



April 2009

Dear Westport High School Students:

On April 8, 2009, you and your parents will attend a scheduling night to make your actual course selections for next year.

Please read the Program of Studies carefully and share this information with your parents before you come to Scheduling Night so that you can speak with faculty members about any questions you may have.

You should also be aware of some changes in requirements for graduation.

1. Class of 2010 – must enroll in physical education, pass the MCAS science and achieve a proficient score (240) on the MCAS math and ELA.
2. Class of 2011 – must enroll in physical education, pass the MCAS science and achieve a proficient score (240) on the MCAS math and ELA.
3. Class of 2012 – must enroll in physical education, pass the MCAS science, and achieve a proficient score (240) on the MCAS math and ELA.
4. Class of 2013 – must enroll in physical education, pass the MCAS science, and achieve a proficient score (240) on the MCAS math and ELA.

The choice of courses is an important event in your academic and career life. Please make wise decisions. Remember, all faculty members will help you make informed choices in planning your program for the coming year.

Sincerely,

Cheryl Tutalo
Principal

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MISSION STATEMENT

Westport High School's mission is to challenge students to gain knowledge, acquire skills, develop talents, and contribute to a climate of respect.

EXPECTATIONS FOR STUDENT LEARNING

Academic

- A. All students should acquire, integrate and apply essential knowledge.*
- B. All students should read, write and communicate effectively.*
- C. All students should use higher order thinking skills to solve complex problems.*
- D. All students should use mathematics, the arts, computers and other technologies effectively.*
- E. All students should study and work effectively.*

Social

All students should demonstrate personal and social responsibility.

Civic

All students should demonstrate civic responsibility.

SCHOOL WIDE RUBRICS

Reading

<u>Level of Performance</u>	<u>Indicators</u>
Exceeds standard	Student demonstrates an insightful understanding of the main ideas and/or concepts and can offer evidence to support their conclusions.
Meets standard	Student understands main ideas and/or concepts and can support them with evidence.
Below standard	Student has some understanding of the main ideas but has difficulty supporting them with evidence.
Insufficient	Student shows little understanding of the main ideas.

Writing

<u>Level of Performance</u>	<u>Indicators</u>
Advanced	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Demonstrates essential understandings of content specific framework standards• Supports conceptual understanding with well-supported evidence• Appropriate and insightful use of vocabulary• Where applicable, maintains a consistent point of view• Writing is organized and coherent• Sentence structure and vocabulary are appropriate for the task
Proficient	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Student consistently applies the mechanics of writing (student uses appropriate capitalization, punctuation and spelling).• Demonstrates essential understandings of content specific framework standards• Supports conceptual understanding with evidence• Appropriate use of vocabulary• Where applicable, maintains a consistent point of view• Writing is organized and coherent• Sentence structure and vocabulary are appropriate for the task

- Student applies the mechanics of writing, with few minor errors (student uses appropriate capitalization, punctuation and spelling). Student demonstrates a willingness to improve in these areas through consistent use of a glossary or dictionary, where applicable.

Needs Improvement

- Demonstrates a limited understanding of content specific framework standards
- Supports conceptual understanding but evidence is weak
- Use of vocabulary is inappropriate at times
- Point of view is inconsistent (where applicable)
- Sentence structure and vocabulary are inappropriate at times
- Student applies the mechanics of writing, but with some major errors (capitalization, punctuation and spelling). Student may also be unwilling to show improvement.

No Evidence

- Student makes no attempt
- Lack of effort
- Absence prohibits evaluation

Citizenship

Outstanding

- Near perfect attendance
- Near perfect punctuality
- Models preparedness
- Serves as positive role model and leader
- Demonstrates exemplary conduct
- Actively participates in class in meaningful way

Satisfactory

- Attends class regularly
- Comes to class on time
- Comes to class prepared to learn
- Works independently and models academic honesty
- Shows respect for others

Unsatisfactory

- Exercises good conduct
- Irregular attendance (7 or more unexcused per semester class, 3 per quarter class)
- Irregular punctuality (3 or more unexcused)
- Consistently unprepared for class
- Rarely comes to class prepared to learn
- Demonstrates lack of respect for others
- Conduct disruptive to the educational process

General Student Information

Grade Level Determination

- 30 credits needed to be considered a sophomore in good standing
- 70 credits needed to be considered a junior in good standing
- 110 credits needed to be considered a senior in good standing
- 150 credits needed to graduate

Grade Point Average

Westport High School students will be ranked on the basis of their academic achievement as members of their graduating class by calculating a weighted grade point average for all courses taken during the four-year program, including the second semester of the senior year. All grades on the student's transcript will be included in determining the student's grade point average and corresponding rank in class. Grades from courses transferred from another school or program and approved by the Principal will also be included. Courses taken for enrichment/advancement will be posted on the transcript but will not be calculated for the purposes of GPA.

College Admission Standards

Admission standards for Massachusetts state colleges, including UMASS, have been raised. Our graduation course requirements match those new standards. The colleges have increased what they expect students to have achieved for Grade Point Average (GPA) and SAT test scores. Students must have a GPA of 3.0 (85) and a recommended SAT total of 1000 for UMASS and a GPA of 2.7 (82) and SAT of 950 for any Massachusetts state college. Typically, students with a lower GPA must have a higher SAT score to be considered for admission.

Most colleges and universities look most favorably upon candidates who have four years of English, math, social studies, science, and three years of a foreign language. Prospective math, science, and engineering majors are urged to take chemistry, physics, and calculus. College admission offices consider these classes to be the greatest predictor of success in college.

There are colleges with higher and lower admission standards. Please refer to the College Handbook located in the Guidance Office or the Media Center for specific requirements. Students who do not meet these requirements should consider applying to a two-year college where students can demonstrate their ability to handle college level work and then transfer to a four-year college or university.

Dual Enrollment

The Dual Enrollment Program was authorized in the Education Reform Act of 1993. Today, qualified high school students can earn both high school and college credits through this program.

Interested students must determine eligibility and begin the application process as early as possible. Students must contact the Guidance Office by May 1 for the fall semester and November 1 for the spring semester. Westport High School students currently are enrolled at the

University of Massachusetts Dartmouth, Bristol Community College, and New England Institute of Technology.

Dual Enrollment Eligibility

- Juniors or seniors with a GPA of 3.0 or higher
- Approval of the Principal and Guidance Director
- Letter from parent/guardian granting permission

Dual Enrollment—School Department Policy

- Only students who have completed their sophomore year and have been enrolled for one full school year at Westport High School will be considered for this program.
- **This program cannot replace advanced placement or other academic courses offered at the high school.**
- All courses must be approved in advance by the Principal.
- Students may take no more than two courses per semester for credit.
- Upon successful completion of a course, a student will receive high school honors credit.
- If funding is not available from the DOE, all expenses associated with the program are the responsibility of the student and his/her family. The School Department has no responsibility to provide such funding.

Dual Enrollment—Student Responsibilities

- Once eligibility has been determined, the student will research potential courses at the college or university.
- The student must submit a completed dual enrollment course request and college registration form to the Guidance Office. This form will then be submitted to the DOE for funding approval.
- If funding is not available from the DOE, the student may take the course and pay all costs involved.
- At the end of the course, the student must forward a transcript or grade report to the high school for inclusion on the student's high school transcript.

Senior Project

The Senior Project is a mandatory requirement for all students at Westport High School. In their English class students have the opportunity to utilize and apply the twenty first century skills they have acquired during their education in the Westport Community School System. The Senior Project consists of an Investigative Paper that traces the student's journey from the choice of a topic of personal interest through the compilation and analysis of data, interviews and research to the final outcome. The students demonstrate the process of their exploration through a presentation of their research to an audience of students, faculty and administrators. The Senior Project counts as 50% of the final exam grade in English 12.

Expectations of Honors and Advanced Placement Students

Westport High School offers a wide variety of challenging courses designed to meet the needs and interests of all students. Students are expected to assume the primary responsibility for their own success in each of their courses.

For those students interested in an accelerated or in-depth examination of a subject, Honors and Advanced Placement courses are available in numerous areas. Due to the intense nature of these courses, students and parents should be aware of the additional expectations and responsibilities that accompanies enrollment.

Students selecting honors and AP courses should possess the following attitudes and abilities necessary for success:

- Serious sense of academic purpose, reinforced by a prior record of academic success.
- Personal responsibility for the on-time completion of academic tasks.
- High level of reading comprehension, including the ability to read critically and analytically.
- Genuine enthusiasm for learning, evidenced by the willingness to ask questions and to challenge assumptions as well as to provide answers.

- Open mind and cooperative spirit, willingness to verbally express one's own ideas and to respectfully listen to and consider those of others.
- Strong organizational skills, such as appropriate time allocation, course materials, etc.
- Ability to perform effectively on independent tasks.
- Ability to effectively communicate information through writing.
- Ability to synthesize information from varied sources and positions, and to draw conclusions.
- Willingness to invest time and effort on assignments beyond class time.

Advanced Placement Program

The College Entrance Examination Board sponsors the WHS Advanced Placement (AP) Program. Each course allows students to complete college-level studies and receive college credit based on a competitive examination. This national program is governed by The Educational Testing Service. Currently, Westport High School offers AP courses in Biology, English, and United States History. Students are expected to complete the course and to take the AP examinations in May.

Procedure for Appealing Placement

If parents do not agree with the placement of their student, they may schedule an appeal meeting with the student, teacher, and Director of Guidance. Parents may have a second appeal meeting with the student and the Principal, at which time a final decision will be made.

Westport High School Academy Model

Westport High School offers courses in a career academy model. Essentially, this model requires every student to complete a core curriculum of eighteen courses as well as fourteen elective courses. Through elective “career pathways” students can gain in-depth knowledge of special areas. There are four career academies: the *Academy of Liberal Arts*, the *Academy of Mathematics and Science*, the *Academy of Business Technology*, and the *Academy of Visual and Performing Arts*. This model offers opportunities for students to investigate these various disciplines in relative depth.

All students are asked to consider and possibly commit to an academy of their interest. They are not bound by their choice, as interests and desires change with experience and exposure. However, students are strongly encouraged to become engaged within a model, because it demands purposeful thought and intentional decisions based upon best information. Westport High School believes these are powerful tools for life-long learning and success.

Simply, the academy model is about creating a core curriculum that feeds and strengthens students’ minds. It is also about purposefully electing courses so each student’s individual talents can branch and bloom. The branches are the academies, the roots are the academic foundation.

Requirements for Academy Certification

Westport High School offers recognition for academic excellence through Academy Certification. This certification is in addition to the diploma and is not a requirement for graduation. However, eligibility for certification is dependent upon each student meeting Westport High School graduation requirements as well as successfully meeting criteria established by each academy. Six academy electives are required for certification. One elective from each of the academies is required whenever possible.

Academy requirements should never be in conflict with students taking the most challenging academic course possible.

Depending upon the student’s academy GPA, three levels of certification are awarded:

Distinction (3.5 minimum)

Mastery (3.4 to 2.5)

Completion (2.4 to 1.5)

Certification requirements for each academy are listed within each academy description.

The Academy of Liberal Arts

This academy is designed to prepare students for post-secondary studies. Students electing this academy should possess the ability and motivation to succeed in a rigorous course of studies that will enable them to meet the entrance requirements of colleges and universities.

In addition to providing a solid liberal arts foundation, this academy will give students opportunities to explore and pursue interests that will enable them to broaden their view and understanding of the world. Students may elect an area of concentration in Writing or World Languages.

Electives

Spanish 1, 2, 3, 4
Portuguese 1, 2, 3, 4
Psychology
Film as Literature

Government
Sociology
AP U.S. History
AP English
Current Issues

Creative Writing
Journalism

Requirements for Academy Certification

Students electing this academy may choose to concentrate in one of two areas or choose to take Academy electives at large. Areas of concentration are writing and world languages. The specific course areas required for Academy certification are: two semesters of a world language; one semester of writing; six Academy electives at large; and one elective from each of the Academies of Mathematics and Science, Business Technology, and Visual and Performing Arts. In addition to required course work, a portfolio of work, and/or a Senior Project are required to show a command of content knowledge, skills learned, and growth in the development of a personal vision.

The Academy of Mathematics & Sciences

This academy fulfills not only the core curriculum requirement, but also specific discipline electives in the areas of mathematics, science, and health and physical education. Students electing this academy are considering a career in the related fields of Biological or Physical sciences, Engineering, Health, Mathematics, Medicine, or Physical Education. The academy offers a rigorous course of studies that will enable students to meet the entrance requirements of colleges and universities as well as a school-to-work course of studies for those students who intend to enter their chosen careers directly after high school.

Electives

Pre-Calculus	Honors Biotechnology	Marine Science
Honors Pre-Calculus	AP Biology	Honors Physics
Honors Calculus	Chemistry	Human Body Systems
College Business Math	Honors Chemistry	Astronomy
Honors Anatomy & Physiology	Environmental Science	Personal Finance

Requirements for Academy Certification

Students electing this academy may choose to take Academy electives at-large or concentrate in the area of Mathematics, Biological Science, or Physical Science. Specific Academy electives required beyond core curriculum courses are Environmental Science and seven Academy electives. One elective from each of the Academies of Liberal Arts, Business Technology, and Visual and Performing Arts is also needed.

The Academy of Business Technology

Do you want to be a successful business owner or a top executive? If so, become a student in the Academy of Business Technology. This academy will engage you in learning experiences in and around the business environment. By undertaking challenging projects and independent research, you will discover the exciting worlds of business ownership and the stock market, understand how the law affects your life, and develop the skills needed to become a wise investor, effective manager, or realize career goals.

Enrollment in this academy will help you develop your understanding of critical areas in the business world, enhance analytical thinking skills, prepare you as an effective technology user, and offer a pathway to a diverse selection of careers.

Whether you are considering college, vocational training, or becoming a business owner, this academy will offer an intensive core curriculum as well an in-depth preparation in subject specific areas such as accounting, economics, business law, entrepreneurship, computer repair, and software application.

Electives

Advanced Computer Applications
Web Design

Intro to Accounting
College Business Math
CAD (Computer Aided
Design)

Multimedia
Personal Finance

Requirements for Academy Certification

All Academy students are required to take Personal Finance. A total of six ABT courses are needed. One elective from each of the Academies of Liberal Arts, Mathematics and Science, and Visual and Performing Arts is also needed.

Academy of Visual & Performing Arts

This academy engages students in the creative arts, and offers a pathway in, about, and through the arts. For some students, experience in this academy offers a road to a career in the arts; for others, it provides a foundation for a life-long rich and lively way of thinking and perceiving. Students with strong interests in exploring their creative potential should seriously consider this academy. Major areas of concentration include Multimedia/Electronic Imaging, Video and Television Broadcasting, Fine Arts, Photography, Acting, and Music.

Electives

Intro to Art	Concert Band	Photography
Drawing and Painting	Jazz/Rock Ensemble	Digital Media
3-D Art	Electronic Music	Creative Writing
Film as Literature	CAD (Computer Aided Design)	Digital Photo
Multimedia	Advanced 2D Studio	Advanced Digital Photo
Sculpture and Ceramics	Guitar	
Concert Choir	Vocal Ensemble	
Percussion Ensemble		

Requirements for Academy Certification

Students electing this academy may choose to take academy electives at large or concentrate in one of the following areas: Multimedia, Video Broadcasting, Music, Fine Arts, Photography, or Acting. Specific academy electives required are: Introduction to Art, Drawing and Painting, Multimedia, and a choice of Introduction to Video, Photograph, or Acting. Four additional academy electives are needed to fulfill the requirement of eight AVPA courses. One elective from each of the academies of Mathematics and Science, Liberal Arts, and Business Technology is also necessary.

*Class of 2010
Westport High School
Graduation Requirements*

<u>Department</u>	<u>Semester/Courses</u>	<u>Minimum Credits</u>
English	English 9, 10, 11, and 12	20
Mathematics	Algebra.....	5
	Geometry.....	5
	1 Elective Mathematics Courses	5
Social Studies	World History	
	United States History Part I	
	United States History Part II	15
Science	Physical Science	
	Biology	
	Elective Science Course	15
World Language	
	1 semester	5
Physical Education/Health 9, 10, 11, 12		12.5
* Technology	1 semester	5
MCAS	Grade 10 proficient score in English/Language Arts and Math. Passing score in physical science, biology, chemistry or technology/engineering. Students in any grade who are at risk of not passing the MCAS or have not passed the MCAS will be required to enroll in classes designed to enhance their academic skills.	
Senior Project	Graduation requirement for all students.	
Total Required Credits		87.5
Total Elective Credits		62.5
Credits Required for Graduation		150
Credits Possible for 4 years/8 semesters		160

All students must be enrolled in
20 credits per semester.

* Technology course taken before the 2007-08 school year would require 5 minimum credits. Technology course taken during or after the 2007-08 school year would require 2.5 minimum credits.

*Class of 2011
Westport High School
Graduation Requirements*

<u>Department</u>	<u>Semester/Courses</u>	<u>Minimum Credits</u>
English	English 9, 10, 11, and 12	20
Mathematics	Algebra	5
	Geometry	5
	2 Elective Mathematics Courses	10
Social Studies	World History	5
	United States History Part I	5
	United States History Part II	5
	Government.....	2.5
Science	Physical Science	10
	Biology	5
	Elective Science Course	5
World Language		
	1 semester	5
Physical Education/Health	9, 10, 11, 12	10
Technology	1 quarter	2.5
	Personal Finance.....	2.5
MCAS	Grade 10 proficient score in English/Language Arts and Math. Passing score in physical science, biology, chemistry or technology/engineering. Students in any grade who are at risk of not passing the MCAS or have not passed the MCAS will be required to enroll in classes designed to enhance their academic skills.	
Senior Project	Graduation requirement for all students.	
Total Required Credits		97.5
Total Elective Credits		52.5
Credits Required for Graduation		150
Credits Possible for 4 years/8 semesters		160

All students must be enrolled in
20 credits per semester.

*Class of 2012
Westport High School
Graduation Requirements*

<u>Department</u>	<u>Semester/Courses</u>	<u>Minimum Credits</u>
English	English 9, 10, 11, and 12	20
Mathematics	Algebra	5
	Geometry	5
	2 Elective Mathematics Courses	10
Social Studies	World History	5
	United States History Part I	5
	United States History Part II	5
	Government.....	2.5
Science	Physical Science	10
	Biology	5
	Elective Science Course	5
World Language		
	1 semester	5
Physical Education/Health	9, 10, 11, 12	10
Technology	1 quarter	2.5
	Personal Finance.....	2.5
MCAS	Grade 10 proficient score in English/Language Arts, and Math. Passing score in physical science, biology, chemistry or technology/engineering. Students in any grade who are at risk of not passing the MCAS or have not passed the MCAS will be required to enroll in classes designed to enhance their academic skills.	
Senior Project	Graduation requirement for all students.	
Total Required Credits		97.5
Total Elective Credits		52.5
Credits Required for Graduation		150
Credits Possible for 4 years/8 semesters		160

All students must be enrolled in
20 credits per semester.

*Class of 2013
Westport High School
Graduation Requirements*

<u>Department</u>	<u>Semester/Courses</u>	<u>Minimum Credits</u>
English	English 9, 10, 11, and 12	20
Mathematics	Algebra	5
	Geometry	5
	2 Elective Mathematics Courses	10
Social Studies	World History	5
	United States History Part I	5
	United States History Part II	5
	Government.....	2.5
Science	Physical Science	10
	Biology	5
	Elective Science Course	5
World Language		
	1 semester	5
Physical Education/Health	9, 10, 11, 12	10
Technology	1 quarter	2.5
	Personal Finance.....	2.5
MCAS	Grade 10 proficient score in English/Language Arts, and Math. Passing score in physical science, biology, chemistry or technology/engineering. Students in any grade who are at risk of not passing the MCAS or have not passed the MCAS will be required to enroll in classes designed to enhance their academic skills.	
Senior Project	Graduation requirement for all students.	
Total Required Credits		97.5
Total Elective Credits		52.5
Credits Required for Graduation		150
Credits Possible for 4 years/8 semesters		160

All students must be enrolled in
20 credits per semester.



Course Descriptions *2009—2010*

Freshman Reading and Writing Workshop

Course # 112

In this course, students will learn and practice important reading and writing skills needed to succeed in English 9 and other high school courses. Using relevant and interesting materials from different genres of fiction, non-fiction, poetry and drama, students will read and write in a workshop setting. During each class, the teacher will demonstrate strategies that good readers and writers use. Students will practice these strategies together, with guidance from the teacher. Students will also have time to apply them on their own to different types of academic reading and writing as well as to materials of their own choice. In addition, students will learn relevant study skills, including taking notes from oral presentations and written materials. This course is intended for students who have not yet demonstrated proficiency on MCAS testing in English.

Academic Expectations

- All students should acquire, integrate and apply essential knowledge.
- All students should read, write and communicate effectively.
- All students should use higher order thinking skills to solve complex problems.

**This course is required for students who are not proficient on the MCAS.*

English 9

Course # 105

English 9 introduces students to a variety of literary works ranging from the classical Greek to the modern period. This course will expose students to literary analysis, the fundamentals of research, speech, and the five-paragraph essay. Word usage, punctuation, spelling, and vocabulary development are emphasized throughout the course.

Academic Expectations

- All students should acquire, integrate and apply essential knowledge.
- All students should read, write and communicate effectively.
- All students should use higher order thinking skills to solve complex problems.
- All students should study and work effectively.

Honors English 9

Course # 110

Students will read extensively from various genres spanning from classical to modern literature. This course will expose students to literary analysis, the fundamentals of research, speech, and expository writing. Students will maintain a writing portfolio displaying a variety of their best compositions, poems, and research. Frequent oral reports and a research paper are assigned. Word usage, punctuation, spelling and vocabulary development are emphasized throughout the course.

Academic Expectations

- All students should acquire, integrate and apply essential knowledge.
- All students should read, write and communicate effectively.
- All students should use higher order thinking skills to solve complex problems.
- All students should study and work effectively.

Recommendation: In order to expect success in this course, students should have completed grade 8 Language Arts with a grade of 80 or better.

College English 10

Course # 115

English 10 concentrates on the major themes in American Literature from the Puritan Period to the 20th Century. Such notable American writers as Franklin, Hawthorne, Thoreau, Steinbeck, Salinger, Fitzgerald, Hemingway, Frost, and Dickinson will be examined and discussed. A research project will be required for all students. Critical reading and writing is an integral part of the course. Students must have passed English 9.

Academic Expectations

- All students should acquire, integrate and apply essential knowledge.
- All students should read, write and communicate effectively.
- All students should use higher order thinking skills to solve complex problems.

Honors College English 10

Course # 120

English 10 concentrates on the major themes in American Literature from the Puritan Period to the 20th century. Such notable American writers as Franklin, Hawthorne, Thoreau, Steinbeck, Salinger, Fitzgerald, Hemingway, Frost, and Dickinson will be examined and discussed. Honors will work at a more rapid pace and advanced level. Intensive research activities will be asked of Honors students. Critical reading and writing is an integral part of the course.

Academic Expectations

- All students should acquire, integrate and apply essential knowledge.
- All students should read, write and communicate effectively.
- All students should use higher order thinking skills to solve complex problems.

Recommendation: In order to expect success in this course, students should have completed English 9 Honors with a grade of 80 or better.

College English 11

Course # 125

English 11 concentrates on the major themes in British Literature from its earliest writings to the Twentieth Century. Writers such as Shakespeare, Dickens, Stoker, and Golding will be discussed. Students must have passed English 10. Weekly essays of various types and lengths will be required. Critical reading and writing is an integral component of the course.

Academic Expectations

- All students should acquire, integrate and apply essential knowledge.
- All students should read, write and communicate effectively.
- All students should use higher order thinking skills to solve complex problems.

Honors College English 11

Course # 130

English 11 Honors concentrates on the major themes in British Literature from the earlier writings to the 20th Century. Writers such as Shakespeare, Dickens, Stoker, and Golding, will be examined and discussed. Honor students will work at a more rapid pace and advanced level.

Academic Expectations

- All students should acquire, integrate and apply essential knowledge.
- All students should read, write and communicate effectively.
- All students should use higher order thinking skills to solve complex problems.

Recommendation: In order to expect success in this course, students should have completed English 10 Honors with a grade of 80 or better.

Fundamentals of College English 12

Course # 134

This course is a continuation of Fundamentals of College English 11 in which students learn the basics of literary analysis, the fundamentals of research, speech, and expository writing. Students will participate in individualized written expression development in expository writing as well as a variety of other forms. Reading fluency and skill development in writing will be emphasized throughout the course. Completion of the Senior Project is required.

Academic Expectations

- All students should acquire, integrate and apply essential knowledge.
- All students should read, write and communicate effectively.
- All students should use higher order thinking skills to solve complex problems.
- All students should study and work effectively.

College English 12

Course # 135

English 12 introduces the college-bound student to literary works from a great variety of cultures. This course focuses on journeys and discoveries as viewed through genres of world literature. Through readings and written responses, journal entries, essays, narratives, and a

research paper, students gradually become more aware of the richness of human experience. A Senior Project is requirement of the course. Students must have passed English 11.

Academic Expectations

- All students should acquire, integrate and apply essential knowledge.
- All students should read, write and communicate effectively.
- All students should use higher order thinking skills to solve complex problems.

Honors College English 12

Course # 136

Honors English 12 is a continuation of the work begun in Honors English 11 at a lower level of intensity than that of AP English. It focuses on developing student writing and critical thinking skills through an examination of some of the major themes of world literature. Students can expect a significant reading and writing load, as well as extensive work in public speaking. The Senior Project is also a major component of the course.

Academic Expectations

- All students should acquire, integrate and apply essential knowledge.
- All students should read, write and communicate effectively.
- All students should use higher order thinking skills to solve complex problems.

Recommendation: In order to expect success in this course, students should have completed English 11 Honors with a grade of 80 or better.

AP English

Course # 140

This course is a continuation of 11 Honors English emphasizing the development of students' creative abilities, critical thinking skills and abilities, language skills, and knowledge of literature. Students read, discuss, analyze, and interpret literature. Students speak and write analytically, develop their skills in using the language process, as well as study the theory of literature. The major emphases in AP English are the structure/style of the novel and critical analysis of literary passages. This course prepares students for the AP exam in early May. Advanced Placement students work to the guidelines provided by the College Entrance Examination Board (CEEB) that oversees the Advanced Placement Program. It is designed as a college Freshman English class.

Academic Expectations

- All students should acquire, integrate and apply essential knowledge.
- All students should read, write and communicate effectively.
- All students should use higher order thinking skills to solve complex problems.

Recommendation: In order to expect success in this course, students should have completed English 11 Honors with a grade of 80 or better.

Creative Writing

Course # 150

Creative Writing is a course designed to give the student a knowledge and appreciation of basic forms of written expression. The chief emphasis is to foster expression of the imaginative mind and to produce guidance necessary to produce effective and artistic expression. Students will

understand the components of good writing and will develop the skills necessary for effective written expression. The emphases will be on teaching the student how to teach himself/herself to write.

Academic Expectations

- All students should acquire, integrate and apply essential knowledge.
- All students should read, write and communicate effectively.
- All students should use higher order thinking skills to solve complex problems.

Film as Literature

Course # 155

This course is a critical analysis of films. Students will study the history of film and filmmaking techniques. Films will be analyzed according to content, acting, scripting, and directing. Technical aspects such as shooting, editing, and sound will be considered. Novels made into films will be examined and discussed. Students will learn critical writing techniques. Students will do research projects about films and their influences.

Academic Expectations

- All students should acquire, integrate and apply essential knowledge.
- All students should read, write and communicate effectively.
- All students should use higher order thinking skills to solve complex problems.

Journalism

Course # 165, 166

In Journalism students learn all aspects of journalistic writing, editing, design, and practice. Student work is regularly published in the student newspaper, *The Villager*, the monthly literary magazine, and Villager Focus.

Academic Expectations

- All students should acquire, integrate and apply essential knowledge.
- All students should read, write and communicate effectively.
- All students should use higher order thinking skills to solve complex problems.
- All students should use mathematics, the arts, computers and other technologies effectively.

MCAS ELA Preparation

Course# 185, 186

MCAS ELA Preparation is designed to help students prepare for the English Language Arts portion of the Massachusetts Comprehensive Assessment System, a requirement for graduation in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.* Instructional topics include content review, vocabulary development, writing techniques, and test-taking strategies. Students will gain valuable practice as they analyze reading passages and complete multiple-choice, short answer, and open-ended format questions. Student placement in this course is determined by administrative decision based on past testing performance.

Academic Expectations

- All students should acquire, integrate, and apply essential knowledge.
- All students should read, write, and communicate effectively.

- All students should use higher order thinking skills to solve complex problems.
- All students use mathematics, the arts, computers, and other technologies effectively.
- All students should study and work effectively.

* *Class of 2009 must pass with a minimum score in the Needs Improvement range of 220 or greater.*

Class of 2010 and beyond must pass with a minimum score in the Proficient range of 240 or greater.

Foundations of Algebra, Geometry, and English

Course # 198, 199

Foundations of Algebra, Geometry, and English is designed to help students receive specially designed instruction in the areas of Algebra, Geometry, and/or English. Student progress from level A through level H as they work toward individualized goals in their IEP. Student placement in this course is determined by TEAM decision per IEP process.

English Language Arts instructional standards may include: Understanding a Text, Fiction, Nonfiction, Style, and Genre. Increasing reading comprehension, improving reading fluency, and building written language skills are emphasized throughout the course. Specific academic goals for each student are designed by the TEAM as part of the IEP process.

Academic Expectations

- All students should acquire, integrate, and apply essential knowledge.
- All students should read, write, and communicate effectively.
- All students should use higher order thinking skills to solve complex problems.
- All students use mathematics, the arts, computers, and other technologies effectively
- All students should study and work effectively.

Course Descriptions ~ Mathematics

Foundations of Algebra and Geometry

Levels A—H

Course # 198, 199

This course provides basic pre-algebraic and pre-geometric skills to students and course outcomes are individualized to meet the specific goals of each student per the IEP. Students progress from level A through level H, as they work toward the individual goals of their IEP. Student placement in this course is determined by TEAM decision per the IEP process.

Depending on the student's performance level, Mathematics instructional strands include: Number Sense and Operations, Patterns, Relations, and Algebra, Geometry, Measurement, and Data Analysis, Statistics, and Probability. Accuracy in computation, interpreting word problems, and responding to open-ended questions are emphasized throughout the course.

Academic Expectations

- All students should use higher order thinking skills to solve complex problems.

- All students should use mathematics, the arts, computers and other technologies effectively.
- All students should study and work effectively.

Basics of Algebra

Course # 222, 223

This year long course focuses on the basic introductory Algebra skills necessary to be successful in college preparatory mathematics. Topics include simplifying directed numbers, functions and their graphs, solving linear equations and inequalities, working with exponents, basic operations involving square roots, and an introduction for factoring. **This course is required for students who are not proficient on the MCAS.*

Academic Expectations

- All students should use higher order thinking skills to solve complex problems.
- All students should use mathematics, the arts, computers and other technologies effectively.
- All students should study and work effectively.

Algebra I

Course # 205

Algebra I is the first course of the college preparatory mathematics sequence. This course focuses on introductory algebra skills: solving equations and systems of equations; simplifying directed numbers and polynomials; and graphing. Other topics included are probability, statistics, matrices, and discrete mathematics.

Academic Expectations

- All students should use higher order thinking skills to solve complex problems.
- All students should use mathematics, the arts, computers and other technologies effectively.
- All students should study and work effectively.

Honors Algebra I

Course # 210

Honors Algebra I is the first course of the honors college preparatory mathematics sequence. This course focuses on the quick paced introduction to algebra skills, critical analysis, solving equations and systems of equations, simplifying directed numbers and polynomials, and graphing. Other topics included are probability, statistics, matrices, and discrete mathematics.

Academic Expectations

- All students should use higher order thinking skills to solve complex problems.
- All students should use mathematics, the arts, computers and other technologies effectively.
- All students should study and work effectively.

Recommendation: In order to expect success in this course, students should have completed Grade 8 math with a grade of 80 or better

Geometry

Course # 215

In Geometry, students investigate geometric figures, transformations, triangle relationships, measurement in the plane and in space, parallel lines, proving triangles congruent, quadrilaterals, similarity, right triangle trigonometry, as well as chords, secants, and tangents.

Academic Expectations

- All students should use higher order thinking skills to solve complex problems.
- All students should use mathematics, the arts, computers and other technologies effectively.
- All students should study and work effectively.

Pre-requisite of Algebra I or Basics of Algebra with teacher recommendation

Honors Geometry

Course # 220

Honors Geometry covers the same topics as the regular geometry class, but will do it at a much quicker pace and in much more depth. If time permits, topics such as constructions, coordinate geometry, mappings, and loci may be covered.

Recommendation: In order to expect success in this course, students should have completed Honors Algebra I with a grade of 80 or better.

Academic Expectations

- All students should use higher order thinking skills to solve complex problems.
- All students should use mathematics, the arts, computers and other technologies effectively.
- All students should study and work effectively.

Algebra II

Course # 225

Algebra II is the third course in the college preparatory sequence. This course focuses on intermediate and advanced algebra skills, but includes topics from probability, statistics, matrices, and discrete mathematics.

Academic Expectations

- All students should use higher order thinking skills to solve complex problems.
- All students should use mathematics, the arts, computers and other technologies effectively.
- All students should study and work effectively.

Pre-requisite of Algebra I or Basics of Algebra with teacher recommendation

Honors Algebra II

Course # 230

Honors Algebra II is the third course of the college preparatory mathematics sequence for the advanced mathematics student. This course covers an in depth study of the topics of data analysis, linear relationships, matrices, linear systems, quadratic functions, polynomial exponential, and logarithmic functions. *Recommendation: In order to expect success in this course, students should have completed Honors geometry with a grade of 80 or better.*

Academic Expectations

- All students should use higher order thinking skills to solve complex problems.
- All students should use mathematics, the arts, computers and other technologies effectively.
- All students should study and work effectively.

College Business Math

Course # 206

This course reviews basic computational skills in whole numbers, fractions, and decimals using a word problem approach. Basic algebra equations are introduced to solve business-oriented word problems and percentage problems. Business topics examined include banking and credit card transactions, discounts, markups, payroll, and simple interest. This course can be used to satisfy either a math elective or a business elective, but not both.

Academic Expectations

- All students should use higher order thinking skills to solve complex problems.
- All students should use mathematics, the arts, computers and other technologies effectively.
- All students should study and work effectively.

Pre-Calculus

Course # 235

Pre-calculus is the fourth course in the college preparatory sequence. This course serves as an introductory course in the trigonometry needed for calculus. Students work with the algebra topics of rational, exponential, and logarithmic, functions. Students also explore more probability and statistics as well as sequences and series if time permits. *Recommendation: In order to expect success in this course, students should have completed Algebra II with a grade of 80 or better.*

Academic Expectations

- All students should use higher order thinking skills to solve complex problems.
- All students should use mathematics, the arts, computers and other technologies effectively.
- All students should study and work effectively.

Pre-requisite of Algebra II

Honors Pre-Calculus

Course # 240

Honors Pre-Calculus is the fourth course of the college preparatory mathematics sequence for the advanced mathematics student. This course completes the in-depth study of algebra topics started in Honors Algebra II.

Students explore periodic functions, introductory and advanced trigonometry, rational functions, quadratic relations, probability and statistics, and sequences and series if time permits.

Academic Expectations

- All students should use higher order thinking skills to solve complex problems.
- All students should use mathematics, the arts, computers and other technologies effectively.
- All students should study and work effectively.

Pre-requisite of Honors Algebra II

Recommendation: In order to expect success in this course, students should have completed Honors Algebra II with a grade of 80 or better.

Honors Calculus

Course # 245

Calculus involves three distinct stages of mathematics: Pre-calculus mathematics; the limit process; and new calculus formulations (derivatives, integrals, etc.). The goal is to show how pre-calculus formulas and techniques are used as building blocks to produce more general calculus formulas.

Academic Expectations

- All students should use higher order thinking skills to solve complex problems.
- All students should use mathematics, the arts, computers and other technologies effectively.
- All students should study and work effectively.

Pre-requisite of Honors Pre-Calculus

Recommendation: In order to expect success in this course, students should have completed Pre-Calculus with a grade of 80 or better.

MCAS Math Preparation

Course # 185, 186

MCAS Math Preparation is designed to help students prepare for the Mathematics portion of the Massachusetts Comprehensive Assessment System, a requirement for graduation in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.* Instructional strands include Number Sense and Operations, Patterns, Relations, and Algebra, Geometry, Measurement, and Data Analysis, Statistics, and Probability. Students will gain valuable practice as they solve problems and complete multiple-choice, short answer, and open-ended format questions. Student placement in this course is determined by administrative decision based on past testing performances.

Academic Expectations

- All students should acquire, integrate, and apply essential knowledge.
- All students should read, write, and communicate effectively.
- All students should use higher order thinking skills to solve complex problems.
- All students use mathematics, the arts, computers, and other technologies effectively.
- All students should study and work effectively.

**Class of 2009 must pass with a minimum score in the Needs Improvement range of 220 or greater.*

Class of 2010 and beyond must pass with a minimum score in the Proficient range of 240 or greater.

Foundations of Algebra, Geometry, and English

Course # 198, 199

Foundations of Algebra, Geometry, and English is designed to help students receive specially designed instruction in the areas of Algebra, Geometry, and/or English. Student progress from level A through level H as they work toward individualized goals in their IEP. Student placement in this course is determined by TEAM decision per IEP process.

Depending on the students' individual performance level, Mathematics instructional strands may include Number Sense and Operations, Patterns, Relations, and Algebra, Geometry, Measurement, and Data Analysis, Statistics and Probability. English Language Arts instructional standards may include: Understanding a Text, Fiction, Nonfiction, Style, and Genre. Specific academic goals for each student are designed by the TEAM as part of the IEP process

Academic Expectations

- All students should acquire, integrate, and apply essential knowledge.
- All students should read, write, and communicate effectively.
- All students should use higher order thinking skills to solve complex problems.
- All students use mathematics, the arts, computers, and other technologies effectively
- All students should study and work effectively.

Course Descriptions ~ Social Studies

World History Course # 302

This semester long course will focus on the major economic, social, political, and geographic themes in human history. Initial units will cover background material to modern world history (pre-history to 1800) and the era of European dominance (1750-1914). Students will then explore the crisis of the 20th Century (1914-1945) and the emergence of a global civilization (the world since 1945). The curriculum is aligned to follow the Massachusetts Curriculum Framework.

This course is required of all freshmen and must be passed as a graduation requirement.

Academic Expectations

- All students should acquire, integrate and apply essential knowledge.
- All students should read, write and communicate effectively.
- All students should use higher order thinking skills to solve complex problems.
- All students should use mathematics, the arts, computers and other technologies effectively.
- All students should study and work effectively.

Honors World History

Course # 303

The Honors World History course is intended for highly motivated students who possess strong reading and writing skills as well as a mature work ethic. The honors world history student will

develop an ability to analyze historical evidence and an ability to analyze and express historical understanding in writing. (See World History Course #302 for description.)

Academic Expectations

- All students should acquire, integrate and apply essential knowledge.
- All students should read, write and communicate effectively.
- All students should use higher order thinking skills to solve complex problems.
- All students should use mathematics, the arts, computers and other technologies effectively.
- All students should study and work effectively.

Recommendation: In order to expect success in this class, students should have completed grade 8 History with a grade of 80 or better.

Government

Course # 310

This course surveys the three branches of government at the federal, state, and local levels, and provides students with an understanding of our framework of government. It includes an analysis of Massachusetts and Westport forms of government. Students will participate in a class project designed to research and implement a public policy solution to a problem in the community.

Academic Expectations

- All students should acquire, integrate and apply essential knowledge.
- All students should read, write and communicate effectively.
- All students should use higher order thinking skills to solve complex problems.
- All students should use mathematics, the arts, computers and other technologies effectively.
- All students should study and work effectively.

United States History I

Course # 305

This course, which covers the history of the United States from its colonial origins through the post Reconstruction period, provides an overview of the diverse peoples who interacted, settled, and influenced the history of the nation and its developing economic, social, and political institutions. The course requires students to analyze a variety of primary source materials, think critically, and write thesis based essays.

Successful completion of United States History is required for graduation.

Academic Expectations

- All students should acquire, integrate and apply essential knowledge.
- All students should read, write and communicate effectively.
- All students should use higher order thinking skills to solve complex problems.

- All students should study and work effectively.

United States History I—Honors

Course # 306

The content of this course is similar to United States History I, however the expectations as to reading and writing assignments is much greater. Students will build upon skills learned in grade 9 which are applicable not only to the study of social studies, but all academic areas.

Successful completion of United States History I is a graduation requirement.

Academic Expectations

- All students should acquire, integrate and apply essential knowledge.
- All students should read, write and communicate effectively.
- All students should use higher order thinking skills to solve complex problems.
- All students should study and work effectively.

Recommendation: In order to expect success in this class, students should have completed Honors World History with a grade of 80 or better.

United States History II

Course # 320

This course, which covers the history of the United States from the Post-Reconstruction era to the modern era provides an overview of the diverse peoples who influenced the history of the nation and its maturing economic, social, and political institutions. The course requires students to analyze a variety of primary source materials, to think critically, and write thesis-based essays. Students in 11th grade are also required to take the MCAS Social Studies exam.

Successful completion of United States History II is a graduation requirement.

Academic Expectations

- All students should acquire, integrate and apply essential knowledge.
- All students should read, write and communicate effectively.
- All students should use higher order thinking skills to solve complex problems.
- All students should study and work effectively.

United States History Pt II— Honors

Course # 321

The content of this course is similar to United States History II, however the expectations as to reading and writing assignments is much greater. Students will build upon skills learned in United States History I which are applicable not only to the study of social studies, but all academic areas.

Successful completion of United States History II is a requirement for graduation.

Academic Expectations

- All students should acquire, integrate and apply essential knowledge.
- All students should read, write and communicate effectively.

- All students should use higher order thinking skills to solve complex problems.
- All students should study and work effectively.

Recommendation: In order to expect success in this course, students should have completed Honors US History I with a grade of 80 or better.

AP United States History

Course # 325

The AP program in American History is designed to provide students with the analytic skills and factual knowledge necessary to deal critically with the problems and materials on American History. The course prepares students for college courses by making demands upon them equivalent to a full year introductory college course. It is a survey course in which a textbook, with supplementary readings in the form of documents, essays, or books on special themes provides development of the skills necessary to arrive at conclusions on the basis of an informed judgment and to present reasons and evidence clearly in essay format. This course is intended for highly motivated students who possess strong reading and writing skills as well as a mature work ethic. This course is designed to enable qualified students to achieve to the best of their ability on the AP examination in American History. It is possible for students to earn the equivalent of two semesters of college credit.

Academic Expectations

- All students should acquire, integrate and apply essential knowledge.
- All students should read, write and communicate effectively.
- All students should use higher order thinking skills to solve complex problems.
- All students should study and work effectively.

Recommendation: In order to expect success in this course, students should have completed Honors US History I with a grade of 80 or better.

Introduction to Psychology

Course # 330

Psychology is most appropriately defined as the systematic study of human behavior. This introductory course gives attention to the types of questions psychologists ask and how research is performed. Students study the three most important trends within psychology: unconscious behavior, individual differences, and observable behavior. This course is limited to Grade 12 students and qualified 11th grade students.

Academic Expectations

- All students should acquire, integrate and apply essential knowledge.
- All students should read, write and communicate effectively.
- All students should study and work effectively.

Introduction to Sociology

Course # 335

Introduction to Sociology provides students with a comprehensive examination of the basic concepts, principles, and methods central to sociology. Concepts are related to current and historical events in order for the students to appreciate the relevancy of sociology to their daily

lives. Students study the rich diversity that is possible in social life that is vitally important in an interdependent world.

Academic Expectations

- All students should acquire, integrate and apply essential knowledge.
- All students should read, write and communicate effectively.
- All students should use higher order thinking skills to solve complex problems.
- All students should study and work effectively.

Course Descriptions ~ Science

Introduction to Physics

Course # 403

This year long course allows students to develop problem solving skills and strategies while performing laboratory investigations of fundamental concepts and principles related to matter and energy. Lecture and laboratory study will cover the following topics: motion and forces, conservation of energy and momentum, heat and heat transfer, waves, electromagnetism, and electromagnetic radiation. This course is a graduation requirement.

Academic Expectations

- All students should acquire, integrate and apply essential knowledge.
- All students should use mathematics, the arts, computers and other technologies effectively.
- All students should study and work effectively.

Honors Introduction to Physics

Course # 404

This year long course allows students to develop problem solving skills and strategies while performing laboratory investigations of fundamental concepts and principles related to matter and energy. Lecture and laboratory study will cover the following topics: motion and forces, conservation of energy and momentum, heat and heat transfer, waves, electromagnetism, and electromagnetic radiation. Students will be required to complete an independent project that demonstrates their in depth knowledge of a concept, fulfilling their eligibility for honors credit.

Academic Expectations

- All students should acquire, integrate and apply essential knowledge.
- All students should use mathematics, the arts, computers and other technologies effectively.
- All students should study and work effectively.

Biology

Course # 410

This course introduces students to the study of the life sciences. It includes the study of cell biology and energy interactions, microbiology, DNA, genetics and evolution, ecology characteristics of organisms, and a general introduction to human anatomy. Formal hands-on

laboratory sessions, which allow students to directly observe biological principles, are an important element of this course. This course is a graduation requirement.

Academic Expectations

- All students should acquire, integrate and apply essential knowledge.
- All students should use mathematics, the arts, computers and other technologies effectively.
- All students should study and work effectively.

Honors Biology

Course # 415

This course introduces students to the study of the life sciences at a more intensive level than the basic biology course. It includes the study of cell biology and energy interactions, microbiology, DNA, genetics and evolution, ecology characteristics of organisms, and a general introduction to human anatomy. Formal hands-on laboratory sessions that allow students to directly observe biological principles are an important element of this course.

Academic Expectations

- All students should acquire, integrate and apply essential knowledge.
- All students should use mathematics, the arts, computers and other technologies effectively.
- All students should study and work effectively.

Recommendation: In order to expect success in this course, students should have completed Honors Physical Science with an 80 or better.

Environmental Science

Course # 418

This course covers environmental issues and a history of humans in the environment. Students are required to participate in a variety of field studies in order to complete the course. Monitoring local brooks will be conducted in conjunction with the Westport River Watershed Alliance. Topics covered: current environmental issues and society, aquatic ecosystems, water as a resource, land use issues, soil and agriculture. All topics will be covered with a strong emphasis on local issues.

Academic Expectations

- All students should acquire, integrate and apply essential knowledge.
- All students should use mathematics, the arts, computers and other technologies effectively.
- All students should study and work effectively.

Recommendation: In order to expect success in this course, students should have successfully completed Introduction to Physics and Biology.

Chemistry

Course # 420

This introductory chemistry course prepares students for a college course in chemistry. Topics include the scientific method, measuring and calculating, matter and energy, periodic table, bonding, chemical reactions, the mole, stoichiometry, and data manipulation.

Academic Expectations

- All students should acquire, integrate and apply essential knowledge.
- All students should use higher order thinking skills to solve complex problems.
- All students should use mathematics, the arts, computers and other technologies effectively.
- All students should study and work effectively.

Recommendation: In order to expect success in this course, students should have successfully completed Algebra I and Introduction to Physics and Biology with a grade of 80 or better and be enrolled in Algebra II.

Honors Chemistry

Course # 425

This advanced chemistry course covers topics including the scientific method, measurement, atomic theory, chemical bonding, energy, the mole concept, and stoichiometry. This extensive and intensive course involves mathematical principles of chemistry and requires advanced math skills.

Academic Expectations

- All students should acquire, integrate and apply essential knowledge.
- All students should use higher order thinking skills to solve complex problems.
- All students should use mathematics, the arts, computers and other technologies effectively.
- All students should study and work effectively.

Recommendation: In order to expect success in this course, students should have successfully completed Honors Introduction to Physics, Honors Algebra II and Honors Biology with a grade of 80 or better.

Human Body Systems

Course # 435

This math and science elective course is designed for students who want a basic understanding of the human body. The course focuses on condensed units of various body systems. Laboratory exercises and dissections support classroom instruction.

Academic Expectations

- All students should acquire, integrate and apply essential knowledge.
- All students should study and work effectively.

Recommendation: In order to expect success in this course, students should have successfully completed Biology and have research skills. Students may not elect this course if they are qualified to take Honors Human Anatomy & Physiology. Students may not take both courses.

Honors Biotechnology

Course # 440

This advanced level course focuses on the application of DNA as a tool to diagnose diseases, solve crimes and determine identity and parentage. It also focuses on gene therapy as the

medical treatment of the future. In addition, genetic engineering and its effect on such controversial issues as cloning is discussed. The course concludes with a study of ethical conduct in biotechnology. There are many laboratory and computer-based projects in this course that prepares students for careers in the rapidly growing field of health technology and forensic science.

Academic Expectations

- All students should acquire, integrate and apply essential knowledge.
- All students should use mathematics, the arts, computers and other technologies effectively.
- All students should study and work effectively.

Recommendation: In order to expect success in this course, students should have successfully completed Biology with a grade of 80 or better and have Junior or Senior status.

Honors Anatomy & Physiology

Course # 450

This course focuses on the structure, function and interaction of human body organ-systems. Topics covered include movement, nervous, and hormone regulation, digestion, respiration, cardiovascular, urinary and reproductive processes. Cooperative learning opportunities include laboratory exercises, dissections, and lectures. This course is highly recommended for students interested in a career in the medical field. Students may not take this course if they have previously taken Human Body Systems.

Academic Expectations

- All students should acquire, integrate and apply essential knowledge.
- All students should use mathematics, the arts, computers and other technologies effectively.
- All students should study and work effectively.

Recommendation: In order to expect success in this course, students should have successfully completed Biology and Chemistry. Students may not elect this course if they have previously completed Human Body Systems.

Marine Science

Course # 460

This introductory course in marine studies deals with the general chemical, geological, physical, biological and interactive aspects of marine environment. Special emphasis is given to coastal processes in Westport and the Buzzards Bay area. Field studies, laboratory exercises, and dissections support classroom instruction.

Academic Expectations

- All students should acquire, integrate and apply essential knowledge.
- All students should read, write and communicate effectively.
- All students should study and work effectively.

Recommendation: In order to expect success in this course, students should have successfully completed Physical Science and Biology.

Honors Physics

Course # 455

This advanced level course prepares students for a career in science, engineering, or medicine. Problem solving skills and the use of more than one fundamental concept at a time are emphasized. The course includes intensive, frequent testing, and laboratory experimentation. Topics include, but not limited to, the study of mechanics and heat, waves, electricity and magnetism, and nuclear physics. The course emphasizes the mathematical principles of physics and requires advanced math skills.

Academic Expectations

- All students should acquire, integrate and apply essential knowledge.
- All students should read, write and communicate effectively.
- All students should use higher order thinking skills to solve complex problems.
- All students should use mathematics, the arts, computers and other technologies effectively.
- All students should study and work effectively.

Recommendation: In order to expect success in this senior level course, students should have successfully completed Physical Science, Biology, Chemistry, Algebra I, Algebra II, Geometry, Pre-Calculus with a grade of 80 or better. It is also strongly suggested that students have taken the honors level versions of those math and science courses listed above.

AP Biology

Course # 445

AP Biology is the equivalent of an introductory college freshman biology course. Therefore, the student faces an intensive and challenging program both in course content and laboratory exercises. Through in-depth study, students master extensive factual content in the areas of molecular, cellular, organismal, evolutionary, and ecological biology. Emphasis is placed on the 5 themes of biology: relationship between structure and function, biological order and regulation, unity within diversity, acquiring and using energy, and evolution and adaptation. The guidelines for this course are set the by College Entrance Examination Board that oversees the Advanced Placement Program. Students are expected to take the AP Biology Examination in May.

Academic Expectations

- All students should acquire, integrate and apply essential knowledge.
- All students should read, write and communicate effectively.
- All students should use higher order thinking skills to solve complex problems.
- All students should use mathematics, the arts, computers and other technologies effectively.
- All students should study and work effectively.

Recommendation: In order to expect success in this course, students should have completed Honors Physical Science, Honors Biology and Honors Chemistry with a grade of 80 or better.

Astronomy

Course # 465

This course will focus on the universe and earth's place in it. Students will study the origin of the universe, characteristics of life cycles of stars, formation of the solar system, comparison of planets, placement of earth in the Milky Way Galaxy and theories about the formation of the universe.

Academic Expectations

- All students should acquire, integrate and apply essential knowledge.
- All students should read, write and communicate effectively.
- All students should use higher order thinking skills to solve complex problems.

Recommendation: In order to expect success in this course, students should have successfully completed physical science.

Course Descriptions ~ World Languages

World Language – Level I

Portuguese I – Course # 520

Spanish I – Course # 540

This is an introduction course to a foreign language which covers the basics of vocabulary, conversation, grammar and culture. In the beginning, listening and speaking skills are emphasized with a gradual introduction to the writing and reading techniques. All four skills are presented in context. The diverse cultures between the various countries that speak the target language are also introduced. Completion of various types of homework assignments as well as good attendance and class participation are vital to success in this course.

Academic Expectations

- All students should acquire, integrate and apply essential knowledge.
- All students should read, write and communicate effectively.
- All students should study and work effectively.

World Language – Level II

Portuguese II – Course # 525

Spanish II – Course # 545

This is a beginning/intermediate course to a foreign language which covers a basic/intermediate level of vocabulary, conversation, grammar and culture. Listening and speaking skills are emphasized in conjunction with writing and reading techniques. All four skills are presented in context. The diverse cultures between the various countries that speak the target language are also taught. Completion of various types of homework assignments as well as good attendance and class participation are vital to success in this course.

Academic Expectations

- All students should acquire, integrate and apply essential knowledge.

- All students should read, write and communicate effectively.
- All students should study and work effectively.

Pre-requisite completion of Level I of the same language

World Language – Level III

Honors Portuguese III – Course # 530

Honors Spanish III – Course # 550

This is an intermediate course to a foreign language which covers an intermediate level of vocabulary, conversation, grammar and culture. Listening and speaking skills are emphasized in conjunction with writing and reading techniques. All four skills are presented in context. The diverse cultures between the various countries that speak the target language are also taught. Completion of various types of homework assignments as well as good attendance and class participation are vital to success in this course.

Academic Expectations

- All students should acquire, integrate and apply essential knowledge.
- All students should read, write and communicate effectively.
- All students should use higher order thinking skills to solve complex problems.
- All students should study and work effectively.

Pre-requisite completion of Level II of the same language with a grade average of 80 or better.

World Language – Level IV

Honors Portuguese IV – Course # 535

Honors Spanish IV – Course # 555

This is an intermediate/advanced course to a foreign language which covers an intermediate/advanced level of vocabulary, conversation, grammar, and culture. Listening and speaking skills are emphasized in conjunction with writing and reading techniques. All four skills are presented in context. The diverse cultures between the various countries that speak the target language are also taught. Completion of various types of homework assignments as well as good attendance and class participation are vital to success in the course.

Academic Expectations

- All students should acquire, integrate and apply essential knowledge.
- All students should read, write, and communicate effectively.
- All students should use higher order thinking skills to solve complex problems.
- All students should study and work effectively.

Pre-requisite completion of Level III of the same language with a grade average of 80 or better

Course Descriptions ~ Business Technology

Tech Fluency

Course # 601

This quarter long course develops students' proficiency in the use of computer productivity tools such as word processing, spreadsheets, and presentation software. Teaching methods will include hands-on projects, simulated assessments, and the utilization of tools available through Moodle (an online course management system). Many of the projects presented will focus on

computer ethics and internet safety, requiring students to conduct internet research and critically evaluate websites.

Academic Expectations

- All students should acquire, integrate and apply essential knowledge.
- All students should read, write and communicate effectively.
- All students should use higher order thinking skills to solve complex problems.
- All students should use mathematics, the arts, computers and other technologies effectively.
- All students should study and work effectively.

Introduction to Accounting

Course # 605

Headline News: “If investors lose confidence in the reliability of numbers that are presented to them, our markets will suffer grievously” “Corporate America has lost its way. Here's a road map for restoring investor confidence.”

Sound interesting? Take this course and begin your journey to a successful and financially comfortable career as a CPA. Understand the role accounting plays in corporate America. If you are planning on a career in accounting, as a business owner, or just want to experience a financially organized life, this course will help you develop important skills. Not open to freshmen.

Academic Expectations

- All students should acquire, integrate and apply essential knowledge.
- All students should read, write and communicate effectively.
- All students should use higher order thinking skills to solve complex problems.
- All students should use mathematics, the arts, computers and other technologies effectively.
- All students should study and work effectively.

College Business Math

Course # 206

This course reviews basic computational skills in whole numbers, fractions, and decimals using a word problem approach. Basic algebra equations are introduced to solve business-oriented word problems and percentage problems. Business topics examined include banking and credit card transactions, discounts, markups, payroll, and simple interest. This course can be used to satisfy either a math elective or a business elective but not both.

Academic Expectations

- All students should use higher order thinking skills to solve complex problems.
- All students should use mathematics, the arts, computers and other technologies effectively.
- All students should study and work effectively.

Personal Finance: The Road to Prosperity

Course # 624

Spending faster than you're earning? Money burning a hole in your pocket? Take control of your finances by enrolling in this course. Through engaging learning activities, you will develop your ability to manage your money and become aware of your role and financial responsibility as a student, citizen, family member, consumer, and employee. Exploration of careers, laws, technology, budgets, banking, taxes, and investment strategies guide you toward wise and responsible decision-making. This course may count as a business or math elective.

Academic Expectations

- All students should acquire, integrate and apply essential knowledge.
- All students should read, write and communicate effectively.
- All students should use mathematics, the arts, computers and other technologies effectively.

Advanced Computer Applications

Course # 641

In this quarter long course students will be introduced to some of the advanced features and integration of word processing, spreadsheets, and presentation software. In addition, students will work with desktop publishing software and be introduced to relational database development. Students will be given hands-on projects and simulated assessments to further develop their ICT (Information and Communication Technology) fluency.

Academic Expectations

- All students should acquire, integrate and apply essential knowledge.
- All students should use mathematics, the arts, computers and other technologies effectively.
- All students should study and work effectively.

Web Page Design

Course # 650

This quarter long course introduces students to the “how to” of web page design. Students will learn the basics of html coding and how to use various software applications to create web pages. Once a web page is created, it needs a design. Students will learn how to create and edit CSS (Cascading Style Sheets) to give their web pages some flair and consistency. Graphic creation/editing and basic java-scripting will also be introduced. Students will be expected to create a personal website, as well as participating in the development of a class web site. Participants will also be required to research and understand copyright law as it relates to publishing on the internet.

Academic Expectations

- All students should acquire, integrate and apply essential knowledge.
- All students should use mathematics, the arts, computers and other technologies effectively.
- All students should study and work effectively.

Introduction to Art

Course # 706

So you think you don't have talent? This course will prove to you that talent is not inborn; but rather, that learning skills and practicing them is what creates an artist. You will work with both 2D and 3D formats, beginning with drawing, painting, collage, and printmaking. Next, you will move to ceramics or multi-media sculpture. Projects explore creative problem solving based on your life experiences.

Academic Expectations

- All students should acquire, integrate and apply essential knowledge.
- All students should read, write and communicate effectively.
- All students should use higher order thinking skills to solve complex problems.

- All students should use mathematics, the arts, computers and other technologies effectively.
- All students should study and work effectively.
- Short reading and writing assignments to accompany studio work.

Drawing and Painting

Course # 711

Watch your artistic and expressive talents expand as you continue to build on the skills and concepts learned in Intro to Art. Observational drawing skills are reinforced, and several in-depth projects will further develop your abilities and your understanding of the medium of drawing and painting. The development of a portfolio will demonstrate your growing skills.

Academic Expectations

- All students should acquire, integrate and apply essential knowledge.
- All students should read, write and communicate effectively.
- All students should use higher order thinking skills to solve complex problems.
- All students should use mathematics, the arts, computers and other technologies effectively.
- All students should study and work effectively.
- Short reading and writing assignments accompany studio work.

Pre-requisite Intro to Art with a grade of 75 or better

Advanced 2D Studio

Course # 715

Are you interested in possibly pursuing art in the future, or do you want to continue to enhance your drawing and painting skills? Then this class is for you! In this course we will focus on observational drawing and painting skills, what all colleges expect to see in an admissions portfolio. You will work in a variety of media: pencil, charcoal, conte, colored pencil & acrylic paint. Students should expect to do written research on artists along with their studio work, and complete drawing assignments outside of class as well as in class. This course can be repeated, second time students are expected to bring in their own objects to draw from observation, and develop a theme that will drive their work.

Pre-requisite 80 or better in Drawing & Painting and Intro to Art

Academic Expectations

- All students should acquire, integrate and apply essential knowledge.
- All students should use mathematics, the arts, computers and other technologies effectively.
- All students should study and work effectively.

Sculpture and Ceramics

Course # 716

This course is definitely hands-on! Students will use clay, plaster, wood, wire, paper, and found objects to create amazing sculpture. Clay projects will range from creating basic hand building to sculptural objects. Limited only by your imagination, anything goes. Learn how to create 3D artwork and enhance your knowledge of 3D artists.

Academic Expectations

- All students should acquire, integrate and apply essential knowledge.
- All students should read, write and communicate effectively.
- All students should use higher order thinking skills to solve complex problems.
- All students should use mathematics, the arts, computers and other technologies effectively.
- All students should study and work effectively.
- Short reading and writing assignments accompany studio work.

Pre-requisite Intro to Art with a grade of 75 or better

CAD (Computer Aided Design)

Course # 720

In this semester long course, students will be introduced to AutoCAD 2007, the premier Computer-Assisted Design (CAD) software for personal computers. Through the use of lectures, tutorials, and hands-on projects, students will learn all aspects of 2-D drafting and design as these relate to architectural, mechanical, and electrical design. Students will explore 3-D concepts such as: isometric drawings (not true 3d), wire-frame, surface/regions, and solid objects.

Academic Expectations

- All students should acquire, integrate and apply essential knowledge.
- All students should use mathematics, the arts, computers and other technologies effectively.
- All students should study and work effectively.

Multimedia 1 Digital 2D Animation

Course # 726

If you always wanted to try your hand at making a cartoon animation just like those seen on television and in the movies, then this may be the class for you! Learn how animators for Walt Disney, Pixar, and other studios make their animations come to life. Learn to draw your own backgrounds, create characters, and construct your own digital animations. Learn to use sound effects and timelines to apply realism and depth to your movie. Finally, learn how to complete a finished project and download your completed animation to CD or DVD.

Academic Expectations

- All students should acquire, integrate and apply essential knowledge.
- All students should use mathematics, the arts, computers and other technologies effectively.
- All students should study and work effectively.

Multimedia II Digital 3D Animation

Course # 727

Learn to use a 3D animation program to model and develop architectural designs. Design your own home and furniture. Build a multimedia room for your home or design a great kitchen! Add a built-in saltwater aquarium to a living room. Add a woodworking shop to a basement design. You become the designer. Use the talents that you learn to reconstruct places that long ago ceased to exist. Rebuild Stonehenge, ancient castles, the Lexington Green, Westport Point, etc. Learn to add sound effects and make animated fly-throughs of your 3D models.

Academic Expectations

- All students should acquire, integrate and apply essential knowledge.
- All students should use mathematics, the arts, computers and other technologies effectively.
- All students should study and work effectively.

Digital Media

Course # 746

Ever wonder what it would be like to direct your own short movie? Ever wonder how Steven Spielberg directs blockbuster movies? Want to go behind the scenes to see how a music video is produced? Let your imagination run as you learn how to transform your own video into high quality digital productions. Learn how the professionals shoot, edit, script, storyboard, and produce videos. Why just sit around at home and watch television when you can create it?

Academic Expectations

- All students should acquire, integrate and apply essential knowledge.
- All students should use mathematics, the arts, computers and other technologies effectively.
- All students should study and work effectively.

Video Yearbook

Course # 755

In this class, you will create the memories that will last a lifetime. Students are in charge of all aspects for the production of the video yearbook, documenting their senior year through video and still pictures. Students will be a part of a production team that will document their four years at Westport High School. Students will also produce a historical look back at their family using pictures and video. The finished project will become a CD or DVD.

Academic Expectations

- All students should acquire, integrate and apply essential knowledge.
- All students should use mathematics, the arts, computers and other technologies effectively.
- All students should study and work effectively.

Pre-requisite 75 or better in Broadcasting I / Video Production

Concert Band

Course # 761

If you're a wind player, brass player or percussionist, then concert band is for you. Learn music from Bach to Broadway and everything in between. Learn various instrumental, performance, and listening techniques. Playing an instrument can be both fun and very rewarding. Beginners are welcome. A proficiency audition is required to take this class.

Academic Expectations

- All students should acquire, integrate and apply essential knowledge.
- All students should use mathematics, the arts, computers and other technologies effectively.
- All students should study and work effectively.

Jazz Rock Ensemble

Course # 766

Jazz-rock offers the musically inclined student a chance to explore popular music that is harmonically complex. Students will learn various transcribing and soloing techniques and be given the opportunity to apply these techniques through daily rehearsals and performances. Playing an improvised solo over a song's chord progression can be a daunting experience, but this class will certainly help you become a more knowledgeable musician. A proficiency audition is required to take this class.

Academic Expectations

- All students should acquire, integrate and apply essential knowledge.
- All students should use higher order thinking skills to solve complex problems.
- All students should use mathematics, the arts, computers and other technologies effectively.
- All students should study and work effectively.

Concert Choir

Course # 774

If you like to sing along with the radio or have dreams of being a pop star, then chorus is for you. Chorus offers the potential vocalist the opportunity to sing in a structured musical ensemble. Learn various warm ups, ear training, and sight singing techniques. Sing different styles of music from classical to modern. Perform for the crowd at concerts and events. Be part of a team; all students are welcome. A proficiency audition is required to take this class.

Academic Expectations

- All students should acquire, integrate and apply essential knowledge.
- All students should use mathematics, the arts, computers and other technologies effectively.
- All students should study and work effectively.

Percussion Ensemble

Course # 771

Percussion Ensemble is for any drummer or percussionist that is looking to advance their skills in an ensemble setting. Students will learn various forms of percussion from rudimental to keyboard percussion. This is a performing ensemble and will participate in concerts after school and other performance opportunities outside the school day. Students must have prior background as a percussionist to participate.

Academic Expectations

- All students should acquire, integrate and apply essential knowledge.
- All students should use mathematics, the arts, computers and other technologies effectively.
- All students should study and work effectively.

Guitar

Course #772

Guitar offers both the experienced and unexperienced guitar player the chance for musical development. Students will learn the basics of how to play the guitar from the very beginning. In this course students will develop both their technical and musical skills from the very basics of strumming and note reading. No previous experience is necessary.

Academic Expectations

- All students should acquire, integrate and apply essential knowledge.
- All students should use mathematics, the arts, computers and other technologies effectively.
- All students should study and work effectively.

Vocal Ensemble

Course #773

Vocal Ensemble offers the very beginner singer the chance to advance their vocal and musical reading skills. Students will study a wide array of music from classical to modern. Learn various warm ups, ear training and sight singing techniques. No previous experience is necessary.

Academic Expectations

- All students should acquire, integrate and apply essential knowledge.
- All students should use mathematics, the arts, computers and other technologies effectively.
- All students should study and work effectively.

Introduction to Photography

Course # 781

Do you want to learn how to take better pictures? This course will focus on the fundamentals of photography- composition! You will spend the quarter learning how to successfully compose your images. Learn composition techniques that the pros use to make beautiful images. You will use Photoshop to convert your images to black & white, and we will cover the basics of photo editing that are a must for all pictures- exposure and contrast. You will also learn the basic editing tools and how to eliminate any imperfections to create stunning images. For this course

you are required to have access to a working digital camera at all times. Students should expect to take all pictures outside of class as required homework.

Academic Expectations

- All students should acquire, integrate and apply essential knowledge.
- All students should use mathematics, the arts, computers and other technologies effectively.
- All students should study and work effectively.

Digital Photography

Course # 788

Would you like to take your photography skills and push them to the next level, digitally? Then this is the class for you. In this course you will learn how to use Adobe Photoshop to digitally enhance and fix your images. In depth digital photo editing will be covered. Learn how to remove red eye, straighten buildings, correct color, lighting, and much more. Students must have access to a working digital camera at all times during this course. Students should expect to take all pictures outside of class as required homework.

Academic Expectations

- All students should use mathematics, the arts, computers, and other technologies effectively.
- All students should study and work effectively.

Pre-requisite grade of a 75 or higher in Introduction to Photography

Advanced Digital Photography

Course # 789

In this class you will take the skills you learned in Digital Photography and push them to the next level. Learn how to take your digital images and make them into works of art. This course will focus on adding special effects to your images to make them more dynamic. You will also develop a portfolio that will contain a body of work related to a theme of your choice, and an artist statement about your work. Students must have access to a working digital camera at all times during this course. Students should expect to take all pictures outside of class as required homework.

Academic Expectations

- All students should use mathematics, the arts, computers, and other technologies effectively.
- All students should study and work effectively.

Pre-requisite grade of 75 or better in Digital Photography

Personal Fitness & Wellness

Course # 906/907/908/909

This course integrates health and physical education into one healthy lifestyle curriculum. This Wellness & Fitness approach is to encourage healthy behaviors and discourage risky behaviors and practices. The emphasis is on connections between all parts of our wellness.

- Know your values and live by them
- Cooperate and collaborate
- Make healthy decisions

Take responsibility/lifestyle decisions

This curriculum consists of the following categories:

- Health Literacy
- Healthy Self-Management
- Health Promotion and Advocacy

This course is a sequential development of activities and topics to provide the student with concepts to provide a healthy lifestyle for now and in the future.

Academic Expectations

- All students should acquire, integrate and apply essential knowledge.
- All students should study and work effectively.

Course Descriptions ~ Special Education

Resource

Course # 800

Resource provides students on IEPs with academic support by certified Special Education teachers and paraprofessionals. Resource is used to reinforce instruction of the general education classes. Resource is also used for direct teaching of study and organizational skills, along with test-taking skills, such as MCAS preparation. Specific IEP goals for reading comprehension, written expression, mathematical computations, math applications, or other areas of need are used as benchmarks/objectives for each student. Student placement in this course is determined by TEAM decision per IEP process. Students should be taking at least two academic classes.

Academic Expectations

- Would match with each subject area.

PASS Program

Course # 805

The PASS Program is intended to foster compliance with school regulations through the usage of a point and level system that places responsibility for proper behavior on students. The students will be assigned points based upon their conduct — academically and socially — while participating in content courses. Points will be tabulated on a period and weekly basis, the latter will determine the level, and subsequent privileges, of the students enrolled.

Students must be recommended to this program by the administration and/or by a TEAM meeting per the IEP process.

Academic Expectations

- Would match with each subject area.

RISE Reading

Course # 106

The RISE reading class provides students with functional reading and writing skills that will assist them to succeed outside of the high school setting. Course outcomes are individualized to

meet the specific goals of each student per the IEP. Students' progress until the IEP team determines it is appropriate to enter the Foundations of English course.

Since RISE reading is dependent on the student's current performance levels, topics addressed may include: phonemic awareness skills, phonics instruction, sight word identification, basic reading strategies, from decoding through basic reading comprehension, introduction to story elements, such as setting, plot, and character development and sentence structure. In addition to the topics addressed, students also begin to assemble a portfolio of their work to be used for the MCAS Alternative Assessment. Word usage, punctuation, spelling and vocabulary development are emphasized throughout the course.

Academic Expectations

- Would match with each subject area.

RISE Math

Course # 252

The RISE math class provides students with functional math computation and application skills that will assist them to succeed outside of the high school setting. Course outcomes are individualized to meet the specific goals of each student per the IEP. Students progress until the IEP team determines it is appropriate to enter the Foundations of Algebra and Geometry course.

Since RISE math is dependent on the student's current performance levels, topics addressed may include: telling time, money computation, number sense and measurement data analysis, geometry, pre-algebra pattern and relationships. In addition to the topics addressed, students also begin to assemble a portfolio of their work to be used for the MCAS Alternative Assessment.

Academic Expectations

- Would match with each subject area.