

# Guide to Academic Programs Penncrest High School



2025-2026

Artist: Jenny Peralta, Class of 2025

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# GENERAL INFORMATION

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## BOARD OF SCHOOL DIRECTORS

Dr. Theresa Napson-Williams, *President*

Ken Dinitz, *Vice President*

Hillary Fletcher

Jackie Gusic

Dr. Susan Henderson-Utis

Shelly Hunt

Robert Kelly

Karleen Krenicky

Kelly Schaffer

## CENTRAL ADMINISTRATION

Dr. Joseph Meloche, *Superintendent of Schools*

William Dougherty, *Assistant Superintendent*

Christa Consadene, *Director of Curriculum, Instruction, Intervention & Assessment*

Dr. Frances K. Garner, *Director of Student Services*

Thomas Hauptert, *Director of Human Resources*

Dr. Vanessa Scott, *Director of Management Services*

### Mission

Students are the focus of the Rose Tree Media School District learning community. All students will reach their intellectual, emotional, social, and physical potential in a safe environment that celebrates diversity, individual talents and efforts, and promotes collaboration, caring, respect, and leadership. Students will be well prepared to create meaningful and productive lives in a global society.

### Vision

All members of the school community are lifelong learners committed to continuous improvement, who contribute to a diverse yet globally connected world. All members of the school community are able to use technology to extend, enhance, and facilitate learning and develop other 21st Century Skills. All community stakeholders are dedicated to ensuring that students acquire the knowledge and skills necessary to enhance and fully develop their unique potential.

## PENNCREST HIGH SCHOOL ADMINISTRATION

Ed Roth, *Principal*  
Jodi Dunston, *Assistant Principal*  
Joseph Fuhr, *Assistant Principal*

Charles Olinger, *Athletic Director*  
David Reimschuessel, *Assistant Principal*  
David Stango, *SYA Principal*

### WELCOME FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Penncrest Students and Families,

Welcome to the Penncrest High School Guide to Academic Programs. We are proud to offer a wide variety of courses that allow all learners to grow in a rigorous, supportive academic environment. As you review all of the programs that we have to offer, I encourage you to choose courses that will challenge you academically while also helping you to find and pursue the passions that will lead to lifelong success and happiness.

I encourage you to review the guide thoroughly and discuss your academic plans with your family. Do yourself a favor and look through the entire catalog of course offerings before making your selections. There are courses you may be unaware of that could be the beginning of your journey towards a meaningful, enjoyable career. If you have questions about how certain courses fit into your future plans, seek the advice of your counselor and other trusted professionals.

Thank you for helping to make Penncrest a great place to learn and grow. Enjoy exploring the possibilities that are enclosed in this guide. As you plan for your future, please know that we are planning as well so we can make the student experience the best it can be for you and your classmates.

Sincerely,



Ed Roth  
Principal

### PENNCREST HIGH SCHOOL COUNSELORS

Rochelle Eaton, *Coordinator and Grade 9*  
Cassandra Allen, *College and Career*  
Helen Douglass-Garrett, *Grades 10-12*

Karen Kerr, *Grades 10-12*  
Lori Rice-Spring, *Grades 10-12*



# COURSE SELECTION PROCESS

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The Guide to Academic Programs has been designed to assist students in this process. We urge all students to refer to the Guide when selecting their courses and to consult with their counselors, teachers, and families.

Our high school program permits a variety of course choices. We cannot overstate the importance of students taking the time to choose their courses carefully and choose course alternates with care. Selecting your courses wisely will make next year a productive one for you at Penncrest!

It is important that you review the information listed below:

1. Refer to the grade level pages of this Guide for a list of required courses and elective options.
2. Counselors, Teachers, and Administrators are available throughout the process to assist.
3. Counselors will supervise the request entry process in HAC in early to mid-February.
4. Course Selection Night is January 30 at Penncrest. There will be a course fair for current students at 6:30 in the cafeteria. Rising 9th graders will enjoy a presentation in the Auditorium at 6:30 followed by the course fair in the cafeteria. Plan to attend!
5. Any student who has difficulty or questions in planning course selections should make an appointment to see their counselor or the appropriate teachers.
6. Students are required to select at least one alternate per elective, including non-required core subject courses. These will be considered only if it becomes necessary to roster alternative selections.
7. Students may enter selections through February 28, 2025. Any student who wishes to change a selection after that date must do so through the counseling office. Selection view will close on March 14th.
8. Families will receive a mailed verification of requests in late March confirming student choices. Alert your counselor if the information is incorrect or incomplete.
9. If difficulties arise that make it impossible for us to complete a student's roster, the scheduling team will attempt to contact the student before the close of the school year or during the summer.
10. If a student fails a sequential core subject and does not attend Summer School to make up for the deficiency, that roster will be adjusted to accommodate the failure.
11. Our ability to meet students' requests for course selections depends on the availability of staff and projected enrollments to cover these requests.
12. Dual Enrollment is available to students in grades 10 through 12. Interested students should see their counselors early to complete the application and begin to make schedule adaptations. See pg.16.

## **TIMELINE**

Late January - The Guide to Academic Programs is released for students and families to review

February - Students make course selections in HAC

March - Review course selections

April/ May - Construct teacher schedules

Summer - Construct student schedules

August - HAC opens to view schedules

# NEW COURSES

Department	Course Title	Page in the Guide
GENERAL ACADEMICS	Advanced Academic Studies Lab	29
	Special Education Practicum/ Unified Courses	29
	Mathematics Education Practicum	29
ART	Ceramics I, II, III	32
	Digital Photography I	33
	Digital Design I	33
	Art Major IV	35
ENGLISH	Creative Writing	45
	Modern Shakespeare	45
	Women in Lit	46
MATH	Algebra I A	50
	Algebra I B	50
MUSIC	Introduction to Ensembles	61
	Troubadours	60
SCIENCE	Science and Technology in Society: Rocketry & Astronomy	72
	Science and Technology in Society: Measurement and Engineering	72
	Biological Forensics	73
	Physical Forensics	73
SOCIAL STUDIES	History Through Film	79
TECHNOLOGY	Introduction to Filmmaking: From Concept to Screen	84
WORLD LANGUAGE	Wenhua: Chinese Storytelling	87

# SCHEDULE CHANGES

Making selections carefully is important! Student schedules will be produced over the summer. Although we will make every attempt to honor student selections, please be aware that it may not be possible to schedule students into all of their first choices or alternatives. In some cases, it may even be necessary to consider different choices from those selected.

There is no drop/add period once schedules are published. Once students have accessed their schedules in August, only changes resulting from demonstrated scheduling errors or those initiated by teachers, counselors, and/or the administration will be made. Such changes will be made only with administrative approval.

# GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

The Rose Tree Media Board of School Directors has established graduation requirements expressed by the following chart.

Credits Required to Graduate		
Subject Area	Required Courses	Number of Credits
English		4
Mathematics	Algebra 1*	3
Science	Biology	3
Social Studies		3.5
World Language	Through 2nd course of selected language	1
Health and Physical Education	Physical Education 1 and 2 Health	1.5
Electives	Various Courses	8
Service and Career Readiness	0.5 each year See Page 15	2
<b>Total Credits</b>		<b>26</b>

*\* Students who take Algebra I in 8th grade will need 3 additional math courses in high school.*

- Special Education students may be exempted from specific requirements when the IEP team determines these requirements are incompatible with the student's needs and abilities.
- Students may meet Penncrest graduation requirements and earn college credit through the Dual Enrollment Program.
- Students may opt to take elective coursework at colleges, universities, and other institutions through the Independent Study program. Interested students should see their counselors about requirements and approvals.

## Promotion Requirements

To be promoted to the next grade, students must meet specific credit accrual requirements. Students who fail to meet the requirements are not eligible for activities at the next grade level, such as dances or proms, until they have earned promotion.

9th to 10th Grade	5 course credits, plus .5 Service/ Career Credits
10th to 11th Grade	11 course credits, plus 1 Service/ Career Credits
11th to 12th Grade	17 course credits, plus 1.5 Service/ Career Credits
Graduation	24 course credits, plus 2 Service/ Career Credits

# ACT 158

In addition to Rose Tree Media requirements for graduation, the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania requires that students take Keystone Exams in three core curricular areas. Students in the Class of 2023 and beyond will be subject to new graduation requirements under Act 158 of 2018 and Act 6 of 2017 (Act 6) amended §121 of the Pennsylvania Public School Code, establishing five different pathways by which students may meet the statewide graduation requirements under Title 22 Chapter 4.

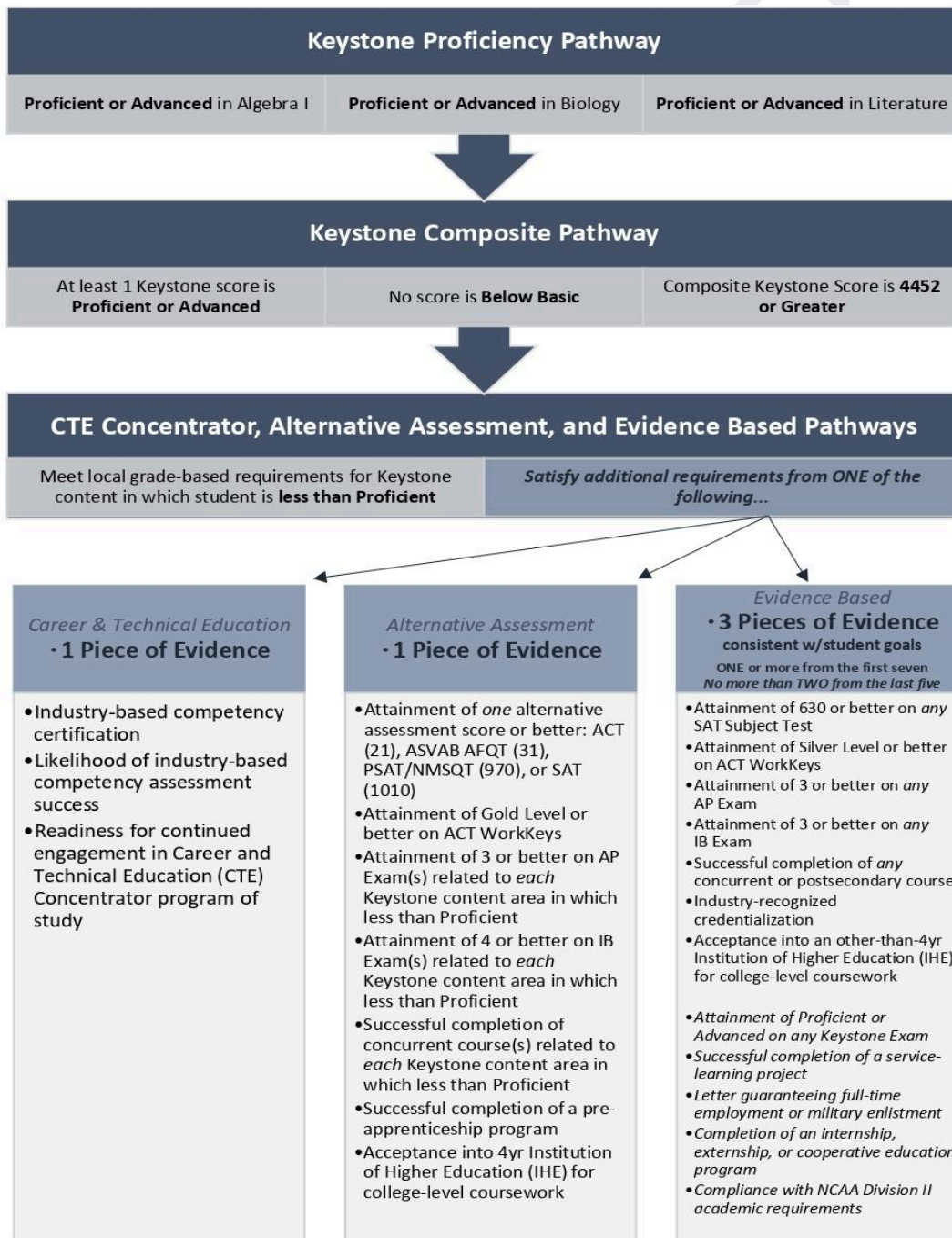
Pathway 1 - Keystone Proficient: Satisfied by scoring 1500 or higher on all keystones

Pathway 2 - Keystone Composite: Satisfied by scoring combined 4450 on keystones

Pathway 3 - Career Technical Education (CTE): Satisfied by successfully completing a DCTS course

Pathway 4 - Alternative Assessment: Satisfied by a score of 970 or higher on the PSAT, or 1010 or higher on the SAT, or scoring a 3 or higher on certain AP tests

Pathway 5 - Evidence Based Pathway: Satisfied by the evidence outlined





# ACADEMIC INFORMATION

## Grading System Numerical Performance/Letter Grade

97.50-100	A+	87.50-89.49	B+	77.50-79.49	C+	67.50-69.49	D+	<59.49	F
92.50-97.49	A	82.50-87.49	B	72.50-77.49	C	62.50-67.49	D		
89.50-92.49	A-	79.50-82.49	B-	69.50-72.49	C-	59.50-62.49	D		

## Grade Point Average (GPA)

GPA is a cumulative, numerical expression of a student's average grades. It is computed by dividing cumulative quality points on a 4.33 scale by the number of credits taken. GPA is transcribed and is used to determine athletic eligibility and honor society eligibility. It is the GPA reported on Penncrest Report Cards. GPA is calculated at the end of each academic year and includes only completed course grades.

4.33	A+	3.33	B+	2.33	C+	1.33	D+	0.00	F
4.00	A	3.00	B	2.00	C	1.00	D		
3.66	A-	2.66	B-	1.66	C-	0.66	D		

## Weighted GPA

GPA is adjusted according to the degree of difficulty of the courses taken in core, required, cumulative coursework: English, Math, Science, Social Studies, and World Language. Weighted GPA is calculated at the end of each academic year and includes only completed course grades. Any grade of an "F" will receive 0.00 weighted points.

Class of 2026		Classes of 2027 - 2029	
Advanced Placement	Adds 3.5 to GPA		
Accelerated	Adds 3.0 to GPA	Advanced Placement	Adds 1.0 to GPA
Honors	Adds 2.0 to GPA	Honors	Adds 0.5 to GPA
College Prep	Adds 1.0 to GPA	Standard/Adapted	Same as GPA
Adapted	Same as GPA		

## Report Cards

Report cards are issued at the end of each marking period via HAC. The purpose of the report card is to evaluate the quality of pupils' academic performance and to convey that evaluation to parents. Academic achievement is expressed in letter grades on the report card. Each marking period grade counts for 25% of the final grade in a full-year course and 50% of the final grade in a semester course. A grade floor of 50 is in place for the first two quarters of a full-year course; a grade floor of 40 is in place for the first quarter of a semester course. Only final course grades appear on a student's transcript.

## Incompletes

Extenuating circumstances, such as excessive excused absences, may warrant the issuance of an 'Incomplete' (*I*) for a marking period grade. Teachers will notify the student in writing of what work needs to be completed in order to resolve the grade. The student will have four weeks (or until the midpoint of the next marking period) to make up work. The teacher will notify the counselor of the grade change so that the official record can be updated. Additional time beyond the four weeks may be given with the prior approval of the student's grade-level administrator.

## Honor Roll and Distinguished Honor Roll

Students achieve Honor Roll recognition by earning a grade of *B-* or better in all classes within a given marking period. Students achieve Distinguished Honor Roll recognition by earning a grade of *A-* or better in all classes within a given marking period.

## Summer School

Any student who fails a core subject (English, Math, Science, Social Studies) may enroll in Summer School to make up the credit and prevent falling behind academically. Arrangements can be made with your child's counselor to attend the Rose Tree Media School District Summer School. Dates and tuition rates will be announced by late spring. To receive credit from another summer school program, a student must obtain prior, written approval from the administration.

## Academic Placements

Courses in English, Math, Science, Social Studies, and World Language offer various degrees of challenge and accessibility depending on students' individual learning needs. Initial course placement is defined by specific criteria developed by school leaders. Placement recommendations are based, in part, on past achievement in the subject, teacher grades, and standardized test results. Parental requests will also be given due consideration.

**\* Students in Advanced Placement courses are expected to take the Advanced Placement exam.**

What to Expect in Academic Placements			
Class of 2026	College Prep/ Honors	Accelerated	Advanced Placement
Classes of 2027 - 2029	Standard	Honors	Advanced Placement
Focus	Basic study and analysis	Deep study, critical thinking	College-level study
Skills and expectations	General skills, approaching mastery	Mastery of subject standards, independent learning	Exceptional skills, seeking application opportunities
Assessments	Frequent quizzes, tests, some homework, writing, cumulative projects	Tests, essays, projects, increased homework	College level writing, exams, frequent homework, presentations
Pace	Moderate	Fast	College-level
Independent Work (outside of class)	Moderate	Increased	Daily
Supports	Classroom supports, as needed, after school, peer tutoring, daily I/E period, online resources		

## **Independent Study For Credit**

Penncrest students may apply for elective credit for independent study work done outside of the regular school program. **Prior administrative approval** for Independent Study is required. Complete the Independent Study Proposal form and meet with your counselor before submitting to an administrator. Approved programs of independent study must require substantial study, attain the rigor and skill level of comparable Penncrest courses, and require achievement of a standard level of performance according to valid and reliable assessments of knowledge and skill. Students may only participate in an Independent Study course during the school day, after all available courses in a subject area sequence have been completed.

Independent Studies may include:

- Formal, accredited coursework from an approved educational institution
- Supervised internship
- Faculty-sponsored Independent Study
- Certificate programs
- Educational travel

Each independent study course earns 1.0 (for 120 hours) or 0.5 credits (for 60 hours). Independent Study credits will receive an unweighted letter grade, where applicable. All others will receive pass/ fail credit. Applications for credit will be considered on a case-by-case basis. All costs associated with the independent study must be borne by the student and his or her family.

## **Career Work Experience**

Students in grades 11 and 12 will have the opportunity to earn elective credits for hours worked during the school year, with 0.5 credits awarded for 100 hours of documented work during the school year (3 credits maximum each year). See page 30 for more details.

## **Flexible Schedule**

Seniors, who meet specific criteria, may opt to have a flexible schedule - late arrival (no first block class) or early dismissal (no last block class). No credits will be issued for Flexible Schedule experiences.

- Seniors must be taking enough credits to graduate and be in good academic standing
- Students must provide a letter from guardians indicating permission to leave school early
- Students must demonstrate regular attendance
- Students must provide their own transportation
- Any Flexible Schedule student who fails one or more courses in a marking period will forfeit the privilege.

## **Naviance**

The Penncrest Counseling Department is pleased to partner with Naviance, a web-based service designed especially for students and families. Naviance is a comprehensive website that students and families can use to help in making decisions about courses, colleges, and careers.

Student Naviance accounts require no login credentials; accounts are accessed via Clever. Parents/guardians who need assistance accessing parent/guardian accounts should contact Mrs. Craft at [jcraft@rtmsd.org](mailto:jcraft@rtmsd.org). The link for the family login screen is located on the Penncrest website in the Parent Portal under Students & Families.

## **Course Withdrawals**

Students who withdraw from a course, with administrative approval, after the midpoint of the first marking period for a semester course or after the first marking period of a full year course, will receive a withdrawal grade: W/P (no credit) if passing, W/F (failure) if not passing.

# ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

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Penncrest continues to emphasize the importance of respect. Respect includes understanding and appreciating the differences among people, as well as acting with integrity within the school and community. To help students and parents understand the school's expectations for integrity in academic life, the Penncrest faculty has produced the following set of principles and examples of violations. We hope you will find them helpful.

## Principles of Academic Integrity

Penncrest High School is a community of learners dedicated to the pursuit of knowledge. Essential to this pursuit is the belief that authentic learning is a process marked by integrity, honesty, and collegiality.

The Penncrest community identifies an academically honorable student as one who:

- produces original work for each exercise, each assignment, and each course.
- conscientiously identifies sources.
- facilitates an atmosphere of support for academic integrity.
- provides an accurate report of research.
- properly cites borrowed sources, ideas, and information.
- reports breaches of integrity (test security, individual or group behavior, etc.).
- consults with the instructor to clarify questions of academic integrity.
- accepts personal responsibility for all aspects essential to completing a given assignment.

## Violations of Academic Integrity

The following is a list of the various types of violations of academic integrity that most commonly occur. Violations are “those activities that have the effect or intention of interfering with education, pursuit of knowledge, or fair evaluation of a student's performance.” Students should be aware that they are NOT to engage in any of these practices:

**Cheating:** These violations are pretty obvious. Using a cheat sheet, unauthorized use of an electronic device, copying answers from another student, or changing answers on an exam are all forms of cheating.

**Plagiarism:** Taking credit for the work (research, words, or ideas) of others constitutes

plagiarism. This includes copying a classmate's or brother's paper as much as copying from a published source. Even using someone's ideas without citation is a violation. In other words, if someone at your lunch table has a great analysis of the book you're reading for English class, you shouldn't use her ideas in your paper.

**Fabrication:** Handing in a lab report with falsified results, citing a book that you didn't really read, making up statistics that “conveniently” support your thesis—all bad! Padding a bibliography may seem trivial, but it's another example of academic fraud—the bottom line remains, don't do it.

**Multiple Submission:** This means turning in a paper more than once. You shouldn't turn in an English paper from 10th grade to your 11th-grade Humanities teacher. If you intend to do this, you must receive permission first. It may be worth asking, but chances are you'll be asked to write another essay.

**Misrepresentation of Academic Records:** Altering grades (on a computer, in a teacher's roll book, or on a paper report card or transcript) is incredibly dishonest. So is claiming to have participated in a particular sport or activity on your college application if you didn't do so. It just isn't worth it: no future school or employer will want someone who is known to engage in this sort of record tampering.

**Facilitating Academic Dishonesty:** This means don't help your friends to cheat. Allowing someone to copy from your test or homework assignment is cheating. If they get caught, you're both going to get punished. “Friends don't let friends copy homework.”

**Unfair Advantage:** This category of malfeasance includes: obtaining a copy of an exam before it's given; obtaining information about what is included on an exam before it has been given to your particular class, or to you; sabotaging another student's work; and obtaining extra time for a paper or exam with a fictional excuse. Refrain from any of these ideas, please.

# GUIDELINES FOR HOMEWORK

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## **Philosophy Behind Homework**

The mission of the Rose Tree Media School District is to provide an educational setting through which “all students reach their intellectual, emotional, social and physical potential.” Homework is a key means of helping students reach their full potential. Research demonstrates a significant and positive relationship between achievement and the amount of time spent on homework, and most teachers, parents, and students themselves consider homework an important component in the process of teaching and learning. In general, homework promotes learning outside the classroom and provides opportunities for students to develop positive work habits, time management and study skills, and personal responsibility.

## **Purposes of Homework**

Homework serves a number of specific purposes in the academic program:

**Practice:** Students need to reach mastery of key skills, and meaningful homework can increase speed and accuracy.

**Study:** Students need to acquire or construct new knowledge, and meaningful homework helps them acquire information, understand concepts, and move content into long-term memory.

**Preparation:** Prior experiences of knowledge or content, such as what is gained by reading a chapter in advance, help students be ready for subsequent learning and enable classes to move at an optimal pace.

**Elaboration/Extension/Enrichment:** Students need to demonstrate their mastery of knowledge and skills in a variety of ways, such as by conducting research, designing a graphic organizer, or writing a journal entry or essay. With these purposes in mind, teachers will design and assign meaningful homework assignments that extend the classroom and support learning outside of school.

## **Appropriate Amount of Homework**

Homework assignments are an integral part of each student’s educational program and will be assigned on a regular basis. In terms of the amount of homework students should receive on a daily basis, national parent and teacher organizations, as well as the U.

S. Department of Education, suggest the “10-minute rule,” whereby a student should average 10 minutes of homework for every year in school. For example, a 7th grader should average 70 minutes per day and a 10th grader should average 100 minutes per day. However, this is a general guideline and will vary by school and by subject area, especially as students move into middle and high school. Reviewing material, studying for tests, or completing independent reading for school all count as part of a student’s homework. Also, most older students will have homework projects, such as research papers and oral reports, that may have deadlines weeks away, for which they may need help organizing assignments and planning work times to make sure homework is ready to turn in on time. Students taking advanced or accelerated courses will likely need more time to complete the assignments. If a parent observes a student consistently requiring time beyond or below these parameters, s/he should contact the child’s teachers or counselor to discuss placement issues.

## **Information/Communication About Homework**

Homework assignments are generally available on a daily basis in a number of locations: posted in the classroom, written by students in planners or on their Chromebooks, or listed on teachers’ Schoology calendars. Teachers will announce to students and parents where to access course homework.

## **Role of Homework in Grading**

Homework completion will contribute to a student’s grade. Students are expected to complete and submit all homework on time. Students who are absent are responsible for having completed their assignments consistent with the expectations for the course.



## **Religious Conflicts**

The Rose Tree Media School District respects the rights of students to participate in the religion of their choice. Whenever students' religious obligations are found to be in conflict with their schoolwork and homework, students are encouraged to speak with their teachers, counselors, or principal. Every effort will be made to find a satisfactory accommodation.

## **Teacher Responsibilities for Homework**

Assign daily, weekly, and/or long-term homework assignments that are meaningful and useful to support students' development of skills and construction of knowledge.

- Monitor homework completion.
- Review homework and provide timely feedback on the quality of their work.
- Communicate with parents if a student's homework is not being submitted or completed satisfactorily.

## **Student Responsibilities for Homework**

Make sure to understand the assignments, associated due dates, and expectations prior to leaving school. Use the resources available (e.g., Schoology) to be aware of all assignments, whether you are in school or not that day.

- Take advantage of time available within the school day (I/E) to complete assignments.
- Take home all necessary materials.
- Have an organized means of keeping and carrying homework to and from school.
- Do homework with a minimum of parental help.
- Do homework as carefully and as neatly as work done in school.
- Complete homework on time.
- Manage time well and budget time for long-term projects.
- Make up all work as soon as possible after an absence, and, in the case of a scheduled absence, ask for assignments in advance.

## **Parent Responsibilities for Homework:**

Demonstrate the importance of homework to your child by . . .

- Setting a regular time for homework.
- Providing a regular, conducive place for homework.
- Helping him or her develop an organized means to get work to and from school.
- Removing distractions.
- Providing needed supplies and resources.
- Setting a good example.

Monitor homework by . . .

- Knowing the school's guidelines for homework.
- Making yourself available to your child.
- Looking over completed assignments and signing off, if requested.
- Monitoring time spent viewing TV and playing video games.
- Routinely checking your child's assignments and/or progress using HAC or teachers' web pages.

Provide guidance by . . .

- Helping your child get organized.
- Encouraging good study habits (e.g., time management, getting started early on big assignments, avoiding last-minute cramming, helping with practice, talking about how to take tests).
- Talking with your child about the assignments.
- Setting limits on co-curricular activities that interfere with studying time.
- Giving praise to your child for work done at home.
- Talk with teachers about concerns related to homework.

# NCAA APPROVED COURSES

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Any student athlete interested in playing a sport at a Division I or Division II college or university must be registered with the Clearinghouse. The NCAA encourages online registration at: <https://web3.ncaa.org/ecwr3/>. Plan to register before your freshman year of high school (or year nine of secondary school). Visit [on.ncaa.com/RegChecklist](http://on.ncaa.com/RegChecklist) to help guide you through the registration process.

## Academic Requirements

To study and compete at a Division I or II school, you must earn 16 NCAA-approved core-course credits, earn a minimum 2.3 (Division I) or 2.2 (Division II) core-course GPA and submit your final transcript with proof of graduation to the Eligibility Center.

## Core Courses

DIVISION I	DIVISION II
16 Core Courses	16 Core Courses
4 credits of English	3 credits of English
3 credits of Math (Algebra I or higher)	2 credits of Math (Algebra I or higher)
2 credits of Natural/Physical Science (1 year of lab)	2 credits of Natural/Physical Science (1 year of lab)
2 credits of Social Science	2 credits of Social Science
1 year of additional English, Math, or Natural/Physical Science	3 credits of additional English, Math, or Natural/Physical Science
4 credits of additional courses from any area above, Comparative Religion/Philosophy or World Language	4 credits of additional courses from any area above, Comparative Religion/Philosophy or World Language

# SAT SUITE OF ASSESSMENTS

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All students in Grades 10 and 11 take the PSAT/NMSQT assessment offered through the College Board in the fall. PSAT/NMSQT is highly relevant to your future success because it focuses on the skills and knowledge at the heart of your education. It will measure what you learn in high school and what you need to succeed in college. The PSAT/NMSQT provides:

- A great way to practice and get familiar with the format of the SAT
- An SAT study plan customized for you, based on your scores
- A suggestion of Advanced Placement (AP) courses that are a great match based on your scores
- Connection to scholarship programs
- Students in Grade 11 become eligible to compete for the National Merit Scholarship

Students in Grades 11 and 12 have the opportunity to take the SAT college entrance exam offered through the College Board during SAT weekend sessions. Benefits including:

- Connections to colleges and scholarship programs
- Free access to Career Finder which can help you find careers that interest you
- Free practice through College Board including the opportunity to earn money for college when you practice and improve your score
- Measures what students are learning in high school and what they need to know to succeed in college and beyond.

For more information visit the Post-Secondary Planning website: <https://www.rtmsd.org/Page/385>

# SERVICE AND CAREER READINESS

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In addition to academic course requirements, all students must complete activities engaged in school/ community service and career readiness. The requirements for each graduating class are listed below. The process for all classes is as follows:

- Upon completion of ANY service project, a student will pick up the certification card from their grade level office, complete the form, secure the appropriate signatures, and return the form to the appropriate grade level office. The director of student learning will then sign the certification card and award the appropriate credit.
- All projects must be completed and certification forms returned to the grade level office by the announced deadline in order to be credited.
- The principal (or designee) must approve any exceptions to the above guidelines.

## **Classes of 2026 and 2027**

Requirement - two (2) school service activities **and** two (2) community service activities are required for graduation. Each activity will be awarded 0.5 credits. Students are expected to complete at least one (1) activity per year for a total of two (2) credits in four credits.

### **School Service (2 required):**

Penncrest co-curricular activities, including clubs, committees, musical organizations, and sports teams, meet the school service-learning criteria. A student should choose an activity or committee from among those listed at Penncrest and participate fully in the program. See the club faculty sponsor for details. In addition to clubs, a student may receive school service credit by serving as an office aide, teacher aide, or nurse's aide; by working as a seasonal scorekeeper or concession stand worker; or by volunteering for other special projects.

### **Community Service (2 required):**

Students may choose a community service project from a published list of opportunities; available in the grade-level offices and on a bulletin board outside the cafeteria.

A student may choose a self-selected community service opportunity. Official documentation includes letters on official stationery from the organization benefiting from the project and/or certificates of participation signed by a representative sponsoring the project.

Certain Penncrest clubs and activities have a community service component. Students may check with the club sponsor to see if the community activity meets the community service requirement.

## **Classes Of 2028 and 2029**

Requirement - one (1) service activity **and** one (1) post-secondary planning activity each year at Penncrest; two (2) activities each year. Each activity will be awarded 0.25 credits. Students are expected to complete at least two (2) activities per year for a total of two (2) credits in four years.

### **Service Activities (4 required):**

- Involvement in a co-curricular or extracurricular activity for a minimum of 5 (five) hours per year. The sponsor/advisor/coach of the club must sign off on the students' hours.
- Participation in 5 (five) or more hours of community service. Students can complete this service by assisting at school events (under the supervision of a staff member) or by completing service that is supervised by a community organization.

### **Post-Secondary Planning Activities (4 required):**

Students in each grade will complete lessons designed to prepare students for life after high school. These lessons are aligned with the Career Education and Work Standards that are established by the Pennsylvania Department of Education in the following areas: Career Awareness and Preparation, Career Acquisition, Career Advancement and Retention, Entrepreneurship, and Financial Literacy.

# PROGRAMS

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## **DUAL ENROLLMENT PROGRAM**

The Penncrest Dual Enrollment Program allows students to earn high school and college credits simultaneously for courses taken through a college while enrolled in high school. It is a cost-effective and practical option for students to earn credit and prepare for college and career pathways.

PHS Students interested in completing a dual enrollment course for high school credit must complete the following guidelines:

1. Independently research the course that they are interested in taking before the start of the course.
2. Complete the application and attach official documentation of the requested course as well as a brief course description.
3. Submit the form to their counselor for administrative approval.
4. Within one month of completing the course, provide official documentation of the final course grade to their counselor.

Dual Enrollment coursework carries full credit toward Penncrest graduation requirements; each semester 3 credit course earned through Dual Enrollment carries a 1 credit course value on the Penncrest transcript. Grades earned through the Dual Enrollment Program will be calculated towards a student's unweighted GPA and weighted GPA calculated at an AP weight. Students who do not wish to count courses towards Penncrest graduation must inform their counselor and make arrangements to forward records to colleges and universities if they wish to do so.

Students are expected to meet the eligibility requirements for participation in the program, as set forth by the institution and through maintaining good academic standing at Penncrest.

Students are fully responsible for their academic success in the course and understand the district will not provide progress reports. The district will not fund any costs associated with the approved courses such as but not limited to tuition, fees, books, and materials. There is no guarantee the college credits will transfer to the student's college of choice. Abbreviated schedules and early dismissals will be arranged whenever possible. Students interested in the Dual Enrollment Program should see Ms. Allen, College & Career Counselor, for additional information.

**Delaware County Community College (DCCC)** - As a sponsoring school district, academically-eligible Rose Tree Media students receive access to DCCC's full course offerings at a significantly discounted rate. For the 24-25 school year, the cost per credit hour was \$68, with an average cost of \$234 per course. Enrollment steps are outlined here: <https://www.dccc.edu/highschool/enrollment-process> and within the Counseling Schoology Course.

**Teacher Education Program:** Through a partnership between DCCC and Delaware County Council, eligible high school juniors can now participate in a structured pathway at no cost to them and earn up to 38 credits toward an associate degree in education. Application due in January 2025.

**West Chester University's Partnering in Raising Inclusive, Zealous Educators (PRIZE) Program** - A selective program that allows qualified juniors and seniors interested in becoming educators to participate in an array of dual enrollment courses through the university, receive mentors, and have a cohort of like-minded students to prepare them for the field of education. PRIZE also offers students a pathway to admission in West Chester University's education program.

## **DELAWARE COUNTY TECHNICAL SCHOOL (DCTS)**

Students at Penncrest have the opportunity to attend the Delaware County Technical High Schools, our local Career and Technical Education Centers (CTE), starting in their 10th grade year. DCTS offers students access to 22 different programs across two campuses - Aston and Folcroft - where they receive hands-on training in high-demand career fields while earning industry credentials. Students must apply to attend these programs. Applications open December 16, 2024 with a priority deadline of February 28th, 2025. See Ms. Allen, College & Career Counselor, for more information. Please review DCTS CAREER CLUSTERS below for a list of all program offerings.

<https://www.dciu.org/cte/the-department-of-career-and-technical-education/dcts-programs>

During course selection, students already enrolled at DCTS can request the course code associated with their program. Applying students should select their intended program as a request with at least 3 credits of electives as alternates. Notification of acceptance occurs in late spring, usually May. For their schedules, DCTS students have Penncrest core classes in blocks one and two each day. They are then dismissed to eat lunch and use district provided transportation to their respective DCTS campuses, where they will attend their program and earn their elective credits in the afternoon. If students need PE and/or health credits, they will also take those courses through DCTS. Transportation is provided back to Penncrest prior to the end of the school day. Students are permitted and encouraged to participate in PHS clubs, athletics, and activities while enrolled at both high schools.

## **DCTS CAREER CLUSTERS**

### **School of Health & Biosciences**

The School of Health and Biosciences is a cluster of programs that highlights numerous exciting career pathways in medicine, nursing and allied health. It is designed to provide students with opportunities to learn foundational technical skills, build associated academic skills, earn PA Department of Education approved and industry accredited certifications, and develop the 21st century skills needed to excel in the workforce of the future. Students will be immersed in a rich curriculum designed to prepare them to be career and college ready during their training and exploration of various health related occupations. Anatomy and physiology, patient care skills, emergency response, disease control, medical ethics, documentation and records management, pharmacology, EKG and phlebotomy are just some of the topics students will study.

### **School of Hospitality, Tourism, & Human Services**

The School of Hospitality, Tourism, and Human Services is a cluster of programs that prepare students to pursue a variety of career pathways in culinary arts, early childhood education and cosmetology. The service industry is the mainstay of a 21st century society. In this diverse job family, workers place people and their needs first. Students will learn the effective management and planning of educational, culinary and beauty services, as well as safety, nutrition, health and human development. The unique nature of these programs brings out the entrepreneur in those who study them and, at some point in time, self-employment is one of the many career paths that can be pursued.

### **School of Construction Technology**

The School of Construction Technology is a cluster of programs that emphasizes career opportunities in the construction trades. The construction industry provides students multiple careers in designing, planning, managing, building, and maintaining infrastructures. The Construction Technology curriculum supports the efforts of students entering the skilled-trades by equipping them with proper safety and work ethic skills. Students learn to apply academic math solutions like, geometry and trigonometry, to real world challenges. The demand for highly skilled workers in Carpentry, Electrical Technology, HVAC, and Building Trades, especially students trained using state-of-the-art equipment and resources, continues to have a strong outlook demonstrating high growth.



## **School of Engineering & Computer Sciences**

The School of Engineering and Computer Science is a cluster of programs that highlights challenging and fulfilling career pathways in engineering, design, and computer network technologies. It provides a carefully structured curriculum that reflects the workforce needs for skilled engineers and computer specialists as well as adhering to Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) initiatives. Instruction includes academic & technical skill training, as well as the development of 21st Century skills that are needed to excel in the workforce of the future. Students will earn PA Department of Education approved and stackable, industry accredited certifications. The Engineering pathway prepares individuals to apply knowledge and skills in the engineering field. The Computer Science pathway is an instructional framework that focuses on the design, implementation and management of linked systems of computers and associated software. Safety, ethics, problem solving & troubleshooting, operating systems, system design, communication, automated systems, engineering graphics and security are just some of the topics students will study.

## **School of Logistics, Distribution, & Transportation**

The School of Logistics, Distribution, & Transportation offers programs that involve the transportation of passengers and cargo, warehousing & storage of goods, and supportive activities related to modes of transportation. The School of Logistics, Distribution, and Transportation is a cluster of programs that involves the transportation of passengers and cargo, warehousing & storage for goods, and supportive activities related to modes of transportation. Like all career and technical education, these training programs combine classroom instruction and hands-on experience with the latest technology in state-of-the-art labs. The needs of a fast-paced society require technicians who can manage, service, maintain, and ensure that people, materials, and goods arrive where they need to be safely and on time. Advancing technologies continue to change processes within the logistics, distribution and transportation industries. Collision repair requires technicians to repair and refinish damaged vehicles to drive like new by straightening bent bodies, removing dents, and replacing unrepairable parts. The increasing sophistication in the automotive technology field requires technical, computer, and mechanical skills to inspect, maintain, and repair automobiles. Logistical services manage all aspects of the movement of goods between producers and consumers; computerized inventory management has improved the efficiency of those relationships. The programs in the School of Logistics, Distribution, and Transportation are: Automotive Technology, Collision Repair Technology, and Logistics and Inventory Management.

## **GIFTED PROGRAM**

Students who have been identified as academically gifted may elect to participate in a variety of regular and special curricular and co-curricular programs designed to meet the needs of academically talented students.

The following options will be available during the 2025-2026 school year:

**GIFTED INDEPENDENT STUDY:** Students receive opportunities to enrich their study skills through an independent, inquiry-based research and presentation project. The project fosters a deeper understanding of course material or individual interests.

**ENRICHMENT ACTIVITIES:** Students may choose from among the many Penncrest co-curricular programs that provide challenging enrichment opportunities. In addition, students will be encouraged to participate in special planned events which may occur. Programs may run off-site and during non-school hours. Students may also choose to take advantage of independent study, dual enrollment, and other individualized program models described in this guide.

## **SIMON YOUTH ACADEMY**

The Rose Tree Media Simon Youth Academy (RTM SYA) program gives students a chance to take charge of their educational experience. RTM SYA provides a non-traditional high school setting that gives students the same education they would receive in a traditional classroom, but in a flexible environment that emphasizes one-on-one learning, personalized support and small group sizes. The RTM SYA is located in Penncrest High School and is for recommended students that may benefit from a non-traditional setting for a variety of reasons. SYA students start their day at 9am and then follow the PHS schedule for the day with an available afternoon session until 4pm each day. The RTM SYA uses an online curriculum (Edmentum) with the in person support of certificate holding teachers. The program consists of both independent online work coupled with direct instruction and the support of a deeply compassionate and caring staff. The program allows students to work alongside teachers and peers on a daily basis using a combination of small group and computer-based instruction.

The Simon Youth Foundation (SYF), is a national nonprofit headquartered in Indianapolis, and is committed to helping students graduate. SYF believes that all young people, no matter their personal circumstances, should have the opportunity to pursue their dreams through education. Through 32 Simon Youth Academies in 12 states SYF helps thousands of students reach graduation day each year. In partnership with local public school districts, SYF has maintained an average lifetime graduation rate of 91%, helping more than 28,000 students graduate, and has awarded more than \$21.1 million in scholarships.

Visit <https://www.rtmsd.org/Page/458> for more information.

# HONOR SOCIETIES

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## **National Honor Society**

All students completing their sophomore or junior year with an unweighted GPA of 3.50 or higher will be invited, by mail, to begin the process of consideration for membership in the Penncrest Chapter of the National Honor Society. Students under consideration may not have any outstanding grades of “Incomplete”. The GPA is strictly observed and is not rounded up. In mid-July, eligible students will receive an NHS Activity Form with clear directions regarding deadlines and specific information to be included.

Students must complete the form, indicating their service and leadership activities in the Penncrest community and the community at large, as well as any awards they may have earned. All activities must be supported with a signature from an adult sponsor/coach for that activity (for Penncrest activities) or by email/sealed letter for community activities (sent directly to NHS sponsors). No minimum number of service hours is required, but students admitted to the NHS are compared to each other and only relatively active members are offered admission. If a student feels that he/she exhibits leadership skills but has not held a leadership role, he/she is able to request that one of his/her teachers complete the enclosed leadership form.

Students must complete the entire Activity form and provide adult verification by the assigned deadline. Extensions are not granted. Following the submission of the NHS Activity form, the entire Penncrest faculty will comment on each applicant’s character based on their personal interactions with the student. The NHS Faculty Council then meets to review all NHS applications and renders a decision.

## **Art**

The *National Art Honor Society* (NAHS) is designed specifically for high school students in grades 9-12. In 1978, the National Art Education Association began the NAHS program to inspire and recognize students who have shown an outstanding ability and interest in art. The NAHS strives to aid members in attaining the highest standards in art scholarship, character, and service, and to bring art education to the attention of the school and community.”- National Art Education Association.

1. Membership in this chapter shall be based upon art scholarship, service, and character;
2. The candidate must have been in attendance for a period equivalent to one semester in art in this school;
3. Candidates must be senior high school students (grades 9 through 12 only) and shall have a minimum art scholarship average of B. This level of achievement shall remain fixed;
4. Members may remain active during such times when there is no art on their class schedule; 5) Students must maintain a 3.0 GPA in all classes.

The selection of members to this chapter of the National Art Honor Society shall be by recommendation of the art faculty of this school who are members in good standing of the National Art Education Association.

## **Computer Science**

The Computer Science Honor Society (CSHS) is open to all students who have successfully completed both Advanced Placement courses in Computer Science at Penncrest or are currently enrolled in their second Computer Science AP course with faculty approval.

## **English**

*Pi Lambda Sigma* is Penncrest’s chapter of The National English Honor Society. This charter carries with it a commitment to the mission of the founders of the Society: to promote mastery of written expression, encourage worthwhile reading, and foster fellowship among students who excel in English studies.

The requirements for *Pi Lambda Sigma* are rigorous: an overall GPA of 3.5 or higher, as well as a sustained 90% or higher in English (including a minimum of 90% in English each marking period). Eligible students will have demonstrated respect for academic integrity. After induction, students are expected to volunteer their time and talents to help further the mission of the Society.

## Mathematics

*Mu Alpha Theta* is the Math Honor Society. In order to be considered for membership, a student must meet all of the following criteria:

1. be a current 11th or 12th-grade student at Penncrest High School;
2. have a GPA of 3.5 or better;
3. have received 4 marking period As in their Accelerated or AP math class last year;
4. have completed Algebra II.

Students who qualify and participate in junior year are automatically considered members for senior year. Members will be required to participate in tutoring sessions and/or math competitions.

## Science

The Penncrest Chapter of the Science National Honor Society welcomes students in grades 11 and 12 who have demonstrated excellence in science studies and “will engender a new group of young thinkers who will be the future of industry, research, and scientific exploration for America.” Students who meet the requirements for membership must:

1. be in 11th or 12th grade.
2. take at least one more science course than years in high school, attend vo-tech for a medical program (nursing, dental, etc.), or be a member of 1 science competition team. (The AP Biology and AP Chemistry hybrid classes count as 2 courses.)
3. have (and maintain) a cumulative overall GPA of at least 3.00.
4. have (and maintain) cumulative overall SCIENCE GPA of at least 3.50.
5. take a science class your senior year.
6. be enrolled in an AP-level science class during or prior to the twelfth grade.

You must have demonstrated a respect for academic integrity throughout your high school career. Breaches of academic integrity will be cause for exclusion. Students who qualify and participate in junior year are automatically considered members for senior year. Students will be expected to attend monthly meetings and accumulate activity and tutoring credits each year.

## Social Studies

Penncrest High School hosts a chapter of *Rho Kappa National Social Studies Honor Society*. Members are students who appreciate the historical past, are dedicated to understanding and preserving history, and enjoy and excel in our pursuit of social studies.

The requirements for *Rho Kappa* are rigorous: an overall GPA of 3.5 or higher, as well as a sustained 90% or higher in Social Studies. Eligible students will have demonstrated respect for academic integrity.

## World Language

To be inducted into the World Language Honor Society, students must:

1. be in 10th-12th grade for Spanish and French, 9th - 12th grade for Mandarin Chinese and Latin;
2. have completed 1.5 credits of World Language with grades of A- or better (B or better for Mandarin Chinese)
3. have an overall GPA of 3.5 or higher;
4. receive a recommendation from their most recent World Language teacher;
5. demonstrate respect for academic integrity

After induction, to remain in the World Language Honor Society, students must complete three (3) Service Credits annually and attend monthly honor society meetings. Members who complete 4 credits of World Language with grades of A- or higher, (B for Mandarin Chinese), maintain an overall GPA of 3.5, have exemplary attendance at World Language Honor Society meetings, and complete all required service credits, will be eligible to receive an honor cord for the graduation ceremony. It is possible for some double language students to apply for induction to more than one society.

# BLOCK SCHEDULE

Penncrest High School operates using a Modified 4x4 Block Schedule. The daily schedule consists of 4 blocked class periods and a shorter Intervention/ Enrichment period. Most one (1.0) credit courses will meet daily for a semester. Some one (1.0) credit courses will meet on alternating days for the full year. All half credit (0.5) courses will meet on alternating days for a semester. Be sure to check the course descriptions to see which courses meet daily or alternating.

Below are samples of possible student schedules in a block format. These are meant to help students and families visualize how schedules might look in a block schedule. Each student will need to choose a path that meets their own individual learning plan. In the block schedule, it is possible to “double up” in subject area courses, by taking two sequenced courses, one in each semester (i.e. Algebra I in the fall and Algebra II in the spring) . Be sure to follow all prerequisites.

<b>Block</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>
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Sample 1 (Grade 9)

Semester 1	Honors Algebra I	Intro to STEM	Intro to Business	Environmental Science A Days	PE 9 B Days
Semester 2	Honors Geometry	Global Studies	English 9		Freshman Seminar B Days

Sample 2 (Grade 10)

Semester 1	Honors Biology	Algebra II		AP European History A Days	Spanish II B Days	Ceramics
Semester 2	Honors Chemistry	Health A Days	PE 10 B Days			English 10

Sample 3 (Grade 11)

Semester 1	English 11	Algebra II	Chinese III	Orchestra A Days	Team Sports B Days
Semester 2	Chemistry	Chinese IV	US History		Ceramics B Days

Sample 4 (Grade 12)

Semester 1	Music Theory	AP Govern. A Days	AP Literature B Days	AP Physics A Days	Theater Lab B Days	Ambassador Choir A Days	French II B Days
Semester 2	Honors Calculus				Marketing B Days		





**Courses Available for 10th Grade Students**

<p align="center"><b>Requirements</b></p>	<p align="center"><u>English</u></p> <p>English 10 Honors English 10 AP Seminar</p> <p align="center"><u>Math</u></p> <p>Foundations of Algebra Algebra 1A Algebra 1B Honors Algebra I Honors Geometry Geometry Algebra II Honors Algebra II Honors Algebra II and Honors Precalculus Linear Algebra</p>	<p align="center"><u>PE and Health</u></p> <p>Physical Education II Health</p> <p align="center"><u>Science</u></p> <p>Biology Honors Biology Honors Biology with AP Biology Chemistry Honors Physics I Honors Chemistry Honors Human Anatomy &amp; Physiology Forensic Sciences</p>	<p align="center"><u>Social Studies</u></p> <p>Western Civilization Honors Western Civilization AP European History</p> <p align="center"><u>World Language</u></p> <p>Standard and Honors Chinese I, II, III, and IV French IA, IB, and II Latin I, II, III, and IV Spanish IA, IB, and II</p>
	<p align="center"><b>Electives</b></p>	<p align="center"><u>Art</u></p> <p>Drawing Painting Ceramics Intro to Photography and Design Art Major I Art Major II Mixed Media Advanced Ceramics Advanced Digital Photography Advanced Digital Design Intro to Metalwork &amp; Jewelry Advanced Metalwork &amp; Jewelry Art Major III Art Major IV</p> <p align="center"><u>Business</u></p> <p>Introduction to Business Business Computer Applications Web Page Design Accounting I Advanced Accounting</p>	<p align="center"><u>English</u></p> <p>Communication Studies Every Voice: Multicultural Literature Film As Literature Theater Lab Women In Lit Creative Writing Modern Shakespeare</p> <p align="center"><u>Music</u></p> <p>Concert Band Wind Ensemble String Ensemble Troubadours Chamber Strings Ambassador Choir Decibelles Intro To Ensembles: Intro To Ensembles: Music Theory And Composition Music Tech A and B Piano Lab AP Music Theory Music Tech C</p>

Courses Available for 11th Grade Students			
<b>Requirements</b>	<p><u>English</u></p> <p>English 11 Honors English 11 AP Language and Composition AP Research</p> <p><u>World Language</u></p> <p>Standard and Honors Chinese I, II, III, IV French IA, IB, II, III, IV Latin I, II, III, IV Spanish IA, IB, II, III, and IV</p>	<p><u>Science</u></p> <p>AP Biology Chemistry Honors Chemistry AP Chemistry Honors Physics I AP Physics I Honors Human Anatomy &amp; Physiology Science and Technology in Society Courses Integrated Science Forensic Sciences</p> <p><u>Social Studies</u></p> <p>US History Honors US History AP US History</p>	<p><u>Math</u></p> <p>Algebra 1B Honors Algebra I Honors Geometry Geometry Algebra II Honors Algebra II Honors Algebra II and Honors Precalculus AP Precalculus AP Calculus Linear Algebra</p>
	<b>Electives</b>	<p><u>Art</u></p> <p>Drawing Painting Ceramics Intro to Photography and Design Art Major I Art Major II Mixed Media Advanced Ceramics Advanced Digital Photography Advanced Digital Design Intro to Metalwork &amp; Jewelry Advanced Metalwork &amp; Jewelry Art Major III Art Major IV</p> <p><u>PE and Health</u></p> <p>Adulting 101 Adventure-Based Fitness Basketball Net Games And Lifetime Activities Personal Fitness Strength Training For Athletes Team Games Yoga, Pilates, and Meditation</p> <p><u>World Language</u></p> <p>Mythology Le Monde Francophone</p>	<p><u>English</u></p> <p>Communication Studies Every Voice: Multicultural Literature Film As Literature Theater Lab Women In Lit Creative Writing Modern Shakespeare Humanities Apocalyptic Fiction Gothic Fiction Journalism I</p> <p><u>Music</u></p> <p>Concert Band Wind Ensemble String Ensemble Troubadours Chamber Strings Ambassador Choir Decibelles Intro To Ensembles: Music Theory And Composition Music Tech A and B Piano Lab A AP Music Theory Music Tech C</p> <p>El Cine Hispanohablante El Mundo Hispanohablante</p>
	<p><u>Business</u></p> <p>Business Computer Applications Web Page Design Accounting I Advanced Accounting International Business Marketing and Sports/Entertainment Mgmt. Personal Finance Entrepreneurship</p>		

**Courses Available for 12th Grade Students**

<p align="center"><b>Requirements</b></p>	<p align="center"><u>English</u></p> <p>English 12 Honors English 12 AP Literature</p> <p align="center"><u>World Language</u></p> <p>Standard and Honors Chinese I, II, III, and IV French IA, IB, II, III and IV Latin I, II, III, and IV Spanish IA, IB, II, III, IV</p> <p align="center"><u>Social Studies</u></p> <p>US History Honors US History AP US History</p>	<p align="center"><u>Science</u></p> <p>AP Biology Chemistry Honors Chemistry AP Chemistry Honors Physics I AP Physics I AP Physics C Honors Human Anatomy &amp; Physiology ACC Human Anatomy &amp; Physiology Integrated Science Science and Technology in Society Courses Forensic Sciences</p>	<p align="center"><u>Math</u></p> <p>Algebra 1B Honors Algebra I Honors Geometry Geometry Algebra II Honors Algebra II Honors Algebra II and Honors Precalculus AP Precalculus AP Calculus Linear Algebra</p>
	<p align="center"><b>Electives</b></p>	<p align="center"><u>Art</u></p> <p>Drawing Painting Ceramics Intro to Photography and Design Art Major I Art Major II Mixed Media Advanced Ceramics Advanced Digital Photography Advanced Digital Design Intro to Metalwork &amp; Jewelry Advanced Metalwork &amp; Jewelry Art Major III Art Major IV</p>	<p align="center"><u>English</u></p> <p>Communication Studies Every Voice: Multicultural Literature Film As Literature Theater Lab Women In Lit Creative Writing Modern Shakespeare Humanities Apocalyptic Fiction Gothic Fiction Journalism I</p> <p align="center"><u>Music</u></p> <p>Concert Band Wind Ensemble String Ensemble Troubadours Chamber Strings Ambassador Choir Decibelles Intro To Ensembles: Music Theory And Composition Music Tech A and B Piano Lab AP Music Theory Music Tech C</p>
<p align="center"><u>Business</u></p> <p>Business Computer Applications Web Page Design Accounting I Advanced Accounting International Business Marketing and Sports/ Entertainment Mgmt. Personal Finance Entrepreneurship</p>	<p align="center"><u>PE and Health</u></p> <p>Adulting 101 Adventure-Based Fitness Basketball Net Games And Lifetime Activities Personal Fitness Strength Training For Athletes Team Games Yoga, Pilates, and Meditation</p> <p align="center"><u>World Language</u></p> <p>Mythology Le Monde Francophone</p>	<p align="center"><u>FCS</u></p> <p>Child Development Foods and Nutrition</p> <p>El Cine Hispanohablante El Mundo Hispanohablante</p>	<p align="center"><u>Social Studies</u></p> <p>International Relations Sociology Modern Intellectual History AP African American Studies Economics AP Economics AP Psychology History Through Film</p>

# PLANNING FOR GRADUATION

Below is a suggested sequence of courses in order to satisfy the minimum requirements for graduation. Each student should choose a path in accordance with their individual learning plan, focused on post-graduation college and career goals. Variations to the sequence of courses suggested below should be discussed with your family, teachers, and counselor.

<u>Grade 9</u>			<u>Grade 10</u>		
Requirements	Credits		Requirements	Credits	
English 9	1.0	6 Total	English 10	1.0	6 Total
Math	1.0		Math	1.0	
Environmental Science	1.0		Biology	1.0	
Global Studies	1.0		Western Civilization	1.0	
Physical Education I	0.5		Physical Education II	0.5	
Freshman Seminar	0.5		Health	0.5	
World Language*	1.0		World Language*	1.0	
Electives	Credits		Electives	Credits	
Any of the available electives listed in the course descriptions or an additional core class.	2 Total		Any of the available electives listed in the course descriptions or an additional core class.	2 Total	
Total Credits	8		Total Credits	8	
<u>Grade 11</u>			<u>Grade 12</u>		
Requirements	Credits		Requirements	Credits	
English 11	1.0	5 Total	English 12	1.0	3.5 Total
Math	1.0		Math*	1.0	
Science	1.0		Science*	1.0	
US History	1.0		Government	0.5	
World Language*	1.0				
Electives	Credits		Electives	Credits	
Any of the available electives listed in the course descriptions or an additional core class.	2 Total		Any of the available electives listed in the course descriptions or an additional core class.	2.5 Total	
Total Credits	7		Total Credits	6	

\*While not required, students are strongly encouraged to complete four courses of study in Math and Sciences, as well as at least three courses of World Language.



Use the following worksheet to assist in planning your course selections.

Grade 9			Grade 10		
Subject	Course Title	Credits	Subject	Course Title	Credits
English	_____	1.0	English	_____	1.0
Math	_____	1.0	Math	_____	1.0
Science	_____	1.0	Science	_____	1.0
Social Studies	_____	1.0	Social Studies	_____	1.0
General	__ Freshman Seminar __	0.5	PE & Health	__ Health __	0.5
PE & Health	__ Physical Education I __	0.5		__ Physical Education II __	0.5
World Language, Electives, or 2nd core class	_____ _____ _____		World Language, Electives, or 2nd core class	_____ _____ _____	
Service and Career Readiness	_____ _____	0.5	Service and Career Readiness	_____ _____	0.5
Total Credits			Total Credits		
Grade 11			Grade 12		
Subject	Course Title	Credits	Subject	Course Title	Credits
English	_____	1.0	English	_____	1.0
Math	_____	1.0	Social Studies	_____	
Science	_____	1.0			
Social Studies	_____	1.0			
World Language, Electives, or 2nd core class	_____ _____ _____		Math, Science, World Language, Electives, or 2nd core class	_____ _____ _____	
Service and Career Readiness	_____ _____	0.5	Service and Career Readiness	_____ _____	0.5
Total Credits			Total Credits		

# ACADEMIC COURSES

Graduation Requirements: Students may use General Academic courses to fulfill graduation requirements for Electives.

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## **FRESHMAN SEMINAR \_\_\_\_\_ Course 1715**

**GRADE 9                      0.5 CREDITS                      SEMESTER                      ALTERNATING**

In order to ease the transition to high school and foster good study and work habits, each 9th grader will be scheduled for a FRESHMAN SEMINAR. The Freshman Seminar will support students during the transition to high school and will include direct instruction in organization strategies, executive functioning practices, academic self-advocacy, research literacy, and media literacy.

## **ADVANCED ACADEMIC STUDIES LAB \_\_\_\_\_ Course 3002**

**GRADES 10,11,12                      0.5 CREDITS                      SEMESTER                      ALTERNATING**

Corequisite - Two or more AP Courses

This course is designed for students who take multiple AP classes. Students will utilize AP Central and supplemental resources to help them prepare for spring AP tests. Additionally, students will learn how to navigate a variety of resources designed to help them learn time-management, research, test taking strategies, and focused study.

## **MATHEMATICS EDUCATION PRACTICUM \_\_\_\_\_ Course 3000**

**GRADES 11,12                      0.5 CREDITS                      SEMESTER                      ALTERNATING**

Prerequisite - Accelerated (12th Grade) or Honors (11 Grade) Algebra II

Students in this course will be embedded in ninth grade Algebra courses to assist the students as they engage in classwork. Students will learn about human development and instructional pedagogy while building relationships and learning from their learning partners. Students must have above average attendance, have demonstrated high levels of proficiency in Algebra, and be good citizens within the Penncrest community.

## **KEYSTONE BIOLOGY LAB \_\_\_\_\_ Course 1702**

**GRADES 11,12                      0.25 CREDITS DESIGNATED I/E PERIODS**

The Keystone Lab offers targeted support for students who have demonstrated need through classroom performance and/or standardized test scores as they prepare to take or retake Keystone Exams. Labs will meet regularly and will be awarded .25 credit.

## **CAREER WORK EXPERIENCE \_\_\_\_\_ No Course #**

**GRADES 11,12                      3 CREDITS (MAX)                      SEMESTER OR FULL YEAR**

Students in grades 11 and 12 will have the opportunity to earn elective credits for hours worked during the school year, with 0.5 credits awarded for 100 hours of documented work during the school year (3 credits maximum each year). Students must register to participate in the Career Work Experience Program prior to the start of the semester. Proof of employment is required in order to register.

Students who wish to enroll in the program must submit an application to the administration. That application, and additional details of the program, are available in Mr. Fuhr's office.

Students in the Career Work Experience Program must show proof of hours worked on a bi-weekly basis. Grades for work-study will be awarded on a Pass/Fail basis. Students in the program may be able to forgo scheduling a class during 1st period or 8th period (though this is not guaranteed). Students in the program

may also, where possible, elect to forgo their lunch through the Lunch and Learn model to shorten their school day to six periods. It should be noted that the school is not responsible for transportation to and from employment sites or for finding employment for students, although students may be made aware of job opportunities through the counseling office.

**READING I, II, III, IV ----- Course 1131**

**GRADES 9,10,11,12    1.0 CREDITS    FULL YEAR    ALTERNATING**

In the reading class, students will work to build essential literacy skills for college and career readiness, improve reading proficiency, and learn to apply reading strategies to other subjects such as social studies, science, and math. Course placement is based upon recommendations.

**SPECIAL EDUCATION PRACTICUM ----- Course 3001**

**GRADES 11,12    1.0 CREDITS    SEMESTER    DAILY**

Students in this course will work with classmates with disabilities, enrolled in Unified Courses, to help provide them with high-level academic opportunities in content areas such as Art, Family and Consumer Science, Physical Education, and running the School Store. Students will learn about human development and instructional pedagogy while building relationships and learning from their learning partners. Students must have above average attendance and be good citizens within the Penncrest community.

**UNIFIED COURSES**

**Grades 9,10,11,12    .5 CREDITS EACH    SEMESTER    ALTERNATING**

Students in Penncrest's Unified Courses will work alongside peers who are enrolled in the Special Education Practicum. These students will work together while engaged in academic content areas including (but not limited to) Art, Family and Consumer Science, Physical Education, and Technology Education. Course placement is based upon recommendations.

# ART COURSES

Building Coordinator: Ms. Concetta Mattioni [cmattioni@rtmsd.org](mailto:cmattioni@rtmsd.org)

Graduation Requirements: Students may use Art courses to fulfill graduation requirements for Electives.

The Art program at Penncrest High School offers courses in several areas, including: Drawing, Painting, Mixed Media, Metalwork & Jewelry, Ceramics, Digital Photography/Design, and Art Major. The curriculum is designed to serve two groups of students: those who wish to experience an art course to supplement their education and those who wish to seriously study a particular discipline. The introductory courses (Drawing, Painting, Intro to Ceramics, Intro to Digital Photography and Design, Mixed Media, Intro to Metalwork & Jewelry, and Art I) are appropriate for the first category of student.

The following is a list of ART courses available to specified grade levels. In the block schedule, it is possible to “double up” in a subject area, by taking two courses. Be sure to follow all prerequisites.

Grade Levels	Course Title	Prerequisite
9, 10, 11, 12	Drawing Painting Ceramics I Intro to Photography and Design Art Major I Art Major II	Art Major I
10, 11, 12	Mixed Media Ceramics II Ceramics III Digital Photography I Digital Design I Intro to Metalwork & Jewelry Advanced Metalwork & Jewelry Art Major III Art Major IV	Freshman Seminar Ceramics I Ceramics II Intro to Photography and Design Intro to Photography and Design Freshman Seminar Intro to Metalwork & Jewelry Art Major II Art Major III
12	Portfolio Preparation AP Drawing	Art Teacher Recommendation Art Teacher Recommendation

**DRAWING ----- Course 0414**

**GRADES 9,10,11,12    0.5 CREDITS            SEMESTER            ALTERNATING**

This half-credit course teaches students how to see as an artist and more accurately record their observations through drawing. Students will learn the basics of observational, design, and imaginary drawing. A range of drawing techniques, methods, and materials will be explored. Subject matter includes still life, the figure, portraiture, landscape, and design. Students will be encouraged to draw inspiration from examples from the art of many cultures and civilizations throughout history. This class is designed to challenge both beginning and advanced students and may be taken four years. Students are expected to complete all studio assignments.

**PAINTING ----- Course 0416**

**GRADES 9,10,11,12    0.5 CREDITS            SEMESTER            ALTERNATING**

This half-credit course introduces students to the basics of painting through references to observational, design, and imaginary approaches. A range of painting techniques, methods, and materials will be explored. Subject matter includes still life, the figure, portraiture, landscape, and design. Students will use their creative abilities as they study the masters of yesterday and today and adapt the techniques to their own work. This class is designed to challenge both beginning and advanced students and may take four years. Students are expected to complete all studio assignments.

**MIXED MEDIA ----- Course 0418**

**GRADES 10,11,12    0.5 CREDITS            SEMESTER            ALTERNATING**

Prerequisite - Freshman Seminar

This course introduces students to a variety of materials and techniques to create both two-dimensional and three-dimensional artworks. Traditional art materials will be used in conjunction with nontraditional materials such as plaster, wool, metal, paper, found objects, glass, and fibers. Emphasis will be placed on allowing students to explore a wide variety of art-making experiences. This course may be taken for three years. Curriculum rotation: Mixed Media A, Mixed Media B, Mixed Media C. Students are expected to complete all in-class studio and written assignments.

**CERAMICS I ----- Course 2408**

**GRADES 9,10,11,12    1.0 CREDITS            SEMESTER            DAILY**

This course provides students with a general understanding of the studio pottery process by designing, building, and glazing their own original clay works. Beginning with the basic handbuilding techniques-coil, slab, and pinching, students will create functional and decorative ceramic objects unique to them. During the highly-anticipated introduction to the pottery wheel, students will try their hand at making a 6-inch cylinder followed by other functional forms. Projects are finished with glazing techniques suitable for both decorative and functional pieces. This semester course is designed for the beginning ceramics student and may be taken only one time. Due to the nature of clay, this course cannot be completed virtually and requires use of in-class time to complete the content.

**CERAMICS II ----- Course 0409**

**GRADES 10,11,12    1.0 CREDITS            SEMESTER            DAILY**

Prerequisite - Ceramics I

This advanced ceramics course will encourage further development of studio pottery techniques learned in Ceramics 1. Beginning with advanced handbuilding and wheel skills students will master and combine techniques to create new complex forms. New surface decoration and finishes will be introduced. The history of ceramic art alongside contemporary ceramics artists will be discussed to inspire student work.

**CERAMICS III ----- Course 2412**

**GRADES 11,12      1.0 CREDITS      SEMESTER      DAILY**

Prerequisite - Ceramics II

This course is designed for students who have mastered all of the basic wheel throwing and hand building skills taught in Ceramics 1 and Ceramics 2. Ceramics 3 students will dive into explorations of experimental, sculptural, and highly functional ceramics works. Students can choose to work in their preferred construction method (handbuilding or wheel-thrown) as they apply the new glaze and surface treatments covered in this course. The open-ended projects in this course require individual and unique solutions that help students develop their “clay voice” based on their individual strengths and interests.

**INTRODUCTION TO DIGITAL PHOTOGRAPHY AND DESIGN ----- Course 0425**

**GRADES 9,10,11,12      1.0 CREDITS      SEMESTER      DAILY**

In this course students will gain a general understanding of digital photography and graphic design. Students will learn the basics of DSLR camera controls and use the Principles of Design to make photographs that go beyond snapshots. In addition to developing camera control, students will learn how photographers and designers use Adobe Lightroom and Photoshop to enhance, alter, and layer images. An introduction to Adobe Illustrator will round out foundational skills in design tools and allow students to take a number of different directions for a final project communicating their ideas through photography and design.

**DIGITAL PHOTOGRAPHY I ----- Course 0426**

**GRADES 10,11,12      1.0 CREDITS      SEMESTER      DAILY**

Prerequisite - Introduction to Digital Photography and Design

In this course students will build on the photography skills and understandings they developed in Introduction to Digital Photography and Design. Students will go beyond the basics of DSLR camera controls, and push their creativity by exploring technical and artistic components of digital photography with an emphasis on composition and exposure control through manual settings. Students will also use photo editing software for photo manipulations and creative processes. Students will take a number of different directions for a final project communicating their ideas through photography.

**DIGITAL DESIGN I ----- Course 0427**

**GRADES 10,11,12      1.0 CREDITS      SEMESTER      DAILY**

Prerequisite - Introduction to Digital Photography and Design

In this course students will build on their experience in Introduction to Digital Photography and Design. Focusing on 2-D Design Principles and foundations of graphic design through tutorials, demonstrations, and open ended design challenges students will explore techniques, composition, and aesthetic concepts to develop their visual communication skills. Working in traditional art materials, Adobe Photoshop and Adobe Illustrator to bring together fine arts, digital art, and photography students are encouraged to become active communicators creating visual media.



**INTRODUCTION TO METALWORK & JEWELRY ----- Course 0420**

**GRADES 10,11,12    0.5 CREDITS    SEMESTER    ALTERNATING**

Prerequisite - Freshman Seminar

Enjoy an opportunity to produce unique metal creations in a variety of materials in this course. Students will learn how to design and construct metal projects through sawing, forming, piercing, and soldering. Students will also explore classic jewelry styles and contemporary designs when creating wearable art made from metal. This course is designed for the beginning metalworker and may be taken one time. Students are expected to complete all in-class studio and written assignments.

**ADVANCED METALWORK & JEWELRY ----- Course 0422**

**GRADES 10,11,12    0.5 CREDITS    SEMESTER    ALTERNATING**

Prerequisite - Introduction to Metalwork and Jewelry

This course will pick up where Intro. to Metalwork & Jewelry left off. Students will incorporate the skills learned in the introductory course to create more in-depth projects and collections. Students will explore more advanced metal techniques such as resin, stone setting, patina, texture, and enamel. Students may take this course for three years. Curriculum rotation: Advanced Metalwork A, Advanced Metalwork B, Advanced Metalwork C. Students are expected to complete all in-class studio and written assignments.

**ART MAJOR PROGRAM**

For those students who may wish to pursue a career in the visual arts (painting, sculpture, graphic design, interior design, architecture, etc.) the Art Major sequence (Art Major I, Art Major II, Art Major III, Art Major IV, Portfolio Preparation, and AP Drawing) provides the intensive training needed to gain acceptance into a college art program.

**ART MAJOR I ----- Course 0401**

**GRADES 9,10,11,12    1.0 CREDITS    SEMESTER    DAILY**

Explore the richness of art in this introductory class for students entering the Art Major program. Through presentations, discussions, and assignments, students will receive a firm foundation in the elements and principles of art and design. Projects will introduce students to many different genres and media, including drawing, painting, color, and design. Observational drawing skills, as well as creative thinking, will be emphasized and developed in this year-long course. Learning will take place through art history, criticism, and art production. Students are expected to complete all classroom and homework studio projects, monthly art reports, one independent studio assignment (quarterly), and one large-scale studio assignment (ambitious assignment).

**ART MAJOR II ----- Course 0402**

**GRADES 9,10,11,12    1.0 CREDITS    SEMESTER    DAILY**

Prerequisite - Art I

This course is a continuation of ART I and provides further exploration of the world of art and culture for those who wish to pursue art. Students in this level of the Art Major program will learn to see the world around them and draw it in a highly realistic manner. A variety of materials and techniques are used and art history is introduced. Topics covered include observational drawing, perspective, color theory, and design. Subject matter includes still life, portraiture, landscape, and design. Students are expected to complete all classroom and homework studio projects, monthly art reports, one independent studio assignment (quarterly), and one large-scale studio assignment (ambitious assignment).

**ART MAJOR III ----- Course 0404**

**GRADES 10,11,12      1.0 CREDITS      SEMESTER      DAILY**

Prerequisite - Art II

The third course in the Art Major program is intended for students who wish to continue building their artistic skills. In this course, students will continue to refine their drawing and painting skills. Though representational subjects are still stressed, students will begin to address issues of personal expression, both intellectual and emotional, by studying the work of other artists and movements. Subject matter includes drawing and painting from observation, more advanced color theory, and design. Students are expected to complete all classroom and homework studio projects, monthly art reports, one independent studio assignment (quarterly), and one large-scale studio assignment (ambitious assignment).

**ART MAJOR IV ----- Course 0405**

**GRADES 10,11,12      1.0 CREDITS      SEMESTER      DAILY**

Prerequisite - Art III

The fourth course in the Art Major program is intended for students who wish to further develop their creative talents. A broad spectrum of methods and subject matter will be explored, with an emphasis on conceptual art and personal expression. Information on art colleges and professional schools is given. Students are expected to complete all classroom and homework studio projects, monthly art reports, one independent studio assignment (quarterly), and one large-scale studio assignment (ambitious assignment).

**PORTFOLIO PREPARATION ----- Course 0406**

**GRADE 12      1.0 CREDITS      YEAR      ALTERNATING**

Prerequisite - Art Teacher Recommendation

The culminating course in the Art Major Program, PORTFOLIO PREPARATION offers opportunities for highly personal and significant accomplishment through intensive work in drawing, painting, and design. A major objective of the course is to help students produce the art portfolio required for admission to university art programs and art schools or to augment supplemental admission materials for college. Students are expected to complete all classroom and homework studio projects, monthly art reports, three independent studio assignments (quarterly assignments), and one large-scale independent studio assignment (ambitious assignment).

**AP DRAWING ----- Course 0424**

**GRADE 12      1.0 CREDITS      YEAR      ALTERNATING**

Prerequisite: Art Teacher Recommendation

In this course, students will create a portfolio of work to demonstrate inquiry through drawing and development of materials, processes, and ideas over the course of a year. Portfolios include works of art, process documentation, and written information about the work presented. In May, students will submit portfolios for evaluation based on specific criteria, which include skillful synthesis of materials, processes, and ideas and sustained investigation through practice, experimentation, and revision, guided by questions.

The AP Drawing course is designed to be equivalent to an introductory college course in drawing. (<https://apclassroom.collegeboard.org/3/home?unit=0>)

# BUSINESS COURSES

Building Coordinator: Ms. Sandra Starkey sstarkey@rtmsd.org

Graduation Requirements: Students may use Business Education courses to fulfill graduation requirements for Electives.

The following is a list of BUSINESS courses available to specified grade levels. In the block schedule, it is possible to “double up” in a subject area, by taking two courses. Be sure to follow all prerequisites.

Grade Levels	Course Title	Prerequisite
9, 10	Introduction to Business	
9, 10 11, 12	Business Computer Applications Web Page Design	
10, 11, 12	Accounting I Advanced Accounting	Algebra I Accounting I
11, 12	International Business Marketing and Sports/ Entertainment Mgmt. Personal Finance Entrepreneurship	Western Civilization English 10 Algebra I and Western Civilization English 10

## **INTRODUCTION TO BUSINESS** ----- **Course 0502**

**GRADES 9,10      1.0 CREDITS      SEMESTER      DAILY**

This course will introduce students to the exciting world of business! Topics and themes to be covered include (but are not limited to): economics, business ethics, social responsibility, entrepreneurship, business ownership, management, leadership, finance, accounting, and marketing. Students will explore each of these concepts through: activities, projects, games, discussions, tests, and real-world applications. Whether students aspire to one day start their own business or work in the world of business, this course is an essential first step in their journey. The course offers multiple project-based learning opportunities related to: analyzing existing businesses and developing business plans for unique ideas.

## **BUSINESS COMPUTER APPLICATIONS** ----- **Course 0514**

**GRADES 9,10,11,12      0.5 CREDITS      SEMESTER      ALTERNATING**

This course is designed to provide students with an opportunity to enhance their organizing, communicating, researching, and problem-solving skills through utilizing a variety of computer applications. Computer applications to be covered include: Microsoft Word, Microsoft Excel, Microsoft PowerPoint, Canva, Audacity, Vyond, and Snagit. Students will explore each of these applications through: activities, projects, tests, and discussions.

**WEBPAGE DESIGN ----- Course 0516****GRADES 9,10,11,12    0.5 CREDITS    SEMESTER    ALTERNATING**

This course will allow students to design, create, and post their own website. Students are not required to have any prior web design experience. Students will use design platform Wix to incorporate animation, photos, videos, and text. Students will be required to post individual and group projects. Students will also have the opportunity to code, learn about SEO, and website analytics for when running a future business.

**ACCOUNTING I ----- Course 0504****GRADES 10,11,12    1.0 CREDITS    SEMESTER    DAILY**

Prerequisite - Algebra I

This course is designed to introduce students to the world of accounting! Accounting is the language of business and is critical for any student considering a career in business. Throughout the course, students will study the accounting cycle, explore accounting careers, and apply the content to real-world scenarios. Topics to be covered include: the accounting equation, analyzing transactions into debit and credit parts, journalizing transactions, posting transactions, managing cash, and analyzing financial statements. These accounting topics are taught through realistic business situations along with real-world applications. Students will use Google Sheets to start developing the necessary spreadsheet skills for a successful career in Accounting.

**ADVANCED ACCOUNTING ----- Course 0506****GRADES 10,11,12    1.0 CREDITS    SEMESTER    DAILY**

Prerequisite - Accounting I

Advanced Accounting uses an integrated approach to teach college-level accounting concepts. Students first learn how businesses plan for and evaluate their operating, financing, and investing decisions and then how accounting systems gather and provide data to internal and external decision-makers. This year-long course covers all the learning objectives of a traditional college-level financial accounting course, plus those from a managerial accounting course. Topics include an introduction to accounting, accounting information systems, time value of money, accounting for merchandising firms, sales and receivables, fixed assets, debt, and equity. Other topics include statements of cash flows, financial ratios, cost-volume-profit analysis, and variance analysis.

**INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS ----- Course 0515****GRADES 11,12    0.5 CREDITS    SEMESTER    ALTERNATING**

Prerequisite - Western Civilization

This course is designed for any student who has an interest in the field of international business or has a passion for other cultures and who likes to better understand how they work in the business environment. In this course, students will learn about international business activities and the economic, cultural, and political environment of global business. Students will learn about the influences of culture on global business activities. Students will gain a better understanding of the importance of knowing another language for global business success. Some topics will include international or global business structure, the importance of importing and exporting procedures, foreign exchange, legal agreements, and small business management. Students will learn about trade agreements between countries and the effects of foreign trade.

**PERSONAL FINANCE \_\_\_\_\_ Course 0510**

**GRADES 11,12      0.5 CREDITS      SEMESTER      ALTERNATING**

Prerequisite - Algebra I and Western Civilization

The goal of this course is to develop financial literacy. Throughout the course, students will learn about financial concepts that they can apply in real-life situations including: banking, credit, budgeting, investing, career planning, and more. Students will explore each of these concepts through: activities, projects, games, discussions, tests, and real-world applications. By the end of this course, students will have a thorough understanding of personal finance topics and be prepared to handle the financial responsibilities that exist after graduation.

**MARKETING AND SPORTS/ ENTERTAINMENT MGMT. \_\_\_\_\_ Course 0513**

**GRADES 11,12      0.5 CREDITS      SEMESTER      ALTERNATING**

Prerequisite - English 10

Marketing consists of the strategies and tactics used to identify, create, and maintain satisfying relationships with customers that result in value for both the customer and the marketer. While one typically views marketing activities relating to businesses, marketing skills are also used to promote political, social, and charitable non-business organizations.

This course will develop a student's understanding and skills in marketing plans, market research, advertising, sales, service, e-commerce, and related job and career topics.

**ENTREPRENEURSHIP with University of Delaware \_\_ Course 2520 (12th Course 0520)**

**GRADES 11,12      1.0 CREDITS      FULL YEAR      ALTERNATING**

Prerequisite - English 10

Do you have an idea that would improve your community, change the world, or disrupt the current marketplace? Do you wonder what it is like to start your own business and be your own boss? EntreX Lab (EntreX is short for "entrepreneurship experience") provides a hands-on approach to learning the entrepreneurial skills of idea generation, creative problem solving, leadership, evidence-based decision making, resilience, teamwork, and persuasive communication. Through first-hand experience with the entrepreneurial process, students build the mindset needed to create, capture, and deliver value from new ideas in any sector. With opportunities to connect with like-minded peers across the state and throughout the world, this course serves as an empowering opportunity to turn ideas into action.

The course combines content from several University of Delaware undergraduate offerings into an integrated unique college learning opportunity for high school students, providing a comprehensive introduction to entrepreneurship. Students will receive 3.0 college credits from the University of Delaware in addition to the 1.0 Penncrest credit. This course does bear a cost per student. Please see Mrs. Starkey in A222 for more information.

# ENGLISH LANGUAGE DEVELOPMENT COURSES

Building Contact: Ms. Jeannie Richter [jrichter@rtmsd.org](mailto:jrichter@rtmsd.org)

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Penncrest High School is committed to welcoming all students to our school community, including students who speak languages in addition to English. Parents of all newly enrolled students complete a Home Language survey. When that survey indicates a language in addition to English, or that a variation of English is spoken, the ELD specialist reviews the student's academic records from previous schooling. If the academic records are not available, or they do not contain compelling evidence of American Academic English proficiency, the WIDA™ Screener is administered in the following areas: listening, reading, speaking, and writing. Any student whose overall composite proficiency level is below 5.0 is identified as a Multilingual Learner (ML) or English Learner (EL). Once identified as an EL, students take the WIDA™ ACCESS 2.0 for ELs annually. The amount of time it takes to fully acquire the English language is different for every student and is dependent upon many factors. When students meet the Pennsylvania state-mandated criteria, they exit the ELD program, are reclassified as Former ELs, and are monitored in their core courses for four years to ensure their academic success.

The ELD program at Penncrest is rooted in the WIDA™ ELD Standards Framework and is anchored by four Big Ideas: Equity of Opportunity and Access, Integration of Content and Language, Collaboration among Stakeholders, and a Functional Approach to Language Development. Language development is an interactive social process that occurs over time. Through systematic, planned instruction, students acquire the necessary English language skills to be successful in the content area classrooms. Through the ELD program, ELs have access to language instruction, accommodations, and specialized support.

The ELD curriculum is flexible and based on the individual needs of the learners in the program. Instruction focuses on developing the reading, writing, speaking, and listening skills students need for academic achievement. The ELD courses are designed to provide students with language experiences and familiarity with the structure of English, including phonology, morphology, syntax, semantics, and pragmatics. At each level, the ELD courses develop students' language ability in social and academic language based on the five WIDA™ Standards and Can-Do levels. The WIDA™ Can-Do philosophy embraces inclusion and equity and focuses attention on expanding students' academic language by building on the inherent resources of English learners and accentuating the collaborative efforts of educators. ELs' languages, cultures, and experiences are an asset to our school community.



**ELD I (INTRODUCTORY ELD) \_\_\_\_\_ Course 0151**

This content-based course is for any student who has tested at an Entering level of proficiency in English. ELs at this level may go through a silent period, but with attention to the affective and social aspects of language learning, they begin to feel safe and try new language skills. The course develops students' foundational literacy skills in standard Academic English and introduces students to the academic expectations of U.S. high schools. With intensive linguistic support, students begin to express social and academic ideas in English using phrases and short sentences. Students begin to read and understand simple sentences, grammatical structures, and general content expressions in English. The course provides students with cultural knowledge to support their transition to the U.S. educational system.

**ELD II (BEGINNING ELD) \_\_\_\_\_ Course 0152**

This content-based course is for any student who has tested at an Emerging level of proficiency in English. ELs at this level communicate using essential aspects of the standard Academic English language. ELD II develops students' ability to access grade-level content material with substantial linguistic support. Students produce simple and compound sentences to express their ideas employing repetitive structures, and sentence patterns, increasing awareness of appropriate language conventions. Students read and understand language across content areas. Students comprehend and produce common forms and expressions in English. Students learn about various aspects of American culture.

**ELD III A (INTERMEDIATE ELD) \_\_\_\_\_ Course 0154**

This content-based course is for any student who has tested at a low Developing level of proficiency in English. ELs at this level consistently integrate aspects of standard Academic English into their communication. ELD III A focuses on the expansion of academic language skills in English. The course develops students' ability to access grade-level content material with some linguistic support. Students produce complex grammatical structures with occasional variation. Students refine their ability to employ repetitive structures and sentence patterns and appropriately use language conventions. Students read and understand specific content language, including cognates and expressions with multiple meanings across content areas. Students learn about various aspects of American culture.

**ELD III B (INTERMEDIATE ELD) \_\_\_\_\_ Course 0156**

This content-based course is for any student who has tested at a high Developing level of proficiency in English. ELs at this level integrate aspects of standard Academic English into their communication with a high level of regularity. ELD III B focuses on the further expansion of academic language skills in English. The course develops students' ability to access grade-level content material with decreasing linguistic support. Students produce compound-complex grammatical structures with some variation. Students refine their ability to employ a variety of sentences and understand specific content language. Students read and understand specific content language, including cognates and expressions with multiple meanings across content areas. Students learn about various aspects of American culture.

**ELD IV (ADVANCED ELD) \_\_\_\_\_ Course 0158**

This content-based course is for any student who has tested at an Expanding level of proficiency in English. ELs at this level appropriately and consistently use grammatically correct standard Academic English in their communication. ELD IV focuses on mastery of academic language skills in English. The course develops students' ability to participate in grade-level content material with minimal linguistic support. Students speak and write with advanced fluency, producing a variety of grammatically complex sentences. Students produce and refine comprehension of technical and abstract content-area language. Students process discourse with complex sentence structures. Students approach native-like fluency in English. Students learn various aspects of American culture.

# ENGLISH COURSES

Building Coordinator: Ms. Carley Dillon [cdillon@rtmsd.org](mailto:cdillon@rtmsd.org)

Graduation Requirements: All students must take four years of English.  
*PA Chapter 4 requires completion of coursework in Literature and Composition.*

The following chart demonstrates the course sequence and possible paths for ENGLISH courses.

Grade Level	Standard Placement	Honors Placement	Advance Placement
9	English 9	Honors English 9	
10	English 10	Honors English 10	AP Seminar
11	English 11	Honors English 11	AP Research AP Language and Composition
12	College Prep English 12 Honors English 12	Accelerated English 12	AP Literature and Composition

The following is a list of ENGLISH elective courses available to specified grade levels. In the block schedule, it is possible to “double up” in subject area electives, by taking two courses. Be sure to follow all prerequisites.

Grade Levels	Course Title	Prerequisite
10, 11, 12	Communication Studies Every Voice: Multicultural Literature Film As Literature Theater Lab Women In Lit Creative Writing Modern Shakespeare	English 9
11, 12	Humanities	English 10

## SUMMER READING

The goal of the Penncrest Summer Reading Program is to expose students to quality literature that will inspire them to expand and explore connections to the classroom, to the community, and to the world. All students entering Penncrest High School’s grades 9 through 12 will take part in the Penncrest Summer Reading program. Students will be assigned reading by grade level and course. Students will also have the opportunity to self-select summer reading. Students will share their reading experiences at the start of the school year. See the website at the end of the school year for this summer’s list.

### ENGLISH 9 \_\_\_\_\_ Course 2100

**GRADE 9                      1.0 CREDITS                      SEMESTER                      DAILY**

The ninth year of English study surveys different forms of literature and interpretation. Students will encounter a variety of literary genres, including fiction, nonfiction, drama, and poetry. A variety of types of writing is required with an emphasis on analytical papers. Extensive development of punctuation,

capitalization, vocabulary, grammar, usage, and spelling is carried on throughout the course. The development of core writing skills, core reading skills, and study skills is also a feature of the ninth-grade English course.

**HONORS ENGLISH 9 ----- Course 2101**

**GRADE 9                      1.0 CREDITS                      SEMESTER                      DAILY**

Honors English 9 is designed for ninth-grade students who have demonstrated readiness to challenge themselves and are highly motivated to complete nightly reading assignments. Each unit in this rigorous course provides strategies to develop students' higher-level thinking skills. Students will also be expected to follow a regular schedule of "outside" reading in addition to the reading assigned as part of the class work. The course also includes vocabulary study, grammar review, and both formal and informal writing exercises.

**ENGLISH 10 ----- Course 2103**

**GRADE 10                      1.0 CREDITS                      SEMESTER                      DAILY**

Prerequisite - English 9

The tenth year of English furthers the student's study of literature. Increasing emphasis is placed on in-depth reading. In written composition, students learn to use appropriate evidence or reasons in support of generalizations, establish clarity through careful word choice, and develop a more effective style. There is considerable emphasis on skills in the tenth-grade program— including punctuation, capitalization, vocabulary, spelling, grammar, and usage. Speaking and listening skill development will be incorporated into the study of language, literature, and the composing process. English 10 serves the average student of English.

**HONORS ENGLISH 10 ----- Course 2104**

**GRADE 10                      1.0 CREDITS                      SEMESTER                      DAILY**

Prerequisite - English 9

Honors English 10 is designed for students who qualify through test scores and performance. The Honors course emphasizes clear thinking and expression. The writing program focuses on sharpening skills in narrative, descriptive, expository, and persuasive writing. The literature program includes an in-depth study of classic, narrative works with an emphasis on critical analysis and insight. Students are expected to be self-disciplined in taking responsibility for their own learning through active participation in class discussions, cooperative learning, and group presentations. Honors English 10 asks students to think and respond beyond the literal level with an emphasis on close reading and inferential thinking. Students write frequently and practice grammar skills. *Joy of Vocabulary Workbooks*: In all Honors tenth-grade classes, workbooks will be used to provide enriched vocabulary study.

**ENGLISH 11 ----- Course 2105**

**GRADE 11                      1.0 CREDITS                      SEMESTER                      DAILY**

Prerequisite - English 10

This course offers a careful study of the four forms of writing: descriptive, narrative, persuasive, and expository. It progresses from a subjective, personal narration to an objective research paper. In addition, there will be infused grammar study. All students must complete a research paper that successfully meets course-level requirements in order to pass the course. This course also engages students in the investigation of major movements and themes in American Literature. The core offering focuses on a survey of major works. Students should expect reading homework.

**HONORS ENGLISH 11 ----- Course 2108****Blended Format ----- Course Code 2109****GRADE 11                    1.0 CREDITS                    SEMESTER                    DAILY**

Prerequisite - English 10

The content of this course offers a careful study of the four forms of writing: descriptive, narrative, persuasive, and expository. It progresses from a subjective, personal narration to an objective research paper. In addition, there will be infused grammar study. All students must complete a research paper that successfully meets course-level requirements in order to pass the course. This course also engages students in the investigation of major movements and themes in American Literature. The core offering focuses on a survey of major works. Students who take Honors English 11 can expect to complete substantial amounts of reading and writing work outside of class, and students should demonstrate above-average mastery of grammar and mechanics.

The blended option allows students to work asynchronously one or two days a week. Blended Honors 11 offers a careful study of the four forms of writing: descriptive, narrative, persuasive, and expository.

**AP LANGUAGE AND COMPOSITION ----- Course 0138****GRADE 11                    1.0 CREDITS                    FULL YEAR                    ALTERNATING**

Prerequisite - Honors English 10

Meant to align with an introductory college-level rhetoric and writing curriculum, this course requires students to analyze rhetorical elements and their effects in non-fiction texts, including speeches, letters, essays, and images from many disciplines and historical periods. Readings will be selected from the course text, *The Language of Composition*, and will also include Advanced Placement course recommendations as well as contemporary speeches, articles, and essays. Writing assignments will require students to develop evidence-based analytic and argumentative essays, including a course-required research project for which students will select, evaluate, synthesize, and cite research to support their arguments. Writing of a more personal and creative nature is also included. All stages of the writing process will be emphasized, and the class is often run as a writer's workshop with peer review and student-teacher conferencing. Students are encouraged to develop their individual writing styles, to make appropriate grammatical choices, and to critique and revise their writing effectively. Students should have an advanced reading ability and should expect between 30-60 minutes of homework each night. Failure to turn in required assignments will result in course failure. Specific strategies for taking the Advanced Placement English exams will be incorporated throughout the course; students taking the course will be well prepared to take the College Board Advanced Placement Language and Composition exam in May of their junior year. Advanced Placement students are expected to take the course Advanced Placement exam.

**COLLEGE PREP ENGLISH 12 ----- Course 0165****GRADE 12                    1.0 CREDITS                    SEMESTER                    DAILY**

Prerequisite - English 11

This course consists of reading novels, short stories, plays, and nonfiction. Major units alternate between core readings selected by the teacher and student-self-selected readings. Core readings will be chosen from among *The Catcher in the Rye*, *The Crucible*, *Death of a Salesman*, and *The Things They Carried*. Each unit incorporates a variety of types of responses, including journal writing, study guides, and major written responses, which may take expository or fictional forms. Group work and teacher/student conferences constitute important learning activities as well. The course will aim to prepare students to be successful in reading assignments at the college level.

This composition course is designed to help you learn to write very pragmatic essays. You will learn different styles of writing for different areas of study and life. Students will start with a personal essay designed to help with the college application process and move in various modes of writing including the following: process essays, division and classification, comparison and contrast, cause and effect, and

reviews. Students should be prepared to write every day and produce a portfolio of essays. Reading will be used as models for the various styles. We will do work on mechanics as needed.

**HONORS ENGLISH 12 \_\_\_\_\_ Course 0164**

**GRADE 12                      1.0 CREDITS                      SEMESTER                      DAILY**

Prerequisite - English 11

This course is good preparation for college, as students will read and write about a variety of contemporary and classical literature that is representative of various parts of the world. Universal themes form the basis for units of study that include many well-known writers who compose in English and others whose works are read in translation. All forms of literature may be included: novels, plays, short stories, poems, and nonfiction. Students will also write a variety of essays as they progress through this class.

**ACCELERATED ENGLISH 12 \_\_\_\_\_ Course 0163**

**GRADE 12                      1.0 CREDITS                      SEMESTER                      DAILY**

Prerequisite - English 11

This rigorous course is excellent preparation for college as students will read and write about contemporary and classical literature that is representative of various parts of the world. Universal themes form the basis for units of study that include many well-known writers who compose in English and others whose works are read in translation. All forms of literature may be included: novels, plays, short stories, poems, and nonfiction.

Students who take Accelerated English 12 can expect to complete substantial amounts of reading and writing work outside of class and should demonstrate above-average mastery of grammar and mechanics.

**AP LITERATURE AND COMPOSITION \_\_\_\_\_ Course 0142**

**GRADE 12                      1.0 CREDITS                      FULL YEAR                      ALTERNATING**

Prerequisite - English 11

The Advanced Placement English course in Literature and Composition will engage students in the careful reading and critical analysis of literature from various genres, concentrating on numerous works of recognized literary merit from medieval times to the present, and focusing on in-depth study of several major works. Students will read deliberately and thoroughly, taking time to understand a work's complexity, to absorb its richness of meaning, and to analyze how that meaning is embodied in literary form. In reading, students will consider various critical approaches, as well as literary elements, such as structure, style, theme, figurative language, symbolism, and tone; careful attention to both textual detail and historical context will provide a foundation for interpretation. Writing will be an integral part of the course and will focus on the critical analysis and understanding of literature, including expository, analytical, and argumentative essays, as well as creative assignments; some of these writings will be timed, to prepare students for future college work and the AP test itself. Failure to submit major projects may result in automatic failure of the course. Specific strategies for taking the Advanced Placement English exams will be incorporated throughout the course; students taking the course will be well prepared to take the ETS Advanced Placement Literature and Composition exam. Advanced Placement students are expected to take the course Advanced Placement exam.

**COMMUNICATION STUDIES \_\_\_\_\_ Course 0128**

**GRADES 10,11,12                      1.0 CREDITS                      SEMESTER                      DAILY**

The goal of this course is to help students develop and strengthen their existing (or newly forming) communication and presentation skills. The course gives students the opportunity to study and gain a working knowledge of the theory and psychology involved in both verbal and nonverbal communication. At the heart of the course is speaking, writing, and listening. Students will speak often so they can practice and refine their delivery style and develop more confidence in presenting before others. This

practice is accomplished through a variety of in-class exercises and through more formal assigned speeches. The course will help students improve their mechanics (articulation, vocal tone and volume, delivery style) and work on techniques to help reduce nervousness/stage fright. Students will gain experience in writing and delivering several different types of speeches, including: impromptu/extemporaneous; informative; critique; and persuasive. The course also includes units on debate (analysis and delivery), social media theory, rhetoric, nonverbal communication, and much more. This elective course is open to Honors grade 10 students; however, priority will be given to students in grades 11 and 12.

**CREATIVE WRITING ----- Course 0161**

**GRADES 10, 11, 12                      0.5 CREDITS                      SEMESTER                      ALTERNATING**

Prerequisite - English 9

This course is a workshop in a variety of creative genres, including personal narrative and essay, fiction, and screenwriting. A love of writing is imperative since most of this course consists of active writing in a class constructed as an interactive writing laboratory. Students are required to write daily and to complete a variety of reading and writing exercises outside of class; students will be expected to complete substantial drafting and revision outside of class and also to have an above-average mastery of writing mechanics. Each unit will culminate in a major piece (personal essay, short story, screenplay).

**MODERN SHAKESPEARE ----- Course 0162**

**GRADES 10, 11, 12                      0.5 CREDITS                      SEMESTER                      ALTERNATING**

Prerequisite - English 9

If you love the Bard and want to pursue that passion, this course is for you. We will read, act out, and watch a variety of Shakespeare’s works, looking at influences on his writing and reflecting on contemporary interpretations. Most of the reading will be done in class. This course will be more discussion and acting based than analytical.

**EVERY VOICE: MULTICULTURAL LITERATURE ----- Course 0150**

**GRADES 10,11,12                      0.5 CREDITS                      SEMESTER                      ALTERNATING**

Prerequisite - English 9

Every Voice: Multicultural Literature is a dynamic elective that offers students an opportunity to sample literature from culturally-diverse authors. We will read a variety of work from around the world in a low-pressure educational environment. Homework will be kept at a minimum, and grades will be based on in-class writing assignments and class discussions. With literature as the springboard, we will explore ways in which diverse artistic expression can help enrich our experience, as well as help us understand what it means to be human.

**FILM AS LITERATURE ----- Course 0129**

**GRADES 10, 11, 12                      0.5 CREDITS                      SEMESTER                      ALTERNATING**

Prerequisite - English 9

In this elective, students will analyze films of various eras and styles, considering the literary elements and cinematic techniques that create meaning. This course will supplement and expand on skills developed in English department courses.

Coursework will focus on viewing films critically, reading relevant texts, and writing both analytically and creatively. Class discussions will provide a forum for students to reflect on, theorize about, and evaluate films.



**HUMANITIES ----- Course 0134**

**GRADES 11, 12      1.0 CREDITS      SEMESTER      DAILY**

Prerequisite - English 10

In this elective course, students explore all the arts in an historical frame. Beginning with the ancient Greeks and ending in modern America, we study literature, art, architecture, music, and values of the period surrounding it. We read, look at, and listen to what different ages and cultures considered beautiful and meaningful.

Humanities is a challenging course. The classwork promotes curiosity, class discussion, and critical thinking. Each student is expected to write a variety of papers during the year, some personal, some creative, and some informational. Essays are a part of every unit test.

**THEATER LAB ----- Course 0130**

**GRADES 10, 11, 12      0.5 CREDITS      SEMESTER      ALTERNATING**

Prerequisite - English 9

Theatre Lab provides a structured laboratory for the exploration of all aspects of theater—performance, direction, and writing. The initial units concentrate on performance theory, and later units include the Directors’ Lab and Playwrights’ Lab. Students will participate in classroom exercises that will enhance a variety of performance and stagecraft skills. This course is open to Accelerated Grade 10 students; however, priority will be given to students in Grades 11 and 12.

Requirements for Theater Lab include several monologue presentations, dramaturgy, two scene studies and presentations, and one playwriting assignment. Written work includes character analyses, process, and homework reactions, critiques of student scenes, self-evaluations, and performance project research. Classwork includes a variety of improvisations and theater exercises, as well as project construction and presentation rehearsal.

**WOMEN IN LIT ----- Course 0149**

**GRADES 10, 11, 12      0.5 CREDITS      SEMESTER      ALTERNATING**

Prerequisite - English 9

This course examines the role of women in society from a historical and modern perspective and how this cultural experience affects the development of literature by women authors. This is an elective course and will be conducted on a seminar-type basis. This is a reading-intensive class and assessments will be based primarily on class discussion, journaling, and written reflections on text.

## AP CAPSTONE DIPLOMA PROGRAM

AP Capstone™ is an innovative diploma program that helps you stand out in the college admission process by developing the critical skills needed to succeed in college and in life. Two courses — AP Seminar and AP Research — allow you to immerse yourself in topics that matter to you while developing the analytic, research, problem-solving, and communication skills that colleges seek in their applicants. This challenging program helps you deepen your passion for learning, gives you greater confidence in your academic skills, and provides a broader perspective on your world. Students typically take AP Seminar in the 10th or 11th grade, followed by AP Research. Students who earn scores of 3 or higher on the AP Seminar and AP Research Exams and on four additional AP Exams of their choosing will receive the AP Capstone Diploma™. This signifies outstanding academic achievement and attainment of college-level academic and research skills. Alternatively, the AP Seminar and Research Certificate™, signifying attainment of college-level academic and research skills, is awarded for scores of 3 or higher on the AP Seminar and AP Research Exams only.

### **AP SEMINAR** ----- **Course 2106** **GRADE 10, 11**      **1.0 CREDITS**      **FULL YEAR**      **ALTERNATING**

Prerequisite - English 9

AP Seminar is a skills-based English or elective course that teaches students analysis, inquiry, evaluation, and research. Students will work together and with their instructor to synthesize information about their world and develop sophisticated written and oral presentations of their findings.

This Advanced Placement course is part of the AP Capstone Diploma Program. It is designed for highly motivated and independent learners.

- Students interested in AP Capstone should learn about the program. The Capstone Certificate and Diploma Program is a big commitment, and we want you to make an informed decision.
- Students who wish to select AP Seminar should be very good English students.
- AP Capstone is a two-year program. AP Seminar is the first course, and AP Research is the second. AP Seminar counts toward an English credit in 10th grade. Advanced Placement students are expected to take the course Advanced Placement exam.

### **AP RESEARCH** ----- **Course 2171 (12th Course 0171)** **GRADE 11, 12**      **1.0 CREDITS**      **FULL YEAR**      **ALTERNATING**

Prerequisite - AP Seminar

In the second course of the AP Capstone Diploma Program, you'll complete an independent research project on a topic of interest to you. For example, you can:

- Dig deeper into a topic you studied in an AP course.
- Work across academic areas on an interdisciplinary topic.
- Study a new area of interest.

At the end of the research project, you'll submit an academic thesis paper of about 5,000 words, present your findings, and orally defend your work. Your AP Research score will be based on your paper, the presentation, and the oral defense, using the 1–5 AP scoring scale.

AP Research can count toward an English credit in 11th grade. Advanced Placement students are expected to take the course Advanced Placement exam.

# FAMILY AND CONSUMER SCIENCES COURSES

Building Coordinator: Mrs. Jessica Anderson [janderson@rtmsd.org](mailto:janderson@rtmsd.org)

Graduation Requirements: Students enroll in Family and Consumer Sciences courses to fulfill graduation requirements for Electives.

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## **CHILD DEVELOPMENT** ----- **Course 0704**

**GRADES 11,12**                      **1.0 CREDITS**                      **SEMESTER**                      **DAILY**

Prerequisite - English 10 and Western Civilization

This course examines the cognitive, physical, social, and emotional development of the young child from conception through early childhood. Major theorists and their contributions to the field of child psychology are covered. Students integrate and apply the theories of child development by observing, creating developmentally appropriate learning activities, and working with preschoolers in our Little Lions Club. These experiences allow students to develop guidance techniques, leadership, and public speaking skills. Students are evaluated on their interaction with the preschoolers and by performance on tests, quizzes, assignments, lesson plan creation, implementation, and evaluation. Class attendance and participation are essential.

NOTE: Students will need to complete a Criminal Background Check and Child Abuse Clearance before working with the preschoolers.

## **ADVANCED CHILD DEVELOPMENT** ----- **Course 0708**

**GRADE 12**                      **2.0 CREDITS**                      **FULL YEAR**                      **DAILY**

Prerequisite - Child Development and Teacher Recommendation

This course is open to seniors who have excelled in Child Development and who wish to make an extensive commitment to further study.

See the instructor for course parameters and approval to register.

## **FOOD AND NUTRITION** ----- **Course 0705**

**GRADE 12**                      **1.0 CREDITS**                      **SEMESTER**                      **DAILY**

Prerequisite - 3 credits of Science, Chemistry is recommended

This course introduces students to the art and science of cooking. Evidence-based information concerning weight control, nutrients, diseases, and nutrition is presented. Students will actively evaluate cooking procedures and discuss food choices that can be applied to everyday life. We will explore the chemistry behind cooking and apply this knowledge to create foods that look and taste fantastic. We will investigate why and how culinary techniques are used and how modifying ingredients or techniques impact the final product. Students will gain a basic understanding of cooking terms, utensils, equipment, and procedures. Some of the units covered are Kitchen Safety and Sanitation, Basic Nutrition, Cookies, Quick Breads, and Yeast Breads. Student achievement will be evaluated by performance on tests, quizzes, labs, and class participation. \*Students must complete the ServSafe Certification to work unassisted in the Food Laboratory.

NOTE: Students will receive their ServSafe Food Handler Certification as part of the course.

# MATHEMATICS COURSES

Building Coordinator: Ms. Dana Martinsen [dmartinsen@rtmsd.org](mailto:dmartinsen@rtmsd.org)

Graduation Requirements: All students must take at least three math courses.

*PA Chapter 4 requires completion of coursework in Algebra I*

The following chart demonstrates the course sequence and possible paths for MATH courses. These paths are suggested. Each student will need to choose a path that meets their own individual learning plan. In the block schedule, it is possible to “double up” in math courses, by taking two courses. Be sure to follow all prerequisites.

Grade 9	Foundations of Algebra	Algebra 1A and Algebra 1B	Honors Algebra I	Honors Algebra I and Honors Geometry
Grade 10	Algebra IA	Geometry or Algebra II	Honors Geometry and Honors Algebra II	Honors Algebra II and Honors Precalculus
Grade 11	Algebra IB	Geometry or Algebra II	Honors Precalculus or AP Precalculus	AP Calculus
Grade 12	Geometry or Algebra II	Precalculus or Functions, Statistics, Trig	AP Calculus or AP Statistics	Honors Statistics or AP Statistics and/ or Honors Linear Algebra

The following is a list of Computer Science elective courses available to specified grade levels. In the block schedule, it is possible to “double up” in subject area electives, by taking two courses. Be sure to follow all prerequisites.

Grade Levels	Course Title	Prerequisite
9, 10, 11, 12	Introduction To Coding	
10, 11, 12	AP Computer Science Principles	Introduction To Coding
11, 12	AP Computer Science A	AP Computer Science Principles
12	Advanced Computer Science	AP Computer Science A

## **FOUNDATIONS OF ALGEBRA \_\_\_\_\_ Course 2800**

**GRADES 9,10**

**1.0 CREDITS**

**SEMESTER**

**DAILY**

Foundations of Algebra is a comprehensive math course that develops the foundational skills necessary for entry into algebra. Using a dual-topic approach, Foundations improves math skills for students by emphasizing fewer topics in greater depth. Foundations benefit students who require immediate support in building the fundamental skills necessary for successful entry into algebra. Content includes the tools of algebra, solving equations and inequalities, proportions, graphs and functions, and systems of equations and inequalities.

**ALGEBRA IA ----- Course 2803****GRADES 9,10,11      1.0 CREDITS      SEMESTER      DAILY**

Algebra is a language used to extend the ideas of mathematics and to solve problems that would be difficult to solve using arithmetic alone. Variables (letters) are used to represent numbers, and these variables are combined according to the rules of arithmetic. Students learn to simplify expressions with variables, to solve and graph linear equations and inequalities. Other topics include addition, subtraction, multiplication and division of polynomials, and operations with radicals.

Homework will be checked on a regular basis and will include IXLs. Quizzes and tests are part of the course requirements. Students will be required to take the PA Keystone Exam in May.

Math summer packets will be distributed in the Spring by current math teacher but can also be found on the Penncrest website.

A graphing calculator is required. The teacher will be using the TI-84+ or TI84+CE in class.

**ALGEBRA IB ----- Course 2804****GRADES 9,10,11      1.0 CREDITS      SEMESTER      DAILY**

Algebra is a language used to extend the ideas of mathematics and to solve problems that would be difficult to solve using arithmetic alone. Variables (letters) are used to represent numbers, and these variables are combined according to the rules of arithmetic. Students learn to simplify expressions with variables, to solve and graph linear equations and inequalities. Other topics include addition, subtraction, multiplication and division of polynomials, and operations with radicals.

Homework will be checked on a regular basis and will include IXLs. Quizzes and tests are part of the course requirements. Students will be required to take the PA Keystone Exam in May.

Math summer packets will be distributed in the Spring by current math teacher but can also be found on the Penncrest website.

A graphing calculator is required. The teacher will be using the TI-84+ or TI84+CE in class.

**HONORS ALGEBRA I ----- Course 2802****GRADES 9,10,11      1.0 CREDITS      SEMESTER      DAILY**

In this honors-level course, Algebra is a language used to extend the ideas of arithmetic. Variables (letters) are used to represent numbers, and these variables are combined according to the rules of arithmetic. Students learn to simplify expressions with variables, to solve and graph linear equations and inequalities, and to solve systems of equations and inequalities. Other topics include: addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division of polynomials along with square roots and the solution of quadratic equations. A primary goal of algebra is the use of mathematical ideas in solving a wide variety of word problems.

Homework will be checked on a regular basis and will include IXL's, quizzes, and tests are part of the course requirements. All students are required to complete a summer packet due by the first day of class. Students will be required to take the PA Keystone Exam in May.

Math summer packets will be distributed in the Spring by current math teacher but can also be found on the Penncrest website.

A graphing calculator is required. The teacher will be using the TI-84+ or TI84+CE in class.

**GEOMETRY ----- Course 2805****GRADES 9, 10,11,12      1.0 CREDITS      SEMESTER      DAILY**

Prerequisite - Algebra I

In this course students will study plane and spatial figures. Students will expand their knowledge of mathematical terms and ideas as well as utilize their algebraic skills. Topics include parallel lines, perpendicular lines, circles, and congruent and similar figures (triangles, quadrilaterals, and other closed

figures). Students will also develop problem-solving skills by using length, perimeter, area, circumference, surface area, and volume to solve real-world problems.

Homework will be checked on a regular basis, Quizzes and/or tests are part of the course requirements. All students are required to have a TI 83+ or TI84+ graphing calculator.

Math summer packets will be distributed in the Spring by current math teacher but can also be found on the Penncrest website.

**HONORS GEOMETRY \_\_\_\_\_ Course 2806**

**GRADES 9,10,11,12    1.0 CREDITS                      SEMESTER                      DAILY**

Prerequisite - Algebra I

In this honors-level course, the student will study deductive reasoning and its application through the study of plane and spatial figures. The student will expand his knowledge of mathematical terms and ideas and will utilize his algebraic skills. Topics of study include: parallel lines, perpendicular lines, circles, congruent and similar figures, (triangles, quadrilaterals, and other closed figures), transformations, areas, volumes, and constructions.

Homework will be assigned nearly every day and will be checked on a regular basis. Special projects may be assigned periodically. Assessments may include but not limited to quizzes, tests, and/or projects. All students are required to complete a summer packet due by the first day of class.

Math summer packets will be distributed in the Spring by current math teacher but can also be found on the Penncrest website.

**ALGEBRA II \_\_\_\_\_ Course 2807 (12th Course 0810)**

**GRADES 10,11,12    1.0 CREDITS                      SEMESTER                      DAILY**

Prerequisite - Algebra I

This course includes the study of linear equations and inequalities, systems of linear open sentences (algebraic and graphic solutions), linear functions and relations, product and factors of polynomials, rational expressions, irrational and complex numbers, quadratic equations and functions, variation and polynomial equations, matrices, sequences, series, and selected probability and statistics topics.

Students can expect to do about 30 minutes of homework each night. Tests and quizzes will be given for each unit. All students are required to have a TI-83 or TI-84 graphing calculator.

Math summer packets will be distributed in the Spring by current math teacher but can also be found on the Penncrest website. Students should have successfully completed Algebra I and Geometry.

**HONORS/ACCELERATED ALGEBRA II \_\_\_\_\_ Course 2809 (12th Course 0809)**

**GRADES 10,11,12    1.0 CREDITS                      SEMESTER                      DAILY**

Prerequisite - Algebra I

This advanced course includes the study of linear equations and inequalities, systems of linear open sentences (algebraic and graphic solutions), linear functions, and relations, product and factors of polynomials, rational expressions, irrational and complex numbers, quadratic equations and functions, variation and polynomials equations, matrices, sequences, series, selected probability and statistics topics, and conic sections.

Instruction will be provided using the graph calculator. A TI-83 or TI-84 is required for this course. Students can expect to do 35 - 40 minutes of homework each night. Tests and quizzes will be given for each unit.

Math summer packets will be distributed in the Spring by current math teacher but can also be found on the Penncrest website.



**PRECALCULUS w/TRIGONOMETRY \_\_\_\_\_ Course 2811 (12th Course 0814)**

**GRADES 10,11,12    1.0 CREDITS    SEMESTER    DAILY**

Prerequisite - Algebra II and Geometry

In this course the students will study linear relations and functions, polynomial and rational functions, exponential and logarithmic functions, trigonometric functions, analytic trigonometry, topics in analytic geometry, and an introduction to Calculus, which includes the concepts of limits. Homework is assigned daily and will be checked on a regular basis. Various assessments may include quizzes and tests. All students are required to complete a summer packet due by the first day of class. Math summer packets will be distributed in the Spring by current math teacher but can also be found on the Penncrest website.

A graphing calculator is required to complete most tests and assignments.

**HONORS PRECALCULUS w/TRIGONOMETRY \_\_\_\_\_ Course 2812 (12th Course 0812)**

**GRADES 10,11,12    1.0 CREDITS    SEMESTER    DAILY**

Prerequisite - Algebra II and Geometry

This advanced-level course will include the study of linear relations and functions, polynomial and rational functions, exponential and logarithmic functions, trigonometric functions, analytic trigonometry, polars and parametrics, and topics in analytical geometry. The course concludes with an introduction to Calculus, which includes the concept of limits.

Quizzes, tests, and quarterly exams are all required assessments. All students are required to complete a summer packet due by the first day of class. Math summer packets will be distributed in the Spring by current math teacher but can also be found on the Penncrest website.

**AP PRECALCULUS \_\_\_\_\_ Course 2813 (12th Course 0815)**

**GRADES 10,11,12    1.0 CREDITS    FULL YEAR    ALTERNATING**

Prerequisite - Algebra II and Geometry

This Advanced Placement course will allow students to explore everyday situations using mathematical tools and lenses. Through regular practice, students build deep mastery of modeling and functions, and they examine scenarios through multiple representations. They will learn how to observe, explore, and build mathematical meaning from dynamic systems, an important practice for thriving in an ever-changing world.

AP Precalculus prepares students for other higher-level mathematics and science courses. The framework delineates content and skills common to college precalculus courses that are foundational for careers in mathematics, physics, biology, health science, social science, and data science.

A graphing calculator is required. Students may elect to take the ETS Pre-Calculus Advanced Placement Exam. Various assessments may include quizzes, tests, various assessments and quarterly exams. All students are required to complete a summer packet due by the first day of class. Math summer packets will be distributed in the Spring by the current math teacher but can also be found on the Penncrest website.

Over 65% of the AP Precalculus exam is done WITHOUT the use of a calculator. Students should have strong computational and algebraic skills if entering this course.

Advanced Placement students are expected to take the course Advanced Placement exam.

**FUNCTIONS, STATISTICS, AND TRIGONOMETRY \_\_\_\_\_ Course 2822 (12th Course 0822)**

**Blended Format ----- Course Code 2823 (12th Course Code 0823)**

**GRADES 10,11,12      1.0 CREDITS      SEMESTER      DAILY**

Prerequisite - Algebra II and Geometry

This course extends student knowledge of linear, quadratic, exponential, and trigonometric functions taught in previous courses. This course also includes an overview of statistical data analysis. Students will develop problem-solving strategies through the use of real-world applications. A graphing calculator will be used to promote visualization of functions, to explore relationships between functions and their graphs, and to generalize and analyze data.

Quizzes and tests are part of the course requirements. All students are required to have TI 83+ or TI 84+ graphing calculators.

The blended format of the course; all coursework is in Schoology, our learning management system, but some days are synchronous (student in class), and others are asynchronous (students work in approved alternate locations). This combination of active, engaged learning formats allows students to control the time, place, pace, and path of their learning. The blended learning format fosters many soft skills like time management, self-regulation, goal setting, and accountability. The topics covered and requirements in this course are the same as the traditional Functions, Statistics, and Trig course.

**HONORS/ ACCELERATED STATISTICS ----- Course 3826 (12th Course 0826)**

**GRADES 10,11,12      1.0 CREDITS      SEMESTER      DAILY**

Prerequisite - Algebra II and Geometry

In this advanced-level course, the content and intent are the same as the AP Statistics course, except that students will follow a less rigid discipline of study and a few topics are optional. A TI-84+ calculator is required. Various assessments may include quizzes, tests and quarterly exams.

**AP STATISTICS ----- Course 2826 (12th Course 0820)**

**GRADES 11,12      1.0 CREDITS      FULL YEAR      ALTERNATING**

Prerequisite - Algebra II and Geometry

This Advanced Placement course is a full-year course that will develop the concepts of descriptive and inferential statistics. The purpose of the AP course is to introduce students to the major concepts and tools for collecting, analyzing, and drawing conclusions from data. Students are exposed to four broad themes: an exploration in describing patterns in data, planning and conducting a study through sampling and experimentation, and exploring random phenomena including using probability, simulation, and statistical inference (estimating population parameters and testing hypotheses). Course content is aligned with the curriculum recommended by the Education Testing Service, and students may choose to take the AP Statistics exam administered in May by ETS. Students will be required to complete daily homework assignments. Students will be required to have a TI-84+ calculator for this course. Advanced Placement students are expected to take the course Advanced Placement exam.

**HONORS CALCULUS ----- Course 3819 (12th 0819)****GRADES 10,11,12    1.0 CREDITS    SEMESTER    DAILY**

Prerequisite - Precalculus

In this advanced-level course, the content and intent are similar to the AP Calculus AB course, except that students will follow a less rigid discipline of study and several topics are optional as time allows.

A graphing calculator is required.

Various assessments may include quizzes, tests, quarterly exams. All students are required to complete a summer packet due by the first day of class. Math summer packets will be distributed in the Spring by the current math teacher but can also be found on the Penncrest website.

**AP CALCULUS AB ----- Course 2819 (12th Course 0818)****GRADES 11,12    1.5 CREDITS    ALTERNATING SEM 1    DAILY SEM 2**

Prerequisite - Precalculus

This Advanced Placement course will include the study of two fundamental problems of Calculus: 1) finding the slope of the tangent to a curve which is determined by the derivative, and 2) finding the area of a region under a curve, or the volume within a curved surface of revolution, which is determined by the definite integral. The focus of study will include strategies for differentiation and integration of various functions (algebraic, trigonometric, and transcendental). Optimization techniques will be used to determine the maximum and minimum values of a data set and/or rate of change for a given data set. In the process, elements of algebra, geometry, trigonometry, and pre-calculus will provide the basic mathematical tools for understanding advanced mathematics.

A graphing calculator is required.

Advanced Placement students are expected to take the course Advanced Placement exam.

**AP CALCULUS BC ----- Course 2820 (12th Course 0821)****GRADES 11,12    1.5 CREDITS    ALTERNATING SEM 1    DAILY SEM 2**

Prerequisite - Precalculus

This Advanced Placement course will include the study of two fundamental problems of Calculus: 1) finding the slope of the tangent to a curve which is determined by the derivative, and 2) finding the area of a region under a curve, or the volume within a curved surface of revolution, which is determined by the definite integral. The focus of study will include strategies for differentiation and integration of various functions (algebraic, trigonometric, and transcendental). Optimization techniques will be used to determine the maximum and minimum values of a data set and/or rate of change for a given data set. In the process, elements of algebra, geometry, trigonometry, and pre-calculus will provide the basic mathematical tools for understanding advanced mathematics. The AP Calculus BC course is more rigorous and covers additional topics as compared to the AP Calculus AB course.

A graphing calculator is required.

Advanced Placement students are expected to take the course Advanced Placement exam.

**HONORS LINEAR ALGEBRA ----- Course 2825 (12th Course 0825)****GRADES 10,11,12    1.0 CREDITS    SEMESTER    DAILY**

Prerequisite - Accelerated (12th Grade) or Honors (10-11 Grades) Algebra II

This college-level course is designed to prepare the student for eventual courses in multivariable calculus and modern algebra. Students will study systems of equations, vectors and vector spaces, linear transformations and matrix representations, determinants, eigenvectors, and eigenvalues and a variety of applications. Linear algebra is used in abstract algebra, functional analysis and has extensive applications to both natural sciences and social sciences. This course is intended for the highly motivated math student and is designed to challenge the most mathematically capable students. The courses will involve rigorous pacing and workload with teacher expectations intended to challenge the student.

## COMPUTER SCIENCE

### **INTRODUCTION TO CODING** ----- **Course 0829**

**GRADES 9,10,11,12**    **1.0 CREDITS**                      **SEMESTER**                      **DAILY**

Prerequisite - Algebra I

The Intro to Coding course is a year-long course designed to help students master the basics of Java. The course utilizes a blended classroom approach. The content is fully web-based, with students writing and running code in the browser. Teachers utilize tools and resources provided by Code HS to leverage time in the classroom and give focused 1-on-1 attention to students. Each unit of the course is broken down into lessons. Lessons consist of video tutorials, short quizzes, example programs to explore, and written programming exercises, adding up to over 100 hours of hands-on programming practice in total. Several units have free-response questions that have students consider the applications of programming and incorporate examples from their own lives. At the end of each unit, students take a summative multiple-choice unit quiz that assesses their knowledge of the Java concepts covered in the unit. Included in each lesson is a formative short multiple-choice quiz.

### **AP COMPUTER SCIENCE A** ----- **Course 3830 (12th Course 0830)**

**GRADES 10, 11,12**    **1.0 CREDITS**                      **FULL YEAR**                      **ALTERNATING**

Prerequisite - Introduction to Coding

AP Computer Science A introduces students to computer science through programming. Fundamental topics in this course include the design of solutions to problems, the use of data structures to organize large sets of data, the development and implementation of algorithms to process data and discover new information, the analysis of potential solutions, and the ethical and social implications of computing systems. The course emphasizes object-oriented programming and design using the Java programming language. The AP Computer Science A course is a year-long course designed to help students master the basics of Java and equip them to successfully pass the College Board AP Computer Science A Exam at the end of the school year.

Advanced Placement students are expected to take the course Advanced Placement exam.

### **AP COMPUTER SCIENCE PRINCIPLES** ----- **Course 2830 (12th Course 0832)**

**GRADES 11,12**                      **1.0 CREDITS**                      **FULL YEAR**                      **ALTERNATING**

Prerequisite - AP Computer Science A

This course introduces students to the foundational concepts of computer science and explores the impact computing and technology have on our society. With a unique focus on creative problem-solving and real-world applications, the AP Computer Science Principles course gives students the opportunity to explore several important topics of computing using their own ideas and creativity, use the power of computing to create artifacts of personal value, and develop an interest in computer science that will foster further endeavors in the field. At the end of most units, students take a summative multiple choice unit quiz in the style of the AP Exam that assesses their knowledge of the concepts covered in the unit. The course also provides an AP Test Practice unit with a cumulative AP Practice Multiple Choice Test. Advanced Placement students are expected to take the course Advanced Placement exam.

**ADVANCED COMPUTER SCIENCE \_\_\_\_\_ Course 2831 (12th Course 0831)**

**GRADES 12                    1.0 CREDITS                    INDEPENDENT STUDY**

Prerequisite - AP Computer Science A

This course extends the concepts covered in our AP Computer Science courses. Students should have completed AP Computer Science with a grade of B or better. It emphasizes object-oriented programming methodology with a concentration on problem-solving and algorithm development. It includes the study of one- and two-dimensional arrays, object-oriented design, and advanced data structures such as trees, linked lists, sets, and maps.

**MATHEMATICS EDUCATION PRACTICUM \_\_\_\_\_ Course 3000**

**GRADES 11,12                    1.0 CREDITS                    SEMESTER                    DAILY**

Prerequisite - Accelerated (12th Grade) or Honors (11 Grade) Algebra II

Students in this course will be embedded in ninth grade Algebra courses to assist the students as they engage in classwork. Students will learn about human development and instructional pedagogy while building relationships and learning from their learning partners. Students must have above average attendance, have demonstrated high levels of proficiency in Algebra, and be good citizens within the Penncrest community.

# MUSIC COURSES

Building Coordinator: Mr. Craig Snyder csnyder@rtmsd.org

Graduation Requirements: Students may use Music courses to fulfill graduation requirements for Electives.

The following is a list of MUSIC courses available to specified grade levels. In the block schedule, it is possible to “double up” in a subject area, by taking two courses. Be sure to follow all prerequisites.

Grade Levels	Course Title	Prerequisite
9, 10, 11, 12	Concert Band String Ensemble Decibelles Troubadours Intro To Ensembles: Instrumental Intro To Ensembles: Vocal Music Theory And Composition Music Tech A Music Tech B Piano Lab	Successful Audition Successful Audition Successful Audition Successful Audition  Music Tech A
10, 11, 12	Wind Ensemble Chamber Strings Ambassador Choir AP Music Theory Music Tech C	Successful Audition Successful Audition Successful Audition Successful Audition Music Tech B

Music courses at Penncrest fall into two categories: PERFORMANCE BASED and NON-PERFORMANCE BASED

**PERFORMANCE BASED COURSES:** Concert Band, Wind Ensemble, String Ensemble, Chamber Ensemble, Decibelles, Troubadours, and Ambassador Choir.

Performance-based classes are co-curricular offerings, provide performance opportunities, and have required activities outside of the school day. Students enrolled in performing ensembles attend sectionals as part of their course requirements. Small group and individual instruction and assessment is administered during these rehearsals. Sectionals are scheduled during I/E and do not impact the academic schedule.

Some performances take place during the school day, while others are held on weeknights and weekends. Students should be aware that other classes will occasionally be missed for music activities. All activities are mandatory for all members.



**CONCERT BAND ----- Course 0902**

**GRADES 9,10,11,12 1.0 CREDITS FULL YEAR ALTERNATING**

Prerequisite - Successful Audition

The mission of the Band program is to teach comprehensive musicianship through performance. Comprehensive musicianship encompasses the attitudes and behaviors that are promoted by participation in band, the development of technical skills needed to play an instrument in both an individual and an ensemble setting, and the fostering of knowledge that enables one to appreciate and understand music as an art form. The application of comprehensive musicianship takes place in the daily rehearsal of the ensemble and culminates in concert performances of the music being rehearsed.

**CONCERT BAND: PERCUSSION ----- Course 0943**

**GRADES 9,10,11,12 1.0 CREDITS FULL YEAR ALTERNATING**

Prerequisite - Successful Audition

The mission of the Band program is to teach comprehensive musicianship through performance. Comprehensive musicianship encompasses the attitudes and behaviors that are promoted by participation in band, the development of technical skills needed to play an instrument in both an individual and an ensemble setting, and the fostering of knowledge that enables one to appreciate and understand music as an art form. The application of comprehensive musicianship takes place in the daily rehearsal of the ensemble and culminates in concert performances of the music being rehearsed.

**WIND ENSEMBLE ----- Course 0903**

**GRADES 10,11,12 1.0 CREDITS FULL YEAR ALTERNATING**

Prerequisite - Successful Audition

The Wind Ensemble is open to 10th, 11th, and 12th-grade musicians who successfully complete an audition with the Director. Ensemble size is limited, and enrollment is based on the instrumentation and balance of the ensemble. With the addition of the performance of more advanced literature, the description for Concert Band can also be used for Wind Ensemble.

Recommendation: Prior instrumental training and experience, private lessons instruction, and ownership of a professional quality instrument.

**STRING ENSEMBLE ----- Course 0906**

**GRADES 9,10,11,12 1.0 CREDITS FULL YEAR ALTERNATING**

Prerequisite - Successful Audition

As a member of the String Ensemble, a student will demonstrate proficiency in scales, technique studies, and sight reading. Repertoire includes standard and contemporary orchestral literature. Special study units include basic conducting, transposition and scoring, acoustics, tuning and intonation, fundamentals of music, common musical terms, instrument care and maintenance.

**CHAMBER STRINGS ----- Course 0905**

**GRADES 10,11,12 1.0 CREDITS FULL YEAR ALTERNATING**

Prerequisite - Successful Audition

Chamber Strings is open to 10th, 11th, and 12th grade string ensemble members who successfully complete an audition with the Orchestra Director. Students who select the advanced version of String Ensemble will fulfill additional requirements which may include but are not limited to: creative projects, research, preparation of more advanced literature, additional performances, or special projects related to the course curriculum. Chamber Strings in particular often seeks and receives additional opportunities to perform in prestigious events. Attendance and participation in sectionals, performances, and concerts are mandatory for all members.

**DECIBELLES ----- Course 0909**

**GRADES 9,10,11,12 1.0 CREDITS FULL YEAR ALTERNATING**

Prerequisite - Successful Audition

Decibelles is a treble choir that provides performance opportunities for SSA and SSAA choir through a broad, mixed repertoire of unison and part works, both accompanied and a cappella. Students learn correct singing techniques while experiencing a wide variety of four-part Soprano/Alto music. Decibelles is offered to all Soprano and Alto voice parts with the prerequisite of pitch-matching ability. Musical skills are developed through vocal technique, introduction to theory and ear training, sight reading, and ensemble activities. Choral singing is a skill and is performance-oriented; therefore, each student is expected to complete all required assignments, to participate in all class activities, to attend sectional rehearsals regularly, and to attend all performances.

**TROUBADOURS ----- Course 0945**

**GRADES 9,10,11,12 1.0 CREDITS FULL YEAR ALTERNATING**

Prerequisite - Successful Audition

Troubadour Choir provides performance opportunities for TTB and TTBB choir through a broad, mixed repertoire of unison and part works, both accompanied and a cappella. Tenor/Bass Choir is offered to all Tenor and Bass voices, with the prerequisite of pitch-matching ability. Musical skills are developed through vocal technique, introduction to theory and ear training, sight singing, and ensemble performances. Students interested in Concert Choir should have previous choral experience and demonstrate a proficient ability to: match pitch with the piano in an appropriate vocal range, maintain accurate pitch while singing along or with others, read and sight sing music, and demonstrate characteristic vocal quality.

**AMBASSADOR CHOIR ----- Course 0910**

**GRADES 10,11,12 1.0 CREDITS FULL YEAR ALTERNATING**

Prerequisite - Successful Audition

Ambassador Choir is open to 10th, 11th, and 12th grade singers who successfully complete an audition with the Choral Director. Ensemble size is limited, and enrollment is based on the vocal balance of the SATB choir. The repertoire performed in the Ambassador Choir is more advanced and can include chamber music, vocal jazz, and musical theater selections. Students interested in the Ambassador Choir are expected to have previous choral experience and demonstrate an advanced level of pitch recognition, harmonic skill, music literacy on the bass and treble staves, and superior vocal quality.

NON-PERFORMANCE BASED COURSES: Music Theory, Music Tech, Piano, and Intro to Ensemble  
Non-performance based classes are curricular offerings, do not provide performance opportunities, and do not have requirements outside of the school day.

**INTRO TO ENSEMBLES: INSTRUMENTAL ----- Course 0947**

**GRADES 9,10,11,12 0.5 CREDITS SEMESTER ALTERNATING**

Instrumental Intro to Ensembles is a course for beginners with little or no previous experience playing a musical instrument. Any student may elect this course. No audition is required. The focus will be on individual or group development of comprehensive musicianship through careful attention to tone quality, accurate pitch, good blend and balance, sight-reading, and musical expression. The goal of this course is to provide students with singing fundamentals necessary to be successful in an instrumental ensemble.

**INTRO TO ENSEMBLES: VOCAL ----- Course 0946****GRADES 9,10,11,12 0.5 CREDITS SEMESTER ALTERNATING**

Vocal Intro to Ensemble is a course for beginners with little or no previous experience in singing. Any student may elect this course. No audition is required. Students must be willing and able to sing alone and with others. Students will study correct posture, breath control, enunciation and phrasing, tone production and control, and interpretation. The goal of this course is to provide students with singing fundamentals necessary to be successful in a choral ensemble.

**MUSIC THEORY AND COMPOSITION ----- Course 0912****GRADES 9,10,11,12 1.0 CREDITS FALL SEMESTER DAILY**

The goal of this course is the development of comprehensive musicianship through the theoretical study and analysis of the elements, structure, and design of music. Students will read, write, listen to, and perform music of various styles and time periods. This will include contemporary/modern popular music and similar genres. Through such study, students may deepen their understanding, enjoyment, and appreciation of music as an art form. Grades are based on the student's achievement in classroom assignments as well as a series of eight compositions they will write throughout the year.

It is recommended, but not required, that students take this course before selecting AP Music Theory.

**AP MUSIC THEORY ----- Course 0913****GRADES 10,11,12 1.0 CREDITS SPRING SEMESTER DAILY**

The goal of AP Music Theory is to provide greater understanding of the music that we hear around us. We will consider how music is put together, what musical elements are in play, and why music sounds the way it does. We will study music terminology and notation, scale and chord construction, sight-reading, sight-singing of music, form. These skills will enable students to develop their compositional, improvisation, and performance abilities. Students can expect to develop their singing skills, piano skills, and abilities to listen to, analyze and compose music. The course utilizes written and aural exercises extensively and allows the opportunity for students to compose and perform their own music digitally. Grades are based on quizzes that prepare the student for the AP Music Theory exam as well as a series of eight compositions they will write throughout the year.

Upon completion of the course, students will be qualified to take the ETS Advanced Placement test in Music Theory.

**MUSIC TECH A ----- Course 0932****GRADES 9,10,11,12 0.5 CREDITS SEMESTER ALTERNATING**

This one-semester course introduces the student to current music recording, sequencing, and editing tools and techniques. Topics to be explored are: Arranging and Editing, Basic Mixing, Programming Drum Machines and Sequencers, Use of Effects, Live Recording, Use of MIDI Controllers, Use of Loop Players, and writing original songs. The main DAW being used is Logic Pro which is provided on iMacs in the computer lab.

**MUSIC TECH B ----- Course 0933****GRADES 9,10,11,12 0.5 CREDITS SEMESTER ALTERNATING**

Prerequisite - Music Tech A

Picks up where Music Tech A left off and explores more of the theoretical side of writing music. Topics include: Using Traditional Notation, Creation and Application of MIDI Files, Scale and Chord Relationships, Chord Progressions, Importing and Exporting, Basic Synth Programming, and advanced original songwriting. The main DAW being used is Logic Pro which is provided on iMacs in the computer lab.

**MUSIC TECH C ----- Course 0931**

**GRADES 10,11,12    1.0 CREDITS    FULL YEAR    ALTERNATING**

Prerequisite - Music Tech B

This year-long course offered at rank level one develops concepts explored in the A and B classes. It may prepare the student for college or studio work in the topics explored which include: Gating and Sidechaining, Advanced Mixing and Filter Effects, Advanced Drum Programming, Advanced Synthesizing and Sampling, working with Vocals, Producing a Remix, and Sound Distortion and Destruction. Ample time is given to work on independently created projects in addition to self-guided research. The main DAW being used is Logic Pro which is provided on iMacs in the computer lab.

**PIANO LAB ----- Course 0934**

**GRADES 9,10,11,12    0.5 CREDITS    SEMESTER    ALTERNATING**

Piano Lab is a self-paced, unlevleled course for students of all skill levels. It teaches music theory, notation, and piano techniques, with beginners starting from a fundamentals textbook. Advanced students progress at their own level. The course allows repeated enrollment, with letter designations indicating the number of times a student has taken it, fostering a flexible learning environment.

# PHYSICAL EDUCATION AND HEALTH COURSES

Building Coordinator: Mr. Brian Saviski bsaviski@rtmsd.org

Graduation Requirements: Students must take three semesters of Physical Education and Health

The following is a list of PHYSICAL EDUCATION & HEALTH courses available to specified grade levels. In the block schedule, it is possible to “double up” in a subject area, by taking two courses. Be sure to follow all prerequisites.

Grade Levels	Course Title	Prerequisite
9	Physical Education I	
10, 11, 12	Physical Education II Health	Physical Education I
11, 12	Adulting 101 Adventure-Based Fitness Basketball Net Games And Lifetime Activities Personal Fitness Strength Training For Athletes Team Games Yoga, Pilates, and Meditation	Physical Education II and Health

REQUIREMENTS - PE 1, PE 2, and Health. Additionally, the following requirements apply to all Physical Education classes:

- Students are required to participate in the fitness program.
  - Students will complete all Physical Fitness tests.
  - Students are required to run the mile.
  - Uniforms are required for all Physical Education classes.
- \* DCTS Students will take DCTS Physical Education and Health.

**PHYSICAL EDUCATION I ----- Course 0302**

**GRADE 9                      0.5 CREDITS                      SEMESTER                      ALTERNATING**

The ninth-grade Physical Education program provides the student with knowledge, attitudes, appreciation, and skills in a variety of physical activities. The major emphasis in the ninth-grade program is on physical fitness. Activities include: soccer, hockey, basketball, volleyball, lacrosse, track and field, and softball. Other activities, such as Fitness testing and Yoga and Pilates, are part of the program. Each activity includes skill development and skill teaching. All students will receive skill tests and written examinations in most of the activities that are taught. In addition, a reading assignment may be required during the course.

**PHYSICAL EDUCATION II ----- Course 0304**

**GRADE 10                      0.5 CREDITS                      SEMESTER                      ALTERNATING**

Prerequisite - Physical Education I

This basic course in Physical Education meets every day for one semester. It provides the foundations for the student's later skill development. The emphasis is on physical fitness and movement education during this important period of physical development. The curriculum includes weight training, soccer, wrestling, volleyball, combatives, basketball, lacrosse, yoga, pilates, and aerobics. Each activity includes skill development and skill teaching. All students will receive skill tests and written examinations in most of the activities that are taught. In addition, a reading assignment may be required during the course.

**HEALTH ----- Course 0351**

**GRADE 10                      0.5 CREDITS                      SEMESTER                      ALTERNATING**

Prerequisite - Physical Education I

Health is required of all students, and a passing grade must be obtained to meet graduation requirements. Health meets five days a week for one semester and is graded on an A-to-E scale. It is a comprehensive program that provides an appreciation of the development of decision-making, social well-being, and mental and physical efficiency. This course is presented through a variety of techniques, including resource speakers, class lectures, note-taking, discussion, and audio-visual materials. The course directs its focus toward dealing with some of the major health issues confronting adolescents. There will also be enrichment units in First Aid, Nutrition, Cardiovascular Fitness, Body Systems, Mental Health, Conception and Development, Human Sexuality, Substance Abuse, Aging, and Consumer Health. The student is expected to play an active and positive part in class discussions.

**ADULTING 101 ----- Course 0333**

**GRADES 11,12                      0.5 CREDITS                      SEMESTER                      ALTERNATING**

Prerequisite - Physical Education II and Health

This course will cover many of the skills needed for successful life after high school. Topics such as personal finance, taxes, mortgages, housing, buying/leasing cars, health insurance, meal planning, grocery shopping, resume building, and job interviews will be covered. Students taking this course will be expected to complete daily assignments and projects tailored toward real-life experiences.

**ADVENTURE-BASED FITNESS ----- Course 0340**

**GRADES 11,12                      0.5 CREDITS                      SEMESTER                      ALTERNATING**

Prerequisite - Physical Education II and Health

This high-energy and engaging course is specially designed for high school students seeking to maximize their well-being, cultivate a love for fitness, and become empowered to lead a healthy and active lifestyle. In this action-packed adventure-based fitness class, students will experience the perfect fusion of physical challenges, mental resilience, and teamwork, through outdoor and indoor activities. The course is structured to develop a holistic approach to fitness, focusing on confidence, socialization, mental



well-being, endurance, strength, and flexibility. Outdoor activities include hiking, walking, orienteering, and scavenger hunts. Lifelong sports will include tennis, golf, and frisbee. Fitness activities will include cross-training, HIIT, and weight training. Mindfulness activities will include yoga and meditation.

**BASKETBALL ----- Course 0334**

**GRADES 11,12      0.5 CREDITS      SEMESTER      ALTERNATING**

Prerequisite - Physical Education II and Health

This course is designed to give students the opportunity to learn and develop fundamental and advanced skills and strategies for basketball, as well as fitness concepts and conditioning techniques used for achieving and maintaining optimal physical fitness. Students will benefit from comprehensive team activities and individual games. Students will learn fundamentals and advanced techniques of a team activity/activities, and overall fitness training and conditioning. Students will be empowered to make wise choices, meet challenges, and develop positive behaviors in team activities, aerobic fitness, wellness, and movement activities for a lifetime.

**NET GAMES AND LIFETIME ACTIVITIES ----- Course 0335**

**GRADES 11,12      0.5 CREDITS      SEMESTER      ALTERNATING**

Prerequisite - Physical Education II and Health

This course is designed to give students the opportunity to learn and develop fundamental and advanced skills and strategies for net games with a focus on tennis, volleyball, badminton, and pickleball. Students will also learn skills and strategies for performing lifetime activities such as golf, frisbee, bocce, and many more. The activities covered in this class can be enjoyed well into adulthood due to the lower-impact nature of the games. Students will be empowered to make wise choices, meet challenges, and develop positive behaviors in team activities, wellness, and movement activities for a lifetime.

**PERSONAL FITNESS ----- Course 0309**

**GRADES 11,12      0.5 CREDITS      SEMESTER      ALTERNATING**

Prerequisite - Physical Education II and Health

This course is designed to give students the opportunity to learn fitness concepts and conditioning techniques used for obtaining optimal physical fitness. Students will benefit from comprehensive weight training and cardiorespiratory endurance activities. Students will learn the fundamentals of strength training, aerobic training, and overall fitness training and conditioning. Students will learn how to perform safely and with proper form exercises for using free weights, powerlifting, Olympic lifting, bodyweight exercises, and Nautilus machines. Students will be empowered to make wise choices, meet challenges, and develop positive behaviors in fitness, wellness, and movement activities for a lifetime.

**STRENGTH TRAINING FOR ATHLETES ----- FALL: Course 0336 SPRING: Course 0339**

**GRADES 11,12      0.5 CREDITS      SEMESTER      ALTERNATING**

Prerequisite - Physical Education II and Health

This course is designed for current Penncrest athletes who are following their team's training program. The course gives students the opportunity to learn fitness concepts and conditioning techniques used for obtaining optimal physical fitness. Students will benefit from comprehensive weight training and cardiorespiratory endurance activities. Students will learn the fundamentals of strength training, aerobic training, and overall fitness training and conditioning. Students will have the opportunity to follow the programs designed by their current coaches and trainers. Students will be empowered to make wise choices, meet challenges, and develop positive behaviors in fitness, wellness, and movement activities for a lifetime.

**TEAM GAMES** ----- **Course 0337**

**GRADES 11,12      0.5 CREDITS      SEMESTER      ALTERNATING**

Prerequisite - Physical Education II and Health

This course is designed to give students the opportunity to learn and develop fundamental and advanced skills and strategies for a variety of team games. Students will improve their communication skills and ability to work in groups as they engage in team-oriented activities. Games such as basketball, floor hockey, soccer, handball, softball, football, frisbee, and many more will be played in this semester course. Students will be empowered to make wise choices, meet challenges, and develop positive behaviors in team activities, wellness, and movement activities for a lifetime.

**YOGA, PILATES, AND MEDITATION** ----- **Course 0312**

**GRADES 11,12      0.5 CREDITS      SEMESTER      ALTERNATING**

Prerequisite - Physical Education II and Health

This elective course will help students interested in creating their own personal fitness routine using Yoga, Pilates, and Meditation/Stress relieving activities. Students will lead and engage in Yoga, Pilates, and Meditation techniques and practices and they will learn the benefits of exercise. Students will also learn how to incorporate all fitness components into their instructed Yoga, Pilates, and Meditation fitness routines. This class will develop and strengthen communication and behavior management skills. Students will learn tools for safely improving athletic performance. Successful completion of this course may help students with their own personal fitness.

# SCIENCE COURSES

Building Coordinator: Mr. Gregory Jacobs gjacobs@rtmsd.org

Graduation Requirements: All students must take at least three science courses.  
*PA Chapter 4 requires completion of coursework in Biology.*

The following chart demonstrates the course sequence and possible paths for SCIENCE courses. These paths are suggested. Each student will need to choose a path that meets their own individual learning plan. In the block schedule, it is possible to “double up” in science courses, by taking two courses. Be sure to follow all prerequisites.

	Standard Placement	Honors Placement	Advanced Placement
Grade 9	Environmental Science	Honors Environmental Science	
Grade 10	Biology	Honors Biology	Honors Biology with AP Biology
Grade 11	<u>Choices</u> Chemistry Human Anatomy & Physiology Integrated Science Science and Technology Forensic Sciences	<u>Choices (1 or 2)</u> Honors Physics I Honors Chemistry Honors Human Anatomy & Physiology Forensic Sciences	<u>Choices</u> AP Biology AP Physics I Honors with AP Chemistry AP Environmental Science
Grade 12	<u>Choices</u> Chemistry Human Anatomy & Physiology Integrated Science Science and Technology Forensic Sciences	<u>Choices (1 or 2)</u> Honors Physics I Honors Chemistry Honors Human Anatomy & Physiology Forensic Sciences	<u>Choices</u> AP Biology AP Physics I or C AP Chemistry AP Environmental Science

## ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE \_\_\_\_\_ Course 2000

**GRADE 9                      1.0 CREDITS                      FULL YEAR                      ALTERNATING**

This is a full-year course covering topics in environmental science, ecology, meteorology, geology, and other environmental topics and issues. The course will consist of readings from the text, lectures, class discussions, laboratory investigations, films, and homework assignments based on the text. The course is based on ecological, environmental, and other course-related topics. Students should expect several tests and quizzes each marking period and two or more hours of homework a week. Multiple laboratory investigations will be completed during the year. A well-organized notebook and assignment book must be maintained throughout the course.

## HONORS ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE \_\_\_\_\_ Course 2001

**GRADE 9                      1.0 CREDITS                      FULL YEAR                      ALTERNATING**

In the Honors course, students are expected to spend a minimum of four hours per week on course homework (study and written work). Student achievement will be evaluated in terms of at least two to three major tests, several quizzes, and appropriate laboratory reports each marking period. A test will

follow each of the major units of study. In addition, tests and/or reports will be required following the major laboratory and independent research topics each semester.

**BIOLOGY I \_\_\_\_\_ Course 2003**  
**GRADE 10                      1.0 CREDITS                      SEMESTER                      DAILY**

Prerequisite - Environmental Science

Students will prepare for the PA Biology Keystone Exam. Students will explore the living world around them through a variety of instructional activities including guided notes, discussions, online reinforcement activities, and lab activities. Students can expect multiple unit tests per marking period which will account for approximately 20-25% of the overall grade. Some marking periods may also include a project related to the current unit of study.

**HONORS BIOLOGY I \_\_\_\_\_ Course 2004**  
**GRADE 10                      1.0 CREDITS                      SEMESTER                      DAILY**

Prerequisite - Environmental Science

Students will prepare for the PA Biology Keystone Exam. Students will explore the living world around them through a variety of instructional activities including guided notes, discussions, online reinforcement activities, and lab activities including lab reports. Students can expect multiple unit tests per marking period which will account for approximately 50% of the overall grade. Some marking periods may also include a project related to the current unit of study.

**AP BIOLOGY AND HONORS BIOLOGY COMBINED \_\_\_\_\_ Course 2006**  
**GRADE 10                      2.0 CREDITS                      FULL YEAR                      DAILY**

Prerequisite - Environmental Science

Students may combine Biology and Advanced Placement Biology in this fast-paced schedule model. Classes will meet every day, during a block, for the full year. Students will complete independent projects throughout the year. Students undertaking this challenging model should be highly organized, motivated, and able to work independently. This course will include all of the elements outlined in the Biology I AND AP Biology course descriptions. This course will prepare students to take the Keystone Biology Exam and the Advanced Placement Biology Exam.

**AP BIOLOGY \_\_\_\_\_ Course 2005 (12th Course 1016)**  
**GRADES 11,12                      1.0 CREDITS                      FULL YEAR                      ALTERNATING**

Prerequisite - Biology

This course is open to students who have completed Biology I and who wish to take the AP Exam in Biology. The course covers the concepts and labs set forth in the AP curriculum determined by ETS. This course is comparable to 2 semesters of Intro to Biology in college.

(Note: The College Board recommends prerequisite completion of both Biology and Chemistry).

**AP ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE \_\_\_\_\_ Course 2002 (12th Course 1020)**  
**GRADES 10,11,12                      1.0 CREDITS                      FULL YEAR                      ALTERNATING**

Prerequisite - Environmental Science

Laboratory and field investigations are emphasized as students explore the abiotic environment, the biota, and the complex interactions between them that characterize living systems. Students analyze environmental problems, evaluate risks, and investigate ways to prevent and/or solve environmental problems. Topics investigated include earth systems (atmosphere, lithosphere, and hydrosphere); human impact on earth systems; populations, communities, ecosystems, and biomes; biodiversity; energy flow and materials' cycling; evolution and geological history; human history and influences; location, quantity

and extraction of natural resources; natural and anthropogenic environmental changes; environmental economics and policy, and choices for the future.

Mathematical and computer modeling of various processes augment student understanding of the concepts. Analysis and comparison of articles from the professional literature expand and test students' comprehension of the concepts. Formal scientific writing and presentation develop students' abilities to communicate the concepts.

Recommendation: The College Board recommends completion of two lab sciences as well as an earth science course as course prerequisites.

Any tenth-grade student who elects AP Environmental Science must also take Biology I as required.

### **HUMAN ANATOMY AND PHYSIOLOGY \_\_\_\_\_ Course 3015 (12th Course 1015)**

**GRADES 10,11,12      1.0 CREDITS      SEMESTER      DAILY**

Prerequisite - Biology

Honors Human Anatomy and Physiology will elaborate on basic concepts of the Biology I coursework using Human Anatomy and Physiology as the unifying theme. The course sequence will include a study of the human body, from the molecular level to the organismal level. Emphasis will be placed upon human anatomy and functions of the systems of the body. This second-year Biology class will use a college-level textbook.

Student grading will include assigned readings with outlines, section quizzes, multiple laboratory activities and dissections, and heavily weighted tests. Students should expect a minimum of three to four hours per week outside of class to complete assigned work.

### **HONORS HUMAN ANATOMY & PHYSIOLOGY \_\_\_\_\_ Course 2021 (12th Course 1021)**

**GRADES 10,11,12      1.0 CREDITS      SEMESTER      DAILY**

Prerequisite - Biology

Human Anatomy and Physiology is a course that focuses on the organization and function of the eleven organ systems. The purpose of the course is to elaborate systems theory as it applies to human physiology, healthy practices, and pathophysiology. Students will rely on case studies for each system to integrate central concepts of physiology. In the classes' laboratory activities, there will be an emphasis on laboratory skills central to anatomical studies and human health that will promote problem-solving, refine procedure, and strengthen reading, writing, and math skills. Another component of the laboratory studies will include the following dissections: muscle, tendon bone, heart, brain, kidneys, eyes, and fetal pig. Students will do research, generate research papers, and present to the class on a variety of topics including cancer, genetic diseases, diseases of the various organ systems, healthy behaviors, and open-ended topics. Students in this course will be involved in extracurricular studies and will be encouraged and rewarded for the exploration of personal avenues of interest in science. Students interested in educational or professional paths in the Allied Health Sciences, (medicine, bioresearch, medical technology, kinesiology, veterinary medicine...etc.) would also benefit by joining the Medical Scholars Club.

### **PHYSICS I \_\_\_\_\_ Course 2008 (12th Course 1010)**

**GRADES 10,11,12      1.0 CREDITS      SEMESTER      DAILY**

Prerequisite - Biology

This is a comprehensive course that will prepare you for eventually taking AP or college physics. Topics include kinematics, two dimensional vectors, Newton's laws, work and energy, impulse and momentum, equilibrium, and simple harmonic motion. It is required that students complete Algebra II successfully prior to taking this course OR be a strong math student that takes Algebra II concurrently with this course. Math performance strongly correlates to success in Physics. Experiments and hands-on projects are a significant portion of the course, and are woven into the course throughout the year. This course will be extremely beneficial for students who like applying their learning to real-world scenarios, or considering

engineering, science of any kind, nursing, or technology programs in college. All science and engineering programs in college will require you to take physics in college. This course will prepare students for college level Physics 1 and/or the AP Physics course in mechanics.

**AP PHYSICS I \_\_\_\_\_ Course 2009 (12th Course 1009)**

**GRADES 10,11,12      1.0 CREDITS      FULL YEAR      ALTERNATING**

Prerequisite - Biology

This course follows the AP Physics 1 course outline as published by the College Board. It is strongly encouraged that students complete Algebra II prior to taking this course. Content includes kinematics, two-dimensional vectors, Newton's Laws, Work and energy, Impulse and momentum, rotational dynamics, and oscillations. Exams model the AP exam and will be conducted over a two-day period (one day for multiple choice and one day for free response). Exams take place at the end of each unit, roughly every four or five weeks. Homework is administered through the WebAssign platform and Edpuzzle. Edpuzzle assignments are to be completed before the class lesson on the subject takes place. Laboratory experiments feature prominently, conducted in class and written up as homework. Exams count for 40% of the grade and everything else counts for the remaining 60%. This course can result in college credit (depending on the AP exam score and the program and university). This course will prepare students for University Physics 1 and/or the AP Physics C course in mechanics.

**AP PHYSICS C—MECHANICS \_\_\_\_\_ Course 2010 (12th Course 1011)**

**GRADES 11,12      1.0 CREDITS      FULL YEAR      ALTERNATING**

Prerequisite - Physics I

This course follows the AP Physics C – Mechanics course outline as published by the College Board. Content includes kinematics, two- and three-dimensional vectors, Newton's Laws, Work and energy, Impulse and momentum, rotational dynamics, gravitation, and oscillations. Calculus concepts feature prominently, and it is strongly encouraged that students complete the Trigonometry/Pre-Calculus course prior to taking it. Exams model the AP exam and will be conducted over a two-day period (one day for multiple choice and one day for free response). Exams take place at the end of each unit, roughly every four or five weeks.

Homework is administered through the WebAssign platform and Edpuzzle. Edpuzzle assignments are to be completed before the class lesson on the subject takes place. Weekly WebAssign assignments are rigorous. Laboratory experiments feature prominently, conducted in class and written up as homework. Exams count for 40% of the grade, quizzes 20%, and everything else counts for the remaining 40%.

**AP PHYSICS C—ELECTRICITY AND MAGNETISM \_\_\_\_\_ Course 2011 (12th Course 1022)**

**GRADES 11,12      1.0 CREDITS      INDEPENDENT STUDY**

Prerequisite - Physics C: Mechanics

This independent study course follows the AP Physics C – Electricity and Magnetism course outline as published by the College Board. AP Physics C – Mechanics is a prerequisite. Content includes Electrostatics, DC circuits, capacitance, electromagnetism, and Maxwell's equations. Calculus concepts feature prominently, and it is strongly encouraged that students complete the Trigonometry/Pre-Calculus course prior to taking it.

This course is an independent study and will be administered through WebAssign. The course is pass/fail and does not contribute to the GPA.



**CHEMISTRY: THEORY & APPLICATION \_\_\_\_\_ Course 2023 (12th Course 1023)****GRADES 10,11,12      1.0 CREDITS      SEMESTER      DAILY**

Prerequisite - Biology

This course will explore the basic concepts of chemistry including (but not limited to) atomic structure and bonding, nuclear chemistry, matter and its phases, chemical formulas, equations and reactions, solutions, energy and thermodynamics, acid-base chemistry, biochemistry, organic chemistry and environmental chemistry (pollution). By learning chemistry and understanding the underlying connections between chemistry and society students learn to make reasoned judgments and informed decisions about relevant scientific issues in their daily lives. This course would include a curriculum that is less math-intense and more focused on practical chemistry knowledge and understanding.

Student achievement and progress are measured through a minimum of 2 major tests each marking period; quizzes will be given approximately once per week. Laboratory investigations will be completed during the course, and there will be reports required for several labs each marking period.

It is strongly recommended that students have passed the Algebra Keystone Exam prior to taking Chemistry. Math performance strongly correlates to success in Chemistry.

**CHEMISTRY I \_\_\_\_\_ Course 2013 (12th Course 1013)****GRADES 10,11,12      1.0 CREDITS      SEMESTER      DAILY**

Prerequisite - Biology and Algebra II

Chemistry will explore the basic concepts of Chemistry, with a focus on the daily applications of chemistry in modern society. A good comprehension of basic Algebra is necessary for the successful completion of this course. There is extensive use of drill and practice sheets to reinforce learning.

Student achievement and progress are measured through a minimum of 2 major tests each marking period; quizzes will be given approximately once per week. Laboratory investigations will be completed during the course, and there will be reports required for several labs each marking period.

It is strongly recommended that students have passed the Algebra Keystone exam prior to taking Chemistry.

**HONORS/ ACCELERATED CHEMISTRY I \_\_\_\_\_ Course 2015 (12th Course 1012)****GRADES 10,11,12      1.0 CREDITS      SEMESTER      DAILY**

Prerequisite - Biology and Algebra II

Honors Chemistry will explore the topics in extensive detail, with a focus on the theoretical basis underlying the relationship between atomic structure and the behavior of matter. Emphasis will also be placed on both modern applications of chemistry and the mathematical relationships in chemistry. Students should be proficient in Algebra for the successful completion of this course.

Student achievement and progress are measured through a minimum of 3 major tests each marking period; quizzes will be given approximately once per week. Laboratory investigations will be completed during the course, and formal written lab reports will be required at least once per marking period for each; in addition, several informal reports of laboratory work will be required per marking period.

Math performance strongly correlates to success in Chemistry.

It is strongly recommended that students have passed the Algebra Keystone exam prior to taking Honors Chemistry.

**AP CHEMISTRY \_\_\_\_\_ Course 2014 (12th Course 1014)****GRADES 11,12      1.0 CREDITS      SEMESTER      DAILY**

Prerequisite - Chemistry

This course is a continuation of Chemistry I. A college-level chemistry textbook will serve as the basic reference for this course. The following topics will be studied: atomic structure, chemical formulas and

equations, the gaseous state and the gas laws, chemical reactions and stoichiometry, thermochemistry, electronic structure and the periodic table, the chemical bonds, solutions and colloids, oxidation-reduction and electrochemistry, chemical kinetics, and chemical equilibrium. There will be two major exams a quarter, regular rigorous homework, and 25% or more class time in the lab.

This course is intended for the serious student who desires a strong foundation in chemistry. Students taking this course will be encouraged to take the ETS Advanced Placement Exam in May.

Homework problems and questions will be assigned daily. Laboratory work is performed weekly, and written reports are required.

### **AP CHEMISTRY AND HONORS CHEMISTRY COMBINED Course 2025 (12th Course 1025)**

**GRADES 11,12      2.0 CREDITS      FULL YEAR      DAILY**

Prerequisite - Biology

Students may combine Chemistry I and Advanced Placement Chemistry in this fast-paced schedule model. Students will be responsible for a summer work packet/unit and will complete independent projects throughout the year. Students undertaking this challenging model should be highly organized, motivated, and able to work independently.

This course will include all of the elements outlined in the Chemistry I AND AP Chemistry course descriptions.

### **INTEGRATED SCIENCE \_\_\_\_\_ Course 2019 (12th Course 1019)**

**GRADES 10,11,12      1.0 CREDITS      SEMESTER      DAILY**

Prerequisite - Biology

This course is designed for students who excel in hands-on classrooms. The course is project and lab-driven but does include formal assessments throughout the year. Topics will be presented briefly in lecture form, and then several labs/activities will take place during most weeks to reinforce the information. Students will be learning about chemistry, physics, and experimental design.

Student participation and presence in class are essential to course completion. Weekly assessments are given; 2 exams are given per quarter as well as a final. These grades are balanced by several lab grades, homework assignments, and projects.

### **SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY IN SOCIETY: ROCKETRY & ASTRONOMY \_\_\_ Course 2018**

**GRADES 10,11,12      0.5 CREDITS      SEMESTER      ALTERNATING**

Prerequisite - Biology

As humans, technology affects our everyday lives. Through this course, students will discover the impact of technological advancements related to Newton's Laws of Motion, rocketry and astronomy. Each unit will include multiple short and long-term hands-on projects and laboratory activities. There will also be multiple quizzes and a test at the end of each unit. Consistent attendance is critical for success. 12th grade students in the 2025-2026 school year may select this course at the Honors (Course 1018) or College Prep (Course 1017) level.

### **SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY IN SOCIETY: MEASUREMENT AND ENGINEERING**

**Course 2031**

**GRADES 10,11,12      0.5 CREDITS      SEMESTER      ALTERNATING**

Prerequisite - Biology

As humans, technology affects our everyday lives. Through this course, students will discover the impact of technological advancements related to measurement and engineering (structure design and building). Each unit will include multiple short- and long-term hands-on projects and laboratory activities. There will also be multiple quizzes and a test at the end of each unit. Consistent attendance is critical for

success. 12th grade students in the 2025-2026 school year may select this course at the Honors (Course 1031) or College Prep (Course 1030) level.

**FORENSIC BIOLOGY ----- Course 1028**

**GRADES 10,11,12      0.5 CREDITS      SEMESTER      ALTERNATING**

Prerequisite - Biology

Forensic biology is a branch of science that applies biological principles and techniques to solve crimes. This field involves analyzing biological evidence, such as blood, hair, and other bodily fluids, to help identify victims or suspects. Forensic biologists work closely with law enforcement agencies to provide critical information that can lead to solving a case. By using methods like DNA analysis and microscopy, they can uncover vital clues that may not be visible to the naked eye. The work of forensic biologists is essential in the legal system, as it helps ensure that justice is served and innocent individuals are exonerated. Understanding forensic biology not only highlights the importance of science in real-world applications but also opens the door to exciting career opportunities in criminal justice and research.

Students will learn crime scene investigation skills and will also examine the forensic science used to solve criminal cases. Students in this class will focus on forensic biology to explore evidence and make deductions about crimes. We will practice logic skills, analyze case studies, and perform laboratory experiments to learn about the field of forensics.

Note: Due to the graphic nature of some crimes, students will be exposed to images and information that may be unsettling to some individuals. Content may include descriptions and graphics such as blood splatter, images of victims, autopsies, wounds and body fluids, ballistics, and various forms of decay. Descriptions of crimes and clinical evidence may also be discussed. These are integral to the understanding of forensic science and to the curriculum and cannot be replaced by other activities.

**FORENSIC CHEMISTRY AND PHYSICS ----- Course 1029**

**GRADES 10,11,12      0.5 CREDITS      SEMESTER      ALTERNATING**

Prerequisite - Biology

Forensic chemistry and physics play crucial roles in solving crimes and understanding evidence in the legal system. Forensic chemistry involves the analysis of substances, such as drugs, toxins, and trace materials, to determine their composition and origin. Techniques like chromatography and mass spectrometry help forensic scientists identify these substances accurately. Meanwhile, forensic physics applies principles of physics to analyze crime scenes, including ballistics, blood spatter patterns, and the mechanics of injuries. By combining these two fields, investigators can reconstruct events, link suspects to crimes, and provide vital information that can influence the outcome of legal proceedings, making the collaboration between chemistry and physics essential for justice.

Students learn crime scene investigation skills and will also examine the forensic science used to solve criminal cases. Students in this class will use chemistry and physics to explore evidence and make deductions about crimes. We will practice logic skills, analyze case studies, and perform laboratory experiments to learn about the field of forensics.

Note: Due to the graphic nature of some crimes, students will be exposed to images and information that may be unsettling to some individuals. Content may include descriptions and graphics such as blood splatter, images of victims, autopsies, wounds and body fluids, ballistics, and various forms of decay. Descriptions of crimes and clinical evidence may also be discussed. These are integral to the understanding of forensic science and to the curriculum and cannot be replaced by other activities.

# SOCIAL STUDIES COURSES

Building Coordinator: Mr. Benjamin Danson bdanson@rtmsd.org

Graduation Requirements: All students must take 3.5 Social Studies credits.

*PA Chapter 4 requires completion of coursework in United States History and Civics and Government.  
Grade Level Core Sequence Electives*

The following chart demonstrates the course sequence and possible paths for SOCIAL STUDIES courses.

Grade Level	Standard Placement	Honors Placement	Advanced Placement
9	Global Studies	Honors Global Studies	
10	Western Civilization	Honors Western Civilization	AP European History
11	US History	Honors US History	AP US History
12	College Prep Government	Honors Government Accelerated Government	AP Government and Politics

The following is a list of SOCIAL STUDIES elective courses available to specified grade levels. In the block schedule, it is possible to “double up” in subject area electives, by taking two courses. Be sure to follow all prerequisites.

Grade Levels	Course Title	Prerequisite
10, 11, 12	International Relations Sociology	Global Studies
11, 12	Modern Intellectual History AP African American Studies Economics AP Economics AP Psychology History Through Film	Western Civilization

The Penncrest Social Studies Department sponsors a variety of opportunities for students to extend their studies outside of the classroom.

Extracurricular opportunities include Model U.N., Mock Trial, and History Day. Members of Rho Kappa, the Social Studies Honor Society, design engagement activities for our student body throughout the year. The department also regularly sponsors field trips to activities and events of interest. Students should see their teachers about how to become involved in our extracurricular Social Studies programs.

**GLOBAL STUDIES 9** ----- **Course 2200**

**HONORS GLOBAL STUDIES 9** ----- **Course 2201**

**GRADE 9**                      **1.0 CREDITS**                      **SEMESTER**                      **DAILY**

The freshman course examines five cultures of the world: Latin America, Sub-Saharan Africa, the Middle East, India, and China. Each culture will include topics such as geography, history, social structure, economics, religion, and government. The course will also provide a foundation of core concepts and help students to develop stronger reading, social studies, and critical thinking skills. A variety of materials will be used including readings, novels, videos, computer presentations, and cultural objects. Both course levels will study the same fundamental content and skills with varying reading levels, classroom support, and expectations for independent work.

**WESTERN CIVILIZATION** ----- **Course 2203**

**HONORS WESTERN CIVILIZATION** ----- **Course 2204**

**GRADE 10**                      **1.0 CREDITS**                      **SEMESTER**                      **DAILY**

Prerequisite - Global Studies

This course will examine events in European History from Ancient Greece through World War II in order to explore the influence of Western civilization on modern culture and society.

Students taking this course will build essential Social Studies skills, such as critical reading, writing, and notetaking through a variety of activities. A regimen of regular study outside of class and grade-level reading and writing skills are required in order to achieve success. Both course levels will study the same fundamental content and skills with varying reading levels, classroom support, and expectations for independent work.

**AP EUROPEAN HISTORY** ----- **Course 2206**

**GRADE 10**                      **1.0 CREDITS**                      **FULL YEAR**                      **ALTERNATING**

Prerequisite - Global Studies

AP European History is designed to provide students with a survey of the cultural, diplomatic, economic, intellectual, political, and social history of Europe from the High Renaissance to the recent past. The goals of the course are to develop an understanding of the principal themes in modern European history, an ability to analyze historical evidence, and an ability to analyze and express historical understanding in writing. Primary sources will be studied and analyzed. Test questions will model the AP format in multiple-choice and interpretive essay questions. Students electing AP European History should possess advanced reading and writing skills, a willingness to complete assigned work faithfully, and intellectual curiosity. Skills required to succeed on the AP Exam will be emphasized throughout the year.

Students electing AP European History should expect rigorous daily written homework. Students must realize that a regimen of regular study and advanced reading and writing skills are required in order to achieve success at this level. Advanced Placement students are expected to take the course Advanced Placement exam.

**US HISTORY** ----- **Course 2207**

**HONORS US HISTORY** ----- **Course 2208**

**GRADE 11**                      **1.0 CREDITS**                      **SEMESTER**                      **DAILY**

Prerequisite - Western Civilization or AP European History

This course will study U.S. History from a variety of perspectives. Geographic, economic, political, social, and demographic trends will be traced chronologically to provide students with an understanding of how American society developed from its origins to become the world leader it is today. Beginning with an examination of the Revolutionary Period, the course examines changes to American society up to the present.

In addition to the textbook, a variety of enrichment readings—both fiction and non-fiction—will be offered. Students will develop a variety of skills used by historians, including analysis, research, synthesis, and organization. A regimen of regular study outside of class and grade-level reading and writing skills are required in order to achieve success. Both course levels will study the same fundamental content and skills with varying reading levels, classroom support, and expectations for independent work.

**AP UNITED STATES HISTORY ----- Course 2209**

**GRADE 11                      1.0 CREDITS                      FULL YEAR                      ALTERNATING**

Prerequisite - Western Civilization or AP European History

AP US History is designed to provide students with a comprehensive survey of the events constituting the history of the United States from colonization to the turn of the 21st century. The course will trace social, political, economic, and demographic developments in a chronological approach.

AP US History will be taught in a college format. Students who elect AP US History should possess advanced reading and writing skills, a willingness to complete assigned work faithfully, and an eagerness to explore the heritage of their country. Advanced Placement students are expected to take the course Advanced Placement exam. The skills required to succeed on that exam will be emphasized throughout the year.

**COLLEGE PREP GOVERNMENT ----- Course 0225**

**GRADE 12                      0.5 CREDITS                      SEMESTER                      ALTERNATING**

Prerequisite - US HISTORY

College Prep Government will teach students about how the modern American government works. They will study the fundamental principles of the US Constitution; will learn about the branches of government and their interaction through the system of checks and balances; will analyze the relationship between federal, state, and local governments; will gain an understanding of the two-party system; and will learn about the legislative process. As a result, students will be prepared to be effective citizens and informed voters.

Students must realize that a regimen of regular study and average ability in reading and writing skills are required in order to achieve success at this level.

**ACCELERATED GOVERNMENT ----- Course 0227**

**HONORS GOVERNMENT ----- Course 0226**

**Blended Format ----- Course Code 0228**

**GRADE 12                      0.5 CREDITS                      SEMESTER                      ALTERNATING**

Prerequisite - US HISTORY

Through the study of American Government, students will acquire the skills and knowledge necessary to become responsible and effective citizens in an interdependent world. Students will need a practical understanding of the system of government that affects their lives. This course is designed to provide such a framework. Students will develop an understanding of the basic tenets of American democracy, the practices of American government as established by the United States Constitution, and basic concepts of politics and American citizenship.

The course will include class discussions highlighting current social issues. Mastery of this course will ensure that students are prepared to participate in our political process as informed citizens.

Students who select Accelerated Government should expect: Substantial additional independent reading as an outgrowth of their study of various units, and an additional project each marking period.

The blended format of the course; all coursework is in Schoology, our learning management system, but some days are synchronous (students in the class), and others are asynchronous (students work in approved alternate locations). This combination of active, engaged learning formats allows students to



control the time, place, pace, and path of their learning. The blended learning format fosters many soft skills, like time management, self-regulation, goal setting, and accountability.

**AP GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS ----- Course 0233**

**GRADE 12                      1.0 CREDITS                      FULL YEAR                      ALTERNATING**

Prerequisite - US History

The AP course in US Government and Politics will give students an analytical perspective on government and politics in the United States through a political science approach. The course includes both the study of general concepts used to interpret US politics and the analysis of specific examples of these concepts in current affairs. It also develops familiarity with the various institutions, groups, beliefs, and values that constitute the US political system. Students will become acquainted with a variety of theoretical perspectives and explanations for various behaviors and outcomes.

Students successfully completing this course will know important facts, concepts, and theories pertaining to the US government and politics; understand typical patterns of political processes and behaviors and their consequences; and be able to analyze and interpret data relevant to the US government and politics. The course covers the following five units:

1. Foundations of American Democracy; 2. Interactions Among Branches of Government; 3. Civil Liberties and Civil Rights; 4. American Political Ideologies and Beliefs; 5. Political Participation.

As a natural outcome of the course, students will be prepared to perform well on the Advanced Placement exam in US Government and Politics, and it is expected that students will opt to sit for the exam when it is offered. There is a summer reading requirement for students electing AP US Government and Politics. Advanced Placement students are expected to take the course Advanced Placement exam.

**ECONOMICS ----- Course 0224**

**GRADE 11,12                      0.5 CREDITS                      SEMESTER                      ALTERNATING**

Prerequisite - Western Civilization or AP European History

Economics is an elective course that offers the following units of study: Supply and Demand, Comparative Economic Systems, Taxation, Monetary Policy, Fiscal Policy, the Federal Reserve System, Proprietorships, Partnerships, Corporations, the Stock Market, Economic Theorists, and International Economics. Students must realize that a regimen of regular study and above-average ability in reading and writing skills are required in order to achieve success in this course.

**INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS ----- Course 0223**

**GRADE 10,11,12                      0.5 CREDITS                      SEMESTER                      ALTERNATING**

Prerequisite - Global Studies

International Relations is the study of relationships between countries, including the role of international organizations such as the United Nations. A particular area of study within international relations is foreign policy. Students will learn how American foreign policy affects the international system and how these policies are created. This course focuses on the central concerns of international relations-diplomacy, nuclear proliferation, terrorism, and global development. Students must realize that a regimen of regular study and above-average ability in reading and synthesizing skills are required in order to achieve success in this course.

**MODERN INTELLECTUAL HISTORY ----- Course 0221**

**GRADE 11,12                      0.5 CREDITS                      SEMESTER                      ALTERNATING**

Prerequisite - Western Civilization or AP European History

The course in Modern Intellectual History is designed to provide general exposure to various areas of intellectual history. Students will examine modern intellectual history both theoretically and chronologically, with a focus on those areas most commonly covered in college courses. Class discussions

based on assigned readings will be the primary activity during this course, with several short papers and examinations assigned throughout the semester. Materials include excerpts from Wolff's *About Philosophy* and the novel *Sophie's World*.

Students must realize that a regimen of regular study and above-average ability in reading and writing skills are required in order to achieve success in this course.

**SOCIOLOGY** ----- **Course 0230**

**GRADE 10,11,12**      **0.5 CREDITS**      **SEMESTER**      **ALTERNATING**

Prerequisite - Global Studies

Sociology is the study of social life, social change, and the social causes and consequences of human behavior. In this semester-long elective course, students will examine such topics as conformity, deviance, culture, and education. adolescent socialization, and gender inequality. Class discussions based on assigned readings will be the primary activity during this course, with several group projects and examinations assigned throughout the semester.

Students must realize that a regimen of regular study and above-average ability in reading and synthesizing skills are required in order to achieve success in this course.

This course is open to students in grades 10, 11 and 12; enrollment preference will be given to 12th-grade students.

**AP AFRICAN AMERICAN STUDIES** ----- **Course 2237 (12th Course 0237)**

**GRADE 11,12**      **1.0 CREDITS**      **FULL YEAR**      **ALTERNATING**

Prerequisite - Western Civilization or AP European History

AP African American Studies is an interdisciplinary course that examines the diversity of African American experiences through direct encounters with rich and varied sources. Students explore key topics that extend from early African kingdoms to the ongoing challenges and achievements of the contemporary moment.

AP African American Studies is organized by four thematic units that follow a chronological flow across the course. Throughout each unit, students build interdisciplinary analytical skills through deep encounters with a wide range of texts and sources. Unit 1: Origins of the African Diaspora (~900 BCE–16th century; Unit 2: Freedom, Enslavement, and Resistance (16th century–1865); Unit 3: The Practice of Freedom (1865–1940s); Unit 4: Movements and Debates (1940s–2000s).

Given the interdisciplinary character of AP African American Studies, students in the course will develop skills across multiple fields, with an emphasis on developing historical, literary, visual, and data analysis skills. Advanced Placement students are expected to take the course Advanced Placement exam.

**AP ECONOMICS** ----- **Block 2241 (12th Block 0241)**

**GRADE 11,12**      **1.0 CREDITS**      **FULL YEAR**      **ALTERNATING**

Includes courses AP MICROECONOMICS and AP MACROECONOMICS

Prerequisite - Western Civilization or AP European History

The purpose of the AP course in Microeconomics is to give students a thorough understanding of those principles of economics that apply to the functions of individual decision-makers, both consumers and producers, within the economic system. It places primary emphasis on the nature and functions of product markets and includes the study of factor markets and of the role of government in promoting greater efficiency and equity in the economy.

The purpose of the AP course in Macroeconomics is to give students a thorough understanding of the principles of economics that apply to an economic system as a whole. The course will place particular emphasis on the study of national income and price-level determination, and also develop students'

familiarity with economic performance measures, the financial sector, stabilization policies, economic growth, and international economics.

These two courses, offered as a full-year sequence, are designed to simulate a college-level economics course. Coursework and examinations will be developed with the goal of preparing students for AP exams in Microeconomics and Macroeconomics. Advanced Placement students are expected to take the course Advanced Placement exam in either Macro, Micro, or both.

**AP PSYCHOLOGY ----- Course 2236 (12th Course 0236)**

**GRADE 11,12            1.0 CREDITS            FULL YEAR            ALTERNATING**

Prerequisite - Western Civilization or AP European History

This rigorous full-year course is open to juniors and seniors who wish to take the AP Exam in Psychology. Students enrolled in this course will be introduced to the scientific study of behavior and mental processes. The course covers concepts set forth in the AP curriculum determined by ETS. Some of the units covered will be Biological Basis of Behavior, Sensation and Perception, Learning, and Cognition and Personality. Students will learn about the ethics and methods used by psychologists. AP Psychology is comparable to an Intro to Psychology course in college.

Students electing AP Psychology will be responsible for written homework assignments most nights. Advanced Placement students are expected to take the course Advanced Placement exam.

**HISTORY THROUGH FILM ----- Course 0246**

**GRADE 11,12            0.5 CREDITS            SEMESTER            ALTERNATING**

Prerequisite - Western Civilization or AP European History

In this elective course, students will analyze films and other moving images from various genres and eras, considering overt historic content as well as the way these works reflect the times in which they were made. This course will supplement skills and knowledge developed in Social Studies department courses. Coursework will focus on the critical evaluation of moving images and sound, reading relevant texts, and engaging in class discussions. Historical topics and film genres may differ each semester.

# SPECIAL EDUCATION COURSES

Building Coordinator: Mrs. Kirsten Curry [kcurry@rtmsd.org](mailto:kcurry@rtmsd.org)

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## OVERVIEW OF SPECIAL EDUCATION COURSE SELECTION

Penncrest students who receive special education services through an Individualized Education Program (IEP) should select courses like all other students, indicating required courses and electives according to their IEP. The Student's Counselor and Special Education Case Manager will review the Student's course selection. If there is a discrepancy between what the Student selected and what the IEP team agreed upon, the Special Education Case Manager will expedite scheduling an IEP meeting to discuss the Student's schedule and/or program goals.

### **ADAPTED CONTENT SPECIAL EDUCATION COURSES**

**GRADES 9,10,11,12    1.0 CREDITS                      FULL YEAR                      ALTERNATING**

English 9-12, Foundations of Algebra, Algebra IA and IB, Math 12

Adapted content courses are available in English and Mathematics at each grade level and other cores as necessary. These courses address the content of regular education classes but provide small groups and modified materials and instructional strategies to meet the needs of the students assigned to these classes. Students are scheduled for these classes based on IEP team recommendations.

### **FUNDAMENTALS OF READING \_\_\_\_\_ Course 1136**

**GRADES 9,10,11,12    1.0 CREDITS                      FULL YEAR                      ALTERNATING**

This course is designed for students that need to strengthen basic reading skills because of difficulties with phonemic awareness, single word decoding, spelling, writing, reading fluency, vocabulary, and/or comprehension. Focus will be in those areas based on the student's individualized education program with a structured, sequential approach to each of the skill areas of need and monitoring of those skill areas using reading probes and fluency measures. Students will be exposed to a variety of vocabulary, literature and authors.

### **LIFE SKILLS SPECIAL EDUCATION COURSES**

**GRADES 9,10,11,12    1.0 CREDITS                      FULL YEAR                      ALTERNATING**

English, Math, Science, Social Studies

Students who require an extensive focus on their independent living and post-secondary transition goals may receive English and Math coursework that is embedded in the Life Skills classrooms. These courses are graded and students earn credits. These courses may not always follow the bell schedule as other activities such as morning meeting and community based instruction are also a part of the classroom. Students in this program typically receive Science and Social Studies instruction in the grade level courses that are described in those sections of this guide.

### **EMOTIONAL SUPPORT ACHIEVEMENT CENTER \_\_\_\_\_ Course 1152, 1153, 1155, 1156**

**GRADES 9,10,11,12    1.0 CREDITS                      FULL YEAR                      ALTERNATING**

The Emotional Support Achievement Center course is designed to assist selected students who have a significant need for daily support in academic areas and/or in organization, study skills, coping skills, and emotional regulation. This class will include both whole-group instruction in certain skill areas and individualized instruction and/or support in the various academic areas in accordance with each student's IEP needs. Students will receive a grade based on their class performance in whole-group lessons,

individual work, and classroom participation. In order to be eligible, students must be recommended by their special education case manager.

### **LINKING LEARNING TO LIFE APARTMENT LIVING PROGRAM**

Students will learn skills to promote their independence such as doing the laundry, maintaining a clean home environment, preparing a meal, and making minor repairs. Lessons will also include: soft skills for employment, budgeting, travel training, purchasing groceries, planning social gatherings, protecting personal identity, etc. Students will practice skills such as safely navigating public transportation, making change, self-advocating, ordering food, socializing with friends, and proper etiquette at the table during community-based learning experiences. Placement in this program is based on IEP team recommendations.

### **LINKING LEARNING TO LIFE CAREER COACHING**

This program is part of the Special Education Transition Program and is designed to teach students the skills needed for successful employment such as social skills, problem-solving skills, work skills, and more. The program begins with the students learning basic occupational skills during in-house modules. The students then transfer the skills they learned through the modules as they work at local businesses as unpaid interns under the supervision of a job coach. The job coach provides individual instructional support to each student, with the goal of fading support over time. Placement in this program is based on IEP team recommendations.

# TECHNOLOGY & ENGINEERING COURSES

Building Coordinator: Mr. Douglas Gramo dgramo@rtmsd.org

Graduation Requirements: Students may use Technology & Engineering Education courses to fulfill graduation requirements for Electives.

The following is a list of TECHNOLOGY AND ENGINEERING courses available to specified grade levels. In the block schedule, it is possible to “double up” in a subject area, by taking two courses. Be sure to follow all prerequisites.

Grade Levels	Course Title	Prerequisite
9, 10, 11, 12	Foundations of S.T.E.M. TV Production I Architectural Design And Residential Construction	
10 11, 12	Engineering Design And Manufacturing I Engineering Design And Manufacturing II Transportation, Robotics, And Aviation TV Production II Introduction To Filmmaking: From Concept To Screen	Foundations of S.T.E.M. Engineering I  TV Production I TV Production I
11, 12	Yearbook Publication & Photography I Yearbook Publication & Photography II Advanced Studies In Technology & Engineering Education	English 10 Yearbook I Foundations of STEM and completion of all classes in the concentration area.

## **FOUNDATIONS OF S.T.E.M. \_\_\_\_\_ Course 1260**

**GRADES 9,10,11,12 1.0 CREDITS SEMESTER DAILY**

This course is designed to serve as the introductory course in the Technology and Engineering program. Students in this course will study manufacturing, construction, electronics, visual communications, and energy/power technologies. This course will focus on the engineering design loop. Students will gain an understanding of the history of technology, and modern uses of technology, and gain an insight into the future of technology. Students will gain experience using hand tools, machine tools, CAD programs, 3D printing, and more to help develop an understanding of engineering design.

## **ARCHITECTURAL DESIGN AND RESIDENTIAL CONSTRUCTION \_\_\_\_\_ Course 1262**

**GRADES 9,10,11,12 1.0 CREDITS SEMESTER DAILY**

This course is intended to serve as an introduction to the current practices in residential construction and also as a platform for investigating future trends in the construction field. Students in this course will be introduced to the various materials and techniques used both historically and currently to build structures. Instruction will focus equally on the design and fabrication elements of the industry. Emphasis will be placed on using architectural drawing and estimation software tools to produce the construction documentation that is required in the trade. The incorporation of architectural design, green building technologies, and the environmental impacts of home design and construction will be investigated.



**ENGINEERING DESIGN AND MANUFACTURING I \_\_\_\_\_ Course 1264****GRADES 10,11,12****1.0 CREDITS****SEMESTER****DAILY**

Prerequisite - Foundations of STEM

This course is open to 10th, 11th, and 12th graders as an exploratory course in engineering and design, as well as manufacturing processes and procedures. Students will develop skills in freehand drawing, geometric construction, isometric, multi-view drafting, and dimensioning of drawings. Students will be utilizing a three-dimensional drawing package to produce working drawings and plans. Students design or reverse engineer an object or product, to create and modify the product or tool. Students will create plans, schedules, and assembly drawings, testing the physical properties and dynamics of the object or part. Students will also go through the designing process of objects that run on mechanical properties from springs, cams, gears, pneumatics, hydraulics, and weights to move an object. Emphasis will be placed on the design and redesign of mechanisms or objects.

**ENGINEERING DESIGN AND MANUFACTURING II \_\_\_\_\_ Course 1276****GRADES 10,11,12****1.0 CREDITS****SEMESTER****DAILY**

Prerequisite - Engineering and Manufacturing I

Engineering Design and Manufacturing II is a course offering broad experiences in a variety of design areas expanding on the Engineering Design and Manufacturing I course. The course will appeal to students who are interested in engineering and design, plus the manufacturing processes and procedures that go into these products. Students will continue developing skills in freehand drawing, geometric construction, isometric, multi-view drafting, and dimensioning of drawings. Students will be utilizing a three-dimensional drawing package that will be used to produce working drawings and plans. This package of SolidWorks is a professional drawing tool used today in Engineering Colleges plus many companies worldwide. Students will go through the process of designing or reverse engineering of an object or product, to create and modify the product or tool. Students will create plans, schedules, and assembly drawings, testing the physical properties and dynamics of the object or part. Students will also go through the designing process of objects that run on mechanical properties from springs, cams, gears, pneumatics, hydraulics, and weights to move an object. Emphasis will be placed on the design and redesign of mechanisms or objects.

**TRANSPORTATION, ROBOTICS, AND AVIATION \_\_\_\_\_ Course 1270****GRADES 10,11,12****1.0 CREDITS****SEMESTER****DAILY**

Recommendation - Foundations of STEM

This course undertakes an exploration of the role technology plays in the complex networks of interconnected subsystems that comprise the three core areas of study. Students will examine various transportation system components and the roles of these components in the overall functional process of the system. An analysis will also take place of the improvements and the impacts of transportation technologies on the environment, society, and culture. Students will design and create a transportation vehicle based on their experiences, interests, and research during the unit.

In the robotics segment, students will work in teams to solve technical problems by designing and constructing tethered robots, autonomous robots, and automated sorting machines using VEX IQ robotics kits. Students will use a variety of methods and applications within the design model to produce their robots using materials in the VEX kit as well as custom made parts of their own design.

Aviation is an exciting, complex combination of various systems, technologies, and concepts all designed to challenge the student from an interdisciplinary perspective. Students will explore aerodynamic principles, aircraft systems, flight planning, weather basics, and other topics necessary to pilot an airplane.

**YEARBOOK PUBLICATION & PHOTOGRAPHY I ----- Course 1251****GRADES 11,12      1.0 CREDITS      FULL YEAR      ALTERNATING**

Prerequisite - English 10

This course is primarily for students who wish to be involved in producing the Penncrest yearbook (The Crest). The secondary focus of the course is photography and the concepts and techniques used to take high-quality photographs. Students will study principles of good design and layout of the yearbook as well as work to develop strong photographic skills. Students should be highly motivated, possess strong organizational skills, and be willing to work as members of a team to produce The Crest. The yearbook is created using an online design program which students will be required to learn. Other software applications, including Microsoft Word, and Adobe Creative Suite (InDesign, Illustrator, and Photoshop), will be used to aid in the creation of the book and photographic assignments. Students should also be aware that this course may require after-school and evening time to record events for the year.

**YEARBOOK PUBLICATION & PHOTOGRAPHY II ----- Course 1252****GRADES 11,12      1.0 CREDITS      FULL YEAR      ALTERNATING**

Prerequisite - Yearbook Publications &amp; Photography I

This course is for students interested in continuing their involvement in producing the Penncrest yearbook (The Crest). These students will be expected to take leadership roles in producing The Crest. Students should also be aware that this course requires after-school and evening time to record events for the yearbook. Students should possess strong organizational skills and be willing to work as members of a team to produce The Crest.

**TV PRODUCTION I ----- Course 0136****GRADES 9, 10, 11, 12      1.0 CREDITS      SEMESTER      DAILY**

In this course, students learn how television programs are produced and participate in hands-on projects to develop skills in the following areas: Pre-production planning, writing, basic scriptwriting, storyboarding, basic editing techniques, basic studio camera techniques, studio operations, and control room operations. A variety of film, video, and television production processes will be examined. Areas of study will include but not be limited to: broadcast journalism, public service announcements, advertising, short films, and studio productions.

Students will be expected to produce a variety of productions using software and hardware applications. You'll use industry-related software (DaVinci Resolve) to gain creative experience in post-production. This course is recommended for students who are interested in learning more about occupations in and around the video/film industry.

**TV PRODUCTION II ----- Course 0137****GRADES 10, 11, 12      1.0 CREDITS      SEMESTER      DAILY**

Prerequisite - TV Production I

In this course, students produce video segments and learn elements of journalistic style and journalistic standards. Students function as writers, talent, producers, videographers, and editors. They will acquire skills in the following areas: field camera operation, broadcast writing style and format, on-air presence, interviewing techniques, effective storytelling techniques, production techniques both in the field and in the studio, news judgment, news ethics, and professional journalistic standards and responsibilities. This course is open to students who have successfully completed TV Production I. Students who have successfully completed both TV PRODUCTION I and TV PRODUCTION II should explore an Independent Study for a third year of study.

**INTRODUCTION TO FILMMAKING: FROM CONCEPT TO SCREEN \_\_\_\_\_ Course 0138**

**GRADES 10, 11, 12    1.0 CREDITS    SEMESTER    DAILY**

Prerequisite - TV Production I

Embark on a comprehensive journey into the art and craft of filmmaking with this hands-on course designed for aspiring filmmakers. Leveraging the immersive curriculum from Sneak On The Lot, students will explore the entire filmmaking process, from initial concept development to final distribution. This course is ideal for students eager to delve into filmmaking, offering a structured yet creative environment to develop and showcase their talents.

**ADVANCED STUDIES IN TECHNOLOGY & ENGINEERING EDUCATION**

**GRADES 11,12    1.0 CREDITS    SEMESTER    DAILY**

Prerequisite - Foundations of STEM and completion of all concentration area classes

Course 1271--Architecture Concentration

Course 1272--Engineering Concentration

Course 1273--Visual Design Concentration

Advanced Studies in Technology and Engineering Education is an independent STEM exploration and is the capstone course in the Technology Education & Engineering program and is specifically designed for students who have demonstrated an aptitude for and a keen interest in STEM education. Building upon a student's previous experiences in their Technology and Engineering Education courses, this course provides students an opportunity to do in-depth study within a STEM-related topic. The advanced course is designed to provide a platform for an area of study or research necessitating a high level of self-directed learning. This learning may require students to read, conduct research, complete written examinations, produce reports, develop projects, compose research papers, prepare portfolios, or engage in similar assignments that are designed to measure competency in the educational objectives stated at the onset of the coursework.

# WORLD LANGUAGE COURSES

Building Coordinator: Mrs. Kimberly Rivière [kriviere@rtmsd.org](mailto:kriviere@rtmsd.org)

Graduation Requirements: All students must successfully complete coursework through the second year of a language (at least one year at the high school level).

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Penncrest World Language courses are thoughtfully designed to foster high levels of language proficiency. Each course in a modern language covers all four essential language skills: listening, speaking, reading, and writing. Given the sequential structure of language study, it is crucial for students to successfully complete each level before progressing to the next, as each level builds upon the previous one, adding greater complexity. The charts below are suggested sequential pathways for World Language students. Each student will need to choose a path that meets their own individual learning plan.

To optimize language proficiency, students are strongly encouraged to enroll in two language courses per year. This accelerated path enables students to reach the highest available level in their language studies, such as AP Chinese, French, Spanish, and Latin IV, more quickly. Additionally, students may participate in STAMP (STAndards-based Measure of Proficiency) testing at various levels, which could qualify them for both the Global Seal of Functional Fluency and the Pennsylvania Seal of Biliteracy. Any student enrolled in the Honors course (called Accelerated for 12th Grade) will complete additional coursework as determined by the department.

## PSMLA\* GLOBAL SCHOLARS PROGRAM

The Global Scholars program is intended to encourage students to pursue coursework, activities, and service with a global focus, affording the opportunity for high school students to meaningfully select interdisciplinary studies and activities that will lead them to develop global awareness and better prepare themselves for personal and professional success in an increasingly global society. In order to earn the Global Scholar distinction, Penncrest students must:

- complete 4 credits of the same World Language with a B or better;
- successfully complete, with a B or better, 4 additional credits of courses with a global focus. Students are strongly encouraged to consider a second World Language to fulfill this requirement.
- participate in at least 4 extracurricular activities with a global focus;
- complete 20 hours or more of service with a global focus;
- complete 8 media/literature reviews.

Successful completion of the program will be determined by the Global Scholars advisor. Students interested in participating should contact Mrs. Donna Montich, Global Scholars advisor, or Mrs. Kimberly Rivière, World Language Coordinator.

\*Pennsylvania State Modern Language Association

Chinese			
	Standard (1 language course per year)	Moderate (1 or 2 language courses per year)	Accelerated (2 language courses per year)
Year 1	Chinese I	Chinese I and II	Chinese I and II
Year 2	Chinese II	Chinese III	Chinese III, and Elective
Year 3	Chinese III	Chinese IV and Elective	Chinese IV and AP Chinese
Year 4	Chinese IV	AP Chinese	Advanced Study

**CHINESE I** \_\_\_\_\_ **Course 2660 (12th Course 0631)**

**HONORS CHINESE I** \_\_\_\_\_ **Course 2661 (12th Course 0630)**

**GRADES 9,10,11,12 1.0 CREDITS SEMESTER DAILY**

This course is a basic introduction to Mandarin Chinese, designed for students who are beginning their studies of the language for the first time. Students will develop skills in the four linguistic areas: listening, speaking, reading, and writing, and will learn about formal and informal aspects of Chinese culture. A variety of teaching techniques are incorporated. Student participation and homework are integral components of the program. Students should select Chinese I if they have no or very little previous experience with the Chinese language and/or culture.

**CHINESE II** \_\_\_\_\_ **Course 2662 (12th Course 0637)**

**HONORS CHINESE II** \_\_\_\_\_ **Course 2663 (12th Course 0632)**

**GRADES 9,10,11,12 1.0 CREDITS SEMESTER DAILY**

Prerequisite - Chinese I

In the second year of Mandarin, students will continue to develop their skills in the four linguistic areas: listening, speaking, reading, and writing as well as continuing their study of Chinese culture. A variety of teaching techniques are incorporated. Student participation and homework are integral components of the program.

**CHINESE III** \_\_\_\_\_ **Course 2635 (12th Course 0635)**

**HONORS CHINESE III** \_\_\_\_\_ **Course 2633 (12th Course 0633)**

**GRADES 10,11,12 1.0 CREDITS SEMESTER DAILY**

Prerequisite - Chinese II

A review and continuation of Chinese II, students will refine their skills in the four linguistic areas: listening, speaking, reading, and writing by focusing on a deeper understanding of Chinese cultures and cultural comparisons. Students will be able to read and write in more complex disclosures related to cultural content. Students will be able to apply strategies in Chinese character identification and analysis from the prior two years to their own inquiries of a variety of vocabularies, idiomatic expressions, and culturally registered language via multimedia materials, including Journey to the West, one of the four classics in Chinese history. At this level, students will be able to make insightful comparisons between Eastern and Western languages and cultures. From this level on, portfolio assessments are utilized to ensure each student's individual growth in learning.

**HONORS CHINESE IV ----- Course 2634 (12th Course 0634)**

**GRADES 10,11,12      1.0 CREDITS      SEMESTER      DAILY**

Prerequisite - Chinese III

This course will continue to utilize the portfolio growth model of the program and help students create an even more competitive academic transcript. This course is a continuation of Intermediate Mandarin Chinese, emphasizing proficiency in speaking and writing at a more advanced level, while continuing skill development in listening and reading of Chinese culture. Students are exposed to the AP curriculum and multimedia interactive materials to develop a deeper understanding of Chinese culture, furthermore in comparison of China to the West in areas like history, geography, philosophies, a variety of forms of art, music, ancient & modern technologies, classical and modern literature. Students in this course will also be eligible to take the college-level HSK, the International Chinese Proficiency test for Chinese as a Second Language, and to pursue a full scholarship to study for a semester or a year at a Chinese university.

**AP CHINESE LANGUAGE AND CULTURE ----- Course 2638 (12th Course 0638)**

**GRADES 11, 12      1.0 CREDITS      SEMESTER      DAILY**

Prerequisite - Chinese IV

This course will prepare students for the rigorous AP Chinese Language and Culture exam. Students will learn about contemporary Chinese society and culture by examining Chinese products, practices, and perspectives, including ethnic and regional diversity, values, travel and transportation, holidays and food, and current affairs. Students will acquire more advanced vocabulary and structures in addition to refined speaking and writing skills. Students are expected to exhibit their comprehension levels in utilizing sentence patterns, vocabulary, and idiomatic expressions associated with the text in all four linguistic areas: Listening, Speaking, Reading, and Writing. Oral and writing skills are developed through conversation topics, oral presentations, class discussions, and compositions. Authentic sources such as newspaper and magazine articles, websites, films, and Chinese literature will be used to increase reading proficiency skills and cultural knowledge. Students in this course are expected to take the AP exam. Students who elect not to take the AP exam must take the course final at the end of the semester. Portfolio growth assessments are utilized to ensure each student's individual growth in learning. Additionally, students will have the option to take the STAMP test to earn the Global Seal of Functional Fluency or Pennsylvania Seal of Biliteracy. Students in this course will be eligible to take the college-level HSK, the International Chinese Proficiency test for Chinese as a Second Language, and pursue a full scholarship to study for a semester or a year at a Chinese university.

**WENHUA: CHINESE STORYTELLING ----- Course 3639**

**GRADES 11,12      0.5 CREDITS      SEMESTER      ALTERNATING**

Prerequisite - Chinese III

This elective will provide students an opportunity to explore profound and mystical Chinese philosophies, history, traditional values, and culture through immersion into Chinese mythologies, fables, and historical fictional storytelling. This portfolio based course will be taught primarily in Chinese. In addition to refined communication skills through fun project activities, the course will also provide students an opportunity to become proficient in global competency through discussion of the comparison between the East and the West.



French			
Students with no 8th grade language	Standard (1 language course per year)	Moderate (1 or 2 language courses per year)	Accelerated (2 language courses per year)
Year 1	French IA/IB	French IA/IB	French IA/IB
Year 2	French II	French II	French II
Year 3	French III	French III and IV	French III and IV
Year 4	French IV or Elective	AP French and/or Elective	AP French and Elective
Students with I A Grade 8 French	Standard (1 language course per year)	Moderate (1 or 2 language courses per year)	Accelerated (2 language courses per year)
Year 1	French IB	French IB	French IB
Year 2	French II	French II	French II
Year 3	French III	French III, IV or Elective	French III, IV, and/ or Elective
Year 4	French IV	AP French and/ or Elective	AP French and/ or Elective
Students with I B Grade 8 French	Standard (1 language course per year)	Moderate (1 or 2 language courses per year)	Accelerated (2 language courses per year)
Year 1	French II	French II	French II
Year 2	French III	French III, IV	French III, IV, and/ or Elective
Year 3	French IV or Elective	AP French	AP French, and/ or Elective
Year 4	AP French or Elective	French Electives	French Electives

**FRENCH IA \_\_\_\_\_ Course 2601 (12th Course 0602)**

**HONORS FRENCH IA \_\_\_\_\_ Course 2602 (12th Course 0601)**

**GRADES 9,10,11,12 0.5 CREDITS SEMESTER ALTERNATING**

This course is a basic introduction to French, designed for students who are beginning their studies of the language for the first time. Students will develop skills in the four linguistic areas: listening, speaking, reading, and writing, and will study various aspects of Francophone culture. A variety of teaching techniques are incorporated. Student participation and homework are integral components of the program.

**FRENCH IB** ----- **Course 2603 (12th Course 0603)**  
**HONORS FRENCH IB** ----- **Course 2604 (12th Course 0605)**  
**GRADES 9,10,11,12    0.5 CREDITS                    SEMESTER                    ALTERNATING**

Prerequisite - French IA

This course is designed to meet the needs of students who have successfully completed French I-A. Expanded vocabulary and structures will be presented to enhance students' proficiency in all four linguistic skill competencies including: listening, speaking, reading, and writing. In addition, students will study various aspects of Francophone culture. A variety of teaching techniques are incorporated. Student participation and homework are integral components of the program. Students will take the STAMP test at the end of this course to measure their language proficiency in all four competencies: listening, speaking, reading, and writing.

**FRENCH II** ----- **Course 2605 (12th Course 0609)**  
**HONORS FRENCH II** ----- **Course 2606 (12th Course 0604)**  
**GRADES 9,10,11,12    1.0 CREDITS                    FULL YEAR                    ALTERNATING**

Prerequisite - French IA and IB

This course is designed to meet the needs of students who successfully completed the middle school French program or French I-B. There is continued emphasis on the linguistic and cultural skills of French, advancing students' proficiency toward the intermediate level. A variety of teaching techniques and assessments are incorporated. Student participation, performance, and homework are integral components of the course. Successful completion of this course satisfies the high school graduation requirement for World Language, although students are encouraged to continue their studies beyond this minimum.

**FRENCH III** ----- **Course 2607 (12th Course 0646)**  
**HONORS FRENCH III** ----- **Course 2608 (12th Course 0606)**  
**GRADES 10,11,12    1.0 CREDITS                    SEMESTER                    DAILY**

Prerequisite - French II

This course is a review and continuation of French II. Students have the opportunity to strengthen their conversational skills by learning how to communicate in typical daily life situations. Students will broaden their learning of grammatical structures with a special emphasis on verb tenses. Writing skills will be developed through guided prompts and compositions. Students will retake the STAMP test at the end of this course to measure their growth in language proficiency in all four competencies: listening, speaking, reading, and writing. Students who achieve a rating of Intermediate Mid or higher on all four competencies will earn the Global Seal of Functional Fluency. Students in this course will be eligible to participate in the World Language Department-sponsored trip to France.

**HONORS FRENCH IV** ----- **Course 3607 (12th Course 0607)**  
**GRADES 10,11,12    1.0 CREDITS                    SEMESTER                    DAILY**

Prerequisite - French III

Students are expected to master grammatical concepts, vocabulary, and idiomatic expressions associated with the text. Oral and writing skills are developed through conversation topics, oral presentations, class discussions, and compositions. An introduction to selected literary movements is given through the reading of excerpts from French classics and short stories. Students in this course will be eligible to participate in the World Languages Department-sponsored trip to France.

**AP FRENCH LANGUAGE** ----- **Course 0608**

**GRADES 11,12**      **1.0 CREDITS**      **SEMESTER**      **DAILY**

Prerequisite - French IV

This course is conducted in the form of a seminar. Students will continue their study of advanced grammar concepts, develop their vocabulary, and increase their repertoire of idiomatic expressions, in both oral and written activities. Students will be expected to participate in class discussions, practical conversation situations, lesson presentations, and a variety of written exercises. In addition, students will become familiar with contemporary French culture through viewing and discussing videos that reflect current trends. The course prepares students to take the Advanced Placement exam in French Language. Students in this course are expected to take the AP exam. Additionally, students will take the STAMP test again in the spring semester to measure their continued growth in language proficiency in all four competencies: listening, speaking, reading, and writing. Students who achieve a rating of Intermediate Mid or higher on all four competencies will earn the Global Seal of Functional Fluency. A rating of Intermediate High or higher on all four measures will qualify students for the Pennsylvania Seal of Biliteracy.

**LE MONDE FRANCOPHONE**

**CANADA** ----- **Course 0642**

**NORTHERN AFRICA** ----- **Course 0641**

*Europe (Course #0640), Africa Sub-Saharan (Course #0643) not offered in 2025-2026*

**GRADES 11,12**      **0.5 CREDITS**      **SEMESTER**      **ALTERNATING**

Prerequisite - French III

These electives will examine a specific area of the Francophone world through its music, cuisine, sports, traditions, and current events. These project-based courses will be taught primarily in French. In addition to refined communication skills, the courses also aim to increase students' global awareness by consistently providing opportunities to compare cultural traditions in areas of the Francophone world with traditions in America.

Latin			
	Standard (1 language course per year)	Moderate (1 or 2 language courses per year)	Accelerated (2 language courses per year)
Year 1	Latin I	Latin I and II	Latin I and II
Year 2	Latin II	Latin III and/ or Elective	Latin III and IV
Year 3	Latin III	Latin III and/ or IV	Elective
Year 4	Latin IV	Elective	

**LATIN I** \_\_\_\_\_ **Course 2620 (12th Course 0617)**

**HONORS LATIN I** \_\_\_\_\_ **Course 2621 (12th Course 0616)**

**GRADES 9,10,11,12 1.0 CREDITS SEMESTER DAILY**

Although the primary objective of Latin I is to be able to read and understand Latin as a classical language, the secondary objectives include the following: to increase word power and English vocabulary skills through study of Latin root words, to grasp a comprehensive knowledge of the English language based on Latin grammar, to illustrate the influences of the Roman world upon our own culture, and to lend a firm foundation to the study of other romance languages which are derived from Latin, i.e., French, Spanish, Italian. The reading lessons, heavily adapted texts, provide a good cultural basis for beginning students. These selections include historical legendary accounts of the founding of Rome and the Roman Empire. By the end of Latin I, students are able to translate heavily-adapted Latin prose.

**LATIN II** \_\_\_\_\_ **Course 2622 (12th Course 0619)**

**HONORS LATIN II** \_\_\_\_\_ **Course 2623 (12th Course 0618)**

**GRADES 9,10,11,12 1.0 CREDITS SEMESTER DAILY**

Prerequisite - Latin I

A continuation of Latin I is provided through continued readings and various Latin reading selections. The learning of new vocabulary, idiomatic expressions, and the more refined points of grammar follow, along with a concentration on English vocabulary derived from Latin. By the end of Latin II Students will be able to study and analyze the cultural aspects of Roman history and private life of Ancient Romans in Great Britain and Ancient Egypt through the translation of adapted prose and selected adapted works from Seneca, Ovid, and other writers.

**LATIN III** ----- **Course 3650 (12th Course 0650)**  
**HONORS LATIN III** ----- **Course 3620 (12th Course 0620)**  
**GRADES 10,11,12      1.0 CREDITS      SEMESTER      DAILY**

Prerequisite - Latin II

The Latin III students will progress through heavily adapted texts to less adapted texts and will study, translate, and analyze the literature of Roman authors from the Ciceronian era through the Golden and Silver ages. Through adapted texts and an extensive survey literature, students will also study the historical and cultural aspects that were evident during Rome's greatness and decline with a focus on their military and political systems. Students will focus on selections from Caesar, Josephus, Vespasian, and other writers.

**HONORS LATIN IV** ----- **Course 3621 (12th Course # 0621)**  
**GRADES 11,12      1.0 CREDITS      SEMESTER      DAILY**

Prerequisite - Latin III

The Latin IV student, through independent work and research, will study, translate, and analyze the literature of Roman authors from the Cicero through the Golden and Silver ages to authors such as Augustine, Pliny the Elder, Pliny the Younger, Tacitus, and Cicero. Through an extensive survey of Latin literature, the student will also study the historical and cultural aspects that were evident during Rome's greatness and decline.

**MYTHOLOGY: GODS, MONSTERS, AND HEROES** ----- **Course 0661**  
**GRADES 10,11,12      1.0 CREDITS      SEMESTER      ALTERNATING**

Do you have what it takes to be a hero? How do myths appear in your favorite books or music? In this globally-minded elective, you will examine these and other questions by studying the myths of ancient Greece, Rome, and other ancient people groups. You will also analyze and critique the influences of myths on literature, art, music, movies, and urban legends both historically and today. This course is taught through storytelling, class discussions, and independent projects on topics of your own interest.

Spanish			
Students with no Grade 8 language	Standard (1 language course per year)	Moderate (1 or 2 language courses per year)	Accelerated (2 language courses per year)
Year 1	Spanish IA	Spanish IA and IB	Spanish IA and IB
Year 2	Spanish IB	Spanish II	Spanish II
Year 3	Spanish II	Spanish III and IV	Spanish III and IV
Year 4	Spanish III	AP Spanish and/ or Elective	AP Spanish and Elective
Students with 1A Grade 8 Spanish	Standard (1 language course per year)	Moderate (1 or 2 language courses per year)	Accelerated (2 language courses per year)
Year 1	Spanish 1B	Spanish 1B	Spanish 1B
Year 2	Spanish II	Spanish II	Spanish II
Year 3	Spanish III	Spanish III and IV	Spanish III, IV, and/ or Elective
Year 4	Spanish IV	AP Spanish and/ or Elective	AP Spanish and/ or Elective
Students with 1B Grade 8 Spanish	Standard (1 language course per year)	Moderate (1 or 2 language courses per year)	Accelerated (2 language courses per year)
Year 1	Spanish II	Spanish II	Spanish II
Year 2	Spanish III	Spanish III and IV	Spanish III, and IV, and/ or Elective
Year 3	Spanish IV	AP Spanish and/ or Elective	AP Spanish and/ or Elective
Year 4	AP Spanish	AP Spanish and/ or Elective	Spanish Electives

**SPANISH IA ----- Course 2640 (12th Course 0623)**

**HONORS SPANISH IA ----- Course 2641 (12th Course 0622)**

**GRADES 9,10,11,12 1.0 CREDITS SEMESTER DAILY**

This course is a basic introduction to Spanish. Vocabulary and structure are presented by means of questions and answers of a conversational nature, reading selections on everyday occurrences of Spanish life, and written exercises for grammar practice. The development of the skills of listening, speaking, reading, and writing in Spanish is the goal of the course, as well as an appreciation of the similarities and differences between the United States and Spanish-speaking countries.

Students who select Spanish I-A have not studied Spanish before or have not passed Spanish at SLMS. The normal sequence of Spanish study is Spanish I-A, Spanish I-B, and Spanish II.

Any student enrolled in the Honors/Accelerated course will complete additional coursework as determined by the department. This course is designed for serious students who work well independently and are prepared to be challenged in their course work and evaluations.



**SPANISH IB** ----- **Course 2642 (12th Course 0624)**  
**HONORS SPANISH IB** ----- **Course 2643 (12th Course 0626)**  
**GRADES 9,10,11,12**    **1.0 CREDITS**                      **SEMESTER**                      **DAILY**

Prerequisite - Spanish IA

This course is designed to meet the needs of students who have completed the Penncrest Spanish IA or Springton Lake 8th grade entry programs. Expanded vocabulary and structures will be presented to enhance students' proficiency in all four linguistic skill areas including: listening, speaking, reading, and writing. In addition, students will study the formal and informal aspects of Hispanic culture. A variety of teaching techniques are incorporated. Student participation and homework are integral components of the program. Students will take the STAMP test at the end of this course to measure their language proficiency in all four competencies: listening, speaking, reading, and writing.

Successful completion of this course may satisfy the high school graduation requirement for World Language, although students are encouraged to continue their studies beyond this minimum.

Any student enrolled in the Honors/Accelerated course will complete additional coursework as determined by the department. This course is designed for serious students who work well independently and are prepared to be challenged in their course work and evaluations.

**SPANISH II** ----- **Course 2645 (12th Course 0655)**  
**HONORS SPANISH II** ----- **Course 2646 (12th Course 0625)**  
**GRADES 9,10,11,12**    **1.0 CREDITS**                      **FULL YEAR**                      **ALTERNATING**

Prerequisite - Spanish IA and IB

This course is designed to meet the needs of students who successfully completed the middle school Spanish program or Spanish IB. There is continued emphasis on the linguistic and cultural skills of Spanish, advancing the students' proficiency toward the intermediate level. A variety of teaching techniques and assessments are incorporated. Student participation, performance, and homework are integral components of the course.

Successful completion of this course satisfies the high school graduation requirement for World Language, although students are encouraged to continue their studies beyond this minimum.

**SPANISH III** ----- **Course 2647 (12th Course 0656)**  
**HONORS SPANISH III** ----- **Course 2648 (12th Course 0627)**  
**GRADES 10,11,12**    **1.0 CREDITS**                      **SEMESTER**                      **DAILY**

Prerequisite - Spanish II

A review and continuation of Spanish II, this course provides students with the opportunity to strengthen their conversational skills by learning how to communicate in typical daily-life situations. In the course of these and other activities, students will acquire a broader vocabulary and improve their command of grammatical structures. Students will retake the STAMP test at the end of this course to measure their growth in language proficiency in all four competencies: listening, speaking, reading, and writing. Students who achieve a rating of Intermediate Mid or higher on all four competencies will earn the Global Seal of Functional Fluency.

**HONORS SPANISH IV** ----- **Course 2649 (12th Course 0628)**  
**GRADES 10,11,12**    **1.0 CREDITS**                      **SEMESTER**                      **DAILY**

Prerequisite - Spanish III

This course is a continuation of Spanish III. Spanish IV emphasizes proficiency in speaking and writing at a more advanced level while continuing skill development in listening and reading. It includes the study of syntax, vocabulary, idioms, style, grammatical structures, and culture. Grammar, themed vocabulary,

and cultural topics will enable the student to prepare and present reports, have conversations, and complete projects of greater length and more advanced quality than in the previous course. Students of this course may be eligible to participate in World Language Department immersion trips.

**AP SPANISH LANGUAGE \_\_\_\_\_ Course 3629 (12th Course 0629)**

**GRADES 11, 12      1.0 CREDITS      FULL YEAR      ALTERNATING**

Prerequisite - Spanish IV

This course is designed to develop more advanced skills in listening, speaking, reading, and writing. Students will develop more advanced vocabulary and grammar and increase their repertoire of idiomatic expressions. Students will study current topics such as global challenges, identities, science, technology, family and art/architecture. Students will explore various cultural aspects of Spanish-speaking countries. All parts of the AP exam will be practiced during the year to prepare for the exam. Students in this course are expected to take the AP exam. Students who elect not to take the AP exam must take the course final at the end of the year. Additionally, students will take the STAMP test again in the spring semester to measure their continued growth in language proficiency in all four competencies: listening, speaking, reading, and writing. Students who achieve a rating of Intermediate Mid or higher on all four competencies will earn the Global Seal of Functional Fluency. A rating of Intermediate High or higher on all four measures will qualify students for the Pennsylvania Seal of Biliteracy.

**EL CINE HISPANOABLANTE \_\_\_\_\_ Course 0663**

**GRADES 11,12      0.5 CREDITS      SEMESTER      ALTERNATING**

Prerequisite - Spanish III

In this course, students will have an opportunity to improve their Spanish Language skills in speaking, listening, reading and writing while learning about the basics of film, cinematography, genres, traditions, and culture through films from Spanish-speaking directors and filmmakers.

**EL MUNDO HISPANOABLANTE**

**SPAIN & CUBA \_\_\_\_\_ Course 0657**

**ARGENTINA & CHILE \_\_\_\_\_ Course 0658**

*MEXICO & PERU ( Course # 0659) , COSTA RICA & THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC (Course # 0660) not offered in 2025-2026*

**GRADES 11,12      0.5 CREDITS      SEMESTER      ALTERNATING**

Prerequisite - Spanish III

Each semester, EL MUNDO HISPANOABLANTE will focus on the history, politics, arts, and culture of specific Spanish-speaking countries. Students may enroll for a semester or a year and may enroll in consecutive years. This course will be conducted in Spanish.