introduction to Business

Grades 9-12

Prerequisites: None

1 Credit

This is a basic business course designed to acquaint students with the activities associated with a business. Students will gather a basic understanding of general business, economics, entrepreneurship, business communications, business ethics, the government's role in business, marketing, and business finance. Each of these topics is then covered in further detail in Fort Dodge Senior High School business offerings. Overall, the course gives students a broad exposure to business operations and a solid background for additional business courses.

Introduction to Computer Applications

Grades 9-12

Prerequisites: None

1 Credit

This is a one term course that is designed to improve keyboarding skills through an in-depth utilization of Microsoft Word. Instead of creating a plain report, you can learn all the features of Word and what this program can do to help you enhance your documents. The course will focus on keyboarding techniques, Microsoft Word and Microsoft Excel. At the end of the course, students will be allowed to test for Microsoft Certification as a Word Specialist. Microsoft Certification is a globally recognized business certification.

Business Law

Grades 10-12

Prerequisites: None

1 Credit

In Business Law, students will learn the importance of laws and how they relate to business, as well as their effect on society and the individual. This course teaches a basic appreciation for law and its applications. Specific units include: the basics of criminal and civil law, contract law, consumer law and student rights and responsibilities regarding important life events. Any students interested in pursuing a career in law or business should strongly consider enrolling in this course.

Marketing

Grades 10-12

Prerequisites: None

1 Credit

In this course, you will learn what marketing is and how it helps connect businesses of all kinds to their customers. You will develop the skills of marketing to be used in any career path that you choose to follow. These include Marketing-Information Management, Selling, Pricing, Product/Service Management, Promotion, Financing, and Distribution. You will learn about the above functions of a well-managed business, plus the Foundations of Businesses: Communication and Interpersonal Skills; Business, Management and Entrepreneurship; Economics, and Professional Development (known as life-long learning).

Sports/Entertainment Marketing**Grades 10-12***Prerequisites: None**1 Credit*

Sports & Entertainment marketing is the process of developing, promoting, and distributing products to satisfy customers' needs and wants through sports and entertainment. This course will take you on a step-by-step journey through the world of marketing. This course will cover the basics of functions marketing and how they are applied to sports and entertainment. During this course there will be a focus on real-world business perspectives by using examples from the marketing world to illustrate features, concepts, and activities.

Advertising and Sales**Grades 10-12***Prerequisites: None**1 Credit*

In this course you will learn about selling and customer service. You will learn to determine the clients' needs and wants, how they think and then to respond to the customer through planned, personalized communication that influences purchase decisions. Focus is on the steps of the selling process to better sell products and services, ideas and you. Students will learn the basic advertising principles, media, psychology, and the relationship of sales promotion to the total marketing process. An emphasis will be placed on the business aspects of advertising.

Accounting**Grades 10-12***Prerequisites: None**1 Credit*

Accounting introduces students to the complete accounting cycle for a sole-proprietorship. This course provides the background for students seeking an entry-level accounting job, as well as for college-bound students who plan to enter the field of business.

Entrepreneurship & Small Business Management**Grades 11-12***Prerequisites: None**1 Credit*

In this course, you will learn what it takes to own and operate your own business or manage a business for the owners. You will learn everything from how to create the business, put the ideas onto paper, and then make your proposal to the investors.

ICCC Intro to Accounting (ACC-111)**Grades 11-12***Prerequisites: Must meet eligibility requirements**1 Credit/3 College Credits*

Students will receive instruction in analyzing and recording various business transactions and in completing the accounting cycle by journalizing, posting, preparing worksheets, making adjusting and closing entries, and preparing financial statements for service and merchandising businesses. Instruction will be provided for accounting for cash by using a petty cash fund, reconciling a bank statement, and utilizing the cash short and over account; calculating and journalizing employees payroll; and calculating and journalizing employer payroll taxes. No previous accounting instruction is necessary.

Personal Finance

Grades 11-12

Prerequisites: None

1 Credit

Personal Finance is a course designed to develop your ability to solve real world problems in order to become productive citizens and workers in a technological society. Areas of study will include personal financial planning, budgeting expenditures and savings, effective cash management, tax planning, proper use of credit, making major purchases, investments and insurance protection, retirement and estate planning, and decision-making skills for all aspects of life as consumers, producers, entrepreneurs, and economic citizens. This is a **required** course, as completion of this course fulfills the financial literacy requirement needed for graduation.

Multi-Occupations Cooperative (MOC) Education Program

Grade 12 or Instructor Approval

Prerequisites: Employed 15 hours/week

Up To 3 Credits

Multi-Occupations is a program that is offered to students who are seeking opportunities for internships, job shadowing, and employment in Fort Dodge. Students will sign up for one Trimester of in classroom instruction to gain employment skills and make connections with employers in the community. Once a student has successfully completed the Classroom Instruction portion of the program, they will be released to complete up to two terms of On-the Job-Training. To earn a credit, each term, students must successfully complete the contracted job hours and communicate with the classroom instructor. Students can earn up to 3 credits upon completion of the program and make connections with employers within the Fort Dodge Community.

Classroom Instruction

Prerequisite: None

1 Credit

Multi-Occupations Cooperative Education is for students interested in learning a skilled occupation and developing those career skills that will assist them in securing future, full-time employment. The students will develop competencies in the following areas in the classroom setting; work-based learning, job and personal safety, teamwork, problem-solving and decision-making, job/personal success and satisfaction, income management, interpersonal relations, employer expectations, leadership, parliamentary procedure, managing family, work and citizenship roles. **Students must have a job by the end of this course to move into the on-the-job training portion of the program.**

On-the-Job Training

Prerequisite: MOC Classroom Instruction

1 Credit/Term for Up To 2 Terms

Multi-Occupations Cooperative Education On-The-Job Training will provide the students with the opportunity to put into practice those aptitudes, attitudes and skills which will assist them in becoming a successful employee. This on-the-job training also provides the opportunity to secure work experience and possible employment in their chosen career field. Students will be employed for a minimum of fifteen hours per week in a community or local area business. The employer and program coordinator will use a specific rubric-type evaluation instrument to measure the student's success on the job.

Coaching Authorization

Thinking about being a coach someday? Iowa Central offers classes online and in-person at Fort Dodge Senior High that are needed to become a coach! You must take one course in the following categories:

Category 1 – Structure and Function

	Delivery Method
PEC-123: Anatomy for Coaching	Online
PEC-121: Body Structure & Function	Iowa Central
BIO-163: Essentials of Anatomy & Physiology	Iowa Central
BIO-168: Human Anatomy & Physiology I	Fort Dodge Senior High

Category 2 – Human Growth and Development

	Delivery Method
PEC-115: Athletic Development & Human Growth	Online
PSY-121: Developmental Psychology	Online/Iowa Central
PSY-222: Child Psychology	Online/Iowa Central
PSY-224: Adolescent Psychology	Online/Iowa Central

Category 3 – Care and Prevention of Athletic Injuries

	Delivery Method
PEC-127: Care and Prevention of Athletic Injury	Online
PET-105: Basic Athletic Training	Fort Dodge Senior High

Category 4 – Theory of Coaching

	Delivery Method
PEC-110: Coaching Ethics, Techniques & Theory	Online
PEC-111: Techniques and Theory of Coaching	Fort Dodge Senior High/Iowa Central

English Department

Eight (8) English credits are required for graduation. Required courses include English 9 (2 Credits) and English 10 (2 Credits). In addition, students need 1 credit in each English subject: Composition, Literature, and Speech. Note: theater Performance I & II, Technical theater, Yearbook (Big Dodger), and Journalism (Little Dodger) do not meet the Fort Dodge Community School District English graduation requirements.

English 9

Grade 9

Prerequisites: None

2 Credits

English 9 is a **required** class that will focus on basic writing construction. The language standards will be addressed through the writing component and speaking and listening standards will be embedded through the use of various discussion and collaboration opportunities. The Reading Informational and Reading Literature standards will be addressed through examining literature and nonfiction pieces. *Note: NCAA Approved.

English 9 Honors

Grade 9

Prerequisites: None

2 Credits

Honors English 9 implements an intensive version of the general education English 9 course while offering opportunities for deeper exploration of literacy and rhetorical concepts and analysis. This is a fast-paced and rigorous course intended to prepare students for future Honors, Advanced Placement, and dual-credit courses. Students will experience more complex literature, challenging writing assignments, and increasingly substantive conversations. *Note: NCAA Approved.

English 10

Grade 10

Prerequisites: English 9

2 Credits

This is a **required** class. The Reading Informational and Reading Literature standards will be met through examining literature and nonfiction pieces. English 10 will focus on expository and persuasive writing. Language instruction will be addressed through the writing component and speaking and listening standards will be embedded through various discussion, collaboration, and presentation opportunities. *Note: NCAA Approved.

English 10 Honors

Grade 10

Prerequisites: English 9

2 Credits

Honors English 10 implements an intensive version of the general education English 10 course while offering opportunities for deeper exploration of literacy and rhetorical concepts and analysis. This is a fast-paced and rigorous course intended to prepare students for future Honors, Advanced Placement, and dual-credit courses. At times, students and parents should expect nightly homework. Students will experience more complex literature, challenging writing assignments, and increasingly substantive conversations. *Note: NCAA Approved.

English Language Learners (ELL) Newcomer Classes

Grades 9-12

Prerequisites: IDEA English Proficiency Test

1 Credit/Term

This class is taught on an individual basis. The curriculum is developed to increase a student's reading, writing, speaking, and listening comprehension in English. An emphasis is usually placed on grammar and vocabulary growth.

Composition Electives

The following courses fulfill the composition requirement for graduation.

High School Composition

Grades 11-12

Prerequisites: None

1 Credit

This course is designed for students who do not feel ready for College Prep Composition. The course deals with narrative, expository, and persuasive writing, as well as sentence structures, paragraph development, and organizational strategies. **Note: NCAA Approved.*

College Prep Composition

Grades 11-12

Prerequisites: None

1 Credit

This course is a writing course that develops skills in narrative, argumentative, and descriptive writing with an emphasis on research writing. A prior mastery of basic skills of punctuation, sentence structure, paragraphing, and usage is necessary. This course is recommended for college-bound students. **Note: NCAA Approved.*

Advanced Placement (AP) English Language & Composition

Grades 11-12

Prerequisites: English 10

2 Credit

Completion of two semesters of AP Language & Composition should satisfy literature (nonfiction) and composition graduation requirements.

This course requires students to write in several forms about a variety of subjects. Readings are primarily nonfiction, and students will use them to identify and explain the use of rhetorical strategies, rhetorical techniques, and linguistic choices. Visual media are also analyzed as they serve as a vital component of modern communication. **Note: NCAA Approved.*

ICCC Composition I (ENG-105)

Grades 11-12

Prerequisites: Must meet eligibility requirements

1 Credit/3 College Credits

This course focuses on the process of writing expressive and informative prose, incorporating oral, visual, and electronic modes. It introduces research skills and critical thinking skills and reinforces critical reading skills. This course helps students build confidence in their communication skills while also enabling them to think critically, consider the viewpoints of others, and effectively express themselves, all of which will benefit them in the classroom, in life, and in the workforce. **Note: NCAA Approved.*

ICCC Composition II (ENG-106)

Grades 11-12

Prerequisites: ICCC Composition I (C or better)

1 Credit/3 College Credits

This course is a continuation of Composition I (ENG-105), with advanced work in research techniques. The major focus is on persuasive and argumentative writing with an emphasis on critical thinking and reading skills. This course helps students build confidence in their communication skills while also enabling them to think critically, consider the viewpoints of others, and effectively express themselves, all of which will benefit them in the classroom, in life, and in the workforce. **Note: NCAA Approved.*

Literature Electives

The following courses fulfill the literature requirement for graduation.

American Literature

Grades 11-12

Prerequisites: None

1 Credit

American Literature is a survey course that concentrates on the major concepts of our cultural heritage reflected in the literature written by significant American authors. Providing a solid background for college-bound students, American Literature demands intensive reading, critical analysis, and writing. **Note: NCAA Approved.*

British Literature

Grades 11-12

Prerequisites: None

1 Credit

British Literature is a survey course, sampling the major works of England from the Anglo-Saxon to contemporary British writers. Providing a solid background for college-bound students, British literature demands intensive reading, critical analysis, and writing. **Note: NCAA Approved.*

Comparative Literature

Grades 11-12

Prerequisites: None

1 Credit

This course will feature various genres of literature that will be read and will be compared to other forms of literature. Comparative analysis will be conducted through a balanced literacy approach including speaking, writing, and reading. **Note: NCAA Approved.*

Advanced Placement (AP) English Literature & Composition

Grades 11-12

Prerequisites: English 10

2 Credits

Completion of two semesters of AP Lit & Composition should satisfy literature (fiction) and composition graduation requirements.

AP English Literature and Composition is a course where students will be immersed in novels, plays, poems, and short stories from various periods. Students will read and write daily, using a variety of multimedia and interactive activities, interpretive writing assignments, and class discussions to assess and improve skills and knowledge. The course places special emphasis on reading comprehension, structural and critical analysis of written works, literary vocabulary, and recognizing and understanding literary devices. The equivalent of an introductory college-level survey class, this course prepares

students for the optional AP exam and further study in creative writing, communications, journalism, literature, and composition. **Note: NCAA Approved.*

Studies in Leadership Through Literature

Grades 11-12

Prerequisites: None

1 Credit

Studies in Leadership Through Literature is a course designed to strengthen students' personal and group leadership skills. This is intended for students involved in groups as well as those wishing to seek involvement in leadership roles. Students will develop personalized leadership philosophies, keys to structuring an organization, theories of what motivates humans, management skills, and group dynamics. It will be expected for students to read key leadership books, write a variety of pieces, and be prepared to create and perform multi-digital and oral presentations. Students will also complete a service project that will directly involve the community and the school district in a productive way.

Speech Electives

The following courses fulfill the speech requirement for graduation.

Speech Communications

Grades 11-12

Prerequisites: None

1 Credit

This course covers fundamentals of communication skills including: collaborative discussions and decision making, presentation skills, evaluating speakers, integration of information, use of digital media, and language adaptation. **Note: NCAA Approved.*

ICCC Public Speaking (SPC-112)

Grades 11-12

Prerequisites: ICCC Composition I (C or better)

1 Credit/3 College Credits

Public Speaking is designed to develop the basic skills of speech communication by studying the process from topic selection through delivery. Emphasis is placed on the preparation and delivery of presentations. This course helps students build confidence in their communication skills while also enabling them to think critically, consider the viewpoints of others, and effectively express themselves, all of which will benefit them in the classroom, in life, and in the workforce.

General English Electives

The following courses serve as general English electives for graduation.

Creative Writing Lab

Grades 9-12

Prerequisites: None

1 Credit

*I love writing poems and fiction...Guess what? This class is for you! In Creative Writing Lab, you will improve your writing skills as you apply literary terms/techniques to various forms of writing, including short stories and poems. Students will write DAILY and collaborate with others. Be prepared to share in small groups and present to the class. *Note: NCAA Approved.*

Reading Workshop

Grades 9-12

Prerequisites: None

1 Credit

Reading Workshop is recommended for any student who would like to improve his/her reading comprehension, reading speed, and vocabulary skills. Reading workshop invites students to become actively involved as readers of all kinds of books. Students will respond orally and in writing, making connections between their lives and their readings.

Debate

Grades 9-12

Prerequisites: None

1 Credit

This course will encourage the use of evidence, reasoning, and persuasion to best represent ideas. Students will gather evidence to support opinions in a variety of debate formats like mock trial, public forum debate, congressional debate, and one-on-one argumentation in order to hone effective listening, argumentation and problem solving skills. *Note: NCAA Approved.

Theater and Society

Grades 9-12

Prerequisites: None

1 Credit

Theater and Society is geared towards students who are not necessarily interested in performance but are interested in the relationship theater has as an art form with culture and history. Learning will focus on the impact theater has on the world, how theater can be used as a means of communication, and the role of the audience as critic.

Family and Consumer Science Department

Cooking Essentials

Grades 9-12

Prerequisites: None

1 Credit

Want to learn new culinary skills, brush up on your cooking techniques, or start at the very beginning in the kitchen? Well you've found the right place! Cooking Essentials is designed to get you on your culinary feet by providing basic food and technique advice for a lifetime of use. So what's a day in the life of Cooking Essentials like? This course utilizes a variety of content exposures and TONS of hands-on lab experiences. You will learn how to prepare simple and delicious food like a chef. Topics covered include: basic cooking techniques, equipment, knife skills, ingredient recognition, and bakery basics. Emphasis is placed on food preparation, kitchen and time management, and the relationship of diet to health.

Introduction to Culinary

Grades 9-12

Prerequisites: Cooking Essentials

1 Credit

Do you have a passion for food and want to expand your abilities in the kitchen? Do you see yourself as a culinary professional? Well consider Introduction to Culinary Arts for your next class! Introduction to Culinary provides an opportunity for the students with minimal food preparation experience, but with an interest in food, to learn professional culinary techniques and principles. This course introduces students into the world of professional cooking; students will become acquainted with the best practices in all phases of the culinary industry. Students will be introduced to culinary terminology, practices, and culinary history with a special emphasis on food science and service operations. Through integrated classroom and hands-on kitchen experiences, the student will be prepared to perform at an entry-level in the industry.

Culinary Arts II

Grades 9-12

Prerequisites: Introduction to Culinary

1 Credit

Did Cooking Essentials and Introduction to Culinary leave you hungry for a new culinary adventure? Well do we have the class for you! Culinary Arts II is designed to take the novice chef to the next level. Topics include breakfast foods, sandwiches, salads, garnishing, desserts, and baked goods. Students will also spend a considerable amount of the term examining and preparing global cuisines including food from the Americas, Europe, Mediterranean, Middle East, and Asia.

Housing and Home Interiors

Grades 10-12

Prerequisites: None

1 Credit

Housing and Home Interiors will provide practical knowledge for those who intend to manage their own home someday or for those who intend to enter the housing field in interior design, architecture, and other related fields. Interpreting and evaluating floor plans, variety of housing options, renting vs. buying homes, selecting and arranging furniture, and the selection of colors and textures for rooms are some of the topics explored in this class.

Child Development**Grades 9-12***Prerequisites: None**1 Credit*

Child Development is a course with emphasis placed on learning about physical, social, emotional and intellectual development of children from conception to preschool age. Decision-making and planning for responsible parenthood is emphasized. This is a course for those interested in careers in medicine, teaching, childcare, social work, psychology, and recreation

Early Childhood Education I**Grades 10-12***Prerequisites: Child Development**2 Credits (2 Periods of the Day)*

Early Childhood Education 1 is a hands-on class which will help prepare for a career in early childhood education. It teaches practical techniques to guide children through a variety of daily experiences in safe, educational ways. You will be in the classroom half the time and be a “teacher’s helper” at the Early Childhood Center in Fort Dodge, the other half of the time. During your classroom work you will be studying the development of four to six year old children and developing lesson plans to use at your site. Students must have their own transportation or arrange carpooling.

Early Childhood Education II**Grades 10-12***Prerequisites: Child Development and/or Instructor Approval**2 Credits (2 Periods of the Day)*

This course is designed to provide high school students with the opportunity to work with learners in the community elementary schools under the supervision of teaching professionals. It teaches students skills useful for careers as educators, as well as community leaders. Emphasis is on the teacher’s role, the preferred learning environment, and appropriate learning content for meeting individual differences and cultural diversities of young children. This class will also study the development of school age 6-12 year old children. The program brings together many segments of the community including administrators, educators, students of various levels, and other professionals involved in education. Students will be in the High School classroom half of the time and in their assigned elementary school classroom half the time. Students must have their own transportation, or arrange carpooling.

Adult Living**Grades 11-12***Prerequisites: None**1 Credit*

Helps prepare students for the “real world” by focusing on practical life issues facing adults. These issues include self-exploration, falling in love, family, money management, career choices, attending college, and communication skills. Current issues, topics and trends of society today are explored as well.

Health Department

Health

Grade 10

Prerequisites: None

1 Credit

Health provides students with the opportunity to know concepts related to personal health promotion and reducing health risks. During the course, students will be able to access valid health information and health promoting products and services. Students will analyze the influence of culture, media, and technology on their health. Communication skills, goal-setting, and decision-making skills are also a part of the health course. All students are trained in Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation. Successful passing of Health is **required** for graduation.

Health II

Grades 10-12

Prerequisites: Health

1 Credit

Health II will provide an opportunity to further explore topics from Health I. This would include a more in depth practice of the different health-related skills. Topics will include mental health, stress management, healthy relationships, violence prevention and response, personal safety, environmental health, and communicable/non-communicable diseases. Students will also be given an opportunity to meet with different health professionals around the community and explore the broad services offered by the health profession.

Healthcare Department

Healthcare Foundations

Grades 9-12

Prerequisites: None

1 Credit

This course will allow students to gain an understanding of fundamental knowledge, basic anatomy, diseases of body systems and skills necessary for any who are considering a health related career. The course was designed to allow students considering a health related career an opportunity to gain exposure to just what skills are required. This is the prerequisite course for all other high school health occupation courses.

Essentials of Healthcare

Grades 9-12

Prerequisites: Health Care Foundations

1 Credit

This course is designed to expose students to the knowledge that will help them succeed in the healthcare field. Students will learn basic medical terminology, pharmacology, nutrition and wellness. Students will learn how to model professional qualities, employability skills, and how to communicate effectively with patients and the healthcare team. Students will also explore a variety of healthcare careers in this course.

Medical Procedures

Grades 10-12

Prerequisites: Essentials of Healthcare

1 Credit

Designed to introduce students to basic career skills utilized in a variety of medical fields. This is a hands-on course performing basic lab activities such as measuring blood glucose using a glucometer, administering injections, instilling eye drops, preparing a sterile field and opening sterile packages, performing vital signs, and ambulating with a wheelchair, walker, and crutches.

Introduction to Emergency Medical Services

Grades 10-12

Prerequisites: Essentials of Healthcare

1 Credit

Students will explore career paths in emergency medical services such as EMT, paramedic, and fire fighting. Students will learn technical skills associated with these careers and will have clinical time to have hands-on experiences working in these fields. *Clinical hours required outside of class time* Students interested in pursuing careers in EMS or Fire Science would benefit from this course.

Introduction to Pharmacology

Grades 10-12

Prerequisites: Essentials of Healthcare

1 Credit

Students will learn more in depth information about careers in pharmacy as well as technical skills and knowledge required to be successful in the medical field. Students interested in a career in healthcare would greatly benefit from this course.

ICCC Nurse Aid (HSC-172)**Age 16+***Prerequisites: Must meet eligibility requirements**1 Credit/3 College Credits*

This course provides students with a basic level of knowledge and skills to provide safe, effective resident care. This nurse aide course meets the training requirements of The Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1987 for aides working in nursing facilities and skilled nursing facilities. Students are encouraged to take Foundations of Healthcare and Essentials of Healthcare prior to taking this course.

***Note: This class requires outside of class time for clinicals.**

ICCC Introduction to Health Care (HSC-104)**Grades 11-12***Prerequisites: Must meet eligibility requirements**1 Credit/2 College Credits*

This course introduces the health care delivery system, health care professionals' compassion and care, professionalism, and legal and ethical responsibilities of the health care worker. This course is designed for students majoring and exploring the health science field. This course will introduce students to knowledge of different cultures, ways of communication, and an understanding of patients' needs and behavior in the healthcare field. Aspects of patient care will be discussed involving safety, infection control, terminology, transfer techniques and vital signs. This course will help students gain basic health care knowledge which will be of vital significance when making important life decisions. ***Note: This class requires travel. Students must have their own transportation.**

ICCC Medical Terminology (HSC-113)**Grades 11-12***Prerequisites: Must meet eligibility requirements**1 Credit/2 College Credits*

Students will study the terminology of the human body systems relevant to various healthcare professions. Students will gain knowledge of functional vocabulary related to medical science. Definitions, standard abbreviations, pronunciation, and correct spelling will be included. This course will also help students gain critical thinking skills which are essential to making important life, health, and career decisions.

ICCC Body Structure and Function (PEC-121)**Grades 11-12***Prerequisites: Must meet eligibility requirements**1 Credit/2 College Credits*

This course will provide a knowledge and understanding of the structure and function of the human body in relation to physical activity. This is one of four courses that meets the requirements for the coaching authorization issued by the Iowa Department of Education.

ICCC Basic Athletic Training (PET-105)**Grades 11-12***Prerequisites: Must meet eligibility requirements**1 Credit/3 College Credits*

This course will provide a knowledge and understanding of the prevention and care of athletic injuries and medical safety problems relating to physical activity. This is one of four courses that meet the requirements for the coaching authorization issued by the Iowa Department of Education.

iJAG Department

Iowa Jobs for America's Graduates (iJAG), is an independent, statewide 501(c)(3) private nonprofit corporation established in 1999 and has become a leader within the national JAG network. Initially created for high school seniors as a school-to-work program, iJAG has evolved into an organization serving 2,800 students per year in 74 programs reaching 29 communities across the state of Iowa and Illinois.

The iJAG (Iowa Jobs for America's Graduates) elective courses focuses on Seven Essential Constructs:

1. Career Readiness
2. Character and Self Development
3. Communication and Technology
4. Critical Thinking and Productivity
5. Life Skills
6. Self Advocacy & Conflict Resolution, and
7. Work Based Learning.

Lessons and activities are student-centered using project-based learning (PBL) as the mode of instruction with a Trauma Informed Care Approach. For more information about iJAG, check out [*iJAG's website.*](#)

iJAG (9-10 Program)

Grades 9-10

Prerequisites: None

1 Credit/Term

The 9-10 iJAG program is in place to help students explore/learn what career opportunities are out there. We will also give them exposure to employers by allowing leaders/employers to come into the classrooms and talk, but also take them on small visits to businesses around the community. We will give them deeper and more specific information on careers they're interested in and help them bridge the connection to potential job opportunities in the future. The 9-10 iJAG specialist's job is to prepare freshmen and sophomores for the 11-12th grade program where they will have more hands-on experience opportunities with specific jobs or industries. The iJAG program will use project based learning to support and teach the students the soft skills, emotional control, and job ready skills they will need to be successful in the workplace and life!

iJAG (11-12 Program)

Grades 11-12

Prerequisites: None

1 Credit/Term

The 11-12 iJAG program is a student-led Career Association where students focus on careers, leadership, and social and civic responsibility. Students will participate in state-wide conferences with an opportunity to attend national conferences showcasing their talents in competitions involving careers and employment opportunities. iJAG students are given the opportunity to experience work-based learning (WBL) through job shadowing, internships, apprenticeships and on-the-job training. iJAG will support young leaders find their passion and purpose through individualized planning and then connect them with the resources they need to move into the workforce and thrive.

**Note: Seniors will receive 12 months of school-to-work follow up services after graduation.*

**Note: iJAG classes need to be taken in at least 2 of the 3 Trimesters each year a student participates in the program.*

Industrial Technology Department

Manufacturing

Robotics and Automation

Grades 9-12

Prerequisites: None

1 Credit

This course will give students the skills needed to design, build and program a robot to do a number of tasks. Students will use a design process to engineer and build a working robot. The course will start with construction of basic robots/programming and then advance into more complex systems. Students in this class will be able to design, build and compete in the National "First Tech Challenge Robotics Competition."

Introduction to Computer Aided Drafting (CAD)

Grades 9-12

Prerequisites: None

1 Credit

This is an introductory class to computer aided drafting and design. Students will communicate through a series of technical drawings that include projections and views of an object. Areas that will be covered in this course include: sketching, multi-view drawings, dimensioning and annotation, section and auxiliary views, 3d modeling and architectural drawings. There may also be some activities that involve CNC machining and 3D Printing. The majority of this class consists of learning and using SolidWorks computer aided drafting software. *This course is a prerequisite for Advanced 3D Modeling/Manufacturing.*

Advanced 3D Modeling/Manufacturing

Grades 10-12

Prerequisites: Intro to CAD

1 Credit

Students in this course will learn to develop 3D parametric models using Solidworks. They will then learn to import these models and develop toolpaths that will allow the student to machine prototypes using a CNC Mill. Today's high technical manufacturing uses many of these basic principles that the student will acquire in this course.

Project Lead The Way: Principles of Engineering

Grades 9-12

Prerequisites: Intro to CAD or Instructor Approval

2 Credits

Principles of Engineering is a 2 semester course. In Principles of Engineering, students explore a broad range of engineering disciplines, careers, and design and solve real-world engineering problems. This course introduces students to engineering concepts that are applicable to a variety of engineering disciplines and empowers them to develop technical skills through the use of engineering tools such as 3-D modeling software, hands-on prototyping equipment, programming software, and robotics hardware to bring their solutions to life. Students apply the engineering design process to solve real-world problems across a breadth of engineering fields such as mechanical, robotics, infrastructure, environmental sustainability, and product design and development.

Project Lead The Way: Digital Electronics

Grades 10-12

Prerequisites: None

1 Credit

Digital electronics is the study of electronic circuits that are used to process and control digital signals. In contrast to analog electronics, where information is represented by a continuously varying voltage, digital signals are represented by two discrete voltages or logic levels. This distinction allows for greater signal speed and storage capabilities and has revolutionized the world of electronics. The major focus of the DE course is to expose students to the design process of combinational and sequential logic design, teamwork, communication methods, engineering standards, and technical documentation. Utilizing the activity-project-problem-based (APB) teaching and learning pedagogy, students will analyze, design, and build digital electronic circuits. While implementing these designs, students will continually hone their professional skills, creative abilities, and understanding of the circuit design process.

Metals

Grades 9-12

Prerequisites: None

1 Credit

Metals provides an opportunity to gain experience in basic metalworking skills relating to the manufacturing area. Students will learn about print reading; layout; cutting, bending and folding sheet metal. There will be experience in bench metal work along with metal sand casting (foundry work). The safe use of hand tools and power machines will be taught. **Note: Measuring and blueprint reading are a very important part of this class. Knowing how to read a ruler is vital for success.*

Metals II

Grades 10-12

Prerequisites: Metals I

1 Credit

This course is recommended for students who have taken the basic metals course and are looking to expand their knowledge of the field of metalworking. Students will build on their knowledge of sheet metal fabrication and learn various new skills such as precision measurements, foundry work, forging, CAD/CAM on the CNC plasma table, as well as manual and Computer Numerical Controlled (CNC) machining. The safe use of hand tools and power machines will be taught.

Sheet Metal Welding

Grades 10-12

Prerequisites: None

1 Credit

Sheet Metal Welding is designed to teach the student how to weld; it is not a class where projects are built. There are a number of lab exercises students will need to successfully weld. Welds will come from both Gas Metal Arc Welding (GMAW) and Gas Tungsten Arc Welding (TIG). Welds will be performed in the AWS 1F and 2F positions. Students will have classroom instruction as well as daily lab welding time. Students will need to tie the classroom instruction with the lab work, practice is essential in order to learn to weld.

Metals Fabrication

Grades 11-12

Prerequisites: Sheet Metal Welding

1 Credit

Students will learn and demonstrate how to design, price and produce a quality metal product from start to finish. There will be instruction in both hand and computer aided drafting to help with the design of the projects. Skills in cutting, fitting of parts, welding fabrication and finishing of the product will be

developed. Students will start with a smaller introduction project and will work on completing a larger class project.

Building and Trades

Industrial Electricity/Wiring

Grades 10-12

Prerequisite: Instructor Approval

1 Credit

This course provides a comprehensive introduction to the principles and practices of industrial electricity, preparing students to work with electrical systems in industrial settings. Students will learn fundamental electrical theory, wiring techniques, and safety standards, as well as how to install, troubleshoot, and maintain control systems, motors, and power distribution networks.

Through hands-on labs and practical projects, students will gain proficiency in wiring circuits, working with Programmable Logic Controllers (PLCs), and understanding industrial electrical components such as transformers, breakers, and sensors. Special emphasis will be placed on electrical safety, wiring codes, and proper grounding techniques. By the end of the course, students will be able to confidently perform wiring tasks and troubleshoot electrical systems used in industrial environments.

Automotive

Power Technology

Grades 9-12

Prerequisite: None

1 Credit

Power Technology provides an in-depth exploration of small engines, focusing on developing a solid understanding of engine components, systems, and operation. Students will learn about the inner workings of engines through hands-on experience with disassembly, troubleshooting, and rebuilding of small engines like those found in lawn mowers and generators.

By mastering concepts such as fuel systems, ignition, valve timing, and governor systems, students will gain a foundational knowledge that prepares them to apply these principles to larger automotive engines. Emphasis is placed on how small engines serve as models for understanding more complex engines, helping students develop the skills needed to advance in the field of engine mechanics.

Basic Automotive Maintenance

Grades 10-12

Prerequisites: Valid Iowa Driver's License

1 Credit

Basic Automotive Maintenance is designed to introduce students to the basics of car repair. Students will explore automotive shop safety, vehicle maintenance, steering and suspension systems, heating and cooling systems, basic automotive electrical circuits, ignition, fuel, and base brakes.

Almost all lab activities are performed on student vehicles; however, some modules may be used.

Advanced Automotive

Grades 10-12

Prerequisite: Basic Automotive Maintenance & Valid Iowa Driver's License or Instructor Approval 1 Credit

This course is designed to increase hands-on experience in subjects introduced in Basic Automotive Maintenance . Fuel, ignition, steering, suspension, and HVAC will all be covered in more detail and with more hands on experience. This course is a great precursor to the Iowa Central courses.

ICCC Introduction to Engine Repair (AUT-163)

Grades 11-12

ICCC Automotive Brake Systems (AUT-503)

ICCC Automotive Electrical Systems (AUT-610)

Prerequisites: Must meet eligibility requirements

3 Credits/10 College Credits

This is a laboratory and classroom course, which meets one period per trimester all year. This course is designed to simulate actual on-the-job experience. Students will have the opportunity to develop entry level skills in the automotive service trade. Laboratory work will make up approximately 80 percent of the class time. **This is a three-course sequence.**

These classes are for college credit through Iowa Central and are titled:

- Introduction to Engine Repair (3 credits)
- Introduction to Automotive Brake Systems (3 credits)
- Automotive Electrical Systems (4 credits)

Introduction to Engine Repair will consist of classroom and lab instruction covering the theory of operation, disassembly, measurement and reassembly of internal combustion gasoline and diesel power plants. When possible, power plants will be operationally tested prior to disassembly and reassembly.

Introduction to Automotive Brake Systems covers brake systems utilized in the modern vehicle including anti-lock brakes. Classroom and lab instruction will be utilized, to teach students the latest procedure for inspecting, measuring, diagnosing and repairing the modern brake systems in use today.

The Automotive Electrical Systems course covers basic electronic theory and utilization of electrical measuring instruments. Emphasis will be placed on the application of Ohm's Law and the proper utilization of electronic test equipment including instrument selection, interpretation of results, and maintenance of equipment. Students will receive classroom and lab instruction on the diagnosis and repair of batteries, starting and charging systems.

Mathematics Department

A total of six (6) math credits are required for graduation. Required courses include Algebra I (2 credits) and Geometry (2) credits. The last two math credits are your choice.

A major focus of the mathematics program is to provide opportunities to develop problem solving and thinking skills. Studies have shown that students who do not take a mathematics course all four years of high school are more likely to drop out of their post-secondary school. The program is based on a sequential flow of courses. These courses are progressively challenging in order to provide learning experiences that will enable students to reach their full potential.

Students are expected to successfully complete prerequisites before proceeding forward through the sequence. The math department recommends that a student earning less than a C- in one of the sequential courses should consider repeating that course rather than attempting the next course.

It is recommended that all students attending post-high school education take a mathematics course all four years of high school. Students going into STEM fields should take Algebra II for STEM, Pre-Calculus, and Calculus or Statistics. Students not going into STEM fields should still take Algebra II, Probability and Statistics or ICCC Statistics, and consider Topics of Math.

Algebra I

Grades 9-12

Prerequisites: None

2 Credits

Algebra I teaches the skills and concepts necessary to complete all other math courses at the high school and college level. The course covers the Iowa Core set of essential skills and concepts. Units covered are: One-Variable Statistics; Linear Equations, Inequalities, & Systems; Two-Variable Statistics; Functions; Intro to Exponential Functions; Intro to Quadratic Functions; Quadratic Equations. A calculator is recommended. This is a **required** class for graduation. *Note: NCAA Approved.

Geometry

Grades 9-12

Prerequisites: Algebra I

2 Credits

Topics covered relate to the Iowa Core Curriculum which include constructions, transformations, triangle congruence and similarity, right triangle trigonometry, solid geometry, area, volume, coordinate geometry, and circles as well as continued use of algebra skills. A compass and protractor will be used, and a calculator is required; a scientific calculator is preferred. This is a **required** class for graduation. *Note: NCAA Approved.

Algebra II

Grades 9-12

Prerequisites: Geometry

2 Credits

Topics addressed are sequences and functions, polynomials and rational functions, complex numbers and rational exponents, exponential functions and equations, and transformations of functions. Students are required to have their own scientific calculator. *Note: NCAA Approved.

Algebra II for STEM

Grades 9-12

Prerequisites: Geometry

2 Credits

This course will cover many of the same topics as Algebra II, but will often go into greater depth with the topics. There will also be some additional topics covered, such as matrices, systems, conic sections, and rational functions. This class is designed for students considering careers in a STEM-related field (Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics).

Trigonometry

Grades 10-12

Prerequisites: Algebra II

1 Credit

This course covers right triangle trigonometry, law of sines, law of cosines, trigonometric identities, the unit circle, graphs and vectors. This course covers the Iowa Core Trigonometric Standards. This course is recommended for students going into a STEM Career. It will help students prepare for the increased rigor in Pre-Calculus. A scientific calculator is required. **Note: NCAA Approved.*

Pre-Calculus

Grades 10-12

Prerequisites: Trigonometry

2 Credits

Pre-Calculus Mathematics will prepare students for college mathematics and science courses. The three main areas discussed are analytical geometry, functions, and trigonometry. A graphing calculator is required. This course is recommended for any student planning to go into one of the STEM fields. **Note: NCAA Approved.*

Topics of Mathematics

Grades 11-12

Prerequisites: Geometry

2 Credits

This course is intended for college-bound students that do not intend to take Pre-Calculus and students who are not college bound that need a sixth credit. Many of the Iowa Core Essential Concepts and Skills will be reinforced. Topics covered include discrete mathematics, matrix logic, problem-solving strategies, review of Algebra skills, organizing information, spatial visualization, basic trigonometry, and basic probability and statistics. A scientific calculator will be required. **Note: NCAA Approved.*

Probability and Statistics

Grades 9-12

Prerequisites: Algebra I

1 Credit

Probability and Statistics will emphasize methods for analyzing and making inferences about data. Other topics covered are: permutations, combinations, probability, sampling techniques, and correlations. The majority of the Iowa Core Curriculum statistics standards are addressed in this course. A calculator is required; a scientific calculator is preferred. It is recommended that all students attending post-high school education take Probability and Statistics or ICCS Statistics. **Note: NCAA Approved.*

Technical Mathematics

Grades 11-12

Prerequisites: Geometry

1 Credit

Technical Mathematics is an applied mathematics course designed to prepare students for the technical courses in the Applied Sciences. Students will be taught and/or reinforced on basic mathematics skills.

Students will apply these skills to real world problems. This course requires completion of multiple real-world projects. A calculator is required.

ICCC Statistics (MAT-157)

Grades 11-12

Prerequisites: Must meet eligibility requirements

1 Credit/4 College Credits

This is the first course in basic probability and statistics which includes the study of frequency distributions, measures of central tendency and dispersion, elements of statistical inference, regression and correlation. A scientific calculator is required. **Note: NCAA Approved.*

ICCC Calculus (MAT-210)

Grades 11-12

Prerequisites: Must meet eligibility requirements

1 Credit/4 College Credits

Calculus is for those students who have successfully completed the Pre-Calculus Mathematics course. Topics included in this course are limits, rate of change of a function, derivatives, and applications of derivatives, integration and applications of integration. A thorough study of the calculus that applies to trigonometry, logarithmic, and exponential functions is also included. A graphing calculator is required. **Note: NCAA Approved.*

Music Department

Band

Grades 9-12

Prerequisites: None

0.5 Credit/Term

Fort Dodge Senior High School offers a comprehensive, sequential band program offering Marching Band and 2 Concert Bands. Students are placed in the Concert Band ensembles appropriate to their ability level. Band is a full school year commitment with students required to participate in all three terms. Extracurricular activities include 2 Jazz Bands and Pep Band. In addition to these performance classes, students are required to take lessons that are on a rotating schedule from their academic classes. Lessons will focus on wind and percussion techniques are designed to help students to continue to advance on their instrument.

- **Marching Band:** Members are expected to perform at all home football games, two to three marching contests, the Homecoming Parade, and the Frontier Days Parade. Members will be required to attend any early morning and Monday evening rehearsals. This group will meet for the first term of the school year. Following the last performance, Wind and Percussion students will be auditioned for one of the 2 Concert Bands and placed appropriately by ability levels. ****Prerequisite: Wind and Percussion students will have had to participate in Band the previous term or by Director approval. Band competition begins prior to the start of the school year.***
- **Symphonic Band:** This band is for all students with previous instrumental experience. The emphasis is on the preparation and performance of a variety of quality band literature. Students are expected to perform in school concerts, State Large Group Contest, and possible state or regional music festivals. Students will also be required to have band lessons at school scheduled on a rotating basis. ****Prerequisite: Enrollment is by audition only. Auditions are held after the final Marching Performance.***
- **Wind Ensemble:** Emphasis is on the preparation and performance of advanced level literature for the wind band and percussion. Additional rehearsal/sectionals will be required outside the school day. Students are expected to perform in school concerts, State large Group Contest, and possible state or regional music festivals. Students will also be required to have band lessons at school scheduled on a rotating basis. ****Prerequisite: Enrollment is by audition only. Auditions are held after the final Marching Performance.***

Orchestra

Grades 9-12

Prerequisites: None

0.5 Credit/Term

Orchestra is open to all interested students. Daily rehearsals focus on ensemble skills, including tone production, balance, blend, articulation, bowing, pitch, musical interpretation, music terminology, and basic concepts of music theory and music history. Lessons are a course expectation and are scheduled by the student to be held outside of class time. The focus of lessons will be string technique and are individualized to be interesting and helpful for each student. Since orchestra is a performance-based class, daily attendance is extremely important and students are expected to perform on all concerts. The orchestra also travels within the school district to perform for other students, within the community to perform for community organizations, and around the state to participate in contests and festivals. Orchestra students are encouraged to audition for the All-State Orchestra and various honor orchestras throughout the year, participate as a soloist or chamber musician in the State Solo and Ensemble Festival, and perform in the annual musical as part of the pit orchestra.

Cantabile Choir

Grades 9-12

Prerequisites: None

0.5 Credit/Term

Cantabile is a beginning developmental ensemble open to treble clef voices in grades 9-12. Rehearsals and assignments will focus on fundamentals of choral singing, which include, but are not limited to, reading music, solfege, sight-reading, identifying basic musical notation, identifying major and minor keys, breathing techniques, concert etiquette, and beginning musicology. Additionally, students in Cantabile will be expected to participate in four concerts per year and a large group contest, wherein they will perform the literature they have learned during class.

Fortis Chorum Choir

Grades 9-12

Prerequisites: None

0.5 Credit/Term

Fortis Chorum is open to bass clef voices in grades 9 -12. Rehearsals and assignments will focus on fundamentals of choral singing, which include, but are not limited to, reading music, solfege, sight-reading, identifying basic musical notation, identifying major and minor keys, breathing techniques, concert etiquette, and beginning musicology. Additionally, students in Fortis Chorum will be expected to participate in four concerts per year and a large group contest, wherein they will perform literature they have learned during class.

Voce Lirica Choir

Grades 10-12

Prerequisites: Placement Exam & Instructor Approval

0.5 Credit/Term

Voce Lirica is an advanced ensemble open to treble clef voices in grades 10-12 through an audition process. Rehearsals and assignments will focus on fundamentals of choral singing, which include, but are not limited to, reading music, solfege, sight-reading, identifying basic musical notation, identifying major and minor keys, breathing techniques, concert etiquette, and beginning musicology. Additionally, students in Voce Lirica will be expected to participate in four concerts per year and a large group contest, wherein they will perform literature they have learned during class.

A Cappella Choir

Grades 10-12

Prerequisites: Placement Exam & Instructor Approval

0.5 Credit/Term

The A Cappella Choir is open to students in grades 10 - 12. It is composed of auditioned bass clef and treble clef voices who meet proficiency standards in vocal quality and academic music knowledge and who display a vested interest in studying challenging choral literature and concepts. Students in A Cappella Choir will study score annotation, vocal pedagogy, musical aesthetics and philosophy, and intermediate musicology. Additionally, students in A Cappella Choir will be expected to participate in four concerts per year and a large group contest, wherein they will perform literature they have learned during class.

Other Music Courses

Music Appreciation

Grades 9-12

Prerequisites: None

1 Credit

Music Appreciation is designed for students of varying musical abilities and backgrounds. Students who enroll in the course will learn how music is experienced and used in societies around the world, will learn the ways in which different artistic mediums influence one another and how these movements are related to historical events, people, and places. Students will create and play instruments, do fieldwork and research using a variety of technologies, and demonstrate evidence of understanding through comprehensive, collaborative projects.

Piano Keyboarding

Grades 9-12

Prerequisites: None

1 Credit

This class is designed to introduce students to the fundamentals of playing the piano. Music literacy, piano technique, and student performance will all be addressed during the course of the class. Students will work independently on music or exercises assigned by the instructor to build their skills of reading, playing, and performing piano music. No prior piano experience is required, however, students with previous experience may progress at their own pace accordingly.

Music Theory

Grades 11-12

Prerequisites: Instructor Approval

1 Credit

This class is designed to prepare students for college level music theory. The curriculum from Basic Music Theory will be expanded upon and additional components will include music analysis and composition. This is a non-performance music elective.

Physical Education (PE) Department

The Physical Education (PE) curriculum will focus on the importance of lifelong fitness. Students are encouraged to exercise regularly throughout the year, hopefully engaging in a minimum of two hours of exercise per week. All physically able students are **required** to participate in physical education activities for **a minimum of one trimester per year** (a total of 4 PE credits) during their enrollment at Senior High. Students may elect to enroll in additional activities during the year to earn elective credit.

Physical Education (PE)

Grades 9-12

Prerequisites: None

1 Credit

This class will focus on the development of beginning and intermediate skills to be used during activities. This class setting will place an emphasis on physical fitness and use of heart rate monitors and technology to monitor fitness activities. Students will participate in a variety of co-educational activities focused on the following: activities that promote good health and fitness, develop recreational interests, an entry level experience in aquatics, and non-competitive activities.

Weight Training

Grades 9-12

Prerequisites: None

1 Credit

This is a course set up for the student to have the opportunity to develop and expand their weight training abilities. The class will encourage students to work within a program to develop physically and emotionally. Emphasis will be placed on weight training, but there will be portions dealing with flexibility and cardiovascular movements. This course can also offer athletes a way to complete their strength and conditioning workouts during the school day. Athletes' schedules are busy enough as it is, come take care of your workout during the school day.

Half-Marathon

Grades 9-12

Prerequisites: Student must have own transportation

2 Credits

This class will be offered during the third trimester. The goal of this class is to prepare students both physically and mentally to complete an endurance race. Students will have the option to choose which type of endurance event they will train for, help develop a training plan, and execute the training plan. Early morning training sessions will take place for this class. This class will count toward the PE requirement for graduation.

Lifeguard Training

Grades 9-12

Prerequisites: See below

1 Credit

Taught in conjunction with the City of Fort Dodge, students learn the skills to become a lifeguard and teach swim lessons. A student may fail the certification test but can still earn a PE credit.

Prerequisites: Students must be 15 years of age by the end of the course and pass a swimming test.

Moving to Wellness**Grades 10-12***Prerequisites: Teacher Recommendation/Approval**1 Credit*

This course is designed to provide students an opportunity to improve their lifelong fitness and well-being through a variety of fitness activities. Journaling and analysis of data will be a component of the class. Physical fitness assessments will occur throughout the semester to monitor individual student progress. The course may include swimming, weight-training, yoga, and classes may leave campus.

Outdoor Recreation & Leisure**Grades 11-12***Prerequisites: Students must have own transportation**1 Credit*

This course is designed to expose students to the outdoor recreational opportunities within Webster County. Activities may include: kayaking/canoeing, fishing, hiking, orienteering/geocaching, archery, bicycling, recreational games, et. Students will be expected to create a final report encompassing these activities.

Circle of Friends PE**Grades 11-12***Prerequisites: Teacher Recommendation/Approval**1 Credit*

This course is open to any senior student in good standing with the Physical Education department. Students are trained in assisting the Adaptive Physical Education class as a one-on-one aide. Students will apply these skills learned when working as a one-on-one aide for the Adaptive Physical Education class. The students will gain a better understanding of the need for cooperation and working together in terms of successful leadership.

Publications Department

Yearbook (Big Dodger)

Grades 9-12

Prerequisites: Application & Teacher Approval

1 Credit/Term

This course provides the opportunity for students to develop creativity, learn and utilize layout and design trends, and participate in the creation and distribution of the school yearbook. Students will explore layout and design elements, journalism ethics, and marketing strategies. Students will work in an environment which welcomes diversity and increases the scope and depth of coverage in order to heighten mutual understanding and awareness throughout the entire school community. Students will strive for excellence in visual layout coupled with precision in the technical aspects of writing.

Journalism (Little Dodger)

Grades 9-12

Prerequisites: Advisor Approval

1 Credit/Term

Journalism is a lab course for producing the FDSH student newspaper, the Little Dodger. All students will report and write stories, which will appear in the newspaper. Students may apply for specific production duties, which include: page editors, ad/business manager, co-editor, etc. This course is flexible and is taken in an Extended Learning Lab. Students are encouraged to serve on staff all year, but it is not required.

Note: This credit **cannot be used to satisfy the District English graduation requirement but does count as an elective.*

Science Department

A total of six (6) science credits are required for graduation. Required science courses include Biology (2 credits), Chemistry (2 credits), and Physics (2 credits). Additional courses can be taken as electives.

Biology

Grades 9-12

Prerequisites: None

2 Credits

This two-term course sequence is **required** for all students. Biology is designed to provide the basis for meeting the life science concepts in the Iowa Core. Major topics of study include, but are not limited to: ecosystem dynamics; the flow of matter and energy through ecosystems; genetics; natural selection and evolution. **Note: NCAA Approved.*

Chemistry

Grades 10-12

Prerequisites: None

2 Credits

This two-term course sequence is **required** for all students. Chemistry is designed to provide the basis for meeting the physical science concepts related to Chemistry in the Iowa Core. Units of study include: thermodynamics; structure and properties of matter; molecular processes; chemical reactions; and Earth's systems. **Note: NCAA Approved.*

Physics

Grades 11-12

Prerequisites: None

2 Credits

This two-term course sequence is **required** for all students. Physics is designed to provide the basis for meeting the physical science concepts in the Iowa Core related to Physics. Topics addressed include energy transfer; energy and forces; collisions and momentum; electromagnetic radiation; and Earth's systems. **Note: NCAA Approved.*

Advanced Placement (AP) Biology

Grades 11-12

Prerequisites: Biology

2 Credits

AP Biology is an introductory college-level biology course. Students cultivate their understanding of biology through inquiry-based investigations as they explore the following topics: evolution, cellular processes - energy and communication, genetics, information transfer, ecology, and interactions. This course requires that at least 25% of the instructional time will be spent in hands-on laboratory work, with an emphasis on inquiry-based investigations that provide students with opportunities to apply the science practices. Students will be prepared to take the AP Exam for potential college credit.

Advanced Placement (AP) Chemistry

Grades 11-12

Prerequisites: Biology & Chemistry

2 Credits

AP Chemistry is an introductory college-level chemistry course. Students cultivate their understanding of chemistry through inquiry-based lab investigations as they explore the four Big Ideas: scale, proportion and quantity; structure and properties of substances; transformations; and energy. Students will be prepared to take the AP Exam for potential college credit. **Note: NCAA Approved.*

Advanced Placement (AP) Physics**Grade 12***Prerequisites: Biology, Chemistry & Physics**2 Credits*

AP Physics I is an algebra-based, introductory college-level physics course. Students cultivate their understanding of physics through classroom study, in-class activity, and hands-on, inquiry-based laboratory work as they explore concepts like systems, fields, force interactions, change, conservation, and waves. Students will be prepared to take the AP Exam for potential college credit.

ICCC Human Anatomy & Physiology I w/ Lab (BIO-168)**Grades 11-12***Prerequisites: Must meet eligibility requirements**1 Credit/4 College Credits*

A study of the structure and function of the human body. This course is the first course of a two-semester sequence. The study begins at the molecular and cellular level and proceeds through the integumentary system, skeletal system, muscular system, the central, and peripheral and autonomic nervous systems. This course will help students refine their critical thinking skills as they evaluate various topics and concepts while searching for underlying connections between the concepts, which is a skill that should be beneficial in any/all types of careers. This course will also help students gain scientific literacy which will be of vital significance when making important life decisions. At least one year of high school biology or chemistry or the equivalent is recommended. Three hours lecture, two hours lab. A study of the structure and function of the human body. This course is the first course of a two-semester sequence. The study begins at the molecular and cellular level and proceeds through the integumentary system, skeletal system, muscular system, the central, and peripheral and autonomic nervous systems. This course will help students refine their critical thinking skills as they evaluate various topics and concepts while searching for underlying connections between the concepts, which is a skill that should be beneficial in any/all types of careers. This course will also help students gain scientific literacy which will be of vital significance when making important life decisions. At least one year of high school biology or chemistry or the equivalent is recommended. **Note: NCAA Approved.*

ICCC Human Anatomy & Physiology II w/ Lab (BIO-173)**Grades 11-12***Prerequisites: ICCC Human Anatomy & Physiology I (C or better)**1 Credit/4 College Credits*

The second course in a two-semester sequence. The study continues with the senses, endocrine system, blood and cardiovascular system, lymphatic system and immunity, respiratory, digestive, urinary, and the reproductive systems. This course will help students refine their critical thinking skills as they evaluate various topics and concepts while searching for underlying connections between the concepts, which is a skill that should be beneficial in any/all types of careers. This course will also help students gain scientific literacy which will be of vital significance when making important life decisions. **Note: NCAA Approved.*

Social Studies Department

A total of six (6) social studies credits are required for graduation. Required classes include World History (1 credits), American History (2 credits), a Behavioral Science elective (1 credit), a Social Studies elective (1 credit), and American Government (1 credit). Additional courses can be taken as electives.

World History

Grade 9

Prerequisites: None

1 Credit

This is a **required** course that addresses the social science literacy, inquiry, geography, economics, civics and history standards. Students will utilize a variety of text types to understand issues through in-depth inquiry, engagement and diverse sources of information and technologies, deliberation of their positions, and collaborative and constructive problem-solving activities. **Note: NCAA Approved.*

American History

Grade 10

Prerequisites: None

2 Credits

This is a **required** course that addresses Social Studies standards in literacy, inquiry, geography, economics and government through the course of 20th Century United States and Iowa history. Students will practice an inquiry-based approach to the study of history that emphasizes using various sources to develop an understanding of important historical events. **Note: NCAA Approved.*

American Government

Grade 12

Prerequisites: None

1 Credit

American Government will consider the implications and responsibilities of effective citizenship. The Constitution, the Federal System, the instructions and process of the Judicial, Legislative, and Executive branches will be studied. In addition to formal knowledge, students will be expected to internalize democratic processes and values and be better able to justify citizen participation in government decision-making. This is a **required** class for graduation. **Note: NCAA Approved.*

ICCC American National Government (POL-111)

Grades 11-12

Prerequisites: Must meet eligibility requirements

1 Credit/3 College Credits

This course is an introduction to American national government and politics, including major concepts and theories relating to the general principles, institutions, processes, functions, and powers of government. It also introduces students to specific public policies and problems of representative government at the national level. Topics covered include democracy, political values, constitutionalism, federalism, civil liberties, civil rights, political participation, political parties, interest groups, media, bureaucracy, political campaigns, and elections. In addition, the course examines contemporary political issues and evaluates them from the perspective of various political ideologies and theories. Knowledge of government and politics, an awareness of current issues, and an understanding of the rights and duties of citizens, are important skills for achieving success in many occupations and professions, while also contributing directly to civic responsibility and a higher quality of life.

Behavioral Science Electives

Psychological Well-Being

Grades 10-12

Prerequisites: None

1 Credit

This course has been created to help address the ever increasing occurrence of psychological stress, anxiety, and depression we are witnessing in adolescents nationwide and within our own district. Ultimately, the course is designed to personalize a toolbox that can help students better recognize, evaluate, and respond to their emotions and environment and create a plan to improve one's overall psychological well-being.

Sociology

Grades 10-12

Prerequisites: None

1 Credit

Sociology is a study of human groups and behavior. Students will investigate human relationships, their causes and consequences. Topics will include culture/variations, social structure, socialization, groups and formal organizations, the organization of society, and selected social problems (e.g. crime, deviance, and prison systems). **Note: NCAA Approved.*

Introduction to Psychology

Grades 11-12

Prerequisites: None

1 Credit

Introduction to Psychology is a study of the science of human behavior and mental processes. Topics include, research methods and experimentation, childhood and adolescent developmental psychology, sensation and perception, memory, and the varying types of learning. **Note: NCAA Approved.*

Applied Personal Psychology

Grades 11-12

Prerequisites: None

1 Credit

Applied Personal Psychology allows students to apply and study the applications of psychological theories and knowledge to personal life experiences. Students will study how we analyze the brain, varying theories of psychology and personality development, states of consciousness, intellectual testing, and abnormal psychology, which looks at various mental conditions, classifications, and treatments.

ICCC Introduction to Psychology (PSY-111)

Grades 11-12

Prerequisites: Must meet eligibility requirements

1 Credit/3 College Credits

This course examines the basic psychological processes of personality, social behavior, motivation, intelligence, and learning, with an emphasis on the language of modern psychology. Developing a basic understanding of psychology will help you to develop critical thinking skills, become a better consumer of information relating to human behaviors and mental processes, navigate social and occupational relationships, increase your emotional intelligence. Introduction to Psychology is a popular elective for many majors and transfers easily to other colleges. Potential careers include corrections officer, social work assistant, human resource specialist, and guidance counselor. **Note: NCAA Approved.*

Social Studies Electives

World Geography

Grades 9-12

Prerequisites: None

1 Credit

World Geography is a study of the peoples of the world, their lifestyles and the physical surroundings in which they live. The course will emphasize culture similarities and differences of people as viewed in their geographic settings. **Note: NCAA Approved.*

Issues in American Affairs

Grades 9-12

Prerequisites: None

1 Credit

Issues in American Affairs is a study of issues and conflicts challenging America. Topics covered may include issues on capital punishment, AIDS, drug abuse, child abuse, abortion, and gun control as well as the nature of American culture, social change, and democracy. The course will allow students the opportunity to analyze, through research and discussion, various issues and topics. **Note: NCAA Approved.*

Ethnic Studies

Grades 9-12

Prerequisites: None

1 Credit

Ethnic Studies is a study of the culture of African Americans, Hawaiian American, Hispanic Americans, and Native Americans. The course will examine cultural characteristics and patterns in contemporary society. It will explore reasons for the problems of yesterday. Each culture will be examined in terms of contributions, diversity, and common cultural characteristics. **Note: NCAA Approved.*

Modern Civilization

Grades 10-12

Prerequisites: None

1 Credit

History of the formation of modern Western democracies. Topics cover European history from the mid-seventeenth century through the Cold War period, including political, economic, and cultural developments such as Scientific Thought, the Enlightenment, the French Revolution, the Industrial Revolution, the revival of democracy, and the First and Second World Wars. **Note: NCAA Approved.*

History of American Conflict

Grades 11-12

Prerequisites: American History A/B

1 Credit

Students will examine United States history, culture and society through the conflicts she has been a part of over the ages. This course will examine the causes, course, and consequences of the American Revolution, the War of 1812, the Civil War, World War II, the Persian Gulf War, and the War on Terror.

Economics

Grades 11-12

Prerequisites: None

1 Credit

Economics develops an understanding of how our economy works, how prices are determined, and how our country fits into the world economy. Areas of study are: 1) Micro Economics-units on demand,

supply, price determination, costs, profits, and market workings; and 2) Macro Economics-the study of inflation, unemployment, gross national product, monetary and fiscal policies and economic growth. This course is recommended for students planning to attend college. **Note: NCAA Approved.*

**Note: Completion of this course fulfills the financial literacy requirement needed for graduation.*

Special Education Department

The Fort Dodge Community School District will serve all students identified as needing special education services under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) enabling them to become productive citizens. Special education services will:

- be provided as described in the student's individual education plan.
- be provided in the least restrictive environment appropriate to meet the student's needs.
- be provided when adaptations and accommodations of the general education environment is not enough to meet the needs of the identified student.
- teach social skills and life skills.
- provide for transition planning at all levels.

Special education services will be provided in all buildings within the Fort Dodge Community School District. Services may be provided in the general education classroom, special education classroom, special sites within the district, or the student's home, as determined by the IEP team. Special education services will be configured and provided to ensure students are educated with non-disabled peers to the extent specified in their IEPs. Individual needs will be assessed and services provided to meet specified goals and objectives.

Special Education programming in the Fort Dodge Community School District will be provided through one of the following service models with the ultimate goal of providing special education services in the least restrictive environment.

- **Consulting Teacher Services:** Consulting teacher services are defined as indirect services provided by a licensed special education teacher to a general education teacher in adjusting the learning environment and/or modifying his/her instructional methods. Specially designed instructional strategies will be developed to meet the individual needs of a student with a disability receiving instruction in the general education classroom. The general education teacher is responsible for direct instruction, testing, grading and behavioral management as specified in the Individualized Education Program (IEP). The special education teacher's support may include assisting the general education teacher with the design and preparation of materials, adaptations, and accommodations. The special education teacher is responsible for monitoring the student's progress in IEP goals.
- **Collaborative Services:** Collaborative services are defined as direct specially designed instruction in which the core content endorsed teacher provides content instruction and the special education teacher provides strategy and skill instruction to students with IEP's. The special education teacher also serves as a consultant to the general education teacher in such areas as application of skills in the general education setting, goal progress, adjustments to the learning environment, modification of instructional methods, adaptation of curricula, the use of positive behavioral supports and interventions or the use of appropriate accommodations to meet the needs of individual students. This model provides the special education teacher flexibility in meeting the needs of students with IEP's without co-teaching in multiple classrooms. The special education teacher, support service provider, or trained paraprofessional may be in the general education classroom as needed to provide instructional or other assistance to the student or a group of students. The special education teacher/service provider is responsible for monitoring the student's progress on IEP goals. Grades for IEP students will be collaboratively determined.

- **Instructional Support Services:** Instructional support services are defined as direct specially designed instruction provided to an individual student with a disability or a group of students with disabilities by a licensed special education teacher for a portion of the school day. Instructional support services supplement, but do not supplant the instruction provided in the general education classroom. The special education teacher is responsible for monitoring the student's progress on IEP goals. Grades for IEP students will be collaboratively determined.
- **Special Class Services:** Special Class services are defined as direct specially designed instruction provided to an individual student with a disability or a group of students with disabilities by a licensed special education teacher. Instruction will be modified to meet the unique needs of the student(s) in a self-contained setting. These settings include but are not limited to special classes, special schools, home instruction, and instruction in hospitals and institutions. This means the student is receiving his or her primary instruction separate from non-disabled peers. The special education teacher is responsible for grading and/or monitoring the student's progress in IEP goals.

Theater Department

Theater and Society

Grades 9-12

Prerequisites: None

1 Credit

Theatre and Society is geared towards students who are not necessarily interested in performance but are interested in the relationship theater has as an art form with culture and history. Learning will focus on the impact theater has on the world, how theater can be used as a means of communication, and the role of the audience as critic.

Theater Performance I

Grades 9-12

Prerequisites: None

1 Credit

Theater Performance I focuses on creativity and imagination, ensemble building and trust, building confidence, and observation skills. Students will study the art of pantomime, improvisation, characterization, storytelling, basic stage movement, and emotional recall. Success in this class requires lots of in-class participation, collaboration, and good attendance.

Note: This credit **cannot be used to satisfy the District English graduation requirement but does count as an elective.*

Theater Performance II

Grades 9-12

Prerequisites: Theater Performance I or Instructor Approval

1 Credit

Theater Performance II focuses on the audition process, play script analysis, character motivation and behavior, musical theater, stage combat, and playwriting. Success in this class requires lots of in-class participation, collaboration, and good attendance.

Note: This credit **cannot be used to satisfy the District English graduation requirement but does count as an elective.*

Technical Theater

Grades 10-12

Prerequisites: None

1 Credit

Technical theater focuses on the production aspects of theater. Topics in this course include scenery design and construction, light and sound design, hair and makeup design, costume design, and property management. The student will get hands-on experience by working on class projects, community productions, and/or the Senior High fall play production.

Note: This credit **cannot be used to satisfy the District English graduation requirement but does count as an elective.*

World Language Department

Spanish 1

Grades 9-12

Prerequisites: None

2 Credits

Spanish I is a two term course in which students are exposed to comprehensible input through a variety of strategies to immerse students in the language. Students will use all four communicative skills: listening, reading, writing and speaking. Subjects that will be covered include, but are not limited to: introductions, descriptions, dates, times, likes and dislikes, colors, present tense verbs, and more. There are also a variety of culture topics such as: food (gazpacho), dance (Cumbia), bullfighting, legends (El Cucuy) and more. **Note: NCAA Approved.*

Spanish 2

Grades 10-12

Prerequisites: Spanish 1

2 Credits

Spanish II is a two term course in which students are exposed to comprehensible input through a variety of strategies to immerse students in the language. Students will use all four communicative skills: listening, reading, writing and speaking. Subjects that will be covered include, but are not limited to: clothes, shopping, superstitions, daily routines, hurricanes, past tense verbs, and more. There are also a variety of culture topics such as: history (Las Madres de la Plaza Mayor), events (La Tomatina), heroes (Gauchos) and more. **Note: NCAA Approved.*

Spanish 3

Grades 11-12

Prerequisites: Spanish 2

2 Credits

Spanish III is a two term course in which students are exposed to comprehensible input through a variety of strategies to immerse students in the language. Students will use all four communicative skills: listening, reading, writing and speaking. A variety of stories about animals, dating drama, and teenage life are told to help students read, write, listen and speak using the past tense of regular and irregular verbs. There are also a variety of culture topics such as: culture (Día de los Muertos), legends (El Chupacabras) and more. **Note: NCAA Approved.*

Spanish 4

Grade 12

Prerequisites: Spanish 3

2 Credits

Spanish IV is a two term course in which students are exposed to comprehensible input through a variety of strategies to immerse students in the language. Students will use all four communicative skills: listening, reading, writing and speaking. A variety of stories like the suspenseful “Ruidos en la noche” and “Secretos” are told to help students use the past tense, including the imperfect tense. There are also a variety of culture topics such as: culture (la chancla), historical figures (José Mujica), legends (La Llorona) and more. **Note: NCAA Approved.*

Extended Learning Department

Extended Learning Lab

Grades 9-12

Prerequisites: None

1 Credit

This course offers a self-directed learning experience. Students are given the opportunity to investigate an area of interest, develop a personalized plan, and create learner directed work. Students will share/report findings. With successful completion of this term course, students will receive one elective credit, Pass/Fail. This course is not limited to TAG identified students; however, to arrange this Independent Study please see the TAG Advisor.

Honors by Contract

Students may select to pursue an Honors credit for courses taken at FDSH. With this arrangement, the student contracts with the classroom teacher to higher levels of commitment, collaboration, creative and critical thinking. Assignments may be altered or replaced with more challenging and personalized learning experiences that align with the expectations of honors level work. Students selecting Honors by Contract should be highly motivated to achieve academic success. To arrange Honors, please see the TAG Advisor and the class instructor(s).

Talented and Gifted (TAG) Program

The TAG Program at FDSH serves “students who require instruction and educational services commensurate with their abilities and beyond those provided by the regular school program.” (Iowa Code 257.44) Identified students, grades 9-12, can choose to participate in the following: Extended Learning Independent Study with personalized plan, Honors by Contract, acceleration, college courses (PSEO), online classes, and Advanced Placement classes. In addition, mentorships, job shadows, and internships are available in order to pursue individualized interests.

Advanced Placement (AP) Courses

AP courses offer a rigorous learning experience, an opportunity to pursue college level studies. College credit for an AP course may be granted based on the score earned from the AP Exam and the acceptance of AP credit by college or university. For more information and registration, see the TAG Advisor.

Advanced Placement (AP) English Language & Composition

Grades 11-12

Prerequisites: English 10

2 Credit

Completion of two semesters of AP Language & Composition should satisfy literature (nonfiction) and composition graduation requirements.

This course requires students to write in several forms about a variety of subjects. Readings are primarily nonfiction, and students will use them to identify and explain the use of rhetorical strategies, rhetorical techniques, and linguistic choices. Visual media are also analyzed as they serve as a vital component of modern communication. **Note: NCAA Approved.*

Advanced Placement (AP) English Literature & Composition

Grades 11-12

Prerequisites: English 10

2 Credits

Completion of two semesters of AP Literature & Composition should satisfy literature (fiction) and composition graduation requirements.

AP English Literature and Composition is a course where students will be immersed in novels, plays, poems, and short stories from various periods. Students will read and write daily, using a variety of multimedia and interactive activities, interpretive writing assignments, and class discussions to assess and improve skills and knowledge. The course places special emphasis on reading comprehension, structural and critical analysis of written works, literary vocabulary, and recognizing and understanding literary devices. The equivalent of an introductory college-level survey class, this course prepares

students for the optional AP exam and further study in creative writing, communications, journalism, literature, and composition. **Note: NCAA Approved.*

**Note: AP Language and Composition & AP Literature and Composition are offered on a rotating basis each year. Students have the opportunity to take both but both are not offered in the same school year.*

AP Statistics

Grades 11-12

Prerequisites: Algebra II

2 Credits/3 Terms

Online AP Statistics gives students hands-on experience collecting, analyzing, graphing, and interpreting real-world data. They will learn to effectively design and analyze research studies by reviewing and evaluating real research examples taken from daily life. The next time they hear the results of a poll or study, they will know whether the results are valid. As the art of drawing conclusions from imperfect data and the science of real-world uncertainties, statistics plays an important role in many fields. The equivalent of an introductory college-level course, AP Statistics prepares students for the AP exam and for further study in science, sociology, medicine, engineering, political science, geography, and business. Course content is provided by Iowa Online Academy/Apex.

AP Calculus AB

Grade 12

Prerequisites: Geometry, Algebra II, Trigonometry, Pre-Calculus

2 Credits/3 Terms

AP Calculus AB is an online course where students learn to understand change geometrically and visually (by studying graphs of curves), analytically (by studying and working with mathematical formulas), numerically (by seeing patterns in sets of numbers), and verbally. Students learn to evaluate the soundness of proposed solutions and to apply mathematical reasoning to real-world models. The equivalent of an introductory college-level calculus course, AP Calculus AB prepares students for the AP exam and further studies in science, engineering, and mathematics. Course content is provided by Iowa Online Academy/Apex.

AP Biology

Grades 11-12

Prerequisites: Biology

2 Credits/3 Terms

AP Biology is an introductory college-level biology course. Students cultivate their understanding of biology through inquiry-based investigations as they explore the following topics: evolution, cellular processes - energy and communication, genetics, information transfer, ecology, and interactions.

This course requires that at least 25% of the instructional time will be spent in hands-on laboratory work, with an emphasis on inquiry-based investigations that provide students with opportunities to apply the science practices. Students will be prepared to take the AP Exam for potential college credit.

**If class size does not meet FDSH requirements, the course will be offered online through Iowa Online Academy.*

AP Chemistry

Grades 11-12

Prerequisites: Chemistry

2 Credits/3 Terms

AP Chemistry is an online course that builds students' understanding of the nature and reactivity of matter. After studying chemical reactions and electrochemistry, students move on to understand how

the chemical and physical properties of materials can be explained by the structure and arrangements of the molecules and the forces between those molecules. Students will examine the laws of thermodynamics, molecular collisions, and the reorganization of matter in order to understand how changes in matter take place. Finally, students will explore chemical equilibria, including acid-based equilibria. The equivalent of an introductory college-level chemistry course, AP Chemistry prepares students for the AP exam and for further study in science, health sciences, or engineering. Course content is provided by Iowa Online Academy/Apex.

AP Environmental Science

Grades 11-12

*Prerequisites: 2 years of high school laboratory science***

2 Credits/3 Terms

AP Environmental Science provides students with the scientific principles, concepts, and methodologies required to understand the interrelationships of the natural world. Students perform hands-on and virtual labs and projects. This course prepares students for the AP exam. Course content is provided by the Iowa Online Academy/Apex.

***One year of life science; 1 year of physical science; 1 year of algebra*

AP US History

Grades 11-12

Prerequisites: American History or Teacher Approval

2 Credits/3 Terms

Students will investigate significant events, individuals, developments, and processes in nine historical periods from approximately 1491 to the present. Students develop and use the same skills, practices, and methods employed by historians: analyzing primary and secondary sources; developing historical arguments; making historical comparisons; and utilizing reasoning about contextualization, causation, and continuity and change over time. The course also provides seven themes that students explore throughout the course in order to make connections among historical developments in different times and places: American and national identity; migration and settlement; politics and power; work, exchange, and technology; America in the world; geography and the environment; and culture and society. Students will be prepared to take the AP Exam. *If class size does not meet FDSH requirements, the course will be offered online through Iowa Online Academy.

AP Government & Politics

Grade 12

Prerequisites: American History

1 Credit/2 Terms

AP U.S. Government and Politics studies the operations and structure of the U.S. government and the behavior of the electorate and politicians. Students will gain the analytic perspective necessary to critically evaluate political data, hypotheses, concepts, opinions, and processes. Along the way, they'll learn how to gather data about political behavior and develop their own theoretical analysis of American politics. They'll also build the skills they need to examine general propositions about government and politics, and to analyze the specific relationships between political, social, and economic institutions. The equivalent of an introductory college-level course, AP U.S. Government and Politics prepares students for the AP exam and for further study in political science, law, education, business, and history. Course content is provided by Iowa Online Academy/Apex.

AP Microeconomics**Grades 11-12***Prerequisites: Algebra I**1 Credit/2 Terms*

AP Microeconomics is an online course which studies the behavior of individuals and businesses as they exchange goods and services in the marketplace. Students will learn why the same product costs different amounts at different stores, in different cities, at different times. They'll also learn to spot patterns in economic behavior and how to use those patterns to explain buyer and seller behavior under various conditions. Microeconomics studies the economic way of thinking, understanding the nature and function of markets, the role of scarcity and competition, the influence of factors such as interest rates on business decisions, and the role of government in promoting a healthy economy. The equivalent of a 100-level college course, AP Microeconomics prepares students for the AP exam and for further study in business, history, and political science. Course content is provided by Iowa Online Academy/Apex.

AP Macroeconomics**Grades 11-12***Prerequisites: Algebra II**1 Credit/2 Terms*

AP Macroeconomics students learn why and how the world economy can change from month to month, how to identify trends in our economy, and how to use those trends to develop performance measures and predictors of economic growth or decline. They'll also examine how individuals, institutions, and influences affect people, and how those factors can impact everyone's life through employment rates, government spending, inflation, taxes, and production. The equivalent of a 100-level college-level class, this course prepares students for the AP exam and for further study in business, political science and history. Course content is provided by Iowa Online Academy/Apex.

AP Psychology**Grades 10-12***Prerequisites: None**1 Credit/2 Terms*

This online Psychology course provides an overview of current psychological research methods and theories. Students will explore the therapies used by professional counselors and clinical psychologists and examine the reasons for normal human reactions: how people learn and think, the process of human development and human aggression, altruism, intimacy, and self-reflection. They will study core psychological concepts, such as the brain and sense functions, and learn to gauge human reactions, gather information, and form meaningful syntheses. Along the way, students will also investigate relevant concepts like study skills and information retention. The equivalent of an introductory college-level survey course, AP Psychology prepares students for the AP exam and for further studies in psychology or life sciences. Course content is provided by Iowa Online Academy/Apex.

AP Computer Science A (Java)**Grades 10-12***Prerequisites: Algebra I & II**2 Credits/3 Terms*

In this online course, students will learn to design and implement computer programs that solve problems relevant to today's society, including art, media, and engineering. AP Computer Science A teaches object-oriented programming using the Java language and is meant to be the equivalent of a first term, college-level course in computer science. It will emphasize problem solving and algorithm development, and use hands-on experiences and examples so that students can apply programming tools and solve complex problems. This course will prepare students for the AP Exam. Course content is provided by Iowa Online Academy/Project STEM.

AP Computer Science Principles**Grades 10-12***Prerequisites: Algebra I & II**2 Credits/3 Terms*

This online course introduces students to the creative aspects of programming, abstractions, algorithms, large data sets, the Internet, cybersecurity, and how computing impacts our world. Students will develop the computational thinking skills needed to fully exploit the power of digital technology and help build a strong foundation in core programming and problem-solving. This course will prepare students for the AP Exam. Course content is provided by Iowa Online Academy/Project STEM.

AP Spanish and Language and Culture**Grades 11-12***Prerequisites: 3-4 years of Spanish or equivalent native fluency**2 Credits/3 Terms*

AP Spanish Language students practice perfecting their Spanish speaking, listening, reading, and writing skills. They study vocabulary, grammar, and cultural aspects of the language, and then apply what they learn in extensive written and spoken exercises. The course addresses the broad themes of Global Challenges, Science and Technology, Contemporary Life, Personal and Public Identities, Families and Communities, and Beauty and Aesthetics. This course prepares students for the AP exam. Course content is provided by the Iowa Online Academy/Apex.

AP French Language and Culture**Grades 11-12***Prerequisites: 3-4 years of Spanish or equivalent native fluency**2 Credits/3 Terms*

AP French Language course is an advanced language course in which students acquire proficiency that expands their cognitive, analytical and communicative skills. The AP French Language course prepares them for the AP French exam. It uses as its foundation the three modes of communication (Interpersonal, Interpretive and Presentational) as defined in the Standards of Foreign Language Learning in the 21st Century. Course content is provided by the Iowa Online Academy/Apex.

College Courses through Iowa Central Community College

The Post-Secondary Enrollment Options (PSEO) Act allows students to enroll at an eligible community college, public university, or private college/university. The purpose of this Act by the Iowa Legislature is to promote rigorous educational pursuits and provide a wide variety of options for students.

Concurrent Enrollment classes are college courses offered at Fort Dodge Senior High. Students receive high school credit and assigned college semester hours of credit upon successful completion. To enroll in Concurrent Enrollment courses, indicate which course(s) you wish to take on your 4-year plan during registration (through Infinite Campus) and see your School Counselor to discuss what prerequisites must be completed at Fort Dodge Senior High before enrolling and how they work into your high school requirements and future plans. Students will earn one high school credit per trimester and college credit according to semester hours.

Post-Secondary Enrollment Options (PSEO) courses are college courses that students take through Iowa Central, either on-campus or online. The Fort Dodge Senior High highly encourages students to take challenging courses, including Advanced Placement (AP) and college level. Taking high level courses prepares students for the next level of learning. These courses also allow students more career exploration opportunities. While taking college level courses in high school, students can lighten their college load or add additional courses of interest at the college level.

The intention is to prepare students for a successful life after high school, not earn a degree. When discussing with universities and industry, we have found students are best prepared when they enroll in no more than 30 college credits while still in high school. This balance also allows students the enjoyment of high school. Talk to your School Counselor when deciding which college and AP courses are most appropriate for you and your future. Discuss which post-secondary course(s) you intend to take, what prerequisites must be completed at Fort Dodge Senior High before enrolling, and how they fit into your high school requirements and future plans with your School Counselor. **You must meet with your counselor to request these courses by March 6, 2025.** The student/parent(s) is responsible for providing transportation to and from the college. The student will earn high school credit based on a weighted scale and college credit according to semester hours.

Upon graduation, students who have taken college courses and plan to attend another college/university need to check with that institution to determine how college credit will apply. Students will need to have Iowa Central Community College send a transcript to the college/university of your choice. The college you plan on attending after graduation will have the final decision on which classes transfer over.

College courses available through Iowa Central

A variety of college courses are available to students either by being taught at Fort Dodge Senior High, on campus, or online. In addition, some courses require prerequisites while others require minimum placement scores.

For a complete list of college courses available through Iowa Central and their prerequisites and/or minimum placement scores, check out [Iowa Central's Course Catalog](#).

Iowa Central's Triton Academy

High School students are able to take advantage of the many academic and career-ready programs that are offered on the Fort Dodge campus and online. High school students can enroll in approximately 9 credit hours per semester in the programs identified below. Students who are able to come to the Fort Dodge campus will be in classes with our college students, creating a real college learning environment while earning credits toward one of the many programs that have been made available through this opportunity. Triton Academy on campus courses are held in the mornings, beginning around 8:00am and ending at approximately 11:30 am.

For those high school students who do not have the option of traveling to the Fort Dodge campus, or one of the other area career academies, Iowa Central is offering a wide variety of program opportunities online for students to begin earning college credit.

Why attend Triton Academy?

- It provides an opportunity for students from different school districts to enroll in a specific set of courses associated with a designated academic or career area.
- Provides clear and precise academic and career pathways through a specific sequence of courses.
- Provides more educational opportunities to students.
- National Credentialing, such as the National Career Readiness Certificate (NCRC) and OSHA 10, as well as Apprenticeship programs are available for select students and career pathways.

For more information, check out the [Triton Academy website](#).

College Course Policies and Procedures

Eligibility: Students must meet certain eligibility requirements to be able to take college courses. Eligibility requirements are based on both Fort Dodge Senior High's policies and Iowa Central's Mandatory Placement Chart. Students must meet all eligibility requirements **at the time of the request** (by March 6th) to be eligible for college-level courses.

The following are policies for eligibility to take college courses for the 2025-2026 school year:

- Students must be in good academic standing, meaning they are on track to graduate in 4 years.
- Students must meet GPA requirements **OR** be proficient in all areas on the ISASP assessments.
 - Math and English courses require a 2.8 or higher **cumulative** grade point average (GPA).
 - All other courses require a 2.0 or higher **cumulative** grade point average (GPA).
 - If GPA requirements or ISASP proficiency requirements are not met, students will need to prove proficiency on both the Accuplacer and ALEKS assessments. These assessments can be taken in the testing center on Iowa Central's main campus. See your School Counselor for more information.
- All courses must be requested with your School Counselor.

Deadline: The deadline to request college courses for the 2024-2025 school year is **Thursday, March 6th, 2025**. After this date, you will **not** be able to register for any college courses for the 2025-2026 school year.