

9th GRADE COURSE ELECTIVES

2018/2019



9TH GRADE ELECTIVES

FOREIGN LANGUAGE

French IC and Spanish IC

1 Unit

These courses are designed for the older student who has never studied a foreign language before and who is starting his/her study of a second foreign language or for the student who did not complete the one year state requirement. The student receives neither the intensity nor the complete coverage obtained by the student who takes the IA/IB sequence. Basic grammar and vocabulary necessary to enter Level II, along with some cultural awareness, are stressed in this class. A local exam will be given at the end of the course.

French II

1 Unit

Listening and speaking skills continue to be emphasized at this level. Reading, writing, and oral skills are also enhanced. The study of grammar is intensified, and students must master the most common verb tenses. Students build the foundation for the work that they will do in Level III. Cross-cultural awareness is a strong component of this course.

Spanish II

1 Unit

Listening and speaking skills continue to be emphasized at this level. Reading, writing, and oral skills are also enhanced. The study of grammar is intensified, and students must master the most common verb tenses. Students build the foundation for the work that they will do in Level III. Cross-cultural awareness is a strong component of this course.

Mandarin Chinese 2A

1 Unit

This is the first of a two-year sequence that will progress through the second level of traditional language study. This is a sequential course that continues teaching of Chinese beginning at the Checkpoint B of the New York State standards. The student enters the course with basic concepts of Chinese. Students build upon vocabulary, grammar and character writing. Students will begin to express themselves with some degree of fluency and fluidity in all four language skills of speaking, listening, writing, and reading. **Pre-requisite: Chinese 1C.**

ART

Studio in Art

1 Unit

Studio in Art is a one year course provides students with studio experiences using a variety of mediums and areas of art exploration such as painting, drawing, and sculpture. Projects will be based on the elements of art and principles of design and will engage the students in creating, presenting, connecting and responding to the arts. This exciting course will prepare students to acquire the skills necessary to take an advanced level art class, as well as meet the required one credit in the arts in accordance with the New York State Visual Art Standards outline by the NYS Education Department. *It is highly recommended that this full year course be taken in grade 9 so that students are prepared to take advanced art classes in their future years and to prepare those who wish to take an art sequence.*

Studio in Art 1-1

½ Unit

Studio in Art (1-1) is a one year course to provide students with studio experiences using a variety of mediums and areas of art exploration such as painting, drawing, and sculpture. Projects will be based on the elements of art and principles of design and will engage the students in creating, presenting, connecting and responding to the arts. Students will acquire skills necessary for to take an advanced level art as well as meet the required one credit in the arts in accordance with the New York State Visual Art Standards outline by the NYS Education Department. This course is offered every other day for students who need flexibility in scheduling. Students are required to take two years of this before moving on in the sequence. *It is highly recommended that students take the full year course if possible. However, if scheduling does not permit, this course should be taken in grades 9 and 10 to earn their 1 unit of study required for graduation.*

TECHNOLOGY

Design and Drawing for Production (DDP)

1 Unit

Students dig deep into the engineering design process, applying math, science, and engineering standards to hands-on projects. They work both individually and in teams to design solutions to a variety of problems using 3D modeling software, and use an engineering notebook to document their work. **College Credit: RIT- 3 credits. Associated Fees: \$225.**

MUSIC

Mixed Chorus

½ Unit

Membership in Mixed Chorus is open to students in grades 9-12. A variety of choral works are explored to acquaint the students with various types of choral literature, and to develop concepts and performance skills associated with varying musical content, structures, and styles. Choral techniques such as phrasing, tone quality, diction, rhythm, balance, blend, intonation, expression, and musicianship are stressed. At least two concerts per year are given. The chorus rehearses two and a half times per week. In addition, group vocal lessons are required and are a large part of your grade. Each student will be assigned to a one period lesson every other week. The performances are considered the same as examinations; therefore, credit will not be given to students who do not attend the performances without a legal excuse.

High School Orchestra

½ Unit

The Middle School - High School Full Orchestra consists of string players in grades 9-12 and brass, woodwind, and percussion students in grades 9-12. Admission and seating for string students is by audition where they demonstrate knowledge and proficiency of the instrument. The wind and percussion students are recommended by the high school band director and middle school band director for incoming 9th Grade students.

In school, instrumental lessons are required. The lesson consists of one period per week of individual or group instruction. Lessons are scheduled on a rotating basis.

The orchestra presents a minimum of two concerts per year. Other types of musical activities and opportunities are available for students to further develop their musicianship. The performances are considered the same as examinations; therefore, credit will not be given to students who do not attend performances without a legal excuse.

Symphonic Band

½ Unit

Membership is open to all students in grades 9-12 who play band instruments and have prior band experience. Students should be prepared to demonstrate knowledge and proficiency on their instrument by playing the following materials:

Seven major scales, (these do not need to be memorized)

Chromatic scale, (this does not need to be memorized)

Etude or exercise of appropriate difficulty

Instrumental lessons are required. The lesson consists of individual or group instruction one period per week and is scheduled on a rotating basis. Lesson materials will include lesson books, band music and small ensembles for more advanced players. Students should be prepared to make a commitment to learning from these materials by practicing on a regular basis. A minimum of three concerts per year are performed. The symphonic band may participate in other types of field trips and events. The performances are considered to be “exams”; therefore, credit will not be awarded to students who do not attend the performances without a legal excuse. Performance at the commencement ceremonies is also a requirement. Membership for the High School Orchestra is taken from the Symphonic Band on the director’s recommendations.

Music In Our Lives

1 Unit

This course provides students with worthwhile experiences in and through music. A student’s past, present, and future musical experiences are the focus of this course. Each student will acquire knowledge, understanding and appreciation of the artistic, cultural, and intellectual accomplishments of civilization and develop the skills necessary to express personal artistic talents. Students will explore and experience the multi-faceted world of music by actively participating in “hands-on” musical activities including listening, creating, performing, using, preparing, and presenting. A wide variety of of current musical recordings, styles, techniques, and equipment will be explored by the students to expose and create interest for students in the performing arts as a meaningful part of his/her life.