



High School Course Guide Bridge View & Challenger Day Schools

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“EXCELLENCE IN SPECIAL EDUCATION”

HIGH SCHOOL ACADEMIC CURRICULUM

Course Descriptions Follow

English

English (9th-12th)

Reading

Public Speaking

Creative Writing

American Literature

Literature Classics

English Research Life

Skills English

Mythology

Mathematics

Life Skills Math

Consumer Education

General Math

Pre-Algebra

Algebra I

Algebra II

Geometry

Pre-Calculus

Science

Biology/Life Science

Earth Science

Environmental Science

Physical Science

Integrated Science

Chemistry

Physics

Social Sciences & History

World Geography

World History

World Cultures

U.S. History

Government

Contemporary U.S. Issues

Contemporary World Issues

Sociology

Civics

Psychology

Criminal Justice

Physical Health & Safety Education

Physical Education

Health

Health & Life Management Driver's Safety

Business & Technology

Intro to Business

Economics

Computer Applications

Additional

Art

Independent Study Career Education

Cooperative Work Study

Study Skills

English Research

- Open to: Grades 9-12
- Length: One (1) or Two (2) Semesters
- Credit: One (1) per Semester

Research/Technical Writing classes prepare students to write research papers and/or technical reports. These classes emphasize researching (primary and secondary sources), organizing (material, thoughts, and arguments), and writing in a persuasive or technical style.

Life Skills English

- Open to: Grades 9-12
- Length: Two (2) Semesters
- Credit: One (1) per Semester

Life Skills English provides instruction in basic language skills, integrating reading, writing, speaking, and listening, while placing great emphasis on the progress on individual students. Course content depends upon students' abilities and may include vocabulary building, improving spelling and grammar, developing writing and composition skills, reading silently or aloud, and improving listening and comprehension abilities.

Mythology

- Open to: Grades 9-12
- Length: One (1) or Two (2) Semesters
- Credit: One (1) per Semester

This class is an introduction to mythology from around the world. The class addresses common themes from a wide variety of cultures including African, Native American, East Indian and European influences. The class surveys major gods and heroes, together with their associated stories, and pays particular attention to what myth "does," how it operates, and what it seeks to achieve. This series of questions will serve as our guide in connecting world myths to their modern interpretation of everyday situations.

MATHEMATICS

Life Skills Math

- Open to: Grades 9-12
- Length: Two (2) or more Semesters
- Credit: One (1) per Semester

This course examines particular topics in Foundation math, such as arithmetic or basic conceptual skills, rather than provide a general overview.

Consumer Education

- Open to: Grades 9-12
- Length: One (1) or Two (2) Semesters
- Credit: One (1) per Semester

Consumer Math courses reinforce general math topics (such as arithmetic using rational numbers, measurement, ratio and proportion, and basic statistics) and apply these skills to consumer problems and situations. Applications typically include budgeting, taxation, credit, banking services, insurance, buying and selling products and services, home and/or car ownership and rental, managing personal income, and investment.

General Math

- Open to: Grades 9-12
- Length: Two (2) or more Semesters
- Credit: One (1) per Semester

General Math courses reinforce and expand students' foundational math skills, such as arithmetic operations using rational numbers; area, perimeter, and volume of geometric figures, congruence and similarity, angle relationships, the Pythagorean theorem, the rectangular coordinate system, sets and logic, ratio and proportion, estimation, formulas, solving and graphing simple equations and inequalities.

Pre-Algebra

- Open to: Grades 9-12
- Length: Two (2) Semesters
- Credit: One (1) per Semester

Pre-Algebra courses increase students' foundational math skills and prepare them for Algebra I by covering a variety of topics, such as properties of rational numbers (i.e., number theory), ratio, proportion, estimation, exponents and radicals, the rectangular coordinate system, sets and logic, formulas, and solving first-degree equations and inequalities.

Algebra I

- Open to: Grades 9-12
- Length: Two (2) Semesters
- Credit: One (1) per Semester

Algebra I courses include the study of properties and operations of the real number system; evaluating rational algebraic expressions; solving and graphing first degree equations and inequalities; translating word problems into equations; operations with and factoring of polynomials; and solving simple quadratic equations.

SCIENCE

Algebra II

- Open to: Grades 11-12
- Length: Two (2) or more Semesters
- Credit: One (1) per Semester

Algebra II course topics typically include field properties and theorems; set theory; operations with rational and irrational expressions; factoring of rational expressions; in-depth study of linear equations and inequalities; quadratic equations; solving systems of linear and quadratic equations; graphing of constant, linear, and quadratic equations; properties of higher degree equations; and operations with rational and irrational exponents.

Geometry

- Open to: Grades 10-12
- Length: Two (2) or more Semesters
- Credit: One (1) per Semester

Geometry courses, emphasizing an abstract, formal approach to the study of geometry, typically include topics such as properties of plane and solid figures; deductive methods of reasoning and use of logic; geometry as an axiomatic system including the study of postulates, theorems, and formal proofs; concepts of congruence, similarity, parallelism, perpendicularity, and proportion; and rules of angle measurement in triangles.

Pre-Calculus

- Open to: Grade 12
- Length: Two (2) or more Semesters
- Credit: One (1) per Semester

Pre-Calculus courses combine the study of Trigonometry, Elementary Functions, Analytic Geometry, and Math Analysis topics as preparation for calculus. Topics typically include the study of complex numbers; polynomial, logarithmic, exponential, rational, right trigonometric, and circular functions, and their relations, inverses and graphs; trigonometric identities and equations; solutions of right and oblique triangles; vectors; the polar coordinate system; conic sections; Boolean algebra and symbolic logic; mathematical induction; matrix algebra; sequences and series; and limits and continuity.

Biology/Life Science

- Open to: Grades 9-12
- Length: Two (2) Semesters
- Credit: One (1) per Semester

Biology courses are designed to provide information regarding the fundamental concepts of life and life processes. These courses include (but are not restricted to) such topics as cell structure and function, general plant and animal physiology, genetics, and taxonomy.

Earth Science

- Open to: Grades 9-12
- Length: Two (2) Semesters
- Credit: One (1) per Semester

Earth Science courses offer insight into the environment on earth and the earth's environment in space. While presenting the concepts and principles essential to students' understanding of the dynamics and history of the earth, these courses usually explore oceanography, geology, astronomy, meteorology, and geography.

Environmental Science

- Open to: Grades 9-12
- Length: Two (2) Semesters
- Credit: One (1) per Semester

Environmental Science courses examine the mutual relationships between organisms and their environment. In studying the interrelationships among plants, animals, and humans, these courses usually cover the following subjects: photosynthesis, recycling and regeneration, ecosystems, population and growth studies, pollution, and conservation of natural resources.

Physical Science

- Open to: Grades 9-12
- Length: Two (2) Semesters
- Credit: One (1) per Semester

Physical Science courses involve study of the structures and states of matter. Typically (but not always) offered as introductory survey courses, they may include such topics as forms of energy, wave phenomenon, electromagnetism, and physical and chemical interactions.

Integrated Science

- Open to: Grades 9-12
- Length: Two (2) Semesters
- Credit: One (1) per Semester

The specific content of Integrated Science courses varies, but they draw upon the principles of several scientific specialties—earth science, physical science, biology, chemistry, and physics—and organize the material around thematic units. Common themes covered include systems, models, energy, patterns, change, and constancy. These courses use appropriate aspects from each specialty to investigate applications of the theme.

Chemistry

- Open to: Grades 11-12
- Length: Two (2) or more Semesters
- Credit: One (1) per Semester

Chemistry courses involve studying the composition, properties, and reactions of substances. These courses typically explore such concepts as the behaviors of solids, liquids, and gases; acid/base and oxidation/reduction reactions; and atomic structure. Chemical formulas and equations and nuclear reactions are also studied.

Physics

- Open to: Grades 11-12
- Length: Two (2) or more Semesters
- Credit: One (1) per Semester

Physics courses involve the study of the forces and laws of nature affecting matter, such as equilibrium, motion, momentum, and the relationships between matter and energy. The study of physics includes examination of sound, light, and magnetic and electric phenomena.

Social Sciences & History

World Geography

- Open to: Grades 9-10
- Length: Two (2) Semesters
- Credit: One (1) per Semester

World Geography courses provide students with an overview of world geography, but may vary widely in the topics they cover. Topics typically include the physical environment; the political landscape; the relationship between people and the land; economic production and development; and the movement of people, goods, and ideas.

World History

- Open to: Grades 9-10
- Length: Two (2) Semesters
- Credit: One (1) per Semester

World History provides students with an overview of the history of human society from early civilization to the contemporary period, examining political, economic, social, religious, military, scientific, and cultural developments. World History—Overview courses may include geographical studies, but often these components are not as explicitly taught as geography.

World Cultures

- Open to: Grades 9-12
- Length: One (1) or Two (2) Semesters
- Credit: One (1) per Semester

World People Studies courses allow students to study various types of subgroups that have something in common such as religion, gender, or culture. Similar in style to World Area Studies, but focusing on a group of people rather than on a specific region, these courses examine a subgroup's history, politics, economics, and/or culture.

U.S. History

- Open to: Grades 11-12
- Length: One (1) or Two (2) Semesters
- Credit: One (1) per Semester

U.S. History provides students with an overview of the history of the United States, examining time periods from discovery or colonialism through World War II or after. These courses typically include a historical overview of political, military, scientific, and social developments. Course content may include a history of the North American peoples before European settlement.

Government

- Open to: Grades 11-12
- Length: One (1) or Two (2) Semesters
- Credit: One (1) per Semester

Government provide an overview of the structure and functions of the U.S. government and political institutions and examine constitutional principles, the concepts of rights and responsibilities, the role of political parties and interest groups, and the importance of civic participation in the democratic process. These courses may examine the structure and function of state and local governments and may cover certain economic and legal topics.

Contemporary U.S. Issues

- Open to: Grades 10-12
- Length: One (1) or Two (2) Semesters
- Credit: One (1) per Semester

Contemporary U.S. Issues courses study the political, economic, and social issues facing the United States, with or without an emphasis on state and local issues. These courses may focus on current issues or may examine selected issues that span throughout the 20th century to the present.

Contemporary World Issues

- Open to: Grades 9-12
- Length: One (1) or Two (2) Semesters
- Credit: One (1) per Semester

Contemporary World Issues courses enable students to study political, economic, and social issues facing the world. These courses may focus on current issues, examine selected issues throughout the 20th century, and look at historical causes or possible solutions.

Sociology

- Open to: Grades 11-12
- Length: One (1) or Two (2) Semesters
- Credit: One (1) per Semester

Sociology courses introduce students to the study of human behavior in society. These courses provide an overview of sociology, generally including (but not limited to) topics such as social institutions and norms, socialization and social change, and the relationships among individuals and groups in society.

Civics

- Open to: Grades 9-12
- Length: One (1) or Two (2) Semesters
- Credit: One (1) per Semester

Civics courses examine the general structure and functions of American systems of government, the roles and responsibilities of citizens to participate in the political process, and the relationship of the individual to the law and legal system. These courses do not typically delve into the same degree of detail on constitutional principles or the role of political parties and interest groups as do comprehensive courses in U.S. Government.

Psychology

- Open to: Grades 11-12
- Length: One (1) or Two (2) Semesters
- Credit: One (1) per Semester

Psychology courses introduce students to the study of individual human behavior. Course content typically includes (but is not limited to) an overview of the field of psychology, topics in human growth and development, personality and behavior, and abnormal psychology

Criminal Justice

- Open to: Grades 11-12
- Length: One (1) or Two (2) Semesters
- Credit: One (1) per Semester

Legal System courses examine the workings of the U.S. criminal and civil justice systems, including providing an understanding of civil and criminal law and the legal process, the structure and procedures of courts, and the role of various legal or judicial agencies. Although these courses emphasize the legal process, they may also cover the history and foundation of U.S. law (the Constitution, statutes, and precedents). Course content may also include contemporary problems in the criminal justice system.

Physical Health & Safety **Education**

Physical Education

- Open to: Grades 9-12
- Length: Two (2) Semesters
- Credit: One (1) per Semester

Physical Education courses provide students with knowledge, experience, and an opportunity to develop skills in more than one of the following sports or activities: team sports, individual/dual sports, recreational sports, and fitness/conditioning activities.

Health

- Open to: Grades 10-12
- Length: One (1) or Two (2) Semesters
- Credit: One (1) per Semester

Topics covered within Health Education courses may vary widely, but typically include personal health (nutrition, mental health and stress management, drug/alcohol abuse prevention, disease prevention, and first aid) and consumer health issues. The courses may also include brief studies of environmental health, personal development, and/or community resources.

Personal Development

- Open to: Grades 9-12
- Length: One (1) or Two (2) Semesters
- Credit: One (1) per Semester

Health and Life Management courses focus as much on consumer education topics (such as money management and evaluation of consumer information and advertising as on personal health topics (such as nutrition, stress management, drug/alcohol abuse prevention, disease prevention, and first aid. Course objectives include helping students develop decision-making, communication, interpersonal, and coping skills and strategies.

Drivers' Safety

- Open to: Grades 10-12
- Length: One (1) or Two (2) Semesters as needed
- Credit: One (1) per Semester

Drivers' Safety provides students with the knowledge to become safe drivers on America's roadways. Topics in these courses include legal obligations and responsibility, rules of the road and traffic procedures, safe driving strategies and practices, and the physical and mental factors affecting the driver's capability (including alcohol and other drugs).

Business & Technology

Intro to Business

- Open to: Grades 11-12
- Length: One (1) or Two (2) Semesters
- Credit: One (1) per Semester

Introductory Business courses survey an array of topics and concepts related to the field of business. These courses introduce business concepts such as banking and finance, the role of government in business, consumerism, credit, investment, and management. They usually provide a brief overview of the American economic system and corporate organization. Introductory Business courses may also expose students to the varied opportunities in secretarial, accounting, management, and related fields.

Economics

- Open to: Grades 11-12
- Length: One (1) or Two (2) Semesters
- Credit: One (1) per Semester

Economics courses provide students with an overview of economics with primary emphasis on the principles of microeconomics and the U.S. economic system. These courses may also cover topics such as principles of macroeconomics, international economics, and comparative economics. Economic principles may be presented in formal theoretical contexts, applied contexts, or both.

Computer Applications

- Open to: Grades 10-12
- Length: One (1) or Two (2) Semesters as needed
- Credit: One (1) per Semester

In Computer Applications courses, students acquire knowledge of and experience in the proper and efficient use of previously written software packages. These courses explore a wide range of applications, including (but not limited to) word-processing, spreadsheet, graphics, and database programs, and they may also cover the use of electronic mail and desktop publishing.

Additional

Art

- Open to: Grades 11-12
- Length: Two (2) Semesters
- Credit: Based on length of student participation

Art provides students with the knowledge and opportunity to explore an art form and to create individual works of art. These courses may also provide a discussion and exploration of career opportunities in the art world. Initial courses cover the language, materials, and processes of a particular art form and the design elements and principles supporting a work of art. As students advance and become more adept, the instruction regarding the creative process becomes more refined, and students are encouraged to develop their own artistic styles.

Independent Study

- Open to: Grades 11-12
- Length: One (1) or Two (2) Semesters as needed
- Credit: One (1) per Semester

Students may seek approval to undertake a research or performance project for academic credit on an “independent study” basis. All such projects are similar in that they cannot be completed by the student as part of an existing class but can be completed by the student working on an independent basis with guidance from the teacher.

Career Education

- Open to: Grades 9-12
- Length: Two (2) Semesters
- Credit: N/A

Career Education is a weekly discussion based group that explores a variety of pre-vocational, vocational and post-secondary topics designed to provide students with the information and resources needed to make appropriate and informed career minded decisions.

Study Skills

- Open to: Grades 9-12
- Length: Two (2) Semesters
- Credit: N/A

Study Skills courses prepare students for success in high school and/or for postsecondary education. Course topics may vary according to the students involved, but typically include reading improvement skills, such as scanning, note-taking, and outlining; library and research skills; listening and note-taking; vocabulary skills; and test-taking skills. The courses may also include exercises designed to generate organized, logical thinking and writing.

Cooperative Work Study

- Open to: Grades 9-12
- Length: Open
- Credit: One (1) per Semester

Eligibility:

- A. All students applying for enrollment in the Cooperative Work Study Program must be at least 15 years old and have a valid work permit when required. Information on obtaining a work permit is available from the school principal.
- B. Students must be working an average minimum of 15 hours per week.
- C. Students must agree to the school establishing contact with the employer. This entails telephone consultations, to verify hours and performance, and on-site visitation, if needed.

Early Dismissal Program

- A. Students must be enrolled in program for a minimum of 30 school days. Special arrangements may be made at the student's intake interview.
- B. Students must maintain a 90% plus attendance average.
- C. A 70%, "C" average must be maintained in all academic and non-academic courses.
- D. When possible, students must have a fixed work schedule Monday-Friday
- E. Students are required to appropriately and productively engage in all program components.
- F. The time of day students may leave for the job site needs to be arranged with the school principal

Transportation for Early Dismissal

- A. when appropriate and available the student's resident school district may provide transportation directly to the work site.
- B. The student is responsible for transportation from the work site to their residence.
- C. The school principal reserves the right to limit or suspend early dismissal privileges.

Grading and Credit Policy

- A. Work study grades will be obtained through consultation with the employer focusing on: punctuality, performance of job related tasks and responsibilities, co-worker rapport, attitude and other employer identified areas.
- B. Students may earn credit towards graduation through a successful work study experience.
 1. To be eligible for credit a student must be employed at the same job site for a minimum of 10 weeks.
 2. If a student is terminated from employment for misconduct no credit will be issued.
 3. If the student chooses to terminate employment he/she must comply with the employers termination policy. Failure to do so may result in loss of credit.
 4. All students are required to immediately notify the school principal if they leave or are terminated from the job site.