

2025-2026 BENSON HIGH SCHOOL REGISTRATION GUIDE

For 9-12th Grade Students

Registration Information

- This registration guide is designed to assist you in planning your course direction for your high school career. Consult with your parents/guardians, teachers, older students, principal and counselor when developing this plan.
- The minimum number of credits required in each course area that must be taken and passed are as follows:

○ English	4.0 credits
○ Math	3.0 credits
○ Science	3.0 credits
○ Social Studies	3.5 credits
○ Physical Education/Health	1.0 credits
○ Arts (Many Options)	1.0 credits
○ Business	.5 credits
○ Personal Finance	<u>.5 credits</u>

REQUIRED Credits 16.5 Credits

ELECTIVE Credits 11.5 Additional Credits

TOTAL CREDITS 28.0 (7 Credits required per year)

- Seven credits must be earned per year to remain “on track” for graduation. *A failing grade during the current year in any required course will result in having to repeat that course which may require a change in your tentative schedule for next year.*
- Students must be registered for a minimum of seven credit-bearing class periods per semester. See the guidance counselor for possible exceptions.
- Priority for courses with limited enrollment may be given by grade level seniority or require teacher approval.
- Course offerings will vary from year to year based on the number of students registering for courses and teacher availability.
- Prerequisite courses may be required as preparation for other courses.
- Courses worth .5 credit are one semester long and courses worth 1.0 credit are one year long.
 - Credit may be withheld for first semester work in a year long class, if a student drops the second semester.
 - If a student drops a year long class, they will have to complete a “Drop/Add” form which can be picked up from the guidance counselor.
 - If a student must drop a class for disciplinary reasons, it may result in a failing grade for the class.

- Students may make schedule changes with the guidance counselor prior to the start of the semester, but once the semester begins any schedule changes require principal approval.

BHS REQUIREMENTS/COLLEGE PREP GUIDELINES

Subject Area/BHS Requirements

Available Courses at BHS

ENGLISH- 4 credits- 9-12th grade

English 9, English 10, English 11, English 12, Short Stories, MSt. College Public Speaking, MSt. College Writing

College Recommendations: MN Universities (4 years), Private Colleges (4 years), ND Colleges (4 years), SD Colleges (4 years)

MATHEMATICS- 3 credits- 9-11th grade

Algebra I, Geometry, Algebra II, MSt. College Algebra, MSt. Intro to Stats, MSt. College Trigonometry, MSt. Applied Calculus and Linear Algebra

College Recommendations: MN Universities (4 years), Private Colleges (4 years), ND Colleges (4 years), SD Colleges (4 years)

SCIENCE- 3 credits- 9-12th grade

Integrated Science 9, Biology, Chemistry, MSt. Fundamentals of Chemistry, Environmental Science, Natural Events & Disasters Around the Globe, Anatomy and Physiology I & II, ATCC Intro to Biology I & II

College Recommendations: MN Universities (3 years), Private Colleges (3 years), ND Colleges (3 years), SD Colleges (3 years)

Social Studies- 3 ½ credits- 9-12th grade

World History/Geography 9/, U.S. History 10, American Government 11, Economics 12, MSt. Macroeconomics, MSt. Microeconomics, Holocaust, Pop Culture, MSt. General Psychology, MSt. Sociology, MSt. Abnormal Psychology, MSt. Human Interactions

College Recommendations: MN Universities (3 years), Private Colleges (3 years), ND Colleges (3 years), SD Colleges (3 years)

World Languages- No BHS Requirements

Spanish I, Spanish II

College Recommendations: MN Universities (2 years), Private Colleges (2 years), ND Colleges (0 years), SD Colleges (0 years)

FINE ARTS- 1 credit- 9-12th grade

Studio Art, 2D Art, 3D Art, Digital Art, Animation, Illustrations, Band, Choir, Theatre Tech, Web Design & Graphics, Computer Applications, Industrial Technology, Metals, Advanced Metals, Graphic Communication, Woods, CNC Design and Manufacturing Technology, Manufacturing Process, Construction and Carpentry Trades, CADD I, CADD II

College Recommendations: MN Universities (1 year), Private Colleges (2 years), ND Colleges (0 years), SD Colleges (½ year)

BUSINESS- ½ credit 9th grade

Exploring Computers, Personal Finance, MSt. Personal Finance, Computer Apps, Accounting, Advanced Accounting, Adobe Applications, MSt. Business Computers, Business Careers/Job Search/Flex Lab, Yearbook, Business Marketing Management & Sales

College Recommendations: MN Universities (0 years), Private Colleges (½ year), ND Colleges (0 years), SD Colleges (½ year)

HEALTH/PHY.ED.- 1 credit 9-10th grade

Health 9, Health 10, Senior High Phy Ed I, Personal Fitness

Check the college you plan to attend for specific requirements that may apply to specific majors.

Earn College Credit While Taking High School Courses and Potentially \$AVE THOUSAND\$ on Tuition, Fees and Books

- By successfully completing certain high school courses, you may earn credit or a course waiver at many Minnesota colleges.
- **Full-time students can earn high school and college credit** while attending certain classes at Benson High School.
- You will receive a transcript from Alexandria Technical Community College and/or M-State Community Technical College for successful completion of their classes.
- Your college credit from ATCC and M-State has no expiration date and will transfer to most colleges. It will also remain a permanent part of your college transcripts.

COLLEGE ENTRANCE CONSIDERATIONS

- **Know the requirements of the colleges you are considering and plan your high school program to fit your career goals.**
- The Concurrent Enrollment College courses taught at BHS for “dual credit” offer students in grades 10-12 the opportunity to engage in college freshman-level courses to experience the rigor of standards that will be expected of them when they attend college full time as well as bolster their confidence to succeed when they do so.
- For Concurrent Enrollment College courses an accredited BHS teacher grades students for their high school requirements while a college professor supervises the course and assesses their work for the college transcript. The credits for these courses are widely accepted by colleges and universities and will help students get a head start on their general education/liberal arts requirements.
- Besides earning college credit through Concurrent Enrollment College courses, students may also attend college full or part-time through the Post-Secondary Enrollment Options program during their Junior or Senior year. See the guidance counselor for more information about these options.
- Minnesota has an excellent Technical/Community College system. These schools require that students have a high school diploma and that students take the ACT test, the COMPASS test or the ACCUPLACER test to determine appropriate placement. Competition in some programs makes acceptance increasingly difficult, so early application is important. Some programs require prerequisite courses for admission. In addition, students may also have the option upon completion of a 2-year AAS degree, to complete a four-year degree with an additional

two years of coursework. See the guidance counselor for more information about specific majors.

- There are many excellent colleges and universities in our region. These include in and out-state technical colleges, private colleges and universities. Colleges may consider an applicant's total record, course selection, activities involvement, volunteer work, class rank, staff recommendations and ACT scores. These admission policies are designed to identify those who are strongly motivated and have acquired the skills necessary for college success.
- **College Credit Classes** - Benson High school offers many courses through M-State and ATCC in which a student may earn college credit. In order to enroll in one of these courses a student must be registered as a full-time student in Benson Public Schools, have a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.2 for 10-11th grade students/a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.8 for 12th grade students, and students must achieve a passing score on the ACCUPLACER test.

Concurrent Enrollment College Courses - (College level courses offered through Benson High School)

See course descriptions in this document or contact guidance counselor for more information.

English - Public Speaking (3 credits) MSt. College Writing

Mathematics - College Algebra (4 credits), College Trigonometry (3 credits), Intro. to Stats (4 credits), Applied Calculus and Linear Algebra (3 credits)

Social Studies - Macroeconomics (3 credits), Microeconomics (3 credits), General Psychology (3 credits), Abnormal Psychology (3 credits), Intro to Sociology (3 credits), Human Interactions (3 credits)

Science - Intro to Biology I (4 credits), Intro to Biology II (4 credits)

Business - Business Computers (3 credits), Personal Finance (3 credits)

AGRICULTURE

Through agriculture education students develop an understanding of food, fiber and natural resources at the local, national and global scale. The implementation of the three components of agriculture education including classroom instruction, FFA and Supervised Agricultural Experience (SAE) will provide students with desired skills sets and knowledge which is essential for the agriculture industry. FFA will give students an opportunity to gain valuable career skills through leadership opportunities and contest participation.

AG LEADERSHIP - 167

Open to 9, 10, 11, 12

Agricultural Leadership is a hybrid course that helps students develop leadership skills with a focus on opportunities in the food, fiber, and natural resources industries. Topics may include but are not limited to human relationships and effective communication, decision-making and problem-solving, leadership qualities and styles, and ensuring successful completion of group activities.

BENSON FFA

Benson High School FFA Chapter - Students involved in agriculture classes at Benson High School also have the opportunity to participate in The National FFA Organization. FFA is dedicated to making a positive difference in the lives of students by developing their potential for premier leadership,

personal growth and career success through agricultural education. Students compete in Regional, State and National competitions.

VISUAL ARTS

BHS VISUAL ARTS COURSES:

ART 1- 193

½ Credit - 1 Semester Elective

Open to 9, 10, 11, 12

DESCRIPTION: This course introduces students to the fundamentals of art, including basic techniques, materials, and principles. Designed for beginners, it provides a foundation in drawing, painting, and design while encouraging creative exploration.

ART 2- 194

½ Credit - 1 Semester Elective

Open to 9, 10, 11, 12

DESCRIPTION: Building on prior knowledge, this course refines skills in various media while emphasizing composition and personal expression. Intended for students with some experience, it encourages experimentation with more complex artistic concepts.

ART 3- 195

½ Credit - 1 Semester Elective

Open to 9, 10, 11, 12

DESCRIPTION: This advanced course focuses on developing a personal artistic style and exploring conceptual work. Students with a strong foundation will engage in sophisticated techniques, creative problem-solving, and portfolio development.

BUSINESS TECHNOLOGY

BHS BUSINESS TECHNOLOGY COURSES:

EXPLORING COMPUTERS 9 - 109

½ Credit - 1 Semester

REQUIRED COURSE: Grade 9

DESCRIPTION: This course will focus on using Microsoft Office for preparing spreadsheets, desktop publishing projects and word processing projects commonly needed for other areas of your education. We will also explore careers using MCIS and other career websites. Students taking this course should be able to keyboard fluently (at least 30 words per minute on an official timing).

COMPUTER APPLICATIONS - 110

½ Credit - 1 Semester Elective

Open to 10, 11, 12

DESCRIPTION: This computer class is very practical for any field of study. Students will be using the Microsoft Office Suite of programs (Word, Excel, Access, PowerPoint) and Adobe InDesign and Photoshop to complete advanced applications. This is a "hands-on" class in which most of the time will be spent using the software to create attention-grabbing documents used in real life.

ARTICULATION (College Credit) through Ridgewater College is available on this course for 11-12th grade students.

PERSONAL FINANCE - 114

½ Credit - 1 Semester Elective

Open to 11, 12

DESCRIPTION: This course is an introduction to personal finance management and planning. Topics covered include key factors that affect personal income, budgeting, cash-flow management, use of debit and credit cards, planned borrowing, managing taxes and major expenditures including housing, automobiles, insurance and investments. **This is the finance class to take if you are not interested in taking the MState College class, as it is not recommended to take both.**

MState PERSONAL FINANCE - 115

½ Credit - 1 Semester Elective

Open to 11, 12

Prerequisites: 3.2 GPA 11th grade/2.8 GPA 12th grade

- **3 MSt college credits awarded for successful completion. (BUS1146 Personal Finance)**

DESCRIPTION: This course is an introduction to personal finance management and planning. Topics covered include key factors that affect personal income, budgeting, cash-flow management, use of debit and credit cards, planned borrowing, managing taxes and major expenditures including housing, automobiles, insurance and investments.

MState BUSINESS COMPUTERS - 116

½ Credit - 1 Semester Elective

Open to 11, 12

Prerequisites: 3.2 GPA 11th grade/2.8 GPA 12th grade

- **3 MSt college credits awarded for successful completion. (MIS1100 Business Computers)**

DESCRIPTION: This course includes an overview of a variety of computer concepts. Students will learn a variety of software applications including Microsoft Office 2019 and Office 365 which will be helpful for students planning to attend college. Topics will include application software, the Internet, hardware components and peripheral devices and data processing.

BUSINESS CAREERS/JOB SEARCH/FLEX LAB - 117

½ Credit - 1 Semester Elective

Open to 11, 12

DESCRIPTION: Students taking this course will operate the school store, Braves Etc., and will work with advanced business and computer applications and with career portfolios. Students will work on their communication skills and on documents that are essential to successful employment applications. Students will also look into the use of digital media for recording professional videos and meetings. The focus of this course is career exploration, creating professional resumes, letters of application and miscellaneous communication related skills necessary for securing employment. The principles and techniques are practiced by learners in a mock interview.

ACCOUNTING - 120

½ Credit - 1 Semester Elective

Open to 10, 11, 12

DESCRIPTION: Accounting is the language of business and will be required of anyone pursuing a post secondary major in a business or related field. It is also a must for anyone who intends to own his or her own business. This introduction to the field of accounting will give you an excellent background for future success in college. You will acquire knowledge on the value of money management,

budgeting and how to maintain personal finances. Students will use online working papers and Excel for some applications.

ARTICULATION (College Credit) through Ridgewater College is available on this course for 11-12th grade students.

Business Professionals of America - Business Professionals of America (BPA) is the national student organization for students enrolled in business courses. The purposes of the organization are to develop student leadership and competence in business skills and occupations and to promote student ambition for useful purposes. Any student enrolled in a business course is eligible to join BPA. Regional competition is held in late January; state competition is held in March; national competition is held in late April or early May. Students compete at regional competitions in the areas of finance, business administration, information technology, digital communication and design, management, marketing and communications, and health administration. They advance to state if they place in their contest area. Benson's BPA chapter has qualified for national competition for the last 38 years. The 2026 National BPA competition will be held in Nashville, TN May 6-10, 2026.

ENGLISH

ENGLISH 9 - 53

1 Credit - 1 Year - REQUIRED

GRADE 9

DESCRIPTION: Students will read several short stories, study of famous authors, analyze poetry, and study fiction and nonfiction books. Students will engage in independent reading, nonfiction articles, and journal writing. Grammar and vocabulary activities and enrichment will be included throughout the semester. The Elizabethan Era/Shakespeare will be explored and students will read the play, *Romeo and Juliet*. Students will also work on a research unit which involves typing a research paper. This course involves the use of Google Classroom.

ENGLISH 10 - 54

1 Credit - 1 Year - REQUIRED

GRADE 10

DESCRIPTION: Students will read several short stories, examine the lives of famous authors, engage in independent reading of fiction and nonfiction materials, develop a rich vocabulary, and study fiction novels, Native American narratives, and nonfiction materials. Other areas of study will include grammar and punctuation, writing, as well as activities centered on research, speaking, and listening. This course involves the use of Google Classroom.

ENGLISH 11 - 55

1 Credit - 1 Year - REQUIRED

GRADE 11

DESCRIPTION: In this course students will take a thematic approach to explore the works of several major authors in the genres of poetry, short stories, drama, novels, and nonfiction materials. Students will review, practice, and increase their skills in reading comprehension, writing, vocabulary, critical thinking, grammar, and communication. The second semester of English 11 will focus on

communication and developing the correct format for speeches, as well as, delivering speeches. This course involves the use of Google Classroom.

GRADE 12 - 1.0 CREDIT OF ENGLISH IS REQUIRED

English 12 - 56

½ Credit - 1 Semester

Open to 12

This course will be offered in the format of a hybrid of online and in-class learning. It will review the twelfth-grade curriculum and include a continuation of the English Language Arts standards by introducing students to a variety of literary genres. The classes will also emphasize English language conventions and grammar standards.

SHORT STORIES - 57

½ Credit - 1 Semester

Open to 12

DESCRIPTION: This course offers students the opportunity to examine the genre of the short story by reading several selections categorized by sub-genre: realistic fiction, historical fiction, science fiction, and suspense and horror. Students will criticize readings, analyze materials for literary elements, and respond verbally and in writing to these readings. This is a hybrid course that involves considerable use of Google Classroom.

MState COLLEGE WRITING - 59

½ Credit - 1 Semester Elective (S1)

Open to 12

Prerequisites: 2.8 GPA or higher

- **3 MSt college credits awarded for successful completion. (ENGL1101 College Writing)**

DESCRIPTION: Meets MnTC Goal Area. This is an introductory writing course designed to prepare students for later college and career writing. The course focuses on developing fluency through a process approach with a particular emphasis on revision. Students will consider purpose and audience, read and discuss writing and further develop their own writing processes through successive revisions to produce polished drafts. Course work will include an introduction to argumentative writing, writing from academic sources and a short research project.

MState COLLEGE PUBLIC SPEAKING - 60

½ Credit - 1 Semester Elective

Open to 12

Prerequisites: 2.8 GPA or higher

- **3 MSt college credits awarded for successful completion. (COMM1120 Public Speaking)**

DESCRIPTION: This course is for seniors interested in improving their public speaking skills. The course covers the theories, practices and methods of public speaking, critical listening and critiquing. The focus in this course is on the concepts of planning and delivering oral presentations and enhancing learner listening skills.

INDUSTRIAL TECHNOLOGY

INDUSTRIAL TECHNOLOGY 9/10 - 131

½ Credit - 1 Semester - Elective

Open to 9, 10

DESCRIPTION: The goal of this course is to touch base on all areas of disciplines we teach in our 10-12 curriculum. This course is an introductory course which will include Computer Aided Design Drafting, Woodworking, Metalworking and Graphic Communications. Individual and group projects will be incorporated throughout this course. The time spent on each area will vary. Throughout the course discipline and safety are key and will be highly emphasized. Hands-on application of hand tools and power equipment are important and necessary to developing an understanding of all the processes introduced and will be applied as needed.

Furniture Manufacturing - 129

½ or 1.0 Credit - 1 Semester or Full Year - Elective

Open to 10, 11, 12

DESCRIPTION: During this course students will build an individual project through the use of creative thinking, problem solving and design. They will apply math skills to compute materials and project cost. Time permitting, students will develop a set of complete plans for their individual projects using CADD software. Students will also be given assignments and demonstrations to develop and understand the physical properties and characteristics of wood species, methods of basic furniture and cabinet construction and appropriate safety methods of machine operations. Students will also be introduced to precision measurement, safety instructions on machines and hand tools and project layout techniques for their individual furniture project. All students will be given our general and advanced safety instruction program.

WOODS TECHNOLOGY - 132

½ or 1.0 Credit - 1 Semester or Full Year - Elective

Open to 10, 11, 12

DESCRIPTION: During this course students will build an individual project through the use of creative thinking, problem solving and design. They will apply math skills to compute materials and project cost. Time permitting, students will develop a set of complete plans for their individual projects using CADD software. Students will also be given assignments and demonstrations to develop and understand the physical properties and characteristics of wood species, methods of basic furniture and cabinet construction and appropriate safety methods of machine operations. Students will also be introduced to precision measurement, safety instructions on machines and hand tools and project layout techniques for their individual furniture project. All students will be given our general and advanced safety instruction program.

CNC DESIGN & MANUFACTURING TECHNOLOGY - 134

½ or 1.0 Credit - 1 Semester or Full Year - Elective

Open to 10, 11, 12

INSTRUCTOR'S PERMISSION REQUIRED

Prerequisite: CADD I

DESCRIPTION: The CNC Design & Manufacturing Technology course is designed to introduce students to CNC applications with our CNC Plasma Cutter and CNC Router. This course will prepare students

to perform CNC applications and learn CADD drafting and graphics software programs. In addition, students will become involved in starting a school based business with design teams, marketing teams and sales teams to provide a real business and hands-on learning experience. One of our many goals in this class will be to create quality products for the community.

DRONE TECHNOLOGY - 135

½ Credit - 1 Semester - Elective

Open to 10, 11,12

DESCRIPTION: In this class students will develop and expand skills to design and develop robotic devices. Topics may include mechanics, drone technology, electrical and motor controls, pneumatics, computer basics and programmable logic controllers. This curriculum is an introduction into the world of drones and robotics. This course will familiarize students with the basics of drone robotics and programming through collaborative teamwork.

COMPUTER AIDED DESIGN & DRAFTING I - 136

½ Credit - 1 Semester - Elective

Open to 9, 10, 11,12

DESCRIPTION: The CADD course applies nine weeks of mechanical drafting and nine weeks of architectural drafting. This course is an excellent choice for students who choose to design and draft with various applications. Several unique designs and drawings are assigned to students to complete. All students will be using the AutoCAD 2021 platform to complete their drawings.

COMPUTER AIDED DESIGN & DRAFTING II - 137

½ Credit - 1 Semester - Elective

Open to 9, 10, 11,12

DESCRIPTION: Continuation of CADD I. Areas covered will include architectural layout, 3-D modeling and rendering, electrical wiring diagrams, plumbing diagrams, kitchen and bath 3-D cabinet layout, landscaping and plot views. Students will complete full front and rear elevations from unique house plans. Students will be working with AutoCAD 2021 along with 3-D applications. Students may also have the opportunity to be involved in our School-To-Work program filling the needs for drafting and engineering jobs within our local community.

GRAPHIC COMMUNICATIONS - 139

½ Credit - 1 Semester - Elective

Open to Grade 12

DESCRIPTION: The graphic communications course is designed to fit the needs of students wishing to experience a wide variety of graphics designed on our computers. Student activities will involve designing artwork, printing T-shirts, exploring designs on the internet, setting up jobs and understanding the basic fundamentals of screen printing and the use of computer generated graphics. Other class activities may include accounting, inventory, market research, pricing and management processes.

SMALL ENGINES - 140

½ Credit - 1 Semester - Elective

Open to 10, 11,12

DESCRIPTION: In this hands-on, activity based course students will explore a variety of transportation systems and the power and energy systems associated with them. Students will use the "technical design process" to master these concepts through various projects including, but not limited to, small engines, mouse trap cars, model rocketry and CO2 dragsters. Students in this course will also gain

skills and practical experience working safely with the basic tools and machines found in the materials lab.

METALS TECHNOLOGY - 141

½ Credit - 1 Semester - Elective

Open to 10, 11,12

DESCRIPTION: Students will develop an understanding of precision measurement devices and structural properties of metallic materials. Students will be introduced to the following units of study: precision measurement devices, blueprint reading, materials testing, precision machining devices, wire feed welding, arc welding, gas welding and sheet metal assembly. All students will be given safety instructions on all equipment and hand tools.

ADVANCED METALS TECHNOLOGY - 142

½ Credit - 1 Semester - Elective

Open to 10, 11,12

Prerequisite: Metals Technology

DESCRIPTION: This class is designed to educate students to become advanced machinists/metal workers. The units of study highly emphasized include: wire feed welding, milling and machining parts and lathe operations. Individual and group projects including utility and snowmobile trailer construction will be incorporated throughout this course. Students may also have the opportunity to be involved in job placement within the community. Local industries have needs for advanced metal workers and it is our intention to provide opportunities for students to become part of our School-To-Work program. Discipline and safety are highly emphasized. All students will be given our general and advanced safety instruction program.

INTRO TO CONSTRUCTION AND AG MECHANICS - 128

½ or 1.0 Credit - 1 Semester or Full Year - Elective

Open to 10, 11, 12

INSTRUCTOR'S PERMISSION REQUIRED

DESCRIPTION: This introductory course provides a foundational understanding of construction and ag mechanics. Students will learn the basic principles, tools, and techniques used in both fields. By the end of the course, students will have a fundamental understanding of basic construction maintenance, and vehicle repair, enabling them to pursue further study or entry-level positions in these industries.

CONSTRUCTION AND CARPENTRY TRADES - 144

½ or 1.0 Credit - 1 Semester or Full Year - Elective

Open to 11, 12

INSTRUCTOR'S PERMISSION REQUIRED

DESCRIPTION: The course will begin with emphasis on safety and the operation of hand and power tools commonly used for building construction and repair. All students will go through our general and advanced safety instruction program which will include hard hats, safety glasses and protective clothing. The focus of this course will be on the construction, maintenance and repair of a home, shed garage and/or fish house including blueprint reading, building designs, footings, form construction, foundation construction, framing construction, electrical wiring and plumbing. Field trips and visits to vocational schools will also be part of this course. This course is recommended for students with a desire to develop skills required in a construction trade occupation.

OFF-CAMPUS WORKSITE - 147

½ or 1.0 Credit - 1 Semester or Full Year - Elective

Open to Grade 12

Prerequisite: Students must have a job secured outside of school.

INSTRUCTOR'S PERMISSION REQUIRED

DESCRIPTION: Students will have an opportunity to explore career options in an actual working environment at a local business. Other career options will be explored as students complete a career booklet. This course will require a few days of seat based learning; however, most learning will be done on the job.

LEADERSHIP

MSUM INTRO TO EDUCATION - 100

½ Credit - 1 Semester - Elective

Open To 11, 12

Prerequisite: Instructor approval is required

DESCRIPTION: This course explores education in America from early childhood through high school graduation. This course will introduce the philosophical foundations, learning environments, social contexts, curriculum and instruction, standards and assessment, as well as contemporary issues related to the field. The roles, responsibilities and daily life of teachers, schools and students will be examined. This course includes 40 hours of experience in the field.

MATHEMATICS

- **3 Mathematics credits required for graduation**
- **8TH GRADE:** Algebra I
- **9TH GRADE:** Algebra I or Geometry
- **10TH GRADE:** Geometry or Algebra II
- **11TH GRADE:** Algebra II or Basic Algebra; MSt. College Algebra or MSt. College Trigonometry
- **12TH GRADE:** Basic Algebra; MSt. College Algebra or MSt. College Trigonometry or MSt. Intro to Statistics or MSt. College Applied Calculus and Linear Algebra

ALGEBRA I - 6

1 Credit - 1 Year - REQUIRED

Open To: 8, 9 (Graduation Credit awarded in grades 8 & 9)

DESCRIPTION: A basic list of topics to be covered in Algebra I include: an introduction to algebra, working with real numbers, solving equations, polynomials, factoring polynomials, an introduction to functions and systems of linear equations.

GEOMETRY - 7

1 Credit - 1 Year - REQUIRED

Open To: 9, 10

PREREQUISITE: Algebra I

DESCRIPTION: Geometry begins with the study of symbolic logic and sets and is followed by an introduction of Euclidean Geometry and the study of geometric figures and their properties. Units on coordinate geometry, transformations and trigonometry are included. Solid geometry has been

integrated with plane geometry throughout the course. Geometry will aid in meeting the needs of those who wish to take other mathematics courses at the advanced level while in high school. It will also aid in fulfilling, in part, the need in mathematics for students contemplating education beyond high school.

ALGEBRA II - 8

1 Credit - 1 Year - REQUIRED

Open To: 10, 11, 12

Prerequisites: Algebra I, Geometry

DESCRIPTION: This course will briefly review and then extend the topics of Algebra I. It is strongly recommended for all students planning to attend college or vocational school. Topics include solving linear and quadratic equations, graphing linear and quadratic functions, working with polynomials, rational expressions, irrational and complex numbers, exponential equations, matrices, probability and statistics, and trigonometric functions.

BASIC ALGEBRA - 9

1 Credit - 1 Year - REQUIRED

Open To: 11, 12

Prerequisites: Algebra I, Geometry

INSTRUCTOR'S PERMISSION REQUIRED

DESCRIPTION: This course is designed for students needing a third credit of high school mathematics for graduation. Topics will include a review of Algebra I and geometry topics as well as an introduction of Algebra II topics.

MState COLLEGE ALGEBRA - 11

½ Credit - 1 Semester Elective

Open to 11, 12

Prerequisites: Geometry, Higher Algebra; 3.2 GPA (11th grade) 2.8 GPA (12th grade)

- **4 MSt college credits awarded for successful completion. (MATH1114 College Algebra)**

DESCRIPTION: Meets MnTC Goal Areas 2 and 4. This course includes rational, polynomial, exponential, logarithmic, inverse and quadratic functions. The course also includes equations, inequalities, complex numbers and systems of linear equations. Additional topics may include matrices and determinants.

MState COLLEGE TRIGONOMETRY - 13

½ Credit - 1 Semester Elective

Open to 11, 12

Prerequisites: MATH1114 MState College Algebra; 3.2 GPA (11th grade) 2.8 GPA (12th grade)

- **3 MSt college credits awarded for successful completion. (MATH1116 College Trigonometry)**

DESCRIPTION: Meets MnTC Goal Areas 2 and 4. Topics include trigonometric functions, right triangle trigonometry, radian measure and circular functions, identities, equations, inverse functions, laws of cosines and sines. Optional topics may include complex numbers, vectors and polar coordinates.

MState INTRO TO STATISTICS - 14

½ Credit - 1 Semester - Elective

Open to 12

Prerequisites: MATH1114 MState College Algebra; 3.2 GPA (11th grade) 2.8 GPA (12th grade)

- **3 MSt college credits awarded for successful completion. (MATH1213 Intro to Statistics)**

DESCRIPTION: Meets MnTC Goal Areas 2 and 4. Topics include data summary, frequency distributions, plots, graphs, measures of central tendency, variation, probabilities, probability distributions and confidence intervals. Hypothesis testing of means, proportions and variances will be conducted using the z-test, t-test, chi square test, f-test and ANOVA.

MState APPLIED CALCULUS and LINEAR ALGEBRA - 15

½ Credit - 1 Semester - Elective

Open to 12

Prerequisites: MATH1114 MState College Algebra; 3.2 GPA (11th grade) 2.8 GPA (12th grade)

- **3 MSt college credits awarded for successful completion. (MATH1213 Intro to Statistics)**

DESCRIPTION: Meets MnTC Goal Areas 2 and 4. This course is an introduction to optimization, the simplex method, differential and integral calculus with an emphasis on application in the area of business and the life and social sciences. This course is intended for all liberal arts and science students but is highly recommended for students pursuing business careers.

MUSIC

VARSITY BAND - 208

1 Credit - 1 Year - Elective

Open To: 9, 10

Prerequisites: Successful completion of 8th grade band, or by approval of instructor and audition

DESCRIPTION: To become a member of the Varsity Band, each student must audition in the early spring. Auditions will include performance of scales, a prepared etude and sight reading. The Varsity Band is intended for students developing their skills in music. The varsity band will perform at least four concerts during the year, and students will have the opportunity to perform activities such as Solo & Ensemble contest, Large Group contest and Jazz Band. The Varsity Band will combine with the Concert Band to perform at school events such as parades and athletic events.

CONCERT BAND - 211

1 Credit - 1 Year - Elective

Open To: 11, 12

Prerequisites: Successful completion of 8th grade band, or by approval of instructor and audition

DESCRIPTION: The Concert Band will have the same basic entrance requirements as the Varsity Band. However, the Concert Band will be intended for students with more advanced skills in music. The Concert Band will perform at least four concerts during the year, and students will have the opportunity to perform activities such as Solo and Ensemble contest, Large Group contest and Jazz Band. The Concert Band will combine with the Varsity Band to perform at school events such as parades and athletic events.

SUMMER MARCHING BAND - Band students in grades 9-12 have the opportunity to participate in our Summer Marching Band Program. The Marching Band performs in numerous parades throughout the state and plans a large trip every third year.

CONCERT CHOIR - 210

1 Credit - 1 Year - Elective

Open To: 9, 10, 11, 12

Prerequisites: Successful completion of 8th grade choir, or by approval of instructor and audition

DESCRIPTION: The Concert Choir performs a minimum of three concerts throughout the course of the year. Students also have the opportunity to audition for the musical in the fall, perform at the Large Group contest in March and perform at the Solo and Ensemble contest in the spring. Incorporated into the curriculum are a variety of musical aspects including music theory, sight singing, note recognition and the healthy mechanics of vocal production.

THEATRE TECH - 212

½ Credit - 1 Semester Elective

Open To: 9, 10, 11, 12

INSTRUCTOR'S PERMISSION REQUIRED

DESCRIPTION: This course will provide students with basic knowledge and skills in how to work behind the scenes in a theater. The Performing Arts Center will be used as the learning space for this course. Student learning will focus on 4 content areas: Sound, Lights, Rigging, and Video. Upon completion of this course, students will be able to work in the control booth running sound, lights, and video for PAC events.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION & HEALTH

PHYSICAL EDUCATION/HEALTH 9/10 - 225

½ Credit - 1 Semester - REQUIRED

Grades 9 & 10

DESCRIPTION: This class will include issues that promote lifelong wellness. I will include the promotion of a positive self-image that directs one to avoid health problems such as drugs, alcohol and smoking. Developing positive assets and encouraging healthy lifestyles is one of the goals of this class. This curriculum will also include the basis for understanding what you need to develop proper nutritional habits and a proper fitness program. Basic first aid knowledge and skills will also be presented. Included in this class will be many informative units that will encourage students to reduce risky behaviors and encourage a healthier lifestyle. The units covered in this semester course will include emotions and managing stress, death and dying, reproduction and heredity, infectious diseases such as STIs and pregnancy prevention. Students will be encouraged to continue lifelong fitness throughout this course by applying cardiovascular and nutritional information.

PERSONAL FITNESS I - 227

½ Credit - 1 Semester - Zero Hour/Elective

Grades 9, 10, 11, 12

- **It is recommended that students have a current physical before beginning this course.**
- Upon *INSTRUCTOR APPROVAL* a second semester of this course may be taken as a senior.

DESCRIPTION: This semester course is designed to introduce the student to all areas of fitness training. Endurance, strength and power, flexibility, health-related issues, body composition, anthropometry as well as agility and reaction time will be measured. Students will develop skills so they will be able to plan and implement personal fitness programs designed to meet their individual needs. Students will complete a series of labs, calculate and compile their specific data, and present it in a conditioning paper. This class requires a student to take physical fitness tests and to participate in a conditioning exercise program. The evaluation process requires the individual to participate in the selection of characteristics to be measured, select suitable methods of measuring, collect and analyze data and

make decisions on how to implement a fitness program. The results from tests can be used to predict future performance, indicate weaknesses, measure improvement, enable the individual to assess the success of his or her training program and motivate the individual. It also teaches the individual activities to use to break up and add variety to their training program. This course is for anyone.

SENIOR HIGH PHY. ED. I - 228

½ Credit - 1 Semester - Elective

Grades 9, 10, 11, 12

DESCRIPTION: If you are looking for activity, this is the class for you. In Sr. High PE I you will be exposed to a variety of recreational activities that you may participate in for the rest of your life. Activities may include archery, flag football, frisbee golf, golf, bowling, tennis, basketball, broomball, bocce ball, skating and table tennis.

SCIENCE

INTEGRATED SCIENCE 9 - 27

1 Credit - 1 Year - REQUIRED

GRADE 9

Description: This class investigates Earth and space science phenomena while students explore topics such as plate tectonics, climate systems, the water cycle, and human impacts on Earth through hands-on labs and real-world applications. By analyzing these phenomena, they will deepen their understanding of Earth's systems and the interactions between its spheres. This course fosters scientific inquiry and critical thinking skills to prepare students for advanced science and informed decision-making.

BIOLOGY 10 - 28

1 Credit - 1 Year - REQUIRED

GRADE 10

DESCRIPTION: Students in Biology will study biological concepts, theories and principles including cell theory, mechanisms of heredity, biological change over time, the interdependence of organisms, material cycles and energy flow in living systems, the behavior of organisms and the historical significance of major scientific advances through the investigation and analysis of cells, organisms and ecosystems. Hands-on activities include dissection of the fetal pig, microscope work, computer simulation programs and argument-drive inquiry investigations.

FISH & WILDLIFE - 165

Open to 9, 10, 11, 12

Wildlife and Recreation Management courses provide students with the opportunity to understand and appreciate the importance of maintaining the land and ecological systems that enable non domesticated animals to thrive. These courses emphasize how humans and animals may both take advantage of the same land or how to gain economic benefits from the land while not degrading its natural resources or depleting plant or animal populations. Students will also learn how to manage wildlife and lands for recreational purposes.

CHEMISTRY - 34

1 Credit - 1 Year - One of the 3rd year REQUIRED options

Open To: 11,12

DESCRIPTION: The first semester of Chemistry is an introduction to the science of chemistry. Chemistry deals with the how, what and why of the behavior of the substances found in nature. Chemistry, like most sciences, is best understood by actual observation in the laboratory. Topics covered are

measurement, gasses, atomic structure, use of the periodic table and how chemicals unite. Second semester work puts the ideas and concepts developed in the first semester into actual practice. For this reason it relies heavily on work in the laboratory so that changes in matter can be observed. This chemistry course completes basic high school chemistry. Topics covered in the second semester may include solutions, rates of chemical reactions and what affects them, acids and gases.

MState FUNDAMENTALS of CHEMISTRY - 35 - ONLINE ONLY

½ Credit - 1 Semester - Elective

Open to 11, 12

Prerequisites: Adequate background in mathematics and physical science; 3.2 GPA (11th grade) 2.8 GPA (12th grade)

- **3 MSt college credits awarded for successful completion. (CHEM1100 Fundamental Concepts in Chemistry)**

DESCRIPTION: This course deals with substances, their structures and properties, the changes they undergo and the laws that govern those changes.

MState INTRO TO BIOLOGY I - 37 - ZERO HOUR

½ Credit - 1 Semester

Open to 10, 11, 12

Prerequisites: Adequate background in mathematics and physical science; Qualifying score on the ACCUPLACER test and 3.2 GPA (10th/11th grade) 2.8 GPA (12th grade)

- 4 Mstate college credits awarded for successful completion. (BIOL1410 Intro to Biology I)

DESCRIPTION: This course meets Minnesota Transfer Curriculum (MnTC) goal area 3. This course includes an understanding and evaluation of the scientific method, an understanding of body nourishment and the body's ability to transform nourishment into energy and an evaluation of fat intake. Units of study include the science of genetics (including DNA structure), replication and gene expression. The course also investigates the genetic relationship to cancer and genetically modified organisms. Units of study investigate the evidence for evolution and natural selection.

MState INTRO TO BIOLOGY II - 38 - ZERO HOUR

½ Credit - 1 Semester

Open to 10, 11, 12

Prerequisites: Adequate background in mathematics and physical science; Qualifying score on the ACCUPLACER test and 3.2 GPA (10th/11th grade) 2.8 GPA (12th grade)

- 4 Mstate college credits awarded for successful completion (BIOL1411 Intro to Biology II)

DESCRIPTION: This course meets Minnesota Transfer Curriculum (MnTC) goal area 3 and 10. This course provides the learner with many principles and theories of biology. It includes an investigation in the biodiversity, classification, species and populations of life. Addressed in this course are the fundamentals in human health and disease, ecology, conservation, biodiversity and growth rate changes of humans and plants. Knowledge of basic genetics is suggested.

ANATOMY AND PHYSIOLOGY - 39

½ Credit - 1 Semester - Elective

Grades 11, 12

- Independent semester courses; do not need to be taken in the same year or in consecutive order.

DESCRIPTION: This course is designed to help prepare students for college, especially in the area of medicine, medical technology, nursing, health, physical education, dietary professions and veterinary science. On a regular basis professionals from the area will be brought in to speak about their careers, and trips will be taken to these businesses when data privacy is not an issue. Primary emphasis is on the anatomy and physiology of the human body. The lab portion of the course is designed to expose students to the anatomy of other animals such as the cat and pig, and compare them to human anatomy.

INNOVATIONS IN SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY - 40

½ Credit - 1 Semester - Elective

Grades 11, 12

This course will survey major scientific breakthroughs and cutting-edge technologies that have real-world applications in a variety of fields including genetics and molecular biology, human health and disease, sustainability, agriculture, and engineering. It will include hands-on labs, field trips, expert guest speakers, and career exploration. Later in the semester, students will be introduced to the scientific research process. They will be encouraged to be curious and think about a STEM-based problem or question of their own interest. They will learn the process of asking unanswered questions, designing experiments to answer those questions, collecting data, and presenting their findings. Students will develop critical thinking, problem-solving, and communication skills essential for success in college and in the workplace. This course will have some reading and writing assignments outside of the classroom.

MN West NURSING ASSISTANT (CNA)/INTRO TO HEALTH CAREERS- 44

1 Credit - 1 Year - Elective

Grades 11, 12

DESCRIPTION: The Nursing Assistant course is a three-credit class designed to prepare students for entry-level positions in nursing homes and other healthcare facilities. It introduces concepts of basic human needs, health and illness, and fundamental nursing skills. Students will practice these skills in a supervised laboratory setting and apply them in a clinical environment. Nursing assistants will learn to perform tasks related to patient/resident care while supporting nursing staff. A clinical experience in a hospital or nursing home is included. This course prepares students to successfully complete the Minnesota Nursing Assistant Certification Competency Examination and apply for the Minnesota Nursing Assistant Registry. Introduction to Health Care Careers (3 credits) provides students with the opportunity to explore a wide variety of career options in the medical and health sciences field. The course covers fundamental knowledge and skills while developing an awareness of workplace expectations. Students will engage in an in-depth study of healthcare careers, career planning, employability skills, basic medical terminology, ethics, wellness, disease prevention, and workplace safety.

SOCIAL STUDIES

WORLD HISTORY/GEOGRAPHY 9 - 76

1 Credit - 1 Year - REQUIRED

GRADE 9

DESCRIPTION: In this course, students will study the people of the world, the societies that they form and how both people and society are influenced by geography. The class will focus on the comparison of one culture to another from the basic aspects of daily life to the belief structures that govern how people view the world. The students will gain an appreciation for their own culture and society, the similarities that draw people together and the differences that keep them apart.

UNITED STATES HISTORY 10 - 77

1 Credit - 1 Year - REQUIRED

GRADE 10

DESCRIPTION: This course will cover U.S. History from 1900 - present. Topics covered will include, but are not limited to, expansion in Latin America, the Spanish-American War, World War I, the Roaring Twenties, the Great Depression, World War II, the Holocaust, the Cold War, Communism, the Korean Conflict, the Civil Rights Movement, the Vietnam Conflict, Watergate, the hostage crisis in Iran, the Falklands, the Iran-contra Affair, the Persian Gulf War and recent presidential administrations. Students will be able to see how the events and developments of the nation's past have come to influence its present and will influence its future.

AMERICAN GOVERNMENT 11 - 78

1 Credit - 1 Year - REQUIRED

GRADE 11

DESCRIPTION: This course provides an in-depth exploration of the structure and functions of the United States government. Students will examine the Constitution, the three branches of government, the electoral process, and the role of citizens in a democracy. Through discussions, projects, and case studies, students will analyze key issues in American politics, learn to evaluate government policies, and understand their rights and responsibilities as active participants in society. This course emphasizes critical thinking, civic engagement, and real-world applications of government principles.

ECONOMICS 12 - 79

½ Credit - 1 Semester

GRADE 12

DESCRIPTION: This course provides an in-depth look at how society as well as an individual chooses from unlimited wants and needs while having only limited resources. Practical application of economic principles and concepts will be offered along with how the government affects the economy.

MState MACROECONOMICS - 80

½ Credit - 1 Semester - Elective

Open to 11, 12

Prerequisites: 3.2 GPA (11th grade) 2.8 GPA (12th grade)

- **3 MSt college credits awarded for successful completion. (ECON2210 Macroeconomics)**

This course rotates every other year with MSt Microeconomics.

DESCRIPTION: This course provides the student with a means to study economic principles as they relate to determinants of national income, national income accounting, business cycles, unemployment, inflation and aggregate expenditures. The course also examines macroeconomic

policy and provides information to gain further understanding in the areas of fiscal policy, financial markets, money and banking, monetary policy, international policy and the varying viewpoints that have evolved throughout history, including the Keynesian and Monetarist schools of thought.

MState MICROECONOMICS - 81

1/2 Credit - 1 Semester - Elective Open to 11, 12

Prerequisites: 3.2 GPA (11th grade) 2.8 GPA (12th grade)

- **3 MSt college credits awarded for successful completion. (ECON2222 Microeconomics)**

This course rotates every other year with Mst Macroeconomics.

DESCRIPTION: Microeconomics stresses the concepts of scarcity, production possibilities, supply and demand curves, elastic and inelastic goods and services, competition, monopolies, oligopolies, poverty and income distribution in the United States. In general, microeconomics examines the functioning of individual industries and the behavior of the individual.

THE HOLOCAUST - 82

1/2 Credit - 1 Semester - Elective

Open To 11, 12

DESCRIPTION: The Holocaust is regarded by many as one of humanity's darkest hours. This course provides an in-depth look at the Holocaust, Hitler's attempt to exterminate the Jews from Europe in the late 1930's and early 1940's. Topics covered will include, but are not limited to, a history of anti-Semitism, the SS, concentration camps, death camps, Hitler's euthanasia program (T-4), The Third Reich and liberation. Accounts of survivors will also be studied.

POP CULTURE - 84

1/2 Credit - 1 Semester - Elective

Open To 11, 12

DESCRIPTION: This course is designed to introduce you to a variety of approaches in the study of pop culture. The overall objective is to explore how popular culture, in all its various forms, is reflected in the world around us, but also how it influences the way we perceive the world. This is not to glorify any one element but to investigate what makes it pop culture. Every day we are exposed to thousands of images, sounds and experiences. We will examine a wide range of subjects like sports and superheroes, fads and fashions, film and music among other genres, so we can better understand how contemporary American culture shapes our lives. Our emphasis will be on 21st century skills and standards developing critical thinking, communication, collaboration and creativity skills.

MState INTRO TO SOCIOLOGY - 87

1/2 Credit - 1 Semester - Elective

Open to 11, 12

Prerequisites: 3.2 GPA (11th grade) 2.8 GPA (12th grade)

- **3 MSt college credits awarded for successful completion. (MSt. SOC1111 Intro to Sociology)**

DESCRIPTION: Sociology is the science that studies human society and social behavior. This course will present an opportunity for students to look at various facets of society through a sociologist's perspective. A solid background and history of Sociology will be presented. A wide variety of topics

will include cross-cultural studies, American values, social deviance, adolescent behavior, race and ethnic relations, prejudice and discrimination, gender and age, religion, education, family and athletics.

MState GENERAL PSYCHOLOGY - 88

½ Credit - 1 Semester - Elective

Open to 11, 12

Prerequisites: Intro to Psychology advised, but not required. 3.2 GPA (11th grade) 2.8 GPA (12th grade)

- **3 MSt college credits awarded for successful completion. (MSt. PSY 1200 General Psychology)**

DESCRIPTION: The following topics are covered in order to give interested students additional information regarding psychology: research in psychology, biological aspects of psychology, sensation, perception, learning, memory, cognition and language, consciousness, cognitive abilities, motivation and emotion, human development, health, stress and coping, personality, treatment of psychological disorders, social cognition and social influence.

WORLD LANGUAGES

SPANISH I - 96

1 Credit - Full Year - Elective

Open To 9, 10, 11, 12

Prerequisites: The understanding that in order to fully succeed in any language you must enter it with an open mind and the willingness to learn. A basic knowledge of grammar is also recommended.

DESCRIPTION: An integrated approach to the language and culture of Spanish speaking peoples. Focuses on language as well as aspects of culture such as customs, traditions and pastimes of Spanish America and Spain. Emphasis is on active participation in rudimentary conversation, listening and writing. Students will be actively involved in the language by means of cooperation in a wide variety of activities.

SPANISH II - 97

1 Credit - Full Year - Elective

Open To 9, 10, 11, 12

Prerequisites: Spanish I

DESCRIPTION: A continuation of the introduction to the Spanish language and culture of Spanish America. The emphasis will remain on full, active participation in speaking, listening and writing activities. Second year students will frequently rely on their language skills to create and demonstrate short dialogue and conversations.