



ENGLISH 9

English 9, students are introduced to a variety of literature from the European tradition. The students read, discuss and write about selections from mythology, classic poems, novels, plays, essays, short poetry and short fiction. Students read with an eye toward analysis of: purpose, audience, style, structure, tone and diction, and apply their understanding of each as they become writers themselves.

WRITING WORKSHOP

Writing Workshop is a course designed by Summit School teachers. This course introduces students to important writing skills they need in all their courses in high school. Writing Workshop is interdisciplinary in nature, dealing with writing across the curriculum and supplementing instruction provided in English course 9.

ENGLISH 10

English 10 is designed to develop writing skills while fostering an appreciation for traditional and nontraditional forms of literature. Historical, social and cultural implications of literature are the focus, and readings from various genres provide students with models from which their own writings emerge.

Students learn to identify and develop personal writing strengths using writing process strategies, while alternate models of literary response are incorporated into traditional models.

ENGLISH 11

This course covers major American literary periods, themes, forms and writers. While organization and clarity of writing are emphasized, research skills as well as verbal and grammar skills are reviewed. Preparation for the SATs and ELA Regents, as well as extensive reading, literature and analysis in writing are stressed.

ENGLISH 12

This Regents level course includes thematic units on family, work, intolerance, law and the city as reflected in a variety of genres of literature, stories, poems, essays, novels and plays.

HUMANITIES

Humanities is an integrated course focusing on the relationship between art, music and literature. Emphasis centers on the classical period of the Greeks and Romans through the modernist and post-modernist movements. The integration of these three disciplines allows students not only to read, as in traditional literature classes, but to look and listen as well. Thus, students become active learners in interdisciplinary environment in the search for knowledge. Throughout the course, students will be exposed to a wide variety of field trips, including the Metropolitan Opera, a New York Philharmonic Orchestra rehearsal, New York City Ballet, the Metropolitan Museum of Art, The Museum of Modern Art, plus numerous in-class speakers and visual presentations.

GLOBAL I

The content of this 9th grade social studies course meets the New York State Regents standards. In the first year of a two year sequence, students will explore the basic concepts and events that have shaped global history from the earliest civilizations up to 1750, including: ancient Greece and Rome, classical China and India, the world's great religions, the flourishing of Asia and Africa, the Middle Ages, the Reformation and Renaissance, the first Global age in commercial revolution and the rise of nation states.

GLOBAL II

The content for 10th grade's social studies course meets the New York State Regent's standards. In this second year of the 2-year sequence, the students will explore basic concepts and events that have shaped the global history from 1750 to the present, including: enlightenment, age of revolutions, industrialism, imperialism (the second global age), World War I, the inter-war period, World War II, the Cold War, from colonies to new nations 1945 - 2000, and recent struggles in democracy. In addition, the study of basic economic terms and concepts is incorporated into several units of study during the year. Students will take the New York State Regents exam in Global Studies and Geography at the end of the school year.

U.S. HISTORY AND GOVERNMENT

The content of this 11th grade social studies course meets the New York State Regents standards. Themes are presented in this program that relate to the development of American ideals, conflicts, problems, and aspirations as a society. This course emphasizes the many enduring issues important in America: equality, power, rights, and differences. The students are expected to participate in class discussions and activities, develop an awareness of current events and continue to work on research, writing and other essential skills. The Regents exam in US History and Government is taken at the end of the course.

ECONOMICS

Economics is a one-semester state mandated course for 12th grade students which includes instruction on both micro- and macroeconomics. Students learn the meaning of economic terms and develop an understanding of economics through the use of appropriate model systems. Major topics include the study of economic stability, capitalism, markets and prices, investments, trade and the banking system. Students are expected to complete a short project and write position papers on specific topics. Students will also participate in a stock market simulation.

GOVERNMENT

This is a one-semester state mandated course for 12th grade students which is designed to provide a practical learning experience in the public policy process and the theoretical understanding of several major concepts of governments and politics.

PSYCHOLOGY

Psychology is an elective course open to 11th and 12th graders.

The course seeks to broaden the understanding of human behavior through the study of perception, learning, conditioning, personality theories and abnormal psychology. The major focus of the course is to promote greater self-awareness and self-understanding of the individual. The course requirements include practical applications such as role playing, demonstrations and presentations. A research project/term paper is required.

SOCIOLOGY

Sociology is a Regents level elective course offered in 11th and 12th grades. The primary objective of the course is to inform students of the methodology of sociology and to provide an understanding of basic concepts of social organizations and interactions. Topics include the family and group dynamics, gender, class structure, race and ethnicity, and urban and suburban social patterns. Emphasis focuses on current U.S. social situations and problems. Course requirements include reading from current literature, reports and projects.

CRIMINAL LAW

Criminal law is an introduction to the study of law and criminal justice. Students study basic case law and participate in numerous mock trials. New York State and Federal laws are reviewed as well as investigation and reporting techniques. Numerous readings, participation in trials as well as written assignments, a research paper, tests and quizzes are all course requirements.

PHYSICAL SETTING EARTH SCIENCE

This course is based on the New York State core curriculum. It integrates math, science and technology. The course of study will focus on five main topics: geology, meteorology, anthropology, environmental awareness and astronomy. Extensive laboratory experiences are included. There is a Regents exam at the end of the course (90% written, 10% lab). The course meets the physical setting requirement for graduation.

LIVING ENVIRONMENT: BIOLOGY

This course is based on the New York State core curriculum. A general understanding of fundamental principles of biology is taught. Topics included are cell biology, life's characteristics, biochemistry, human physiology, reproduction and developmental genetics, evolution and ecology. Extensive laboratory activities are included. This meets Living Environment requirements for graduation. The students will take a Regents exam at the conclusion of this course.

PHYSICAL SETTING CHEMISTRY

Emphasis is placed on experimentation and observation as the basis for all knowledge in Chemistry. The unifying principles of the subject are developed in a logical way, with laboratory work providing a basis for the development. A strong background in mathematics is required. Students will take a Regents exam at the conclusion of this course. This course meets the physical setting requirement for graduation.

FORENSIC SCIENCE

Forensic science is an applied science that deals with the use of the scientific method or solving problem approach to analyze physical evidence from the scene of a crime. The focus of this course is to develop laboratory techniques and will examine physical evidence. Topics will include surveillance, arson, fingerprinting, tool marks, hair analysis, DNA testing and document examination. This course should only be taken by students after successful completion of Biology and Math A. This course provides students with a conceptual framework, practical knowledge and analytical skills.

SPANISH I

This is an introductory course which develops communicative efficiency at the beginning level in the four basic language skills of listening, speaking, reading and writing. Relevant topics, situations, functional expressions and structures are introduced by means of personalization and analysis. Culture is integrated into the program by means of projects and the use of authentic materials. Students will be assessed regularly in terms of their proficiency according to the New York State syllabus.

SPANISH II

This course is a continuation of the introductory level. Communicative proficiency is developed through additional topics, situations, functional expressions and structures which are analyzed and personalized. The four skills of listening, speaking, reading and writing are further developed. Appreciation of Hispanic culture is integrated into the program by means of projects and the use of authentic materials.

SPANISH III

This course develops communicative proficiency at the intermediate level. The four skills of listening, speaking, reading and writing are expanded by means of intermediate topics, situations, functional expressions and structures. Classes are conducted in Spanish. Students are prepared for the Regents exam which serves as the final examination for the course.

HEALTH AND PHYSICAL EDUCATION

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

The New York State Department of Education mandates four years of physical education as a condition of graduation. The curriculum is designed to promote teamwork, sportsmanship, and physical conditioning, while students develop an understanding and appreciation of the values of fitness and wellness through physical activity.

HEALTH

Health is a 1/2 unit course. The health curriculum is designed to study the fundamental concepts of mental, sociological, environmental, and community health. Effects of drugs, alcohol, tobacco are investigated as important aspects of family living and interpersonal relationships. This course includes a presentation of current facts and information about HIV/Aids. This course is flexible in sequence and content and is designed to meet the varied needs of students in relationship to their environment and community. The goal is to provide accurate health information, help develop positive attitudes and maintain or initiate constructive behavior.

RESOURCE ROOM

Available at each grade level, this course is designed by a learning specialist to increase student awareness of individual learning styles and enhance academic success. Students are introduced to strategies which address their particular style. These strategies may include effective organization, information gathering and study and test taking skills. Each student's needs are assessed and remediated an individual basis.

COMPUTER

Students learn how to use different types of software in an educational setting. Word processing, electronic spreadsheets and data management will be studied. Students will also be instructed on the use of the Internet, working with basic computer programming. Students will find many uses for these applications, particularly word processing and Internet, during their high school years. MacIntosh and Dell computers will be used in this course. Research projects will be required. There is a grade for this 1/4 CREDIT course.

COMPUTER TECHNOLOGY

Beyond the Basics - Students further their knowledge of computer and technology by spending five periods per week in the computer lab. The focus of the course is to demonstrate competence in terms of computer hardware configurations, operating systems, Microsoft application programs, servers, wireless networks and web design. This is a 1 CREDIT course.

KEYBOARDING

Students learn to use the keyboard by the touch method with proper key stroke techniques for use in nearly every data entry/word processing situation. The course covers appropriate technique as well as the use of different computer word processing programs. This is a 1/4 CREDIT course.

ART

Introduction to Art is a foundation course offering the student the fundamental concepts and techniques related to the production of individual art work. Students will learn to use a wide variety of materials, tools and equipment. Introduction to Art is an elective for students. Successful completion of this course satisfies the portion of the art/music graduation requirement. There is a grade for this 1/4 CREDIT course.

FINE ARTS

This course provides a deeper study of basic drawing and painting techniques and media for students. The basic skills will be used to create realistic and abstract projects. Background information in art history will be included in the course as it pertains to student projects. There is a grade for this 1/2 to one full CREDIT course.

CERAMICS

This course covers the basic techniques in three different forms of ceramic art. The use of hand building, the use of molds as well as use of the wheel will be developed during this course. Students will be prepared to produce projects which will be glazed and fired. Ceramics satisfies a portion of the art/music graduation requirement. There is a grade for this 1/4 CREDIT course.

THE ARTS

MUSIC

Music is a course which encourages students to discover and develop musical talents and interests. Students actively engage in the use of materials and resources for participation in the musical arts. Traditional musical instruments and electronic keyboards and drums will be used for composition. Students will analyze and respond critically to a variety of works of music with the understanding of the basic elements of melody, rhythm, harmony, dynamics, form and timbre. This course satisfies one portion of the arts/ music Regents requirement. There is a grade for this 1/4 CREDIT course.

SHOP

Wood shop is a prevocational course which permits students to create projects using a variety of tools and materials. Students are required to plan and then provide a supply list for each project. As students become more proficient in the use of hand and power tools, basic carpentry skill are taught. This is a 1/4 credit course.

MATH LAB

Students who need to review basic mathematical functions will be scheduled for Math Lab. This is a course to assist in preparation for Math A which is required in order to graduate.

MATH A1

is the first of three courses needed to complete the core curriculum of New York State in preparation for the Math A Regents exam. This course covers topics beginning with basic algebraic principles and concluding with geometric proofs. Students proficient in these areas through courses given in previous schools may bypass Math A1 and enroll in Math A2.

MATH A2

This second math course contains a more challenging curriculum as it builds upon concepts and skills taught in Math A1. Math A2 begins with quadratic equations and includes such topics as coordinate geometry, systems of equations, quadrilaterals and logic. Practice Regents exam questions are introduced as homework and class work in an attempt to prepare the student for the Math A Regent exam.

MATH A3

Building further on material taught in Math A2, this course covers the final topics needed for proficiency on the Math Regents exam. This course begins with a review of previous topics, taken a step further in their complexity. Math A3 covers topics such as transformations, locus, quadratic relations, probability and statistics. A substantial amount of time is slotted for review of all three core courses. Students take the Math A Regents exam at the end of this course, thus fulfilling the math requirements for a Regents diploma.

MATH B1

Students having completed the Math A course of study and passing the Math A Regents exam may enroll in Math B1. This is the first course of two designed for the honors math student. Topics introduced in Math A become more challenging and complex in Math B1. The topics include advanced functions, algebra and mathematical analysis.

MATH B2

At the completion of Math B2 students can take a New York State Regents exam. This exam would earn the student a Regents Diploma with Honors. This is a rigorous course of study which requires a commitment from the student to devote extra time for study. Successful completion of Math B will permit entry into Pre-calculus.

BUSINESS MATH

This is a math course for students who have completed course A1, but still need math courses to complete diploma requirements. Business math permits students to master the types of math functions and problems encountered in daily life and in many retail employment opportunities.

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