



**Cassopolis High School**  
Course Description Guide  
2023-2024 School Year

# **Cassopolis High School**

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Cassopolis, MI 49031**

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**Cassopolis Public Schools**  
**Cassopolis High School Jr/Sr High School**  
**22721 Diamond Cove St.**  
**Cassopolis, MI 49031**  
**Mrs. Lindsay Gorham, Principal**  
**Mrs. Rachele Ward, Assistant Principal**

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Dear Parents and Students,

We are pleased to be able to assist you in choosing an appropriate schedule for the 2023-2024 school year. Choosing the most appropriate courses in middle and high school will help enable success after graduation. Our goal is to help our students successfully pursue post-secondary options in their chosen fields.

All high school students will need to satisfy the requirements for graduation listed below. It is important to develop a high school course plan consistent with the Educational Development Plan (EDP) first developed in the middle school and to review that four-year plan and EDP each year prior to selecting courses.

In order to plan successfully for graduation and post-secondary opportunities, students must pass all courses in which they are enrolled so that all course options are open to them each subsequent year. We also need support from parents in monitoring that students are doing their best in each class so that their son/daughter will be able to pursue options such as: AP courses, Berrien County Mathematics and Science Center, Dual Enrollment, Early/Middle College, Van Buren Tech Center courses, etc.

The elective courses that are taught each year are determined by how many students sign up to take them during the scheduling process. It is very important that students and parents choose courses they intend not only to start but also complete. It is possible that a course may not be scheduled if too few students request it. For this reason, students should be sure to choose alternates that they will be happy with.

Please feel free to contact us with questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Chriss Foster, Counselor

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

<b>TABLE OF CONTENTS</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Profile of a Graduate</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>Graduation Requirements</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>Courses and Potential Modifications That Meet Graduation Requirements</b>	<b>8</b>
English Requirements	8
Mathematics Requirements	8
Science Requirements	8
Social Studies Requirements	9
Physical Education Requirements	9
Visual, Performing, and Applied Arts Requirement	9
World Language Requirement	9
Additional Personal Curriculum Modifications	10
<b>Grading Scale</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>Advanced Placement Courses</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>Dual Enrollment</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>Early/Middle College</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>Online Courses</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>Testing Out</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>NCAA Approved Core Courses</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>Career Pathways</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>Course Descriptions for 2023-2024</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>High School Level Courses</b>	<b>16</b>
Art Department	16
Business Department	17
English Department	18
Mathematics Department	20
Music Department	21
Physical Education Department	21
Science Department	23
Social Studies Department	26
World Language Department	27
Miscellaneous Courses	28
Educational Options	29
Berrien County Mathematics & Science Center	30

Dual Enrollment	30
Early/Middle College	30
Heritage Southwest ISD Career Academies	30
Van Buren Tech Courses	31
<b>MSU credits via high school Agriscience Program</b>	<b>36</b>
<b>Michigan Transfer Agreement (MTA)</b>	<b>37</b>

**NONDISCRIMINATION AND ACCESS TO EQUAL EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITY**

Any form of discrimination or harassment can be devastating to an individual's academic progress, social relationship, and/or personal sense of self-worth.

As such, the Board of Education does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex (including sexual orientation or transgender identity), disability, age (except as authorized by law), religion, military status, ancestry, or genetic information (collectively, "Protected Classes") in its educational programs or activities.

The Board also does not discriminate on the basis of Protected Classes in its employment policies and practices as they relate to students, and does not tolerate harassment of any kind.

Equal educational opportunities shall be available to all students, without regard to the Protected Classes, age (unless age is a factor necessary to the normal operation or the achievement of any legitimate objective of the program/activity), place of residence within the boundaries of the District, or social or economic background, to learn through the curriculum offered in this District. Educational programs shall be designed to meet the varying needs of all students.

# Cassopolis High School

Michigan has high expectations to prepare students for life after K-12 education. Career & college-ready students possess the skills necessary to earn a self-sustaining wage and participate in post-secondary opportunities without remediation. Michigan's "Profile of a Graduate" includes characteristics of career and college-ready students that are evident within all of the academic standards, including the arts and the Career and Technical Education (CTE) Career Ready Practices.

Cassopolis High School students will take rigorous courses that provide them with the necessary skills to move forward after graduation to a post-secondary option. Cassopolis High School empowers and challenges students to learn and succeed, collaborate and communicate, and engage in the world around them.

# Profile of a Graduate

**Communicate & Collaborate**  
Communicate and collaborate effectively with a variety of audiences

**Argument & Reasoning**  
Use argument and reasoning to do research, construct arguments, and critique the reasoning of others

**Social & Emotional Learning**  
Demonstrate knowledge, attitudes, and skills to manage emotions to enable responsible decisions and successful choices

**Technology & Tools**  
Use technology and tools strategically in learning and communicating

**Solve Problems**  
Solve problems, construct explanations, and design creative and innovative solutions

Michigan's citizens have high expectations that the state's K-12 graduates will be prepared for life. Career & college-ready students possess the skills necessary to earn a self-sustaining wage and participate in post-secondary opportunities without remediation.

Michigan's "Profile of a Graduate" includes characteristics of career & college-ready students that are evident within all of the academic standards, including those in the arts and the Career and Technical Education (CTE) Career Ready Practices.

Students obtain these skills through instruction that includes real-world challenges, cross-content integration, relevancy to student lives, and transfer of knowledge.

**CBE-CASS**  
Competency-Based Education  
Competencies and Assessment Structures/Supports

**MICHIGAN**  
Department of Education

June 2021



**Cassopolis Ross Beatty High School  
Graduation Requirements  
2023-2024 School Year**

**Graduating Classes of,  
2024, 2025 and 2026**

To be eligible for graduation, all students must be enrolled full-time for eight semesters unless otherwise approved by the building principal. Students must participate in the Michigan Merit Exam or MI-Access in the spring of their junior year, complete 30 hours of community service, and earn the following credits (modifications for transfer students and students with IEPs can be made - see counselor for details):

<b>Department</b>	<b>Requirement</b>		
<b>English Language Arts</b>	4 credits: At least one core English class taken each school year.		
<b>Mathematics</b>	4 credits (at least one in final year of high school) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Algebra 1</li> <li>● Geometry</li> <li>● Algebra 2</li> <li>● Additional math or math-related course</li> </ul>		
<b>Science</b>	3 credits <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Biology</li> <li>● Chemistry/Physics</li> </ul> All students may fulfill the requirement for the 3rd Science by completing a Career and Technical Education (CTE) program		
<b>Social Studies</b>	3 credits <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● World History (1 credit)</li> <li>● US History (1 credit)</li> <li>● Economics (.5 credit)</li> <li>● Civics (.5 credit)</li> </ul>		
<b>Health and Physical Education</b>	1 credit/2 complete courses <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Health (.5 credit)</li> <li>● Physical Education OR participation in school-sanctioned physical activity (.5 credit = 2 seasons of a sport or marching band)</li> </ul>		
<b>Visual, Performing, and Applied Arts</b>	1 credit/2 complete course(s) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Art, Music, Theatre, Journalism/Digital Media, some CTE programs</li> </ul>		
<b>World Languages</b>	2 credits/2 Complete courses - Both credits must be of the same language OR students may satisfy the second credit by completing a CTE program or taking an additional VPAA course		
<b>Online Learning Experience</b>	Students satisfy this requirement through participation in our course management system.		
<b>Elective Credits</b>	CLASS OF 2024 5 electives	CLASS OF 2025 5 electives	CLASS OF 2026 4 electives
<b>TOTAL CREDITS</b>	CLASS OF 2024 23	CLASS OF 2025 23	CLASS OF 2026 22

## **Courses and Potential Modifications That Meet Graduation Requirements**

The following is a breakdown of the courses offered by Cassopolis Ross Beatty High School which meet the graduation requirements. The State of Michigan allows students to request a personal curriculum to modify some of the state-established graduation requirements. See your counselor for additional information. This is also discussed below.

### **Delivery of Courses**

All courses listed and described in this coursebook have the capability of running as a virtual, hybrid, or in-person.

### **English Requirements**

Students must take one English course per year, with a total of four credits required for graduation. This requirement cannot be modified with a Personal Curriculum. Courses that meet the English requirement include:

- English 9
- English 10
- English 11
- English 12
- College English
- AP Literature

### **Mathematics Requirements**

Students must earn four credits of math, including one during their final year of high school. All students must complete the following courses in the Math Department:

- Algebra 1
- Geometry
- Algebra 2\*

Students must take one math or math-related course during their senior year. When taken during their senior year, the following courses satisfy this requirement:

Accounting, Personal Finance, Physics\*\*, some Career and Technical Education courses, and online math or math-related course as approved by the counselor

Modifications can be made to the mathematics requirements through a personal curriculum. See your counselor for further information.

\*Students may be able to fulfill the Algebra 2 requirement through completion of some Van Buren Tech Programs.

\*\*Students may not count Physics as both a science credit and a math-related credit. Students successfully completing Physics as a math-related credit must also successfully complete the third science.

### **Science Requirements**

All students must complete three credits of science. This requirement cannot be modified with a Personal Curriculum. Courses that meet the Science requirement include the following: Biology, Physical Science, Chemistry, Physics, Agricultural Leadership, Zoology, Forensic Science, Genetics, and Agricultural Biology. Science courses may also be taken through dual enrollment, and completion of a Career and Technical Education Program may also fulfill the third science requirement.



## **Social Studies Requirements**

Students must complete three Social Studies credits, including the following:

- US History (1 credit)
- World History (1 credit)
- Economics (.5 credit)
- Civics(.5 credit)

Modifications can be made to the social studies requirements through a personal curriculum. Students may request a modification of one fewer Social Studies credit if he/she takes additional credit(s) beyond the required credit in English Language Arts, Mathematics, Science, or World Languages, or through completion of some Career and Technical Education Programs. No modification can be made to the Civics requirement.

## **Physical Education Requirements**

Students must complete one credit of Physical Education, including one-half credit of PE and one-half credit of Health. Students may satisfy their PE portion through participation in school-sanctioned physical activities (see below).

Students may request a personal curriculum to modify this credit if he/she takes an additional credit beyond the required credit in English Language Arts, Mathematics, Science, or World Languages, or through completion of some Van Buren Tech courses.

Acceptable activities meet all of the following criteria:

- Two full seasons with a school-sanctioned sport that requires regular physical activity with a team during regularly-scheduled practices over the course of the established seasons.
- Two full seasons with Cassopolis Ross Beatty High School Marching Band which requires regular physical activity over the course of the marching band season.

Earning PE credit in this alternative way does not result in additional transcribed credit. Rather, it allows a student to waive that PE credit to take more elective coursework.

## **Visual, Performing, and Applied Arts Requirement**

All students must complete one credit of a Visual, Performing, and Applied Arts class. Courses available to students at Cassopolis Ross Beatty High School which meet this requirement include the following:

- Any class in the Art Department
- Any class in the Music Department
- Creative Writing (high school or college)
- Theatre
- Journalism and Digital Media

Several Career and Technical Education courses meet this requirement. Students may request a personal curriculum for this requirement by taking an additional credit beyond the graduation requirements in English, Mathematics, Science, or World Languages.

## **World Language Requirement**

Students must complete two credits of the same language in order to meet this requirement (ex: French 1 and French 2). This requirement can be met at Cassopolis Ross Beatty High School in the following ways:

- Taking French 1 and French 2
- Taking Spanish 1 and Spanish 2
- Learning beyond the classroom: formal study abroad, college coursework, home or heritage languages, or online courses

- Students may fulfill one credit of this requirement by completing one of several Career and Technical Education Programs, or by completing an additional Visual, Performing, and Applied Arts credit

This requirement cannot be modified with a Personal Curriculum with the exception of students with an IEP.

### **Additional Personal Curriculum Modifications**

Students with an IEP are eligible for additional modifications through a personal curriculum, as long as the modification aligns with their Education Development Plan, their IEP, and their future career goals. See your counselor for details.

Transfer students who have completed 2 years of high school are eligible for additional modifications. See your counselor for details.

### **Grading Scale**

Weighted Courses:

A weighted GPA will be applied to all AP courses, Math and Science Center courses, core Dual Enrollment courses, and other core accelerated program courses.

Students' grades will be calculated using the following scale:

<b>Grading Scale</b>	<b>Letter Grade</b>	<b>Non-weighted</b>	<b>Weighted</b>
93-100	A	4.00	5.0
90-92	A-	3.667	4.667
88-89	B+	3.33	4.333
83-87	B	3.00	4.0
80-82	B-	2.667	3.667
78-79	C+	2.333	3.333
73-77	C	2.0	3.0
70-72	C-	1.667	2.667
68-69	D+	1.333	2.333
63-67	D	1.0	2.0
60-62	D-	0.667	1.667
59 and below	F	0	0

### **Advanced Placement Courses**

What are Advanced Placement (AP) Courses?

AP courses are college-level courses that students can take in high school. Curriculum in AP classes is determined by the College Board and is uniform throughout the United States and abroad. As a result, AP classes are recognized more uniformly by colleges and universities than other classes. AP courses require more time and work but are academically more challenging and stimulating.

Who Should Take AP Courses?

Students who:

- Love learning – especially the subject area in which the AP course is being taken
- Are strong readers who have been academically successful
- Are motivated learners that are willing to take on hard work and responsibility

- Are enthusiastic about sharing ideas and concepts in academically challenging ways and improving critical thinking skills
- Plan to attend a four-year university following high school
- Understand that success in AP classes requires work outside the school day.

#### Why Should AP Courses Be Taken?

- It builds sophisticated, college-level academic skills and confidence. Students are more prepared to do college work because they have practiced the skills needed to be successful and are more confident when facing difficult and demanding courses in college.
- AP classes are calculated on a weighted grading scale. This provides several advantages. First, it eliminates the “risk” of taking a more difficult course. Secondly, because many students earn a GPA of higher than 4.0 during their high school career, AP classes potentially increase a student’s class ranking. Lastly, many colleges do not recalculate GPAs during the admissions process and use the highest GPA when determining admission, providing an advantage for students with a higher overall GPA.
- Success in AP leads to success in college. Research consistently shows that students who participate in AP courses and exams while in high school have higher GPAs, credit hours earned, and four-year graduation rates at the university level.
- Success in AP can lead to college credit: Students have the option of taking the AP exam in each of the content areas. Performance on these tests can lead to college credit.
- It increases options at college and saves money. Students who earn college credit by taking AP courses and exams may be able to take upper-level courses in their field of interest or complete their undergraduate degrees earlier thus saving money.
- It impresses college admission officers. Taking AP makes candidates more attractive to colleges. It improves their chances of getting into competitive colleges and increases eligibility for scholarships.

### **Dual Enrollment**

Students may enroll in college courses as part of their high school experience. Students will exchange three or more college credits for one high school credit. Students can receive college credit only, or both high school credit and college credit for these courses. If students prefer to receive college credit only, they need to notify their counselor in writing prior to starting the course. Students must meet all of the below requirements to be eligible. If the student fails to successfully complete the assigned course, the school may impose fines equaling the cost of the course tuition, books, and support material, and the student may be removed from future dual enrollment opportunities.

Students dual enrolling may have the costs of required textbooks paid for provided that the total amount of tuition, fees and books does not exceed the amount determined by the State of Michigan. Upon completion of the course, textbooks purchased by Cassopolis Public Schools must be returned to the school. Students are responsible for transportation, parking costs, or any activity fees.

Any student who wishes to dual enroll must complete a Dual Enrollment form and placement testing prior to taking any courses. It is understood that any course taken as part of dual enrollment and its accompanying grade will appear on the student’s transcript with accompanying grades. Final grades will be included in the semester GPA, cumulative GPA, and class ranking. All academic courses taken through Dual Enrollment or Early/Middle College will be included in the weighted grading scale.

## Eligible Students

Per the State of Michigan, students eligible for dual enrollment must be:

- A student enrolled in at least one high school class in a school district, public school academy, or state-approved nonpublic school in Michigan.
- Excludes foreign exchange pupils enrolled under a cultural exchange program (J-1 Visa).
- Student must have at least one parent or legal guardian that is a resident of Michigan (unless the student is experiencing homelessness).
- Student must not have been enrolled in high school for more than four school years (unless one of the exceptions provided for in administrative rule has been satisfied).

Additionally, CRBHS students must meet the following in order to qualify for dual enrollment:

- Meet the assessment criteria on the PSAT, SAT, and /or SMC Placement Test.
- Have acceptable attendance and grades in the two semesters prior to participating in dual enrollment.
- Meet with the high school counselor for course scheduling.
- Have a signed dual enrollment contract on file at CRBHS.
- Must maintain a D- or above in all classes to continue in the Dual Enrollment Program. Failure of a dual enrollment class, “F”, will result in full tuition reimbursement of the course at the expense of the student and may result in removal from future dual enrollment opportunities.

## Eligible Courses

Per the State of Michigan, courses eligible for dual enrollment must meet the following criteria:

- Course offered by an eligible postsecondary institution for postsecondary credit.
- Not offered by CRBHS (or is not available to the student due to an unavoidable scheduling conflict).
- Academic in nature:
  - Normally applies toward satisfaction of postsecondary degree requirements.
  - Not ordinarily taken as an activity course.
  - Not a hobby, craft, or recreational course.
- In a subject area other than physical education, theology, divinity, or religious education.
- For subject areas assessed on a readiness assessment or the Michigan Merit Examination, eligible courses are limited to those subject areas for which the student has achieved a qualifying score.
  - Not required for computer science or foreign language courses.
  - A district may elect to support a student’s enrollment in a subject area that the student has not yet achieved a qualifying score if it has been determined to be in the best educational interest of the student.
- Course limits:
  - Up to 10 courses overall can be covered under the Postsecondary Enrollment Options Act. For a student that first dual enrolls in:
    - 9th grade – not more than two courses per year in 9th, 10th, and 11th grade, and not more than four courses in grade 12
    - 10th grade – not more than two courses in 10th grade, and not more than four courses in 11th and 12th grade
    - 11th or 12th grade – not more than six courses per year
    - These limits may be waived when a written agreement exists between a school district and a postsecondary institution as discussed in MCL 388.513.

For information regarding transferring credits earned through dual enrollment to another post-secondary school, please see the Michigan Transfer Agreement (MTA) section below.

## **Credit By Examination**

Interested students can pursue college credit by utilizing “Credit By Examination” options such as the CLEP or similar tests. Any cost associated with such credit options is the responsibility of the student.

## **Early/Middle College**

The Early/Middle College program is an effective & exciting way for students to earn either a career certificate or substantial college credit up to an Associate’s Degree while still in high school. Through this innovative program, students will be able to save both time and money as they get a headstart on their postsecondary careers.

The E/MC is structured so that students gradually increase their exposure to college courses throughout this three-year program. Students will apply for entry into the program during their 10th-grade year. If a student is accepted into the program their individual Program of Study will determine their classes throughout their 11th, 12th, and 5th years. This Program of Study will eventually result in students being part-time on the high school campus and part-time on the college campus until their 5th year. In their “5th year” of high school, they will be enrolled full-time in college and all of their coursework will be completed on-site at a Lake Michigan College or Southwestern Michigan College campus.

Students in the 5th Year Early/Middle College program will receive support services to assist them in their transition from high school to college. Students will work closely with an Early/Middle College Mentor who will serve as a “success coach” as they progress through the program. In addition, students will continue to have access to their traditional high school support system, along with the student support services available through the college.

Students applying for admission to the Early/Middle College must be willing, motivated, and up for the challenge to perform successfully within this program. Students have the opportunity to learn more about the program in the fall of their sophomore year, and parents can attend evening information sessions at that time as well. The application process takes place in December and January, with interviews being held in February. See your counselor for more information.

In order to enroll in college coursework as a Dual Enrollment/Early Middle College student, the following rules and expectations apply

1. The parent(s)/guardian agrees to pay any additional tuition and material fees due to the enrolling institution beyond what the district agrees to pay.
2. The student must maintain a full-time schedule between the postsecondary institution and Cassopolis Ross Beatty High School.
3. The student may only withdraw from their postsecondary course(s) during the college withdrawal dates for a full refund. Then the student must enroll in a replacement class at Cassopolis Ross Beatty High School in order to maintain full-time student status.
4. If the student withdraws after the college withdrawal date, the parents(s)/guardian agree to reimburse the district for all post-secondary fees. The student will then receive a failing grade(s) on their high school transcript.
5. If the student fails the course(s), the parent(s)/guardian agrees to repay the district the tuition fees paid on the student’s behalf by the district. The student will receive a failing grade(s) on their high school transcript.
6. If the student fails the post-secondary course(s) or fails to complete the post-secondary course(s), they may be denied future enrollment into the Dual Enrollment/Early Middle College.

For information regarding transferring credits earned through E/MC to another post-secondary school, please see the Michigan Transfer Agreement (MTA) section below.

### **Online Courses**

Online courses for high school students must be selected at the same time as other course selections unless assigned as credit recovery or due to a scheduling conflict. Cassopolis High School works with Edmentum to provide online high school courses which are offered in semester lengths. Students registering for online classes should be self-motivated learners who are proficient at time management and comfortable with computers and the Internet. Students must have a completed Educational Development Plan when taking (2) or more online courses. Please see your counselor for further information and to complete the online course registration form. Edmentum curriculum is used for our online courses. Visit [here](#) for the course catalog and more information.

### **Testing Out**

State Aid Act 380.1279b allows a student to test out of a course on a pass/fail basis. A student can sign up for testing out in the guidance department which will be offered during the summer. State law requires high schools to allow students to test out of courses by exhibiting mastery on the final exam.

Any student interested in testing out should contact the school counselor.

Guidelines for Testing Out:

- Student must receive a C+ or better on a comprehensive course examination (includes semester final tests and portfolio assignments) to fulfill a requirement for graduation or a prerequisite for a course sequence
- A “CR” will be entered on the transcript, instead of a grade if the student receives a C+ or better on the test on both quarterly exams.
- The course will not be computed in the student’s GPA.
- Students can only attempt to test out of a specific class one time.

### **NCAA Approved Core Courses**

Not all courses are approved for use in establishing the initial-eligibility certification status of student-athletes. For the most accurate list, visit: [www.eligibility center.org](http://www.eligibility center.org) or [Division I Requirements](#)

## **Career Pathways**

Career Pathways are broad groupings of careers that share similar characteristics and whose employment requirements call for many common interests, strengths, and competencies. Career Pathways provide a useful framework to aid both students and educators in making those meaningful connections to the world of work. Six career pathways have been identified to cover all career opportunities regardless of educational requirements.

### **Arts and Communications**

Careers related to humanities and the performing, visual, literary, and media arts.

### **Business Management, Marketing, and Technology**

Careers related to all aspects of business including accounting, business administration, finance, information processing, and marketing.

### **Engineering/Manufacturing and Industrial Technology**

Careers related to technologies necessary to design, develop, install or maintain systems.

### **Health Sciences**

Careers related to the promotion of health as well as the treatment of injuries and disease.

### **Human Services**

Careers in child care, civil service, education, hospitality, and social services.

### **Natural Resources and Agri-Science**

Careers related to natural resources, agriculture, and the environment.

## Course Descriptions for 2023-2024

Below are the descriptions of courses available to CRBHS students. These are not detailed descriptions or outlines of the courses. Adjustments will be made as needed and will be based on State mandated standards and expectations. When selecting courses, please read this section carefully. Each year, the counselor and teachers work with students in planning their schedules for the following year. The final selection of courses, however, rests with the student and his/her parents. Once choices are made, we cannot guarantee the chance to make changes in the future. Also, some courses listed in this booklet may not eventually be offered because of insufficient enrollments. Be sure to note whether a course has prerequisites that you must take first. It is highly recommended that students earn at least a C- in any prerequisite course. Courses are listed under their departments.

### High School Level Courses

#### Art Department

##### **Art 1**

(.5 Credit and 1 semester)

Grade 9

Art I is an exploratory course. Students will create 2D artworks with a focus on the Elements of Art and Principles of Design. Mediums may include ink, graphite, colored pencils, paint, and paper. This is a prerequisite course for all other art courses. Students must pass Art One to take other courses.

##### **Art 2**

###### **Prerequisite: Art 1**

(.5 Credit and 1 Semester)

Grades 9-12

Introduction to Three-Dimensional Design is an introductory, general art survey course for students without previous art experience in high school art. This course is designed to teach students the basic principles and elements of design through various types of three-dimensional media. In this class, students learn to create art in functional and nonfunctional three-dimensional forms. Students also have creative experiences in art appreciation, studio, history, and criticism.

##### **Ceramics**

###### **Prerequisite: Art 1**

(.5 Credit and 1 Semester)

Grades 10-12

Students will create and glaze functional and non-functional pieces while fine-tuning their clay building techniques. Works of art will include three hand-building techniques and throwing a vessel on the potter's wheel.

##### **Painting**

###### **Prerequisite: Art 1**

(.5 Credit and 1 Semester)

Grades 10-12

This course is designed for students who want to increase their skills in painting. Color theory, the elements of art & principles of design, composition, and the artist statement are the foundation for all assignments. Students will learn to paint with tempera, acrylic, and watercolor paints. Each semester includes an art history unit as well.



## **Drawing**

### **Prerequisite: Art 1**

(.5 Credit and 1 Semester)

Grades 10-12

Students will take one and two-point perspective drawing techniques to a higher level and learn how to create the illusion of space and form on a 2D surface. These skills will scaffold into drawing observationally in the second marking period.

## **3-Dimensional Art**

### **Prerequisite: Art 1**

(.5 Credit and 1 Semester)

Grades 10-12

This class focuses on three-dimensional art assignments that involve building forms. Mediums can include paper mache, polymer clay, found objects, wood, fibers, plaster, wire, and paper. Collaboration is highly encouraged in order to problem-solve construction decisions and aesthetic issues. Students will study and create art inspired by art movements, from past and present.

## **Painting Public Spaces**

### **Prerequisite: A passing grade of a B or higher in both Art 1 & Painting**

(.5 credit and 1 Semester)

Grades 10-12

This course addresses the embellishment of public spaces within the school district and community. Students will implement skills learned and practiced in Art One and Painting while applying them in real-world opportunities. Through public works of art, students will positively impact the beliefs, values, and behaviors of school and community culture.

## **Business Department**

### **Business Management Technology (CTE COURSE)**

(1 credit and 2 semesters)

Grades 10-12

This course is a hands-on, computer-oriented course. It is the real-life practice to prepare students for the future. The Business Management and Technology Program allows students to explore the variety of career options available. The course is recommended for students who have an interest in business management or business occupation, and for students who are seeking a career with many opportunities for advancement. Must also take Small Business Management in order to complete the CTE program.

### **Small Business Management (CTE COURSE)**

(1 Credit and 2 Semesters)

Grades 11-12

Small Business Management will give students the tools and knowledge needed to become successful entrepreneurs. Students will learn what entrepreneurship is and learn to recognize opportunities for business by understanding business trends. Students will learn how to research and plan an entrepreneurial venture, discover the importance of feasibility and business planning, market analysis, the different types of business ownership, the legal environment, and how to select a business site and plan its layout. From finance, marketing, and risk management, students will learn how to make their business grow and will become aware of the social and ethical responsibilities involved in owning and operating a business.

From basic economics to the global economy, students will learn how both affect business. Students will use the Internet to research and solve a multitude of problems and will discover how information technology is the driving force behind the information age. Must also take Business Management Technology in order to complete the CTE program.

### **Accounting (CTE COURSE)**

(1 Credit and 2 Semesters)

Grades 11-12

This course is designed to create a solid base of practical, applicable accounting knowledge for all students, and a springboard for those who may go on to more extensive accounting studies. Students will learn about accounting concepts and procedures by exploring the real world of business. Accounting fundamentals and problems will be solved through a variety of applications, including business simulations and computer mini practice sets using Peachtree. Students will learn accounting on a system suited for virtually any type of small business.

## **English Department**

### **English 9**

(1 Credit and 2 Semesters)

Grade 9

This full-year course is designed to improve the student's ability to read critically and communicate effectively, both orally and in writing. The curriculum is divided into four main units: High School Writing; High School Reading; Hero and Culture; and Shakespearean Drama. Students will read a variety of short stories, poetry, non-fiction selections, novels, and drama. Selections will vary from classic to contemporary and from authors across the globe. Learners will develop language and oral skills through a variety of writing and reading. Their work will include reading short stories, poetry, non-fiction, novels, and drama related to the United States. They will write for a variety of purposes and audiences in traditional forms (personal narrative essay, literary analysis, journaling, poetry, etc.) as well as in 21st-century forms (movies, documentaries, weblogs, digital stories, podcasts, presentations, Google Docs, etc.)

### **English 10**

(1 Credit and 2 Semesters)

Grade 10

This full-year course, is designed to introduce sophomores to global concepts and diverse regions of the world through various forms of literature while developing reading/writing/ thinking skills and strategies. Additionally, learners will read a variety of global and modern texts (both fiction and nonfiction), some of which will be the students' choice. Learners will write for a variety of purposes and audiences in traditional forms (personal narrative, essay, persuasive writing, literary analysis, journaling, poetry, reflection, etc.) as well as 21st-century forms (movies, documentaries, weblogs, digital stories, podcasts, presentations, Google Docs, etc.).

### **English 11**

(1 Credit and 2 Semesters)

Grade 11

This full-year course is designed to introduce juniors to a selection of British literature texts and improve their reading/writing/thinking skills and strategies. The curriculum is divided into four thematic units. Additionally, learners will read a selection of modern and global texts, some of which will be the students' choice. Learners will write for a variety of purposes and audiences in traditional forms (e.g. literary analysis, personal narrative, essay, argumentation, poetry, and writing on demand) as well as in 21st-century forms (e.g. digital stories, blogs, podcasts, Google Docs). Learners will also practice research writing, with a focus on incorporating outside sources into their writing in meaningful ways. Learners will also practice writing on-demand, personal narrative writing aimed at college essays, MME/SAT test preparation, and continual grammar review.

## **English 12 Capstone**

(1 Credit and 2 Semesters)

Grades 12

This comprehensive course provides students with the opportunity to demonstrate and apply the reading and writing skills that they have acquired over the course of their high school career to a year-long project on a subject of their own choosing. Students will practice editing their own and others' writing, improve reading proficiency, expand vocabulary, gain exposure to notable works, and interpret/respond to fiction and non-fiction orally and in writing. They will also gain skills in doing research, determining reliable sources, including in-text citations, and creating an annotated bibliography. At the completion of their capstone projects, students will reflect on their experience and present their work to members of the public.

## **AP Literature and Composition**

**(Prerequisites: test scores, teacher recommendation)**

(1 Credit and 2 Semesters)

Grades 10-12

As a study of literature, the A.P. English Literature, and Composition course is designed to engage students in the careful reading and critical analysis of imaginative works. Through the close reading of selected texts, students will deepen their understanding of the ways writers use language to provide both meaning and pleasure for their readers. As they read, students consider a work's diction, structure, style, and themes, as well as literary devices such as the use of figurative language, imagery, symbolism, and tone. The course begins with an intensive study of how to effectively analyze fiction through a deeper understanding of the literary tools authors use.

## **Public Speaking**

(.5 Credit and 1 Semester)

Grades 10-12

The focus of speech is interpersonal communication, ranging from conversational skills to job interviewing, group discussion, public speech, presentations, working with media, developing listening skills, and learning about debate. Students learn to evaluate and develop their speaking and listening skills, as well as learn new methods and skills in research, preparation, and presentation. Additionally, students are introduced to basic researching, argumentation, questioning, and rebuttal skills through a variety and range of debate disciplines. Skill focus includes the development of techniques in diction, articulation, enunciation, and projection.

## **Theatre Performance**

(.5 Credit and 1 Semester)

Grades 10-12

This course introduces students to acting, directing, and stage production. Acting techniques and the development of theatre are explored and practiced through small performances in pairs and larger groups. A variety of plays are read each year to supplement the crafts being studied. The culminating project of the class is the performance of a collection of student-directed and produced productions.

## **Journalism and Digital Media**

(1 Credit and 2 Semesters)

Grades 9-12

This course is a survey of all introductory skills and concepts necessary to survive in the field. All students will gain experience in journalistic writing, including the 5-beat system, and will be able to organize and publish, to the masses, current events. Units will include Law and the First Amendment, the beat system, advertising, ethics, digital media literacy, and writing for online publication. With a focus on responsible reporting, researching and writing stories, interviews, filming, editing, and being an onscreen anchor, students will gain hands-on experience by producing a weekly broadcast for the school district. Broadcasts include sports, events, weather, special interest stories, and more.

### **Film Studies**

(.5 Credit and 1 Semester)

Grades 11-12

This course offers an introduction to film and film studies. The student will learn film techniques, such as lighting, camera angles, and equipment types, and be asked to evaluate the use of these techniques in various film genres. Students will learn to “read” a film, and at the end of the course will write their own screenplay for a proposed film. There are numerous opportunities for filming, planning, and designing short films for contests and competitions.

### **Creative Writing**

Prerequisite English 9

(.5 Credit and I Semester)

Grades 10-12

Course content will include the development of creative process and imagination, grammar, sentence structure, poetic techniques, vocabulary, short story, thematic units, descriptive essays, biographical sketches, narratives, descriptive anecdotes, and poems. This course provides opportunities for students to express themselves creatively in poems, journals, and essays. Students will read a variety of publications to develop their assignments.

### **Mythology**

Prerequisite English 9

(.5 Credit and I Semester)

Grades 10-12

Course content will include the study of major Greek and Roman gods, the Palace of Olympus, nature myths, love stories, the underworld Greek heroes, and the study of literature-based vocabulary. This class is recommended for the proficient reader who seeks to further his/her knowledge and appreciation of literature. Students will develop strong note-taking skills. Creative and analytic papers will be emphasized.

## **Mathematics Department**

### **Pre-Algebra**

(1 Credit and 2 semesters)

Grade 9

This class will review the basic operations of arithmetic on whole numbers, fractions, and decimals. These operations will be used in dealing with ratios, proportions, percent, simple geometry, and algebra. As students master these basic concepts, they will move into basic algebra. Students will be expected to understand basic operations with integers, rational numbers, irrational, and real numbers; the use of variables; properties of numbers and of equality; solving equations and inequalities; problem-solving; relations and functions; and polynomials.

### **Algebra I**

(1 Credit and 2 semesters)

Grade 9

Algebra I is the foundation for the study of high-level mathematics courses. It develops thinking and reasoning skills while exploring the concepts of variables, simplifying and evaluating expressions, solving equations and inequalities, and problem-solving. Also included may be an introduction to basic statistics. Solid arithmetic skills are a necessity for success.

## **Geometry**

### **Prerequisite: Algebra 1**

(1 Credit and 2 Semesters)                      Grade 10

This course is the study of geometric figures and their properties and relations. It is designed to acquaint students with facts about plane figures (such as triangles, line planes, squares, rectangles, rhombuses, parallelograms, perpendicular lines, parallel lines, circles, and spheres), and their applications. This course is important for developing reasoning and basic skills.

## **Algebra II**

### **Prerequisite: Algebra 1 and Geometry**

(1 Credit and 2 Semesters)                      Grades 11-12

Algebra II is a continuation of first-year algebra. Some of the topics covered include real numbers, equations, inequalities, graphs, functions, polynomials, factoring, rational functions, exponential functions, and logarithmic functions. This class is designed for the serious-minded mathematics student working toward a career in a math-intensive area.

## **Pre-Calculus**

### **Prerequisite: Algebra 1, Geometry, and Algebra II**

(1 Credit and 2 Semesters)                      Grades 11-12

This course includes analysis of linear, quadratic, polynomial, rational, exponential, and logarithmic functions as they apply to calculus. Other topics include the system of equations and conics. Also angles, radian measure, right triangle trigonometry, graphs, inverse trigonometric functions, trigonometric equations, verifying identities, and laws of sine and cosine.

## **Personal Finance**

(1 Credit and 2 semesters)                      Grade 11-12

This course is designed to help students understand the impact of individual choices on occupational goals and future earnings potential. Topics that are stressed include career attainment and etiquette, taxes, credit buying, car buying and leasing, home purchasing and renting, budgeting, financial services, as well as other future expenses the student will encounter.

## **Music Department**

### **Senior High Band**

#### **Prerequisites: Junior High Band (OR qualifying musical experience at the discretion of the director) AND July Marching Band Camp (OR qualifying equivalence at the discretion of the director)**

(1 Credit and 2 semesters)                      Grades 9-12

**1st Semester:** Intensive Marching Band Season beginning with July Band Camp, Home Football Games, and local performances. In November, the ensemble makes a full transition into Concert Band Season to prepare for the Winter Holiday Concert in December.

**2nd Semester:** Concert Band is a focused performance cycle with emphasis on MSBOA Concert Festival, Solo and Ensemble participation, Spring Concert, and community outreach performances.

Through involvement with the Ranger Marching and Concert Bands, students will develop essential life skills through the practice and performance of music in an ensemble setting. The band will perform three major concert

cycles, complete with evaluated chair auditions, rehearsal clinics, and live performances. Students will ultimately discover a critical ear to determine the quality of musical compositions in varying styles.

\*Marching and Concert Performances occur periodically during BOTH semesters. To keep instrumentation/participation consistent, students will not be permitted to “skip” the Fall or Spring semester. Attendance at all performances is required.

### **Jazz Band**

**Prerequisite: Membership in the band program (OR qualifying experience at the discretion of the director)**

(1 Credit and 2 semesters)                      Grades 9-12

Jazz Band is an elective open to students 9-12, who are already enrolled in Band. (See Prerequisite) The class may be repeated. The Jazz Band may consist of varying instrumentation, depending on the needs of the ensemble. Students will study the many facets of Jazz including improvisation and chord/theory study. Varying styles including Blues, Latin, Rock, and Swing will all be studied and performed. Attendance at all performances is required.

## **Physical Education Department**

### **Physical Education**

(.5 Credit and 1 semester)                      Grade 9-12

This course provides the opportunity for individual or group reaction in situations that are physical, wholesome, mentally stimulating, satisfying, and socially sound. There will be the development of physical fitness, motor skills, mental alertness, and the development of neuromuscular activities. Learning consists of a broad view of physical activities in the form of team sports, individual sports, and leisure-time activities. Basic fundamental rules, skills, and fitness are taught throughout the program.

### **Health**

(.5 Credit and 1 semester)                      Grades 9-12

This required course emphasizes a positive approach to personal health. Students explore their own health behavior and what constitutes good health and responsible decision-making. Topics covered in the course include mental and emotional health, stress management, nutrition and fitness, substance abuse, disease, the human life cycle, STDs, and AIDS.

### **Weight Training**

**Prerequisite: Physical Education or permission of instructor**

(.5 Credit and 1 Semester)                      Grades 10-12

This course is designed to target our student-athletes and help develop their muscular strength, muscular endurance, and overall level of fitness. Students will perform various strength-training exercises in the weight room to improve their speed, power, and explosiveness. Workouts will be sport specific, designed to focus on the student’s most desired sport.

### **Advanced Weight Training**

**Prerequisite: Weight Training or permission of instructor**

(.5 Credit and 1 Semester)                      Grades 10-12

This course is designed to target our student-athletes and help develop their muscular strength, explosiveness, and endurance. Students will perform various strength training exercises with a focus on power-lifting to improve

speed, power, and overall muscle development. Workouts will be challenging, with a heavy focus on technique and execution.

### **Fitness and Nutrition**

#### **Prerequisite: Health**

(.5 Credit and 1 Semester)

Grades 9-12

This class is designed for students interested in developing, planning, and implementing individual exercise workout programs with guidance from concepts learned in this course. Emphasis will be placed on improving in the health-related fitness areas of muscular strength, muscular endurance, aerobic endurance, flexibility, and body composition. Students will also be introduced to a variety of team and individual sports that will enhance their current and future fitness levels. Classroom instruction will focus on goal setting, principles of training, components of a well-balanced fitness plan, nutrition, body composition, healthy weight management techniques, and consumer health and safety information.

## **Science Department**

### **Biology**

(1 Credit and 2 Semesters)

Grade 9

Course content will include cell functions and processes, characteristics of life, scientific method, ecology, natural cycles, human impact on the world, evolution, genetics, and classification of organisms.

### **Physical Science**

(1 Credit and 2 Semesters)

Grade 10

Physical Science is an introductory course emphasizing the concepts of physics and chemistry and hands-on experiences. Concepts are introduced in with equations as guides to thinking rather than recipes for algebraic problem-solving. Physics topics include motion, forces, momentum, energy, sound, light, electricity, and magnetism. Chemistry topics include the structure of an atom, states of matter, the periodic table, chemical reactions, acids and bases, and radioactive decay. This course counts toward the Michigan Merit Curriculum graduation requirement.

### **Chemistry**

#### **PreRequisite: Biology and Physical Science**

(1 Credit and 2 Semesters)

Grade 10-12

Course content will include forms of energy, energy transfer and conservation, properties of matter, and changes in matter. It is an examination of the structure, states, and interactions of matter. Mathematics is regularly used to help describe and predict chemical behavior. Laboratory experiments give students firsthand experience with chemical behavior and develop basic laboratory and problem-solving skills. This content is included on the MME taken in Spring Junior Year.

### **Chemistry 2**

#### **Prerequisite: Chemistry**

(.5 Credit and 1 Semester)

Grades 11-12

This course will cover content in kinetics, thermochemistry, atomic structure, the periodic table, and chemical bonding that stresses the structure/property relationships inherent in chemical systems. Students will use observations, experiments, hypotheses, models, theories, and technology to explore how matter behaves. There will be multiple opportunities for students to apply these ideas in developing experiments and discover explanations for authentic real-life phenomena.

## **Physics**

### **Prerequisite: Chemistry**

(.5 Credit and 1 Semester)

Grades 11-12

This course explores the physical world through observations, theoretical work, laboratory experiences and real-world engineering projects. Topics of study include sound, electricity and magnetism, and electromagnetic energy (light). Students will have several opportunities to describe real-world phenomena through the studied physical laws of nature.

## **E-Sports**

(.5 Credit and 1 Semester)

Grades 10-12

This course is a series of modules of integrated programs of study, focusing on esports as a means of facilitating transference of concepts and skills that incorporate CA CCSS, NGSS, ISTE and SEL standards that are appropriate for the target student demographic. In esports, teams use strategists to compile data to improve in-game performance. Career pathways include Performance Coaches, Data Scientists, Mathematicians, Theory Crafters, Financial Advisors, and Analysts. Content creators help tell the story of each team, streamer, company, or organization they represent. These careers include Journalists, Shoutcasters, Streamers, Software Developers, and Fandom Art & Media. Entrepreneurial activities in esports can be anything from creating a website, sponsor deck, and graphics, to creating marketing plans. Careers may include Marketing, Business Developers, Corporate Sponsorship, and Web Developers. Big events like DreamHack, leagues like LCS and OWL, and other major esports programs are only possible because of the stellar coordinators working behind the scenes. Careers may include Event Planner, Team General Manager, Venue Coordinator, Project Manager, Cybersecurity Specialist, or Community Organizer.

## **Computer Science**

(.5 Credit and 1 Semester)

Grades 10-12

Computer science develops students' computational and critical thinking skills and shows them how to create, not simply use, new technologies. This fundamental knowledge prepares students for the 21st Century, regardless of their ultimate field of study or occupation. By applying computer science as a tool for learning and expression in a variety of disciplines or interests, students will actively participate in a world that increasingly is influenced by technology. Computer science curriculum may include some of the following topics and activities: algorithmic problem-solving; computing and data analysis; human-computer interaction; modeling and simulating real-world problems; creating and manipulating graphics; programming, including game design, web design, and robotics; and ethical and social issues in computing.

## **Genetics**

### **Prerequisite: Biology**

(.5 Credits and 1 Semester)

Grades 10-12

This course is designed to expand on the genetics knowledge that students learned in 9th grade. There is a C+ or better in Bio/Chem prereq. The course will cover mendelian genetics, cloning, DNA structure and inherited diseases.

## **Agriculture Technology (CTE COURSE)**

(1 Credit and 2 Semesters)

Grades 10-12

Throughout this course, students will solve challenging real-world agricultural problems. Students will develop an understanding of the agricultural industry and issues that will impact our future by focusing on the biological processes of life. Students will investigate biological concepts including the chemical basis of life, cell structure,



and function, metabolism, reproduction, genetics, biological diversity and classification, plant structure and function, animal structure and function, and ecology. In addition, students will be exposed to careers and opportunities in the agricultural industry.

### **Botany (CTE COURSE)**

#### **Prerequisite: Zoology**

(1 Credit and 2 Semesters)                      Grades 10-12

Botany students will explore agriculture as the way to provide for the basic needs of all humans. Starting with preparing food for our own school garden, students will practice various agricultural methods in the greenhouse, raised beds, hydroponics towers, fields, aquaponics systems, and at home. Students will be expected to share their knowledge through a demonstration, a speech, or an agricultural issues debate. Students will explore the best methods of plant production based on soil, nutrition, pest control, and propagation methods while maintaining the health of the environment and natural ecosystems.

### **Animal Science (CTE COURSE)**

(1 Credit and 2 Semesters)                      Grades 10-12

This course is focused on understanding the development and health of livestock. The course was designed for 10th to 12th-grade students. Students will gain hands-on and job shadowing experience with local vets in the area. Students may earn certification through Elanco in this course.

### **Vet Science (CTE COURSE)**

#### **Prerequisite: Animal Science**

(1 Credit and 2 Semesters)                      Grades 11-12

This course is focused on understanding the development and health of livestock. The course was designed for 10th to 12th-grade students. Students will gain hands-on and job shadowing experience with local vets in the area. Students may earn certification through Elanco in this course.

### **Zoology (CTE Course)**

(1 Credit and 2 Semesters)                      Grades 9-12

Zoology students will gain practical experience in aspects of the animal industry both by raising their own animals and by partnering with local farmers. They will participate in the entire process of animal production, from chick to food, including daily care, meat processing, and cooking. Not only will students learn how to care for their own pets and livestock, but they will also be expected to communicate directions for care with community members. Students will gain professional connections through partnerships with local animal businesses.

### **Agriculture Literature: Agriculture Leadership and English 11 (CTE COURSE)**

(2 Credits and 2 Semesters)                      Grade 11

Leaders in Literature is a year-long course that will provide students with a challenging learning environment where they can explore the concepts of science through the lens of English and literature, thus allowing students with an interest in biology the choice to study that subject more comprehensively and link science to other aspects of their core curriculum. The ultimate goal of BioLit is to help students understand how biology and English are not discrete subject areas, but like most core classes, can be intertwined and linked to many real-world applications. Students in BioLit will learn all the concepts covered in traditional biology and English class but in a more comprehensive manner. Students will complete several major research papers, a persuasive research essay, and a personal narrative all on concepts of biology.

## **Advanced Agriscience (CTE COURSE)**

### **Prerequisite: Botany and Zoology**

(1 Credit and 2 Semesters)

Grade 11-12

Advanced Agriscience is an opportunity for motivated students to pursue their interests within agriculture by assessing their career goals and determining what they need to do to be prepared for the next step when they graduate. The course is designed for students to prepare their job application/college application and resume. Students will choose an area of focus and will complete a correlated industry certification. To answer their questions about their subject, students will use the scientific process to design an experiment and will present their findings at an Agriscience Fair. They will design a business model with their chosen focus and implement it on the school farm. They will share what they learn in FFA leadership contests and in presentations to younger classes.

## **Social Studies Department**

### **U.S. History**

(1 Credit and 2 Semesters)

Grade 9

This course is a comprehensive study of the history of the development of the United States to its emergence as a world power. The course continues the 8th-grade course and starts with Reconstruction. Emphasis is placed on WWI, The Great Depression, WWII, Vietnam, and more recent history.

### **World History**

(1 Credit and 2 Semesters)

Grade 10

The first semester of this course covers the period of history from the earliest civilizations and traces the major developments of humanity leading up to the period of the Industrial Revolution. Topics include early civilizations, advanced civilizations, and empires. In addition, we explore developments related to farming, geography, religion, trade, exploration, war, and key inventions. The course attempts to tell the global story of humanity from about 10,000 BC to 1700 AD. The second semester of this course covers the period from the Industrial Revolution, French Revolution, and American Revolution up to the modern-day. Topics include World War I, World War II, and other major events that have shaped the modern world.

### **Civics**

(.5 Credit and 1 Semester)

Grades 11-12

Civics provides students with a basic understanding of the history and development of the United States Government from colonization to its current form. Students will learn about the factors that lead to independence, the creation of a new government, and the ideas behind the founding documents of this country. Students will also examine elements related to each of the three branches of government, as the ideas behind the founding documents of this country.

### **Economics**

(.5 Credit and 1 Semester)

Grades 11-12

Economics is the social studies course that examines the allocation of scarce resources and their alternative uses for satisfying human wants and needs. This course analyzes the economic reasoning used as consumers, producers, savers, investors, workers, voters, and government agencies make decisions. Key elements of the course include a study of scarcity and economic reasoning, supply and demand, market structures, the role of government, money and the role of financial institutions, economic stabilization, trade, and personal finance basis.

## **Psychology**

(.5 Credit and 1 Semester)

Grade 10-12

An introductory course in the study of individual human behavior. Topics to be covered include biology and behavior, psychological approaches, experimental psychology, stages of consciousness and learning, developmental psychology, and abnormal psychology.

## **Political & Social History through Music**

(.5 Credit and 1 Semester)

Grade 10-12

Students will learn about political and social history through various musical genres including musical theater, historical and modern billboard chart songs, etc. Students will analyze the historical context surrounding the music, as well as the social impact of the music. In addition, students will constantly make connections to today's culture and develop an understanding of the important influence that music can have on society.

## **Geography**

(1 Credit and 2 Semesters)

Grades 10-12

The World Geography course provides students with an analytical view of how geographic factors have and continue to influence human behavior on earth. Students will examine how the physical and cultural geographic factors contribute to varying levels of cooperation within the major world regions.

## **Law and Order**

(.5 Credit and 1 Semester)

Grades 11-12

This course focuses on the creation and application of laws in various areas of society. By understanding the workings of our court system, as well as how laws are actually carried out, students become more informed and responsible citizens.

## **World Language Department**

### **French 1**

(1 Credit and 2 semesters)

Grade 9

This course provides an introduction to the French language and the culture of the countries where it is spoken. The students are presented with language models and are drilled on basic pronunciation, intonation, and sentence patterns of the target language. They are also taught to read and comprehend the written form of the target language. The students study various cultural and geographical materials in order to broaden their reality in other parts of the world as well as in many areas of the U.S.

### **French 2**

(1 Credit and 2 Semesters)

Grade 10

This course is designed to increase the student's vocabulary, facility in oral expression, reading ability, and general comprehension. It also provides a much more complete study of French grammatical structure. Successful completion of the second year will give the student a solid foundation for advanced study of the language.

### **Spanish 1**

(1 Credit and 2 semesters)

Grade 9

This course provides an introduction to the Spanish language and the culture of the countries where it is spoken. The students are presented with language models and are drilled on basic pronunciation, intonation, and sentence

patterns of the target language. They are also taught to read and comprehend the written form of the target language. The students study various cultural and geographical materials in order to broaden their reality in other parts of the world as well as in many areas of the U.S.

## **Spanish 2**

(1 Credit and 2 Semesters)

Grade 10

This course is designed to increase the student's vocabulary, facility in oral expression, reading ability, and general comprehension. It also provides a much more complete study of Spanish grammatical structure. Successful completion of the second year will give the student a solid foundation for advanced study of the language.

## **Other Course Opportunities**

### **Advisory**

Grades 9-12

Advisory is a year-long 30-minute class designed to incorporate academic support, college and career readiness, social-emotional learning, goal setting, and study skills. Students will utilize Naviance which is a comprehensive college, career, and life readiness solution (CCLR) that helps align student strengths and interests to post-secondary goals, improving student outcomes and connecting learning to life. TRAILS will be utilized to teach students cognitive behavior theory and mindfulness- two gold-standard, evidence-based approaches to promoting mental health – so that students learn skills that will help them not only while they're in school, but for the rest of their lives.

### **Success Time**

Grades 9-12

This class is intended to help students build on strategies for studying for other classes, organizing their work, and being independent learners. Students are placed in this course based on their need to focus on foundational skills in Reading/Writing and Mathematics. Mathematics will review the basic operations of arithmetic on whole numbers, fractions, and decimals. These operations will be used in dealing with ratios, proportions, percent, simple geometry, and algebra. Reading/Writing will focus to improve the student's ability to read critically and communicate effectively, both orally and in writing.

### **Work-Based Learning**

(1-3 Credits and 1 or 2 Semesters)

Grades 9-12

Work-Based Learning is a program to provide students with a planned program of job training and other employment experiences related to a chosen career. There are six major recognized types of work-based learning experiences for secondary students in Michigan, as well as an additional school-related component, regarding the employment of minors as follows:

- Student/visitor
- Volunteer
- Work-based learning non-CTE programs (paid and unpaid student learner),
- Work-based learning state-approved CTE programs (paid and unpaid student learner),
- In-district/in-school placement (unpaid student learner)
- Minor employee with a work permit

Depending on the type of learning experience, the pupil might be engaged for one hour, one day, one semester, or even one year in length. The learning experience may be paid or unpaid serves all students and can be an in-school or out-of-school placement. See the counselor for more information and requirements.

### Cassopolis Ross Beatty High School Educational Options

Option	Description	Post-Secondary Partners	Information
Early Middle College	<p>An early middle college (EMC) is a Michigan Department of Education-approved five-year program of study. EMCs work closely with postsecondary partners to provide students with an opportunity to earn a high school diploma and one or more of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● 60 transferable college credits</li> <li>● An associate degree</li> <li>● A professional certification</li> <li>● The Michigan Early Middle College Association (MEMCA) technical certificate</li> <li>● Participation in a registered apprenticeship</li> </ul>	<p><a href="#">Southwestern Michigan College</a> <a href="#">Lake Michigan College</a></p>	<p>Must postpone high school graduation one year to participate in the fifth year of high school.</p> <p>Must apply by the deadline before Junior year and participate in family interviews.</p> <p>Stay on track with high school credits and be in good standing.</p>
Dual Enrollment	<p>Students in the dual-enrollment program can choose any program and have more flexibility in class schedules.</p> <p>The program is designed for transfer to four-year institutions, and courses tend to follow the Michigan Transfer Agreement (MTA) or general education requirements. By completing the MTA, students are frequently able to transfer every credit they earn to in-state and many out-of-state institutions.</p> <p>In the dual-enrollment program, students may take up to 10 college courses. Typically, tuition is paid for by the high school, but textbooks are the responsibility of the student. Students attend classes at one of SMC's campuses either during normal high school hours or in the evening.</p>	<p><a href="#">Southwestern Michigan College</a> <a href="#">Lake Michigan College</a> <a href="#">Heritage Southwest ISD</a> <a href="#">Glen Oaks Community College</a></p>	<p>Eligible Student – A student enrolled in at least one high school class in a school district, public school academy or state-approved nonpublic school in Michigan.</p> <p>Excludes foreign exchange pupils enrolled under a cultural exchange program (J-1 Visa).</p> <p>The student must have at least one parent or legal guardian that is a resident of Michigan (unless the student is experiencing homelessness).</p> <p>Student must not have been enrolled in high school for more than four school years</p>
Van Buren Tech	<p>Van Buren Tech offers students educational training in a variety of career and technical education programs.</p> <p>Van Buren Tech Center offers 26 career and technical (CTE) programs. Students attend for half of their school day. Classes are offered in the afternoons. Students who are interested in attending VBTC must get approval through the guidance department. Students must be in good standing and not be behind in credits. See the guidance department for more information regarding classes.</p>	<p><a href="#">Van Buren Tech</a></p>	<p>Students attend classes at their school for half of the day and their chosen Tech program for the other half.</p> <p>Students' home district provides transportation to and from VB Tech.</p> <p>You can attend for 1 or 2 years</p> <p>Academic Credit opportunities can help to make your VB Tech program "fit"</p> <p>Between February and April, see your high school counselor to request the program that is the best fit for you</p>
Math/ Science	<p>Up to 30 students per grade in grades 9-12 travel to the campus of Andrews University in Berrien Springs for</p>	<p><a href="#">Math/Science Center- Andrews</a></p>	<p>Students apply for the program prior to 9th grade or during their high</p>

Center	half of each school day to take accelerated mathematics, science, and technology classes. Students receive high school and optional college credit for these courses, taught by Andrews University faculty.		school career.  Highly Competitive, SAT scores needed to apply.
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**Berrien County Mathematics & Science Center**

Students who take Algebra 1 in 8th grade can apply for admission to the Berrien County Mathematics & Science Center for grade 9. The Center also often has a few seats available for qualified students beginning in 10th or 11th grade. You can get more information on their website: Berrien RESA Mathematics & Science Center or talk with your school counselor about applying.

**Dual Enrollment**

See the Dual Enrollment section on page 11 above for more specific information about the Dual Enrollment process. Students can choose to take one, two, three, or four courses per semester as dual enrollment. When selecting this option in PowerSchool, students will choose based on the number they plan to take per semester.

**Early/Middle College**

See the Early/Middle College section on page 13 above for more specific information about the Early/Middle College program process.

**Heritage Southwest ISD Career Academies**

Career Academies are a partnership between Heritage Southwest ISD, Southwestern Michigan College, the four local districts (Cassopolis, Dowagiac, Edwardsburg, and Marcellus), and other interested districts. The academies provide 11th and 12th-grade students an opportunity to earn college credit in a planned program of study while still in high school. Academy students attend classes on the campus of Southwestern Michigan College. The local high school pays tuition and fees for academy classes. If interested in any career academy students should contact their high school counselor. Students must meet the eligibility requirements of both the local high school and Southwestern Michigan College. For information regarding transferring Career Academy credits to another post-secondary school, please see the Michigan Transfer Agreement (MTA) section below.

**Automotive Technology**

The program prepares students for employment as an automotive service technicians in various settings such as automobile dealerships, independent service facilities, franchised repair facilities, and specialty shops.

**Business**

Business, management, and administrative workers give the support needed to make a business run. The academy introduces students to several areas in the Business field. The academy emphasizes an exploration of careers in business, including job shadowing experience in several areas of business.

**Construction Trades/Green Technology**

This program prepares students with both the theoretical and applied knowledge necessary to gain successful employment in the construction industry. Students will also develop a solid foundation in “green” technologies and practices related to construction. The curriculum is aligned with national competency standards and trade-specific skills. Students in this program will develop the understanding and skills to build, inspect and repair structures.

**Criminal Justice**

This academy is part of the Human Services pathway and prepares students to study the theories and principles of correctional science, organization management, and criminal justice.

Education/Early Childhood Education – This academy provides students with the foundation classes needed for careers in education. This academy also explores careers in the education field with a significant part of the course job shadowing in educational settings.

### **Graphic Design**

Graphic Artists create artwork to illustrate or promote products, services, and ideas, as well as to improve appearance or attract attention. They plan, design, and draw illustrations for displays, billboards, brochures, catalogs, books, magazines, newspapers, TV, the internet, and packaging. This academy gives students a foundation for continuing their education in careers in the design and graphic arts field.

### **Health**

As a physician, dentist, or nurse, you could work directly with patients. You could also work in a laboratory to get the information used in research or provide administrative support by keeping medical records. This academy is designed to provide students with the fundamental classes to continue in a career in the health field. The academy also emphasizes an exploration of careers in the health field, including significant job shadowing experience.

### **Mechatronics Technology**

Students are introduced to the emerging discipline of Mechatronics, which integrates electrical, mechanical, and computer systems, robotics, and programmable logic controllers and provides the graduate with the knowledge and skills required in today's manufacturing environment.

### **Sports Management**

Sports Management is a part of the Business pathway to a degree specialized in managing sports and recreation-related operations. It encompasses a variety of applications within the growing field of sports and recreation.

### **Welding Technology**

This academy provides students with knowledge and practice in several areas of welding. Welding is the process of combining materials (usually metal) using high heat. It may also involve patching metal, plastic, glass, or other materials. Welding is used in nearly every manufacturing industry from shipbuilding and construction to pipelines, oil rigs, and automotive.

## **Van Buren Tech Courses**

### **3 Credits (11-12)**

Van Buren Tech's CTE programs provide a multi-faceted training experience, utilizing high-tech equipment and training, in combination with the project and work-based learning, to assist students as they explore career options, prepare for college, and develop skills for the workplace. Students can leave the Van Buren Tech with up to 60 college credits, a state or national license/certification, and advanced skills that employers are looking for! Each year, over 1,000 high school juniors and seniors from 15 partnering school districts throughout southwest Michigan, choose to attend the Van Buren Tech for a portion of their school day. The flexibility in program offerings at VBTC allows students to maintain their affiliation with their "home school," while pursuing opportunities to work with educational and technical resources that would otherwise be unavailable. Programs at Van Buren Tech include the following:

### **Advanced Manufacturing**

Study the operation of metal-working equipment. Develop skills from basic cutting to state-of-the-art computerized numerical machines (CNC). Previously known as Machine Tool, this program combines high-tech machines with hands-on projects. Students are engaged with brainstorming, engineering, machining and robotics. Work on Vertical Milling Machines and Engine Lathes, along with 3-axis Computer Numeric Controlled Milling and Lathe Machines. Build a foundation of manufacturing skills that will help you gain an engineering background or enter an apprenticeship. Also, learn skills in Master Computer Aided Machining software and programming. Through the Tooling University online curriculum, students can work toward National Institute of Metalworking Skills (NIMS) certification. College credit is also available to qualifying students.

### **Agriculture and Natural Resources**

Learn and develop the leadership and teamwork skills necessary in the industry today. Students can test their skills in the Future Farmers of America (FFA) youth organization, plus help plan and implement community-based projects. First-year students will learn about different aspects of plant science, animal science, and natural resource concepts. The second-year curriculum includes learning concepts related to floral design, veterinary science, production agriculture, landscape management, wildlife management, and much more!

### **Allied Health Technologies**

In this program, you will be introduced to a variety of careers in health care including careers as a Physician, Nurse, Physical, Occupational, and Respiratory Therapist, Kinesiologist, Psychologist, and Radiologist. This program also introduces students to a variety of fields of study in Dentistry, Optometry, Audiology, Sports Medicine, Veterinary Medicine, Massage Therapy, and Chiropractic Medicine.

Students engage in many hands-on "clinical" skills and acquire academic knowledge in areas such as: medical terminology, anatomy and physiology, and core health care foundations. Students will also participate in job shadow experiences further allowing them to explore their career options.

Participating students may earn certifications in First Aid, CPR, Phlebotomy, and as a Certified Medical Assistant

### **Auto Body Technician**

In this ASE and NATEF certified program, students will focus on repairing and refinishing vehicles exteriors. This program emphasizes training in surface preparation, sheet metal alignment, and repair, removing and replacing parts, finishing techniques, and customer service. Students gain knowledge and skills in estimating, welding, and painting.

### **Auto B-E-S**

Learn about automobile engine construction, brakes technology, and steering and suspension designs, from the textbook and lab. In our state-of-the-art auto shop, students work as a team with real customers' vehicles to troubleshoot and repair problems. Students who successfully complete the program may be eligible to take the State of Michigan Auto Mechanic Certification exams. Students who would be successful in this program like to work with their hands, fix things, solve problems, work with tools, work on a team, work on cars and trucks and understand more about automobiles.

### **Auto E-E-P**

In the automotive EEP (Electrical and Engine Performance) program students learn to diagnose and repair the following systems: automotive electric, starting, charging, lighting, audio, safety restraints, and computer systems along with basic hybrid maintenance for the first semester. During the second semester students will learn to



diagnose and repair the following systems: ignition, fuel injection, emissions engine management, intake and exhaust, and onboard not diagnostic systems, along with basic alternative fuel systems. students also have the opportunity to take the Michigan State Certification test and upon successful completion of those tests, students are eligible to work in a licensed repair facility. Students who successfully complete the automotive EEP program will have obtained skills valuable to finding a job as an automotive technician.

### **Cadet Teacher Academy**

Students receive face-to-face classroom instruction two days per week to learn beginning teaching skills/methodology. Three days per week, students work with a mentor teacher, gaining classroom experience, first by observing, then advancing to actual lesson development and delivery. Students also have the opportunity to participate in the "Family, Career and Community Leaders of America" (FCCLA) student organization. An enrollment packet is also required for the Cadet Teacher Academy, which includes field placement information. Students may also qualify to receive their "Proficiency Certificate for Teacher Assistants" and/or Career Readiness Certificate. This would allow students to be qualified as a Classroom Paraprofessional upon graduation from high school. Participation in an orientation before the start of the school year is also required. Students in this program should enjoy working with children and be creative. Skills that would assist in the success of this program would be effective communication, compassion, flexibility, and self-motivation/management. This program provides the opportunity to work with the public and give back to the community.

### **Commercial Design**

Here at The Exchange Company, the work we do is used to sell, promote, explain, narrate and inform those around us. As a commercial artist, you'll plan, analyze, and create visual solutions to communications problems using a variety of methods such as color, type, illustration, photography, animation, and various print and layout techniques. You will develop the foundations in commercial art and explore a variety of art techniques, both traditional and digital. Some future career choices include graphic designer, illustrator, art director, animator, advertising design, book design, web page designer, and more!

### **Construction Trades**

Students will learn and apply the concepts of plumb, level, and square through practical on-site applications. Emphasis is placed on "hands-on" learning and correcting mistakes. Construction areas covered in this program include safety, hand and power tool operations, masonry skills, framing, roofing, siding, drywall hanging, and finishing, door/trim applications, and estimating. Students will also gain knowledge in electrical, cabinet making, and more. In both the on-site and off-site programs, students will construct a residential home.

### **Cosmetology**

This program can be a gateway to an exciting, fast-paced, ever-changing career for our students- opening the door to many opportunities. In this three-year, 1500-hour program, students are taught all aspects of hair, skin, and nails. This environment is very hands-on, where students learn manicures, pedicures, facials, haircutting, hair coloring, waxing, hairstyling, scalp massages, and more. After proper training and the appropriate amount of hours, students are able to perform services on clients, on our salon floor. When completing this program, students are extremely prepared for the State Licensure exams and have acquired on-the-job training, salon management skills, the ability to work well with others, and a life-long career.

### **Culinary Arts and Catering Management**

The Culinary Arts and Catering Management program, which is recognized by the Culinary Institute of America and is a member of the Michigan Restaurant Association, includes segments from a variety of related industries. Students develop skills through field trips, banquets, on-and-off-site food service events, textbook/workbook activities, hands-on cooking, and culinary/cooking. Qualifying students can earn college credit and industry certifications. ServSafe, a nationally recognized sanitation certification, is a hospitality services industry requirement. Students who successfully complete ProStart Levels I and II are issued a certificate from the National Restaurant Association.

### **Cyber Security and Computer Network Technology**

Cyber Security is a 75 billion dollar industry and is expected to grow to 170 billion dollars by 2020, with millions of high-paying jobs unfilled. Our program at VBTC teaches you the skills needed to be successful in this industry. We start with computer and network hardware and software, including personal computers, tablets, phones, Windows, Linux, Android, routers, switches, wireless access points, cabling, servers, and dozens of other types of electronic equipment. The second year is advanced studies and certifications in local area networks, wide area networks, and network security. As a part of the program, all students will complete internships at their local school districts and we also have up to 24 credit hours of direct college credit through Davenport University. In addition, students are encouraged to earn industry certifications. Anyone can do it. It just takes self-motivation, a good work ethic, and time management.

### **Early Childhood Careers and Education**

Students who enjoy working with children of all ages will learn about children's emotional, physical, social, and cognitive development, as well as appropriate learning activities for each child's age level. Get hands-on experience working with children in a preschool lab and in other classroom settings. Students will also learn about working with at-risk children, and children with developmental disabilities. Students can participate in our student organization, "Family, Career and Community Leaders of America" (FCCLA) where they have the opportunity to organize and facilitate dynamic Community Service projects and events. Students may qualify for their ETS Paraprofessional Certification upon completion of the program. Students who are interested in this program enjoy working with children at all age levels, being part of a team, and completing hands-on projects and field experience.

### **Emergency Medical Technician (EMT)**

Learn immediate medical care techniques for the critically ill/injured person, including Airway Management, CPR, AED Auto Rescue/Extrication, and Emergency Childbirth. Certification in Medical First Responder or Emergency Medical Technician is available for students who successfully complete the program and pass the state exams. Students in this program must desire to be on a trained medical team that uses state-of-the-art communications, the latest life-saving pre-hospital care equipment and staff ambulances that are like mobile emergency rooms. The ability to maintain composure under the stress of a life-threatening emergency and quick responses are skills that will help a student to be successful in this program.

### **Engineering and Agricultural Design**

Learn immediate medical care techniques for the critically ill/injured person, including Airway Management, CPR, AED Auto Rescue/Extrication, and Emergency Childbirth. Certification in Medical First Responder or Emergency Medical Technician is available for students who successfully complete the program and pass the state exams. Students in this program must desire to be on a trained medical team that uses state-of-the-art communications, the latest life-saving pre-hospital care equipment, and staff ambulances that are like mobile

emergency rooms. The ability to maintain composure under the stress of a life-threatening emergency and quick responses are skills that will help a student to be successful in this program.

### **Fire Science**

This program is the State of Michigan-approved Firefighter 1 & 2 academies. Students will learn how to work as a team, exercise leadership, and serve their communities. Cadets will focus on the principles of life safety, incident stabilization, and property conservation. Students who are at least 16 and pass the class with a 75% or higher will be eligible to take the Michigan Firefighter 1 & 2 Hazardous Materials Operations exam for state certification. This program is not for the faint of heart. Cadets will be expected to perform at the adult and professional levels.

### **Fundamentals of Patient Care**

The patient care program is an excellent opportunity for students interested in any career in healthcare. Specifically, the patient care program focuses on nursing and preparing students to pursue a Michigan-certified nursing association (CAN) license. Classroom instruction is divided between lecture and Hands-On learning. This program provides a solid foundation in the basics of medical terminology, anatomy, physiology, and medical math. Students can become certified through the American heart association in CPR and first aid. Students interested in this program should have an interest in the healthcare field as well as enjoy working with people of all ages, cultures, and backgrounds. Success in this program would include the ability to work on a team, good communication skills, and most importantly, having care and compassion towards people.

### **Law Enforcement**

In this course, you will learn about basic policies and procedures of the legal system, study juvenile delinquency problems and theories, and become more familiar with the work of youth agencies, legislative involvement, and new approaches to juvenile crime prevention. Classroom participation, job shadows, and field trips are included. Qualifying first-year students can earn six credits from Lake Michigan College (LMC). Second-year students are placed in an intern program. An application process, including a background check, is required for this program. Students who are interested in this program enjoy hands-on activities, learning from actual police officers, collecting evidence, and working as part of a team.

### **Marketing/Entrepreneurship**

Learn and apply marketing skills that allow you to be successful in today's highly competitive business world. Units include management and communication skills, sales, visual merchandising, job interviewing, product planning, podcasting, marketing research, and advertising. This course will also teach you how to research a business idea, write a business plan, and start your own business. Participation and competition in the national Distributive Education Clubs of America (DECA) student organization is encouraged for all students. Good verbal and written communication skills, time management, and the ability to work with others are qualities that will help a student succeed in this program.

### **Medical Biotechnology**

This program focuses on various techniques that are used in the medical biotechnology industry to modify living organisms and create new medicines or processes in the field of medicine. In this program, students learn how to conduct experiments, collect and process data, and interpret and communicate results. Students will use microscopes, centrifuges, pipettes, and electrophoresis equipment while learning critical lab skills, and gaining insight into biotechnology career fields. Students in this program will also complete Project Lead the Way's (PLTW) Medical Interventions (MI) course, where they will investigate how to prevent, diagnose, and treat disease.

### **Pharmacy Technicians**

Pharmacy Technicians help pharmacists provide medication and other health care products to patients. This college-level program prepares students to work in a pharmacy/hospital setting through classroom study and hands-on learning. Students will learn about pharmacy law and ethics, medical terminology, anatomy and physiology, pharmaceutical terminology and abbreviations, infection control procedures, pharmaceutical prescription preparation and dispensing procedures, pharmacy computer applications, insurance procedures, drug research, and patient/customer relations. Students in this program should have good memorization skills, be detail-oriented, follow directions well, enjoy multitasking, work well under pressure and be good at problem-solving. This program requires you to work with people and accept responsibility.

### **Polymer Technologies**

Students in this program will receive hands-on training with computers, CAD and design software, laser engraving equipment, hand tools, large machinery, and measuring equipment (calipers, micrometers). Students need to be creative and problem-solving abilities, as well as be comfortable working one-on-one with customers in the industry.

### **Print Media Technologies**

Welcome to the Print Media Technologies program. Printing is all around us and influences our world in many ways. If you are interested in learning about the creative industry of printing and imaging, this program is for you! In this program, we take ideas from concept to printed product. We focus on learning how to print on almost any surface, using the latest imaging technology and production methods. Imagine wrapping a car in graphics, or creating a new design trend for all types of apparel and items, like t-shirts and skateboards. This class will push your creativity to new levels as we take design and graphics beyond two dimensions. As part of the Print Media Technologies class, you will be challenged to think differently, risk bravely and explore the vast world of printing by working on real projects with real clients. Print Media is all about developing tomorrow's imaging professionals, in every aspect, to reach success in both career and life.

### **Software Engineering**

This course provides the opportunity to learn many different software languages and developmental tools, such as C++, C#, Java, Python, HTML5, Visual Studio, NetBeans, etc. while developing several projects. The projects can come from a wide range of applications, including web applications, computer graphics, and image processing, scientific modeling, databases, games, embedded systems, computer vision, artificial intelligence, and/or robotics.

### **Welding**

Learn how to safely use the various welding equipment and do strong, professional-looking welds. Apply your knowledge of various types of welds in a high-tech welding lab. Work independently while learning precise measurements and angles, and a variety of welding processes including Gas Metal Arc Welding, Gas Tungsten Arc Welding, Shielded Metal Arc Welding, Flux Core Arc Welding, Resistance Welding, and more! Students will receive hands-on training in different welding processes, working with large industrial machinery, cutting metal with fire, joining pieces of metal together with electricity, hand tools, and bending/manipulating metal. Students should be comfortable working one-on-one with special customer projects.

## **MSU credits via high school Agriscience Program**

An agreement between Michigan State University (MSU) and the Michigan Department of Education Office of Career and Technical Education will allow high school students to earn college credits while they're still in high school. Students who complete state-approved agriculture, food, and natural resources education program and receive the State FFA Degree can receive six credits toward a bachelor's degree or undergraduate certificate program at MSU.

The credits will apply to the total number required for graduation and may be used to meet the requirements of the student's program at MSU, pending approval of the major department. The credits cannot be used to fulfill general education requirements such as math and English.

1. To be completers in the Agriscience program at Cassopolis students must complete the following sequences of courses:

Agriculture Biology or Agriculture Literature

Veterinary Science

2. To obtain the State FFA Degree students must:

- Complete the State FFA Degree Application and submit it by the deadline (usually early January)
- Be a senior student in the Agriscience Program and have actively participated in the FFA
- Maintain a satisfactory record of scholarship throughout high school (recommended 2.5/4.0 or higher)
- Participate in at least 5 FFA activities above the chapter level
  - Examples could include the following: District Leadership Contests, Regional Leadership Contests, Broiler Contest, Regional Leadership Camp, State Convention, National Convention, Farm Day, Green and White Swine Show, Ag Skills Contest
- Has completed a minimum of 25 hours of community service during their high school career Maintains a Supervised Agriculture Experience Project and has earned a minimum of \$2000 or worked 500 hours on the project while they are enrolled in the Agriscience Program
  - Examples of ways to attain the hours or money could include the following: raise livestock at home, engage in the production of agricultural products, work in an agriculturally related job

The FFA State Degree Application is submitted to Michigan FFA Association by the local chapter Advisors. The application receives final approval from the Michigan FFA State Executive Secretary. The FFA State Degree is awarded annually at the FFA State Convention in March.

## **Michigan Transfer Agreement (MTA)**

### **Southwestern Michigan College and Lake Michigan College**

The Michigan Transfer Agreement (MTA) is designed to facilitate the transfer of general education requirements between participating Michigan institutions. The agreement provides for the transferability of a block of core requirements. Students are encouraged to complete the MTA as a part of an associate degree but may achieve the distinction without completing a degree. At SMC, most Associates in Arts and Associate in Science degrees facilitate the completion of the MTA requirements. Some Associate in Applied Science degrees at SMC also

facilitate the completion of the MTA, but many more do not because the A.A.S. curriculum, by design, is more focused on helping students move toward employment opportunities rather than transferability.

To secure the MTA stamp of approval from SMC, students must: complete a minimum of 30 MTA-approved credit hours in conjunction with a degree, achieve a minimum grade of “C” for each approved course, and earn at least one credit-bearing course at SMC. Students cannot use CLEP Exam scores to fulfill MTA requirements. Consult your advisor for changes or specific details.