

Mountain Lake

High School

Registration Guide:

2023-2024

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General Information

Each year the administration strives to create a schedule that will meet the needs of the student body. After the creation of the master schedule, students will make registration choices for the following school year. The school counselor will contact students who have conflicts with their registration choices and the master schedule. Administration will make the final determination of a student's course registration and schedule.

Mountain Lake High School grants credit each quarter. Students must earn a passing grade each quarter to earn 0.25 credit for that course. Students who do not pass a required class will need to retake the class for the failed quarter. Credit recovery may be completed in an online credit recovery program, at the Alternative Learning Center (ALC), or the following year in the regular class. Administration will determine the credit recovery plan for each student on an individual basis.

Schedule Changes

It is the intent of the administration and school counselor's office that students would be enrolled in their courses at the beginning of the school year. Schedule changes are highly discouraged. Students are expected to demonstrate responsibility and integrity while making their course registration decisions. As a school community, we must show respect to the administration as they make budgetary decisions based on registration numbers, to classmates who are denied a class when the enrollment reaches maximum allowance, and to the staff as they order instructional materials for their classrooms.

However, it is recognized that in certain situations, students may need to change their class schedule. Students may request to drop or add courses in specified time frames. Approval for the schedule change must have permissions from teachers, parents, and administration. Typical reasons for a schedule change are: 1) teacher request, 2) eliminate a study hall, 3) medical reasons, 4) reschedule a failed course, 5) correct scheduling error or 6) accommodate rigorous college courses.

Courses that are yearlong may be dropped the first 5 days of the first semester.

Only in unusual situations will students be allowed to drop a yearlong course at the end of 2nd quarter.

Courses that are 2 quarters in length may be dropped or added during the first 5 days of Quarters 1 or 3.

Graduation Requirements

A **minimum** of 23 required credits are needed to earn a diploma from Mountain Lake High School.

English Language Arts - 4 credits required

- 1 Credit of English 9
- 1 Credit of English 10 (including Speech)
- 1 Credit English 11 (**2 options to choose from, PICK ONE**)
 - 1 Credit of American Literature
 - 0.5 Credit of British Literature **&** 0.5 Credit of Accelerated American Literature
- 1 Credit English 12
 - College Writing- .5 cr. **or** Senior Writing – .5 cr.
 - College Literature- .5 cr. **or** Senior Novels – .5 cr.

Mathematics - 3 credits required

- 1 Credit of Geometry
- 1 Credit of Intermediate Algebra
- 1 Credit of Algebra II
- 1 Credit of Pre-Calculus

Science - 3 credits required

- Physical Science (required)– 1 cr.
- Biology (required) – 1 cr.
- Chemistry – 1 cr.
- Physics – 1 cr.

Physical Education/Health

1.5 credits required

- 1 Credit of Phy Ed/Health 9
- 0.5 Credit of Lifetime Fitness

Fine Arts - 1 credit required

- Senior Band - .5 cr. per year
- Horticulture - 2nd semester - .5 cr.
- Senior Choir - .5 cr. per year
- Visual Art 2-D - .5 cr.
- Metal Arts - .5 cr.
- Drawing & Painting - .5 cr.
- Sculpture - .5 cr.
- Floriculture - .5 cr.
- Landscaping - .5 cr.
- Graphic Arts - .5 cr.
- Projects in Ag

Depends on Project

Social Studies - 4 credits required

- 1 Credit of Civics 9
- 1 Credit of Social 10
 - 0.5 Credit of Geography
 - 0.5 Credit of American History
- 1 Credit of Social 11
 - World Geography & History
- 1 Credit of Social 12
 - 0.5 Credit of American Government
 - 0.5 Credit of Economics

Electives - 6.5 credits required

Credit Recovery Options

If you fall behind in credits, these are options that we have to help you get back on track for Graduation.

- Night Class: Offered to Sophomores, Juniors, Seniors
 - Available through the ALC. There are generally two sessions around February until about May. They decide what the method of instruction will be and we do not know until the registration forms are sent what that will be or when the sessions will be offered.
 - This is generally class (or a check-in with the instructor if it is offered virtually) one night a week with homework/classwork that needs to be completed throughout the week.
 - Students receive 0.5 of a credit for each class completed with a passing grade.
- Summer School: Offered to Sophomores, Juniors, Seniors
 - Available through the ALC. There is one session that is generally a month long. It is Monday through Friday. Again: they decide what the method of instruction will be and we do not know until the registration forms are sent what that will be or when the sessions will be offered. Forms for this are due before the end of the school year so once I get the forms I contact Sophomores and Juniors who are in need of credit recovery.
 - Students receive 0.5 of a credit for each class completed with a passing grade.
- Fitting into Schedule: Option for Juniors and Seniors
 - During elective periods, the counselor will see what credits the student needs to recover and will put them in a class that they need to do again. This is the trickiest option for credit recovery because it is dependent on whether or not the class that the student needs is offered during their elective period. Generally used for Seniors because they only have two periods where they have required classes.
 - Number of credits recovered is dependent on how many quarters the student retakes.

College Admission Information

Admission requirements for public and private colleges and universities vary in the state of Minnesota. The information listed below includes general requirements for the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities system (minnstate.edu).

Two- Year Public Schools: A high school diploma or GED is required. No admissions test is required, and high school rank and G.P.A. are not considered. After admittance to the school, a placement test is required to determine class placement.

Four-Year Public Schools: Students may need to take an admission test (ACT or SAT) and receive a score of 21 or higher on the ACT, or a combined score of 1,000 on the current SAT; OR graduate in the top half of the high school graduating class.

- **Four-year colleges also have high school course requirements which may vary based on the school system. Generally they are:**
 - Four years of English
 - including composition, literature and speech
 - Three years of math
 - two years of algebra
 - one of which is either intermediate or advanced algebra
 - one year of geometry
 - Three years of science
 - One year of a biology with significant laboratory experience
 - One year of physical science with significant laboratory experience
 - Three years of social studies
 - One year of geography
 - One year of U.S. history
 - Two years of a single world language
 - Non- English native languages or American Sign Language
 - One year of Arts
 - visual arts and the performing arts of theater, music, dance and media arts

Four-Year Private Schools: Minnesota Private Colleges in the state of Minnesota have a dedicated webpage (mnprivatecolleges.org) that lists requirements for each individual college. General requirements for the colleges include:

- Personal information
- High School transcript
- ACT or SAT score

University of Minnesota System: The University of Minnesota has primary and secondary factors which are taken into consideration when admitting students. These requirements can be found at http://admissions.tc.umn.edu/admissioninfo/fresh_faqs.html

Primary factors include:

- Coursework through high school graduation. (Admitted students typically exceed the University's high school requirements.)
- Grades in academic coursework
- Class rank/Grade point average
- ACT or SAT scores

College Courses In High School

Mountain Lake High School offers two options to earn college credit while in high school. These options are: Concurrent Enrollment Courses and Post Secondary Enrollment Options (PSEO). These opportunities are available to students who meet eligibility criteria. Students seeking these opportunities need to meet with the high school counselor in the spring before the school year they intend to take the college courses during.

Concurrent Enrollment

Concurrent enrollment courses are courses taught in our high school by MLHS teachers that have been approved by Southwest Minnesota State University (SMSU) in Marshall, Minnesota West Community and Technical College (MN West) in Jackson, or Minnesota State University in Mankato. Students receive instruction from our teachers daily during the regular school day. Students who meet the eligibility criteria for SMSU, MSU, or MN West receive college credit AND high school credit. There is no cost to the students. The courses offered are:

- **Minnesota West Community and Technical College (MN West)**
 - College Writing (Semester 1 Class with Mrs. Syverson)
 - 3 college credits
 - Intro to Literature (Semester 2 Class with Mrs. Syverson)
 - 3 college credits
 - Horticulture (year long class with Mrs. Brockberg)
 - 3 college credits
 - Vet Science (year long class with Mrs. Brockberg)
 - 3 college credits
- **Southwest Minnesota State University (SMSU)**
 - College Physics Lecture and Laboratory (year long class with Mrs. Fast)
 - 4 college credits
- **Minnesota State University: Mankato (MSU)**
 - College Psychology (Semester long class with Mr. Stade)
 - 3 college credits

Post Secondary Enrollment Options (PSEO)

Colleges, universities, and technical schools in the state of Minnesota open a variety of their entry-level courses to high school students in grades 10, 11, and 12. Career and technical education classes are the only classes available to 10th grade students. Each college, university, or technical school establishes the criteria for enrollment in a college course. These courses can be online or on the campus. The instructors for these courses are college instructors/professors. The Mountain Lake School PSEO policy on the following page is enforced for online courses. There is no cost to the student for these courses.

- PSEO courses are taken through Minnesota West in an online format.
- Please meet with Ms. Inglett if you are interested in taking any PSEO courses in the coming school year.

Online Post Secondary Education Options Policy

1. Follow Minnesota Department of Education (MDE) Guidance (2015) and allow qualifying 10th, 11th, and 12th grade students to earn college credit while still in high school through enrollment in and successful completion of online Post Secondary Education Options college level courses.
2. Follow Minnesota Department of Education (MDE) Guidance (2015) and allow qualifying 10th, 11th, and 12th grade students to take an unlimited amount of online Postsecondary Education Options credits.
3. Follow current Mountain Lake High School graduation requirements that include 23 credits for a student to graduate from the Mountain Lake High School.
4. The final decision about which Mountain Lake High School class(es) will be allowed to be exchanged or substituted by an online Post Secondary Education Options college courses will be made by high school administration. Mountain Lake High School students will not be allowed to substitute a particular Mountain Lake High School with online Post Secondary Education Options college courses at their (the student's) unilateral discretion.
5. Supervision of Mountain Lake High School students taking online Post Secondary Education Options college courses on site by Mountain Lake Public School staff members will be made by Mountain Lake High School administration. Students who are allowed to take online Post Secondary Education Options college courses will be required to follow Mountain Lake High School and online Post Secondary Education Options college course policies and rules. Failure to abide by policies and rules will result in loss of privileges including supervision of students, use of school site and use of school materials.
6. The use of classroom space and district materials by Mountain Lake High School students taking online courses on site by Mountain Lake Public School staff members will be made by Mountain Lake High School administration. Students would be required to follow Mountain Lake High School and online Post Secondary Education Options college course policies and rules. Failure to abide by policies and rules will result in loss of privileges including use of school site and materials.
7. Mountain Lake High School staff is not required to provide direct supervision and assistance (technical, tutorial, guidance, accountability, etc.) for online Post Secondary Education Options students to complete their online Post Secondary Education Options coursework unless such services and assistance (technical, tutorial, guidance, accountability, etc.) are required by Minnesota Department of Education (MDE) Guidance (2015) or Minnesota Statute.
8. Follow current Minnesota Department of Education (MDE) Guidance (2015) and allow qualifying 10th and 11th grade students at least one study hall (or class period if no study hall is available) per day (up to 1 of 7 hours) to complete online PSEO assignments.
9. Allow qualifying 12th grade students at least two study halls (or class period if no study hall is available) per day (up to 2 of 7 hours) to complete online PSEO assignments.
8. Students who take a PSEO class and withdraw from the course after 2 weeks of the semester of the PSEO instruction will have the course on their high school transcript with a grade of F. If withdrawal from the PSEO course results in the student having less than 6 classes daily, the student will be enrolled in a high school course and expected to complete work to earn the credit for the course.

Registration Planner- Grades 9 & 10

Use the following planner to help you select your courses. Course descriptions follow the planner organized by department.

Grade 9

- Required:
 - English 9
 - Geometry
 - Civics
 - Physical Science
 - PE/Health 9
- Electives:
 - Senior High Band
 - Senior High Choir
 - Agricultural Education I

Grade 10

- Required:
 - English 10
 - Geometry
 - American History/Geography
 - Biology
 - Lifetime Fitness (one semester)
- Electives:
 - Senior High Band
 - Senior High Choir
 - Agricultural Education II
 - Personal Finance (one semester opposite Lifetime Fitness)
 - PSEO Class

Registration Planner - Grades 11 & 12

Use the following lists to help you pick your courses. Course descriptions follow, organized by department.

Grade 11

Required:

- English 11 (Select 1 of 2 options)
 - American Literature
 - Brit Lit / Acc American Lit
- Chemistry
- Math 11 (Select 1 of 2 Options)
 - Algebra II
 - Pre-Calculus
- Social 11
 - Sem 1: World Geography
 - Sem 2: World History

Electives:

Yearlong:

Horticulture
Journalism
Senior High Band
Senior High Choir
Spanish I
Veterinary Science

Semester 1

Art I
Computer Aided Drafting (CAD)
Floriculture
Graphic Technology
PSEO class
Woods

Semester 2

PSEO class
Landscaping
Metal Art
Robotics
Sculpture
Visual Art 2-D

Grade 12

Required:

- English 12 (Select 1 of 2 options)
 - Senior Writing & Senior Novels
 - College Writing & College Lit
- Social 12
 - American Government
 - Economics

Optional Core Classes:

- Math
 - Precalc/Trig
- Science:
 - Physics
 - College Physics

Electives:

Yearlong:

Agricultural Occupations
Horticulture
Journalism
Projects in Agriculture
Senior High Band
Senior High Choir
Spanish I
Veterinary Science

Semester 1:

Ag & the Environment
Ag Leadership & Communication
Art I
College Psychology
Computer Aided Drafting (CAD)
Floriculture
Food Science
Graphic Technology
Music Exploration
PSEO Class

Semester 2:

Advanced Guitar
Grow your Own Business
History Through Film
Landscaping
PSEO Class
Robotics
Sculpture
Survival 101
Visual Art 2-D
World Foods

Art

Art I - Drawing & Painting

Gr 11-12

0.5 credit

This course will cover a wide range of basic art theory and media. We will explore color, composition, design, and drawing as related to other art projects. Media may include pencil, markers, acrylic, watercolor, ink, color pencil, oil pastels, and charcoal. Drawing and painting are explored with specific purpose and meaning. Artistic voice, technical skills, historical and cultural perspectives as well as critiques and self-evaluations are all explored with a variety of techniques and styles.

Sculpture

Gr 11-12

0.5 credit

This course promotes creative expression through three-dimensional works. This course explores representational and abstract sculpture through subtractive (carving), additive (modeling), and assemblage techniques in one or more media. This course will use the production of representational and abstract sculptures while incorporating elements of art and principles of design, along with a study of historical and contemporary sculpture and sculptors from a worldwide perspective. Instruction will be provided in the process of responding to art through analysis, critique, and interpretation for the purpose of reflecting on and refining work. Clay pottery wheel & clay hand-building work will be included.

Visual Art 2-D

Gr 11-12

0.5 credit

The 11th & 12th grade Visual Art program focuses on three major areas of visual learning: ways of recording visual information; assembling images that have meaning; and responding to visual images. Students will demonstrate skills with elements, media, and techniques. The content includes drawing, painting, and mixed media. Evaluation is project based. The portfolio is a record of the concepts and skills each student demonstrates through effort and achievement following the goals and objectives. This course will cover a wide range of basic art theory and media. We will cover the use of color, composition, design and drawing as related to other art projects.

Graphic Technology

Gr 11-12

0.5 credit

Graphic technology will explore various methods of printing making including silk-screening, heat transfer imaging & digital photography. Topics include computer-assisted art and design, color theory, & commercial art operations. Digital production will include typographic arrangements and/or graphics using Photoshop, In-Design, I-Movie & Illustrator. Evaluation is project based.

Career & Technical Ed

Agriculture Education I

Gr 9

1 credit

This course is an exploratory course for agriculture. Areas of study include basic woodworking, FFA, SAE development, soils, career exploration, parliamentary procedures, wildlife and fisheries. This course is open to any students with an interest in the field of agriculture. All students are encouraged to participate in a career development event that is of interest to them. The instructor will work with each student to develop and improve that student's project. This class qualifies students to belong to FFA and participate in a Supervised Agricultural Experience.

Agriculture Education II

Gr 10

1 credit

This course is designed to provide students instruction in four of these six areas: welding and cooking for all and the other two quarters students can pick from the following: small animal science, livestock production, electricity and wiring, small engines based upon class interest. Students will rotate classes each quarter based upon ranking and numbers. The goal of this class is to provide students an eye opening experience in several agricultural career pathways and the impact on their daily life. All students are encouraged to participate in a career development event that is of interest to them. The instructor will work with each student to develop and improve that student's project. This class qualifies students to belong to FFA and participate in a Supervised Agricultural Experience.

Ag & the Environment

Gr 12

0.5 credit

As the world keeps changing and growing, advancements are being made in all sectors. In the class, you will look at the advancements in agriculture and how they benefit the environment. Topics can include: GPS/Precision Ag, sources of energy, ethanol and biofuels, biotechnology and GMOs, drones and more. This is a topic that can relate to so much and many careers. This class qualifies students to belong to FFA.

Agricultural Leadership & Communication

Gr 12

0.5 credit

You can either lead or you can follow. This course is designed to help students reach their leadership potential. Skills expected in the workplace will be addressed. Topics range from public speaking to parliamentary procedures. Students will learn about proper etiquette in the workplace, working as a member of a team, becoming self-motivated, and delivering clear and appropriate communication. This course is open to any student who has an interest in developing their leadership potential. All students are encouraged to participate in a career development event that is of interest to them. The instructor will work with each student to develop and improve that student's project. This class qualifies students to belong to FFA and participate in a Supervised Agricultural Experience.

Agricultural Occupations**Gr 11, 12****0.5 credit/semester**

This class is open to students for work experience in agricultural related businesses. The work may be during part of the school day, before or after school, on weekends or a combination 12 according to agreement with the employer. The student learner can be paid for their work or it can be unpaid in the form of an internship. The goal is to provide experience working with adults in actual employer/employee situations. Students in the program will discuss their occupational objectives with the instructor and complete some assignments on classroom, classroom assignments are based on how many days worked. Students will have an appropriate training program and all guidelines and policies for the training program must be followed. Partnerships between area businesses have been formed and instructors help students with placement into jobs. This class qualifies students to belong to FFA. To participate in this class you will need to have permission from Mrs. Brockberg.

CEO**Grade 12****1 credit**

Creating Entrepreneurial Opportunities is a year-long course designed to utilize partnerships that provide an overview of business development and processes. Our local business community partners with area schools to create project-based experiences for students by providing funding, expertise, meeting space, business tours, and one-on-one mentoring. Students visit area businesses, learn from guest speakers, participate in a class business, write business plans, and start and operate their own businesses. Business concepts learned through the experiential CEO class are critical; the 21st century skills of problem-solving, teamwork, self-motivation, responsibility, higher-order thinking, communication, and inquiry are at the heart of a student's development throughout the course. Students must apply and be accepted to participate in the program.

Floriculture**Gr 11, 12****0.5 credit**

Through this course, students will be able to further their studies in plant science while learning useful skills that can be used throughout their life. Students will be exposed to the principles of floral design while they are creating their own floral designs. If you like working with your hands, like to be a little creative, and enjoy flowers, this is a class for you. Students may also get the opportunity to learn how to grow and handle potted plants, bedding plants, and cut flowers and foliage. This class qualifies students to belong to FFA. This class will meet a half credit of the fine arts requirement for graduation.

Food Science**Gr 12****0.5 credit**

During the first semester, this course focuses on the fundamentals of cooking and some of the science behind it. Students will learn sanitation, measuring, terms, food preparation and how to replace and substitute everyday items in recipes. The overall goal is to get students comfortable in the kitchen and ready for life after high school.

World Foods**Gr 12****0.5 credit**

In World Foods, students learn about where their food comes from. The customs, traditions and methods of production that impact agriculture around the world will be examined. Students will prepare dishes from a variety of countries and from ethnic influences around the world. Kitchen safety and food safety are used throughout these courses. Meal planning and budgeting for groceries is also highlighted. Students are required to try all food made in class, unless allergic. This class qualifies students to belong to FFA.

Horticulture**Gr 11, 12****1 credit**

This class can be taken for 3 college credits for those that qualify. Horticulture is one of the most rapidly growing aspects of Agriculture. Horticulture is the study of plants as it relates to garden plants, flowers, shrubs, and greenhouse management. A very brief unit on design and art principles will also be studied in this course as well as stained glass. Students complete an artistic rotation using multiple mediums like (stained glass, painting, drawing, jewelry making, and more). Fundamentals of plant growth, photosynthesis, germination, propagation, transplanting, and plant nutrition will be taught in the classroom and the greenhouse setting. This course is open to any student who has an interest in horticulture, floral design and art. All students are encouraged to participate in a career development event that is of interest to them. The instructor will work with each student to develop and improve that student's project. This class qualifies students to belong to FFA and participate in a Supervised Agricultural Experience.

Landscaping**Gr 11, 12****0.5 credit**

If you are looking for a new way to be outside, have skills that will benefit you with home ownership or get you a summer job, this may be the class for you. This class focuses on the 13 practices and techniques of fertilizing, weed control, pruning, training and transplanting used to maintain existing landscapes. It also covers basic landscape design, and basic plant anatomy and physiology as they relate to plants used in the landscape. Students will create a landscape design and be outside completing different design projects. This class qualifies students to belong to FFA. This class will meet a half credit of the fine arts requirement for graduation.

Survival 101**Gr 12****0.5 credit**

We will learn skills to prepare us for living independently such as basic car tune ups, home care, home buying, basic financial skills, and managing time. Students will build a mock home wall to learn hands-on home repair skills as well as perform automotive services to vehicles. This course will attempt to model and practice many of the strategies and activities necessary to connect these experiences with real world applications. This class qualifies students to belong to FFA.

Metals**Gr 11, 12****0.5 credit**

Students who pass this class with an 80% or above and meet all of the course goals will earn articulated college credit to Minnesota West, South Central College and Ridgewater. In this class we will gain a more in depth knowledge of welding theory including Arc, MIG, OxyAcetylene, and TIG. Students will be required to complete 12 welds. You will also choose an welding area of focus to complete a project in. Introductory shop skills are required but a refresher in all welding processes will be given. This class qualifies students to belong to FFA.

Grow your own Business**Gr 12****0.5 credit**

Learn to create your own business with this hands-on creative class! Have you ever gone to the store to get a few things and walked out with way more - this class will help you learn the marketing and sales behind this. More so, in this class students won't be talking about all the aspects of business, but making it come to life with running mini businesses through the semester along with running the greenhouse sales. This class qualifies students to belong to FFA. Students will create a greenhouse business, create a marketing plan, advertisement strategies and sell their products at the end of the semester.

Projects in Agriculture**Gr 12****1 credit**

Endless possibilities is maybe another name for this class as this class gives students the opportunity to explore, plan, create, and learn about their interest in our ever changing world. However, those possibilities will have some connection with agriculture, which finding a connection to agriculture with projects picked is easier than most think - agriculture is just about endless too! While students explore, plant, create, and complete their projects the class as a whole will also be learning a range of skills in 4 or more areas depending on interest. If you are a student that wants to be in control of your learning, explore interest or improve our current skills/future career goals, this class is for you. This class qualifies students to belong to FFA. Prerequisite: Food Science or teacher approval. This class will meet the fine arts requirement for graduation on a case by case basis.

Veterinary Science**Gr 11, 12****1 credit**

This class can be taken for 3 college credits for those that qualify. This course will cover many aspects of animal and veterinary science, from terminology to systems (nervous, digestive, respiratory, and more). Students will develop knowledge in (both animal and human) anatomy, physiology, and the inner working of them. Students will complete 14 numerous labs and dissections. The Curriculum for Agricultural Science Education (CASE) will be a focus of this class. This course is open to any students that have interest in all areas of science and working in medical based careers. All students are encouraged to participate in a career development event that is of interest to them. The instructor will work with each student to develop and improve that student's project. This class qualifies students to belong to FFA and participate in a Supervised Agricultural Experience.

Woods**Gr 11, 12****0.5 credit**

Woods will focus on the construction of a detailed interior project constructed out of wood materials. Safety in the shop and on the job site will be stressed throughout the course. Students must possess the knowledge or learn the safe and proper use of a variety of hand tools, power tools, and other equipment in the shop. Each student will be required to complete a project of choice with instructor approval. This class qualifies students to belong to FFA.

English

English 9

Gr 9

1 credit

This course is designed to expose students to various genres of literature centered around a particular theme and help them understand and apply literary elements to the pieces of literature. This course also includes a focus on the writing process and strengthening students' writing skills. In addition, students will reinforce and further develop their knowledge of proper grammar, mechanics of writing, and vocabulary.

English 10 (includes Speech)

Gr 10

1 credit

This course exposes students to various genres of literature from around the world and helps them understand and apply literary elements to the pieces of literature. In addition, students reinforce and further develop their knowledge of proper grammar, mechanics of writing, and vocabulary. During the speech portion of this course, students learn how to research and analyze information from various sources, organize the information into an outline, and use the outline as a guide for an oral presentation. Each student will give several oral presentations with a variety of purposes—to inform, demonstrate, and persuade. Ultimately, the students will learn how to present information fluently and in a manner that engages their audience.

English 11

Gr 11

1 credit

British Literature (.5 credit) and Accelerated American Literature (.5 credit)

The British Literature course exposes students to various genres of literature from England, showing them how literature developed within historical contexts, and helps them understand and apply literary elements to the pieces of literature. During Accelerated American Literature, students study various genres of literature from the United States and how the literature developed in historical contexts. During both courses students will reinforce and further develop their knowledge of proper grammar, mechanics of writing, and vocabulary.

OR

American Literature

Gr 11

1 credit

This course exposes students to various genres of literature from the United States, showing them how the literature developed within historical contexts, and helps them understand and apply literary elements to the pieces of literature. In addition, students will reinforce and further develop their knowledge of proper grammar, mechanics of writing, and vocabulary.

English 12 - Students must choose one writing course and one literature course from the following courses.

College Writing (College course) Gr 12 0.5 credit

This course is designed to enhance students' writing skills by exposing them to various forms of writing and teaching them how to adapt their writing style for a variety of purposes. The essays required in this course are longer and more in-depth than those required for Senior Writing. Eligible students will earn college credit through Minnesota West Community & Technical College. In addition, students will have two opportunities to job shadow someone in a career of interest and then reflect on those experiences in their writing.

Senior Writing Gr 12 0.5 credit

This course is designed to enhance students' writing skills by exposing them to various forms of writing and teaching them how to adapt their writing style for a variety of purposes. In addition, students will continue to reinforce and further develop their knowledge of proper grammar and mechanics of writing. Students will also have two opportunities to job shadow someone in a career of interest and then reflect on those experiences in their writing.

Senior Novels Gr 12 0.5 credit

This course is designed to expose students to various classic American novels, show them how the novels relate to the time periods in which they were written, and help them understand and apply literary elements to their reading. In addition, students will reinforce and further develop their knowledge and use of vocabulary.

College Literature (College Course) Gr 12 0.5 credit

This course exposes students to various classic American novels and one play, showing them how the novels and play relate to the time periods in which they were written, and helps them understand and apply literary elements to their reading. In addition, students will reinforce and further develop their knowledge and use of vocabulary. Eligible students will earn college credit through Minnesota West Community & Technical College.

Journalism Gr 11, 12 1 credit

Students are responsible for all phases involved in the production of the yearbook including taking pictures at school events, layout and design, photo cropping, and preparation for printing. Additional projects students will be involved in include sports programs, concert programs, graduation announcements, elementary certificates, play programs, and various school or community projects as they arise.

Mathematics

Geometry

Gr 9

1 credit

Geometry begins with an introduction of the basic tools of geometry including points, lines, planes, distance, angles, two-dimensional, and three-dimensional figures. Students will learn about reasoning and proof and will be able to prove two triangles are congruent. Students learn and apply the properties of shapes including triangles, quadrilaterals and circles. Students will learn about right triangle trigonometry and use it to find the area of polygons. The course will conclude with a unit of surface area and volume of three-dimensional figures and a unit on probability. Prerequisite: Algebra I

Intermediate Algebra

Gr 10

1 credit

Intermediate Algebra begins with a review of Algebra I topics including linear equations, systems of equations, inequalities and systems of inequalities. Students will then be introduced to Algebra II topics and learn about graphing, factoring, and solving quadratics. The course ends with a unit on Probability and Statistics. Prerequisite: Algebra I

Algebra 2

Gr 10 - 11

1 credit

Algebra 2 begins with a review of Algebra I. Following that, students will then learn about quadratic equations, inverse functions, radical equations, exponential functions, and rational relations. The course ends with a unit on sequences and series. Prerequisite: Algebra I

Precalculus / Trigonometry

Gr 11 – 12

1 credit

This course is a detailed study of the mathematics needed for calculus. Concepts are presented and explored from symbolic, graphical, and numerical perspectives. Basic concepts covered include polynomial, rational, exponential, logarithmic, and trigonometric functions, complex numbers, linear systems, numerical patterns, sequences and series. Prerequisites: Algebra 1 & 2 and Geometry.

Music

Advanced Guitar

Gr 12

0.5 credit

Advanced guitar is a course open to students in 12th grade who have taken a guitar class in the past or have been approved by the instructor. In this course students will learn to play guitar at an advanced level and develop an appreciation for music of various styles and genres. The goals of this course are:

- To develop musical skills including learning music by ear, reading written music, improvisation, and musical intuition
- Learn skills related to performing, creating, and responding to music
- Develop musical independence

Music Exploration

Gr 12

0.5 credit

Music Exploration is a course open to students in 12th grade. In the Music Exploration course, we will be exploring music from its beginnings until present day. The goals of this course are:

- Explore various musical elements: Sound, Harmony, Rhythm, etc. through a variety of ways including basic sight singing, listening, bucket drumming, improvising, and learning basic guitar/piano skills.
- Explore the broad history of music
- Discover how music has influenced culture, or how culture has influenced music
- Develop critical listening skills
- Develop a deeper sense of music appreciation

This class will include projects, listening assignments/exams, and reading assignments.

Senior High Choir**Gr 9, 10, 11, 12****0.5 credit**

Senior High Choir is a course/ensemble open to all students in grades 9-12. One of the main goals of Senior High Choir is to gain a deeper appreciation of music through performing a wide variety of music of different styles, cultures, and from different eras of history. Senior High Choir meets two days per week, and every other Friday. In Senior High Choir, you will have the opportunity to:

- Develop/Improve musical skills (rhythm, sight-reading, terms, etc.)
- Perform as a large group working towards a common goal
- Develop/Improve vocal skills
- Participate in solo/ensemble contest
- Participate in Chamber/show Choir
- Develop self-discipline by attending lessons, and participating in class

The Senior High Choir performances consist of:

- 3 Concerts (December, March, May)
- Large Group Contest
- Veterans' Day
- Graduation

Senior High Band**Gr 9, 10, 11, 12****0.5 credit**

Senior High Band is a course/ensemble open to all students in grades 9-12. We perform as soloists, in small groups, and as a large group at concerts and other special events during the year. Senior High Jazz Band and Percussion Ensemble are special before-school groups that are additional opportunities for band students as well as Pep Band and Marching Band. Prior instrument lessons and experience are helpful but not necessary. The group meets two days a week and every other Friday. Our goal is to encourage lifelong music enjoyment and music making in a fun and educationally worthwhile environment. Senior High Band is a group that seeks to develop advanced musical skills by rehearsing and performing a wide variety of music during the year:

- Playing in 5-6 different key signatures, and a variety of time signatures
- Extension of range
- Developing musical expressiveness and understanding

The Senior High Band performances consist of:

- 3 Concerts (December, March, May)
- Large Group Contest (March)
- Pep Band (Fall & Winter Sports)
- Veterans' Day (November)
- Graduation (May)

Physical Education & Health

Physical Education/Health 9

Gr 9

1 credit

The Ninth grade Health curriculum conducted in conjunction with physical education covers the following units: physical, mental, emotional, and social wellness, relationships, body systems, drugs, tobacco, alcohol, diseases, nutrition, safety in the environment, conflict resolution, violence prevention, health and consumer choices, body image, and character. The Physical Education portion provides students with physical fitness training and other activities. The students will receive instruction in the rules, skills, strategies, and teamwork of the following units: soccer, spikeball, bowling, football, handball, Frisbee football, volleyball, Pickleball, badminton, basketball, floor hockey, ragball, tennis, weightlifting, wiffle ball, dance and dodgeball games with variations. Advanced competition with tournaments is used in this course.

Lifetime Fitness

Gr 10

0.5 credit

The lifetime fitness curriculum involves various things ranging from individualized workouts to some games (individual and team). During this semester class, we will utilize the gym(s) and our new fitness center. We will work on improving your overall physical fitness and give you knowledge and information to use throughout your lifetime. Target heart rate, weight training, cardio training, stretching, and some speed training will be covered. This class will also take part in various games such as badminton, pickleball, soccer games, ragball, tennis and other games. Recording personal workouts will be discussed to help you track your progress and give you a foundation for future health.

Science

Physical Science

Gr 9

1 credit

This course surveys the basics of both chemistry and physics. Students will learn concepts of speed, acceleration, force, work, power, and energy during the physics portion of the year. Atoms, elements, the periodic table, chemical formulas, and chemical reactions will be taught during the chemistry portion of the year. Physical science is a hands on class that allows students to learn these concepts through a variety of investigations, activities, and simulations.

Biology

Gr 10

1 credit

Biology is the study of life. Content presented in this course will include ecology, cellular biology, genetics, and other topics to assist students in their understanding of these biological themes. Students will use modeling, phenomenon, diagraming, research, hands-on laboratory activities, and a variety of other methods to gather working knowledge in these areas.

Chemistry

Gr 11-12

1 credit

Chemistry is the study of matter and its interactions within our world. The class is divided into eight units starting with the periodic table and the elements. Topics then build upon previous concepts as the study progresses through electrons, atomic bonding, chemical reactions, chemical calculations, the study of solutions, and finally acids and bases. Students in chemistry will become familiar with the working of a chemistry lab through frequent investigations and experiments.

Physics/College Physics

Gr 11-12

1 credit

This physics class focuses on Newtonian (large scale) physics concepts. Students will study the interactions between speed, acceleration, and force variables. They will then apply this knowledge to the concepts of energy, work, and power. Other units in the class cover rotational motion, waves, and electricity. Physics is an in-depth, detail driven class that requires individuals to have a strong background in Algebra and the willingness to collaborate with peers. Eligible students can take this class for college credit through Southwest Minnesota State University (SMSU). They can earn 3 general science lecture credits and 1 general science lab credit for the completion of this class. Prerequisite: C or higher in Algebra II or meet SMSU requirements.

Introduction to Robotics

Gr 11 - 12

0.5 credit

This is a beginning course in robotics. We will be utilizing Lego Mindstorm kits and related software and laboratory materials. The objective of this course is to introduce the student to basic programming as well as problem solving strategies. This course will involve students in the development, building and programming of a LEGO Mindstorm robot. Students will work hands-on in teams to design, build, program their robots and document their progress. Topics may include motor control, gear ratios, torque, friction, sensors, timing, program loops, logic gates,

decision-making, timing sequences, propulsion systems. Student designed robots will be programmed to compete in various challenge courses.

Computer Aided Drafting (CAD) Gr 11 - 12

0.5 credit

Computer Aided Drafting (CAD) is a project driven course in which students use the Sketchup program to create challenge related designs. It focuses on students' ability to creatively solve 22 problems and create models. An example project is the Sustainable Dwelling project. Students are tasked with designing a small, environmentally sustainable dwelling specific to a biome region. Students have to work within a size constraint for the dwelling as well as design the dwelling to meet the individual demands of various global locations. Another project is Machine Design. Students propose design modifications to currently utilized technology. They research working components as well as the limitations of the machine. Sketchup is then used to design a new, original machine.

Social Studies

Civics

Gr 9

1 credit

This course will provide students with a comprehensive examination of the basic concepts, principles, and applications central to the study of civics. Throughout this course, students will develop an understanding of the American government – how it operates and their relationship to it. The class design informs students, provokes their interest and concern and motivates them to take an active and effective role in our democratic society..

American History/Geography

Gr 10

1 credit

This course is divided into 2 parts, geography and US History. The first semester students learn about the five themes of geography, how to read and label a map, and the geography of the Americas. The history of North America is studied in depth in the second semester with an emphasis on the United States prior to 1900.

World History/Geography

Gr 11

1 credit

This course is composed of 1 quarter of world geography and 3 quarters of world history. The continents of Europe, Asia, and Australia are studied in depth. World history is examined from 1900s to the present including World Wars I & II, World Depression, Cold War, Civil Rights movement, the 1970s, 1980s, 1990s, and the 2000s.

American Government

Gr 12

0.5 credit

This course is composed of one semester of American Government. This course will help you understand our Constitution and how our national government is structured, along with the rights and responsibilities required of all citizens and residents who are effectively engaged in American politics today. All of us have a responsibility for the ideas, choices, and consequences that we choose to support in our collective life as a nation.

Economics

Gr 12

0.5 credit

Economics is the study of how people make decisions and how these decisions apply to real-world problems. This course will cover fundamental economic concepts like scarcity, supply and demand, costs and benefits, trade-offs, incentives, market structure, and government actions. A virtual stock market game will also be included in the curriculum. This is a semester course.

Personal Finance

Gr 10

0.5 credit

During this semester course, students will study many facets of personal finance. Students will explore all of the areas necessary for financial wellbeing throughout the different stages of their life. The curriculum will cover taxes, mortgages, retirement, college expenses, budgets, checking accounts, savings accounts, paying bills, insurance, as well as other financial strategies. A virtual personal finance simulation will be used in the curriculum.

College Psychology**Gr 12****0.5 credit**

How does the human mind work? This course attempts to unlock some of the mysteries that are part of human nature and also part of this particular science. Learning, thinking patterns, family patterns, behavior, emotion, and the principles of psychology will be discussed in this class. This is a much accelerated course in which many concepts are covered at one time. Experiments with human nature are done throughout this program. Also discussed during this course of study are Abnormal Psychology, Psychological Disorders, and other topics such as: Emotion and motivation, stress, Anxiety and Health, and Phobic Disorders. The emphasis will be on Abnormal and Behavioral Psychology. This Course is offered through Minnesota State University: Mankato and 4 college credits will be obtained with the successful completion of this course.

History Through Film**Gr 12****0.5 credit**

This is an elective course geared to individuals that wish to study History through the sources of media and discussion. A wide variety of films will be viewed and discussed as they affected history and presented history. The emphasis will be the study of how media, over the past several decades, has presented historical events, and which of these are fictional and non-fictional. Many different varieties of historical events will be viewed and discussed. The goal is for the student to have a broad, general idea of what they have already learned from media, and what aspects of this have been true. This is a class for mature audiences as some of the content will contain graphic visuals as well as adult language.

World Languages

Spanish I

Gr 11, 12

1 credit

The student will be exposed to the Spanish Language through an introduction to the fundamentals of all four language skills; reading, writing, listening, and speaking. Special emphasis will be placed on communication through listening activities, oral discussion, and dialogue. In order to take Spanish II, III, or IV a “C” average is highly recommended in the preceding course. *This course will be offered over Interactive Television (ITV) where students will have daily interaction with the instructor.*

Spanish II

Gr. 12

1 credit

An emphasis will be placed on a review of grammar and composition skills to increase proficiency. We will review vocabulary and introduce some new verb tenses, vocabulary, and grammar. Special emphasis throughout this course will be placed on increasing communicative ability. The students will also view a number of films about historical Hispanic events, discuss, and research them. *This course will be offered over Interactive Television (ITV) where students will have daily interaction with the instructor.* Prerequisite: Spanish I