Dear Students and Parents:

Decatur High School was established in 1950 and is one of the most respected schools in the state. Over the past 50 years, Decatur High School has become a leader in academics, athletics, band, chorus, and various academic teams. The faculty and staff are committed to helping students achieve their goals and prepare for an ever-changing environment.

Our students continue to excel academically, surpassing state and national scores on the ACT and SAT. The curriculum established provides each student with a challenging and well-rounded education. Furthermore, the extracurricular programs provide opportunities for students to pursue artistic and athletic talents. Our students are continually being recognized on a state and national level.

Parents and students should work together to carefully plan a four-year academic program. The goals, needs and talents of each student should be considered as an integral part of this plan. The DHS staff will be a valuable asset in developing a schedule that will be workable and appropriate for each student.

Michael S. Ward

ENROLLMENT REQUIREMENTS
TO DECATUR CITY SCHOOLS

All new students must present the following before registration can be completed:

1. Original Social Security Card
2. Birth Certificate
3. Alabama Immunization Certificate—Required by state law for enrollment in public schools
4. Verification of Address—Parent or legal guardian’s verification
   (Lease or Sales Agreement; verification from Decatur Utilities)
5. Signed Special Services Request form
7. Signed Home Language Survey

Parents: Please notify the school IMMEDIATELY when the student has an address change.

REGISTRATION AND SCHEDULING
Students should make course selections after discussing appropriate courses with their parents, counselors, and teachers. Prerequisites must be considered and choices evaluated according to educational and career goals.

It is the responsibility of the students and their parents to select the courses that will satisfy the requirements for high school graduation. Counselors are available to work with each student throughout the year to assist in determining appropriate programs. Course selection is not a trial and error decision. Treat registration as a most important decision-making process.

SCHEDULE CHANGES
Advanced planning is necessary to place each student in a class with a low pupil-teacher ratio. Therefore, it is the policy of Decatur High School to change student schedules using the following guidelines.

Fall Semester: All requests for schedule changes must be made two weeks prior to the opening of school.

Spring Semester: All requests for schedule changes must be made two weeks prior to the end of first semester.

Any questions regarding schedule planning should be discussed well in advance with the appropriate guidance counselor.

www.ptc.dcs.edu/schools/hs/dhs/dhspage.html
Please bookmark this site and return periodically to stay current on changing events.

It is the official policy of the Decatur City Schools that no person shall, on the grounds of race, color, disability, sex, religion, national origin or age, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any program, activity or service.
If you need help regarding scheduling you may contact the following persons:

Principal ........................................ Mr. Mike Ward
Assistant Principals
   Grades 10, 11 .................. Mr. Stan Carr
   Grades 9, 12 .................. Mrs. Mary Carr
Counselors
Students whose last names begin with
   A - G .......................... Mr. Daivon Fouche
   H - O .......................... Mr. George Simms
   P - Z .......................... Mrs. Phyllis Freeman
Scholarships/Testing ............... Ms. Tina Kellett
Language Arts .......................... Mrs. Janet Patty
Math .......................... Mrs. Karen Gaertner
Science .......................... Mrs. Mary Thomaskuty
Social Studies .................. Mr. Brad Boy
Chorus .......................... Dr. Carl Davis
Band .......................... Mr. Robbie Stout
Business .......................... Mrs. Lee Lott
Family and Consumer Sciences Ms. Cynthia Dudley
Engineering Technology .......................... Mr. Paul Allen
Physical Education .......................... Mrs. Earlene Busby
Marketing Education .......................... Mrs. Gladys Patterson
Special Education .......................... Ms. Teresa Williamson
Art .......................... Mr. Gary Evans
Athletics .......................... Coach Jere Adcock
School Newspaper .................. Mr. Brad Boy
Yearbook .......................... Mrs. Patti James
Driver Education .......................... Mr. Kenny Morson
Cheerleading .......................... Mrs. Amy Godwin
Construction .......................... Mr. Robert Slack

RECLASSIFICATION OF HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS
High school students are eligible for reclassification at the conclusion of the first semester, second semester, and summer school of each school year.

A student may be classified as a sophomore if the student has earned six (6) credits overall, three (3) of which are core curriculum credits.*

A student may be classified as a junior if the student has earned thirteen (13) credits, eight (8) of which are core curriculum credits.*

A student may be classified as a senior if the student has earned nineteen (19) credits, eleven (11) of which are core curriculum credits.*

*The core curriculum subject areas are math, English, science and social studies.

ALABAMA HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION EXAM (AHSGE)
The Alabama State Board of Education requires that any student receiving a high school diploma must pass all five sections of the AHSGE and fulfill State and local requirements regarding Carnegie units.

Remediation classes are available for students not successfully completing the AHSGE. These classes replace elective classes during the junior and/or senior year. Because we highly value the success of all our students, we believe it is imperative that students participate in the remediation classes as needed.

TESTING PROGRAM
NINTH GRADE
Alabama High School Graduation Exam as appropriate.

TENTH GRADE
- PSAT (Same as 11th)
- Tenth Grade Writing Assessment
- Pre-graduation Exam (AHSGE) (Spring)

ELEVENTH GRADE
- Preliminary Scholastic Aptitude Test/National Merit Scholarship
- American College Test (ACT) (Given 5 times during the school year.)
- Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT) (Given 6 times during the school year—Not given at DHS.)
- Alabama High School Graduation Exam (Spring)
- AP Exams (Same as 12th)
- ASVAB*

TWELFTH GRADE
- Alabama High School Graduation Exam as needed (Late summer, fall, winter, spring)
- AP Exams
- American College Test (ACT) (Given 5 times during the school year.)
- Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT) (Given 6 times during the school year—Not given at DHS.)
- AP Exams (May)
- ASVAB*
- Optional

NATIONAL TEST DATES FOR ACT

Visit the ACT website at www.act.org and www.actstudent.org

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>September 13, 2008</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October 25, 2008</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>December 13, 2008</td>
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<tr>
<td>February 7, 2009</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 4, 2009</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 13, 2009</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
UNIVERSITY OR FOUR-YEAR COLLEGE ENTRANCE REQUIREMENTS

Most Alabama state colleges and universities require or recommend the following minimal standards:

1. ACT or SAT score (usually a minimum of 20 ACT or 950 SAT or higher)
2. High school diploma
3. "C" average or a 2.5 GPA in the core curriculum (English, math, science, social studies, foreign language)
4. Mathematics - Algebra I and Geometry
   Recommend 3 units - Many are requiring Algebra II
5. Science - 3 units (one laboratory Life Science and one laboratory Physical Science)
6. Social Studies - 4 units
7. Foreign Language

Out of state colleges and private schools may require:

1. SAT score.
2. SAT Achievement test scores.
3. Foreign languages (Two years same language)

NOTE:
- Many colleges and universities are increasing entry requirements. Students and parents should consult the admissions counselors at the institution regarding admission requirements.
- Students interested in scholarships need to apply to the colleges and universities by October 1, of their senior year. The application for admission to an institution is frequently the application for scholarships at that school.
- A variety of local scholarships are offered to our students each year. These scholarships are often presented at Awards Night by local organizations. However, most scholarships are awarded by the colleges to which students have applied and have been accepted.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>GRADING SCALE</th>
<th>AP/IB</th>
<th>Pre-DP</th>
<th>Honors</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A = 90-100</td>
<td>90 = 100</td>
<td>90 = 92.5</td>
<td>90 = 91.25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B = 80-89</td>
<td>80 = 90</td>
<td>80 = 82.5</td>
<td>80 = 81.25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C = 70-79</td>
<td>70 = 80</td>
<td>70 = 72.5</td>
<td>70 = 71.25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D = 60-69</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F = 0-59</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I = 0</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NC = 0</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

AP/IB numeric grades 70 and above are weighted 10 points more than other courses for calculating class rank.

Pre-DP numeric course grades above a 70 are weighted 2.5 points more than other courses for calculating class rank.

Honors-level numeric course grades above a 70 are weighted 1.25 points more than other courses for calculating class rank.

See curriculum guide for honors-level courses by grade.

GRADE POINT AVERAGE (GPA)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Scale</th>
<th>AP/IB</th>
<th>Pre-DP</th>
<th>Honors</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A = 5.0</td>
<td>90 = 100</td>
<td>90 = 92.5</td>
<td>90 = 91.25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B = 4.0</td>
<td>80 = 90</td>
<td>80 = 82.5</td>
<td>80 = 81.25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C = 3.0</td>
<td>70 = 80</td>
<td>70 = 72.5</td>
<td>70 = 71.25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D = 2.0</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F = 1.0</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I = 0</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NC = 0</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Weighted averages will not be reflected on the 6-week report cards; however, they will be used to compute Grade Point Average (GPAs) and class rankings. Our trained programmers assign weighted values to the appropriate courses before these reports are generated by the computer. Weighted credit will be awarded upon successful completion of the course.

In the case of AP courses, the student must commit to take the Advanced Placement examination for each AP course taken in order to receive full weighted credit (10 points). The student and the parent/guardian will sign a contract to this effect and will pay the examination fee prior to the end of the fall semester. Failure to take the AP examination after signing this contract will disqualify the student from receiving any weighted credit.

Students taking an AP class and electing not to take the AP examination will sign a contract stating this intention and will receive partial weighted credit (2.5).
**GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS**

The Alabama State Board of Education requires that any student receiving a high school diploma must pass all sections of the Alabama High School Graduation Exam and fulfill state and local requirements regarding Carnegie units.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ALABAMA HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA</th>
<th>ALABAMA HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA WTH ADVANCED ACADEMIC ENDORSEMENT</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Credits</strong></td>
<td><strong>Credits</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>English Language Arts</td>
<td>English Language Arts**</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Four credits to include the equivalent of:</td>
<td>Four credits to include the equivalent of:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>English 9</td>
<td>English 9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>English 10</td>
<td>English 10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>English 11</td>
<td>English 11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>English 12</td>
<td>English 12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mathematics</td>
<td>Mathematics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Four credits to include the equivalent of:</td>
<td>Four credits to include the equivalent of:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Algebra I</td>
<td>Geometry</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Additional mathematics</td>
<td>Additional mathematics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sciences</td>
<td>Sciences</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Four credits to include the equivalent of:</td>
<td>Four credits to include the equivalent of:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A biology course</td>
<td>A biology course</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A physical science course</td>
<td>An advanced physical science course</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Additional science</td>
<td>Additional life or physical science</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social Studies</td>
<td>Social Studies **</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>World History</td>
<td>World History</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U.S. History</td>
<td>U.S. History</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Government</td>
<td>Government</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Economics</td>
<td>Economics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Physical Education</td>
<td>Physical Education **</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Driver Education may be substituted for ½ unit of PE.)</td>
<td>(Driver Education may be substituted for ½ unit of PE.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health Education</td>
<td>Health Education</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fine Arts</td>
<td>Fine Arts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Computer Applications*</td>
<td>Computer Applications*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Electives</td>
<td>Electives</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td>TOTAL **</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* May be waived if competencies outlined in the computer applications course are demonstrated to qualified staff in the local school system. The designated one-half credit shall then be added to the elective credits.

**OCCUPATIONAL DIPLOMA**

(for students with disabilities whose IEP specifies this diploma.)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>English</th>
<th>4</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Math</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social Studies</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Science</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Career &amp; Technical Education</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cooperative Career Tech</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Physical Education</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health</td>
<td>½</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fine Arts</td>
<td>½</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Electives</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**GRADUATION CERTIFICATE**

Upon completion of the prescribed program, a pupil identified as a special education student will have the option of receiving a graduation certificate.

**DUAL ENROLLMENT/DUAL CREDIT**

Dual Enrollment/Dual Credit is a program which allows eligible high school students to enroll in college classes and to receive both high school and college credit. Students may only take courses at the postsecondary level under the following circumstances:

1. The student must have a “B” average in completed high school courses.
2. The student has an unresolved schedule conflict and a postsecondary level course will help solve the conflict.
3. The postsecondary level course is a course not offered at the high school.
4. Exceptions may be made on an individual student basis after assessment.

See your guidance counselor for more information.
LANGUAGE ARTS
DEPARTMENT

Core Curriculum classes are designed for students working at grade level. Study of language skills in writing, speaking, and listening is sequenced to provide preparation for the student in either vocational or college preparatory programs. The sequence of literature studied corresponds to the requirements and recommendations of The Alabama Course of Study.

Honors English is offered in grades 9-12 for highly motivated students who have excelled in previous English courses. Language arts skills are reviewed for literature and composition study beyond the requirements of grade-level work. Admission to honors courses is based on prior grades, test scores, and teacher recommendation. The honors courses in grades 9 and 10 prepare students to take Advanced Placement English at the junior and senior level. A required summer reading list will be provided.

All honors-level classes are weighted 1.25 points.

ENGLISH 9—0470
Concentrates on language skills including standard usage, function of the parts of speech, sentence structure, punctuation, capitalization, vocabulary, spelling, and dictionary skills. The course provides an intensive study of the sentence as a unit of thought in effective communication. Students study verbals, usage, coordination and subordination, parallel structure, and sentence variety and originality. Students participate in a variety of speaking activities and make oral presentations. Writing assignments emphasize sentence sophistication and paragraphing. Students will read major works of literature as well as selections from the textbook. Outside reading assignments may be required. Students are evaluated on the basis of class participation, homework, daily quizzes, book reports, unit tests, and semester exams.

Grade: 9 Credit: 1.0
Prerequisite: None

HONORS ENGLISH 9—0001
Includes an accelerated study of grammar, punctuation, composition, spelling, and vocabulary; an introduction of the classics in literature; and a minimum of four outside reading assignments with written and oral language exercises. Students are evaluated on the basis of class participation, homework, daily quizzes, reports on outside reading assignments, oral reports, unit tests, and semester exams. A required summer reading list will be provided prior to the end of school in May. Students will take tests on summer reading upon returning to school.

Grade: 9 Credit: 1.0
Prerequisite: Teacher recommendation and a 78 average or better in honors classes and an 85 average in grade level classes (although change from grade level to honors not recommended).

ENGLISH 10—0830
Coordinates the study of literature, oral communication, and grammar. Literature selections are from primarily colonial American literature to 1900 and World literature that impacted the advancement of American literature. All students will read several outside novels. Students will participate in discussion, writing assignments, language and vocabulary study and oral communication. Students are evaluated on the basis of class participation, homework, daily quizzes, unit tests, oral presentations, writing assignments, and semester exams.

Grade: 10 Credit: 1.0
Prerequisite: Passing grade in Freshman English

HONORS ENGLISH 10—0002
Provides an intensified study of primarily American literature from colonial times to 1900 and World literature that impacted the advancement of American literature. Includes the genres of short story, novel, drama, and poetry. Writing is emphasized and includes a study of various forms such as paragraphing, journal writing, and personal and formal essays. Writing subjects will vary but will address literary analysis from time to time. Communication skills will be emphasized through class participation, oral presentations, group discussions, and memory work. Students are evaluated on the basis of class participation, homework, presentations, quizzes, tests, writing assignments, literary analyses, and semester exams. A required summer reading list will be provided prior to the end of school in May. Students will take tests on summer reading upon returning to school.

Grade: 10 Credit: 1.0
Prerequisite: Teacher recommendation and a 78 average or better in honors classes and an 85 average in grade level classes (although change from grade level to honors not recommended).

ENGLISH 11—0520
Emphasizes a survey of major American writers and literature from 1900 to contemporary pieces. Students will be asked to analyze literature and to recognize an author's work in its appropriate historical context. Major emphasis is also given to the development of composition skills. Work will include a grammar review stressing standard written usage, much practice in expository writing, and the multi-paragraph theme (or essay), as well as a research paper. Students will write frequently and will practice preparation for essay-type test questions. Students will participate in a variety of speaking activities, including oral presentations. Students are evaluated on the basis of homework, class participation, daily quizzes, composition, memorization assignments, unit tests, research paper, outside reading assignments, and semester exams. A research paper is required.

Grade: 11 Credit: 1.0
Prerequisite: Passing grade in Sophomore English

HONORS ENGLISH 11—0003
Provides an intensified study of primarily twentieth century American literature. The course is designed for eleventh grade students who have mastered basic grammar and writing skills and reading comprehension. Writing is emphasized and will include literary analysis from various genres. Students are evaluated on the basis of homework,
class participation, daily quizzes, composition, memorization assignments, major tests, research paper, outside reading assignments, and semester exams. This course stresses ACT and SAT preparatory skills. A required summer reading list will be provided prior to the end of school in May. Students will take tests on summer reading upon returning to school.

Grade: 11  Credit: 1.0
Prerequisite: Teacher recommendation and a 78 average or better in honors classes or 85 average in grade level classes (although change from grade level to honors is not recommended). Students must have passed the graduation exam in language and reading.

AP ENGLISH 11—0010
The AP Language and Composition course is designed for advanced readers and writers who are eager to examine the use of language in depth. Course content differs from junior English both in the selection of readings and in the demands placed on the students. In addition to covering 20th century American literature, the course trains students to become skilled readers and writers in diverse genres and modes of composition. Students enrolled in AP Language must be willing to work at the college level; thus, students must be mature scholars, prepared to think critically. Students follow a comprehensive writing program that stresses literary analysis, argumentation, and timed writing. A research paper is also required. Students are evaluated on outside reading assignments, tests, essays, and oral presentations. This course leads to Advanced Placement Senior English.

A required summer reading list will be provided. A required summer reading list will be provided prior to the end of school in May. Students will take tests on summer reading upon returning to school. The student must commit to take the Advanced Placement examination for this AP course in order to receive full weighted credit (10 points). The student and the parent/guardian will sign a contract to this effect and will pay the examination fee prior to the end of the fall semester. Failure to take the AP examination after signing this contract will disqualify the student from receiving any weighted credit.

Students electing not to take the AP examination will sign a contract stating this intention and will receive partial weighted credit (2.5).

Grade: 11  Credit: 1.0
Prerequisite: Teacher recommendation with an 85 or better in Honors English 10. This course is not recommended for students in regular English 10. Students must have passed the graduation exam in Language and reading.

ENGLISH 12—0660
Coordinates the study of English literature, composition, and grammar. The course includes a survey of English literature from Beowulf to contemporary British authors. Students will have the opportunity to review and refine composition techniques through grammar review coordinated with writing skills. A research paper is required. Students are evaluated on the basis of homework, daily quizzes, unit tests, research paper, reports, oral communication, outside reading assignments, composition assignments, and semester exams.

Grade: 12  Credit: 1.0
Prerequisite: Passing grade in Junior English

HONORS ENGLISH 12—0004
Coordinates the study of literature, composition, and advanced grammar. The course includes an in-depth survey of English literature from Beowulf to contemporary British authors and examples of world literature. Students will have the opportunity to develop and refine advanced composition skills. Numerous outside readings will be required. A literary-based research paper is a course requirement. Students are evaluated on the basis of homework, daily quizzes, major tests, reports, oral communication, outside reading assignments, writing skills, research paper, and semester exams. This course stresses ACT and SAT preparatory skills. A required summer reading list will be provided prior to the end of school in May. Students will take tests on summer reading upon returning to school.

Grade: 12  Credit: 1.0
Prerequisite: Teacher recommendation and a 78 average or better in honors classes or 85 average in grade level classes (although change from grade level to honors is not recommended). Students must have passed the graduation exam in Language and reading.

AP ENGLISH 12—0015
Designed for highly motivated seniors who have a keen interest in the subject area, enjoy literature, and who wish to attempt college-level work while in high school. In addition to English literature, the course includes world masterpieces of literary merit from various genres and time periods. It is expected that students will demonstrate the appropriate writing skills to function on an AP level. A research paper is required. Student evaluation based upon outside reading assignments, tests, composition, and oral presentations.

A required summer reading list will be provided. A required summer reading list will be provided prior to the end of school in May. Students will take tests on summer reading upon returning to school. This course may be taken for dual credit at Calhoun.

The student must commit to take the Advanced Placement examination for this AP course in order to receive full weighted credit (10 points). The student and the parent/guardian will sign a contract to this effect and will pay the examination fee prior to the end of the fall semester. Failure to take the AP examination after signing this contract will disqualify the student from receiving any weighted credit.

Students electing not to take the AP examination will sign a contract stating this intention and will receive partial weighted credit (2.5).

Grade: 12  Credit: 1.0
Prerequisite: Teacher recommendation with a “C” average or better in honors classes or 85 average in grade level classes (although change from grade level to honors is not recommended). Students must have passed the graduation exam in Language and reading.
APPLIED DRAMA—0292
A two-semester elective course, applied drama is a class designed for students with a special interest in learning and applying theatrical skills which include lighting, sound, sets, costuming, directing, and performing. Study includes improvisation, interpretation, monologues, decalogues, production, method, and preparatory exercises. Students may participate in the Regional Trumbauer Competition with the possibility of competing at higher levels. Class enrollment is limited. Students must maintain an overall C average with no ISS/CAS assignments (exception would be tardies). This course requires the instructor’s approval and an audition for admittance. **Applied Drama qualifies as a fine art.**
**Grade:** 9, 10, 11, 12  **Credit:** 1.0
**Prerequisite:** Approval of drama coach

AFRICAN AMERICAN STUDIES—0145
This two-semester elective is a holistic course designed for students who have a special interest in learning more about African and African American history, literature and culture. Students are introduced to many of the pioneers who have impacted African and American societies. The literature series, African American Literature, and the history series, African American History: A Journey of Liberation are textbook resources used in the class. Students are also required to read supplemental literary works of fiction and nonfiction. In addition, students are responsible for planning educational programs for the student body and are evaluated on the basis of class participation, oral and written reports, unit tests, and semester exams.
**Grade:** 11, 12  **Credit:** 1.0
**Prerequisite:** Approval of the African American Studies teacher and a “C” average or better in grade-level history and English classes.

*READING LAB—0824*
(Fall and Spring Semesters) Recommended for remediation of all students who were unsuccessful in completing the reading portion of the Alabama High School Graduation Exam. Students will be given individualized and group instruction to assist them in the areas in which they were not successful. Students will receive elective credit for this lab course.
**Grade:** 11, 12  **Credit:** 0.5 per semester
**Prerequisite:** Junior or senior standing and unsuccessful completion of the Reading portion of Alabama High School Graduation Exam.

*LANGUAGE LAB—0827*
(Fall and Spring Semesters) Recommended for remediation of all students who were unsuccessful in completing the language portion of the Alabama High School Graduation Exam. Students will be given individualized and group instruction to assist them in the areas in which they were not successful. Students will receive elective credit for this lab course.
**Grade:** 11, 12  **Credit:** 0.5 per semester
**Prerequisite:** Junior or senior standing and unsuccessful completion of the Language portion of Alabama High School Graduation Exam.

JOURNALISTIC WRITING (RD)—0833
A two-semester lab course in the production of the school newspaper. The students will learn to organize and publish a monthly paper (*The Raider’s Digest*). Each student may study the journalism area in which he is most interested. This class will be responsible for writing news stories, features, and editorials; selling advertisements; taking pictures; preparing copy; proofreading; preparing layout; and circulating the paper. Interested students should contact the sponsor.
**Grade:** 9, 10, 11, 12  **Credit:** 1.0
**Prerequisite:** Approval of *The Raider’s Digest* sponsor

JOURNALISM (A.S.)—0925
Designed to introduce students to the principles of layout design, copy-writing, editing, photo preparation, and caption writing. In addition, computer applications of these principles are utilized to give the student hands-on experience and to apply state-of-the-art publication procedures to yearbook production. By meeting deadlines, students learn to work under time pressure. Their main responsibility is to prepare the school yearbook for publication. Students will also be responsible for taking photographs, helping with scheduled school-picture days, and selling page sponsorships. Interested students should contact the sponsor.
**Grade:** 10, 11, 12  **Credit:** 1.0
**Prerequisite:** Approval of the yearbook sponsor

ESL ENGLISH 9—0793
Designed to teach and reinforce English grammar, writing, and literature for those students who are learning English as a second language. Emphasis is given to those skills tested on the Alabama High School Graduation Exam.
**Grade:** 9  **Credit:** 1.0
**Prerequisite:** ESL teacher recommendation

ESL ENGLISH 10—0794
Designed to teach and reinforce English grammar, writing, and literature for those students who are learning English as a second language. Emphasis is given to those skills tested on the Alabama High School Graduation Exam.
**Grade:** 10  **Credit:** 1.0
**Prerequisite:** ESL teacher recommendation

ESL READING—0785
This reading class uses extensive vocabulary and reading practice to teach students who are learning English as a second language. Emphasis is given to those skills tested on the Alabama High School Graduation Exam.
**Grade:** 9, 10, 11, 12  **Credit:** 1.0
**Prerequisite:** ESL Teacher Recommendation

ESL ENHANCEMENT—0350
This class offers the opportunity for the advanced ESL students to work on their course work in various academic subjects, such as English, math, social studies and science. The instructional environment provides for both group activities when appropriate and individualized instruction.
**Grade:** 9, 10, 11, 12  **Credit:** 1.0
**Prerequisite:** ESL teacher recommendation
FOREIGN LANGUAGES

FRENCH I—4100
Students study basic grammar, common expressions, vocabulary, and sentence structure. Comprehension and proper pronunciation are emphasized. Each lesson includes oral drills, written practice, reading, and listening exercises. Oral presentations and tests will be assigned. French culture and geography are also explored. It is recommended that students have completed grade level English with a "B" average.
Grade: 9, 10, 11, 12  Credit: 1.0
Prerequisite: None

FRENCH II—4150
Students focus on listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills in greater depth. A major emphasis is the oral use of the language in everyday situations. Oral presentations and tests will be assigned. Reading skills are expanded through the use of short stories, dialogues, and a French current events magazine. Students will also be required to write paragraphs in the target language. It is recommended that students complete French I with at least a "C" average.
Students will be required to purchase a subscription to Bonjour magazine for $8.00.
Grade: 10, 11, 12  Credit: 1.0
Prerequisite: French I

FRENCH III—4200
Students will begin with a comprehensive review of grammatical points encountered in the first two years of study, and continue with advanced grammar. Intermediate-level conversation will be an important component of the class, as well as readings from Francophone literature and a French current events magazine. Oral presentations and tests will be assigned. Students will be required to write short compositions in the target language. Almost no English will be spoken in the class. It is recommended that students complete French II with a least a "C" average.
Grade: 11, 12  Credit: 1.0
Prerequisite: French II

FRENCH IV—4250
Students will review all French grammar encountered in the first three years of study. Conversation will be an important component of the class, as well as readings from Francophone literature and a French current events magazine. Students will be required to write compositions and discuss readings in the target language. Almost no English will be spoken in class. Oral presentations and tests will be assigned. It is recommended that students complete French III with at least a "C" average.
Grade: 12  Credit: 1.0
Prerequisite: French III

SPANISH I—4500
Emphasizes the enhancement of the speaking, reading, writing and listening skills of spoken Spanish. Each lesson is introduced by oral drills to enhance comprehension. It is recommended that students complete grade level English with a "B" average.
Grade: 9, 10, 11, 12  Credit: 1.0
Prerequisite: None. Hispanic culture is studied, and students may be required to do individual projects. Oral presentations and written exercises required.

SPANISH II—4550
Reviews basic grammar and vocabulary. The grammar and verb forms become increasingly difficult; however, the initial emphasis is still on speaking, reading, writing, and listening skills. Oral presentations and written exercises are required. Completion of Spanish I with a "C" average is required.
Grade: 9, 10, 11, 12  Credit: 1.0
Prerequisite: Spanish I

SPANISH III—4600
Consists of a complete review of all Spanish grammar with emphasis on conversation, the reading of short stories, oral presentation of dialogues and individual recitations, and the writing of compositions. Completion of Spanish II with a "C" average is required. Almost no English is spoken in the classroom.
Grade: 10, 11, 12  Credit: 1.0
Prerequisite: Spanish II

SPANISH IV—4650
Grade: 11, 12  Credit: 1.0
Prerequisite: Spanish III

MATH DEPARTMENT

Possible Course Sequences

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<th>Grade</th>
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Students, parents, and teachers must carefully consider the appropriate course selection for our students to achieve academic success. Mathematics must be taken in sequential order so it is imperative that students and parents develop a
four year curriculum plan. Once the student has successfully completed a higher level course, he may NOT receive credit for a less challenging one.

Any student requesting a course other than that recommended by his teacher must have a completed parental waiver on file in the guidance office. The parents of any junior requesting a course other than that recommended must meet with the teacher to discuss curriculum options and to sign the waiver. Schedule changes will not be made until the end of the semester. It is our hope to help our students succeed academically and to take responsibility in planning for their futures.

ALGEBRA IA—1106
Algebra IA is a study of the concepts covered in the first half of Algebra I course. This will include, but not be limited to, operations on integers, expanding exponents, evaluating absolute values, solving multiple step equations, and graphing linear equations.
Grade: 9
Credit: 1.0
Prerequisite: None

ALGEBRA I—1140
Algebra I is a rigorous study of the fundamental structure of the real number system. Use of algebraic properties and operations will be incorporated throughout the course. The development of problem solving and other higher-order thinking skills will be emphasized. All students with the mathematical background and ability to enter a college-prep program should be encouraged to take this course.
Grade: 9
Credit: 1.0
Prerequisite: Teacher recommendation

ALGEBRA IB—1119
Algebra IB is a study of the concepts covered in the second half of an algebra I course. This will include graphing inequalities, solving inequalities, writing linear equations, finding slopes of linear equations, finding distances between points, factoring polynomial expressions, and solving quadratic equations using factoring. Successful completion of Algebra IB completes the state requirement of algebra for graduation.
Grade: 10
Credit: 1.0
Prerequisite: Algebra IA

BASIC GEOMETRY—1122
Basic Geometry is an informal study of the basic geometric skills and concepts used to emphasize the improvement of problem-solving abilities, critical thinking skills, and conceptual understanding. It will include consistent use of algebra to reinforce those skills learned in a first-year algebra course, but is not intended as the prerequisite course for Algebra II or Algebra II with Trigonometry. This course meets the state requirement for one unit of geometry.
Grade: 11, 12
Credit: 1.0
Prerequisite: Algebra IA and IB or Algebra I

9th GRADE GEOMETRY (Honors Level)—1382
GEOMETRY (10th and 11th grades)—1380
This course includes a study of plane, solid, spatial, and coordinate geometry. The major topics covered will include a study of the basic concepts of geometry, types of reasoning, deductive proofs, angle relationships, parallel lines, congruent triangles with their applications, and polygons and circles with their properties, areas and volumes. Geometry provides an excellent context for developing students’ abilities to reason and write logical proofs. This course, students will be engaged in problematic situations in which they form conjectures, determine the validity of these conjectures, and defend their conclusions. This course meets the state requirement for one unit of geometry.
Grade: 9, 10, 11
Credit: 1.0
Prerequisite: A or B average in either Algebra IA and IB or Algebra I

ALGEBRAIC CONNECTIONS—1110
Algebraic Connections is a course that provides students with a bridge to courses beyond the level of Algebra I and Geometry and to the mathematical empowerment needed to make responsible financial and economic decisions. It is designed for students who need additional mathematical experiences prior to enrollment in Algebra II or for students for whom this will be a culminating high school mathematics course. Algebraic Connections extends the scope of content of the prerequisite courses, integrating topics from algebra, geometry, measurement, and probability and statistics with an emphasis on real world applications. This course provides opportunities to incorporate the use of technology through its emphasis on using functions to make real life predictions to calculate outcomes.
Grade: 11, 12
Credit: 1.0
Prerequisite: Algebra IA and IB or Algebra I and Basic Geometry or Geometry.

ALGEBRA II with TRIGONOMETRY—1210
Algebra II with Trigonometry is an extension of the study of the number system that began in Algebra I. Emphasis will be placed on the use of functional notation and on the understanding and use of algebraic structure and techniques. Exponential functions, complex numbers, and right triangle trigonometry will be integral components of the course content. Students will master the ability to translate verbal statements into algebraic sentences. Verbal problems will be integrated into all areas in an effort to illustrate meaningful application of algebra in both career and consumer concerns. Use of the calculator is encouraged. Algebra II with Trigonometry is considered an essential elective for all college-bound students. With teacher recommendation the advanced student may take Geometry concurrently with Algebra II with Trigonometry.
Credit cannot be awarded for both Algebra II and Algebra II with Trigonometry.
Grade: 10, 11, 12
Credit: 1.0
Prerequisites: A or B average in Algebra I and Geometry

ALGEBRA II—1200
Algebra II is an extension of the study of the number system that began with Algebra I. Emphasis will be placed on the use of functional notation and on the understanding and the use of algebraic structure and techniques. Exponential functions and complex numbers will be considered as integral components of the course content. Use of the
calculator is encouraged. In contrast to Algebra II with Trigonometry, Algebra II does not meet the graduation requirements for the Alabama High School Diploma with Advanced Academic Endorsement because it does not contain an in-depth study of trigonometry. It will, however, appear as an Algebra II credit on the transcript. It does not provide sufficient background to prepare students to pursue higher-level mathematics courses such as Algebra III with Statistics or Precalculus. It is, therefore, considered a terminal high school mathematics course open only to senior level students. Students cannot receive credit for both Algebra II and Algebra II with Trigonometry.

Grade: 12  Credit: 1.0
Prerequisite: Algebra I and Geometry (1380)

ALGEBRA III with STATISTICS—1114

Algebra III with Statistics is a course offering students the opportunity to expand their algebraic knowledge. It will also provide a structured introduction to probability and statistics, an important area of emphasis in most postsecondary studies. Given the increased importance of statistics in understanding and evaluating the vast amounts of data encountered in everyday life, a strong emphasis will be placed on collecting, organizing, analyzing, and interpreting data. In addition to the focus on probability and statistics, real-life mathematical situations will be analyzed through the study of vectors, polar graphing, linear programming and trigonometric and exponential equations. The use of advanced technological tools can assist with statistical, numerical, and graphical analysis.

Grade: 12  Credit: 1.0
Prerequisite: Precalculus

PRECALCULUS—1600

Precalculus is a two-semester course containing a study of advanced algebraic concepts and the study of trigonometry. Advanced algebraic topics will include polynomial functions, their roots and their graphs, complex numbers, matrices, determinants, sequences and series, inverse functions, logarithmic and exponential equations, and conic sections. Trigonometric topics will include trigonometric functions and their graphs, trigonometric identities, circular functions and their inverses, and polar coordinates and their graphs.

Grade: 11, 12  Credit: 1.0
Prerequisite: Algebra II with Trigonometry

AP CALCULUS—1260

AP Calculus is an advanced-placement course in mathematics consisting of a full year of work in calculus and related topics comparable to courses in colleges and universities. The broad topics studied will include properties of functions, limits, continuity, differentiation, applications of the derivative, integration, and applications of the integral. The course is intended for mathematically able students who have a thorough knowledge of college preparatory mathematics, including algebra, geometry, and trigonometry. AP Calculus is based on a five-point scale for calculating GPA rather than the four-point scale of all other math courses if students take the advanced placement exam in the spring. This course may be taken for dual-enrollment credit if desired.

The student must commit to take the Advanced Placement examination for this AP course in order to receive full weighted credit (10 points). The student and the parent/guardian will sign a contract to this effect and will pay the examination fee prior to the end of the fall semester. Failure to take the AP examination after signing this contract will disqualify the student from receiving any weighted credit. Students electing not to take the AP examination will sign a contract stating this intention and will receive partial weighted credit (2.5).

Grade: 12  Credit: 1.0
Prerequisite: Senior status. Precalculus and teacher recommendation.

MATHEMATICS LAB—1792

Mathematics lab is a course designed to remediate all students who were unsuccessful in completing the mathematics portion of the Alabama High School Graduation Examination. Students will be given individualized and group instruction to assist them in the areas in which they were not successful. Students will receive elective credit for this lab course.

Grade: 11, 12  Credit: 0.5 per semester
Prerequisite: Junior or senior status and unsuccessful completion of the mathematics portion of the AHSGE. Students must have completed or be currently enrolled in Algebra B.

SCIENCE DEPARTMENT

All honors-level classes are weighted 1.25 points.

BIOLOGY—3110

First semester includes the microscope, introduction to laboratory techniques, basic chemistry, cell biology, DNA, evolution, and plant survey. Second semester includes classification of animals, microbiology, human body, genetics, and principles of ecology. Collections may be required. Biology gives the student a broad scope of the many branches of life science which are available to take in the upper grades.

Grade: 9, 10  Credit: 1.0
Prerequisite: None

9th GRADE HONORS BIOLOGY—3111

Designed for the accelerated ninth grader who plans to take higher level sciences or plans to pursue the AP curriculum path. The course is designed to give students a broad understanding of the field of biology. Topics to be covered include the microscope, introduction to lab techniques, basic chemistry, cell biology, DHA, genetics, a five kingdom survey, and principles of ecology.

Grade: 9  Credit: 1.0
Prerequisite: A/B average in eighth grade advanced physical science and teacher recommendation.
AP BIOLOGY—3018
A college-level course taught in the high school for the academically motivated eleventh or twelfth grader. The course covers in-depth study of biological principles using a college text. Laboratory exercises are an integral part of the course. To prepare for college level work, the AP courses will require students to complete activities outside of the normal school hours, such as reports, readings, study sessions, and labs. AP Biology is based on a five-point scale for calculating GPA rather than the four-point scale of other science courses. 
The student must commit to take the Advanced Placement examination for this AP course in order to receive full weighted credit (10 points). The student and the parent/guardian will sign a contract to this effect and will pay the examination fee prior to the end of the fall semester. Failure to take the AP examination after signing this contract will disqualify the student from receiving any weighted credit. 
Students electing not to take the AP examination will sign a contract stating this intention and will receive partial weighted credit (2.5).
Grade: 11, 12  Credit: 1.0
Prerequisite: One year of Biology, Chemistry, a signature from the AP Biology teacher, and an A/B student.

PHYSICAL SCIENCE—3220
Students will study basic concepts of chemistry and physics and relate them to everyday experiences including environmental and consumer concerns. This course meets the requirements for the standard diploma only.
Grade: 10  Credit: 1.0
Prerequisite: Biology and Algebra I or students must be taking algebra concurrently.

EARTH AND SPACE SCIENCE—3105
This yearlong course will spend one semester studying earth science and one semester studying space science. The students will study weather, climate, plate tectonics, volcanism, earthquakes, and weathering during the earth science portion. During the space science portion, the students will study our solar system, the tools used to study our solar system and beyond, space physics, and past, present, and future space exploration. Students will be required to do class projects.
Grade: 10, 11, 12  Credit: 1.0
Prerequisite: Biology and Physical Science

AP CHEMISTRY—3020
This course is to provide students who plan on majoring in science, medicine, and/or engineering with an introduction to basic concepts of chemistry. The course is divided into two semesters of comprehensive topics and required laboratory work. In the first semester some of the topics covered are foundations, stoichiometry, structure of the atoms, chemical periodicity, bonding, gas laws, and solutions. The second semester covers electrochemistry, thermodynamics, kinetics, and equilibrium. 
This course may be part of the dual enrollment program. The first semester is Chem 111 (4 credit hours) and the second is Chem 112 (4 credit hours) accredited by Calhoun Community College. Students must pay tuition and complete the course and laboratory requirements. (The labs are performed at Calhoun.) Students who do not wish to participate in the dual enrollment program may take the advanced placement exam in the spring to receive college credit from participating colleges. A score of 3 or higher must be made to qualify for credit. 
The student must commit to take the Advanced Placement examination for this AP course in order to receive full weighted credit (10 points). The student and the parent/guardian will sign a contract to this effect and will pay the examination fee prior to the end of the fall semester. Failure to take the AP examination after signing this contract will disqualify the student from receiving any weighted credit.

ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE—3006
A life science which introduces the student to the study of the physical biological aspects of the environment. Students study a variety of topics including biotic and abiotic factors in habitats, ecosystems, biomes, energy flow, carrying capacity, environmental issues, field study, aquatic biology, sources and control of pollution, conservation, and recycling. Students will be involved in many hands-on activities, lab experiments, and outdoor work on campus grounds. A few lab supplies will be requested from the student.
Grade: 10, 11, 12  Credit: 1.0
Prerequisite: Biology and Physical Science

CHEMISTRY I—3140
Provides students with the opportunity to establish a foundation in the modern chemical principles and to develop laboratory techniques. Major topics include measurement, matter and energy, atomic structure, periodic laws, chemical bonding, chemical reactions, stoichiometry, thermochemistry, kinetics, acid-base chemistry, equilibrium, and gas laws. A personal scientific calculator is needed to take this course.
Grade: 10, 11, 12  Credit: 1.0
Prerequisite: A/B+ average in Algebra I and Biology

CHEMISTRY II—3150
A detailed study of the branch of chemistry dealing with carbon-containing compounds with an emphasis on Biochemistry. Topics covered are organic molecular structure, reactions and classification. Extensive lab work is included. This is an ideal class for students interested in medical or pharmaceutical fields.
Grade: 11, 12  Credit: 1.0
Prerequisite: Chemistry I and teacher recommendation
Students electing not to take the AP examination will sign a contract stating this intention and will receive partial weighted credit (2.5).

Grade: 11, 12  Credit: 1.0

Prerequisite:  Chemistry I, Algebra II, a signature from the AP Chemistry teacher, and an A/B average in Chemistry.

PHYSICS I—3230
This course is the regular high school physics course. Physics is the science of energy. The topics covered will be mechanics, heat and thermodynamics, waves, electricity and magnetism, and atomic physics. This course is recommended for students with a good record in mathematics. It is an excellent preparation for AP and/or college physics, or Physics II. Physics II is the most appropriate sequel for the student who is not ready for AP level work.

Grade: 11, 12  Credit: 1.0

Prerequisite:  Algebra I

AP PHYSICS (B)—3420
A college entry-level course designed for students desiring a physics course who are not majoring in physics or engineering. It will cover the same topics as high school physics but with a more rigorous mathematical approach than high school physics. Advanced placement can be received with an appropriate score on the AP exam or the course may be used as preparation for college physics.

The student must commit to take the Advanced Placement examination for this AP course in order to receive full weighted credit (10 points). The student and the parent/guardian will sign a contract to this effect and will pay the examination fee prior to the end of the fall semester. Failure to take the AP examination after signing this contract will disqualify the student from receiving any weighted credit.

Students electing not to take the AP examination will sign a contract stating this intention and will receive partial weighted credit (2.5).

Grade: 11, 12  Credit: 1.0

Prerequisite:  Algebra II and Physics and teacher recommendation

AP PHYSICS (C)—3421
A college level introductory mechanics course. It consists of an in-depth study of Newton’s laws, work and energy, momentum, rotation, oscillation, and gravitation. It is strongly recommended for students who intend to major in engineering or related fields.

The student must commit to take the Advanced Placement examination for this AP course in order to receive full weighted credit (10 points). The student and the parent/guardian will sign a contract to this effect and will pay the examination fee prior to the end of the fall semester. Failure to take the AP examination after signing this contract will disqualify the student from receiving any weighted credit.

Students electing not to take the AP examination will sign a contract stating this intention and will receive partial weighted credit (2.5).

Grade: 11, 12  Credit: 1.0

Prerequisite:  Precalculus/Advanced Math, Physics and teacher recommendation

BOTANY—3427
Designed for the student who wishes to have a better understanding about plant life. Emphasis will be placed on plant physiology, diversity, and plant growth. The student will be required to learn techniques of rooting, fertilizing, preparing, and the upkeep of plants outdoors. The student will apply garden techniques they have learned to our school gardens. Students will raise their own plants. Activities will include laboratory experiments done with plants, learning to care for and maintain domestic plants, and helping to create and maintain a natural plant habitat on the school grounds. Outdoor work and garden gloves are required.

Grade: 10, 11, 12  Credit: 1.0

Prerequisite:  Biology and Physical Science

*SCIENCE LAB—3330
Science Lab is a course designed to remediate all students who were unsuccessful in completing the science portion of the Alabama High School Graduation Examination. Students will be given individualized and group instruction to assist them in the areas in which they were not successful.

Students will receive elective credit for this lab course.

Grade: 11, 12  Credit: 0.5 per semester

Prerequisite:  Junior or senior status and unsuccessful completion of the science portion of the AHSGE

*Semester course

ENVIRONMENTAL FIELD STUDIES—3004
The course combines a select group of students from both Decatur and Austin high schools to embark on a unique learning experience—a class that involves the students directly through field work. This is an advanced biology course that will offer college level preparation for career minded students and practical experience for those less inclined. Much of the course will be conducted in the field where activities include wading water using nets and seines, handling organisms, specimen collecting, bioassessment, water testing, hiking, orienteering, wildlife inventory, and generally getting wet and dirty. The course will emphasize studies of various aquatic habitats and their associated wildlife and will include a variety of other field experiences in ichthyology, herpetology, and ornithology. Students may also be involved in the life support and husbandry of the many organisms housed in the center. Class will require a strong commitment from students to conduct these kinds of studies that can only be taught 7th period and that extend beyond the regular school day by a half hour or more (flexibility with an employer if the student works). Some optional nocturnal studies are also planned. Any 11th or 12th grade student who meets the prerequisites and who has a driver’s license can apply. Students will drive or carpool to the WEEC site daily for class. Students must complete a form (obtained from the head of the science department) in order to be considered.

Grade: 11, 12  Credit: 1.0

Prerequisites:  Environmental Science and/or Chemistry I and an Evaluation form with a science teacher’s recommendation and a driver license.
SOCIAL STUDIES DEPARTMENT

Criteria for Honors World History: 1500 to Present, Honors U.S. History to 1877, and Honors U.S. History from 1877 to Present. In order to be eligible for these classes, a student must have a classroom teacher’s recommendation and the honors teacher’s approval. The student should have a solid “B” average or better. It is not necessary that the student have a high “A” average. The student does need excellent writing skills and the ability to formulate answers and to put them into words on paper. Any student who has self-discipline, self-motivation, and a solid “B” average is a candidate for these classes.

All honors-level classes are weighted 1.25 points.

WORLD HISTORY: 1500 TO PRESENT—2168
This course continues the study of world history from 1500 to the present. Critical thinking and analysis are important in this course. The course directs students to think critically about the forces that combine to shape the world today. It allows them to analyze development and changes in the European, Asian, African and American civilizations and ways in which the interactions of these cultures have influenced the formation of today’s world. Geographic concepts increase learners’ comprehension of global connections as they expand their knowledge and understanding of a wide variety of cultures, both historical and contemporary. Knowledge and understanding gained during the previous year’s study provide the foundation for the critical analysis required in this course. This is a required social studies course for students in Alabama schools.

Grade: 9  
Credit: 1.0  
Prerequisite: None

HONORS WORLD HISTORY: 1500 TO PRESENT—2167
This course will follow the same course of study as grade level. However it will go into greater depth and detail. It will stress reading, listening, note-taking, and test-taking skills. The course will also include the use of documents and pieces of literature.

Grade: 9  
Credit: 1.0  
Prerequisite: Teacher recommendation

UNITED STATES HISTORY 10 TO 1877—2165
The U.S. History to 1877 is a comprehensive two-year sequence beginning in the 10th grade with beginnings to 1877 and 1877 to present. Students will begin with the earliest discoveries on the North American continent and follow a chronological study of the major events, issues, movements, leaders and groups of people of the United States through the Reconstruction period from a national and Alabama perspective. This course will build upon the foundation of knowledge gained in the 5th and 6th grades as well as the 8th and 9th grades World History. This course will follow the state course of study and emphasize the competencies needed to pass the Social Studies section of the graduation exam.

Grade: 10  
Credit: 1.0
Prerequisite: Sophomore status

HONORS U. S. HISTORY 10 TO 1877—2163
This course will follow the same course of study as United States History to 1877. This course will delve deeper into the subject matter by using more primary sources, technology projects and research projects. This course is designed for the student who desires to learn history on a more critical thinking level but does not desire to take Advanced Placement U.S. History 10. They should be abstract thinkers who can compare, analyze and explain events in written as well as oral form.

Grade: 10  
Credit: 1.0
Prerequisite: Sophomore status and teacher recommendation

AP U. S. HISTORY 10 TO 1877—2161
This survey course in United States history and the history of the Americas (Latin America and Canada) spans five centuries of social, economic, geographic and political development in the United States and the Americas. The course begins with the Old World backgrounds of the earliest discoveries on the North American continent and follows a chronological study of the major events, issues, movements, leaders and groups of people of the hemisphere through the rise of industrial America up to the end of the nineteenth century. The course is designed to give students skills in critical thinking, interpretive expertise, historiography and research techniques that will enable them to analyze data of a higher cognitive level. The course is taught on the sophomore college level and is designed to prepare students to take the AP examination in the spring of their junior year, or if a student so chooses, the course may be taken for one semester of dual credit through Calhoun.

The student must commit to take the Advanced Placement examination for this AP course in order to receive full weighted credit (10 points). The student and the parent/guardian will sign a contract to this effect and will pay the examination fee prior to the end of the fall semester. Failure to take the AP examination after signing this contract will disqualify the student from receiving any weighted credit. Students electing not to take the AP examination will sign a contract stating this intention and will receive partial weighted credit (2.5).

Grade: 10  
Credit: 1.0
Prerequisite: Sophomore status and Honors teacher recommendation

*CONTEMPORARY WORLD AFFAIRS III—2151 (Fall and Spring Semester) An elective course for juniors. This course emphasizes class discussion, class research, and limited homework. Students will discuss current world issues and how these issues affect the student. This course may be taken either semester or both semesters.

Grade: 11  
Credit: 0.5 or 1.0
Prerequisite: Junior status
U.S. HISTORY 11 FROM 1877 TO PRESENT—2166
This course continues the study of United States History from the tenth grade and follows the current course standards. It studies the economic, geographic, social, and political development of the United States after the Reconstruction era. This course is built upon the previous knowledge foundation obtained in the tenth grade course. It will show how America grew into an international power after Reconstruction. This course is a critical analysis of the United State decision and actions on major domestic issues as well as international affairs.
Grade: 11 Credit: 1.0
Prerequisite: Junior status

HONORS U.S. HISTORY 11 FROM 1877 TO PRESENT—2164
This course will follow the same course of study as United States History 1877 to Present. However, the course will go into greater depth and analysis. This course is designed for the student who desires to learn in an accelerated environment but does not want to take AP U. S. History 11.
Grade: 11 Credit: 1.0
Prerequisite: Junior status and teacher Recommendation

ADVANCED PLACEMENT U. S. HISTORY 11 FROM 1877 TO PRESENT—2162
This course begins with a brief review of the time period covered in the 10th grade year (Beginnings to 1877). It continues into the twentieth century and is designed to provide students a highly structured opportunity in which they may gain knowledge and awareness of the history of their country. With that knowledge as an essential tool, students are encouraged to develop skills of critical thinking, interpretive expertise and research techniques that will enable them to analyze data of a higher cognitive level. The course is taught on a sophomore college level. If a student chooses, this course may be taken for one semester of dual credit. The recommendation of a social studies teacher is required.
The student must commit to take the Advanced Placement examination for this AP course in order to receive full weighted credit (10 points). The student and the parent/guardian will sign a contract to this effect and will pay the examination fee prior to the end of the fall semester. Failure to take the AP examination after signing this contract will disqualify the student from receiving any weighted credit.
Students electing not to take the AP examination will sign a contract stating this intention and will receive partial weighted credit (2.5).
Grade: 11 Credit: 1.0
Prerequisite: Approval of advanced placement teacher and junior status

*CONTEMPORARY WORLD AFFAIRS IV—2152
(Fall and Spring Semester) An elective course for seniors. This course emphasizes class discussion, class research, and limited homework. Students will discuss current world issues and how these issues affect the student. This course may be taken either semester or both semesters.
Grade: 12 Credit: 0.5 or 1.0
Prerequisite: Senior status

*ECONOMICS—2160
The study of man’s efforts to satisfy his unlimited wants through the use of his scarce and limited resources. The one-semester course, which is required of all seniors, includes the basic concept of how our economic system works as compared to other systems, what the unique qualities of the free enterprise system are, and how the individual operates within the system. The study emphasizes the cause and effect of economic actions, consumer planning and participation, consumer problems, and world activities. The course incorporates a study of comparative economics, economic theory, and consumer economics; therefore, a broad conceptual approach is mandated.
Grade: 12 Credit: 0.5
Prerequisite: Senior status

*UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT—2180
A one-semester course required of all seniors and is paired with Economics. Government is a study of the origins, development, and principles of the United States political system. It includes comparisons of democracy and other political systems while emphasizing the basic civil rights inherent to the American political system. The course also includes a review of the foundations of American government from the point of view of the practical day-to-day workings of the government, political parties, and a detailed study of the legislative, executive, and judicial branches of government.
Grade: 12 Credit: 0.5
Prerequisite: Senior status

*AP U. S. GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS—2002
(Fall Semester) A one-semester course designed to provide the student with a learning experience obtained in most college introductory American government and politics courses. The course is designed to give students a critical perspective on government and politics in the United States. The course involves both the study of general concepts used to interpret American politics and the analysis of scientific case studies. It also requires familiarity with the various institutions, groups, beliefs and ideas that make up the American political reality. Topics to be explored are the Constitutional underpinnings of American government, political beliefs and behavior, political parties and interest groups, and civil liberties. The course is taught on the freshman college level and is designed to prepare students for the AP exam in the spring. AP Government and Politics is based on a five-point scale (for calculating GPA) rather than the four-point scale of all other history classes.
The student must commit to take the Advanced Placement examination for this AP course in order to receive full weighted credit (10 points). The student and the parent/guardian will sign a contract to this effect and will pay the examination fee prior to the end of the fall semester. Failure to take the AP examination after signing this contract will disqualify the student from receiving any weighted credit.
Students electing not to take the AP examination will sign a contract stating this intention and will receive partial weighted credit (2.5).
Grade: 12 Credit: 0.5
Prerequisite: Approval of the advanced placement teacher and senior status

Approval of advanced placement teacher and junior status
**AP ECONOMICS—2003**
(Spring Semester) A one-semester course for which college credit may be earned. The content will help students develop critical thinking skills through the understanding, application, and analysis of fundamental economic concepts. In this course, students will learn to apply quantitative and mathematical skills to the discipline of Economics. The course teaches the students to test economic propositions empirically, improve their decision-making skills, and apply economic logic to a wide variety of real and hypothetical situations. The course is taught on the freshman college level and is designed to prepare the students for the advanced placement exam in the spring. Advanced Placement Economics is based on a five-point scale rather than the four-point scale of the standard classes.

The student must commit to take the Advanced Placement examination for this AP course in order to receive full weighted credit (10 points). The student and the parent/guardian will sign a contract to this effect and will pay the examination fee prior to the end of the fall semester. Failure to take the AP examination after signing this contract will disqualify the student from receiving any weighted credit. Students electing not to take the AP examination will sign a contract stating this intention and will receive partial weighted credit (2.5).

**Grade:** 12  
**Credit:** 0.5  
**Prerequisite:** Approval of the advanced placement teacher and senior status

**SOCIAL STUDIES LAB—2410**
A course designed to remediate all students who were unsuccessful in completing the social studies portion of the Alabama High School Graduation Examination. Students will be given individualized and group instruction to assist them in the areas in which they were not successful. Students will receive elective credit for this lab.

**Grade:** 12, 11  
**Credit:** 0.5  
**Prerequisite:** Junior or senior standing and unsuccessful completion of the social studies portion of the graduation exam.

*Indicates a one semester course

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**ART DEPARTMENT**

**ART I—5130**
This one-year course is a study of the basic fundamentals of art. It provides students with an overview introduction to media and to various techniques in the areas of drawing, painting, sculpture, ceramics, printmaking, crafts, art history and critique. Art I is offered to all students.

**Grade:** 9, 10, 11, 12  
**Credit:** 1.0  
**Prerequisite:** None

**CERAMICS/CRAFTS—5190**
This one-year course concentrates on the aesthetic use of clay in regard to hand-built pottery, sculpture, pottery wheel experience, and glazing. Crafts projects are varied and changing. Projects may include batik, mask making, weaving, mosaic, ornament construction, altered books, and any added projects within the guidelines of the Alabama Course of Study.

**Grade:** 10, 11, 12  
**Credit:** 1.0  
**Prerequisite:** Art I and instructor approval

**ADVANCED DRAWING—5581**
This one-year course offers studio experience in drawing and drawing media such as pencil, charcoal, marker, chalk and oil pastel, ink, and color pencil. This course will develop skills necessary in drawing technique, theme and subject matter, framing, presentation, portfolio, and critique.

**Grade:** 10, 11, 12  
**Credit:** 1.0  
**Prerequisite:** Art I and instructor approval

**ADVANCED PAINTING—5582**
This one-year course is designed to concentrate on painting in various media such as acrylic, oil and watercolor. This course will develop skills necessary in painting technique, theme, subject matter, framing, presentation, portfolio, and critique.

**Grade:** 10, 11, 12  
**Credit:** 1.0  
**Prerequisite:** Art I and instructor approval

**PHOTOGRAPHY—5610**
This one-year course offers instruction in the use of the 35 mm camera and the darkroom. Students learn practical and diverse applications of photographic composition, film, filters, lenses, flash, photographic papers, and darkroom procedures of black and white film and print developing. Students will also learn such accessories to printing as burning in, dodging, experimentation, spot toning, sepia toning, and hand coloring both in the darkroom and by using photo editing software. Critique and art history are also included.

**Grade:** 10, 11, 12  
**Credit:** 1.0  
**Prerequisite:** Art I

*GRAPHIC PRODUCTION—7698*
This one-semester course will explore various media used in the production of graphic art through hands-on projects and by using graphic related software such as Adobe Photoshop and Adobe Illustrator. Designs include the creation of logos, greeting cards, magazine covers, magazine articles, car tags, CD covers, product design and promotion, and software application. This is not a prerequisite for advanced art classes.

**Grades:** 9, 10, 11, 12  
**Credit:** 0.5  
**Prerequisite:** None

*GRAPHIC DESIGN—7699*
This one-semester course is a continuation of fundamentals previously required in Graphic Production. Projects will reflect design creativity and graphic software experience. It is best to have previously taken Graphic Production but it is not required. This is not a prerequisite for advanced art classes.

**Grades:** 9, 10, 11, 12  
**Credit:** 0.5  
**Prerequisite:** None

*Indicates a one-semester course.
CHORUS

CONCERT CHORUS—5220
Designed for the development of skills in vocal technique sight reading, and vocabulary enrichment. It is designed to develop the capabilities to sing with others, read music, and gain knowledge of proper concert etiquette as a performer and an audience participant. Elements are mastered for the purpose of performances in school, community, and festivals. Members are required to rent uniforms.
Grade: 10, 11, 12 Credit: 1.0
Prerequisite: None

WOMEN’S CHORUS—5730
Designed especially for the development of women’s voices. It is designed to develop the capabilities of the student to sing alone and with others, read notated music, listen to and describe music, evaluate music performances, and gain knowledge of performance skills for a variety of circumstances. Membership is open to all entering freshmen. Knowledge and mastery of rehearsal and performance skills must be demonstrated for placement in Concert Chorus. Members are required to rent uniforms.
Grade: 9 Credit: 1.0
Prerequisite: None

MEN’S CHORUS—5790
Designed especially for the development of men’s voices. It is designed to develop the capabilities of the student to sing alone and with others, read notated music, listen to and describe music, and evaluate music performances, and gain knowledge of performance skills for a variety of circumstances. Membership is open to all entering freshmen. Knowledge and mastery of rehearsal and performance skills must be demonstrated for placement in Concert Chorus. Members are required to rent uniforms.
Grade: 9, 10, 11, 12 Credit: 1.0
Prerequisite: None

CHAMBER CHORUS—5125
Designed for the development of vocal technique, sight reading, and performance skills. It is designed to develop small ensemble skills which require advanced listening and vocal skills. Students must be willing to schedule multiple concerts and after-school performances to maintain membership. Members are required to rent uniforms. Membership is determined by group audition during the spring semester.
Grade: 9, 10, 11, 12 Credit: 1.0
Prerequisite: Audition and approval of choral director

Any course offered in the Choral Department qualifies as a fine art.

BAND

INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC—5370
This class is designed to instruct the student on how to play an instrument or how to become a better musician.
Grade: 9, 10, 11, 12 Credit: 1.0
Prerequisite: Approval of band director

SENIOR BAND—5700
Senior Band is designed for students in the ninth through twelfth grades with previous instrumental music experience. It includes participation in the marching and concert bands. The marching band performs at halftime at the Red Raider football games and local parades. The concert band presents Christmas and spring concerts and participates in district and state competition festivals.
Grade: 9, 10, 11, 12 Credit: 1.0
Prerequisite: Approval of band director

MARCHING BAND AUXILIARY TECHNIQUES—5705
• This class is designed for all majorettes and colorguard members. It allows these auxiliary groups a chance for structured practice every day outside of general marching band rehearsal. It is required for all members of the majorettes and colorguard.
• All colorguard and majorettes will sign up for this class instead of senior band first semester. Those that play instruments will then sign up for senior band second semester.
Grade: 9, 10, 11, 12 Credit: 1.0
Prerequisite: Audition and approval of band director

STAGE BAND—5760
A small semi-jazz band which performs at numerous club meetings in Decatur and is designed to broaden the musical experiences of the student.
Grade: 9, 10, 11, 12 Credit: 1.0
Prerequisite: Must be a member of the Senior Band and approval of band director.

FAMILY & CONSUMER SCIENCES

Family and Consumer Sciences addresses family, home, work and community. Individuals develop abilities to think, communicate, manage and lead in order to address the changes and advances in technological, global society. Rigorous content standards for the following courses have been written for students to acquire these skills, addressing concerns for the family.
**MARKETING EDUCATION**

**BUSINESS AND MARKETING ESSENTIALS—7549**  
An introduction course that addresses the principles and concepts that serves as the foundation for future study in the Business/Marketing program. Topics covered include safety, communications, interpersonal skills, marketing, computer applications, business and personal finance, business management, entrepreneurship, business law, and economics. This is a core course for students planning to leave school during their junior and/or senior years to co-op through coordinated studies.  
**Grade:** 9, 10, 11, 12  
**Credit:** 1.0  
**Prerequisite:** Approval of Marketing Coordinator

**MARKETING DYNAMICS—7622**  
A course in marketing. This course focuses on basic marketing concepts, marketing functions, entrepreneurship concepts, national and global economics, international marketing and human relations. A major emphasis is placed on guiding students to develop a career focus and the skills that enhance their chances of moving directly into higher education, an apprentice program, the military or entry-level employment. Quark software will be used in this class.  
**Grade:** 10, 11  
**Credit:** 1.0  
**Prerequisite:** Approval of Marketing Coordinator

**ENTREPRENEURSHIP AND MANAGEMENT—7300**  
This is a one-year specialized business course designed to provide students with the skills needed to effectively organize, develop, create, and manage a business. This course includes business management and entrepreneurship; communication and interpersonal skills; economics; and professional development foundation. Instructional strategies may include the development of a business plan, a school-based enterprise, real and or simulated occupational experiences, or projects related to business ownership.  
**Grade:** 10, 11, 12  
**Credit:** 1.0  
**Prerequisite:** Business and Marketing Essentials

**COORDINATED STUDIES FOR MARKETING—7623**  
This course is a required component of the Career/Technical Cooperative Education Program. It provides students with the opportunity to evaluate and develop a career plan and prepare/update a career/employment portfolio. Students build on prior knowledge, strengths, interests, and needs that enhance preparation for future employment and continuing education/training. The student receives work experience outside the classroom (co-op).  
**Grade:** 11, 12  
**Credit:** 1.0  
**Prerequisite:** Business and Marketing Essentials plus an additional Career/Technical course, and admission to the co-op program by the coordinator

**COORDINATED STUDIES SEMINAR - MARKETING—7551**  
Designed for students who have earned one credit in Coordinated Studies for Marketing in grade 11 and want to continue in grade 12. This class will meet one full class period per week.  
**Grade:** 12  
**Credit:** 1.0  
**Prerequisite:** Coordinated Studies for Marketing and continued admission to co-op program by the coordinator

**MARKETING CO-OP (one-hour lab)—7635**  
An on-the-job training class held at the student's place of employment.  
**Grade:** 11, 12  
**Credit:** 1.0  
**Prerequisite:** Junior status and approval of the Marketing Education teacher
MARKETING CO-OP (two-hour lab)—7640
An on-the-job training class held at the student’s place of employment.
Grade: 11, 12 Credit: 2.0
Prerequisite: Junior status and approval of the Marketing Education teacher

MARKETING CO-OP (three-hour lab)—7660
An on-the-job training class held at the student’s place of employment.
Grade: 11, 12 Credit: 3.0
Prerequisite: Junior status and approval of the Marketing Education teacher.

BUSINESS EDUCATION

BUSINESS TECHNOLOGY ESSENTIALS—7310
This is a one-credit course using Microsoft Office Professional to help students master basic skills in the areas of word processing, spreadsheet, database management and an introduction to presentation software. Students are also offered opportunities to identify ethical issues pertaining to information systems. Communication, critical thinking, and leadership skills are reinforced through the use of software applications. This class is a MUST before any other business computer class can be taken.
Grade: 9, 10, 11, 12 Credit: 1.0
Prerequisite: None

INTEGRATED COMPUTER TECHNOLOGY—7315
Integrated Computer Technology is a one-credit course that provides students with project-based applications of concepts learned in Business Technology Essentials. A major emphasis is placed on guiding students through real-world experiences to ease the school-to-career transition.
Grade: 10, 11, 12 Credit: 1.0
Prerequisite: Business Technology Essentials

ACCOUNTING PRINCIPLES—7100
Accounting Principles is a one-credit course designed to help students understand the basic principles of the accounting cycle. Emphasis is placed on analyzing and recording business transactions; preparing and interpreting financial statements, accounting systems, banking, and payroll activities; identifying basic types of business ownership; and participating in an orientation to careers in accounting. Students are also provided with instruction activities that reinforce mathematical and critical thinking skills. This course is recommended for students planning to study business at the college level.
Grade: 10, 11, 12 Credit: 1.0
Prerequisite: None

BUSINESS FINANCE AND PERSONAL CAREER EXPLORATION—7155
Business Finance and Personal Career Exploration is a one credit course that focuses on areas of study that address personal and skills assessment testing, career exploration, cover letters, resumes, interviews, follow-up letters, other general business documents, job hunting skills, personal financial planning, financial services, budgeting, investments, insurance protection, credit management, consumer purchases, and consumer rights and responsibilities. Instructional strategies will include Dave Ramsey's financial peace for the next generation, TimeMAPS Software suite (Money Management and Life Skills), the use of projects, cooperative learning, simulations, guest speakers, Internet access to businesses, the use of Microsoft Word and EXCEL and other computer/technology applications.
Grade: 11, 12 Credit: 1.0
Prerequisite: None

INTERACTIVE MULTIMEDIA DESIGN—7541
Interactive Multimedia Design is a one-credit course designed to provide students with skills involving presentations, desktop publishing, web page design, scanning, digital graphics and e-movie. Numerous software packages will be studied while learning these skills. Students will work independently to create presentations, newsletters, flyers, professional-looking drawings, charts, designs and many desktop publishing applications. Also included in this course, students will prepare an employment portfolio, which will include many different types of employment correspondence and utilize many other concepts to function effectively in a high-tech, changing environment.
Grade: 11, 12 Credit: 1.0
Prerequisite: Business Technology Essentials and Integrated Computer Technology

COORDINATED STUDIES I FOR BUSINESS EDUCATION CO-OP—7199
Provides 11th grade business education co-op students with a common class to acquire and reinforce competencies required for his or her on-the-job training. Students will have the opportunity to evaluate and develop a career plan building on prior knowledge, strengths, interests, and needs that enhance preparation for future employment and continuing education/training.
Grade: 11 Credit: 1.0
Prerequisite: Admission to the BE Co-op program by the coordinator

COORDINATED STUDIES II FOR BUSINESS EDUCATION CO-OP—7200
Provides 12th grade business education co-op students with a common class to acquire and reinforce competencies required for his or her on-the-job training. Students will have the opportunity to evaluate and develop a career plan building on prior knowledge, strengths, interests, and needs that enhance preparation for future employment and continuing education/training.
Grade: 12 Credit: 1.0
Prerequisite: Admission to the BE Co-op program by the Coordinator
COORDINATED STUDIES SEMINAR FOR BUSINESS EDUCATION CO-OP—7203
After earning one credit in Coordinated Studies, students enrolled in Business Education Co-op are required to participate in the Coordinated Studies Seminar. This class will meet once a week. Participation in the seminar is required for students to be able to continue in the career/technical cooperative education work-based experience.
Grade: 12  Credit: 1.0
Prerequisite: Coordinated Studies I for BE Co-op

BUSINESS EDUCATION CO-OP (1 hour)— 7255
Provides the student with work experiences in an office outside the classroom. The student must be enrolled in Coordinated Studies I or II—for Business Education Co-op or Coordinated Studies Seminar while being employed in a local business through the Business Education Co-op Program. To participate in the program, a student must be 16 years old, have parental permission, have transportation, and make application to and be approved by the BE Co-op Coordinator. The coordinator is the liaison between the school and the employer. A student participating in the co-op program can have one year of physical education waived for participating in the co-op program. In addition, the student receives one unit of credit for each period of released time to work.
Grade: 11, 12  Credit: 1.0
Prerequisite: Enrolled in Coordinated Studies I or II – for Business Education Co-op or Coordinated Studies Seminar and admission to the BE Co-op program by the coordinator

BUSINESS EDUCATION CO-OP (2 hour)— 7257
Provides the student with work experiences in an office outside the classroom. The student must be enrolled in Coordinated Studies I or II—for Business Education Co-op or Coordinated Studies Seminar while being employed in a local business through the Business Education Co-op Program. To participate in the program, a student must be 16 years old, have parental permission, have transportation, and make application to and be approved by the BE Co-op Coordinator. The coordinator is the liaison between the school and the employer. A student participating in the co-op program can have one year of physical education waived for participating in the co-op program. In addition, the student receives one unit of credit for each period of released time to work.
Grade: 11, 12  Credit: 2.0
Prerequisite: Enrolled in Coordinated Studies I or II—for Business Education Co-op or Coordinated Studies Seminar and admission to the BE Co-op program by the coordinator.

CONSTRUCTION

*BUILDING CONSTRUCTION TECHNOLOGY I—7535
(Introduction to Carpentry) This class provides the student a basic understanding of the carpentry trade. An extensive study on safety will prepare the student for the remainder of the course. Next, the student will learn how to safely and maintain a wide variety of hand tools, portable power tools, and power equipment. Each student will select a project to construct using the knowledge he has acquired. After completing the project the student will learn to identify the different materials used in home construction, read and interpret blueprints, and estimate cost of labor and materials for a construction job. During the latter part of the semester, the student will focus the principles of measuring, laying out, and framing the foundation, floor, walls, ceiling, and roof of a house. During this part of the course, students will be placed into small groups to build a scale model home.
Grade: 9, 10, 11, 12  Credit: 0.5
Prerequisite: May be paired with Building Construction Technology II (Advanced Carpentry) during 2nd semester.

*BUILDING CONSTRUCTION TECHNOLOGY II—7536
(Advanced Carpentry) This class offers the advanced carpentry student opportunity to gain “hands-on” experience. The semester begins with a review of safety. Next, the student applies his knowledge by successfully demonstrating framing techniques for floors, walls, ceilings, and roofs. To do this, the student will take part in a group effort to construct one or more small buildings. After completing the buildings, the student will learn how to install the various types of exterior and interior components such as stucco, wood, Masonite, paneling, and sheetrock. The student will also learn how to appropriately apply exterior and interior finishes such as paint, stain, varnishings, sealers, and caulking. During the letter part of the course, the student will learn how to cut and install several types of flooring such as vinyl, hardwood, carpet, and tile. Installation of doors, windows, and interior trim will be the final components of the Advanced Carpentry course.
Grade: 9, 10, 11, 12  Credit: 0.5
Prerequisites: Building Construction Technology I (Introduction to Carpentry)
*Indicates a one-semester course.

BUILDING CONSTRUCTION TECHNOLOGY III— 7556
(Advanced Carpentry) This is an advanced level of carpentry which may be taken after completing Building Construction Technology II. This yearlong course offers more in-depth training in the area of residential framing. Emphasis is placed on advanced framing techniques for floor, wall, ceiling, roof, and stair construction. Attention is given to the use of computers in the construction process. Students will also complete live work at school in accordance with the live work policy and under the supervision of the instructor. This gives students the opportunity to have more hands-on experience in the field of carpentry by building projects for the general public.
Grade 10, 11, 12  Credit: 1.0
Prerequisite: Building Construction Technology II

BUILDING CONSTRUCTION TECHNOLOGY IV—7557
The yearlong course offers students the opportunity to learn about the different aspects of exterior and interior finishes. Students will learn to properly identify and install materials such as Masonite, stucco, solid wood siding, interior plywood paneling, solid wood paneling, and sheetrock. Students will also learn to cut and install several types of trim and molding.
Other components of finishing include installing windows, doors, skylight, hardwood flooring, ceramic tile, vinyl tile, and carpet. The course concludes with learning how to properly select and apply paint, stain, sealers, and caulkings to the interior and exterior of a house. Several areas of advanced home maintenance and remodeling will also be covered.

**Admittance into Technology III and Technology IV requires the approval of the technology instructor.**

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**ENGINEERING TECHNOLOGY**

**INTRODUCTION TO ENGINEERING—7548**

This is the first course of what will become a four-year course of study into the world of Engineering. It is designed to offer an overview of the engineering profession and engineering technology skills needed to enhance students’ success at either the college or junior college level. This course will cover topics that are relevant to all forms of engineering regardless of the field of study. The first semester will cover 2D computer-aided drafting (CAD) in the areas of multi-view drawings, isometrics, sectional views, precision measuring and dimensioning. As part of the students’ studies they will learn how to use information technologies such as spreadsheets to do conversions and calculation needed to complete their projects. The students will complete the first semester by designing and building a wooden dragster to a set of specifications. The second semester will cover CAD 3D solid modeling. The students will learn how to design objects in real time 3D projections that can be rotated around and viewed from any angle. The students will participate in team based projects, will design Formula One race cars in 3D, and export their designs to a computer controlled router that will cut out their designs in wood. This is a national and international competition that the students may choose to participate in if they so desire. This course is designed to give the students the basic skills that they will need to complete the advanced courses in the Engineering Technology Department.

**Grade:** 9, 10, 11, 12  **Credit:** 1.0

**Prerequisite:** None

**ENGINEERING ESSENTIALS—7544**

This is the second course of a four-year course of study into the world of Engineering. It is designed to give the students a greater understanding of scientific principles that are used in the engineering field and how they relate to everyday experiences. This course is designed to let the students get their hands and minds working together while they learn about force, torque, pressure, fluid and electromotive forces as they relate to internal combustion engines, automobiles and robotics. The students will also learn how to use tools and equipment that are designed to measure these forces. The students will use the CAD drawing skills that they gained over the past year to complete different projects within these areas.

Field trips are planned as part of the students’ studies into the engineering fields where force and work are measured as a part of the engineering process. Other areas of engineering can be studied by the student through different competitive events offered to the students through the Technology Student Association.

**Grade:** 10, 11, 12  **Credit:** 1.0

**Prerequisite:** Introduction to Engineering or Engineering Design and Drawing

**ENGINEERING TECHNOLOGIES—7656**

This is the third course of a four-year study into the world of Engineering. It is designed to explore the technologies involved in the engineering research and design process. Topics include construction, transportation, communication, and manufacturing technologies. Various materials, processes, and systems are used to build group projects. Students will explore the different areas through hands-on activities while learning the terminology involved in the area being studied. Due to safety reasons and some of the equipment the students will be utilizing, the students enrolled in this course are expected to act in a mature manner at all times. The students will be expected to participate in the Technology Student Association and its competitive events related to this course content.

**ENGINEERING ACADEMY CLASSES**

**ENGINEERING DESIGN AND DRAWING—7482**

Level I of the Engineering Academy is a full year course that focuses on the design and drawing aspect of the field of Engineering. Students will learn how to apply the engineering design process as they work in teams on multiple short-term design problems and one long-term project. Time will be spent studying drawing and visualization techniques using 2-D and 3-D software programs including but not limited to Solid Edge, Pro-Desk Top, Inventor and Revit. Participation in robotic competition is recommended. This course is open to any 9th-12th grade student who meets academic co-requisites and is a prerequisite to participation in Level II of the Engineering Academy.

**Co-requisites are:** Geometry and Biology

**Grade:** 9, 10, 11, 12  **Credit:** 1.0

**Co-requisites:** Geometry and Biology

**INSTRUMENTATION AND ANALYSIS—7560**

Level II of the Engineering Academy is a full year course that is divided into three (3) twelve week rotations of study centered in electrical, mechanical, and chemical engineering. Students will explore engineering lab studies implementing Infinity NI LabView curricula, NXT and Mindstorm Lego robotics and other available engineering resources. Local engineers will serve as consultants, lecturers, and mentors.

**Grade:** 10, 11, 12  **Credit:** 1.0

**Prerequisites:** Engineering Design and Drawing (Level I), Geometry, and Biology

**Academic Co-requisites:** Algebra II with Trigonometry and Chemistry
ENGINEERING RESEARCH I (to be offered in 2009-2010)
Level III of the Engineering Academy is a full year course at the junior/senior level. Knowledge attained in the Level I and II courses will be used in correlation with teacher facilitated research in order to solve a self-selected engineering problem. Opportunities to work with local engineers will be provided throughout the duration of the course. This course will be available beginning in the 2009-2010 school year. Students in Levels III and IV will be provided the opportunity to apply for summer internships in local engineering facilities.
Grade: 11, 12  Credit: 1.0
Prerequisites: Engineering Design and Drawing and Instrumentation and Analysis
Academic Co-requisites: Pre-calculus, Physics, IB Chemistry, and IB Biology

ENGINEERING RESEARCH II (to be offered in 2010-2011)
Level IV Engineering Academy is a senior level course similar to Engineering Research I except, this project would be a joint effort between the secondary students, graduate level engineering students at UAH and local professionals. Students would be allowed time off from the secondary school to attend UAH in order to assist with UAH engineering research projects. Academic classes as appropriate would be taken. This course will be available beginning in the 2010-2011 school year. Students in Level IV will be provided the opportunity to apply for summer internships in local engineering facilities.
Grade: 12  Credit: 1.0
Prerequisites: Engineering Design and Drawing, Instrumentation and Analysis, and Engineering Research I
Academic Co-requisites: Calculus or AP/IB Calculus, AP/IB Physics B or C

PHYSICAL EDUCATION & ATHLETICS

With the entering ninth-grade class of 1985, the Decatur City Schools began requiring that 2 credits of physical education be completed during grades 9-12. Driver Education (6300) may be substituted for ½ unit of this requirement. Senior Band (5700) may be substituted for P.E. credit.

NINTH-GRADE BOYS LIFE PE—6201
This course is required for students entering ninth grade and not enrolled in a required physical education course. Lifelong Individual Fitness Education (LIFE) focuses on health enhancing physical activity and provides a blueprint for a lifetime of healthy living.
Grade: 9  Credit: 1.0
Prerequisite: None

NINTH-GRADE GIRLS LIFE PE—6401
This course is required for students entering ninth grade and not enrolled in a required physical education course. Lifelong Individual Fitness Education (LIFE) focuses on health enhancing physical activity and provides a blueprint for a lifetime of healthy living.
Grade: 9  Credit: 1.0
Prerequisite: None

BOYS PE (10th, 11th, and 12th Grades)—6200
This course is designed to enhance muscle strength, muscle endurance, cardio-respiratory endurance, and flexibility of students. Activities will consist of walking, jogging, weight training, aerobic activities, and team sports as well as individual sports/activities. This course will emphasize knowledge of rules, skills, good sportsmanship and participation of touch football, softball, basketball, badminton, table tennis, etc.
Grade: 10, 11, 12  Credit: 1.0
Prerequisite: None

GIRLS PE (10th, 11th, and 12th Grades)—6400
This course is designed to enhance muscle strength, muscle endurance, cardio-respiratory endurance, and flexibility of students. Activities will consist of walking, jogging, weight training, aerobic activities, and team sports as well as individual sports/activities. This course will emphasize knowledge of rules, skills, good sportsmanship and participation of touch football, softball, basketball, badminton, table tennis, etc.
Grade: 10, 11, 12  Credit: 1.0
Prerequisite: None

*BASEBALL—6170
(Spring Semester) These approved students will be required to participate in the fall semester of Advanced Sports Conditioning and then will be placed in baseball for the spring semester.
Grade: 9, 10, 11, 12  Credit: 0.5
Prerequisite: Approval of baseball coach

BOYS BASKETBALL—6175
Grade: 9, 10, 11, 12  Credit: 1.0
Prerequisite: Approval of boys basketball coach

NINTH-GRADE BOYS BASKETBALL—6176
Grade: 9  Credit: 1.0
Prerequisite: Approval of boys basketball coach

NINTH-GRADE GIRLS BASKETBALL—6181
Grade: 9  Credit: 1.0
Prerequisite: Approval of girls basketball coach

GIRLS BASKETBALL—6180
Grade: 9, 10, 11, 12  Credit: 1.0
Prerequisite: Approval of girls basketball coach

FOOTBALL—6375
Grade: 9, 10, 11, 12  Credit: 1.0
Prerequisite: Approval of football coach

NINTH-GRADE FOOTBALL—6376
Grade: 9  Credit: 1.0
Prerequisite: Approval of football coach
*GOLF—6425
(Spring Semester) Advanced Sports Conditioning or a regular physical education class will be an elective course for the fall semester. In the spring, students will be placed in golf.
Grade: 9, 10, 11, 12  Credit: 0.5
Prerequisite: Approval of golf coach

*SOFTBALL—6725
(Spring Semester) These approved students will be required to participate in the fall semester of Advanced Sports Conditioning and then will be placed in softball for the spring semester.
Grade: 9, 10, 11, 12  Credit: 0.5
Prerequisite: Approval of softball coach

CROSS COUNTRY—6751
(Fall Semester) These students will be in cross-country for the fall semester and then will be required to participate in the spring semester of track or Advanced Sports Conditioning.
Grade: 9, 10, 11, 12  Credit: 0.5
Prerequisite: Approval of cross country coach

SOCCER-BOYS—6755
Grade: 9, 10, 11, 12  Credit: 1.0
Prerequisite: Approval of soccer coach

*TRACK—6850
(Spring Semester) These students will participate in Advanced Sports Conditioning during the fall semester and, if approved, will be placed in track for the spring semester.
Grade: 9, 10, 11, 12  Credit: 0.5
Prerequisite: Approval of track coach

*VOLLEYBALL—6900
(Fall Semester) These students will participate in volleyball during the fall semester only.
Grade: 9, 10, 11, 12  Credit: 0.5
Prerequisite: Approval of volleyball coach

ADVANCED SPORTS CONDITIONING—6753
This course is designed to enhance sport specific muscle strength, muscle endurance, and flexibility of Decatur High School student-athletes. The purpose is to build a base that will allow the athlete to represent the Decatur High community at the highest levels of competition.
Grade: 10, 11, 12  Credit: 1.0
Prerequisite: Recommendation of specific sport coach and approval of teacher

CHEERLEADING—6250
Grade: 9, 10, 11, 12  Credit: 1.0
Prerequisite: Approval of a cheerleading sponsor

INTRODUCTION TO CHEERLEADING—6105
(Fall and Spring Semesters) This class is designed for students who meet the prerequisite requirements and have a potential interest in trying out for cheerleader. The class will concentrate on the enhancement of skills used in the sport of cheerleading: jumping, dancing, and tumbling. The class will also include a conditioning program with emphasis on strength training, plyometrics, and flexibility. This is a required course for those who have no cheerleading experience and plan to tryout for varsity squad. However, students in this class are not required to tryout for cheerleader.
Grade: 9, 10, 11  Credit: 1.0
Prerequisite: Students must meet the Alabama High School Athletic Association Eligibility Requirements and have approval from the cheerleader sponsor and Coach Busby.

*DRIVER EDUCATION—6300
(Fall and Spring Semesters) Course content includes studies of natural and man-made laws, maintaining and insuring a car, habits and attitudes about driving, and a unit on drugs and driving.
Grade: 10, 11, 12  Credit: 0.5
Prerequisite: Students must be 15 years of age on or before the beginning of the second six weeks of the semester in which driver education is taken.

*HEALTH EDUCATION—6500
(Fall and Spring Semesters) Health Education is a semester course required for graduation. This program is designed to promote health-related skills and health attitudes which are conducive to positive lifestyles. The scope is generally broad and updated to include any important new information and statistics. Health education which is required by the State Department of Education will not count as a PE credit.
Grade: 10  Credit: 0.5
Prerequisite: None

SPECIAL EDUCATION

BASIC READING I—8114
Designed for students with learning disabilities who need to master decoding skills.

BASIC READING II—9625
Designed for students with learning disabilities who have some knowledge of decoding skills and need to improve comprehension skills.
INTERPERSONAL RELATIONS—7872
Students develop interpersonal relationships, gain knowledge in how to control themselves, and become able to choose positive behaviors when confronted with conflict in their lives.

Grades: 9, 10, 11, 12       Credit: 1.0
Prerequisite: Teacher approval

ENGLISH 9 ESSENTIALS—9635
ENGLISH 10 ESSENTIALS—9636
ENGLISH 11 ESSENTIALS—9637
ENGLISH 12 ESSENTIALS—9629
Current English content modified to build proficiency and mastery for students with learning disabilities. For students pursuing the Alabama Occupational Diploma.

Prerequisite: Teacher approval       Credit: 1.0

MATH ESSENTIALS I—9627
MATH ESSENTIALS II—9628
ALGEBRAIC EXPLORATIONS I—9631
ALGEBRAIC EXPLORATIONS II—9632
Current math content modified to build proficiency and mastery for students with learning disabilities. Includes consumer math skills. For students pursuing the Alabama Occupational Diploma.

WORLD HISTORY 9 ESSENTIALS—9638
U.S. HISTORY 10 ESSENTIALS—9639
U.S. HISTORY 11 ESSENTIALS—9640
GOVERNMENT ESSENTIALS—9633
ECONOMICS ESSENTIALS—9634
Current history content modified to build proficiency and mastery for students with learning disabilities. For students pursuing the Alabama Occupational Diploma.

Prerequisite: Teacher approval       Credit: 1.0

PHYSICAL SCIENCE ESSENTIALS—9641
BIOLOGY ESSENTIALS—9642
SCIENCE 11 ESSENTIALS—9643
SCIENCE 12 ESSENTIALS—9644
Current science content modified to build proficiency and mastery for students with learning disabilities. For students pursuing the Alabama Occupational Diploma.

Prerequisite: Teacher approval       Credit: 1.0

ENHANCEMENT—9581
An elective class designed to supplement the requirements of the Alabama Core Curriculum.

JOB SKILLS—9006
Elective class for students with disabilities. Emphasis on skills that will help a student locate and keep a job, interviewing skills and how to select and research a career.

ACADEMIC TUTOR
Eastwood—9003
Decatur High School—9015
Oak Park—9048
Banks-Caddell—9050
Walter Jackson—9054
Somerville Road—9055
Leon Sheffield—9059

Students will work in academic areas with individual students and small groups of students. A student applying for this course must have his/her own means of transportation and be in the classroom at the assigned school no later than 7:40 a.m. daily.

Grade: 11, 12       Credit: 1.0
Prerequisite: Approval of Decatur High School guidance counselor and administration. Must have good history of attendance along with a good discipline record.

OFFICE ASSISTANT
Main Office—8987
South Office—8991
Guidance Office—8971
Library Media Center—8997
Business Department—8963
Developmental Program—8939

Grade: 9, 10, 11, 12       Credit: 1.0
Prerequisite: Approval of Decatur High School administrator. Student must have a good history of attendance along with a good discipline record.

ACCESS Distance Learning (Alabama Connecting Classrooms, Educators, and Students Statewide) is an education initiative of the Alabama Department of Education. It provides opportunities and options for Alabama public high school students to engage in Advanced Placement (AP), electives, and other courses to which they may not otherwise have access. More information will be forthcoming.
COURSES TAUGHT AT AUSTIN HIGH SCHOOL

AUTOMOTIVE SERVICE TECHNOLOGY I (2 hr.)—7147
An exploration into a career as an Automotive Technician. During Automotive Service Technology I, students will become familiar with basic shop tools, equipment, and procedures with hands-on practice for preventive maintenance and basic shop jobs.
Grade: 10, 11, 12  Credit: 1.0 credit per semester
Prerequisite: Teacher’s permission

AUTOMOTIVE SERVICE TECHNOLOGY II (2 hr.)—7148
A continuation of Automotive Service Technology I, with the addition of advanced engine controls, transmissions, and general repairs. This course will also focus on the use of service material, manuals, and computer service equipment.
Grade: 11, 12  Credit: 1.0 credit per semester
Prerequisite: Automotive Service Technology I and teacher approval.

AUTOMOTIVE SERVICE TECHNOLOGY III (2 hr.)—7149
A continuation of Automotive Service Technology II. The first semester of this course will consist of training in the area of Engine Performance II, with the second semester concentrating on Engine Repair/Heating and Air Conditioning. NATEF certified program and instructor.
Grade: 12  Credit: 1.0 credit per semester
Prerequisite: Automotive Service Technology I and II and teacher approval.

ARMY JUNIOR RESERVE OFFICER TRAINING CORP (ROTC)
JROTC is a progressive program beginning with familiarization subjects during the first year and leading to more intricate leadership, citizenship, and military science applications in the following years. To gain maximum benefits, cadets are encouraged to enroll in their freshman year and to remain in the program through their senior year.

FIRST YEAR - Introduction to Leadership Education and Training —6754
During the first year, cadets receive classes on Introduction to JROTC, Leadership, First Aid, Map Reading, Techniques of Communication and How to Study. The desired learning outcome during this first year is an appreciation of the ethics, values and principles that underlie good citizenship which include integrity, character and respect for constituted authority.
Grade: 9  Credit: 1.0
Prerequisite: None

SECOND YEAR - Intermediate Leadership Education and Training—6749
During the second year, cadets will build upon what was learned the first year to include courses in History, Drug Awareness, Unlocking Your Potential, Marksman, and Safety. The desired learning outcomes during the second year are the development of leadership potential and the development of the ability to live and work cooperatively with others.
Grade: 10  Credit: 1.0
Prerequisite: First Year - Introduction to Leadership Education and Training

THIRD YEAR – Applied Leadership Education and Training—6748
During the third year of JROTC, cadets progress to courses in Applied Leadership to include Cadet Challenge, Leadership Lab, U.S. Military History, Technology Awareness, and The Role of the U.S. Armed Forces. The desired learning outcomes include the appreciation of the importance of physical fitness and the development of the ability to think logically.
Grade: 11  Credit: 1.0
Prerequisite: Second Year - Intermediate Leadership Education and Training

FOURTH YEAR – Advanced Leadership Education and Training—6747
During the fourth year, cadets will take courses dealing with the Psychology of Leadership. These include Protocol and Military Etiquette, Unlocking your Potential, and Winning Colors. The desired learning outcomes include the development of basic skills that are necessary to work effectively as a member of a team, and the understanding of the importance of high school graduation to a successful future.
Grade: 12  Credit: 1.0
Prerequisite: Third Year - Applied Leadership Education and Training
International Baccalaureate Diploma

Decatur High School now offers the International Baccalaureate Diploma Program (IBDP). The IBDP is a two-year course-of-study for juniors and seniors. It is a rigorous academic programme designed for the highly motivated student. The student will be expected to work at a quicker pace and have a more demanding assessment. Each course will end with an IB exam which will be scored by external assessors. Upon successful completion of the requirements, the student will be awarded the prestigious International Baccalaureate Diploma, along with a Decatur High School Advanced Diploma.

The core curriculum of the IB Programme is organized into six areas of content which consists of:

- **Group 1** Language A: English
- **Group 2** Language B: French or Spanish
- **Group 3** Individuals and Societies: History of Americas
- **Group 4** Experimental Sciences: Chemistry or Biology
- **Group 5** Mathematics: Math SL
- **Group 6** IB Elective – Chemistry, Psychology, Music, Art, ITGS

The successful IB student would

- be self-motivated and family supported.
- have a desire to challenge him/herself intellectually and academically.
- be a competent reader.
- speak and write the English language clearly and effectively.
- possess analytical/critical thinking skills.
- have proficient written and oral skills in foreign language.
- participate in school and community services.
- will put into practice the human capacity to influence quality of life

### Suggested Courses for the Prospective IB Student

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SUBJECT</th>
<th>9th GRADE</th>
<th>10th GRADE</th>
<th>11th GRADE</th>
<th>12th GRADE</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>English</strong> (Required each year – 4 credits)</td>
<td>Pre-DP English 9</td>
<td>Pre-DP English 10</td>
<td>IB Language A1 (HL)</td>
<td>IB Language A1 (HL)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Social Studies</strong> (Required each year – 4 credits)</td>
<td>Pre-DP World History</td>
<td>Pre-DP/AP U.S. History</td>
<td>IB History of the Americas (HL)</td>
<td>IB History of the Americas (HL)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Mathematics</strong> (Required each year – 4 credits)</td>
<td>Pre-DP Geometry</td>
<td>Pre-DP Algebra II w/Trigonometry</td>
<td>IB Mathematics 11 (Pre-Calculus) (SL)</td>
<td>IB Mathematics 12 (Statistics/Calculus) SL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Science</strong> (Required each year – 4 credits)</td>
<td>Pre-DP Biology</td>
<td>Pre-DP Chemistry</td>
<td>IB/AP Chemistry (HL &amp; SL) or Biology (HL)</td>
<td>IB Chemistry (HL &amp; SL) or Biology (HL)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Foreign Language</strong> (Required each year – 4 credits)</td>
<td>Pre-DP Spanish/French I or II</td>
<td>Pre-DP Spanish/French II or III</td>
<td>IB Language B III or IV (SL)</td>
<td>IB Language B IV or V (SL)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Fine Arts</strong> Elective</td>
<td>Elective</td>
<td>Elective</td>
<td>IB Elective (SL)/TOK</td>
<td>IB Elective (SL)/TOK</td>
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<td><strong>Elective</strong></td>
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*One elective (11th and 12th grades) may be for audit.*
PRE-DIPLOMA PROGRAMME

All Pre-Diploma classes are weighted 2.5 points.

PRE-DP ENGLISH 9—0005
This course is designed for highly motivated advanced ninth grade students who are interested in enrolling in the International Baccalaureate programme. Pre-DP honors English 9 will follow the basic structure of honors English 9, which includes an accelerated study of language, literature, and composition. In addition, students are expected to complete individual and group assignments. Students will be evaluated on the basis of class participation, homework, quizzes, oral and written reports, unit tests, and semester exams.
Required summer reading for Pre DP Honors English 9 includes Night by Elie Wiesel and The Water is Wide by Pat Conroy.
Grade: 9 Credit: 1.0
Prerequisite: Acceptance into the IB Programme

PRE-DP ENGLISH 10—0006
Provides an intensive study of American literature from colonial times to 19th century as well as selections of world literature that influenced the development of our American literary genres of short story, novel, drama, and poetry. Composition is emphasized and includes the elements of formal and informal essays, literary analysis, and Writing Assessment modes. Communication skills are developed through oral presentations and group discussions. Grammar review and vocabulary building will focus on test preparation for the PSAT, ACT, and Alabama Graduation Exam. Students are evaluated on the basis of class participation, homework, presentations, quizzes, tests, literary analyses, timed writings, and semester exams.
Required summer reading includes J. Knowles’ A Separate Peace, J.R.R. Tolkiens’ The Hobbit, and H. Hickam’s Rocket Boys. Students will be tested on the summer reading upon returning to school.
Grade: 10 Credit: 1.0
Prerequisite: Acceptance into the IB Programme

PRE-DP FRENCH I—4101
While the same skills will be emphasized as in the French I course, students will also be required to research the Francophone world, and prepare individual/group oral presentations. Students will prepare a portfolio of both oral and written activities each semester. Some exams will be oral. Reading skills will be developed through the study of simple texts in the target language. It is recommended that students have completed their previous English course with a “B” average.
Grade: 9 Credit: 1.0
Prerequisite: Acceptance into the IB Programme

PRE-DP FRENCH II—4151
This course is a continuation of the DP French I course, emphasizing the same material covered in the French II class. Students will expand writing and vocabulary skills through daily journal entries, summaries, and short stories. Daily oral communication is an important part of the course; the class is conducted almost entirely in French. Some exams will be oral. Students will become more interculturally aware through the study of Francophone literature and the Francophone world. Students should have completed the Pre-DP I course with at least a “B” average. Students will be required to purchase a subscription to Bonjour, a French magazine for students, at a cost of $8.00, and a short novel.
Grade: 10 Credit: 1.0
Prerequisite: Acceptance into the IB Programme

PRE-DP SPANISH I—4501
Includes an in-depth study of vocabulary, grammar, and culture, in order to gain facility in the four foreign language skills. The focus will be on application of the four skills, both outside of and within the classroom. Students are evaluated on the basis of participation, homework, quizzes, oral presentations, unit tests and semester exams.
Grade: 9 Credit: 1.0
Prerequisite: Acceptance into the IB Programme

PRE-DP SPANISH II—4551
Involves developing the four skills further and applying them inside the classroom community and in the wider community as well. Speaking, listening, reading, and writing are developed through the reading, interaction with and analysis of short stories, through various other authentic texts, through oral projects and classroom participation, through grammar study and analysis, and through the study of vocabulary. Students are evaluated on the basis of class participation, interactive and individual oral projects, quizzes and tests, writing, homework and semester exams.
Grade: 9, 10 Credit: 1.0
Prerequisite: Acceptance into the IB Programme

PRE-DP GEOMETRY 9—1381
This course is designed for the accelerated ninth grade student planning to pursue the IB Diploma Programme. In addition to the coursework included in the traditional 1380 Geometry, the students will be expected to complete outside projects depicting the real world application of specific geometry concepts. This meets the state requirement for one unit of geometry.
Grade: 9 Credit: 1.0
Prerequisite: Acceptance into the IB Programme and A/B average in Algebra I
PRE-DP ALGEBRA I—1216
Algebra I is a rigorous study of the fundamentals structure of the real number system. Attention will be given to the algebraic properties and operations throughout the course. The development of problem solving and other higher order thinking skills will be emphasized. All students with the mathematical background and ability to enter the Geometry, Algebra II with Trigonometry and IBDP Math Studies course should be encouraged to take this course. Each six weeks a project may be required.
Grade: 9 Credit: 1.0
Prerequisite: Acceptance into the IB Programme

PRE-DP ALGEBRA II WITH TRIGONOMETRY—1211
This course is designed for the accelerated tenth grade student planning to pursue the IB Diploma Programme. In addition to the coursework included in the traditional 1210 - Algebra with Trigonometry classroom, the students will be expected to complete outside projects depicting the real world application of specific Algebra II concepts.
Grade: 10 Credit: 1.0
Prerequisite: Acceptance into the IB Programme and A/B average in Algebra I

PRE-DP 9th GRADE BIOLOGY—3113
Designed for the accelerated ninth grade student who is interested in enrolling in the IB diploma programme. This course is designed for freshman candidates interested in pursuing an IB diploma. Pre-DP biology will follow the basic form of honors biology with an emphasis on lab work and written assignments. Topics to be covered include the microscope, introduction to lab techniques, basic chemistry, cell biology, DNA, genetics, a five kingdom survey, and principles of ecology.
Grade: 9 Credit: 1.0
Prerequisite: Acceptance into the IB Programme

PRE-DP CHEMISTRY I—3141
Provides students with the opportunity to establish a foundation in the modern chemical principles and to develop laboratory techniques. Major topics include measurement, matter and energy, atomic structure, periodic laws, chemical bonding, chemical reactions, stoichiometry, thermochemistry, kinetics, acid-base chemistry, equilibrium, and gas laws. A personal scientific calculator is needed to take this course.
Grade: 10 Credit: 1.0
Prerequisite: Acceptance into the IB Programme

PRE-DP HONORS WORLD HISTORY: 1500 TO PRESENT—2169
This course will follow the same course of study as grade level. However it will go into greater depth and detail. It will stress reading, listening, note-taking, and test-taking skills. The course will also include the use of documents and pieces of literature.
Grade: 9 Credit: 1.0
Prerequisite: Acceptance into the IB Programme

PRE-DP AP U. S. HISTORY 10 TO 1877—2171
This survey course in United States history and the history of the Americas (Latin America and Canada) spans five centuries of social, economic, geographic and political development in the United States and the Americas. The course begins with the Old World backgrounds of the earliest discoveries on the North American continent and follows a chronological study of the major events, issues, movements, leaders and groups of people of the hemisphere through the rise of industrial America up to the end of the nineteenth century. The course is designed to give students skills in critical thinking, interpretive expertise, historiography and research techniques that will enable them to analyze data of a higher cognitive level. The course is taught on the sophomore college level and is designed to prepare students to take the AP examination in the spring of their junior year, or if a student so chooses, the course may be taken for one semester of dual credit through Calhoun.
Grade: 10 Credit: 1
INTERNATIONAL BACCALAUREATE PROGRAMME

All IB classes are weighted 10 points.

IB JUNIOR ENGLISH A1 HL—0022
The Language A1 program is primarily a pre-university course in literature. Literature is concerned with our perceptions, interpretations, and experiences of the world. The study of literature encourages students to see literary works as products of art and their authors as craftsmen whose methods of production can be analyzed in a variety of ways and on a number of levels. An oral presentation and world literature essay are required and will be externally assessed by IBO graders. Summer reading will be Siddhartha by Hermann Hesse, Julius Caesar by Shakespeare, and a collection of essays to be assigned. Please see the teacher about assignments for these works. They are due on the first day of school.
Grade: 11 Credit: 1.0
Prerequisite: Acceptance into the IB Programme

IB SENIOR ENGLISH A1 HL—0023
The Language A1 program for seniors builds upon the skills learned in the junior year. Emphasis is on reading more complex texts, with detailed analysis of the writers’ choices of literary elements. Connections are made in culture, use of language, the individual’s voice, theme, and historical eras. An oral presentation and world literature essay are required, along with two essay exams in May 2008. Summer reading will be selected Flannery O’Conner stories, selected cantos of Dante’s Inferno, and Dust Tracks on a Road by Zora Neale Hurston. Please see the teacher about assignments for these works. They are due the first day of school.
Grade: 12 Credit: 1.0
Prerequisite: Acceptance into the IB Programme

IB SPANISH 11/LANGUAGE B SL—4549
This course is the first part of a two-year IB curriculum that prepares students for the standard-level (SL) examination in Spanish. Emphasis is placed on active communication in the language and analysis of Hispanic literature and culture. Students are evaluated using IB rubrics on the basis of class participation, interactive and individual oral projects, quizzes and tests, writing, homework and semester exams.
Grade: 11 Credit: 1.0
Prerequisite: Acceptance into the IB Programme

IB SPANISH 12/LANGUAGE B SL—4548
This course is the second part of a two-year IB curriculum that prepares students for the standard-level (SL) examination in Spanish. Emphasis is placed on active communication in the language and analysis of Hispanic literature and culture. Students are evaluated using IB rubrics on the basis of class participation, interactive and individual oral projects, quizzes and tests, writing, homework, and semester exams.
Grade: 12 Credit: 1.0
Prerequisite: Acceptance into the IB Programme

IB FRENCH 11/LANGUAGE B SL—4253
This course is the first part of a two-year IB curriculum that prepares students for the standard-level (SL) examination in French. Students in this course will explore the culture and history of a variety of French-speaking societies such as Morocco, Senegal, and Quebec through authentic literary texts and historical readings. Students will increase writing skills through daily journal entries, written responses to texts, and paragraphs. Daily oral communication is an important component of the class; almost no English is spoken. Some exams will be oral. Students will also practice impromptu speaking and writing in the target language with activities similar to IB assessments that will be given during the senior year. Listening comprehension will be strengthened through authentic music, film, and text materials. Completion of French II with at least a “B” average is required. Students will be required to purchase a subscription to Ca Va? Magazine for $8.00, and a short novel.
Grade: 11 Credit: 1.0
Prerequisite: Acceptance into the IB Programme

IB FRENCH 12/LANGUAGE B SL—4254
This course is a continuation of IB French 11. Students will prepare for their IB assessments that are given in the spring through activities that simulate these exams. Impromptu speaking and writing will be a continued focus. Students will read and discuss authentic literary texts from the Francophone world, and discover the history of these regions. Daily oral communication is an important component of the class; almost no English is spoken. Some exams will be oral. Students will increase writing skills through daily journal entries, personal responses to texts, and short essays. Listening comprehension will be strengthened through authentic music, film, and text materials. Completion of IB French 11 with at least a “B” average is required. Students will be required to purchase a subscription to Chez Nous magazine for $8.00, and a short novel.
Grade: 11 Credit: 1.0
Prerequisite: Acceptance into the IB Programme

IB MATH 11 SL (Year 1)—1501
Mathematics Standard Level – Year 1 is the first year of mathematics in a two-year International Baccalaureate curriculum. In addition to the topics studied in the traditional Precalculus curriculum, students will explore mathematics modeling and exploration. Students will be encouraged not only to use their mathematical skills to provide reasonable solutions to given situations, but to appreciate the methods used to formulate the solutions and the mathematicians responsible for the development of the concepts. Additional course requirements include research, development, and presentation of a paper on a selected mathematics topic.
Grade: 11 Credit: 1.0
Prerequisite: Acceptance into the IB Programme
IB MATH 12 SL (Year 2)—1265
Mathematics SL - Year 2 is the second year of mathematics in the two-year IB Diploma programme. This course is a continuation of IB Mathematics SL (Year 1).
Grade: 12 Credit: 1.0
Prerequisite: Acceptance into the IB Programme

IB MATH STUDIES SL—1264
Math Studies Standard Level is a terminal mathematics course in the IB Diploma programme. Lessons are created using an inquiry-based approach, beginning with practical investigations followed by an analysis of those results. Mathematical topics included are: Intro to the graphic display calculator (GDC), number theory and algebra, sets, logic, functions, geometry, trigonometry, probability, statistics, introductory differential calculus and finite mathematics. In addition, an individual student work created from the collection of information with the analysis and evaluation of that information is a course requirement.
Grade: 12 Credit: 1.0
Prerequisite: Acceptance into the IB Programme

IB BIOLOGY 11 HL—3115
The course content meets the expectations of a Biology HL course and is comparable to introductory biology college courses. IB Biology is designed to give students a secure knowledge of a body of facts and a broad understanding of the field of biology. Course topics will include: molecules and cells, genetics, reproduction, evolution, and structure and function of organisms and populations. All experimental science courses seek to develop students’ experimental and investigative scientific skills. A significant amount of time will be devoted to performing practical laboratory work and a collaborative project will be required. Summer assignments may be required.
Grade: 11 Credit: 1.0
Prerequisite: Acceptance into the IB Programme

IB BIOLOGY 12 HL—3116
This course is a continuation of the IB Biology 11 course. It will cover the remainder of the IB curriculum not completed in Biology 11. It will also include a review to prepare students for the IB Biology examination to be completed in May of the senior year.
Grade: 12 Credit: 1.0
Prerequisite: Acceptance into the IB Programme

IB CHEMISTRY HL—3139
The intent of this course is to help students develop a conceptual framework for chemistry, to gain appreciation of science as a process, and to develop investigative skills. Topics covered include atomic and molecular structure, periodicity, bonding, stoichiometry, thermodynamics, equilibria, solutions, electrochemistry, organic chemistry, and biochemistry. The objectives of this class will be accomplished through class discussions, problem solving activities, writing assignments and laboratory experiments.
Students will be required to participate in a collaborative science project.
Grade: 12 Credit: 1.0
Prerequisite: Acceptance into the IB Programme

IB CHEMISTRY SL ONE YEAR—3023
The intent of this course is to help students develop a conceptual framework for chemistry, to gain appreciation of science as a process, and to develop investigative skills. Topics covered include atomic and molecular structure, periodicity, bonding, stoichiometry, thermodynamics, equilibria, solutions, electrochemistry, organic chemistry, and biochemistry. The objectives of this class will be accomplished through class discussions, problem solving activities, writing assignments and laboratory experiments. Students will be required to participate in a collaborative science project.
The total hour requirement is 150 hours divided into 110 hours of Theory and 40 hours of Internal Assessment.
Grade: 11 Credit: 1.0
Prerequisite: Acceptance into the IB Programme

IB HISTORY OF AMERICAS 11 HL—2140
The International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme Higher Level History course is offered during the junior and senior years at Decatur High School. The junior year course is entitled IB History of the Americas/AP II/Dual Credit II/United States History 201 in the sophomore year—United States History from 1750-1995—and then primarily focuses on the approximately 100 years from 1895 until 1995. Students are introduced to the key political, social, economic and cultural events and themes that have had an impact on the Americas including the United States, Central and South America, the Caribbean, and Canada.
Grade: 11 Credit: 1.0
Prerequisite: Acceptance into the IB Programme

IB HISTORY OF AMERICAS 12 HL—2141
The senior year International Baccalaureate Programme Higher Level History course is entitled IB Prescribed Subjects/20th Century World History Topics. The course develops candidates’ ability to comprehend, analyse and use source material critically as historical evidence. Our course is divided up to include: 1. The USSR under Stalin, 1924-1941; 2. The Cold War, 1960-1979 as our Prescribed Subjects component, and 1). Causes, Practices and Effects of War, 2). The Rise and Rule of Single-Party States, and 3). Peace and Cooperation: International Organizations and Multiparty States as our 20th Century World History Topics.
Grade: 12 Credit: 1.0
Prerequisite: Acceptance into the IB Programme

IB ART SL—5142
The IB art course consists of students contracting a certain number of works in a particular media agreed upon by the student and teacher. The students will work independently with added assistance from the instructor. In addition to art work, students must maintain a research workbook which is
an artistic working portfolio and sketchbook documenting ideas, influences, and work progress.

**Grade:** 11, 12  
**Credit:** 1.0  
**Prerequisite:** Acceptance into the IB Programme

**IB MUSIC—5755**
The IB music course will give students the opportunity to explore and enjoy a diversity of music throughout the world by enabling them to creatively develop their knowledge, abilities, and understanding through performance and composition and analysis. Students will demonstrate understanding of music by performing in a group, describing and analyzing music from many and varied cultures and style periods, and using appropriate technical language and terminology. External IB assessment of the listening and musical investigation will constitute fifty percent of the grade. All IB students must take this course in conjunction with one of the school’s performing ensembles (chorus or band).

**Grade:** 11  
**Credit:** 1.0  
**Prerequisite:** Acceptance into the IB Programme

**IB THEORY OF KNOWLEDGE—8140**
Theory of Knowledge (TOK) is the cornerstone of the IB curriculum. Students will examine knowledge and the problems of knowledge through various readings, writings, and discussions based on the areas of mathematics, natural sciences, human sciences, history, the arts, and ethics.

**Grade:** 11, 12  
**Credit:** 1.0  
**Prerequisite:** Acceptance into the IB Programme

**IB PSYCHOLOGY—2142**
The overall aim of IB Psychology is to give students a deeper understanding of the nature and the scope of psychology. The students will study the biological, cognitive, and learning perspectives of psychology. This behavioral science course will cover topics in the study of human behavior, with a focus on dysfunctional psychology. The course will include a study of quantitative research methods and ethics and will require one simple experimental study. The course will fulfill the IB elective requirement. An IB examination will be given in May.

**Grade:** 11, 12  
**Credit:** 1.0  
**Prerequisite:** Acceptance into the IB Programme

**IB ACADEMIC ENRICHMENT—8142**
IB students taking eight academic classes can choose academic enrichment as an elective. This class is to be used to prepare for IB Exams and work on the Extended Essay. This class does not earn a credit. The class is available with the principal’s permission.

**Grade:** 11, 12  
**Credit:** None  
**Prerequisite:** Principal’s permission