

BRIEF DESCRIPTIONS OF CLASSES FOR VALENTINE HIGH SCHOOL SPRING OF 2010

VHS GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

The Board of Education for Cherry County District #6 has established the following academic requirements for graduation. All students will need to accumulate 260 hours in order to graduate. Of these hours students are required to accumulate 40 hours in English, 30 hours in Social Studies, 30 hours in Math, 30 hours in Science, 10 hours of Business, 10 hours of Information Technology, & 10 hours in Physical Education.

A student receives 10 hours of credit for each class passed for a year. That means that a student can earn a maximum of 80 hours a year at VHS.

Students planning to attend college will need to prepare themselves by taking further core courses. For example the University of Nebraska-Lincoln requires 40 hours of English, 40 hours of Math (Algebra 1 and above), 30 hours of Science, 30 hours of Social Studies, and 20 hours of a Foreign Language for assured admission. These are among the toughest entrance requirements in the nation. Generally if you have met the UNL requirements, you will meet any college requirements in the country.

As you look through this booklet you need to look ahead to where you want to be when you graduate and what you plan to do.

Column 1 - Meets UNL and most other admission requirements	Column 2 - Meets most College requirements	Column 3 - Work or Technical School requirements
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9th Grade SAMPLE core classes

English 1	English 1	English 1
Algebra 1, Alg 2, or Geometry	Pre-Algebra	Practical Math 1
Physical Science	Physical Science	Applied Physical Science
World Geography	World Geography	World Geography
9 th PE/Health	9 th PE/Health	9 th PE/Health
(3 electives)	(3 electives)	(3 electives)

10th Grade SAMPLE core classes

English 2	English 2	English 2
Algebra 2 or Geometry	Algebra 1	Practical Math 2
Biology	Biology	Applied Biology
(5 electives)	(5 electives)	(5 electives)

11th Grade SAMPLE core classes

American or British Literature	American or British Literature	Applied Comm. I
Alg 2, Geometry, Pre Calc	Algebra 2	American History
Chemistry	Chemistry	Pre Algebra
American History	American History	Earth Science
(4 electives)	(4 electives)	(4 electives)

12th Grade SAMPLE core classes

American or British Literature/Intro to Comp.	American or British Literature/Expository Writing (formerly Intro to Comp.)	Applied Comm. II
Pre Calc or Calc	Geometry	American Government
American Government	American Government	(6 electives)
(5 electives)	(5 electives)	

UNL and some colleges require 2 years of Foreign Language for admission.

Electives can be chosen from the following curriculum areas: Music, Agriculture, Industrial Technology, Business & Information Technology, Foreign Language, Fine Arts, Science, Social Studies, English, Math, Strength & Fitness.

Students need to take Information Technology as either a 9th or 10th grader to meet graduation requirements.

Language Arts

ENGLISH 1

GRADE LEVEL: ALL

PRE-REQUISITE: NONE

This course will consist of improving vocabulary, spelling, reading comprehension, composition writing techniques, and basic literary terms and forms. Students will also have a basic speech unit. All Freshmen are required to take and pass this class for graduation.

ADVANCED ENGLISH I

GRADE LEVEL: 9

PRE-REQUISITE: RECOMMENDATION PROCESS

This is an accelerated course designed to enhance learning through vocabulary, higher-level reading composition, research-based and portfolio writing along with library skills and other literature based projects. A speech unit will also be a part of the class as well a study of Shakespeare and one of his plays. The course does count towards the English graduation requirements.

ENGLISH 2

GRADE LEVEL: 10, 11, 12

PRE-REQUISITE: ENGLISH 1

This course is designed to examine different writing styles of various authors to recognize the influence of those styles on the material written. In addition, students will study vocabulary, work to improve composition and writing skills. Students will also have a basic speech unit. All Sophomores are required to take and pass this class for graduation.

ADVANCED ENGLISH 2

GRADE LEVEL: 10

PRE-REQUISITE: ENGLISH 1 & RECOMMENDATION PROCESS

This accelerated course is designed to enhance learning through the use of extensive reading, an emphasis on writing and class discussions. Students will focus on detailed studies of various authors in order to determine how the times shaped their work. Also, students will participate in research projects, a speech unit, vocabulary enhancement, and portfolio writing. Students should expect additional activities and extra reading and writing. This class does count towards the English graduation requirements and is for students planning on attending a four-year college or university.

AMERICAN LITERATURE

GRADE LEVEL: 11, 12

PRE-REQUISITE: ENGLISH 1 & 2

This course will deal with American Literature, and the various writing styles of American authors. Students will become better developed in vocabulary, spelling, oral and writing skills. This class does count towards English graduation requirements. This class is for students planning on attending a 4 year college or university.

BRITISH LITERATURE

GRADE LEVEL: 11, 12

PRE-REQUISITE: ENGLISH 1 & 2

This course will deal with English for college bound students. It will consist of advanced vocabulary work, detailed study of classic pieces of English literature, portfolio writing, and research activities. This class does count towards English graduation requirements. This class is for students planning on attending a 4 year college or university.

EXPOSITORY WRITING (formerly Intro to Composition)

GRADE LEVEL: 12

PRE-REQUISITE: ENGLISH 1,2, AMERICAN OR BRITISH LITERATURE

This course is intended as an introduction to expository composition, which is the basis of written documents for college students. The emphasis will be on the process of writing for college courses especially in establishing genre, thesis, purpose and audience. The course will emphasize the development of writing skills for college and life-long applications. Students will be expected to write every day in the writing workshop format with the intent of improving personal writing skills, creative skills and writing product. Students taking this course may choose to receive dual credit through Mid-Plains Community College. This class does count towards English graduation requirements. This class is for students planning on attending a 4 year college or university.

APPLIED COMMUNICATIONS I

GRADE LEVEL: 11

PRE-REQUISITE: ENGLISH 1 & 2

This course will help students understand the communication processes that occur in the workplace. Students will study various communication situations. Students will also learn and practice communication skills necessary to succeed in these situations. This course implements reading, writing, spelling, and vocabulary activities, as well as class discussions, to help students learn these skills. This class does count towards English graduation requirements, and is for students planning on attending a community college or trade school.

APPLIED COMMUNICATIONS II

GRADE LEVEL: 12

PRE-REQUISITE: ENGLISH 1,2, American/British Lit or Applied Communications I

This course is designed to help the student acquire knowledge of everyday-workday English. Students will increase their skills of communication by writing, reading, spelling, discussion, vocabulary work, and role-playing. Students will also gain knowledge of careers, problem solving, technical writing, reading and communication on the job. This class does count towards English graduation requirements, and is for students planning on attending a community college or trade school. Students taking this course may choose to receive dual credit through Mid-Plains Community College.

JOURNALISM

GRADE LEVEL: 10, 11, 12

PRE-REQUISITE: ENGLISH 1 AND INSTRUCTOR'S PERMISSION

This course consists of the planning and construction of the yearbook. Students should be willing to learn some photography; all work cannot be done during school time. This class will also be responsible for newspaper articles in the community newspapers as well as in the school paper if one is published. This class is an elective.

SOCIAL STUDIES

WORLD GEOGRAPHY

GRADE LEVEL: 9

PRE-REQUISITE: NONE

This is a full year course which will include the study of countries and people around the world. Major areas of study are Latin America, Middle East, SE Asia, Africa, China, and the new Russia. Tests will vary with multiple choice, matching, true and false, and short answer with map location. This class does count towards Social Studies requirements.

WORLD HISTORY

GRADE LEVEL: 10, 11, 12

PRE-REQUISITE: NONE

World History is a basic overview of the history of the world from prehistoric times to the present age. There is special emphasis on Europe's history. The students should be able to relate historic events to their lives today. The class work consists of lectures, written assignments, quizzes, and tests. This class does count towards Social Studies requirements.

AMERICAN HISTORY

GRADE LEVEL: 11

PRE-REQUISITE: NONE

A year course covering the major areas of America, past and present. Beginning with the Colonial and Revolutionary periods, Growth and Expansion, conflicts, wars, struggles of laborers and immigrants, becoming a world power, and problems of the mid and late 20th century. Emphasis on the period from 1865 to the present. All Juniors are required to take and pass this class for graduation. This class does count towards Social Studies requirements.

AMERICAN GOVERNMENT

GRADE LEVEL: 12

PRE-REQUISITE: AMERICAN HISTORY

A year long course covering the structure and ideas behind our National, State, and Local Governments. Specific topics covered are the Constitution, Presidency, Congress, Courts, Politics, Economics, and other world governments. All Seniors are required to take and pass this class for graduation. This class does count towards Social Studies requirements.

SOCIOLOGY

GRADE LEVEL: 10, 11, 12 (Priority will be given to 12th and 11th grade first.)

PRE-REQUISITE: NONE

Sociology deals with the investigation and analysis of human relationships, and seeks explanations of their causes and consequences. Topics such as understanding cultures, how society is organized, social institutions, collective behavior, and social problems will be covered. This class does count towards Social Studies requirements.

GLOBAL AFFAIRS

GRADE LEVEL: 11, 12

This is a year long advanced history class. While keeping up with current events, we will also cover issues such as the history of the Cold War, the Vietnam and Persian Gulf conflicts, the Federal Budget, the economy, immigration, human rights, defense, and global environment. We will cover the U.S. relations with East Asia, Europe, Russia, Middle East, and Latin America. Along with regular classroom activities we will also do independent and group projects using a variety of books, current magazines, newspapers, the Internet, and maps. This class does count towards Social Studies requirements.

PSYCHOLOGY

GRADE LEVEL: 11, 12

CLASS LIMIT: 15

PRE-REQUISITE: BIOLOGY

Students will enter the realm of the science of psychology, and will be encouraged to grasp key concepts, theories, and issues, and make them a vital part of their everyday lives. The content areas of the course will be broken down into six areas of student experience: yourself, your body, your mind, your environment, your mental health, and your life. The topics of theories of personality and developmental psychology also will be presented. The course will offer a balance of classic contemporary research. Students will be actively involved in the learning process. This class is an elective.

ECONOMICS

GRADE LEVEL: 10, 11, 12

PRE-REQUISITE:

Students will learn the choices and interaction of individuals concerning products, firms or industry. This is a must class for those who are thinking about majoring in business in college. Business majors and minors in college are required to take economics. This class does count towards Business graduation requirements.

SCIENCE

APPLIED PHYSICAL SCIENCE

GRADE LEVEL: All

PRE-REQUISITE: NONE

Applied Physical Science is a freshman level course that will provide opportunity to experience physics, chemistry, and the science as inquiry but with less mathematical rigor. Applied Physical Science will count towards Science graduation requirements and is for students planning on attending a community college or trade school.

APPLIED BIOLOGY

GRADE LEVEL: 10, 11, 12

PRE-REQUISITE: BY PERMISSION

This is a sophomore level biology course that is a general course intended to help students that have a difficult time with science principles. This class counts towards Science graduation requirements, and is for students planning on attending a community college or trade school.

EARTH SCIENCE/APPLIED CHEMISTRY

GRADE LEVEL: 10, 11, 12

PRE-REQUISITE: EITHER APPLIED PHYSICAL SCIENCE OR PHYSICAL SCIENCE

This class will be one semester Applied Chemistry and one semester Earth Science. Chemistry will cover topics focused on chemistry and the environment and the Earth Science class will be a study of land, water, and air, including rock formation, plate tectonics, erosion and pollution. This class counts toward Science graduation requirements, and is for students planning on attending a community college or trade school.

PHYSICAL SCIENCE

GRADE LEVEL: ALL

PRE-REQUISITE: SUGGEST ENROLLMENT IN ALGEBRA 1

Physical Science consists of studies in Physics and Chemistry. It is intended primarily for those students who may have some desire to take Physics and/or Chemistry during their Junior or Senior years. This class counts towards Science graduation requirements. This class is for students planning on attending a 4 year college or university.

GENERAL BIOLOGY

GRADE LEVEL: 10

PRE-REQUISITE: GENERAL OR PHYSICAL SCIENCE

Biology is the study of life in the animal and plant world. This class counts towards Science graduation requirements. This class is for students planning on attending a 4 year college or university.

CHEMISTRY

GRADE LEVEL: 10, 11, 12

PRE-REQUISITE: ALG. 2 OR TAKING IT

Chemistry is a science dealing with the structure and makeup of substances, the changes in composition and the mechanisms which bring about these changes. Chemistry is a lab science, which requires skill in mathematics. It is a useful, and often a mandatory college prep course. This class counts towards Science graduation requirements. This class is for students planning on attending a 4 year college or university.

ADVANCED CHEMISTRY

GRADE LEVEL: 11, 12 OR INSTRUCTOR'S PERMISSION

PRE-REQUISITE: COMPLETED ALG II AND CHEMISTRY

This is a course that will offer Advanced knowledge above and beyond the General Chemistry offering and including: Advanced Gases, Liquids and Solutions; Gases and the Mole; Reaction Rates and Chemical Equilibrium; Solutions and Electrolytes; Advanced Oxidation-Reduction Reactions; Electrochemistry; Nuclear Chemistry; Organic and Bio-Chemistry. Advanced lab experiences will occur along with advanced power point presentations and discussions. This class counts towards Science graduation requirements. This class is for students planning on attending a 4 year college or university. Students taking this course may choose to receive dual credit through Mid-Plains Community College.

ADVANCED BIOLOGY

GRADE LEVEL: 11, 12

PRE-REQUISITE: GENERAL BIOLOGY

An advanced study of biological principles. Areas of introduction would include ecosystems, classification, psychobiology, and systemology of plants and animals. This class counts towards Science graduation requirements. This class is for students planning on attending a 4 year college or university.

HUMAN PHYSIOLOGY/ANATOMY

GRADE LEVEL: 11, 12

PRE-REQUISITE: GENERAL BIOLOGY

A major study of the structure and functions of the systems of man. This class counts towards Science graduation requirements. This class counts towards Science graduation requirements. This class is for students planning on attending a 4 year college or university.

PHYSICS

GRADE LEVEL: 12

PRE-REQUISITE: 3 YEARS MATH or INSTRUCTORS PERMISSION

Students will learn about the scientific concepts that govern our world. Time will be spent in the lab doing experiments to bring the student "down to earth" on physics concepts in waves, motion, sound, light, electricity, heat, and some atomic theory. This is an important course for Pre-Med, Engineering, Drafting, and others. This class counts towards Science graduation requirements. This class is for students planning on attending a 4 year college or university. Students taking this course may choose to receive dual credit through Mid-Plains Community College.

MATH

PRACTICAL MATH 1 (used to be Algebra 1A)

GRADE LEVEL: 9

PRE-REQUISITE: none

Practical Math will help students with paper and pencil computations, proper use of a calculator, and help in attaining summer or full time employment. It will teach students how to budget their money. Students will discuss automobile and house expenses, and explore a variety of occupations. This class counts towards Math graduation requirements, and is for students planning on attending a community college or trade school.

PRACTICAL MATH 2 (used to be Algebra 2A)

GRADE LEVEL 10, 11, 12

PRE-REQUISITE Practical Math 1 or Above

Practical Math 2 will be an extension of Practical Math 1. The class will help students with paper and pencil computations, proper use of a calculator, and help in attaining summer or full time employment. It will teach students how to budget their money. Students will discuss automobile and house expenses, and explore a variety of occupations. It will prepare students for PreAlgebra. This class counts towards Math graduation requirements, and is for students planning on attending a community college or trade school.

PRE-ALGEBRA

GRADE LEVEL 9-10

PRE-REQUISITE: NONE

Designed for math students who do not feel that they are prepared for Algebra 1 but plan to attend a four-year college after graduation from high school. The emphasis of the class is to provide the background for continued study in mathematics. This class counts towards Math graduation requirements, and can be used for either community colleges and trade schools or 4 year colleges.

ALGEBRA 1

GRADE LEVEL: ALL

PRE-REQUISITE: PREALGEBRA

Designed for a wide range of students taking first year Algebra. The emphasis is placed upon the teaching of Algebra as an aid to everyday problem solving and providing the background necessary for continued study in mathematics. This class counts towards Math graduation requirements. This class is for students planning on attending a 4 year college or university.

ALGEBRA 2

GRADE LEVEL 9-12

PRE-REQUISITE: ALGEBRA 1

More in-depth study of Algebra 1 and essential topics of Algebra 2 are introduced. A brief introduction to trigonometry and logarithms are included. This class counts towards Math graduation requirements. This class is for students planning on attending a 4 year college or university.

GEOMETRY

GRADE LEVEL: 9-12

PRE-REQUISITE: ALGEBRA 1

Through the study of Geometry, students will strengthen their ability to systematically attack and solve problems. They will also understand and appreciate the basic structure of geometry, with an element of algebraic review and reinforcement. Right triangle trigonometry will also be introduced in this course. This class counts towards Math graduation requirements. This class is for students planning on attending a 4 year college or university.

PROBABILITY AND STATISTICS (year long)

GRADE LEVEL: 11-12

PRE-REQUISITE: ALGEBRA 1 AND ALGEBRA 2

This course is designed to answer the growing need for a year long course in probability and statistics. It is intended to give students a working knowledge of probability and statistics as a growing number of majors in college require this course for graduation. Topics covered will include introduction to statistics, displaying data, frequency distributions, summarizing data, probability, sampling, correlation, and analysis. This class counts towards Math graduation requirements. This class is for students planning on attending a 4 year college or university. Students taking this course may choose to receive dual credit through Mid-Plains Community College.

PRE-CALCULUS

GRADE LEVEL: 11-12

PRE-REQUISITE: ALG 1& 2, GEOMETRY

This course includes advanced algebra concepts, conic sections, exponential & logarithmic equations, trigonometry, limits, and sequences & series. This class counts towards Math graduation requirements. This class is for students planning on attending a 4 year college or university.

CALCULUS

GRADE LEVEL 12

PRE-REQUISITE: PRECALCULUS OR INSTRUCTOR'S PERMISSION

The teaching of calculus skills will be the major focus of this course. Students will also be exposed to the historical origins and cultural contributions of calculus, including equity issues regarding women and minorities in mathematics and the importance of strong mathematical background in many career choices. Calculus concepts will be explored from both a graphical and a numerical perspective with instruction based on calculator and computer technology. (Each student in this class will need to have a TI83 graphing calculator.) This class is for students planning on attending a 4 year college or university. Students taking this course may choose to receive dual credit through Mid Plains Community College.

HEALTH & P.E.

9TH P.E. AND HEALTH

GRADE LEVEL: 9

PRE-REQUISITE: NONE

We will expose students to and help them select constructive and physically beneficial activities for a lifetime. We will provide an environment that will develop the student not only physically, but also mentally, emotionally, and socially. All team sports such as football, volleyball, and basketball will be covered. This class counts towards P.E. graduation requirements.

ADAPTED PHYSICAL EDUCATION OR APE

GRADE LEVEL: 9, 10, 11, 12

Physical Education which may be adapted or modified to address the individual needs of children and youth who have gross motor developmental delays. Purpose: To enhance the development of motor skills of students that have physical disabilities in the least restricted environment.

The APE teacher is a direct service provider, not a related service provider, because special physical education is a federally mandated component of special education services (U.S.C.A. 1402(25)).

STRENGTH AND FITNESS

GRADE LEVEL: 10, 11,12

This course will provide students with an opportunity to improve their level of strength and conditioning. The course will include not only weight training but also other methods to improve fitness including daily running and plyometrics. **If the class is taken a second or third time, grades will be issued pass or fail, with passing being 85% or higher.** This class is an elective.

FOREIGN LANGUAGE

SPANISH 1

GRADE LEVEL: ALL

PRE-REQUISITE: RECOMMEND "C" AVERAGE IN ENGLISH

This is an introduction to the Spanish language and culture. Students will attain an acceptable degree of proficiency in the four skills of listening, speaking, reading, and writing. Students will also learn about Spanish foods, music, and various customs. This class is an elective. This class is for students planning on attending a 4 year college or university.

SPANISH 2

GRADE LEVEL: 10-12

PRE-REQUISITE: SPANISH 1, RECOMMEND "C" AVERAGE IN ENGLISH

Continuation of Spanish 1, including mastery of past and future verb tenses, composition, communication, and cultural material. This class is an elective. This class is for students planning on attending a 4 year college or university.

SPANISH 3

GRADE LEVEL 11-12

PREREQUISITE: SPANISH 2

Spanish III is a continuation of Spanish II. Students will continue their study of simple verb tenses and be introduced to several of the compound verb tenses and the use of the subjunctive mood. More emphasis will be placed on conversation and composition than in Spanish II. At the completion of the course, students should be able to read from selected authentic Spanish works and be able to initiate and sustain a conversation at the intermediate level. This class is an elective. This class is for students planning on attending a 4 year college or university.

BUSINESS AND COMPUTERS

BUSINESS AND PERSONAL FINANCE

GRADE LEVEL: 10, 11, 12

PRE-REQUISITE: NONE

Business and Personal Finance will show students how to manage their finances now and in the future. Students will find out how businesses manage their finances, and will learn how important financial management is to personal and business success. This class counts towards Business graduation requirements. Students taking this course may choose to receive dual credit through Mid Plains Community College.

BUSINESS LAW

GRADE LEVEL: 11, 12

Law is the set of rules that have been established and affect us every day. This class is set up to give basic but essential legal knowledge. Topics covered include: enforcing the law (crimes/torts), making contracts, using credit, commercial paper, and renting and owning real property. This class counts towards Business graduation requirements.

ACCOUNTING 1

GRADE LEVEL: 10, 11, 12

The course covers the principles and practices of beginning accounting encompassing the entire accounting cycle. It will serve as a basis for advanced study and/or employment in accounting occupations which may utilize a systems approach.

ACCOUNTING 2

GRADE LEVEL: 11, 12

PRE-REQUISITE: ACCT 1

The course covers the principles and practices of partnership accounting, corporation accounting, and cost accounting. It will introduce the accounting world as a career to the student. This class counts towards Business graduation requirements.

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY I

GRADES 9-10

CLASS LIMIT: 19

New and Improved! Are you ready for Office 2007? The computer system used is Vista; primary computer software used is Microsoft Word 2007 and Microsoft PowerPoint 2007. These are two main software programs that students will be *required* to use throughout high school, college, and in a variety of workplaces.

This class is focused on learning the *advanced features* of Microsoft Word 2007 and Microsoft PowerPoint 2007. This includes formatting content/presentations, Word and PowerPoint tools/templates, managing documents, newsletter layout, tables, graphics, creating presentations from scratch and/or templates, advanced layout options/animations/transitions, inserting graphics, video, and sound into the presentation, and learning time-saving ways to create professional documents and presentations.

Career education topics and issues will be infused throughout the course of the year. Topics include finding a job, applying for a job, creating a cover letter and resume, researching career possibilities, workplace ethics and much more! This class is required for graduation.

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY II

GRADES 10-12

CLASS LIMIT: 18

PRE-REQUISITE: A PASSING GRADE IN BUSINESS COMPUTER APPLICATIONS I

New and Improved! Are you ready for Office 2007? The computer system used is Vista; the primary computer software used is Microsoft Excel 2007, Microsoft Publisher 2007, and Microsoft Access 2007. If time permits, Windows Movie Maker and Speech/Handwriting recognition will also be covered.

Microsoft Excel 2007 is spreadsheet software commonly used throughout colleges and businesses. The spreadsheet software provides the opportunity to create items such as financial statements, basic databases, graphs, and charts. Microsoft Publisher 2007 is desktop publishing software that provides the opportunity to create numerous types of projects from business cards, logos, newsletters, resumes, and much more! Microsoft Access 2007 is database software that allows you to create customer databases, invoices, accounting statements, inventory control and more!

Students will also “start their own business” through a real-world simulation that utilizes the complete Microsoft Office Suite. This provides continued career education for the students.

This course is *strongly recommended* for those who plan on pursuing a career in the business area or majoring in business during college. Many colleges recommend/require that students already have an advanced knowledge of Word, PowerPoint, Access, and Excel before coming to college. This class counts towards Business graduation requirements.

INTRO TO MARKETING

GRADE LEVEL: 11, 12

CLASS LIMIT: 15

PREREQUISITE: ALG I & BUS. COMPUTER APP I OR INSTRUCTOR'S PERMISSION.

This course will make you a smarter consumer by teaching you the process a product/service goes through to make it from manufacturer to consumer. You will learn how and why marketers do the things they do to get you to purchase their products/services. This course explores strategic planning, marketing management philosophies, consumer markets, consumer buyer behaviors, advertising, sales promotion, and public relations. Some of the benefits of this course include: addressing topics such as marketing technology and the Internet, global marketing, ethics, and customer service.

Unique marketing profile features connect students with real marketing professionals and a variety of marketing careers as well as those stated above. Students are encouraged to think creatively and critically. Students taking this course may choose to receive dual credit through Mid Plains Community College.

COMPUTER PROGRAMMING 1

GRADE LEVEL: 10, 11, 12

PRE-REQUISITE: COMPUTER APPLICATIONS AND ALGEBRA 1

This is a course that will last the full school year. It is an introduction to programming in the BASIC LANGUAGE. You will learn syntax rules and programming techniques. Computer Applications is suggested, though not necessary. This class is an elective.

COMPUTER PROGRAMMING 2

GRADE LEVEL: 11-12

PRE-REQUISITE: COMPUTER PROGRAMMING 1 AND ALG 2

This course is a take off from computer 1, it is a full year course. Students will learn advanced programming techniques and mathematical applications of programming. We will also cover Database and Spreadsheet applications in mathematics and business. Using Basic and intro to Pascal. This class is an elective.

COMPUTER CONCEPTS

GRADE LEVEL: 10,11,12

CLASS LIMIT: 10

PREREQUISITE: NONE

This class will be broken down into 4 sections. Section 1 will be computer repair, building & networking, Section 2 will be graphic designing using Adobe Photoshop. Section 3 will be web designing with Expansion Web. Section 4 will be DVD design with Adobe Premier & individual student projects.

Computer concepts is a project orientated class that takes an in depth look at computer related technologies that deal directly to you today and what you will use in the future. Section 1 consists of general computer and networking knowledge that you should and need to know. Topics include windows, routers, wireless, and reformatting, operating systems, etc. Section 2 dives in to the world of digital photography and graphic design through the world of PHOTOSHOP and its endless capabilities. Section 3 is an introduction to an advanced area of web designing including flash, CSS, dhtml, xhtml, java. Build modern web pages of today using these programs and design techniques. This class is an elective.

FINE ARTS

ART 1

GRADE LEVEL: ALL

This class consists of the study of the basic elements and principles of Art. Learning these will be accomplished through experience in drawing, painting, printmaking, and sculpture. Art history will be included to help relate our work to our common past. This class is an elective.

ART 2

GRADE LEVEL: 10, 11, 12

PRE REQUISITE: ART 1

The goal here is to review the basics from ART 1 adding new experiences in media but repeating exercises in some of the more popular methods of production. Art history will be studied by deciding which artist worked in the style the student likes best and pursuing an understanding. This class is an elective.

ART STUDIO 1

GRADE LEVEL: 11, 12

PRE-REQUISITE: ART 1&2, INSTRUCTOR'S PERMISSION

Students will make written art contracts with the instructor that will detail the medium the student selects to work in, size subject, completion, and evaluation of project. Students will start an art portfolio of their artwork. It will contain an art resume, recommendations, slides or pictures of their work. The student will write a research paper each semester choosing a Master Artist that is documented in Art History. This class is an elective.

ART STUDIO 2

GRADE LEVEL: 12

PRE-REQUISITE: ART 1&2, INSTRUCTOR'S PERMISSION

This course is an extension of Art Studio 1, therefore, the same rules and descriptions that apply to Art Studio 1 will also apply to Art Studio 2. The student will write a research paper each semester choosing a Master Artist that is documented in Art History. This class is an elective.

HUMANITIES

GRADE LEVEL: 9-12

PRE-REQUISITE: NONE

This class will study 4 areas of Art. Performing Art (Theatre), Visual Art, Music, and Dance. Students will gain a better understanding of the development of these areas through lecture, film, guest speakers, and reading materials.

BAND 1

GRADE LEVEL: ALL

PRE-REQUISITE: NONE

An entry level band course. Students will work on a variety of technical skills, concentrating on all major scales. Students will work on a variety of literature, theory, and history projects within the band classroom. Students will also perform marching band shows in the fall, and put on no less than two concerts throughout the course of the year. They will also participate in pep band activities throughout the year, and perform at district music contest in the spring. This class is an elective.

BAND 2

GRADE LEVEL: ALL

PRE-REQUISITE: BAND 1

Students will be responsible for a more complex level of technical skill than Band 1 students. They will become competent with their minor scales, and continue the development of increasing technical difficulty in their playing. Students will work on a separate set of literature, theory, and history than those of Band 1. Students will also perform marching band shows in the fall, and put on no less than two concerts through the course of the year. They will also participate in pep band activities throughout the year, and perform at district music contest in the spring. This class is an elective.

BAND 3

GRADE LEVEL: ALL

PRE-REQUISITE: BAND 2

Students will be responsible for an intermediate level of technical skill, involving all their major and minor scales, as well as a partial chromatic scale. The technical skill required for Band 3 is more in depth than that of Band 1 and 2. Students will develop knowledge of literature, theory, and history, separate from those of Band 1 and 2. Students will also perform marching band shows in the fall, and put on no less than two concerts through the course of the year. They will also participate in pep band activities throughout the year, and perform at district music contest in the spring. This class is an elective.

BAND 4

GRADE LEVEL: ANY

PRE-REQUISITE: BAND 3

Students will be accountable for an advanced level of technical skill, progressing from partial chromatic scale to the full range of their instrument. Technical skill required is at an advanced level of playing, and interpreting music. Students will progress in their study of literature, theory, and history, separate from those of prior band classes. Students will also perform marching band shows in the fall, and put on no less than two concerts through the course of the spring. They will also participate in pep band activities throughout the year, and perform at district music contest in the spring. This class is an elective.

CHOIR ONE

GRADE LEVEL: 9, 10

PRE-REQUISITE: NONE

A choir open to all freshman and sophomore students to participate. Students will be responsible to learn a varied repertoire of music, and perform at no less than three concerts throughout the year. Students will also develop knowledge of music literature, theory, and history. Students will develop a broad knowledge base, focusing on tone, harmony and pitch accuracy. If taken a 2nd year, the student will receive a pass/fail grade. Passing is 85% or better. This class is an elective.

CHOIR 2

GRADE LEVEL: 11, 12

PRE-REQUISITE: CHOIR 1

A choir open to all Juniors and Seniors. Students will be responsible for an advanced level of repertoire and increased pitch accuracy, tone, and harmony. Students will expand their knowledge of music literature, theory and history. Students will perform at no less than three concerts throughout the year. If taken a 2nd year, the student will receive a pass/fail grade. Passing is 85% or better. This class is an elective.

MUSIC THEORY

GRADE LEVEL: 9-12

PRE-REQUISITE: NONE

This class is an advanced study of music theory; covering harmony, chord progressions, songwriting, arranging, ear training and music technology. This class is an elective.

INDUSTRIAL TECHNOLOGY & AGRICULTURE

BASIC WOODS

GRADE LEVEL: 9, 10, 11, 12

CLASS LIMIT: 12

PRE-REQUISITE: None

The first 9 weeks will be basic hand and power tool operations and safety procedures and tests. The second 9 weeks will be small projects and advanced power tool techniques. Second semester the students will take their knowledge of basic woodworking and produce a large project of their choice such as an entertainment center, curio cabinet, gun cabinet, cedar chest, etc. This class is an elective.

ADVANCED WOODS & MATERIALS

GRADE LEVEL: 11, 12

CLASS LIMIT: 12

PRE-REQUISITE: BASIC WOODS

Advanced Woods and Materials is a project orientated class that will allow you to incorporate a large range of building materials into a project of your choice for a modern and creative look. Materials available to use but not limited to include: hard and soft woods, metal, glass, formed concrete, brass, logs, ceramic tiles, plasma cut designs, plastics, etc. Safety procedures and advanced tool use will be learned. After researching your project, it will be drawn using computer aided designing programs. Example project may be furniture, entrance signs, outdoor structures, etc. This class is an elective.

BUILDING CONSTRUCTION

GRADE LEVEL: 12

CLASS LIMIT: 12

PRE-REQUISITE: BASIC WOODS IS RECOMMENDED

This career development course covers aspects of residential building construction with an emphasis on development of skills through classroom instruction and by hands-on work experiences. Each year the class will design and build a real life project off campus, (example 2 car garage, house remodeled). Topics include developing plans, foundations, framing, roofing, measuring, electrical, plumbing, HVAC, safety and other construction-related issues. This class will run 2 class periods. This class is an elective.

DRAFTING I

MECHANICAL/ARCHITECTURAL

GRADE LEVEL: 9-12

CLASS LIMIT: 8

PRE-REQUISITE: None

In this class students will explore the work of drafting and designing using both manual board drafting and advanced computer-aided drafting (CAD). Basic mechanical drafting the first semester and architectural drafting the second semester. The student will design and draft their own house plan and build a scale model of it. (AutoCAD, Inventor Studio, Chief Architect) This class is an elective. Students taking this course may choose to receive dual credit through Mid-Plains Community College.

INTRODUCTION TO TECHNOLOGY EDUCATION

GRADE LEVEL: ALL

CLASS LIMIT: 15

An Intro to Tech; the four main areas of technology will be discussed: Transportation, Communication, Construction, and Manufacturing. The textbook Technology: Today and Tomorrow is followed by activities that correlate with each unit such as: CO2 car designing, 3-D Home Design on computer, internet researches, desktop publishing, T-shirt design, rocket building, mass productions of a saleable item and technology current events. This class is an elective.

VHS AGRICULTURE EDUCATION

Note: All students enrolled in at least one semester of Agriculture Education are eligible to be an FFA member. FFA is the youth organization for Agriculture Education students. If the student elects to join FFA, they will be eligible to participate in FFA contests. Some of the class activities may be closely related to FFA, but **all** students are expected to participate in **all** class activities. All students in all Agriculture Education classes will be required to have a Supervised Agriculture Experience (SAE) program and keep the appropriate records for their SAE program.

Agriscience

Welding – Two Sections

Structural and Power Systems

Manufacturing and Production

Animal Science

** Alternating courses –*

**Ag Business Management/Landscaping*

**Wildlife Management/Horticulture*

Class flow chart

Freshman – Agriscience

Sophomore – Wildlife Mgt/Horticulture or Welding

Junior – Ag Bus Mgt/Landscaping or Structural and Power Systems

Senior – Animal Science or Manufacturing and Production

AGRISCIENCE (Used to be AG ED I)

Grade level: 9 – 10

Enrollment limit: None

Pre-requisite: None

Course Description: This is a two semester class that is an introduction to basic agriculture concepts in the following areas, range management, livestock management, agricultural leadership, exploring agriscience, SAE project, record keeping, and the FFA.

References: Range Judging Handbook and Contest Guide for Nebraska, EC01 – 150 – F, Livestock Judging Guide EC 2-05-97, FFA Student Handbook and Exploring Agriscience, Herren.

WELDING

Grade level: 10-12

Enrollment Limit: 15

Pre-requisite: None

Course Description: This is a two semester class designed to teach the basic and advanced principles in Shielded Metal Arc Welding (SMAW or commonly called ARC welding), Gas Metal Arc Welding (GMAW or commonly called MIG welding), Tungsten Inert Gas (TIG welding) and Oxygen-Acetylene Welding (OAW welding). Areas covered include; SAE project and record book, welding shop safety, equipment operation, flat position welds, position welds in horizontal, vertical up, vertical down, overhead positions on ferrous and nonferrous metals, basic shop skills, operation of welding and machine shop tools and light project construction. Students taking this course may choose to receive dual credit through Mid Plains Community College.

Requirements: A lab fee of \$20 will be charged per student for the following safety items; safety glasses - \$4.00 value, apron - \$8.00 value, welding gloves - \$4.00 value, and pliers - \$4.00 value. The lab fee will be refunded for those safety items returned in reasonable condition.

References: Welding Skills, Moniz and Miller

STRUCTURAL AND POWER SYSTEMS (Used to be Small Engines)

Grade level: 10 – 12

Enrollment limit: 15

Pre-requisite: None

Course Description: This is a two semester course that provides instruction in agricultural mechanics and small gas engines. Areas of instruction include; SAE project and record book, shop safety, tools, general shop skills, ag mechanics skills; electricity, plumbing, hydraulics, GPS systems, concrete, ag structures, principles of engine operation, engine systems, engine service, engine disassembly and inspection, engine assembly, and service a small Briggs & Stratton engine. Students taking this course may choose to receive dual credit through Mid-Plains Community College.

Requirements: A lab fee of \$12 will be charged per student for the following safety items; safety glasses - \$4.00 value and apron - \$8.00 value. The lab fee will be refunded for those safety items returned in reasonable condition. All small engine project materials are the student's responsibility, purchasing and payment.

References: Agricultural Mechanics: Fundamentals & Applications, Ray V. Herren, Outdoor Power Equipment, Jay Webster, and Briggs & Stratton Service Repair Manual.

MANUFACTURING AND PRODUCTION (Used to be Ag Mechanics)

Grade level: 12

Enrollment: 12

Pre-requisite: Welding and Structural and Power Systems

Course Description: This is a two semester class designed to teach basic skills in manufacturing and metal fabrication. Areas covered include; SAE project and records, communication skills, advertising, business finances, manufacturing today, a safe and productive workplace, metal working, hand and power tools, machine tooling, producing products, quality management, welding and project planning and construction.

Requirements: A lab fee of \$20 will be charged per student for the following safety items; safety glasses - \$4.00 value, apron - \$8.00 value, welding gloves - \$4.00 value, and pliers - \$4.00 value. The lab fee will be refunded for those safety items returned in reasonable condition.

References: High-Performance Manufacturing: Portable Production Skills, McGraw Hill

ANIMAL SCIENCE

Grade Level: 10-12

Enrollment limit: None

Pre-requisite: None

Course Description: This is a two semester class designed to teach basic livestock management skills, with emphasis in beef production. Areas covered include, SAE project and record book, the livestock industry, range management, livestock feeding and nutrition, animal breeding, beef production, swine production, sheep and goat production, horse production, poultry production and dairy production.

WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT/HORTICULTURE

Grade Level: 10-12 Enrollment limit: None Pre-requisite: None

Course Description: This is a two semester course that provides instruction in wildlife management and landscaping. Areas of instruction include; SAE project and record book, principles of zoology and ecology, identification of wildlife and their characteristics, the conservation and management of wildlife, introduction into horticulture and plant science, plant propagation, plant identification and management of plants.

AG BUS MGT/LANDSCAPING

Pre-requisite: None

Enrollment limit: None

Grade Level: 10-12

Course Description: This is a two semester course that provides instruction in agribusiness management and landscaping. Areas of instruction include; SAE project and record book, basic record keeping, financial analysis, budget analysis, cost and return analysis, cash flow analysis, marketing, investment analysis, taxes, business organizations, ag law, principles of drawing, designing landscapes, using plants in landscapes, plant identification, establishing and growing landscape plants, landscape calculations, xeriscaping and the installation of landscape plants.

Misc.

DRIVERS EDUCATION

GRADE LEVEL: 9

Instruction will cover only the book material. If you choose to take the driving it will need to be arranged the summer following the year the book material is completed. The only exception to this is if you have made special arrangements with the instructor. This class is an elective with 5 hours of credit towards graduation.

INDEPENDENT STUDY

GRADE LEVEL: 11-12

PRE-REQUISITE: ACCUMULATED GPA OF 90% OR HIGHER

NO STUDY HALL

STUDENT HAS TAKEN (OR IS ON COURSE TO TAKE) EVERY CLASS

THE DEPARTMENT OFFERS

INSTRUCTOR'S & ADMINISTRATIVE PERMISSION

This course will deal with a specific subject chosen by the student. It is suggested the subject is one that the student has an interest to pursue with post secondary education. The course may be taken only 1 time during a students' time here at VHS. The student cannot be enrolled in a Study Hall. This class cannot be substituted for core class graduation requirements. Students taking this class will have 2 options: #1 – the student must provide an outline stating what content the class will entail; the outline must be approved by the teacher and the Principal or Guidance Counselor. This must be completed before registering for this class. #2 – the student may take the class through a higher institution of learning on-line; this must be approved by the instructor proctoring the student and the Guidance Counselor or Principal. The costs of this option will be the responsibility of the student. This class is an elective.

WORK STUDY

GRADE LEVEL: 12

PRE-REQUISITE: NO STUDY HALL

This class will enable the student to be on the job site learning from the business owner about the different aspects of owning and running a business. Students will be required to interview for the chance to work at a specific job site. These interviews will take place at a Job Fair at the school in the Spring. The class is for 2 class periods in length. The class will be graded Pass/Fail. This class is an elective.

TEACHER'S AIDE

GRADE LEVEL: 12

PRE-REQUISITE: STUDENT MUST BE IN TOP 40% OF THEIR CLASS

NO STUDY HALL

STUDENT HAS MET ALL GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS EXCEPT AM. GOVERNMENT AND A SENIOR ENGLISH CLASS OR ITS EQUIVALENT

The student will be selected by a teacher to be the teacher's aide. Duties will include doing many different kinds of projects and/or errands for the teacher. The grade issued will be Pass/Fail. This class is an elective.

STUDY HALL

GRADE LEVEL: ANY

PRE-REQUISITE: ONLY 1 STUDY HALL PER SCHOOL YEAR PER STUDENT

It is recommended that any student taking a class load consisting of several core classes, take Study Hall. Students will have the chance to do research, read, do homework, etc. in their Study Hall. It is an excellent opportunity for students to keep up with their studies. This is a non-credit class.

DUAL CREDIT COURSES

High School Course Name	Mid Plains College Course Name	College Credits
Applied Communications 12	CAPC 1720 Career Assessment/Planning	2
Calculus	MATH 1450 Analytic Geometry & Calculus	5
Drafting Application	ARCH 1760 Computer Assisted Drafting	2
Advanced Chemistry	CHEM 1090 LAB	5
Physics	PHYS 1410	5
Information Technology II	INFO 1000 Intro to Information Technology	3
Expository Writing (formerly Introduction to Composition)	ENGL 1010 Expository Writing	3
Introduction to Marketing	BSAD 2340 Intro to Marketing	3
Personal Finance	BSAD 1100 Personal Finance	3
Power Systems	AUTO 1100 Gas Engine and Design Fundamentals	3
Statistics	MATH 1200 Elements of Statistics	3
Welding 1	WELD 1110 Arc and Gas Welding	3

Mid-Plains Community College has the following requirements in order to enroll in their college classes:

For Calculus, Physics, Statistics, you must have a Math ACT score between 28-36 OR take the COMPASS test and score between 46-99 in Trig.

For Introduction to Composition you need to meet both the Reading and Writing scores.

For Reading you must have an ACT score between 19-36 OR take the COMPASS test and score between 66-99.

For Writing you must have an ACT score between 19-36 OR take the COMPASS test and score between 46-99 to enroll in ENGL 1010 Expository Writing.