

AITKIN HIGH SCHOOL

REGISTRATION HANDBOOK 2026-2027

Grades 9-12



Table of Contents

SECTION I

Attention Parents and Guardians	1
Graduation Course and Credit Requirements	2-3
AHS Course Layout	4-5
Graduation with Honors/Highest Honors and Honors Diploma Requirements	6
College in the Schools (CIS)	6
Post-Secondary Enrollment Options (PSEO)	6
Planning A Course Of Study	7
Minnesota State Colleges and Universities - Recommended High School Preparation.....	7
MN Infinity Online	8
AHS CTE Distinctions	9-12

SECTION II

Course Descriptions.....	13-39
--------------------------	-------



ATTENTION PARENTS AND GUARDIANS

Aitkin High School considers the selection of courses one of the most important steps in a student's long and short range planning process. To support this, we put a great deal of time and effort into giving students accurate information to make wise decisions. We are hopeful that parents will also be seriously involved in the registration process. Students are strongly urged to discuss their course selections with their parents, their teachers, and with their school counselor. In selecting courses, students should give careful thought to their overall high school program and post high school plans, as well as, keep in mind the graduation requirements which are listed below. Questions regarding registration should be directed to the School Counseling Office.

We have a semester system of scheduling at Aitkin High School (Grades 9-12). Each semester is 18 weeks in length and final grades are posted at the end of each semester. Semester grades are what is posted to the official high school transcript. Courses may be a full year or a semester (1/2 year) in length. Full-year classes receive two final semester grades; one for semester 1 and a separate grade for semester 2.

Some courses are only offered every other or every third year. Courses not offered for the current registration year will be indicated in the course descriptions.

NOTE: Be very sure that you plan well for the entire year because courses you choose during spring registration will be FINAL. Certain electives will only be offered if there are sufficient students enrolled to warrant the formation of a class. Changes in your schedule will only be made with special permission and **MUST** be done **before** the first day of each semester.

In order for **new** students to register at Aitkin High School, they must be accompanied by a parent or guardian. If you are a new student wanting to enroll at Aitkin High School, we will request records from your previous school and will need to have those records before you will be allowed to schedule classes and attend school.

Graduation Course and Credit Requirements

The following requirements must be met for graduation.

Credits must be taken in grades 9-12 to count towards graduation.

There are College in the Schools (CIS) classes that can substitute for some of the 11th and 12th grade requirements.

Class of 2025 - 2027

Requirements for Graduation	Semester Credits
English English 9, English 10, English 11, English 12 (sem), English elective (sem)	8 cr.
Social Social 9, American History, Geography, World History, Civics, Economics	8 cr.
Science Earth and Space Science 9, Biology, Chemistry <i>or</i> Physics	6 cr.
Mathematics Geometry, Intro to Statistics, Algebra II, Math elective (or Intermediate Algebra 1 as determined by teacher)	7 cr.
Physical Education Phy. Ed 9/10	2 cr.
Health 9	1 cr.
Fine Arts 2 semester credits	2 cr.
Additional Credits	11 cr.
Totals	45 credits

1 Semester Class = 1 credit

Year-long Class = 2 credits

Class of 2028 and up

Requirements for Graduation	Semester Credits
English English 9, English 10, English 11, English 12 (sem), English elective (sem)	8 cr.
Social Social 9, American History, Geography, World History, Civics, Economics	8 cr.
Science Earth and Space Science 9, Biology, Chemistry <i>or</i> Physics	6 cr.
Mathematics Geometry, Intro to Statistics, Algebra II, Math elective (or Intermediate Algebra 1 as determined by teacher)	7 cr.
Physical Education Phy. Ed 9, Phy Ed 10-12	2 cr.
Health 9	1 cr.
Personal Finance	1 cr.
Fine Arts 2 semester credits	2 cr.
Additional Credits	10 cr.
Totals	45 credits

1 Semester Class = 1 credit

Year-long Class = 2 credits

AHS Course Layout

This worksheet outlines the courses taken by AHS students in grades 9-12. This is meant as a visual guide; it does not necessarily indicate which semester or order in the day classes will be taken.

9th Grade

SEMESTER ONE	SEMESTER TWO
English 9	English 9
Social 9	Social 9
Intermediate Algebra <i>or</i> Geometry	Intermediate Algebra <i>or</i> Geometry
Earth and Space Science 9	Earth and Space Science 9
Health 9	PE 9
Elective	Elective

10th Grade

SEMESTER ONE	SEMESTER TWO
English 10	English 10
American History	American History
Geometry <i>or</i> Basic Geometry <i>or</i> Algebra II	Geometry <i>or</i> Basic Geometry <i>or</i> Algebra II
Biology	Biology
Elective	Elective
Elective	Elective

11th Grade

SEMESTER ONE	SEMESTER TWO
English 11 <i>or</i> CIS Lit: Global Perspective	English 11 <i>or</i> CIS Lit: People and Envr
Geography <i>or</i> CIS Cultural Geography	World History <i>or</i> CIS Psychology
Algebra II <i>or</i> Basic Algebra II <i>or</i> CIS Algebra/PreCalc/Stats	Algebra II <i>or</i> Basic Algebra II <i>or</i> CIS Algebra/PreCalc/Stats
Chemistry <i>or</i> Physics <i>or</i> CIS Chemistry	Chemistry <i>or</i> Physics <i>or</i> CIS Chemistry
Elective	Elective
Elective	Elective

12th Grade

SEMESTER ONE	SEMESTER TWO
English 12 <i>or</i> CIS Academic Writing	English Elective <i>or</i> CIS Public Speaking
Civics 12 <i>or</i> CIS American Gov	Economics 12 <i>or</i> CIS Economics
Elective	Elective
Elective	Elective
Elective	Elective
Elective	Elective



Graduation with Honors/Highest Honors and Honors Diploma Requirements

Students graduating with honors or highest honors must be enrolled at Aitkin High School their entire senior year in order to receive “Honors” or “Highest Honors” status.

The GPA calculation for graduation with highest honors and honors will be completed at the end of the first semester of the senior year.

Graduation with Highest Honors

Seniors earning a GPA of 3.75000 - 4.00000 for grades 9-12 will be recognized as those graduating with highest academic honors and will wear gold honor cords. The GPA calculation does not extend beyond 5 decimal places and there will be no rounding off of the GPA. These students will be awarded an “Honors Diploma”.

Graduation with Honors

Students earning a 3.50000 – 3.74999 cumulative GPA in grades 9-12 will be recognized as those graduating with honors and will wear silver honor cords. The GPA calculation does not extend beyond 5 decimal places and there will be no rounding off of the GPA. These students will be awarded an “Honors Diploma”.

College in the Schools (CIS)

Aitkin High School offers a variety of concurrent college courses through Central Lakes College (CLC), the University of Minnesota Duluth (UMD), Southwest Minnesota State University (SMSU) and the University of Minnesota (UMN) that are open to students in grades 11 and 12. If a student meets the criteria for taking a college course, they can register for the classes listed as college classes in the handbook. Please keep in mind, however, that they are college courses, and students will need to put in extra effort and time to complete these courses successfully. If a student is unsure of the curriculum, it would be best to meet with the teacher prior to taking the course to know what is expected of them.

The requirements to qualify for CIS courses are set by each institution. Also, students may need to take the ACCUPLACER test and earn qualifying scores to receive college credit for CIS courses.

Post-Secondary Enrollment Options (PSEO)

Students in grades 10, 11, and 12 who meet the admissions criteria of the post-secondary school of their choice may participate in the Post-Secondary Enrollment Options (PSEO). Under the provisions of this act, high school students may take a partial or full complement of classes at a college and receive college credit for those classes. Post-secondary students, even if they are full time at a college, are considered high school students and are subject to the rules of the high school. They are also eligible for all extra-curricular activities at the high school. Students looking into PSEO must set up a meeting in the Counseling Office with your School Counselor, parents/guardians, and student for more information. Forms to enroll in PSEO courses are available on the AHS school counseling website and in the AHS school counseling office.

Under the provisions of PSEO, tuition and books are paid for by the Post-Secondary Institution the student is attending. Upon completion of the Post-Secondary course, books must be returned to the Post-Secondary Institution.

Planning A Course Of Study

Options after graduation from high school are varied and it is best to keep as many open as possible. As students and parents plan courses for high school, the following recommendations may be helpful.

SUGGESTED PROGRAMS OF STUDY BY POST HIGH SCHOOL PLANS				
What is your goal?	Vocational/Technical College; Certificate, Diploma	Community College; Associate Degree or Transfer Program	Traditional 4 Year College/University; Bachelor's degree	"Selective" 4 Year College/University; Bachelor's degree
Example	Central Lakes College, M.State Wadena, Alexandria Technical College	Central Lakes College, Anoka-Ramsey Community College	St. Cloud State, Bemidji State, UND, NDSU	Carleton, Hamline, U of M-Mpls./Duluth, Concordia, Ivy Leagues, UW-Madison
How many years of each kind of course should you take? (Based on admission recommendations from sample institutions)				
English	4 years	4 years	4 years, advanced levels	4 years, advanced levels
Social Studies	3.5 years	3.5 years	3.5 or more years, advanced Levels	4 years, advanced levels
Mathematics	3	3	3 or more years	4 or more years
Science	3	3	3 or more years	4 or more years
Fitness/Health	No recommendation <i>High School Requirement</i>	No recommendation <i>High School Requirement</i>	No recommendation <i>High School Requirement</i>	No recommendation <i>High School Requirement</i>
Fine Arts	No recommendation <i>High School Requirement</i>	No recommendation <i>High School Requirement</i>	At least 1 year <i>High School Requirement</i>	At least 1 year <i>High School Requirement</i>
World Language	No recommendation	No recommendation	2 or more years of single language	2-4 years of single language
Electives	Choose electives that will prepare for a career or broaden your interests		Choose electives that will prepare for a career or broaden your interests	

Minnesota State Colleges and Universities - Recommended High School Preparation

- 4 years of English
- 3 years of Mathematics (including algebra, geometry, and statistics/probability)
- 3 years of Science (1 year of biology, plus 2 additional years)
- 3.5 years of Social Studies (including U.S. history, geography, world history, gov/citizenship, and econ)
- 1 year of Arts
- 2 years of a single World Language (recommended)
- Computer classes (recommended)

MN Infinity Online

(www.mninfinity.org)

MN Infinity Online, a state certified online provider, is a joint effort of 29 school districts, including Aitkin High School. Students are able to take online classes without leaving their home districts, teachers, and friends who make up the school experience. Infinity Online courses encompass a wide variety of offerings in Mathematics, English, Science, Social Studies, Health and Personal Fitness, and Electives.

All Infinity Online courses are a semester long and would be scheduled in place of an Aitkin High School course within a student's regular school day. Students report to the AHS Media Center for attendance and to complete their Infinity online coursework. **The max capacity of online students per period in the Media Center is 8.**

Each course features interactive modules meeting Minnesota State Standards. Course activities may include multimedia demonstrations, virtual and at-home labs, practice problems, checking for understanding interactive, quizzes and exams, written response and essays, class discussions, and research projects. Students access courses via Infinity's online D2L learning environment, needing just a laptop and an internet connection to participate. Infinity's D2L course management system is a password-protected server providing a secure learning environment.

MN Infinity enrollment procedures at Aitkin High School

1. The student or parent must contact the school counselor indicating interest in an online course *before* the start of the semester.
2. If the student is wishing to take a core class online (English, Math, etc.), a meeting with the school counselor, student, and at least one parent must happen before the counselor verifies the course request.

Steps for students interested in transferring to a MN Infinity course after the AHS drop/add deadline:

1. Contact their school counselor. The school counselor determines if the student is able to transfer (the MN Infinity course and the current AHS course must be equivalent)
2. Set up a conference with the school counselor, the AHS teacher of the course they are wishing to transfer out of, and at least one parent.
3. A Transfer Form (available from the counselor) must be signed by the AHS teacher and parents.
4. If the final decision is to transfer the course to MN Infinity, the school counselor will assist with the registration process.

Online Learning Parameters (MN State Statute 124D.095)

“An online learning student may enroll in supplemental online learning courses equal to a maximum of 50 percent of the student's full schedule of courses per term during a single school year”

Aitkin High School CTE Distinctions

What is a CTE Career Distinction?

A Distinction is a series of courses within an area of career interest.

A Distinction will connect your interests from high school to college and/or career.

A Distinction will give you opportunities in work force exploration and preparation for a future career.

It will also help to boost your resume!

Students who complete one or more CTE Distinctions will receive the following recognition:

- Green Cord to be worn at Commencement ceremony designating CTE Distinction completion.

*Limit one green cord per student. Students can earn more than one Distinction.

- Certificate of Completion (one per Distinction) presented at the Senior Awards Program.

Aitkin High School is proud to offer students 6 different CTE Distinctions.

Agricultural Mechanics

Agriculture

Construction Trades

Mass Media

Natural Resources

Restaurant and Culinary Skills

Agricultural Mechanics

Description:

The Agricultural Mechanics Distinction provides students with hands-on experience with trade knowledge and tools in the areas of metal working, small engines, and sign engineering. Students learn how to safely operate shop machinery and tools so they gain experience which enables them to pursue a career in the demanding and growing trades and manufacturing fields.

Requirements:

Complete 3 of the 4 courses, earn a "B" or better in each course **OR**
Complete 2 of the 4 courses, earn a "B" or better and be in FFA for two years.

Courses

METALS I: INTRO TO WELDING & FABRICATION

METALS II: ADVANCED WELDING & FABRICATION

ENGINES I: SMALL ENGINES

ENGINES II: LARGE ENGINES

Agriculture

Description:

The Agriculture Distinction introduces students to the vast number of careers in Agriculture today. Students gain skills in agricultural animal and plant physiology, nutrition and management as well as forestry and land management. Agricultural and forestry equipment and technology skills are highlighted in the courses. Students are prepared to go directly into employment in farming or forestry or continue to higher education.

Requirements:

Complete 3 of the 5 courses, earn a “B” or better in each course **OR**
Complete 2 of the 5 courses, earn a “B” or better and be in FFA for two years.

Courses

ANIMAL SCIENCE I: ANIMAL ANATOMY & THE LIVESTOCK INDUSTRY

ANIMAL SCIENCE II: ANIMAL HEALTH & VETERINARY SCIENCES

HOW TO GROW PLANTS I: INTRO TO GARDENING, SOILS, HYDROPONICS, AQUAPONICS, & BOTANY

HOW TO GROW PLANTS II: CROP PRODUCTION & AGRIBUSINESS

FROM SOIL TO SHOP: GROWING FOOD, FIXING EQUIPMENT, AND RUNNING A FARM

Construction Trades

Description:

The Construction Trades Distinction include courses that have been especially designed for those who have shown an interest in a trades career or those just looking to expand and perfect their own skills. Students learn valuable trade skills, adaptive to the ever-changing world of Construction and Trades. Students will learn about construction/trades careers and gain knowledge that will be vital in their future career endeavors.

Requirements:

Complete 3 of the 4 courses, earn a “B” or better in each course

Courses

WOOD TECH I

WOOD TECH II

TRADE SKILLS

SIGN ENGINEERING

Mass Media

Description:

The Mass Media Distinction is the gateway to a wide variety of careers in the media industry which is an ever growing presence in our economy. Students will demonstrate proficiency in both traditional and new media to create and disseminate content. This distinction builds students' skills in advertisement, entertainment, and communication through written and visual expression.

Requirements:

Complete 3 of the 5 courses, earn a "B" or better in each course

Courses

PHOTOGRAPHY

JOURNALISM

SIGN ENGINEERING

SMALL BUSINESS/ENTREPRENUERSHIP

VIDEO PRODUCTION

Natural Resources

Description:

The Natural Resources Distinction provides students with an introduction to the careers in the areas of natural resources. Students will learn about water, soil, wildlife, and fisheries from a natural resources and conservation perspective. Survey techniques, scaling timber, and evaluating habitats are just part of the skills students will learn. Highlights for this distinction take the student into the studio as they create real-life images of wildlife and nature. Students work with professionals as they analyze environmental issues and learn conservation techniques. The distinction is designed for students interested in environmental studies.

Requirements:

Complete 3 of the 4 courses, earn a "B" or better in each course

Courses

WOODS, WATER & WILDLIFE

WILDLIFE ART

ORNITHOLOGY/ICHTHYOLOGY

GENETICS/BOTANY

Restaurant and Culinary Skills

Description:

The Restaurant and Culinary Skills Distinction allows students to acquire not only basic food preparation skills but also the information needed to understand the culinary industry. Students will experience preparation and presentation of a variety of foods and gain an understanding of nutritional as well as health and legal issues related to the culinary industry. The highlight of the distinction is that students use skills learned in a model restaurant.

Requirements:

Complete the Restaurant and Culinary Skills course plus 2 other courses, earn a “B” or better in each course

Courses

FOODS I

FOODS II

GLOBAL FOODS

RESTAURANT AND CULINARY SKILLS

2026-2027

Course

Descriptions

Courses listed in numerical order by department

AGRICULTURE

WOODS, WATER & WILDLIFE

Course No.: 1002
Open to: Grades 9-12
Length/Credit: Semester – 1 Elective Credit
Class Size Limit: 20

CTE Distinction: Natural Resources

Description: This class is designed for students interested in careers in forestry, wildlife, environmental sciences or natural resources. The course will begin with a unit on water and will cover the topics of water as a renewable versus finite resource, the chemical properties of water, and the ecology of streams and lakes. The next unit will be on wildlife where students will learn the taxonomic system, all the mammals, reptiles, and amphibians of MN, and the principles of conservation and ecology. The last unit will focus on forestry. Students will study forests, timber growth, forest management and harvesting, as well as bush craft (surviving in the bush). Chainsaw maintenance and logging equipment are an integral part of this unit. There will be labs in areas of tree identification, timber cruising, and tree identification, maintaining and using forestry equipment.

FROM SOIL TO SHOP: GROWING FOOD, FIXING EQUIPMENT, AND RUNNING A FARM

Course No.: 1004
Grades: 9-12
Length/Credit: Semester-1 Elective Credit
Class Size Limit: 20

CTE Distinction: Agriculture

Description: In this hands-on course, students learn how to grow their own food, fix and maintain farm equipment, and build the skills needed to be self-reliant in agriculture. Students explore gardening, sustainable farming practices, and basic ag mechanics while learning how small farms make money and stay sustainable. The course also introduces how farmers work with state and federal agencies for grants, conservation programs, and support. This class is perfect for students who like working with their hands, solving real problems, and learning practical skills they can use for life or a future in agriculture.

ANIMAL SCIENCE I: ANIMAL ANATOMY & THE LIVESTOCK INDUSTRY

Course No.: 1008
Open to: Grades 9-12
Length/Credit: Semester – 1 Elective Credit
Class Size Limit: 20

CTE Distinction: Agriculture

Description: Students start this course learning the basic biology and anatomy of common livestock animals including the history of domestication, skeletal and digestive anatomy, animal health, nutrition, breeding and behavior. The course will then cover several livestock industries making case studies of the Beef, Dairy, Horse, Swine, Sheep, Goat, and Poultry Industries. If time allows, aquaculture, exotics, rabbits, apiary and other animal industries will be covered. Various labs, guest speakers, and live animal observations will help illustrate these concepts. Students will leave this class with an understanding of the economics and practices of these industries as well as the practical skills of how to calculate and balance a feed ration and care for and manage several kinds of domestic livestock and small animals. Prerequisite for Animal Science II Animal Health and Veterinary Science

METALS I: INTRO TO WELDING & FABRICATION

Course No.: 1010
Open to: Grades 10-12
Length/Credit: Semester – 1 Fine Arts Credit
Class Size Limit: 16

CTE Distinction: Agricultural Mechanics

Description: In this class students will learn the basic types and properties of metals, how to design a project and come up with a bill of materials. Students will learn how to cut, bend, fasten, and melt metals demonstrating the basics of fabrication through various projects. Students will learn how to safely and effectively ARC weld, MIG weld, Oxy-Acetylene Weld, and Tig Weld working with both steel and aluminum metals. Students will show their proficiencies in welding and fabrication through individualized projects.

ANIMAL SCIENCE II: ANIMAL HEALTH AND VETERINARY SCIENCES ~ NOT OFFERED 26-27

Course No.: 1011

Open to: Grades 9-12

Length/Credit: Semester – 1 Elective Credit

Class Size Limit: 20

Prerequisite: *Animal Science I*

CTE Distinction: Agriculture

Description: This class will dive deeper into the management and economics of the various animal industries and teach students how to grade and process meat from several kinds of animals. Students will learn the basics of butchering and processing meat and other animal products. We will then turn our attention to companion animal management and training. Students will learn basic dog training skills and be introduced to a series of other pets. The second half of the course will focus on animal health and vet-technician training. Students will learn how to assess the health of an animal, diagnose an ailment, and how to treat and care for sick and wounded animals. The practical skills a student will come away with are how to vaccinate orally and with a syringe, how to suture and bandage a wound, how to castrate, dock, tag, and trim various animals and how to assist in the birthing process. Students interested in careers in veterinary sciences, butchering, meat inspector, animal boarding and care, this class is for you.

HOW TO GROW PLANTS I: GARDENING, SOILS, HYDROPONICS, AQUAPONICS, AND BOTANY ~ NOT OFFERED 26-27

Course No.: 1014

Open to: Grades 9-12

Length/Credit: Semester – 1 Elective Credit

Class Size Limit: 20

CTE Distinction: Agriculture

Description: This course will introduce students to the science and the business of farming. Students will learn where their food comes from and how it is grown. We will start the semester by learning about soil science through several labs and experiments and start lettuce and herbs that will later be used in the hydroponic growing system. We will then learn the art and science of horticulture through practical growing labs, learning how to grow and tend to both indoor and outdoor plants. This class will cover the various topics and career paths in horticulture and experiment with the latest horticultural technologies. Students will apply their knowledge by growing lettuce and herbs in the hydroponic growing system for the FACS Department and by creating floral arrangements for the school store.
**Articulated agreement with CLC Horticulture.*

HOW TO GROW PLANTS II: CROP PRODUCTION AND AGRIBUSINESS ~ NOT OFFERED 26-27

Course No.: 1015

Open to: Grades 9-12

Length/Credit: Semester – 1 Elective Credit

Class Size Limit: 20

CTE Distinction: Agriculture

Description: This course will dive further into the science of growing and maintaining plant health and the business of growing crops. Students will learn how to plan, plant, grow, harvest, store and sell a variety of different crops. Students will learn the art and science of agronomy through practical growing labs, plant tissue analysis, field trips and guest speakers. This class will cover the various topics and career paths in agronomy and experiment with the latest agricultural technologies. Students will apply their knowledge by tending and harvesting the crops from the school garden and elsewhere.
**Articulated agreement with CLC Horticulture.*

METALS II: ADVANCED WELDING & FABRICATION

Course No.: 1016

Open to: Grades 10-12

Length/Credit: Semester – 1 Fine Arts Credit

Class Size Limit: 16

CTE Distinction: Agricultural Mechanics

Prerequisite: *Metals I*

Description: Metals, Welding, Fabrication; Agricultural Metal Fabrication Technology courses provide students with the skills and knowledge that are specifically applicable to the tools and equipment used in the industry. In learning to apply basic technical knowledge and skills (engines, power, welding, and structures, among others), students may explore a broad range of topics, including the operation, mechanics, and care of tools, technology and machines; the construction and

repair of structures integral to agricultural operations; an introduction or review of electricity and power; and safety procedures. Students will also be expected to learn Fusion 360 design software to design and build parts using CNC and analog machining.

ENGINES I: SMALL ENGINES

Course No.: 1020

Open to: Grades 9-12

Length/Credit: Semester – 1 Elective Credit

Class Size Limit: 16

CTE Distinction: Agricultural Mechanics

Description: This class will cover the basics of 2 and 4-cycle engines. Students will learn the basic parts of the engine and how to disassemble, assemble, and troubleshoot common problems with engines. Students will put their knowledge to the test creating engine diagrams, overhauling a classroom engine, and troubleshooting and fixing their own engines from home. This class will cover the basics of reading engine manuals and ordering replacement parts as well as providing customer service to community members seeking to fix their engine problems.

**Articulated agreement with CLC Marine & Small Engines.*

ENGINES II: AGRICULTURAL EQUIPMENT MAINTENANCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Course No.: 1021

Open to: Grades 10-12

Length/Credit: Semester – 1 Elective Credit

Class Size Limit: 16

Prerequisite: Engines I

CTE Distinction: Agricultural Mechanics

Description: This class will work with both small and large engines with a focus on agricultural power systems.. Students will learn how to disassemble, assemble and troubleshoot multi-cylinder engines and other automotive systems. This knowledge will be put to application through where students will fix and repair donated agricultural machinery to be sold in the school store and provide automotive and agricultural services to the community. Customer service and the business of being a mechanic will be stressed throughout this course. Guest mechanics will be brought in to enhance classroom learning activities such as refurbishing a tractor. Students will also be expected to design mechanical parts using fusion 360 design software.

**Articulated agreement with CLC Marine & Small Engines.*

SUPERVISED AGRICULTURAL EXPERIENCE I (SAE) - Career Seminar ~ NOT OFFERED 26-27

Course No: 1030

Open to: Grades 12

Length/ Credit: Semester - 1 Elective Credit

Class Size Limit: 15

Prerequisite: Any 2 sequenced Agriculture courses (ex. Metals I and II, Engines I and II, Intro to Ag and Animal Science or How to Grow Stuff, or Woods, Water, Wildlife.)

Description: Career Seminar I allows students to (a) discover their personal strengths and abilities, (b) understand opportunities available to them in different career areas, and (c) practice skills necessary to excel in the workforce. Emphasis is placed on employee rights and responsibilities and occupational safety and hazard prevention in various work environments. This course may also include experiential learning opportunities such as industry tours, informational interviews, or job shadowing.

SUPERVISED AGRICULTURAL EXPERIENCE II (SAE) - Work Experience Internship ~ NOT OFFERED 26-27

Course No: 1031

Open to: Grades 12

Length/ Credit: Semester - 1 Elective Credit

Class Size Limit: 15

Prerequisite: SAE Career Seminar

Description: Work experience courses requiring a minimum of 450 hours for completion that provides students with opportunities to apply the skills and knowledge learned in previous CTE and general education courses within a professional work environment in a field related to their career interests. Students interact with industry professionals to develop postsecondary and career readiness knowledge and skills. Goals are set cooperatively by the student, teacher, employer and students.

ART - VISUAL and MEDIA

PRINTMAKING ~ NOT OFFERED 26-27

Course No.: 1054
Open to: Grades 9-12
Length/Credit: Semester - 1 Fine Arts credit
Class size limit: 20
Description: Have you ever wanted to design your own t-shirt or make a clay print? This printmaking course will introduce you to a variety of printmaking techniques. Emphasis will be on single color printing techniques in block and screen printing.

DRAWING

Course No.: 1056
Open to: Grades 9-12
Length/Credit: Semester - 1 Fine Arts credit
Class size limit: 20
Description: In this course, students will use a wide range of media (graphite, colored pencil, pen/ink, hatching and washes, pastels, charcoal, if available digital) to study and apply design and visual communication in the production of assigned projects. This course will enable students to: Develop skills specific to the discipline, Engage in a process of exploration and self-discovery, Make purposeful connections between investigation and practice, and Respond to and reflect on art. The Elements and Principles of Design are studied and applied to the creative process of planning and executing various drawing challenges; personal interpretation and design exploration are strongly encouraged.

WILDLIFE ART

Course No.: 1058
Open to: Grades 9-12
Length/Credit: Semester - 1 Fine Arts credit
Class size limit: 20
CTE Distinction: Natural Resources
Description: Animals have been a source of inspiration for many artists, from rural life to the growth of myths and legends. Animals are viewed in art in many different ways. Art can help us explore our relationship to wildlife and can help us think about how we care for animals and the environment. This course will provide a variety of techniques used to create realistic and nonconventional images of nature and wildlife. Students will experience a variety of materials which may include: drawing, painting, printmaking, graphics, ceramics, and sculpture.

CERAMICS

Course No.: 1060
Open to: Grades 10-12
Length/Credit: Semester – 1 Fine Arts credit
Class size limit: 20
Description: This course introduces the student to the skills, vocabulary, and techniques necessary to create pottery and clay sculpture. Students will learn basic clay techniques and processes including building by hand construction in coil, slab, and pinch methods to provide projects that will give the student more than a basic understanding of the ceramic process from raw clay to finished pottery of glazing, and firing. While students consider the different stages of development of their art, they will also apply the elements and principles of good design and craftwork to their creations. As students create functional and non-functional pieces, they will explore how ceramics can be expressive and meaningful.

PAINTING

Course No.: 1062
Open to: Grades 10-12
Length/Credit: Semester – 1 Fine Arts credit
Class size limit: 20
Prerequisite: *Drawing suggested but not required*
Description: This course provides the foundation of painting, its application, and materials. It focuses on the color theory and the processes of wet-into-wet, dry-brush paint application, masking, and other various painting techniques. Students will learn to explore the properties, qualities, and capabilities of paint and painting tools to create their artwork. We will

focus on a variety of artistic styles and cultural influences. These concepts will be studied and then used to create expressive paintings. In a safe environment, students will. The elements and principles of design will be used as guidelines for creating compositions.

PHOTOGRAPHY

Course No.: 1066

Open to: Grades 9-12

Length/Credit: Semester - 1 Fine Arts credit

Class size limit: 15

CTE Distinction: Mass Media

Description: Students enrolled in digital photography will learn the knowledge and skills needed in order to expand their interest as a casual photographer or pursue a career as a professional one. The course will explore the basics of photography such as light and lenses, functions of a professional camera, and concepts for composing portrait, landscape, and high-speed photography. Essential Lightroom and Photoshop skills for editing and enhancing photos will be learned and used to create professional looking photographs, prints, and portfolios.

DIGITAL ART ~ NOT OFFERED 26-27

Course No.: 1072

Open to: Grades 10-12

Length/Credit: Semester – 1 Fine Arts credit

Class size limit: 18

Description: This art course uses technology and engineering as tools to create artistic imagery through digital drawing and painting as well as engineering design. A variety of projects and technology will be explored that may include creative apps, and platforms such as Adobe Photoshop and Illustrator.

CREATIVE SKILLS

Course No.: 1074

Open to: Grades 9-12

Length/Credit: Semester – 1 Fine Arts credit

Class size limit: 20

Description: Studio Art is designed to provide a variety of art experiences for students wishing to explore the possibilities of art. Students will have production experiences with a variety of materials and techniques, which may include: drawing, painting, printmaking, graphics, ceramics, and sculpture. The class may also help students determine which art classes to enroll in for the future.

ENGLISH

ENGLISH 9

Course No.: 3010 & 3011

Required: Grade 9

Length/Credit: Full Year - 2 English credits

Description: This required freshman course includes literature, writing, spelling, grammar and vocabulary development. There will be an emphasis on developing critical thinking skills along with learning how to analyze literature on a more abstract level. Students will read short stories, a novel, poetry, and other forms of literature. The development of multi-paragraph compositions and creative works will be a major focus of composition, with attention given to grammar and spelling. Oral presentation techniques will also be taught.

ENGLISH 10

Course No.: 3020 & 3021

Required: Grade 10

Length/Credit: Full Year - 2 English credits

Description: This required course will focus on a variety of writing assignments including poetry writing, an argumentative essay, a narrative essay, and journal writing. Students will read both nonfiction and fiction works, including a novella, two novels, a Shakespearean play, a selection of short stories, and poetry. Through these reading and writing

opportunities, students will work to improve their critical thinking skills, learn to appreciate a variety of forms of literature, advance their vocabulary, and connect their reading and writing to their lives and the world around them.

ENGLISH 11

Course No.: 3030 & 3031

Required: Grade 11 (unless taking *CIS Literature* courses)

Length/Credit: Full Year - 2 English credits

Description: This course offers a survey of American literature, including poetry, short stories, non-fiction, drama and novels. Following an interest inventory and aptitude assessment, students research and present on an occupation of their choice to prepare for life after high school. Students write in a variety of styles, including narrative and argumentative essays. ACT English skills are practiced on a daily basis. Critical analysis, discussion, composition, journaling, vocabulary, spelling, grammar and usage skills will be practiced as well.

ENGLISH 12

Course No.: 3044

Required: Grade 12 (unless taking *CIS Composition I*)

Length/Credit: Semester - 1 English credit

Description: This course will include short stories, non-fiction articles, novels, and a play. An emphasis will be placed on critical thinking, independent reading, writing, and vocabulary development. Students will focus on career skills by producing a resume and cover letter while honing interview skills for a competitive job market. A multimedia project will serve as a culminating activity.

ENGLISH ELECTIVE COURSES

JOURNALISM

Course No.: 3034

Open to: Grades 10-12

Length/Credit: Semester - 1 English credit

Class Size Limit: 25

CTE Distinction: Mass Media

Description: This elective will give students a chance to work on Turkey Times, Aitkin High School's online newspaper, learning journalism techniques with a hands-on approach.. Technology and research will give us the ability to produce articles similar to an actual newspaper including feature articles, editorials, news stories, etc. Students are expected to use previously developed skills in writing and revision and must be able to function independently and on a timely basis. This class may be repeated as Journalism II with instructor approval.

WHO DUNNIT?!

Course No.: 3035

Open to: Grades 10-12

Length/Credit: Semester - 1 English credit

Class Size Limit: 25

Description: This elective course is designed to focus on the mystery and crime genre. It will focus on both fictional stories and novels, in addition to true crime. This course will be taught through various forms of literacy such as podcasts, novels, plays, short stories, and films. They will be assessed through papers, class discussions, projects, and presentations. Class participation is expected.

MYTHS AND LEGENDS

Course No.: 3036

Open to: Grades 11-12

Length/Credit: Semester - 1 English credit

Class Size Limit: 25

Description: This elective course is designed to introduce students to superstitions, urban legends, classical Greek mythology, Norse mythology, and the myths and legends from various cultures. Students will read and view film versions of these stories as well as write creative and/or analytical papers and exams. Tests or other forms of evaluation will be used at the teacher's discretion. Class participation is expected.

EVERYDAY ENGLISH

Course No.:	3038
Open to:	Grades 11-12
Length/Credit:	Semester - 1 English credit
Class Size Limit:	25
Description:	This elective course is designed to focus on real-world English application through assignments derived from the 30 Days Lost In Space circuitry and coding kit. Through the hands-on activities in the kit, students will learn English skills that will serve them well in the workplace, particularly in the trades. One of the major projects in this course will be to design a multimedia presentation explaining a specific issue each student has encountered along with a demonstration solving the problem. Whether it is cooking, welding, or fixing a snowmobile, students will use hands-on work along with their interests and experiences to hone their English skills.

COLLEGE IN THE SCHOOLS (CIS) ENGLISH COURSES

Prerequisites: Must meet the GPA or Class Rank requirement (if applicable) set by the college

LITERATURE: GLOBAL PERSPECTIVE* (CIS – SMSU)

Course No.:	3051
Open to:	Grade 11
Length/Credit:	Semester – 1 HS English credit – 3 SMSU Credits
Class Size Limit:	20
Prerequisite:	<i>3.0 GPA or above in high school or be in the top third of graduating class</i>
Description:	This course is an introduction to literature through the study of works past and present which explore both the nature of humanity and humanity's relation to the world. The course will introduce students to literature from primarily outside the United States to enable cross-cultural comparisons. Does not count toward a Literature major.

LITERATURE: PEOPLE AND THE ENVIRONMENT* (CIS – SMSU)

Course No.:	3047
Open to:	Grade 11
Length/Credit:	Semester – 1 HS English credit – 3 SMSU Credits
Class Size Limit:	20
Prerequisite:	<i>3.0 GPA or above in high school or be in the top third of graduating class</i>
Description:	This course introduces students to literature focused on the environment and our relationship to it. The course covers several literary genres and may include both U.S. and non-U.S. writers and environments. This course does not count toward a Literature or Creative Writing major.

PUBLIC SPEAKING* (CIS - UMD)

Course No.:	3049
Open to:	Grade 12
Length/Credit:	Semester - 1 HS English credit - 3 UMD Public Speaking credits
Class Size Limit:	20
Prerequisite:	<i>3.0 GPA or above in high school</i>
Description:	This course provides practical experience for those who want to develop or improve their ability to speak in front of groups. The fundamentals of topic selection, organization, development, delivery, and audience analysis are studied and utilized. Students engage in six formal public speaking experiences with emphasis on extemporaneous, informative, and persuasive speeches. Class participation is required. ** Bachelor's degree seeking students are required to take a public speaking course in college.

ACADEMIC WRITING* (CIS - SMSU)

Course No.:	3052
Open to:	Grade 12
Length/Credit:	Semester - 1 HS English credit - 4 SMSU credits
Class Size Limit:	20
Prerequisite:	<i>3.0 GPA or above in high school or be in the top half of graduating class</i>

Description: This course will enable students to determine a writing purpose, generate ideas to support a topic, determine an audience, develop a focus, and organize a written text. At least two papers will involve a research component through which students begin to learn the conventions of citation and documentation. Furthermore, the class will enable students to learn how purpose and audience affect the content, language, and form of a written text. The English program reserves the right to remove students from the course who do not meet the prerequisites.

FAMILY & CONSUMER SCIENCES (FCS)

FOODS I

Course No.: 4002
Open to: Grades 9-12
Length/Credit: Semester – 1 Elective credit
Class size limit: 20

CTE Distinction: Restaurant and Culinary Skills

Description: This beginning level foods course focuses on food and kitchen safety and basic cooking techniques. Topics include food safety, kitchen sanitation, knife skills, nutrition, selection and use of equipment, and meal planning. Food preparation experiences may include food preservation, fruits, vegetables, eggs, dairy, meat and poultry, and some seasonal projects. Consumer awareness factors such as cost and nutrition will be emphasized throughout the course. The curriculum used is called ProStart. It is written and endorsed by the National Restaurant Association. Students will be trained according to industry standards so that they are better prepared to work in the food industry. Students who complete all levels of ProStart can take the final exam to earn a certificate that is recognized nationwide by the National Restaurant Association for completion of this culinary training. Any student who wants to work in the food service industry or is interested in food science, nutrition, tourism, or cooking as a hobby will benefit from this course. This course is a prerequisite for Foods II and for Restaurant & Culinary Skills.

FOODS II

Course No.: 4004
Open to: Grades 10-12
Length/Credit: Semester – 1 Elective credit
Class size limit: 20
Prerequisite: *Foods I*

CTE Distinction: Restaurant and Culinary Skills

Description: This is a mid-level food course. If you love baking or watching the Food Network this class is for you! This course is designed for those students who are interested in further coursework involving food preparation. Students will learn preparation techniques and principles used in baking as well as more advanced techniques for food and meal preparation. Topics may include safety and sanitation, kitchen equipment, measuring and ingredient functions, quick breads, yeast breads, cookies, cakes, cake decorating, pies and pastry, salads, garnishing, main dishes, menu planning, and table settings. This class will use the ProStart curriculum. It is written and endorsed by the National Restaurant Association. Students will be trained according to industry standards so that they are better prepared to work in the food industry. Students who complete all levels of ProStart can take the final exam to earn a certificate that is recognized nationwide by the National Restaurant Association for completion of this culinary training. Any student who wants to work in the food service industry or is interested in food science, nutrition, tourism, or cooking as a hobby will benefit from this course.

CHILD DEVELOPMENT

Course No.: 4006
Open to: Grades 10-12
Length/Credit: Semester – 1 Elective credit
Class size limit: 24

Description: This class studies children from conception to age 5. Topics will include prenatal growth and development, birth defects, the developmental stages of children, and developing skills and techniques needed for working with children. Simulated experiences using computerized “Real Care” babies are a part of this class. Some of the areas that we will focus on include: prenatal care, care of an infant, discipline, nutrition, selection of toys and games, social, physical, intellectual and emotional development of the child. Students may have the opportunity to observe and teach children in a Play School Lab or travel to Rippleside to observe and assist teachers there. This class will help prepare students

for parenthood as well as careers in Education, Preschool, Day Care, Health Care or any job that requires interaction with children.

GLOBAL FOODS

Course No.: 4008

Open to: Grades 10-12

Length/Credit: Semester – 1 Elective credit

Class size limit: 20

Prerequisite: *Foods I*

CTE Distinction: Restaurant and Culinary Skills

Description: Have you ever eaten at a restaurant where you are not sure what you've ordered? In Global Foods you'll get a first-hand opportunity to cook foods that come from other parts of the world. We will learn customs, eating patterns, cultures of a variety of countries, and create many different ethnic cuisines. Global Foods concentrates on traditional food preparations with plenty of "hands on" opportunities. This class will prepare students for careers in Hospitality, Tourism, Agriculture and Food related fields.

RESTAURANT AND CULINARY SKILLS

Course No.: 4014 & 4016

Open to: Grade 12

Length/Credit: Full Year -2 semesters – 3 Total Elective credits (1 period Semester 1, 2 periods Semester 2)

Class size limit: 12

Prerequisite: *Foods I is required. Foods II is strongly recommended.*

CTE Distinction: Restaurant and Culinary Skills

Description: Do you love to cook, bake, or watch Food Network? Are you considering a career as a chef, baker, caterer, restaurant manager, or another part of the food industry? If so, this career-focused course is for you. This class meets for 1 period during the first and second quarter and for 2 periods during the 3rd and 4th quarter of the year. Instructional training takes place the first semester to prepare students to work in the student run restaurant second semester. This restaurant is open for lunch to the public and is enthusiastically supported by the Aitkin community. In this hands-on culinary class, students learn restaurant management skills that are essential to run a successful food service establishment. Specific topics include learning ServSafe principles. Students are given the opportunity to sit for the ServSafe exam and earn a Food Manager Certificate from the Minnesota Dept. of Health. Other topics include cost control, purchasing and inventory, marketing, sandwiches, salads and garnishes, sauces and soups. ProStart is used as the curriculum for this course and the class will work with a mentor chef who will visit and help instruct. This program is designed by the National Restaurant Association and they are actively involved in helping to train students who wish to further their career in the Food Service or Tourism industry. Students who complete all levels of the ProStart curriculum are eligible to sit for a final exam and earn a certificate through the National Restaurant Association that is recognized nationwide as an industry standard for culinary training.

HOUSING AND INTERIOR DESIGN

Course No.: 4018

Open to: Grades 10-12

Length/Credit: Semester - 1 Fine Arts credit

Class size limit: 24

Description: *Housing and Interior Design* is for students interested in the basics of interior design and housing. Students will be expected to show a range of work on various interior design principles Topics may include, but are not limited to, the function of housing, architectural styles, the elements and principles of interior design, understanding blueprint symbols, floor plans, traffic patterns, furniture styles and arrangement, choosing flooring and wallcoverings, lighting, window treatments, presentation methods, and career exploration. Projects will include kitchen and bath designs, as well as other room projects. This class will help prepare students for a career in Art, Design, Engineering and Manufacturing.

HEALTH/PHYSICAL EDUCATION

HEALTH 9

Course No.: 4044

Required: Grade 9

Length/Credit: Semester - 1 Health credit

Description: Health is a required course for all 9th graders. This class is designed to investigate your own health and wellness. This is done through a study of health as more than the prevention of disease, but a complete look at physical, mental and social well-being. Students will use a decision-making model to help them make decisions on many different health issues and problems that teens face on a daily basis. Students will also do an in-depth study on a health topic of interest to them. In this class students learn comprehensive sexuality education.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION 9

Course No.: 4048

Required: Grade 9

Length/Credit: Semester – 1 Physical Education credit

Description: Students are required to take 1 semester of PE in 9th grade; this is required for graduation. The purpose of Physical Education classes are designed to practice and develop skills in activities that will help students maintain fitness throughout their life. Students will be introduced to life-long activities designed to increase their likelihood of exercising in the future. Students will understand the benefits that regular exercise can provide for a person's mental, physical, and social health. Students are REQUIRED to be prepared for class each day by having a change of clothes. Student participation is a must! This is an activity-based class therefore students should expect to be active during the class period. Students should be prepared to openly experience new activities. Remember to be safe, responsible, respectful and to have fun!

PHYSICAL EDUCATION 10-12

Course No.: 4049

Required: Grades 10-12

Length/Credit: Semester – 1 Physical Education credit

Description: Students are required to take one semester of PE for their 2nd PE credit required for graduation. This can be done any semester in 10th-12th grade. Students are able to take this course more than once. The purpose of Physical Education classes are designed to practice and develop skills in activities that will help students maintain fitness throughout their life. Students will be introduced to life-long activities designed to increase their likelihood of exercising in the future. Students will understand the benefits that regular exercise can provide for a person's mental, physical, and social health. Students are REQUIRED to be prepared for class each day by having a change of clothes. Student participation is a must! This is an activity-based class therefore students should expect to be active during the class period. Students should be prepared to openly experience new activities. Remember to be safe, responsible, respectful and to have fun!

HEALTH CAREERS / RECREATIONAL LIFE SKILLS

Course No.: 4046

Open to: Grades 11-12

Length/Credit: Semester – 1 Elective credit

Class size limit: 15

Prerequisite: *Instructor approval and a written letter of interest*

Description: The first quarter of this class is **Recreational Life Skills**. It is an Advanced Physical Education Class offering a variety of lifetime sports along with traditional physical education activities. Students must dress out in proper physical education clothes and participate in all activities. Lifetime activities that may be covered include: tennis, archery, weight training, volleyball, badminton, table tennis, pickleball, softball, bowling and recreational games. Activities are dependent upon weather conditions.

The second quarter of this course is an elective for students who wish to learn more about the healthcare field in regards to different professions and responsibilities. Students will gain entry-level skills and knowledge. Students will job shadow health care professionals in all aspects of health care at Aitkin Hospital and other area health care facilities 2 - 5 days each week. Students that are curious if the healthcare field is something they would like to be a part of will greatly benefit from this course. **Students are expected to dress appropriately on job shadows: that includes no jeans or t-shirts.**

INDUSTRIAL TECHNOLOGY

SIGN ENGINEERING

Course No.: 1023

Open to: Grades 10-12

Length/Credit: Semester - 1 Elective Credit

Class Size Limit: 16

CTE Distinction: Mass Media & Construction Trades

Description: This class will explore the six steps of the engineering cycle and teach students the concepts of engineering and design. Students will put these skills to work designing and creating signs for the school and the possibility of working with local businesses. Students will learn to work with a variety of sign making materials including paper, wood, vinyl, plastic, metal, and fabrics. Students will also learn a variety of software programs including Adobe Illustrator, and more. The equipment students will learn to operate include: 3D Printers, Laser Engravers, Plasma CAM, CNC Milling Machine, Laser and Inkjet Printers, Cricut cutters, and woodworking tools. Students will also learn the importance of soft skills such as customer service and creating a scope of work and bid. A student of this class will come out knowing several practical skills in high demand by local businesses.

WOOD TECHNOLOGY I

Course No.: 4066

Open to: Grades 9-12

Length/Credit: Semester – 1 Fine Arts credit

Class size limit: 15

Project Costs: *Dependant on availability of material*

CTE Distinction: Construction Trades

Description: Woods I students will be exposed to a variety of hand tools, machine safety ~ miter saw, table saw, router, band saw, sander planers, jointer, jig saw, and drill press safety. Students will have the opportunity to learn a usable trade skill and gain knowledge that they will be able to use in their future within many different areas in their lives. For example; home repair, woodworking, shop safety, tool maintenance and repair, laser engraving operations, CNC router operations, and other basic working skills. Students will learn about measuring, fractions, wood joints, gluing applications, squaring a board, and parts of a board. This class is a fun, hands-on learning class, with some group work. Students will be given a project to make, and all the proper instructions on how to build it. Students will also be introduced to using Adobe Illustrator, a program used for designing projects for the laser engraver and the vinyl cutting machine. Sign making may be sampled in this class.

WOOD TECHNOLOGY II

Course No.: 4068

Open to: Grades 10-12

Length/Credit: Semester – 1 Fine Arts credit

Class size limit: 15

Project Costs: Determined by student project of choice

Prerequisite: *Wood Technology I*

CTE Distinction: Construction Trades

Description: To be eligible to take Wood Technology II, students must show a safe understanding of tool operations, shop safety, machine safety, and have the skill set needed from Wood Technology I. In Wood Technology II, students will get a chance to build projects of their choice. Projects will have to be approved first by the teacher and a set of drawings / plans will be needed. Students will be using the skills, methods, and techniques learned in Wood Technology I to advance their woodworking abilities, create more advanced woodworking projects, and to learn more of a trade skill for the student's future. New and advanced operations will also be taught. They may use the internet, laser engraver, CNC router, or draw a set of blueprints of their own choice. Each student will figure a bill of materials to construct projects. A second and/or third project may be created if enough time is available and the student has gotten permission from the instructor. Class projects can be added and exchanged and final dictations will be up to the teacher's discretion. There are many fun hands-on units with some group work and some individual work incorporated. Adobe Illustrator will be stepped up, creating more complex designs, as well as getting into AutoCad/Fusion360. Further sign making techniques will be implemented.

INTRO TO ELECTRONICS/DIGITAL ELECTRONICS ~ NOT OFFERED 26-27

Course No.: 4070
Open to: Grades 9-12
Length/Credit: Semester – 1 Elective credit
Class size limit: 20
Description: Quarter 1-Students will learn concepts in Electron Theory, Ohms Law, series and parallel circuits, along with component identification. Projects will be a big part of this class, with PC board construction and assembly. Quarter 2-The students will study the world of integrated circuits and examine some of the basic circuits used in digital electronics. Combinational and sequential logic circuits will be studied and built on breadboards. Students will also build robots using various sensors to accomplish assigned tasks.

ARCHITECTURAL/SMALL BUILDING ~ NOT OFFERED 26-27

Course No.: 4073
Open to: Grades 11-12
Length/Credit: Semester – 1 Fine Arts credit
Class Size Limit: 12
Prerequisite: *Wood Technology I and Wood Technology II,*
CTE Distinction: Construction Trades
Description: This class will be broken into 3 parts. **Part one** ~ BluePrint Reading. Students will get to see house drawings and get the opportunity to create their own scale drawing of a garage, shed, bathroom, bedroom, and or house floor plan drawing that could be usable within the student's future. This will be completed with the use of a computer and software such as: TinkerCad, Inventor, Illustrator, and or computer drafting software. **Part 2** ~ Architectural and design ~ Students will learn about architectural vocabulary and building terms plus the correct locations of these in house building items. Terms students might learn about could include but not limited to: stud, trimmers, sill plate, top plate, double top plate, cripples, header, soffit, fascia, trim, wall layout, rafter layout, sheathing, siding types, roof types, roofing materials. **Part 3** ~ Students will use what they have learned in the first 2 parts of class to advance their skills in designing and building a structure within this class. Possible building projects could include a deer stand, fish house, shed, storage shed, etc. Students will learn skills and use skills they learned from other shop classes to advance themselves into a Carpentry / Construction Career Pathway and see first-hand if they have what it takes to be a part of the building trades field. Class projects can be added and exchanged and will be up to the teacher's discretion. Weekly shop time cards, word of the week, and vocabulary words can be added to this class and will be up to the teacher's discretion.

TRADE SKILLS

Course No.: 4077
Open to: Grades 10-12
Length/Credit: Semester – 1 Fine Arts credit
Class size limit: 15
Prerequisite: *Wood Technology I and Wood Technology II*
CTE Distinction: Construction Trades
Description: This course will provide students with basic knowledge and skills required for construction of residential structures. This course will provide experiences and information (typically including career opportunities and training requirements) regarding construction-related occupations such as carpentry, cabinetmaking, bricklaying, electrical trades, plumbing, concrete masonry, welding and so on. Students engage in activities such as reading blueprints, preparing building sites, starting foundations, erecting structures, installing utilities, finishing surfaces, and providing maintenance.

MATHEMATICS

ADSIS ALGEBRA

Course No.: 4104 & 4106
Open to: Grade 9
Length/Credit: Full Year – (with optional removal by teacher recommendation) 2 Math credits
Prerequisite: *Teacher recommendation required*

Description: This course will reinforce math skills developed in both earlier courses, as well as, student's current course of Intermediate Algebra. Students will also be given structured homework assistance.

INTERMEDIATE ALGEBRA

Course No.: 4108 & 4110

Required: Grade 9

Length/Credit: Full Year – 2 Math credits

Prerequisite: *Teacher recommendation required*

Description: Intermediate *Algebra* helps develop problem solving abilities by making use of some symbols which are “stand-ins” for some unknown numbers. Letters of the alphabet generally are used to represent these unknown numbers. Algebra will prepare students for more advanced work in the field of mathematics and science.

GEOMETRY

Course No.: 4111 & 4112

Open to: Grades 9-10

Length/Credit: Full Year – 2 Math credits

Prerequisite: *Intermediate Algebra in 9th grade OR Algebra I in 8th grade AND Teacher Recommendation Required*

Description: Geometry deals with the foundation, structure and language of higher mathematics. The course will cover the properties of various plane and solid figures and will also incorporate the use of calculator technology and previously learned algebra.

INTRO TO STATISTICS

Course No.: 4116

Required: Grades 9-12 (Recommended BEFORE Grade 12)

Length/Credit: Semester – 1 Math credit

Prerequisite: *Algebra I or Intermediate Algebra encouraged, but not required*

Description: This is an introductory statistics and probability course. Students will become acquainted with the terminology used in the world of statistics. Students will have to collect, represent, and interpret data in a variety of ways. Additional topics to be covered include permutations, combinations, binomial, geometric, and normal distributions.

BASIC GEOMETRY

Course No.: 4118 & 4120

Open to: Grades 10-11

Length/Credit: Full Year - 2 Math credits

Prerequisite: *Intermediate Algebra and Teacher Recommendation required*

Description: Uses of measurement to make connections between numbers in one dimensional, two-dimensional and three-dimensional space. The course will cover basic geometric applications such as: ratios, proportions, scale drawing and common measurements.

BASIC ALGEBRA II

Course No.: 4122 & 4124

Open to: Grades 11-12

Length/Credit: Full Year – 2 Math credits

Prerequisite: *Basic Geometry or Geometry and Teacher Recommendation required*

Description: This mathematics course is a compilation of many essential topics necessary for students to be successful outside of high school. Topics covered include: number sense, home and car loans, managing money, buying and selling, and other items related to the business world. This course will emphasize the following algebraic concepts: equalities, inequalities, systems of equations, linear and quadratic relationships, functions, powers, roots & polynomials.

ALGEBRA II

Course No.: 4128 & 4129

Open to: Grades 10-11

Length/Credit: Full Year – 2 Math credits

Prerequisite: *Geometry (Basic Geometry with Teacher Recommendation)*

Description: This course will study variables, equations, and graphs as in *Algebra I*. The properties of Algebra studied are: equalities, inequalities, matrices, systems of equations, linear and quadratic relationships, functions, powers, roots, polynomials and an introduction to basic trigonometry. This course is a lead-in to *College Algebra*.

COLLEGE IN THE SCHOOLS (CIS) - MATHEMATICS

Prerequisites: Must meet the GPA or Class Rank requirement (if applicable) set by the college

COLLEGE STATISTICS [COLLEGE INTRO TO STATISTICS]* (CIS-CLC)

Course No.: 4147 & 4148

Open to: Grades 11-12

Length/Credit: Full Year – 2 HS Math credits – 4 CLC Credits

Prerequisite: *Intro to Statistics AND Algebra II. 2.5 GPA for seniors, 3.0 for juniors.*

Description: This course will review basic concepts introduced in Introduction to Statistics and will include higher level material such as permutations, combinations, binomial distributions, normal distributions, regression models, confidence intervals and hypothesis testing.

ALGEBRA III / COLLEGE ALGEBRA* (CIS-CLC)

Course No.: Algebra III – 4130 & 4132, College Algebra - 4092 & 4094

Open to: Grades 11-12

Length/Credit: Full Year – 2 HS Math credits – 3 CLC Credits

Prerequisite: *Algebra II with a “C-” or better average. 2.5 GPA for seniors, 3.0 for juniors.*

Description: This course uses a college algebra textbook and covers advanced algebra topics including functions, inverses, the study of permutations and combination and introductory trigonometry. This course is intended for students planning on attending college after high school graduation.

PRE-CALCULUS / COLLEGE PRE-CALCULUS* (CIS-CLC)

Course No.: Pre-Calculus - 4134 & 4136, College Pre-Calculus - 4096 & 4098

Open to: Grades 11-12

Length/Credit: Full Year – 2 HS Math credits – 5 CLC credits

Prerequisite: *Algebra II with a “B-” or better average. 2.5 GPA for seniors, 3.0 for juniors. Accuplacer test score required.*

Description: An in-depth study of functions including new linear, polynomial, exponential and logarithmic functions as well as conic sections. The trigonometry part of the course will involve the use of angles taken from triangles and use of the circular functions to solve application problems of many types. This course is recommended to prepare students for taking calculus courses either here in high school or in college after graduation.

COLLEGE CALCULUS I* (CIS-CLC)

Course No.: 4100 & 4101

Open to: Grade 12

Length/Credit: Full Year – 2 HS Math credits – 5 CLC credits

Prerequisite: *College Pre-Calculus*

Description: *Calculus I* will review and expand concepts taught in previous math courses. The use and explanation of derivatives, integrals, limits, continuity, and their applications will be the main objectives of this portion of the course. Students will take differential calculus methods and limits and expand them into integral calculus methods and its applications.

MUSIC - INSTRUMENTAL

Note for performance oriented classes:

1. Students enrolling in performance-oriented courses for instrumental music in grades 7-12 **must have prior experience** on a band instrument or permission from the instructor.
2. Preparation and presentation of public performances are key elements required in achieving individual growth and development in music. Therefore, students are expected to participate fully in all scheduled activities, both during and outside the regular class period, within the school building and elsewhere.

CONCERT BAND (Performance-oriented) Year-long commitment

Course No.: 4204 & 4205 (1/2 period opposite Choir) OR 4206 & 4207 (Full period - No Choir)

Open to: Grades 9-12

Length/Credit: Full Period = 2 Fine Arts credits, Opposite Choir = 1 Fine Arts credit

Prerequisite: *Successful experience in Band 9 OR Instructor Approval.*

Description: Concert Band is a performance-based class in which students learn, experience, and perform a wide variety of music. Many styles of music, historical periods and ensemble types will be experienced. In addition to Concert Band, students may participate in Jazz Band, Pep Band and be part of the solo and ensemble competition. This class is offered the same period as Concert Choir.

INTRO TO THE GUITAR

Course No.: 4220

Open to: Grade 10-12

Length/Credit: Semester – 1 Fine Arts credit

Class size limit: 10 (for individualized focus and assessment)

Description: Guitar class is open to students in grades 10–12 who want and are motivated to learn to play the guitar. Students will receive guidance and direction in solving problems related to playing the guitar on all levels and will learn many different styles, skills, and techniques required to become a successful musician. Areas of concentration include: correct posture, note-reading, aural skills, rhythmic patterns, chord study, bass playing, finger-picking styles, melody construction, musical forms, tablature notation, and performing experiences.

INTERMEDIATE GUITAR

Course No.: 4221

Open to: Grade 10-12

Length/Credit: Semester – 1 Fine Arts credit

Class size limit: 10 (for individualized focus and assessment)

Prerequisite: *Intro to Guitar*

Description: Intermediate Guitar class is open to students in grades 10–12 who want and are motivated to expand upon skills learned in Intro to Guitar Class. Students will build upon their previously learned skills and will continue to learn many different styles, skills, and techniques required to become a successful musician and guitarist. Areas of concentration include: correct posture, note-reading, aural skills, rhythmic patterns, chord study, bass playing, finger-picking styles, melody construction, musical forms, tablature notation, and performing experiences.

BEGINNING CLASS PIANO

Course No.: 4222

Open to: Grade 10-12

Length/Credit: Semester – 1 Fine Arts credit

Class size limit: 10 (for individualized focus and assessment)

Description: Class Piano is open to students who want and are motivated to learn to play the keyboard/piano. This is a beginning piano course for students without piano/keyboard experience. Students will learn to read music while playing keyboard. Students will work at their own pace independently while receiving guidance from the instructor. Areas of concentration include: note reading, rhythm patterns, chord study, musical forms and performing experiences.

MUSIC - VOCAL

The purpose of the Aitkin High School Choirs is to enrich the understanding and enjoyment of choral music by pursuing the highest standards of training in vocal technique, increasing music knowledge, developing self-discipline and performance demeanor, as well as encouraging camaraderie and offering choir members an opportunity to make positive contributions to the Aitkin community.

It is the mission of the District 1 Vocal Music Department to empower lifelong learners through experiencing the broad spectrum of the aesthetic and fundamental elements of music. Students will realize their full potential as human beings and members of the global society as music enhances their quality of life.

Personal Skills Emphasized for all choirs:

- Pride in yourself and in the AHS Choral Program.
- Working together for a common goal: the enjoyment of singing.
- Accepting responsibility in attendance at daily rehearsals, special concert rehearsals, concerts, festivals and lessons.
- Positive self-discipline and classroom behavior.
- Your development of leadership within the choral program.
- Your willingness to continually develop your singing voice.

- To discover choral music as an art.
- To learn to become intelligent and sensitive musicians in expressing the emotion of music.
- Striving to improve yourself and the AHS choirs to “be the best you can be”!
- To set standards of excellence for the future.
- Respecting your fellow students and director.
- To become a better listener.
- Working together to develop self-confidence.
- Showing a desire to attract new students into the choir program.

CONCERT CHOIR (Year-long expectations)

Course No.: 4216 & 4217 (1/2 period with Concert Band) OR 4218 & 4219 (Full period - No Band)

Open to: Grades 9-12

Length/Credit: Full Period = 2 Fine Arts credits, Opposite Band = 1 Fine Arts credit

Class size: Limit 60

Prerequisite: *Audition with the vocal music instructor. Singer must be able to match pitch.*

Description: Concert Choir is a select auditioned choir comprised of students in grades 9–12 who desire a strong background in choral singing. Emphasis is placed on a high level of musicianship which includes sight singing, vocal training, and performances. A wide variety of choral literature is performed at concerts and events throughout the school year. Concert Choir also presents the annual school musical in the spring.

MADRIGALS (Year-long expectations)

Course No.: None

Open to: Grade 10-12

Length/Credit: Full Year – 1 credit

Class size: Limit 16

Prerequisite: *Audition or instructor approval and enrolled in Concert Choir*

Description: A select choir that performs many different styles of chamber music, from madrigals to vocal jazz to pop and lots of acappella music. This group meets on **Tuesdays and Fridays at 7:00 a.m.- 8:00 a.m.** Madrigals perform many concerts throughout the community. Members of this group are expected to learn music independently along with performing at all scheduled choir concerts.

“FISTS OF FURY” HANDBELL CHOIR (Year-long expectations)

Course No.: None

Open to: Grade 10-12

Length/Credit: Full Year

Class size: Limit 10

Prerequisite: *Audition or instructor approval*

Description: This handbell choir is a select group that performs many styles of music from classical to pop. This group meets on **Mondays and Thursdays from 7:00 a.m. - 8:00 a.m.**The “Fists of Fury” Handbell Choir performs at all choir concerts. Members of this group must be able to count rhythm.

PERSONAL FINANCE

PERSONAL FINANCE

Course No.: 2025

Open to: Grades 10-12

Length/Credit: Semester – 1 Personal Finance credit

Class Size Limit: 26

Description: Understanding financial management concepts is an important life skill. Wisely managing money will allow students to become successful, independent, and responsible citizens. A thorough understanding of financial concepts, with practical application through activities and projects, will enable students to leave this course with applicable, useful skills for life. This course surveys the basic personal financial needs of most individuals and emphasizes the basics of budgeting, saving, checking, investments, credit, insurance, and preparing income tax returns. Students taking this course will learn to better prepare themselves for their financial futures.

SCIENCE

EARTH AND SPACE SCIENCE 9

Course No.: 5020 & 5022

Required: Grade 9

Length/Credit: Full Year – 2 Science credits

Description: This is a year-long course designed to introduce students to the basics and fundamentals of the study of Earth. This course follows the NGSS and Minnesota State Science Standards in Earth and Space Science, required for graduation. Throughout the course students will study weather, climate, human interactions with the Earth, the solar system, planets, Earth's interior, plate tectonics, earthquakes, volcanoes, minerals, rocks and oceanography. Students will use problem solving techniques by doing various class projects, labs, and activities.

BIOLOGY

Course No.: 5024 & 5026

Required: Grade 10

Length/Credit: Full Year – 2 Science credits

Description: This course is an introduction to biology as the study of living things. Major units of study include scientific thinking and method, biochemistry, cell structure and function, energy pathways in living organisms, cellular reproduction, genetic inheritance patterns and DNA structure/function, protein synthesis, principles of evolution, ecological interactions, as well as other relevant and current topics. Students will work in a collaborative environment that places emphasis on developing critical thinking and scientific skills: asking questions and defining problems, developing and using models, planning and carrying out investigations, analyzing and interpreting data, using mathematics and computational thinking, constructing explanations and designing solutions, engaging in argument from evidence, and obtaining, evaluating, and communicating information so to apply these skills to the larger world. The laboratory experiences will emphasize the skills and content of each unit. Students will be assessed on their in-class work, participation, labs, and performance on assessments. Successful completion of both Biology 10A and B is required for graduation. Course curriculum follows NGSS Science Standards and the 2019 Minnesota State Academic Standards in Science. The MCA-III Science test is administered in the spring.

NOTE: All students are required to take either 1 year of Chemistry OR 1 year of Physics before graduation.

CHEMISTRY

Course No.: 5038 & 5040

Open to: Grades 11-12

Length/Credit: Full Year - 2 Science credits

Class Size Limit: 24

Prerequisite: *Earth and Space Science 9*

Description: This class will introduce students to chemistry principles through an active and conceptual approach. Students will use laboratory skills to solve problems. An emphasis is made on safety concepts. Students will gain problem solving and critical thinking skills. Throughout the course students will study bonding, chemical equations, atomic structure, periodic table, gas laws, mixtures, acids and bases, and organic chemistry.

PHYSICS

Course No.: 5042 & 5044

Open to: Grades 11-12

Length/Credit: Full Year – 2 Science credits

Class Size Limit: 24

Prerequisite: *Algebra I or Intermediate Algebra*

Description: This course gives a general theoretical and practical introduction to physics. The academic emphasis will be on conceptual understanding more than math application, but knowledge and use of algebra will be necessary in this course. Topics covered include motion, force, energy, momentum, mechanical waves, sound and properties of matter, fluids, heat, electricity, and magnetism.

SCIENCE ELECTIVE COURSES

ASTRONOMY/METEOROLOGY

Course No: 5029

Open to: Grades 10-12

Length/Credit: Semester - 1 Elective credit

Class Size Limit: 18

Prerequisite: *GPA of 2.0 or higher*

Description: This class introduces students to the study of everything outside the atmosphere of Earth. We will study ancient astronomers, the moon, the solar system, properties of stars, galaxies, asteroids, and comets, as well as stellar evolution. We will continue to explore the fundamentals of weather by studying atmospheric structure, clouds, precipitation, air pressure, wind and weather patterns. We will also look at how climate has changed over time from past environments to present day.

THE SCIENCE OF MUSCLE AND STRENGTH

Course No: 5046

Open to: Grades 9-12

Length/Credit: Semester - 1 Elective credit

Class Size Limit: 20

Description: Imagine taking a science course that focuses on the disciplines of myology, kinesiology, anatomy, physiology, nutrition, etc. and blends them into a single class where the lab is our AHS weight room and YOU are the experimental “guinea pig”? If that sounds interesting, then this is the class for you! This will be hybrid-type course that will incorporate both classroom instruction and hands-on, lab-based learning that will be held in the school’s strength and/or fitness rooms. This course integrates myology (the study of muscles), kinesiology (the science of movement), anatomy, physiology, and sports nutrition into a dynamic learning experience where students will analyze, train, and improve their own strength and performance. Not only will you have the opportunity to work your muscles, shape your physique and get stronger but you will also learn about the “why” and “how” to do so in the best, most scientifically backed ways possible. Additionally, throughout this course, you will gain further insight into the role that proper nutrition plays in the overall performance of the “human machine”- that food/drink choices really do matter!

ORNITHOLOGY/ICHTHYOLOGY

Course No.: 5048

Open to: Grades 11-12

Length/Credit: Semester – 1 Elective credit

Class Size Limit: 20

Prerequisite: *“C” average in Biology*

CTE Distinction: Natural Resources

Description: **Ornithology** is the study of birds. An emphasis will be on Minnesota birds. Identification, habitat migration, anatomy and physiology of birds will be covered. Field studies will be encouraged. **Ichthyology** is the branch of zoology that revolves around the structure, function, history and economic importance of the fishes. Discussed in this course will be the similarities and differences between bony fish, the cartilaginous fish, and the jawless fish. Additionally, a focus on the six life processes (movement, metabolism, adaptation, growth, response and reproduction) and how they apply to the world of the fish will be stressed. During the course an emphasis will be placed on some of our more “famous” local species. Lastly, all students will be required to research and orally report/present to the class regarding one of these local aquatic denizens.

GENETICS/BOTANY

Course No.: 5050

Open to: Grade 11-12

Length/Credit: Semester – 1 Elective credit

Class Size Limit: 20

Prerequisite: *“C” average in Biology*

CTE Distinction: Natural Resources

Description: Why do you have brown or blue eyes, or a widow's peak? What is the most common, lethal, inherited disorder in the Caucasian population? Why are more men than women bald, colorblind or hemophiliacs? What happens if humans get extra chromosomes? Does evolution play a role in the traits of a population? Learn the answers to these and many other questions in this largely human-based course.
The second quarter of this course will be Botany, an introduction to the exploration of the biological worlds of the fungi and plants. The emphasis of the course will be placed on the life processes (movement, metabolism, reproduction, growth, response and adaptation), anatomy and the ecological relationship/importance of the fungi and plants discussed.

ENVIRONMENTAL BIOLOGY

Course No: 5052
Open to: Grades 11-12
Length/Credit: Semester - 1 Elective credit
Class Size Limit: 24
Prerequisite: *Biology 10 with a semester grade of C or better*
Description: Ever wondered how the natural world works and how we, as humans, fit into it? In this exciting, hands-on, one-semester Environmental Biology course, you'll explore the complex relationships between living organisms and their environments, focusing on key ecological concepts like the biosphere, energy flow, and the distribution of resources. Studied from an evolutionary lens, you'll learn how species from the smallest microorganisms to the largest animals, interact, adapt, and survive in diverse ecosystems. Topics will include natural selection, biodiversity, the impact of climate change, conservation efforts, and the ways in which human activities positively and negatively impact life on Planet Earth. Through laboratory experiments, projects, and real-world problem-solving, you'll gain the skills and knowledge necessary to understand the delicate balance that sustains life on Earth. This course is designed to inspire you to think critically about the natural world and our role in protecting it for future generations.

INTRO TO HUMAN BIOLOGY

Course No: 5054
Open to: Grades 11-12
Length/Credit: Semester - 1 Elective credit
Class Size Limit: 24
Prerequisite: *Biology 10 with a semester grade of C or better*
Description: This semester course introduces students to the structure and function of the human body using an organ systems approach—including the organization of the body, cellular functions, and the chemistry of life. Students learn about the integumentary, skeletal, muscular, circulatory, respiratory, digestive, excretory, nervous, endocrine, and reproductive systems, as well as common diseases and disorders, and career specialties associated with each system. Students will be assessed on their in-class work, participation, labs, and performance on assessments.

GEOLOGY/OCEANOGRAPHY

Course No: 5058
Open to: Grades 10-12
Length/Credit: Semester - 1 Elective credit
Class Size Limit: 18
Prerequisite: *GPA of 2.0 or higher*
Description: This class introduces students to the basics of Geology. We will address topics ranging from mineral and rock identification to the origin of the continents, from geologic mapping to plate tectonics, and from erosion by rivers and glaciers to the history of life. We will continue to explore the oceans and introduce students to the geology of the ocean environment and show ways that humans interact with that environment.

COLLEGE IN THE SCHOOLS (CIS) SCIENCE COURSES

Prerequisites: Must meet the GPA or Class Rank requirement (if applicable) set by the college

FUNDAMENTALS OF CHEMISTRY* (CIS-CLC)

Course No.: 5010 & 5012
Open to: Grades 11-12
Length/Credit: Full Year - 2 HS Science credits – 4 CLC Credits
Class Size Limit: 24

Prerequisite: *Algebra II; 2.5 GPA for seniors, 3.0 GPA for juniors.*

Description: This college level course will require the student to complete a higher level of materials and be self-motivated. Chemistry is used to introduce the students to the basic fundamental concepts of general chemistry. The class involves significant amounts of math concepts. We will study the periodic table, atomic structure, gas laws, bonding, chemical solutions, acids and bases, organic chemistry and other chemistry concepts. Throughout this course, these concepts will be reinforced through lectures, lab work, and outside assignments. This course is offered through Central Lakes College.

SOCIAL STUDIES

SOCIAL 9

Course No.: 5088 & 5090

Required: Grade 9

Length/Credit: Full Year – 2 Social credits

Description: This course will consist of 3 separate components:

Western Civilization/World History: This portion of the course will focus on the development and history of European cultures, beginning with the ancient Greeks and Romans. Students will utilize a classroom textbook, outside resources, research and creative projects, case studies and original readings to complete learning goals.

Careers: As you get closer to graduation, it is important to have an understanding of careers. In this portion of the class we will explore different careers to help guide you in the right direction. By taking this class you will know which classes to take throughout high school while incorporating MCIS to help build a career portfolio.

Government: It is important to know how our government works considering you are a citizen of the United States. This class is a foundation to how our government functions. We will discuss and explore the basic components while also learning common ideas that will help in all future social studies classes. In addition, this is a class that will help build high school study skills. From note taking to proper essay writing, it will prepare you for every class you take in your educational career.

AMERICAN HISTORY

Course No.: 5092 & 5094

Required: Grade 10

Length/Credit: Full Year – 2 Social credits

Description: American History is a one-year class that is required for all sophomores. The course will consist of an examination of pre-colonial period through present day. Units will include: the American Revolutionary experience, westward expansion, the Civil War and Reconstruction, The Turn of the Century (1900) and Immigration, World Wars I and II, The Civil Rights Movement, and the Vietnam War.

WORLD HISTORY 11

Course No.: 6012

Required: Grade 11 (unless taking *CIS Sociology or Psychology* course)

Length/Credit: Semester - 1 Social credit

Description: This semester course will focus on the state standards related to World History. The history, culture, and geography of Africa, India, China, and the Middle East will be the primary focal points. A basic comparison of major world religions and the impact of these religions on each region will be examined to complete the study of each region.

GEOGRAPHY 11

Course No.: 6014

Required: Grade 11 (unless taking *CIS Cultural Geography*)

Length/Credit: Semester - 1 Social credit

Description: In this semester course, students will examine lessons based on the state Geography standards, including the development of geospatial skills, places and regions, human systems, and human environment interaction.

CIVICS 12

Course No.: 6024

Required: Grade 12 (unless taking *CIS American Government*)

Length/Credit: Semester - 1 Social credit

Description: Civics is another name for learning about the American Government. This class will focus on introducing students to the American political system. We will focus on the major political parties, the branches of government, and domestic issues. Students will learn their importance as an individual to the governmental process.

ECONOMICS 12

Course No.: 6026

Required: Grade 12 (unless taking *CIS Economics*)

Length/Credit: Semester - 1 Social credit

Description: *Economics* will provide the basics of the market economy. We will also put an emphasis on personal finance like budgeting, stocks and bonds, and living on your own.

SOCIAL STUDIES ELECTIVES

CURRENT EVENTS 9-12

Course No.: 5096

Open to: Grades 9-12

Length/Credit: Semester – 1 Elective credit

Description: If you're interested in what's going on in the world today or would like to know more, then Current Events is the class for you. With all that is happening in our world, particularly since 9/11, it is more important than ever to know what is occurring in the world around you. The class will examine events as they take place locally, nationally, as well as globally. We will use a variety of information sources to examine events from different perspectives. Topics covered will include: politics, the war on terrorism, world leaders, music, sports, movies, and the people that play important parts in each of these.

INTRODUCTION TO PSYCHOLOGY ~ NOT OFFERED 26-27

Course No.: 6000

Open to: Grades 10-12

Length/Credit: Semester - 1 Elective credit

Description: *Introduction to Psychology* is the systematic study of behavior as it relates to humans and the society they are a part of. The course will involve the development of appropriate vocabulary. Students will be introduced to the various psychological theories and the people who developed them; to become more tolerant of others. Topic areas: Learning Principles, Understanding Human Behavior, Patterns of Behavior, Emotional and Behavioral Adjustments, Small Group Interaction.

INTRODUCTION TO SOCIOLOGY

Course No.: 6001

Open to: Grades 9-12

Length/Credit: Semester - 1 HS Elective credit

Description: This course is an introduction to the sociological perspective and the factors that influence individual and group behavior. The class offers an examination of the relationship between society and the individual, social change, and social institutions. Students will explore how culture, socialization, groups, status, class, race, gender, institutions, and social processes shape individual behavior and collective life.

SMALL BUSINESS/ENTREPRENEURSHIP

Course No.: 6002

Open to: Grades 9-12

Length/Credit: Semester – 1 Elective credit

Class Size Limit: 22

CTE Distinction: Mass Media

Description: What does it take to run your own business? In this hands-on economics course, students will learn the way of the entrepreneur while managing Aitkin High School's in-house business. Throughout the semester, students will be familiarized with equipment (capital) used in many small business environments. They will then have the opportunity to familiarize themselves with software used to design and market products such as Tees, sweatshirts, buttons, signs, or other products to their peers while learning valuable career skills such as cooperation, responsibility, honesty, creativity, and positive work ethics. Students will have opportunities to collaborate with local businesses to learn about what it takes to run a small business. The "fail-fast" method of entrepreneurship will be explored and applied.

ETHNIC STUDIES

Course No.: 6003

Open to: Grades 9-12

Length/Credit: Semester – 1 Elective credit

Description: In this Ethnic Studies course, students explore the constructions of race, ethnicity, indigeneity, and identity in Minnesota, the United States, and the world. Grounded in the interdisciplinary field of Ethnic Studies, the course examines how language, power, culture and social structures shape group identities and lived experiences. Drawing on history, sociology, geography, civics, and cultural studies, students will analyze how marginalized communities have resisted structural inequities and contributed to the evolving fabric of society.

THE 60', 70's and BEYOND

Course No.: 6004

Open to: Grades 10-12

Length/Credit: Semester – 1 Elective credit

Description: This class will concentrate on American social, cultural, and political history of the 1960's and 70's. The course will offer a thematic approach and will address such issues as popular politics, the Kennedy-Nixon Debates, The Bay of Pigs, The Cuban Missile Crisis, the assassination of JFK, Civil Rights and MLK and Malcolm X, and the Presidency and accomplishments/failures of Lyndon Johnson. The second quarter of this class will concentrate almost wholly on the Vietnam War - beginnings/causes, the draft, the Tet Offensive, America's response at home and the anti-war movement, the My Lai Massacre, Battles and tactics, as well as the American draw-down and end of the war.

VIDEO PRODUCTION ~ NOT OFFERED 26-27

Course No.: 6008

Open to: Grades 10-12

Length/Credit: Semester – 1 Fine Arts credit

Class size limit: 25

CTE Distinction: Mass Media

Description: The Video Production course will provide students with a basic understanding of the technology behind video as an information medium, and some of the ways in which it is created to achieve its desired effect on an audience. Upon completion, students should be able to demonstrate a variety of production skills and techniques as it relates to producing a variety of video formats. Example formats include producing; School News Feature Stories, Sports Highlights, Short Film, Memories Montage, Documentary Video, Biography Video, Music Video, Instructional Video, Advertising Commercials, and Public Service PSA Commercials. Students will learn skills in story design, script writing, video editing, and studio production. In order to meet assignment deadlines and production schedules, students will need to rely on: good reading and writing skills, good time management, a positive attitude, and the ability to work in a team setting. The class will be producing a program that will run on the school's television network. The program will be run on a time-frame that is yet undetermined.

LAW ~ NOT OFFERED 26-27

Course No.: 6018

Open to: Grades 11-12

Length/Credit: Semester – 1 Elective credit

Description: **Criminal Law:** As you near adulthood, it is your responsibility to be aware of the laws and the court system as they apply to you in your everyday life. In this course, you will study criminal law, civil law, apartment rental, contract law, juvenile law and the court system. Special attention will be paid to constitutional law: What are your rights? Students will take advantage of having the courthouse across the street and will attend proceedings when available. Guest speakers from the law enforcement field, along with attorneys, will add insight to the laws of today and how they pertain to you. Career exploration in the fields will also take place. All students will be required to do a special project on one area of the legal profession.

THE HOLOCAUST

Course No.: 6022

Open to: Grades 11-12

Length/Credit: Semester – 1 Elective credit

Description: This course traces the historical background of anti-Semitism in Europe, culminating in the Holocaust during World War II. It is designed to teach students about how Adolf Hitler used pre-existing attitudes to rise to power in

Germany. We will use the '10 Stages of Genocide' to examine how the Nazis were able to isolate and murder approximately 1/3 of Europe's Jewish population. A variety of resources will be used in this course, including videos, literature, primary sources, and online activities.

CONSPIRACIES

Course No: 6027
Open to: Grades 9-12
Length/Credit: Semester - 1 Elective credit
Description: Watergate, Project Sunshine, and Operation Paperclip. What role do these proven conspiracies have in our history and reasons behind why conspiracies are so widespread? The moon landing was a fake! 9/11 was an inside job! JFK assassination was orchestrated by the CIA! In this class, we will examine classic conspiracies and current conspiracy theories for their historical accuracy. We will evaluate the claims made by conspiracy theorists and compare them to conventional explanations. Evidence based research methods will be emphasized as we evaluate sources. Media literacy skills will be a core tenet of this course. The internet is ripe for these types of claims - why? What makes "mainstream media" mainstream?

SOCIAL PROBLEMS ~ NOT OFFERED 26-27

Course No.: 6028
Open to: Grades 9-12
Length/Credit: Semester - 1 Elective credit
Description: This class will take a sociological perspective to problems that affect our society. Students will identify, observe and analyze social problems. They will also apply critical thinking skills to evaluate causes and proposed solutions to these problems. A basic introduction to sociology will be embedded in the curriculum. Problems to be examined include gender inequality, crime and punishment, poverty and social class. Current events will be included in daily discussion.

CIVILIZATION 6 ~ NOT OFFERED 26-27

Course No: 6029
Open to: Grades 9-12
Length/Credit: Semester - 1 Elective credit
Class Size Limit: 25 (due to price of game)
Description: Civilization 6 is a course based on the video game Civ6 by Sid Meier. Students will explore world history, and especially the influence of empires, while playing Civ6 with and against one another. The class will include various assessments outside of the game including presentations, research papers, analysis, and tests. All assessments try to answer the question: What was the world's most influential empire and why?

For students and parents: Sid Meier's Civilization 6 uses authentic historical elements -- famous leaders, nations, resources, military units -- to simulate non-historical empires. In other words, players can, say, lead Napoleon's France to become an empire of diplomacy and science. Though the simulated history is fictional, players can still learn a great deal, not just about real-world figures, concepts, and units, but also how cultural, ideological, and geographical factors can change a world's geopolitical landscape. Play necessitates the depiction of some violence, but it is presented from a high perspective and is quite mild.

COLLEGE IN THE SCHOOLS (CIS) SOCIAL STUDIES COURSES

Prerequisites: Must meet the GPA or Class Rank requirement (if applicable) set by the college

THE AMERICAN ECONOMY* (CIS - CLC)

Course No.: 5080
Open to: Grade 12
Length/Credit: Semester - 1 HS Social credit – 3 CLC credits
Prerequisite: 2.5 GPA for seniors, 3.0 GPA for juniors.
Description: This course is an introduction to and a descriptive survey of the principles of a market economy. Micro economic areas such as supply and demand, growth and productivity, business operation, and problems of the market economy will be examined. Macroeconomic issues such as money and banking, inflation, recession and government policies will also be studied. This course is essential for students thinking of a business career.

CULTURAL GEOGRAPHY* (CIS – CLC)

Course No.: 5082

Open to: Grade 11

Length/Credit: Semester - 1 HS Social credit – 3 CLC credits

Prerequisite: 2.5 GPA for seniors, 3.0 GPA for juniors.

Description: This course examines cultural phenomena as they relate to the world's peoples and places. Cultural Geography studies world population and immigration, folk and popular cultures, the world's great religions, agriculture, political space, economic development and urban and industrial patterns. Connecting these phenomena to the landscapes they create is one of the key features of cultural geography.

AMERICAN GOVERNMENT & POLITICS* (CIS – CLC)

Course No.: 5084

Open to: Grade 12

Length/Credit: Semester – 1 HS Social credit – 3 CLC credits

Prerequisite: 2.5 GPA for seniors, 3.0 GPA for juniors.

Description: This course is a survey of the Federal Government of the United States. Areas stressed include the role democracy plays in the national government, political ideologies, the Constitution and the Bill of Rights, and the three branches of government. Current events pertaining to the national government will be discussed frequently.

GENERAL PSYCHOLOGY* (CIS – UMN)

Course No.: 5086

Open to: Grades 11-12

Length/Credit: Semester - 1 HS Social credit – 4 UMN credits

Prerequisite: Junior or senior with a class rank in the top 20%, or instructor approval

Description: Psychology is the systematic study of behavior as it relates to humans and the society they are a part of. The course will involve the development of appropriate vocabulary. Students will be introduced to the various psychological theories and the people who developed them; to become more tolerant of others. Topic areas: Learning Principles, Understanding Human Behavior, Patterns of Behavior, Emotional and Behavioral Adjustments, Small Group Interaction.

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS* (CIS – CLC) ~ NOT OFFERED 26-27

Course No.: 5087

Open to: Grades 11-12

Length/Credit: Semester – 1 HS Elective credit – 3 CLC credits

Description: This course is an analysis of International Politics. Current events on the international level will be used to understand concepts dealing with conflicts and cooperation in the world environment. Ethics, foreign policy goals of the United States, and the role of economics will also be examined.

INTRODUCTION TO SOCIOLOGY* (CIS - SMSU) ~ NOT OFFERED IN 26-27

Course No.: 6030

Open to: Grades 11-12

Length/Credit: Semester - 1 HS Elective credit – 3 SMSU credits

Prerequisite: 2.5 GPA for seniors, 3.0 GPA for juniors.

Description: Students will be introduced to the fundamental concepts of the sociological perspective, including culture, socialization, organization, authority, deviance and inequality. The class offers an examination of the relationship between society and the individual, including how society influences individual motivation, understanding, action, and well-being. Students will also examine key issues such as class, race, gender, religion, globalization, education, health care, crime, the media, and the environment from a sociological perspective.

INTRODUCTION TO GLOBAL STUDIES* (CIS - CLC)

Course No.: 6032

Open to: Grades 11-12

Length/Credit: Semester - 1 HS Elective credit – 3 CLC credits

Prerequisite: 2.5 GPA for seniors, 3.0 GPA for juniors.

Description: This course introduces students to the basic concepts, trends, perspectives, and interconnections of global society. Through readings, discussions, videos, webcasts and other activities, students examine the interdependence of people around the world and global issues that affect these relationships. It will

provide an overview of the history and theoretical approaches that have created a global society through topics such as global politics, human rights, the natural environment, population, disease, gender, information technology, war and peace. This is a required course for the Global Studies Certificate.

WORLD LANGUAGES

SPANISH I

Course No.: 6036 & 6038
Open to: Grades 9-12
Length/Credit: Full Year – 2 Elective credits
Description: Spanish 1 integrates all modalities of Spanish, listening, speaking, reading, and writing, to help the students achieve a basic level of proficiency. Differences and similarities between the English and Spanish languages will be identified. Students will learn the Spanish alphabet, present indicative and basic grammar rules, every day expressions for general conversation, and vocabulary needed for survival situations. Various persons, events, celebrations, and Spanish-speaking geographical areas (emphasis on Mexico) will be highlighted.

SPANISH II

Course No.: 6040 & 6042
Open to: Grades 10-12
Length/Credit: Full Year – 2 Elective credits
Prerequisite: *Spanish I (C- grade or higher)*
Description: Students will further develop communication skills necessary for interaction outside of school, family, and home environments. With an emphasis on the community, the students will learn to communicate successfully in simple social situations. This course includes a review of the present indicative tense and an introduction to the preterit and future tenses. Vocabulary development is integral as greater emphasis is placed on conversation and situational communication skills. More events, celebrations, and Spanish-speaking geographical areas (emphasis on Spain) will be highlighted.

ACADEMIC SUPPORT

CIS SEMINAR

Course No.: 7900
Open to: Grades 11-12
Length/Credit: Semester - 1 Elective credit
Class Size Limit: 25
Prerequisite: *Must be enrolled in at least two CIS courses at AHS in a single semester*
Description: This course will support students taking two or more CIS courses at AHS. Students will utilize class time to learn and then apply the techniques and strategies needed to meet the demands of college level coursework. Students are not able to take this course multiple semesters.

REACH

Course No.: 7902
Open to: Grades 10-12
Length/Credit: Semester – Elective credit
Prerequisite: *AST committee recommendation required*
Description: REACH is a leadership class designed to help students reach their individual and academic goals. REACH stands for Relationships, Education, Accountability, Character, and Hard Work.

SENIOR PREP

Course No.: 7904, 7905, 7906, 7907
Open to: Grade 12
Length: Semester or Year
Prerequisite: Must be on track for graduation, no missing core credits

Description:

Seniors who have earned at least 33 credits by the end of their Junior year are eligible for a Senior Prep period. All 9-11 grade core credits must be earned at that time. A signed parent permission form is due to the School Counseling office before the start of the student's senior year. Senior Prep is only offered Period 1 and Period 7, with only one prep hour allowed per semester. If a student fails a core class or falls behind in total credits, the Senior Prep will be eliminated from their schedule.