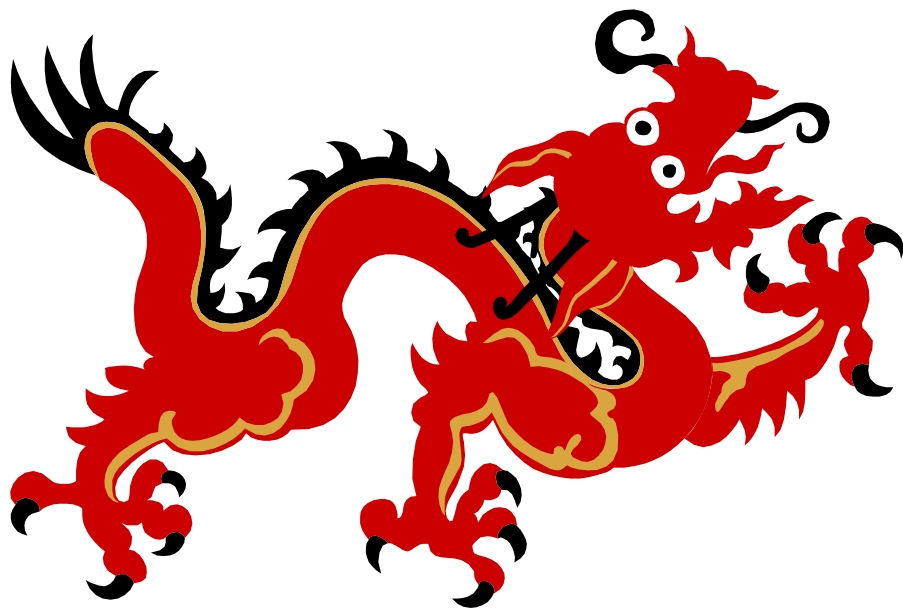


The Center School
Course Catalog



2011-2012

The Center School – Core Courses

Humanities

Asia/Latin America—9th/10th grade Humanities (Year One)

Grade Level: 9th – 10th grade

Length: 2 semesters

Credit: 1.0 per semester (.5 language arts, .5 social studies)

Prerequisite: N/A

Satisfies World I & World II

Using the literature and history of Asia and Latin America, students will develop their skills in academic reading, creative writing, critical thinking, and oral presentation. Through the use of varied classroom strategies, including class and small group discussions, formal and informal writing, arts integration, and literacy instruction, students will finish this course with a strong grounding in how literature and history complement one another to reflect cultures often different from that of the United States. The major works of literature include *Kitchen*, *Sound of Waves*, *Balzac and the Little Chinese Seamstress*, *In the Time of Butterflies*, and *Like Water for Chocolate*.

Europe/Africa/Middle East/India- 9th/10th grade Humanities (Year Two)

Grade Level: 9th – 10th grade

Length: 2 semesters

Credit: 1.0 per semester (.5 language arts, .5 social studies)

Prerequisite: N/A

Satisfies World III & IV

Students will read literature from the major geographical regions of study—Europe, Africa, the Middle East, and India—and study the historical influences and events of the countries. Various genres of literature will be studied, including, but not limited to, novels, short stories, non-fiction essays, poetry, and drama. Students will be engaged in an in-depth analysis of the works studied, which will include classroom discussion, Socratic seminar discussion, journaling, and written analysis. Using the literary and historical content, students will develop their skills in academic reading, creative writing, critical thinking, and oral presentation. In addition, art projects will focus on the regions studied. Literature includes *Lord of the Flies*, *Things Fall Apart*, *The Kite Runner*, and *Nectar in the Sieve*.

American Studies – 11th Grade Humanities

Grade Level: 11th grade

Length: 2 semesters

Credit: 1.0 per semester (.5 language arts, .5 social studies)

Prerequisite: N/A

Satisfies US History 11A & 11B

Eleventh grade Humanities strives to help Center School students internalize and embrace their commitment to positively embracing their country through an empowering and inspirational experience in American Studies. The following district standards begin the journey and prepare them for an exciting and rewarding Civics and Social Justice experience as seniors.

Social Studies and Language Arts Objectives

- Develop a deeper understanding of a diverse range of cultural and historical experiences (in the United States since Reconstruction to the present).
 - Essential Questions* that span entire course:
 - What is the proper role of government in a representative democracy?
 - Is capitalism compatible with democracy?
 - What is the role of social reform in attaining democratic ideals?
 - How has access to economic opportunities varied for different Americans over time?
 - How can an understanding of U.S. History help us address problems today?
 - How have components of freedoms/liberties been maintained over time?
- Choose and read appropriately challenging texts independently & cooperatively (see Book List).
- Evaluate and critique relationships among genres and author choices based on audience, purpose and form (literary elements and writing devices/Book Chats)
- Evaluate, synthesize and apply multiple sources of information to explore, address or demonstrate a thesis (Research and MLA citation Mastery).
- Develop strong and concise written summaries and analyses of literary and informational texts and be able to support them with textual evidence (Literary Analysis Essays).
- Evaluate and assess reasoning and rhetoric (Logical Fallacies)
- Construct effective argument, explanatory and narrative texts.
- Use the writing process to revise with sophistication (Writing Process System).
- Prepare for and effectively participate in a range of structured interactions, sustaining concentration, asking probing questions, and propelling conversation forward (Socratic Seminars).
- Make effective use of meta cognitive strategies to evaluate and improve reading, writing, critical thinking and presentation skills.

Literature & Philosophy / World Literature / AP Language and Composition
Contemporary Problems/Historical Research – 12th grade Humanities

Grade Level: 12th grade
Length: 2 semesters
Credit: 1.0 per semester (.5 language arts, .5 social studies)
Prerequisite: N/A

This course will focus on contemporary issues as well as universal ethical questions. Students will read a wide range of texts, both modern and classical, which explore the big themes. Units of study will include globalization, population and resource distribution, economics, comparative political systems, psychology, journalism, and justice. Students will address these topics through seminar-style discussions, debates, writing, and a variety of projects. They will also study Advanced Placement Language and Composition, and interested students may opt to take the AP test at the end of the year. Students will continue to develop their critical thinking skills, as well as to hone research and writing skills. In addition, they will be encouraged to explore their own ideas, beliefs, and creative voices through artistic expression and community activism. Writing assignments will include personal essays, which are required for most college applications, position pieces, research papers, literary analyses, and creative writings. Finally, the Senior Project will be an integral component of the course, as students connect their passion to the school mission in preparation for sharing their work to the school community during Senior Celebration.

Mathematics

Algebra 1A/1B

Grade Level: 9th - 12th grade
Length: 2 semesters
Credit: 0.5 per semester
Prerequisite: Math 8

The two-semester Algebra 1A/1B sequence develops students' algebraic and problem-solving skills. Topics considered include: solving equations algebraically; recursive relationships; linear, quadratic and exponential relationships; and connecting information through tables, graphs, equations, and verbal descriptions.

Geometry A/B

Grade Level: 9th - 12th grade
Length: 2 semesters
Credit: 0.5 per semester
Prerequisite: Algebra 1A/1B or recommendation from instructor or math placement test

The two-semester Geometry A/B sequence develops students' understanding of geometric properties and principles and how to use reasoning to support statements. Topics considered include: vocabulary and symbols of geometry, inductive and deductive reasoning, constructions, properties of two dimensional and three dimensional figures, and right triangle trigonometry.

Algebra 2A/2B

Grade Level: 9th - 12th grade
Length: 2 semesters
Credit: 0.5 per semester
Prerequisite: Geometry A/B or recommendation from instructor or Math Placement Test

The two-semester Algebra 2A/2B sequence solidifies and expands students' understanding of functions, algebraic manipulation, and problem-solving. Topics considered include: recursive formulas, sequences, modeling systems, exponential and logarithmic functions and graphs, transformations of functions, and polynomial and rational functions.

Pre-Calculus A/B

Grade Level: 9th - 12th grade
Length: 2 semesters
Credit: 0.5 per semester
Prerequisite: Algebra 2A/2B or recommendation from instructor or Math Placement Test

This is a full year course for students who have successfully completed Algebra 2B. Pre-calculus includes development and application of the function concept, properties of mathematical systems, study of quadratic, exponential, logarithmic, linear, circular, and trigonometric functions and their inverses.

Calculus A/B

Grade Level: 12th grade
Length: 2 semesters
Credit: 0.5 per semester
Prerequisite: Pre-Calculus A/B or recommendation of Instructor or Math Placement Test

Calculus A/B covers limits, continuity, derivatives and integrals and their applications. The course is not designed to prepare students for the Calculus AB Advanced Placement examination.

Science

Integrated Inquiry Science

Integrated Inquiry Science is a two-year looping curriculum in which 9th and 10th grade students are combined. Each sequence is independent of the other. It is not necessary to take 1/2 before 3/4.

Integrated Inquiry Science 1/2

Grade Level: 9th-10th grade
Length: 2 semesters
Credit: 0.5 per semester
Prerequisite: N/A
There is a fee for this class.

Integrated Inquiry Science 1/2 focuses on forces and motion; Newton's laws; work, potential, and kinetic energy; the solar system; Earth systems and materials; evolution; and ecosystem ecology. This course initiates student opportunities to engage in an inquiry-based curriculum that allows historical, personal, and social connections to be constructed through interdisciplinary and visual art oriented projects as well as to provide students with experience in reading and writing about scientific literature.

Integrated Inquiry Science 3/4

Grade Level: 9th-10th grade
Length: 2 semesters
Credit: 0.5 per semester
Prerequisite: N/A
There is a fee for this class.

Integrated Inquiry Science 3/4 focuses on the basics of scientific inquiry; the properties of matter and energy; atomic structure and the periodic table; chemical reactions; organic compounds; cell structure, function, movement, and energy; and genetics and heredity. This course initiates student opportunities to engage in an inquiry-based curriculum that allows historical, personal, and social connections to be constructed through interdisciplinary and visual art oriented projects as well as to provide students with experience in reading and writing about scientific literature.

Chemistry 1/2

Grade Level: 11th – 12th grade

Length: 2 semesters

Credit: 0.5 per semester

Prerequisite: Integrated Science 1, 2, 3, & 4 or recommendation from instructor

Co-requisite: Algebra II or higher

There is a fee for this class.

Chemistry is an algebra-based, year-long lab course focused on properties & reactions of matter, atomic & nuclear theory, periodicity, bonding, stoichiometry, kinetics and solutions.

Chemistry is a central science; it is crucial for understand all life sciences and many physical sciences. Chemistry requires that student think abstractly and mathematically and employ understandings gained from physical and mathematical models to the interactions of matter. Chemistry is a lab science: labs that support learning, back up claims, illustrate phenomena, closely examine models, require observations and accurate measurements and inspire students to wonder about the world are a key part of this course. At the conclusion of this course students are prepared for college level studies in science including college level lab work.

The chemistry curriculum is guided by rigorous college and career ready standards. These standards focus on the properties of matter, atomic and nuclear chemistry, periodicity, chemical bonding, chemical reactions and stoichiometry, thermo chemistry, solutions, and acids and bases. Quantitative problem solving through mathematical reasoning, mathematical manipulation and dimensional analysis will be a focus of chemistry. Using a systems approach to complex processes, students carry out scientific inquiries and communicate their findings as well as apply scientific knowledge gained in the classroom to learn about kinetic molecular theory and thermo chemistry. Scientific models are developed and manipulated by students to gain deeper understandings of such things as the periodic table and chemical bonding.

AP Biology

Grade Level: 12th grade

Length: 2 semesters

Credits: 0.5 each semester

Prerequisites: Successful completion of chemistry or recommendation from instructor

There is a fee for this class.

The course is designed to meet the needs of students who wish to take a second year of upper division science and for those who choose to prepare for the Advanced Placement Biology exam. ***Students who sign up for the course do not have to take the AP test*** but will be receiving the same instruction as those who choose to do so. Students must have successfully completed chemistry to take the course. ***This course is the equivalent of a college introductory biology course*** usually taken by biology majors in their first year. As a result, college level study skills will also be a part of instruction. This course provides students with the conceptual framework, factual knowledge, and analytical skills necessary to deal critically with the rapidly changing science of biology. Biological topics studied include: science as process,

evolution, continuity and change, energy transfer, relationship of structure to function, regulation, interdependence in nature, and science, technology and society. The study of biology, specifically nature, through art is integrated throughout the curriculum. We complete the course with a study of science ethics as well as a survey of careers in science through community speakers and field trips.

World Language

Spanish 1 A/B

<i>Grade Level:</i>	<i>9th – 12th grade</i>
<i>Length:</i>	<i>2 semesters</i>
<i>Credit:</i>	<i>0.5 per semester</i>
<i>Prerequisite:</i>	<i>N/A</i>

This course will focus on learning basic vocabulary/ expressions and communicating standard personal information of age, name, residence, likes and dislikes, daily schedule, and description of family members. Grammar points will include pronoun use, conjugating present tense verbs including irregular verbs, future tense, gender agreement, and use of infinitives. Class is conducted for the most part in Spanish.

Spanish 2 A/B

<i>Grade Level:</i>	<i>9th – 12th grade</i>
<i>Length:</i>	<i>2 semesters</i>
<i>Credit:</i>	<i>0.5 per semester</i>
<i>Prerequisite:</i>	<i>Spanish 1A/B or recommendation from instructor or placement test.</i>

This course expands the learning from the previous course. The emphasis is on developing skills of communication through question-answer processes and simple face-to-face conversation. Training is provided in writing original short paragraphs using familiar structures and vocabulary. Grammar instruction deals with possessive and descriptive adjectives and pronouns; the forms of the present, preterit and imperfect tenses; and reflexive and stem changing verbs.

Spanish 3 A/B

<i>Grade Level:</i>	<i>9th – 12th grade</i>
<i>Length:</i>	<i>2 semesters</i>
<i>Credit:</i>	<i>0.5 per semester</i>
<i>Prerequisite:</i>	<i>Spanish 2A/B or recommendation from instructor or placement test.</i>

In this course, only Spanish is spoken in class, by both teacher and students. The focus is on oral communication. Grammar includes review of past tenses, direct objects, future tense, commands and introduction to subjunctive. Most weight for grades is based on class participation and projects.

Spanish 4 A/B

Grade Level: 11th - 12th grade
Length: 2 semesters
Credit: 0.5 per semester
Prerequisite: Spanish 3A/B or recommendation from instructor or placement test.

This course is designed for those students who have completed the third level of instruction and would like to continue the study of Spanish. The emphasis is on developing proficiency in reading, writing and communicating in Spanish. The materials include various recommended texts as well as newspapers, magazines, films & music. Upon completion of this course students should be prepared to take the AP course and prepare for the AP test in Spanish Language.

The Center School - Electives

Digital Arts

Film 1

Level: 9th – 12th grade
Length: 1 semester
Credit: 0.5 per semester
Prerequisite: N/A
There is a fee for this class.

Ready to take your first step towards thanking the Academy? In this class you will bring fantasy and imagination to life on the big screen. You will start by learning shooting techniques to make your scenes convey power, emotion, and action. Editing is where your footage turns into a real movie as you cut together shots, add titles, and lay down a soundtrack. To do this, you will learn to edit using Final Cut Pro, a professional video editing system. In the end, you will have your very own movie and be one step closer to Spielberg.

******This course counts as CTE (Occupational Ed.) credit.***

Film 2

Level: 9th – 12th grade
Length: 1 semester
Credit: 0.5 per semester
Prerequisite: Intro To Film (Film 1) or recommendation from instructor

There is a fee for this class.

Now that you have the basics, it is time to learn the art of filmmaking. You will learn techniques for creating a narrative film that grabs the attention of your audience through effective story structure, interesting characters, and plot twists. And get ready for the daring art of experimental filmmaking! To do all this, you will learn more advanced techniques for your camera work and editing including shooting and cutting dialogue, working with lighting and boom microphones, mastering color in the camera and in Final Cut Pro, and cutting on the action. By the end of the semester you will have two new films to add to your video collection.

******This course counts as CTE (Occupational Ed.) credit.***

Film 3

Level: 11th – 12th grade

Length: 1 year

Credit: 0.5 per semester

Prerequisite: Film 2 or recommendation from instructor

There is a fee for this class.

You are now ready to sink your teeth into some serious filmmaking, so here's what you are going to do. You are going to create four films from several styles - experimental, narrative, and documentary. You are going to use boom mics, three-point lighting, the advanced 24P cameras so you can make movies that look like they were shot on film, create original screenplays, and add special effects into your editing. In order to have the time to do this all, this film class is a two-semester adventure so you can do it right and get the time you need. You will end the year with both a non-fiction and fiction piece to screen at The Center School Film Festival, send out to the festival circuit, and maybe even send to film school.

******This course counts as CTE (Occupational Ed.) credit.***

Film 4

Level: 12th grade

Length: 1 year

Credit: 0.5 per semester

Prerequisite: Film 3 or recommendation from instructor

There is a fee for this class.

What's your passion? Have you been wanting to sink your teeth into a longer narrative film? Is there a documentary that needs to be made? In Film 4 you get the opportunity to do focus on one of the film genres and create independent films of your own choosing. You will fine tune your composition and editing techniques through one-on-one work with the instructor. At the end of the year you will create your own film portfolio DVD encompassing all your film work at The Center School.

******This course counts as CTE (Occupational Ed.) credit.***

Digital Photography 1

Level: 9th – 12th grade

Length: 1 semester

Credit: 0.5 per semester

Prerequisite: N/A

There is a fee for this class.

Everybody takes pictures, but what makes it a good picture? Come find out in the digital photography class. Take photos that make people stop and think about the visual story you are telling. Learn compositional techniques such as depth of field, light and shadow, lines, balance, contrast, and framing. Finish your photos using Photoshop, the darkroom of the digital photographer. In the end, you will have a photography portfolio to exhibit. Although it is not a requirement, it is recommended that you have your own digital camera to use.

******This course counts as CTE (Occupational Ed.) credit.***

Digital Photography 2

Level: 9th – 12th grade

Length: 1 semester

Credit: 0.5 per semester

Prerequisite: Digital Photography 1

There is a fee for this class.

Now that you have the foundations of photography, it is time to master the camera and take your photography to a new level. By the end of the class, manipulating your aperture, shutter, and ISO will be second nature. You will design amazing lighting by learning how to use a three-point lighting setup. You will get out into the field through special projects such as architectural photography, studio lighting for portraits, action photography, and field trips to photography exhibits. You will build on your photography portfolio and exhibit your work. Although it is not a requirement, it is recommended that you have your own digital SLR or digital camera that allows you to work with aperture and shutter speed.

******This course counts as CTE (Occupational Ed.) credit.***

Graphic Design I

Level: 10th – 12th grade

Length: 1 semester

Credit: 0.5 per semester

Prerequisite: Beginning Art

There is a fee for this class.

Love visual art *and* the art of communication? Want to learn some skills and techniques that will enhance the way the way you see things *and* the way others see your work? Emphasis is on conceptual thinking, sketching, artistic language, communication skills—and the robust programs of Adobe InDesign, Illustrator and Photoshop.

This course prepares individuals to apply artistic and computer techniques to the interpretation of technical and commercial concepts. Students gain exposure to computer-assisted art and design, conceptual development, sketching and/or technical drawing, color theory, imaging, studio technique, communication skills and commercial art/business operations. Some Marketing 101 standards will apply.

*****This course counts as CTE (Occupational Ed.) credit.**

Graphic Design II

Level: 10th – 12th grade
Length: 1 semester
Credit: 0.5 per semester
Prerequisite: Beginning Art & Graphic Design I
There is a fee for this class.

This course allows students to further explore the application of artistic and computer techniques to the interpretation of creative, technical and commercial concepts. Students continue developing their skills, individual styles and portfolios, as well as visit local design studios and advertising agencies.

Includes instruction in computer-assisted art and design, concept development, sketching, technical drawing, color theory, imaging, printmaking, studio techniques, communication skills and commercial art/business operations.

This course is approved for cross-credit as a Visual Art elective (see Ms. Sanusi for details). Students who earn a grade of B or higher in Graphic Design II qualify for TechPrep credit at Seattle Central Community College.

*****This course counts as CTE (Occupational Ed.) credit.**

Literary Arts

Poetry

Level: 9th – 12th grade
Length: 1 semester
Credit: 0.5 per semester
Prerequisite: N/A

This is a semester-long course that immerses students into a world of words. During the course of the semester, students hone their creative voices, develop and tune their senses, and become acquainted with the power of the poetic. Students will read a great diversity of established and emerging poets, and will begin to develop the vocabulary to analyze creative work. By writing and revising their own creative work, students will emerge as poets in their own right. Units of study include figurative language, slam poetry, sound techniques, and form. The course culminates in the production of a class poetry collection and a poetry reading at the Richard

Hugo House.

Advanced Poetry

Level: 10th – 12th grade
Length: 1 semester
Credit: 0.5 per semester
Prerequisite: Poetry 1

Because students demanded it! Poetry 2 is an opportunity for students to take poetry beyond the base built in Literary Arts – Poetry I. More poetry skills to develop. More exposure to a variety of poets. More work-shopping the work of peers. Furthermore, by joining this class, you will have more control over the content of the course. Poetry II consists of three major elements: developing new skills, immersing students into various poetry movements, and producing an individual poetry collection. This course will certainly help push your poetry to the next level.

Theatre Arts

Introduction to Speech/Drama (Drama 1)

Level: 9th-12th grade
Length: 1 semester
Credits: 0.5 per semester
Prerequisite: N/A

Drama I is a prerequisite for all other Drama classes. This course was designed to introduce students to the fundamentals of theatre and public speaking. Students will explore units in Improvisation, Public Speaking, and Theatrical Production. Each unit will culminate with a final project that will be preformed during class time for their peers. They will also be given the opportunity to reflect and respond critically to the work of their peers and theatre professionals.

(Fall Performance) - Drama 3

Level: 10th – 12th
Length: 1 semester
Credit: 0.5 per semester
Prerequisite: N/A

If you're drawn to the spotlight, this drama class is for you. Throughout the semester, students work on creating character, exploring relationships, and finding their way into the life of a script. Much of the class time is spent in rehearsals of a classic play from the American or world theatre, which is fully produced in the late fall. In addition, students develop monologue/audition skills, and rehearse and perform small group scenes.

Visual Arts

Beginning Drawing & Painting

Level: 9th – 12th grade
Length: 1 semester
Credit: 0.5 per semester
Prerequisite: N/A

Find the artist within through learning basic drawing and painting concepts. Explore the elements of art and principles of design and learn how to apply them to your work to make art with an impact. Learn how to render realistic images with pencil, charcoal, pastels, and pen. Explore color theory with chalk pastels and watercolor. Make art that has an impact and be surprised by your hidden talents! Learn how to draw what you see. The course culminates in a growth portfolio from which one or more pieces will be selected for the Spring Arts Showcase. This course provides the foundation for all of the arts integration work at The Center School. This course is required for potential cross-crediting in future art classes, all 9th graders are automatically scheduled in Beg. Drawing and Painting.

Advanced Drawing & Painting

Level: 10th – 12th grade
Length: 2 semesters
Credit: 0.5 per semester
Prerequisite: *Beginning Drawing & Painting*

Take artistic expression to the next level! Explore drawing, painting, and 3-dimensional art. Find your artistic voice, discover your style, improve techniques and experiment with alternative media. Your continued exploration of the elements of art and principles of design will show you how to make your work even more powerful! In this year long course, there will be more focus on the development of painting techniques in watercolor and acrylic. You will also learn how to refine, revise, and reinvent your work. In the second semester, you will create conceptual art that tells a story and develop a series with a theme of your choice. This class includes portfolio development, discovery of artists and their work, student-directed projects, group critiques, and guest lectures. The course culminates in a growth portfolio from which one or more pieces will be selected for the Spring Arts Showcase.

AP Art

Level: 11th – 12th grade
Length: 2 semesters
Credit: 0.5 per semester
Prerequisite: *Beginning Drawing & Painting & Advanced Drawing & Painting*

This rigorous, fast-paced, and exciting course is designed to provide highly-motivated and students the chance to pursue a college-level, self-directed study in drawing or 2-D design. Students participating in this class should plan on doing a lot work outside of the classroom.

For most of the year, students will have one high quality piece due per week. The focus of the course is building, assembling, and submitting a digital portfolio of 24 original works, within the guidelines established by the College Board. Students will design 12 works to showcase the diversity of their artistic talent and 12 works that are based on one theme. This class provides students with the opportunity to hone their talents while developing their personal voice. At the end of the year, students will show their 24 pieces at the Spring Arts Showcase in the Harrison Street Gallery.

Required Elective Course

Health

<i>Level:</i>	<i>9th grade</i>
<i>Length:</i>	<i>1 semester</i>
<i>Credit:</i>	<i>0.5 per semester</i>
<i>Prerequisite:</i>	<i>N/A</i>

The intent of this health class is to raise questions about how an individual's choices in regard to health-related decisions can influence the quality and perhaps quantity of a person's life. Students will be focusing on the following units of study: fitness and nutrition; mental, emotional, and social health; medicines and drugs; reproductive health; diseases and disorders; and consumer and environmental health. This health course will also incorporate the LifeSkills curriculum that will provide students with the tools they need to succeed in this world and effectively deal with the many problems they face.

*****This course is a state graduation requirement. All 9th graders are required to take 1 semester of Health.**

*****Not all courses are offered each year.*****