**HERSCHER HIGH SCHOOL**

**FRESHMAN CURRICULUM GUIDE**

**2025-2026 SCHOOL YEAR**

GUIDANCE COUNESLORS DARTHY BISAILLON MICHELLE MARCUKAITIS

JULIA DALY

HERSCHER HIGH SCHOOL, 501 N. MAIN ST, HERSCHER, IL 60941

PHONE: 815-426-2103, FAX: 815-426-2957

DISTRICT WEBPAGE: [WWW.HCUSD2.ORG](http://WWW.HCUSD2.ORG) FOR ONLINE ACCESS

## Table of Contents

[Course offerings 2](#_TOC_250003)

Graduation overview… 3

Graduation requirements… 4

[Career Planning](#_TOC_250002) 5

4 Year plan worksheet… 7

English 8

Mathematics 10

Science 12

Social Science 13

Physical & Health Education… 14

Art 16

Music… 17

World Language 20

Business… 21

Career and Technical Education/Vocational… 22

Self-Contained 25

|  |
| --- |
| **Course Offerings** |
| **English** | **Mathematics** | **Science** |
| Foundations of English I, 9English I, 9Honors English I, 9 | Algebra IA, 9-11Algebra IB/Double Block, 9-12Algebra IB, 9-12Honors Geometry, 9-12 | Biology, 9 |
| **Music** | **Business** | **Social Science** |
| Percussion & Winds, 9-12Orchestra, 9-12Concert Choir, 9-12Music Survey\* I & II, 9-12 | Intro to Business\*, 9-12Computer Concepts\*, 9-12 | World History, 9-10 (full year course) |
| **Art** | **World Language** | **Physical Health Ed** |
| Art I\*, 9-12 | Spanish I, 9-12Heritage Language Learner, 9-12 | Health\*, 9Physical Education-DR\*, 9-11Physical Education\*, 9-12Athletic Training\*, 9-12 |
| **Career & Tech Ed/Vocational** | **Self-Contained** |  |
| Intro to Foods & Nutrition\*, 9-12Culinary I8, 9-12Tech Education, 9-11Intro Agricultural Industry, 9-10 | Practical EnglishPractical MathPractical SciencePractical American HistoryPractical CivicsPractical EconomicsLiteratureCo-Op Work ProgramPre-Vocational Transitional Job SkillsTransitional Money Management | **\*Semester Classes****\*\*Electives Only** |

**Graduation Plan Overview**

* All students must carry a minimum load of 6 credits per year.
* 22 credits will be required to graduate.
* All classes are .5 credits per semester.

|  |
| --- |
| **HHS Credit breakdown- 22 credits to graduate** |
| 4 credits of English | 3 credits of Math | 2 credits of science |
| 1 credit of American History | .5 credit of World Geography or World History | .5 credit of Civics |
| .5 credit of Economics | 4 credits of Physical Education orAthletic Training-Refer to item (f) | 1 credit of Vocational Education, Art, Music, or World Language |
| .5 credit of Health |  |  |

|  |
| --- |
| **Illinois Higher Board of Education Requirements for College Admissions** |
| 4 credits of English | 3 credits of Math | 3 credits of Social Studies |
| 3 credits of science | 2 World Language | \*This applies to most state universities |

**To successfully complete a high school program, the following items must be kept in mind.**

1. Students are required to take four years of English. This means that two semesters are required every year. Taking three semester courses one year will not make you exempt for one semester the following year. **JUNIORS:** The junior year English will consist of English III, Foundations of English III, or Honors English III, AP Language/Composition. **SENIORS:** The senior year of English will consist of English IV, Foundations of English IV, Honors English IV, or AP Literature of Composition.
2. Students must enroll in American History during their junior year.
3. Students must enroll in Civics during their senior year. By passing this course, the students fulfill the state requirements for passing the U.S. and Illinois Constitution tests.
4. Students must enroll for a semester course in Economics during their senior year.
5. World History or World Geography will be required during their freshman, sophomore, or junior year.
6. Each student must be enrolled in Physical Education or Athletic Training each semester of attendance at Herscher High School. All medical waivers will be evaluated upon doctor recommendation. Juniors and seniors may be eligible to receive a P.E. waiver if they meet one of five criteria established by the Board of Education:
	1. A student is actively involved in IHSA athletics during that semester.
	2. A student needs an academic course to meet the graduation requirements at Herscher High School (Career Center students.)
	3. A student needs an academic course to meet a specific college entrance requirement.
	4. Marching Band (1st semester)
	5. Show Choir (2nd semester)
7. Students who opt out of P.E. must carry at least 6 academic subjects and no more than one learning lab.
8. No additional credit will be given for Driver Education since it is counted as part of the P.E./AT credit.
9. All academic courses carry the following credits:
	1. Full year courses… 1 credit
	2. Semester courses 0.5 credit
	3. Kankakee Area Career Center… 4 credits
10. The student at Herscher High School who earns the highest-grade point average through their 8th semester will be named valedictorian. The valedictorian will give a 2–3-minute speech during the graduation ceremony. In the event of a tie, co-valedictorians will be named, and multiple speeches will be given. The student with the 2nd highest overall GPA will be recognized as salutatorian. Multiple curricular paths may be taken to reach this highest academic honor, but to be considered the valedictorian, a student must take all of the weighted courses offered and receive the highest grades among their peers.

###### CAREER PLANNING

It is recommended that throughout their high school program, students give serious thought to their career plans. Students and parents are urged to consult the high school counseling staff whenever they have questions concerning career planning or post-high school educational opportunities. Appointments can be made with the counselors by calling 815-426-2103, the high school telephone number. Mrs. Bisaillon and Ms. Marcukaitis are the counselors and caseloads will be split alphabetically.

###### NOTE: SCHEDULE CHANGE POLICY

Students can request changes in their schedules for either semester during the last 2 days of the school year for the following year’s schedule. Administrators, counselors, or teachers must initiate any changes after that date and generally only due to course conflicts, balancing of classes, or failure to meet prerequisites.

Students will not be allowed to schedule or withdraw from a class based on teacher preference or teacher conflict.

###### NOTE: ACCEPTANCE OF OUTSIDE CREDIT

Credit may be earned to make up a failure at Herscher High School in a required course through counselor- approved correspondence courses. Only two credits (4 semester classes) can be accepted outside of Herscher classes for graduation. This rule does not apply to transfer students or students who are older than 19 years old and have had their class already graduate.

###### CLASS WITHDRAW REQUEST POLICY

The decision to take a course is an important one. Students should seriously consider their educational and career goals. It is imperative that students and parents give careful consideration to course requirements.

* After five class days, students may request to withdraw/drop from a course.
* Required courses cannot be dropped, such as English.
* If the withdraw/drop request is granted, an F will be reported to the student’s transcript, no credit will be given, and the failing grade will be calculated toward the student’s GPA. Dropping courses may impact graduation and/or acceptance into college.

A Parent/Guardian signature is required to acknowledge understanding of the implications of the schedule change, as well as agreement.

Please consult the curriculum guide provided with this sheet for graduation requirements and recommended track of classes.

Some things to keep in mind:

* + Herscher High School has seven class periods in a day.
	+ No student may have more than one learning lab per semester.
	+ Most classes are full year classes with a few offered as one semester and therefore must be balanced with another, one semester course or learning lab.
	+ Driver’s Education is automatically scheduled according to birthday and grades.
	+ A student in their Junior and Senior years could be eligible to attend the Kankakee Area Career Center which would take four class periods both semesters of scheduling time.
	+ If a student does *not* pass a required course, they must make up the credit the following semester during the seven-period day, night school or summer school.

For more information, please visit our guidance page.

|  |
| --- |
| 4 Year Plan |
|  | Freshman Year Fall 20  | Freshman Year Spring 20  | Department |
| 1 |  |  | English |
| 2 |  |  | Math |
| 3 |  |  | Science |
| 4 |  |  | P.E./Health |
| 5 |  |  | W History |
| 6 |  |  |  |
| 7 |  |  |  |
|  | Sophomore Year Fall 20  | Sophomore Year Spring 20  | Department |
| 1 |  |  | English |
| 2 |  |  | Math |
| 3 |  |  | Science |
| 4 |  |  | P.E. |
| 5 |  |  |  |
| 6 |  |  |  |
| 7 |  |  |  |
|  | Junior Year Fall 20  | Junior Year Spring 20  | Department |
| 1 |  |  | English |
| 2 |  |  | Math |
| 3 |  |  | Am. History |
| 4 |  |  | P.E. |
| 5 |  |  |  |
| 6 |  |  |  |
| 7 |  |  |  |
|  | Senior Year Fall 20  | Senior Year Spring 20  | Department |
| 1 |  |  | English |
| 2 |  |  | Civics/Economics |
| 3 |  |  |  |
| 4 |  |  |  |
| 5 |  |  |  |
| 6 |  |  |  |
| 7 |  |  |  |

|  |
| --- |
| English Courses |
| **9th** | **10th** | **11th** | **12th** |
| **Foundations of** **English I** | **Foundations of** **English II** | **Foundations of** **English III** | **Foundations of** **English IV** |
| **English I** | **English II** | **English III** | **Technical English IV** |
| **Honors English I** | **Honors English II** | **Honors English III** | **Dual Credit English IV** |
|  |  | **AP Language/Comp (weighted)** | **AP Language/Comp (weighted)** |
|  | **\*\*Journalism** | **\*\*Journalism** | **\*\*Journalism** |
|  |  | **\*\*Publications** | **\*\*Publications** |
|  | **\*\*Speech** | **\*\*Speech** | **\*\*Speech** |
|  |  | **\*\*Advanced Speech** | **\*\*Advanced Speech** |
| ENGLISH CURRICULUM |

Any student who does not meet the requirements of a research paper as designated in writing in advance by the teacher will not receive credit for the course that semester. In addition, any student who fails a semester of English because of not meeting the research paper requirements may not take the night class without submitting a paper that would meet the requirements of the English teacher.

**Subject: Foundations of English I**

Year Offered: 9

Prerequisite: None

Length of Course: 1 year

Credit: 1 credit

Course Description: This course is directed to the student who has experienced difficulties in reading and grammar. The purpose of the course is to improve the reading level through short story, nonfiction, fiction, poetry, epic, drama, and the novel. Students will also improve vocabulary, grammar, spelling, and composition skills while increasing the student's appreciation and understanding of literature and writing. Essay writing is assigned. A research paper is also required. Students will read and study That Was Then, This Is Now; Tears of a Tiger; The Odyssey; and Romeo & Juliet. Various projects related to areas of study will also be assigned.

**Subject: English I**

Year Offered: 9

Prerequisite: None

Length of Course: 1 year

Credit: 1 credit

Course Description: This course includes the introduction to various types of literature, basic grammatical, writing, spelling, and vocabulary skills. Areas of literature studied include the short story, nonfiction, fiction, poetry, the epic, drama, and the novel. Essay writing is assigned. A research paper is also required. Students will read and study To Kill a Mockingbird, Tears of a Tiger, Romeo & Juliet, and The Odyssey. Various projects related to units studied will also be assigned.

**Subject: Honors English I**

Year Offered: 9

Prerequisite: None

Length of Course: 1 year

Credit: 1 credit

Course Description: This course includes the study of world literature, traditional grammar, composition, and vocabulary. Additional reading is encouraged, with an emphasis on the in-depth study of Romeo & Juliet, The Odyssey, To Kill a Mockingbird, and The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian. Writing is stressed and assigned in the form of journals, essays, a narrative, and a short expository research paper. Various projects related to units studied will also be assigned. Students will be expected to identify literary terms and grammatical elements introduced during the freshman year in their subsequent advanced English classes.

|  |
| --- |
| Mathematics Courses |
| **9th** | **10th** | **11th** | **12th** |
| **Algebra IA** | **Algebra IA** | **Algebra IA** |  |
| **Algebra IB** | **Algebra IB** | **Algebra IB** | **Algebra IB** |
| **Algebra IB** **Double Block** | **Algebra IB** **Double Block** | **Algebra IB** **Double Block** | **Algebra IB** **Double Block** |
| **Honors Geometry** | **Geometry** | **Geometry** | **Geometry** |
|  | **Honors Geometry** | **Honors Geometry** | **Honors Geometry** |
|  | **Algebra II** | **Algebra II** | **Algebra II** |
|  | **Honors Algebra II** | **Honors Algebra II** | **Honors Algebra II** |
|  |  | **AP Statistics (weighted)** | **AP Statistics (weighed)** |
|  |  | **Pre-Calculus** | **Pre-Calculus** |
|  |  |  | **KCC Calculus &Analytic Geom****(weighted)** |
|  |  |  | **Contemporary Math (Quant Lit) (dual cr.****2nd sem)** |
| MATHEMATICS CURRICULUM |

**Subject: Algebra IA**

Year Offered: 9, 10, 11

Prerequisite: Junior High Teacher Recommendation

Length of Course: 1 year

Credit: 1 credit

Course Description: To help prepare the students in high school we establish a strong foundation in number sense. Building on this foundation the students master solving all types of linear equations and inequalities across the real number system. The student then is introduced to linear functions with the basic properties and begin solving systems of linear equations. The year culminates showing students how the math studied is used in real world situations.

**Course sequence following Algebra IA:**

Algebra IB, Geometry, Algebra II

**Subject: Algebra IB-Double Block**

Year offered: 9, 10, 11, 12

Prerequisite: Algebra IA or Junior High Teacher Recommendation

Length of Course: 1 year

Credit: 2 credits (1 in Math and 1 Elective Credit)

Course Description: Students who have completed Algebra IA (see above) who still require additional support to fully master the topics are recommended for this double block course so they may receive additional support as they study the properties and characteristics of functions. During the first semester they will focus on linear functions to model real life situations by writing, solving, graphing, and interpreting. In the second semester the study of functions will extend to exponential and quadratic functions by justifying the appropriateness of a given function, solving, graphing, and interpreting. By the end of the year all students should be able to identify key features of functions and be masters of linear, quadratic, and exponential functions.

During the Double Block time period, students will receive additional time for the lesson to be presented, time for one-on-one support when struggling, additional opportunities for practicing skills, and time for homework.

**Course sequence following Algebra IB Double Block:**

Track 1: Geometry, Algebra II, Contemporary Math

Track 2: Honors Geometry, Honors Algebra II, Pre-Calculus or AP Statistics

**Subject: Algebra IB**

Year Offered: 9, 10, 11, 12

Prerequisite: Algebra IA or Junior High Teacher Recommendation

Length of Course: 1 year

Credit: 1 credit

Course Description: Following completion of Algebra IA (see above) the students will study the properties and characteristics of functions in Algebra IB. During the first semester they will focus on linear functions to model real life situations by writing, solving, graphing, and interpreting. In the second semester the stud of functions will extend to exponential and quadratic functions by justifying the appropriateness of a given function, solving, graphing, and interpreting. By the end of the year all students should be able to identify key features of functions and be able to identify key features of functions and be masters of linear, quadratic, and exponential functions.

**Course sequence following Algebra IB:**

Track 1: Geometry, Algebra II, Contemporary Math

Track 2: Honors Geometry, Honors Algebra II, Pre-Calculus or Contemporary Math

**Subject: Honors Geometry**

Year Offered: 9, 10, 11, 12

Prerequisite: Algebra IB or Junior High Teacher Recommendation

Length of Course: 1 year

Credit: 1 credit

Course Description: Relying upon a strong algebra skill set, students in Honors Geometry will dive deeper into geometric proofs and properties. During the year students develop thinking patterns by examining mathematical relationships involving lines, angles, surfaces, solids, triangles, quadrilaterals, and circles. As the first course in the Pre-Calculus sequence, students will be mastering basic trigonometry concepts and proving additional theorems.

**Course sequence following Honors Geometry:**

Honors Algebra II, Pre-Calculus, AP Statistics, Calculus

|  |
| --- |
| Science Courses |
| **9th** | **10th** | **11th** | **12th** |
| **Biology** | **Physical Science** |  |  |
|  | **Chemistry** | **AP Biology (Weighted)** | **AP Biology (Weighted)** |
|  | **Agriculture Science** | **Environmental Science** | **Environmental Science** |
|  | **BSAA (Animal/Plant Science)** | **Anatomy & Physiology** | **Anatomy & Physiology** |
|  |  | **Chemistry** | **Chemistry** |
|  |  | **AP Chemistry (Weighted)** | **Ap Chemistry (Weighted)** |
|  |  | **Physics (Weighted)** | **Physics (Weighted)** |
|  |  | **BSAA (Animal/Plant Science)** | **BSAA (Animal/Plant Science)** |
| SCIENCE CURRICULUM |

**Subject: Biology**

Year Offered: 9

Prerequisite: None

Length of Course: 1 year

Credit: 1 credit

Course Description: One-year life science course. Biology presents an integrated view of the essential units of life both structurally and functionally. Concepts will be applied through laboratory experiences. Units covered in Biology I are: The Nature of Life; Ecology; Cells; Genetics; Evolution; From Microorganisms to Plants; Animals; The Human Body; and The Diversity of Life.

|  |
| --- |
| Social Science Courses |
| **9th** | **10th** | **11th** | **12th** |
| **World History** | **World History** | **World Geography** | **World Geography** |
|  | **World Geography** | **RUSH** | **RUSH** |
|  |  | **History in Film** | **History in Film** |
|  |  | **Sociology** | **Sociology** |
|  |  | **Psychology** | **Psychology** |
|  |  | **American History** | **Economics** |
|  |  | **APUSH (Weighted)** | **Civics** |
| SOCIAL SCIENCE CURRICULUM |

**Subject: World History (full year course)**

Year Offered: 9, 10

Prerequisite: None

Length of Course: 1 year

Credit: 1 credit

Course Description: The full year World History course provides students with a comprehensive examination of major events, movements, and civilizations across different regions of the world, spanning from ancient times to the present day, with a focus on understanding how historical developments shaped the global landscape and the interconnectedness of cultures, analyzing primary sources, and developing critical thinking skills to interpret the past in context. Key elements of the World History course include Ancient civilizations (Mesopotamia, Egypt, Greece, Rome), African and early American civilizations, Medieval Europe, Renaissance and Reformation, Age of Exploration, Enlightenment, Age of Revolution, World Wars, Cold War, and contemporary global issues.

|  |
| --- |
| Physical & Health ED Courses |
| **9th** | **10th** | **11th** | **12th** |
| **Health Education** |  |  |  |
| **Physical Education** | **Physical Education** | **Physical Education** | **Physical Education** |
| **Athletic Weight** **Training** | **Athletic Weight** **Training** | **Athletic Weight** **Training** | **Athletic Weight** **Training** |
| **Driver Education** | **Driver Education** | **Driver Education** |  |
| **PHYSICAL & HEALTH ED CURRICULUM** |

**Subject: Health Education**

Year Offered: 9

Prerequisite: None

Length of Course: 1 Semester

Credit: .5 credit

Course Description: Health is a comprehensive physical education class that combines aspects of physical activity and classroom. Areas covered in the classroom aspect will include personal hygiene, positive mental health, comprehensive human sexuality, drug education and CPR training. This class will incorporate physical activity, physical fitness, and nutrition on a weekly basis. The goal of this course is to inform students for them to make the best choices they can to maintain a high quality of life, both in school and out.

**Subject: Physical Education**

Year Offered: 9, 10, 11, 12

Prerequisite: None

Length of Course: 1 semester

Credit: .5 credit

Course Description: Each physical education semester will consist of three units with each unit lasting approximately five weeks. Units will consist of skills presentation, skills practice, rules and strategy discussions, game and tournament play, a skills test, and cognitive testing. Units covered in the Fall will include: football, soccer, and volleyball. Spring units will include basketball, pickleball, and softball. Students will participate in a wide variety of fitness, team sports, and singles/doubles sports.

**Subject: Athletic Weight Training**

Year Offered: 9, 10, 11, 12

Prerequisite: Must receive an A or B in AT or PE to continue to be in AT. Priority given to athletes and seniority due to safety and numbers.

Length of Course: 1 Semester

Credit: .5 credit

Course Description: Athletic weight training is an advanced course for those students who intend to be in a sport that focuses on proper weight training techniques. Weightlifting activities will be routinely performed 3-4 days a week throughout the semester. A department-wide, unified workout program will be used for weight training activities. Other activities will consist of various cardiovascular, plyometric, speed training and abdominal workouts. This course is progressive to meet the changing needs of the individual student. Instruction in weightlifting techniques, exercise principles, and the positive effects of exercise on overall fitness and well-being will be provided. The students will be expected to demonstrate knowledge in these areas on written tests and skills tests. Students will be expected to participate in all types of training activities throughout the semester.

**Subject: Driver Education**

Year Offered: 9, 10, 11

Prerequisite: State Requirements

Length of Course: 9 weeks

Credit: Included in P.E. Credit

Course Description: Herscher High School offers both classroom and behind-the-wheel courses in driver education. The classroom segment of the course consists of nine weeks of instruction on driving techniques, rules, state regulations, and proper attitude. The behind-the-wheel portion of the class includes 6 hours of actual driving time divided into 12-14 sessions. The course strictly follows state guidelines for drivers’ education. A $20 fee is collected and turned over to the Secretary of State for students’ instruction permit and their first drivers’ license.

A $150 fee is collected at the time of freshman registration for the students’ Behind-the-wheel instruction.

|  |
| --- |
| Art Courses |
| **9th** | **10th** | **11th** | **12th** |
| **Art I** | **Art I** | **Art I** | **Art I** |
|  | **Art II** | **Art II** | **Art II** |
|  | **Pottery & Sculpture** | **Pottery & Sculpture** | **Pottery & Sculpture** |
|  | **Pottery II** | **Pottery II** | **Pottery II** |
|  | **Digital Design** | **Digital Design** | **Digital Design** |
|  | **Photography** | **Photography** | **Photography** |
|  | **Advanced Photography** | **Advanced Photography** | **Advanced Photography** |
| ART CURRICULUM |

**Subject: Art I**

Year Offered: 9, 10, 11, 12

Prerequisite: None

Length of course: 1 semester

Credit: .5 credit

Course Description: The course covers all mediums of art from colored pencil, graphite pencil, watercolor, paint, pastel, and printmaking. Projects are focused on learning the basic building blocks to create successful works of art. Various historical artists are used as reference. Students who plan on taking advanced drawing and painting and the graphics art courses are required to take this class.

|  |
| --- |
| Music Courses |
| **9th** | **10th** | **11th** | **12th** |
| **Percussion** | **Percussion** | **Percussion** | **Percussion** |
| **Winds** | **Winds** | **Winds** | **Winds** |
| **Orchestra** | **Orchestra** | **Orchestra** | **Orchestra** |
| **Concert Choir** | **Concert Choir** | **Concert Choir** | **Concert Choir** |
| **Music Survey I & II** | **Chamber Choir** | **Chamber Choir** | **Chamber Choir** |
|  | **Music Survey I & II** | **Music Survey I & II** | **Music Survey I & II** |
|  | **AP Music Theory** | **AP Music Theory** | **AP Music Theory** |
|  | **Music Theory** | **Music Theory** | **Music Theory** |
|  | **Advanced Music** **Theory** | **Advanced Music** **Theory** | **Advanced Music** **Theory** |
| MUSIC CURRICULUM |

**Subject: Percussion**

Year Offered: 9, 10, 11, 12

Prerequisite: Playing experience as a percussionist from junior high or approval from director

Length of course: 1 year - No Exceptions

Credit: 1 credit

Course Description: The Herscher High School Band Program presently consists of four major organizations: Concert Band, Jazz Band, Marching Band, and Pep Band. By being in Band, students are required to participate in Concert Band, Marching Band, and Pep Band and must be in the class for the entire year. Seating placement for concert is determined by audition after the marching season, and students are required to take part in solo and ensemble contest, organizational contests, all concerts, and all public performances on the band schedule. Individual lessons, writing assignments are also a part of the curriculum for band. Jazz Band is the only extra-curricular ensemble and is not required by all students. This class is specifically meant for all percussionists enrolled in Band.

**Subject: Winds**

Year Offered: 9, 10, 11, 12

Prerequisite: Playing experience as a percussionist from junior high or approval from director

Length of course: 1 year - No Exceptions

Credit: 1 credit

Course Description: The Herscher High School Band Program presently consists of four major

organizations: Concert Band, Jazz Band, Marching Band, and Pep Band. By being in Band, students are required to participate in Concert Band, Marching Band, and Pep Band and must be in the class for the entire year. Seating placement for concert is determined by audition after the marching season, and students are required to take part in solo and ensemble contest, organizational contests, all concerts, and all public performances on the band schedule. Individual lessons, writing assignments are also a part of the curriculum for band. Jazz Band is the only extra-curricular ensemble and is not required by all students. This class is specifically meant for all wind players enrolled in Band.

**Subject: Orchestra**

Year Offered: 9, 10, 11, 12

Prerequisite: Junior High school string experience or instructor’s permission

Length of course: 1 year

Credit: 1 credit

Course Description: The Herscher High School Orchestra is open to any student with Junior High experience on violin, viola, cello, or string bass. The Orchestra meets daily to further develop skills and prepare a wide variety of orchestral literature for performances. After completion of the band’s marching season, selected wind and percussion players are added to the group to provide full orchestra experience. In addition to concert performance, the orchestra participates in IHSA solo and ensemble contest and organizational contest. Smaller ensembles are formed as needed to provide chamber music experience and community service. Individual lessons are required for this course.

**Subject: Concert Choir**

Year Offered: 9, 10, 11, 12

Prerequisite: Meet with Instructor

Length of course: 1 year - exceptions can be made at directors’ discretion.

Credit: 1 credit

Course Description: Concert Choir is a non-auditioned, friendly atmosphere choir that is still musically challenging, but with more accessible music to more students. This is open to anyone interested in singing. Additionally, students are enrolled in choir lessons to further musical education.

**Subject: Music Survey I**

Years Offered: 9, 10, 11, 12

Prerequisite: None, other than an interest in music, willingness to try new things

Length of Course: 1 semester

Credit: .5 credit

Course Description: This course will serve HHS students who are not enrolled in a music performance class, and who still want to find out more about music. Focus for this course is on Music History, learning an instrument or voice, and music science and technology. Students will be able to explore music in a hands-on laboratory setting, including but not limited to becoming reacquainted with an instrument or trying out a new one, learning about Digital Audio Workstations, and exploring other student-generated topics. This class will provide a framework for further individual study and a jumping-off point for students who wish to expand their participation in performance-based classes.

Emphasis is on student-centered topics and concerns. Music Survey I and II can be taken in any order, but not repeated.

**Subject: Music Survey II**

Years Offered: 9, 10, 11, 12

Prerequisite: None, other than an interest in music, willingness to try new things

Length of Course: 1 semester

Credit: .5 credit

Course Description: This course covers more topics in Music. Focus for this course is on learning an instrument or voice, world music, history of pop music and movie music, and student composition. Students will explore music in a hands-on laboratory setting, including but not limited to: playing an instrument, using electronic and internet means to record and create their own arrangements of tunes, composing their own tunes, charting trends in pop music and movie music, researching composers and/or bands, and exploring other student-generated topics. This class will serve as a steppingstone to performance-based ensembles.

Music Survey I and II can be taken in any order, but not repeated.

|  |
| --- |
| World Language Courses |
| **9th** | **10th** | **11th** | **12th** |  |
| **Spanish I** | **Spanish I** | **Spanish I** | **Spanish I** |
| **Heritage Language Learner** | **Spanish II** | **Spanish II** | **Spanish II** |
|  | **Heritage Language Learner** | **Spanish III** | **Spanish III** |
|  |  | **Heritage Language Learner** | **Spanish IV** |
|  |  |  | **Heritage Language Learner** |
| WORLD LANGUAGE CURRICULUM |

**Subject: Spanish I**

Year Offered: 9, 10, 11, 12

Recommended Prerequisite: “C” average in English is highly recommended.

Length of Course: 1 year

Credit: 1 credit

Course Description: This course offers an introduction to listening, speaking, reading and writing in Spanish. Vocabulary acquisition is stressed as well as learning basic grammar concepts. Each lesson contains cultural information. A variety of activities are used to enhance learning. This course lays the needed foundation for students to be able to successfully take the AAPPL (Seal of Biliteracy) test in Spanish IV.

**Subject: Heritage Language Learner**

Year offered: 9, 10, 11, 12

Prerequisite: a degree of bilingualism in both Spanish and English (verbal and aural)

Length of Course: 1 year

Credit: 1 credit

Course Description: This course offers an opportunity for students who are heritage language learners to continue to develop their already existing speaking and listening skills and to build reading and writing skills through various activities and projects that also incorporate aspects of Spanish-speaking culture. Students who are Juniors or Seniors will also have the opportunity to take the AAPPL (Seal of Biliteracy) test which can be accepted by colleges for college credit.

|  |
| --- |
| Business Courses |
| **9th** | **10th** | **11th** | **12th** |
| **Intro to Business** | **Intro to Business** | **Intro to Business** | **Intro to Business** |
| **Desktop Publishing** | **Desktop Publishing** | **Desktop Publishing** | **Desktop Publishing** |
|  | **Innovation Basics** | **Innovation Basics** | **Innovation Basics** |
|  | **Focus on Careers** | **Focus on Careers** | **Focus on Careers** |
|  | **Sports & Ent. Marketing (Spring)** | **Sports & Ent. Marketing (Spring)** | **Sports & Ent. Marketing (Spring)** |
|  | **Sports & Ent. Management (Fall)** | **Sports & Ent. Management (Fall)** | **Sports & Ent. Management (Fall)** |
|  |  | **KCC Web Design-2nd Semester****(Dual Credit)** | **KCC Web Design-2nd Semester****(Dual Credit)** |
|  |  | **KCC Accounting I-2nd Semester****(Dual Credit)** | **KCC Accounting I-2nd Semester****(Dual Credit)** |
| **BUSINESSS CURRICULUM** |

**Subject: Intro to Business**

Year Offered: 9, 10, 11, 12

Prerequisite: None

Length of Course: 1 semester

Credit: .5 credit

Course Description: This course is designed for students to get an overall view of business and related activities that are practical to real world business situations. Students will learn basic economic principals, basic management and marketing functions and personal financial management while dealing with businesses as a consumer. Students will utilize technology not limited to: 3D Printing/Designing, Adobe Suite, Laser Engraving, Graphic Design Software. Each topic will be related to current issues involving a variety of business- related situations. Emphasis will be placed on current issues affecting businesses and consumers. Students must have a parent signed AUP on file.

**Subject: Desktop Publishing**

Year Offered: 9, 10, 11, 12

Prerequisite: None

Length of Course: 1 semester

Credit: .5 credit

Course Description: This skill-level course is designed to address specific desktop publishing features and concepts. The course is not limited to 2D Dimensional design, we will also be utilizing the 3D Printers/Laser engraver that are on hand to publish other forms of advertising/digitally rendered media. Using graphics, fonts, and color, students will create newsletters, magazine ads/advertisements, gift certificates, programs, and tickets. In addition, students will use digital photography and photo shop to create digital images and advertising. Adobe Fireworks and Animate will be used to create animated digital marketing projects as well. This course will give hands-on experience through computer desktop publishing. Students must have a parent signed AUP on file.

|  |
| --- |
| Career & Tech Ed/Vocational Courses |
| **9th** | **10th** | **11th** | **12th** |  |
| **Intro to Foods and Nutrition** | **Intro to Foods and Nutrition** | **Intro to Foods and Nutrition** | **Intro to Foods and Nutrition** |
| **Culinary I** | **Culinary I** | **Culinary I** | **Culinary I** |
|  | **Child Development** | **Child Development** | **Child Development** |
|  | **World Foods** | **World Foods** | **World Foods** |
|  | **Bakery & Business** | **Bakery & Business** | **Bakery & Business** |
|  | **Food Service Management** | **Food Service Management** | **Food Service Management** |
|  | **Parenting** | **Parenting** | **Parenting** |
|  |  | **Family Living** | **Family Living** |
|  |  | **Independent Living** | **Independent Living** |
| **Tech Education** | **Tech Education** | **Tech Education** |  |
|  | **Welding I** | **Welding I** | **Welding I** |
|  | **Welding II** | **Welding II** | **Welding II** |
|  | **Auto Mechanics** | **Auto Mechanics** | **Auto Mechanics** |
|  | **Electricity** | **Electricity** | **Electricity** |
|  | **Construction Processes** | **Construction Processes** | **Construction Processes** |
|  | **Cabinet Mft & Millwork** | **Cabinet Mft & Millwork** | **Cabinet Mft & Millwork** |
| **Intro Ag Industry** | **Intro Ag Industry** | **Horticulture Prod & Mgmt (Spring & Fall)** | **Horticulture Prod & Mgmt (Spring & Fall)** |
|  |  | **Ag Business Mgmt (Even years)** | **Ag Business Mgmt (Even years)** |
|  |  | **Ag Business Operations (Odd years)** | **Ag Business Operations (Odd years)** |
| CAREER & TECH ED/VOCATIONAL CURRICULUM |

**Subject: Intro to Foods and Nutrition**

Year Offered: 9, 10, 11, 12

Prerequisite: None

Length of Course: 1 semester

Credit: .5 credit

Course Description: This course will emphasize basic food preparation skills and nutrition. Units of instruction will include Food Safety and Sanitation, knife skills and cutting techniques, basic measuring techniques, kitchen equipment, recipes and measurements, terminology, nutritive value of foods, making wise food choices and the fundamentals of cooking. This course is a prerequisite to Culinary Arts, Bakery and Business, and World Foods.

**Subject: Culinary I**

Year Offered: 9, 10, 11, 12

Prerequisite: Completion of Intro to Foods and Nutrition with a “C” or better or consent of instructor. Length of Course: 1 semester

Credit: .5 credit

Course Description: Students will continue the study of more advanced food preparation skills. Topics of instruction will include Fruits/Vegetables, Kitchen Staples, Meats and Poultry, Soups and Starches, and Breads. Students will plan and prepare a variety of foods in the kitchen lab supplementing classwork.

**Subject: Technology Education**

Year Offered: 9, 10, 11

Prerequisite: None

Length of Course: 1 year

Credit: 1 credit

Course Description: Technology Education is an orientation level course that introduces students to a variety of skills and career fields. Students will learn the technical processes, learn to use the technical resources, and learn to weigh the technological impacts of technology through the following activities:

Material Processing small engines.

1. Welding
2. Engineering towers, construction animation
3. Plumbing, electricity, home repair
4. Basic woodworking and mechanics
5. All areas would include individual hands-on experience.

**Subject: Introduction to the Agriculture Industry**

Year Offered: 9, 10

Prerequisite: None

Length of Course: 1 year

Credit: 1 credit

Course Description: This orientation course provides an opportunity for students to learn how the agricultural industry is organized; its major components; the economic influence of agriculture at state, national and international levels; and the scope and types of job opportunities in the agricultural field, Basic concepts in animal science, plant science, soil science, horticulture, natural resources, agribusiness management, agricultural mechanics, biotechnology, food science technology, environmental science and aqua cultural science will be presented. The development of leadership, employability, and computer skills will also be taught. Because FFA and Supervised Agricultural Experience programs (SAEP’s) are integral components of this course, the student is required to conduct a Supervised Agricultural Experience (SAE) at home and become a member of the FFA.

|  |
| --- |
| Self-Contained Courses |
| **Practical English** | **Practical Math** | **Practical Science** | **Practical American History** |
| **Practical Civics** | **Practical Economics** | **Literature** | **Co-Op Work****Program** |
| **Pre-Vocational** | **Transitional Job Skills** | **Transitional Money Management** |  |
| SELF-CONTAINED CURRICULUM |

**Practical English**

Year Offered: 9, 10, 11, 12, 12+

Prerequisite/Eligibility: Placement based on IEP

Length of Course: 1 year

Credit: 1 credit

Graduation Requirement: English

Course Description: This course meets the high school English requirement, not the college readiness requirement. This course is designed to improve reading, comprehension, vocabulary, written expression, and oral communication skills according to the needs specified on the IEP. Daily lessons and assignments are directed toward achieving goals and supporting objectives identified on the IEP. A variety of reading materials will form the basis of instruction including high-interest novels, magazine and newspaper articles, daily life skills reading and more. Emphasis is placed on reading for understanding of the world around us. Students will be assessed on homework completion, class work, and tests and quizzes.

**Literature**

Year Offered: 9, 10, 11, 12

Prerequisite/Eligibility: Placement based on IEP

Length of course: 1 year

Credit: 1 Credit

Course description: The literature course is structured to provide direct instruction and is based on individual education goals as specified in the IEP. The main objectives of the course are to encourage a love of reading, to develop vocabulary and comprehension skills, and to expose students to a wide variety of good literature. This class will use novels, movies, and Internet sources. Students will be assessed on homework completion, class work, and test over each novel.

**Practical American History**

Year Offered: 11, 12

Prerequisite/Eligibility: Placement based on IEP

Length of Course: 1 year

Credit: 1 credit

Graduation requirement: Social Science

Course Description: This American History course is structured to provide direct instruction and based on individual education goals as specified in the IEP. This course will examine the changes America has undergone from the Civil War era to the present. The main objective of the course is to investigate how the country has grown by studying various groups of people, the things people have done and the results of their actions. Text, primary source selections, movies, documentaries, and Internet sources will be used to study how the various events has shaped America.

Students will be assessed on homework completion, class work, and tests and quizzes over each unit of

study.

**Practical Economics**

Year Offered: 11, 12

Prerequisite/Eligibility: Placement based on IEP

Length of course: 1 semester

Credit: .5 credit

Graduation Requirement: Social Science

Course Description: This Economics course is structured to provide direct instruction and based on your individual education goals as specified in your IEP. We will study the basic principles of economics, supply, and demand, price setting, capitalism, and the role you play as a consumer in the United States. Life skills lessons based on personal finance, banking, budgeting, and checking/debit account handling will be explored. We will use the text, primary sources, various Internet sources, and content videos to understand how the economy affects your daily life. You will be assessed on homework completion, class work, and tests and quizzes over each unit of study.

**Practical Civics**

Year offered: 11, 12

Prerequisite/Eligibility: Placement based on IEP

Length of course: 1 semester

Credit: .5 credit

Graduation Requirement: Social Science

Course Description: The Civics course is structured to provide direct instruction and based on your individual education goals as specified in your IEP. We will study units covering the basic principles and foundations of American government, the Constitution of the United States, and the three branches of government. We will pay close attention to the Bill of Rights and how the amendments affect your everyday life as a citizen of the United States.

Other units of study include the flag of the United States of America, voting processes, and basic citizenship. We will use the text, various Internet sources, content videos, and modified versions of the official democratic documents to grasp the basic units of study. You will be assessed on homework completion, class work, and tests and quizzes over each unit of study.

**Transitional Job Skills**

Year offered: 9, 10, 11, 12 Prerequisite/Eligibility: Placement based on IEP

Length of course: 1 semester

Credit: 1 credit

Course Description: This course is hands-on and prepares students for the work force. Students learn about a variety of jobs and practice various job skills. This class is only for transition students and can be taken more than once. (Transition only)

**Transitional Money Management**

Year offered: 9, 10, 11, 12 Prerequisite/Eligibility: Placement based on IEP

Length of course: 1 semester

Credit: 1 credit

Course Description: This course offers a wide range of money skills. The skills include counting coins and bills, price comparison, using coupons and sale prices, totaling purchases, making change, using and paying credit cards, banking, paying bills, and loans. This class can be taken more than once and is only for transition students. (Transition only)

**Co-Op Work Program**

Year offered: 11, 12

Prerequisite/Eligibility: Placement based on IEP

Length of course: 1 semester

Credit: 1 credit

The Co-Op Work Program is a transition work experience program where eligible students earn academic school credit for working. Students work with the Vocational Coordinator to develop the workplace skills desired by an employer prior to being placed in a job to ensure their employment success. Students are then placed in a job/worksite to ensure their employment success. Students are then placed in various jobs for which they have an interest or are qualified to perform. A job coach is available to lend students support while they become acclimated to their job routines. The Vocational Coordinator meets weekly with each student as well as their job-site supervisor to make certain the student is maintaining the quality of work required to be a successful member of the workforce. Students are afforded numerous supports throughout the school year to assist them in being the most productive workers they can be.

**Practical Math – All Levels**

Year offered: 9, 10, 11, 12 Prerequisite/Eligibility: Placement based on IEP

Length of course: 1 semester

Graduation Requirement: Math

Credit: 1 credit

Course Description: These Practical Math courses are structured to provide direst instruction and based on individual education goals as specified in the IEP. The main objective of these math courses is to have students learn and practice math skills at their level and their pace. The ALEKS computer program is used for the different levels in math.

Students will be assessed on the number of topics done during the week.

**Practical Science**

Year offered: 9, 10, 11, 12 Prerequisite/Eligibility: Placement based on IEP

Length of course: 1 semester

Graduation requirement: Science

Credit: 1 credit

Course description: The Practical Science course is structured to provide direct instruction and based on individual education goals as specified in the IEP. The main objective of Practical Science is to familiarize students with Earth Science and Life Science. The use of text, movies, documentaries, and various Internet sources will be used to study Science. Students will be assessed on homework completion, classwork, and You will be assessed on homework completion, classwork, and tests over each unit of study.