



Secondary Program of Studies

November 24, 2020

Prepared by Scott Kibby

Executive Director for Teaching and Learning (Secondary)

Background

Code of Iowa Chapter 256.11 identifies the educational program Pre-kindergarten through grade twelve by listing the areas of study. ICCSD legally mandated policy 602.2 states that the superintendent is to keep the board apprised of curriculum implementation activities. The current Program of Studies is posted on the district website and the proposed changes to this are listed below.

New Courses - High School

Community Art (West Only)

This course is designed to provide students with an opportunity to focus on the social service and creative development art projects. Students will explore social issues and community needs when designing community art work. Projects may include but are not limited to murals, sculpture installations, elementary school outreach projects or art gardens

GRADE LEVEL: 9-12

CATEGORY: Elective-Art

PREREQUISITE: None

LENGTH: One Trimester

Printmaking (City Only)

This course introduces students to fundamental methods of creating multiples of an image. Examples include screen printing on fabric, linoleum and woodblock relief, solar printing (cyanotype), intaglio/etching techniques, and monotype processes will be explored.

Includes digital and analog processes

GRADE LEVEL: 9-12

CATEGORY: Elective-Art

PREREQUISITE: Drawing OR Graphic Design (recommended)

LENGTH: One Trimester

African American Literature

This course explores the history and culture of Africa and the African-American experience in an interdisciplinary format with a central focus on the emergence of black postmodernism. The course will read, dissect and engage in discourse surrounding African-American writers inspired and involved in politics, the evolution of the Black Aesthetic Movements, Black feminist and womanist literature, the emergence of the alleged Third Renaissance (1990's and 2000's), and the artistic contributions of African-Americans to American culture. The course will concentrate primarily on strengthening student discourse, critical thinking, and writing skills

GRADE LEVEL: 11-12

CATEGORY: Elective-Fulfills English 11 or English 12 requirement

PREREQUISITE: English 9 and English 10

LENGTH: 1 Year

AP Physics 2

This second-year AP Physics course continues the rigorous college-level curriculum, with a focus on topics not covered in the first year course. These topics include fluids, thermodynamics, electricity and magnetism, optics, quantum, and atomic & nuclear physics. The topics, laboratory investigations, and application questions involve high-level problem solving and analysis. This course will prepare students to take the Advanced Placement Physics 2 exam in May.

GRADE LEVEL: 11-12

CATEGORY: Elective-Fulfills Science requirement

PREREQUISITE: Pre-Calculus and AP Physics or General Physics

LENGTH: 1 Year

New Courses - High School Continued

Thinking Mathematically

This trimester long course is designed to support students in their high school math experience. Students will explore the importance of mindset as it relates to success in mathematics. This course will be offered concurrent to Algebra 1 and will include learning around foundational mathematics concepts.

GRADE LEVEL: 9th

CATEGORY: Elective

PREREQUISITE: None

LENGTH: 1 Trimester, course may be repeated for credit

Introduction to Computer Science

This introductory computer science course covers five major topics including Computer Systems, Networks and Internet, Data and Analysis, Algorithms and Programming and the Impacts of Computing. Students will learn how to create technology based solutions, like creating an algorithm to solve a real-world problem. They will also learn how to decompose (break-down) the steps needed to solve a problem into a precise sequence of instructions. This course would be a good starting point for students interested in taking higher level computer science courses or for just getting a general introduction to the computer science field

GRADE LEVEL: 9-12

CATEGORY: Math

PREREQUISITE: None

LENGTH: One Trimester

New Courses Descriptions - High School

AP English Language and Composition

GRADE LEVEL: 12

CATEGORY: Elective-Fulfills English 12 requirement

PREREQUISITE: English 9 and 10 and a literature course

LENGTH: One Year

English 10 Honors

remove the text that reads....Enrollment based upon Iowa Assessment scores and teacher recommendation

US Literature Honors

remove the text that reads....Enrollment based upon Iowa Assessment scores and teacher recommendation

Reading Strategies

change to:

Enrollment based upon reading assessment scores and teacher recommendation.

Eliminated Courses - High School

Communications Studies (West Only)

British Literature Honors

Success Center (*not open for registration, students are placed*)

Math Skills

Introduction to Algebra

Algebra 1A

Informal Geometry

Name Changes Only - High School

Media Literacy and Communications (*formerly offered only at Tate, City and Liberty-now offered at all district schools*)

Movement and Acting (*West only*)

Technical Theater (*West only*)
Introduction to Theater (*West only*)
Fundamentals of Electricity 1 and 2 (not offered at Liberty)

New Courses - Junior High

None

New Courses Descriptions - Junior High

Language Arts 8 Honors

Language Arts 8H is an option for honors credit that starts at the beginning of second trimester for those students enrolled in Language Arts 8. This course-within-a-course addresses all the major curriculum of the regular Language Arts 8 course. At the honors level, the students are expected to meet higher performance standards. For each major unit, students will choose from a list of honors activities and complete a task that complements their coursework. Students will reflect upon their honors work each trimester with a culminating portfolio.

GRADE LEVEL: 8th

CATEGORY: Fulfills Language Arts 8 requirement

PREREQUISITE: None

LENGTH: 1 year

Rock Band 101

Students will learn about the development of Rock and Roll through activities, video and audio presentations. “Hands-on” experiences on the acoustic guitar, keyboard, electric guitar, electric bass and trap set will teach, review, or expand student’s knowledge of electronic instruments and prepares them to play in small group rock bands.

Grade Level: 8th

Category: Music Elective

PREREQUISITE: Music Tech or consent of instructor

Length: Trimester