

SPOTSWOOD HIGH SCHOOL

PROGRAM OF STUDIES

2023-2024



This Program of Studies has been developed to assist you in selecting the courses that are available at our high school during the upcoming academic year. One of the most significant and exciting tasks is choosing the courses that best prepare you to meet your future goals. We encourage you to include your parents, counselor, and teachers in this critical decision-making process and to consider your abilities, interests, and opportunities as they relate to your goals when making your selections. The ultimate responsibility for the successful completion of course requirements for graduation and for education beyond high school is yours! We will do our best to provide you with every opportunity to experience four years of successful, productive study.

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Principal

Michael Mastroserio
Assistant Principal

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Amy Willuski - School Counselor
Lorraine Bruno - Administrative Assistant

**Dedicated to excellence in education by inspiring and challenging
our students to achieve their full potential while becoming
productive citizens of the global community.**

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PROGRAM GUIDE

When making course selections, remember the following:

1. If you are considering education beyond high school, select courses that meet specific requirements for business, technical, four year, or two year colleges.
2. Plan on completing most required courses in sequence by the end of the junior year to accommodate advanced and/or enrichment courses that can be selected to satisfy individual career plans. Most post-secondary schools, colleges and universities strongly recommend a rigorous, rather than a light, senior schedule of subjects.
3. Most four year colleges recommend: 4 years of English, 3-4 years of math (at least Algebra 1, Geometry, and Algebra 2), 2-3 years of a lab science (Biology, Chemistry and Physics), 2 years (preferably 3 or 4) of the same foreign language, and 3 years of social studies, including World History and 2 years of U.S. History. You will need a minimum of 16 academic units to qualify for admission.
4. In cooperation with business and industry, opportunities are available for state-approved, supervised, cooperative work-experience programs in the senior year. Occasionally, special consideration is given to students to begin work-experience programs in their junior year.
5. Full day programs are available for students in Middlesex County Magnet High Schools, which are located in East Brunswick, New Brunswick, Perth Amboy, Woodbridge, and Piscataway. Tuition is free for county residents. Formal applications and testing are required for admission. Interested students are to contact their school counselors in early January for application information.

HONORS COURSES

Honors courses allow students to explore material and develop skills in more depth and breadth than other offerings may require. Standards of achievement are high and, as a result, college credit is available for some honors classes. Students are expected to demonstrate initiative, to work independently, and to take responsibility for their own learning.

ADVANCED PLACEMENT COURSES

Advanced Placement Courses are designed by the College Board as college-level, challenging programs. Students who select Advanced Placement classes are those who have been successful in their previous program and who are ready to produce scholarly work. Spotswood High School students who are enrolled in Advanced Placement classes are required to take the Advanced Placement exam administered by the College Board in the spring. Students may earn college credit upon successful completion and by passing the required Advanced Placement Exam administered by the College Board.

Because Honors and Advanced Placement courses are complex and challenging, admission to them is selective. It is based upon past academic performance, standardized test scores, and teacher recommendation.

DEADLINE FOR SCHEDULE CHANGES

Every effort will be made to schedule students into the courses that are selected. The administration does reserve the right to cancel courses with insufficient enrollments or that cannot be properly scheduled.

March 15, 2023 IS THE DEADLINE FOR SCHEDULE CHANGES FOR THE 2023-2024 SCHOOL YEAR.

SCHOOL PHILOSOPHY

Spotswood High School endeavors to develop a student's intellectual, social, emotional, civic, creative, artistic, and physical potential by providing a variety of course offerings as well as co-curricular and extracurricular activities. Therefore, the educational philosophy of Spotswood High School is threefold:

1. To help the student achieve his/her fullest potential as a human being.
2. To encourage and enable the student to make responsible choices regarding his/her present education and his/her future endeavors.
3. To promote student involvement with the school and the community.

Students should be given the opportunity to develop their unique human potential as individuals for the benefit of themselves and of society. To this end, the Spotswood High School curriculum is designed to help the individual think critically; to attain a feeling of self-worth; to appreciate learning as a lifelong process; to respect and appreciate the individual and cultural rights, values, and points of view of others; and to appreciate and enjoy beauty in the arts and in nature.

Furthermore, the Spotswood High School curriculum is organized according to the needs of both the student and society. This curriculum will equip students with the knowledge and social skills necessary to enable them to make responsible decisions both in and out of school, and to respond to an ever-changing technological society.

Finally, the professional staff of Spotswood High School encourages each student to accept his/her civic responsibilities. Those skills necessary to participate in a democratic society are being developed with the hope that each student will participate effectively as an adult citizen.

COLLEGE CREDIT OPPORTUNITIES

Spotswood High School, in cooperation with several local colleges and universities, is pleased to have established the means that allow for high school students to earn college credit prior to their high school graduation. It is our hope that students will seek these challenging programs and in turn reap the benefits that are afforded these opportunities. Benefits not only include the earning of college credit, but also increasing the students' course offerings, challenging students at a higher level, and allowing students to experience the rigors of a college course.

This option is offered through Fairleigh Dickinson University and Middlesex County College. Eligible Spotswood High School courses are:

Middlesex County College

- AP English Language
- Honors English 12
- College Composition
- Honors College Accounting
- Honors Principles of Business
- Honors College Marketing
- Advanced Algebra & Trigonometry
- Probability & Statistics
- Pre-Calculus CP
- Honors Pre-Calculus
- Honors Calculus
- AP Calculus

- AP Statistics

Fairleigh Dickinson University – Middle College Program

- Honors Anatomy & Physiology

SPECIAL SERVICES

In accordance with the New Jersey Administrative Code 6A:14, the Spotswood Public School District ensures that students who are classified are educated in the Least Restrictive Environment (LRE) to the maximum extent possible given appropriate supports and services. Students who are classified are expected to fulfill the state established curriculum guidelines including the successful completion of applicable NJSLS assessments. Those requirements may be adjusted depending upon individual student needs, which are outlined in the student's Individualized Education Plan (IEP).

The programs for students who receive Special Education Services are developed cooperatively with the student's school counselor and the Child Study Team. In addition to the general program offerings, Resource Center classes are available in core content areas. These classes are designed specifically for students who are classified and parallel the mainstream curriculum at a modified and individualized pace. The class curriculum is adapted to meet each student's specific learning needs.

SCHOOL COUNSELING SERVICES

School counselors and various mental health professionals and social workers, provide individual and group counseling services covering: personal/emotional concerns; career/vocational needs; academic/educational planning concerns. Testing and referral services to outside agencies may also be available. Informational services are provided for 2 and 4 year colleges; art, business, and technical schools; armed forces; and employment. Printed materials and the various College and Career Readiness platforms are used. Specialized support services include: Educational and Financial Aid Planning Workshops; National Honor Society student tutors; and Substance Awareness Counseling.

ART

Spotswood High School provides students with a wide variety of stimulating, challenging, and enjoyable fine arts courses. These courses are designed to help students meet graduation requirements as well as provide an excellent opportunity to develop creative, expressive, and artistic skills.

Art Department Course Flow Chart

Sequence I			
*Drawing/Painting & Ceramics/Sculpture (semester courses)	Fine Arts I	Honors Fine Arts II	AP Art and Design
			Honors Fine Arts III
Sequence II			
Ceramics/Sculpture (semester course)	Ceramics II/Sculpture II	Fine Arts I	Honors Fine Arts II
Sequence III			
*Drawing/Painting & *Ceramics/Sculpture (semester courses)	CeramicsII/Sculpture II	AP Art and Design 3D only	Fine Art I
Sequence IV			
*Multi-Cultural Arts	CeramicsII/Sculpture II	AP Art and Design 3D only	

***Course can be taken at any time in grades 9-12.**

MULTI-CULTURAL ARTS (#0977)

Course Length: 1 Year

Grades: 9, 10, 11, 12

This is an introductory fine arts course in which students will study art through art production, art criticism, art history, and aesthetics. A variety of media will be explored. The course is designed to expose all students, regardless of artistic ability, to the rewards of creating various artworks using a wide variety of media. A multi-cultural, pride-in-workmanship approach is stressed.

Credits: 5

Prerequisite: None

DRAWING AND PAINTING (#0971) (coupled with Ceramics and Sculpture #0972)

Course Length: 1 Semester

Grades: 9, 10, 11, 12

This is an introductory fine arts course in which students will explore art theory and 20th century art movements through art production, art criticism, art history, and aesthetics. Students will investigate the techniques of several media such as value pencils, charcoal, ink, watercolor, tempera and acrylic paints. This course is designed to set the foundation for future Fine Arts courses.

Credits: 2.5

Prerequisite: None

CERAMICS AND SCULPTURE (#0972) (coupled with Drawing and Painting #0971)

Course Length: 1 Semester

Grades: 9, 10, 11, 12

This is an introductory fine arts course in which students will explore concepts of three-dimensional design through art production, art criticism, art history, and aesthetics. Students will work in several media such as clay, plaster, wood, and wire to create three-dimensional projects.

Credits: 2.5

Prerequisite: None

CERAMICS II (#0975) (coupled with Sculpture II #0976)**Credits: 2.5****Course Length: 1 Semester****Prerequisite: Ceramics and Sculpture or Multi-Cultural Arts****Grades: 10, 11, 12**

This course will allow the student who has had an introduction to these three-dimensional art forms to explore in-depth hand-building and wheel-throwing possibilities. Strong emphasis will be placed on design and technique. The history of pottery and clay and the works of contemporary potters will be examined for their artistic qualities.

SCULPTURE II (#0976) (coupled with Ceramics II #0975)**Credits: 2.5****Course Length: 1 Semester****Prerequisite: Ceramics and Sculpture or Multi-Cultural Arts****Grades: 10, 11, 12**

In this course, students will have an opportunity to explore a wide range of sculptural forms and materials. Design emphasis will be placed on kinetic, metal/wire, and soft and hard sculpture as three-dimensional art forms. Students will have an opportunity to explore sculpture works throughout history as well as contemporary day works.

FINE ARTS I**Credits: 5****Course Length: 1 Year****Prerequisite: Drawing and Painting****Grades: 10, 11, 12**

This course will focus on building and expanding upon those skills developed previously in the foundation art class. Illustration techniques using media such as pastels, pen and ink, and various paint media will be covered. Students will begin to build portfolios, study art history and learn to evaluate works through the critiquing process. The computer will be integrated with curricular activities.

HONORS FINE ARTS II (#0974)**Credits: 5****Course Length: 1 Year****Prerequisite: Fine Arts I****Grades: 11, 12**

This course will provide any student who enjoys creating original pieces with the opportunity for advanced study to prepare an individual portfolio for college or entering the job market. This course is an exploration of Pre-AP Studio Art and Design experiences at rigorous and highly motivated pacing.

HONORS FINE ARTS III (#0963)**Credits: 5****Course Length: 1 Year****Prerequisite: Supervisor Approval****Grade: 12**

The activities in this advanced course are planned with the students, in recognition of their developing maturity and their potential for understanding advanced concepts. While the program continues to provide a broad base of general art experience (drawing, painting, sculpture, etc.), there is an opportunity to concentrate that experience in specialized areas. Students considering to select this course should possess a strong interest in art and an ability to work independently, while striving to further their personal development of art skills, appreciation and understanding. Students will be guided in the development of an art portfolio.

ADVANCED PLACEMENT STUDIO ART AND DESIGN (#0963)**Credits: 5****Course Length: 1 Year****Prerequisite: Honors Fine Arts II and Departmental Recommendation or Ceramics/Sculpture II for 3-D portfolio and Departmental Recommendation****Grade: 12**

The Advanced Placement program in Studio Art is the equivalent of a visual arts course on the college level and is designed for the highly motivated student interested in the serious study of art. Interested students should

be aware that the work for this course involves significantly more time than the typical high school studio art course. The student will have the opportunity to become involved with a wide range of art media. There are 3 different choices for a portfolio submission: **2-D Art and Design, Drawing**, or **3-D Art and Design**

The AP Art Studio course framework is composed of course skills, big ideas, essential questions and enduring understandings, learning objectives, and essential knowledge. AP Art and Design skill categories delineate overarching understandings central to the study and practice of art and design. Each of the three skill categories consists of skills that encompass foundational to advanced learning over the span of the course. Students need to develop, practice, and apply these skills in a variety of contexts.

The **2-D Art and Design** and **Drawing** Portfolio consist of:

Drawing Portfolio-

This portfolio is designated for work that focuses on the use of mark-making, line, surface, space, light and shade, and composition. Students should consider marks that can be used to make drawings, the arrangement of marks, the materials and processes used to make marks, and relationships of marks and ideas.

2-D Portfolio-

This portfolio is designated for work that focuses on the use of two-dimensional (2-D) elements and principles of art and design, including point, line, shape, plane, layer, form, space, texture, color, value, opacity, transparency, time, unity, variety, rhythm, movement, proportion, scale, balance, emphasis, contrast, repetition, figure/ground relationship, connection, juxtaposition, and hierarchy. Students should consider how materials, processes, and ideas can be used to make work that exists on a flat surface.

Section I- Selected Works

For this section, students are asked to submit five actual works in one or more media which will be sent to College Board and meet the requirements of AP Art and Design.

Section II- Sustained Investigation

The Sustained Investigation is a body of related works describing an in-depth exploration of a particular artistic concern driving essential questions. It should reflect a process of investigation of a specific visual idea. For this section, 15 slides must be submitted. The 15 slides include a combination of process, detail, revised, and finished works of art. Five physical works or high-quality printed reproductions of physical works that each demonstrate synthesis of materials, processes, and ideas using 2-D art and design skills.

The **3-D Art and Design** Portfolio consists of:

This portfolio is designated for work that focuses on the use of three-dimensional (3-D) elements and principles of art and design, including point, line, shape, plane, layer, form, volume, mass, occupied/unoccupied space, texture, color, value, opacity, transparency, time, unity, variety, rhythm, movement, proportion, scale, balance, emphasis, contrast, repetition, connection, juxtaposition, and hierarchy. Students should consider how materials, processes, and ideas can be used to make work that involves space and form. Students can work with any materials, processes, and ideas. Figurative or non-figurative sculptures, architectural models, metal work, ceramics, glasswork, installation, performance, assemblage, and 3-D

fabric/fiber arts are among the possibilities for submission. Still images from videos or film are accepted. Composite images may be submitted.

Section 1-Selected Works

10 digital images consisting of two views each of five works that demonstrate synthesis of materials, processes, and ideas using 3-D art and design skills

Section II-Sustained Investigation

15 digital images of works of art and process documentation that demonstrate sustained investigation through practice, experimentation, and revision

A summer assignment is required for this course.

Students may earn college credit upon successful completion and by passing the required Advanced Placement exam administered by the College Board.

FINE ARTS STUDENT ASSISTANT (#1005)

CREDITS: 2.5

COURSE LENGTH: 1 YEAR

Prerequisite: Staff and Supervisor Recommendation

GRADE: 12

The Art Lab Assistant Program is a hands-on, career-oriented program that provides the student with the unique experiences that can only be found in a working art studio. The professional staff will provide training, guidance and direction. The activities will include, but are not limited to set up, maintenance, break-down of still life stations, materials and media, taking inventory, monitoring supplies and organizing visuals. The Student Assistant will provide art studio assistance during the lab period, furthering his/her understanding of the challenges in a real work studio, as well as allowing him/her to engage in the creative process with other student artists.

BUSINESS

Spotswood High School offers a variety of courses in the Business Department that provide opportunities for students to achieve the department mission. Students are required to complete ½ year (2.5 credits) of Financial Literacy to meet graduation requirements. This requirement can be satisfied by taking Money Management or Accounting I. Additionally, students are required to complete one course (5 credits) from the Business, Computer Education, or Digital and Industrial Technology Departments.

Business Course Offerings

Course Title	Grade	Course Length	Credits Earned
Introduction to Marketing	9, 10, 11, 12	1 Year	5
Honors Principles of Business	10, 11, 12	1 Year	5
Honors Advanced Marketing	10, 11, 12	1 Year	5
Honors College Marketing	11, 12	1 Year	5
Career Exploration	9, 10, 11, 12	1 Semester	2.5
Money Management	9, 10, 11, 12	1 Semester	2.5
Accounting I	9, 10, 11, 12	1 Year	5
Honors College Accounting	10, 11, 12	1 Year	5
Hospitality & Tourism	9, 10, 11, 12	1 Year	5
Virtual Enterprise	9, 10, 11, 12	1 Semester	2.5
Social Media	9, 10, 11, 12	1 Semester	2.5

INTRODUCTION TO MARKETING (#0745)

Course Length: 1 Year

Grade: 9, 10, 11, 12

Credits: 5

Prerequisite: None

This course introduces students to the many possible career choices in the marketing, merchandising, and management field, and emphasizes business and management operations. Students gain valuable workplace experience in the school store where they apply marketing principles and effective management practices. The course applies marketing concepts to current marketing trends. Students study case histories of familiar businesses such as Disney, Nike, and PepsiCo, and discover interesting facts about product and brand development, successful entrepreneurs, and well-known companies. Students develop portfolios that contain their resumes as well as their coursework. Distributive Education Clubs of America (DECA) offers marketing students the opportunity to compete at the local, state, and international level.

HONORS ADVANCED MARKETING (#0746)

Course Length: 1 Year

Grade: 10, 11, 12

Credits: 5

Prerequisite: Introduction to Marketing

This course is designed for college preparatory students looking for a challenging follow-up to Introduction to Marketing. Concentration in market research, promotion, pricing theories, and financial analysis are the focal points of the course. Students will partner with local businesses and research a topic to develop a strategic plan for the business. Later in the year, students will study the exciting world of Sports and Entertainment Marketing, Recreation Marketing, and Legal Issues for Sports Entertainment. Distributive Education Clubs of America (DECA) offers marketing students the opportunity to compete at the local, state, and international level.

HONORS PRINCIPLES OF BUSINESS (#0747)**Credits: 5****Course Length: 1 Year****Prerequisite: Introduction to Marketing****Grade: 10, 11, 12**

This course is a college-level course designed for students who want to pursue a degree and/or career in business. Students will explore what businesses are, how they operate in our global economy, and how they are managed. The course will provide an awareness of career opportunities, spotlight business leaders, highlight trends and issues, and discuss procedures businesses employ on a daily basis. The course utilizes social networking and active debates to discuss current topics in the business and the economy. Distributive Education Clubs of America (DECA) offers marketing students the opportunity to compete at the local, state, and international level.

Students electing to take this course have the option of earning college credits from Middlesex County College which may be transferable. (To earn college credit, students must pay a tuition fee to Middlesex County College and obtain a grade of "C" or higher.)

HONORS COLLEGE MARKETING (#0748)**Credits: 5 Course****Length: 1 Year****Prerequisite: Principles of Business****Grade: 11, 12**

Honors College Marketing is a college-level course designed for students who want to pursue a degree and/or career in business and/or marketing. Students develop an understanding of the growing importance of the consumer, difference between industrial and consumer marketing, the impact of government and environment on marketing, and the basic marketing functions of product planning, marketing channels, physical distribution, promotion, pricing, and marketing research. Distributive Education Clubs of America (DECA) offers the marketing student the opportunity to compete at the local, state, and international level.

Students electing to take this course have the option of earning college credits from Middlesex County College which may be transferable. (To earn college credit, students must pay a tuition fee to Middlesex County College and obtain a grade of "C" or higher.)

Possible Marketing Course Sequences:

- 1) Intro ----> Hon. Adv. Mkt.. ----> Hon. College Mkt.
- 2) Intro ----> Hon. Adv. Mkt. ----> Hon. Principles
- 3) Intro ----> Hon. Principles ----> Hon. College Mkt.
- 4) Intro ----> Hon. Principles ----> Hon. Adv. Mkt. ----> Hon. College Mkt.
- 5) Intro ----> Hon. Adv. Mkt. ----> Hon. Principles ----> Hon. College Mkt.

Sequence 5 would be the preferred sequence in that it provides students four courses in a fluid marketing sequence that will promote maximum DECA involvement and competition preparation, three with honors GPA weight, two eligible for college credit.

CAREER EXPLORATION (#0741) (Coupled with Money Management #0738)**Credits: 2.5****Course Length: 1 Semester****Prerequisite: None****Grades: 9, 10, 11, 12**

Career Exploration is a one semester course in which students apply knowledge obtained from the National 16 Career Clusters Model to prepare themselves for postsecondary education, training, and employment. Students will take surveys to identify profiles and individual career interests. Students will have an opportunity to conduct post-secondary educational research. Throughout the semester, students will create resumes, obtain references, fill out job applications, practice job interview techniques, and become practiced at job readiness skills. This course will also explore the history of child labor and employment laws. Students will become familiar with their rights and responsibilities as employees and will understand employee benefits.

MONEY MANAGEMENT (#0738) (Coupled with Career Exploration #0741)**Credits: 2.5****Course Length: 1 Semester****Prerequisite: None****Grades: 9, 10, 11, 12**

This course is designed to provide students with essential skills and knowledge regarding money and personal finance. Students will become financially literate as they acquire knowledge regarding banking, savings and checking accounts, credit cards and credit scores, budgeting, insurance, personal taxes, the stock market and investments. Each unit provides valuable information that will aid in making important consumer and money management decisions in the future. **This class fulfills the Financial Literacy graduation requirement.**

ACCOUNTING I (#0719)**Credits: 5****Course Length: 1 Year****Prerequisite: None****Grades: 9, 10, 11, 12**

Accounting is the language of business. Accounting I is an introductory course in which students study foundational accounting principles, techniques, and concepts. Students will learn how to prepare, manage, and analyze various financial records. Concepts covered include the world of business and accounting, the accounting cycle, and how to analyze business transactions throughout the accounting cycle. **This class fulfills the Financial Literacy graduation requirement.**

HONORS COLLEGE ACCOUNTING (#0740)**Credits: 5****Course Length: 1 Year****Prerequisite: Accounting I****Grades: 10, 11, 12**

This course is a college-level course designed for students who want to pursue a degree and/or career in business or accounting. This course will provide the essential foundation of financial and managerial accounting for a corporation, specifically for a merchandising business. This course covers the accounting cycle from recording business transactions through preparation of financial reports and analysis. The use of accounting information to make business management decisions will be emphasized. Students will use Excel to prepare business records.

Students electing to take this course have the option of earning college credits from Middlesex County College which may be transferable. (To earn college credit, students must pay a tuition fee to Middlesex County College and obtain a grade of "C" or higher.

HOSPITALITY AND TOURISM (#0771)**Credits: 5****Course Length: 1 Year****Prerequisite: None****Grades: 9, 10, 11, 12**

Hospitality & Tourism is a one-year project based course designed to introduce the students to the various aspects of the hospitality and tourism industry. This course draws upon the basic principles and practices of marketing and connects them with the latest concepts that are being used by industry leaders. A fundamental knowledge base will be created for students wishing to pursue a career or become knowledgeable in the area of hospitality and tourism. The class is designed to develop skills needed to acquire an entry level job in restaurants, recreation, lodging, travel planning, event planning, and theme park/exhibition or any marketing-related career. Students will research industry practices, create projects, and participate in presentations based on knowledge gained. Students will work on an individual basis, as well as collaboratively with their peers to complete real world applications in the hospitality and tourism field.

VIRTUAL ENTERPRISE (#0955) (Coupled with Social Media #0956)**Credits: 2.5****Course Length: 1 Semester****Prerequisite: None****Grades: 9, 10, 11, 12**

Creating and maintaining a successful online business presents a unique set of challenges for today's business professionals. This course will focus on student use of business simulations in order to learn about management, finance, entrepreneurship, hospitality, and other related business fields taking place in an online/virtual environment. Discussions, activities, and simulations will take place on a range of business related topics including: business management, operations management, risk, business plan development with a focus on the unique needs of online entrepreneurship. Students will engage in cloud-based online simulations ranging from business management and finance to retail operations and the global hospitality business.

SOCIAL MEDIA (#0956) (Coupled with Virtual Enterprise #0955)**Credits: 2.5****Course Length: 1 Semester****Prerequisite: None****Grades: 9, 10, 11, 12**

Social Media is a 21st century application that continues to have a significant impact on society. This course explores historical perspective, the language of social media, the influence of social media on business and marketing, audience engagement, and media analysis, as well as legal and ethical considerations of social media use.

COMPUTERS

Spotswood High School offers a variety of courses in the Computer Education Department that provide opportunities for students to achieve the department mission. Students are required to complete one course (5 credits) from the Business, Family and Consumer Science, Computer Education, or Digital and Industrial Technology Departments to meet graduation requirements.

Computer Education Course Offerings

Course Title	Grade	Course Length	Credits Earned
Exploring Computer Science	9, 10, 11, 12	1 year	5
Web Design and Development	10, 11, 12	1 Year	5
Honors Computer Programming	10, 11, 12	1 year	5
AP Computer Science	11, 12	1 year	5
Honors Special Topics in Computer Science	11, 12	1 year	5

EXPLORING COMPUTER SCIENCE (#0950)

Course Length: 1 Year

Grades: 9, 10, 11, 12

Exploring Computer Science is designed to introduce students to the breadth of the field of computer science through an exploration of engaging and accessible topics. Rather than focusing the entire course on learning particular software tools or programming languages, the course is designed to focus on the foundational ideas of computing and help students understand why certain tools or languages might be utilized to solve particular problems. The goal of Exploring Computer Science is to develop in students the computational practices of algorithm development, problem solving, and programming within the context of problems that are relevant to their lives. Additionally, students will be introduced to topics such as privacy, information security, artificial intelligence, and societal and ethical issues. Students will also engage in several in-depth projects to demonstrate the real-world applications of computing.

Credits: 5

Prerequisite: None

WEB DESIGN AND DEVELOPMENT (#0909)

Course Length: 1 Year

Grade: 10, 11, 12

Web Design and Development is an advanced course of study that focuses on the planning, design, development, and management of websites. Current technologies such as HTML, Cascading Style Sheets (CSS), and JavaScript will be used in the development of websites. In conjunction with the technological focus, website design concepts and principles will be integrated throughout the course.

Credits: 5

Prerequisite: Exploring Computer Science

HONORS COMPUTER PROGRAMMING (#0907)

Course Length: 1 Year

Grades: 10, 11, 12

This course is designed and recommended for students who are interested in gaining an understanding of the foundational concepts of computer programming and possibly pursuing careers in this field. Emphasis is placed on problem-solving through the use of algorithm development and computational thought. Multiple programming languages will be addressed in depth.

Credits: 5

Prerequisite: Grade of "B" or better in Exploring Computer Science

ADVANCED PLACEMENT COMPUTER SCIENCE (#0905)**Credits: 5****Course Length: 1 Year****Prerequisite: Honors Computer Programming
and Departmental Recommendation****Grades: 11, 12**

If you are pursuing a career in computer engineering or computer science, this Advanced Placement course is a “must.” This is an Advanced Placement course in which students will have the opportunity to pursue an in-depth analysis of object-oriented programming through the use of the Java programming language. Topics include object-oriented design, programming, and testing methodologies, data structures, and searching and sorting algorithms. ***Students may earn college credit upon successful completion and by passing the required Advanced Placement exam administered by the College Board.***

HONORS SPECIAL TOPICS IN COMPUTER SCIENCE (#0904)**Credits: 5****Course Length: 1 year****Prerequisite: Grade of “B” or better in Honors Computer Programming
and Departmental Recommendation/ Proposal Acceptance****Grades: 11, 12**

This is a project-based course in which students develop expertise in an area of personal interest in the Computer Science/Information Technology field. Students may choose topics of study in advanced programming, machine learning/artificial intelligence, quantum computing, robotics, network administration, computer imaging, computer 2D/3D graphic animation, web page design and development, operating systems, advanced software applications, or other topics with instructor approval. The requirements for this course can be satisfied through individual or team projects, mentorships, or independent study during class periods. Students leaving this course should be well prepared to perform self-directed investigation and study in the future.

DIGITAL AND INDUSTRIAL TECHNOLOGY

Spotswood High School offers a variety of courses in the Digital and Industrial Technology Department that provide opportunities for students to achieve the department mission. Students are required to complete one course (5 credits) from the Business, Family and Consumer Science, Computer Education, or Digital and Industrial Technology Departments to meet graduation requirements.

Digital and Industrial Technology Course Offerings

Course Title	Grade	Course Length	Credits Earned
Introduction to Technology	9, 10, 11, 12	1 year	5
Engineering Applications	10, 11, 12	1 year	5
Construction	9, 10, 11, 12	1 year	5
Advanced Construction	10, 11, 12	1 year	5
Architectural/Engineering Drafting	9, 10, 11, 12	1 year	5
Digital Photography	9, 10, 11, 12	1 year	5
Computer Graphics & Design I	9, 10, 11, 12	1 year	5
Computer Graphics II	10, 11, 12	1 year	5
Honors Computer Graphics III	11, 12	1 year	5
Honors Design Studio	12	1 year	5
Media Ethics	9, 10, 11, 12	1 semester	2.5
Cinema and Film Production	9, 10, 11, 12	1 semester	2.5

MEDIA ETHICS (#0925) (Coupled with Cinema & Film #0926)

Credits: 2.5

Course Length: 1 Semester

Prerequisite: None

Grades: 9, 10, 11, 12

The institutions, history, and technology of mass media are examined as communication systems. The course is a survey of the growth and development of newspapers, magazines, books, film, television, cable, and news media delivery systems. The class analyzes the impact of various media on society and the individual. The class considers whether or not the media effectively fulfill their functions as messengers of information, persuasion, entertainment, and culture. Contemporary media issues, policies and ethics are discussed.

CINEMA & FILM PRODUCTION (#0952) (Coupled with Media Ethics #0925)

Credits: 2.5

Course Length: 1 Semester

Prerequisite: None

Grades: 9, 10, 11, 12

This course will trace the development of motion pictures as an art form from 1890 through the present. Representative selections from the various genres are screened, and then studied in terms of art, technique, content and historical perspective, as well as directorial style. Working in production teams, students will have the opportunity to develop, design and produce independent film shorts. Film and studio technology will assist and support the filming of original scripts aligned with several themes and genres. This course is open to those who are curious about the film industry, the business/corporate side of movie making/distribution, and audio engineering techniques.

INTRODUCTION TO TECHNOLOGY (#0898) (Formerly Technology I)**Credits: 5****Course Length: 1 Year****Prerequisite: None****Grades: 9, 10, 11, 12**

Engineering Technology courses provide students with the opportunity to focus on one or more areas of industrial technology. Students apply technological processes to solve real engineering problems; develop the knowledge and skills to design, modify, use, and apply technology; and may also design and build prototypes and working models. Topics covered in the course include the nature of technology, use of technology, and design processes. Students will have the opportunity to use, study and experiment with drafting software, hand tools, and power tools. Examples of some of the student projects include bridge design/building, rocketry, CO2 dragsters, rube goldberg devices, basic electronics, etc. This course is highly recommended for students who are interested in pursuing a career in engineering.

ENGINEERING APPLICATIONS (#0947)**Credits: 5****Course Length: 1 Year****Prerequisite: Introduction to Technology****Grades: 10, 11, 12****Staff Recommendation**

Engineering Applications courses provide students with an overview of the practical uses of a variety of engineering applications. Through problems that engage and challenge, students explore a broad range of engineering topics, including mechanisms, the strength of structures and materials, automation, hydraulics, pneumatics, computer interfacing, robotics, computer-aided design, and electronics. Students develop skills in problem solving, research, and design while learning strategies for design process documentation, collaboration, and presentation. This course is highly recommended for students who are interested in pursuing a career in engineering.

CONSTRUCTION (#0950)**Credits: 5****Course Length: Full Year****Prerequisite: None****Grades: 9, 10, 11, 12**

The construction industry has grown significantly in the Central NJ area. New technology has entered this rapidly changing field. Students interested in this career area must be familiar with modern construction tools, procedures, equipment, and materials in order to succeed. This course is introductory and will encompass studies and activities necessary to become a skilled woodworker. From the use of hand tools to stationary machines, from common wood joints to more advanced joinery, this course will give students the opportunity to create and remember the rewards of working with both their hands and minds. Throughout the course, students will have the opportunity to learn about construction and how to perform tasks native to the field through project work and related activities.

ADVANCED CONSTRUCTION (#0951)**Credits: 5****Course Length: 1 Year****Prerequisite: Construction****Grades: 10, 11, 12****Staff Recommendation**

Students interested in this career area must be familiar with modern construction tools, procedures, equipment, and materials in order to succeed. This course will encompass advanced studies and complex activities related to the building trades from site choice to final inspection. This course will feature a special emphasis on contemporary residential construction and hands-on laboratory experiences, including cost estimating, labor, materials, and other financial aspects of home and building construction. The team approach to planning and building projects will be utilized throughout. During the course, students will have the opportunity to learn about the construction industry and attain the knowledge necessary to pursue a

career in the field. This course is intended for students who are serious about learning the complexities of the industry and possess a vested interest in pursuing a career in the field of construction.

ARCHITECTURAL/ENGINEERING DRAFTING (#0899)

Credits: 5

Course Length: 1 Year

Prerequisite: None

Grades: 9, 10, 11, 12

This course introduces students to the technical craft of drawing illustrations to represent and/or analyze design specifications and then refine the skills necessary for this craft. This course uses exercises from a variety of applications to provide students the knowledge and experience to develop the ability to perform freehand sketching, lettering, geometric construction, and multiview projections, and to produce various types of drawings (working, detail, assembly, schematic, perspective, and so on). Both hand drawings and computer-aided drafting (CAD) will be introduced and used throughout the year.

Digital Photography (#0958)

Credits: 5

Course Length: 1 Year

Prerequisite: None

Grades: 9, 10, 11, 12

This is a project-based course in which students develop expertise and experience in the area of digital photography. Students will be exposed to terminology, techniques and career path opportunities related to the field of study. Additionally, students will receive training in computer software programs utilized in the editing and manipulation of digital photographs. Students will be allowed to use their own digital cameras or cameras on their smartphone to complete their coursework. **This class fulfills the Career, Family, Consumer, Life Skills, Vocational/Technological Education OR Visual/Performing Arts graduation requirement.**

COMPUTER GRAPHICS AND DESIGN I (#0930)

Credits: 5

Course Length: 1 Year

Prerequisite: None

Grades: 9, 10, 11, 12

This course is designed to provide students with an introduction to the technology, history and creative processes that are applied to the production of both printed and digital content. Neither drawing nor artistic skills are necessary to succeed in the course. Students will explore techniques to develop ideas and concepts, produce digital photography, and demonstrate proper use of scanners and instruction on Adobe Creative Suite software. Towards the end of the year, Computer Graphics and Design I students also have the opportunity to display a selection of their projects at the annual Design Show, held in conjunction with the Art Show and Spring Concert. **This class fulfills the Career, Family, Consumer, Life Skills, Vocational/Technological Education OR Visual/Performing Arts graduation requirement.**

COMPUTER GRAPHICS AND DESIGN II (#0932)

Credits: 5

Course Length: 1 Year

Prerequisite: Computer Graphics I

Grades: 10, 11, 12

This course is a continuation of the student's education using computer graphics hardware and software. Greater emphasis is placed on successfully executing design concepts and seeing larger projects come to fruition from initial idea to final presented pieces. Projects include product design, package design, basic animation techniques, and publication design. Students also receive an introduction to 3-D design software and hardware, resulting in projects they can physically hold. The students have the opportunity to develop a deeper understanding of the software tools and technology based on their individual levels of interest and

comprehension. There is greater flexibility on the student's part to explore creative processes and students are expected to handle greater responsibility in the management of their projects. By the end of this course, students will have a firm basis of a university-level course and can manage their expectations and career interests based on that experience.

HONORS COMPUTER GRAPHICS III (#0933)

Credits: 5

Course Length: 1 Year

Prerequisite: Computer Graphics and Design I &

Grades: 11, 12

Computer Graphics and Design II

This advanced level course places emphasis on thoroughly developing design skills and design details. Projects are more challenging and the students are given increased time to ensure that every facet of design is addressed. The planned workload includes competition-level work, a project for the local community, a short animated feature, advanced opportunities to work with 3-D software and hardware, and opportunities to extend their work with digital photography. For those students in their senior year planning on pursuing a career in the arts or computer graphics, assistance is offered to help them with the college application process.

HONORS DESIGN STUDIO (#0929)

Credits: 5

Course Length: 1 Year

Prerequisite: Honors Computer Graphics III, Departmental

Grades: 12

Recommendation & Pre-approval of project proposal

This is a project-based course in which students develop expertise and experience in an area of personal interest in the design field. Students may choose topics of study in any related field of design, such as interior design, architecture, visual communication, animation, 3-D, fashion, environmental design, etc. All topics will be discussed with and preapproved by the course instructor. The requirements for the course can be satisfied through individual or team projects, mentorships, or independent studies with additional instructors. The Honors Design Studio student will be required to act as project leader and be the primary manager for any cooperative work being performed by additional students or faculty. A student leaving this course should be well-prepared to perform self-directed investigation and study in the future.

ENGLISH

It is the goal of the English Department to provide students with quality, rigorous instruction that encourages them to become critical and creative thinkers through experiences that help them meet the particular challenges of reading, writing, speaking, listening, and language. Spotswood High School offers a variety of sequences that provide students opportunities to achieve this goal. All students must take four years of English Language Arts to meet graduation requirements. All courses are aligned to the New Jersey Student Learning Standards (NJSCS). Students have the opportunity to earn college credit by taking Advanced Placement (AP) English Language and Composition, AP English Literature and Composition, Honors English 12, and College Composition.

Please note: Sequencing need not be constant; students may move between “levels” as long as prerequisite courses are taken.

English Language Arts Department Course Flow Chart

9 th Grade	10 th Grade	11 th Grade	12 th Grade
Sequence I			
English 9	English 10	English 11	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ English 12: Contemporary Literature ▪ College Composition
Sequence II			
College Prep English 9	College Prep English 10	College Prep English 11	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ College Prep English 12: World Literature ▪ College Composition
Sequence III			
Honors English 9	Honors English 10	Honors English 11	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Honors English 12 ▪ College Composition
		AP English Language and Composition	AP English Literature and Composition

Elective Offerings:

9 th Grade	10 th Grade	11 th Grade	12 th Grade
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Creative Writing ▪ Journalism ▪ Myth and Media 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Creative Writing ▪ Journalism ▪ Myth and Media ▪ Film Appreciation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Creative Writing ▪ Journalism ▪ Myth and Media ▪ Film Appreciation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Creative Writing ▪ Journalism ▪ Myth and Media ▪ Film Appreciation

ENGLISH 9 (#0112)

Credits: 5

Grade: 9

Prerequisite: Teacher Recommendation

English 9 explores the various genres of literature - plays, poems, novels, nonfiction, and short stories. Strong emphasis is placed on developing writing skills and supporting standardized test preparation. Students will be responsible for extensive reading at home.

Shakespeare Focus: Romeo and Juliet

Students are required to take a State ELA assessment with this course.

ENGLISH 9 (College Preparatory) (#0111)**Credits: 5****Course Length: 1 year****Prerequisite: Grade of "A" or "B" in Grade 8****Grade: 9****Language Arts**

English 9 College Preparatory begins the academic journey of a student working towards college. In addition to the study of literary genres, students will engage in the writing process of editing and revision and writing with strong support from their reading. Students will be responsible for reading at home. Shakespeare Focus:

Romeo and Juliet

Students are required to take a State ELA assessment with this course.

HONORS ENGLISH 9 (#0110)**Credits: 5****Course Length: 1 year****Prerequisite: Teacher Recommendation;****Grade: 9****Grade of "A" in English 8**

Students in the Spotswood High School Honors English Program will take advantage of many opportunities to develop their skills as independent readers and writers in a challenging environment of academic study.

Analysis of literary texts and nonfiction writing increases students' skills at developing logical arguments when they speak and write. Students will be responsible for extensive reading at home.

Shakespeare Focus: Romeo and Juliet

Students are required to take a State ELA assessment with this course.

ENGLISH 10 (#0122)**Credits: 5****Grade: 10****Prerequisite: Grade 9 English**

English 10 provides students with an overview of major works of American Literature that are the philosophical underpinnings for our culture. Having a strong emphasis on vocabulary development and test preparation, this course also focuses on the development of the narrative essay and the essential elements of the research paper. Students will be responsible for extensive reading at home.

Shakespeare Focus: Henry IV, Part I

ENGLISH 10 (College Preparatory) (#0121)**Credits: 5****Grade: 10****Prerequisite: Grade of "A" in Grade 9 English or****Grade of "A," "B," or "C" in Grade 9 CP**

English 10 College Preparatory is a structured course in American Literature, drawing connections between the study of American culture and US history. A strong focus on preparation for the PSAT and other standardized tests is supported by vocabulary study, the development of research skills, the review of open-ended questions, and literary analysis. Students will be responsible for extensive reading at home.

Shakespeare Focus: Henry IV, Part I

HONORS ENGLISH 10 (#0120)**Credits: 5****Grade: 10****Prerequisite: Teacher Recommendation;****Grade of "A" or "B" in Honors 9;****Grade of "A" in Grade 9 English CP**

English 10 Honors is an advanced course in American Literature in which students will make strong connections between the writers and founders who built the philosophy of our nation. Students will begin their study for the PSAT and SAT and will reinforce their skills in vocabulary and standardized test preparation. They will also

be introduced to the skills in literary analysis and cultural literacy required for success in Advanced Placement English. Students will be responsible for extensive reading at home.

Shakespeare Focus: Henry IV, Part I

ENGLISH 11 (#0133)

Credits: 5

Grade: 11

Prerequisite: Grade 10 English

Students will read nonfiction pieces and learn how to develop arguments and create persuasive essays.

Readings will include nonfiction essays that will serve as models of the intelligent presentation of ideas.

Students will also develop skills necessary for real-world communication and success in the workplace and will read short stories, poetry, a play, and a novel. Students will be responsible for extensive reading at home.

Shakespeare Focus: Macbeth

*Students in this class are strongly encouraged to take *College Composition* as seniors.

ENGLISH 11 (College Preparatory) (#0131)

Credits: 5

Grade: 11

**Prerequisite: Grade of "A," "B,"
or "C" in Grade 10 English CP
or Grade of "A" in English 10**

Students in this course will study major works of British Literature that link our contemporary culture with the history of literature in the English Language. Students will expand their vocabulary and cultural experience while preparing for the NJGPA and the types of reading, writing, and speaking required in college. Good reading skills are essential for success in this course. Students will be responsible for extensive reading at home.

Shakespeare Focus: Macbeth

HONORS ENGLISH 11 (#0130)

Credits: 5

Grade: 11

**Prerequisite: Teacher Recommendation;
Grade of "A" or "B" in English 10 Honors
or Grade of "A" in English 10 CP**

English 11 Honors is a challenging course of study in British Literature that includes extensive analysis of classic texts and written and spoken presentations by individuals and groups. Preparation for the SAT and NJGPA will require students to have high standards for their own performances. Students will do extensive reading outside of class in addition to the required in-class texts. Good reading skills are essential for success in this course. Students will be responsible for extensive reading at home. Summer reading is required. Shakespeare focus: Macbeth and/or Henry V

ADVANCED PLACEMENT ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND COMPOSITION (#0146)

Credits: 5

Course Length: 1 Year

Prerequisite: Teacher recommendation;

Grade: 11

Grade of "A" in English 10 Honors or English 11 Honors

This challenging course is designed to strengthen student writing and the careful analysis of both fiction and non-fiction texts so that they will achieve success on the Advanced Placement English Language and Composition Exam. Students will use close-reading and critical thinking strategies to examine what they are reading and how it is composed. Students will work cooperatively to approach each reading, determine its structure and purpose, and make connections with what they have read in a meaningful way. Students will keep writing portfolios and are responsible for extensive reading at home.

Shakespeare focus: Macbeth and Julius Caesar

Students may earn college credit by successfully completing this course and scoring a 3 or better on the required AP examination.

Students electing to take this course have the option of earning college credits from Middlesex County College which may be transferable. (To earn college credit, students must pay a tuition fee to Middlesex County College and obtain a grade of "C" or higher.)

ENGLISH 12: CONTEMPORARY LITERATURE (#0144)

Credits: 5

Grade: 12

Prerequisite: Grade 11 English

Texts for this course are chosen from works of modern authors writing about contemporary themes. Students will write personal narratives, nonfiction pieces, thematic analysis, creative compositions, and a full-scale research paper. Students will keep writing portfolios and are responsible for reading at home.

Shakespeare Focus: Hamlet

ENGLISH 12 (College Preparatory): WORLD LITERATURE (#0142)

Credits: 5

Grade: 12

Prerequisite: Grade of "A" or "B" in Grade 11 English CP

World literature provides students with the chance to study major literary figures like Plato, Dante, Chekhov, and Camus who are part of the world's great literary community. Students are expected to develop sophisticated techniques of literary analysis and expository composition as part of their college preparation. Students will write a research paper and work on their college applications and essays.

Shakespeare Focus: Hamlet

COLLEGE COMPOSITION (#0147)

Credits: 5

Grade: 12

Prerequisite: Grade of "A" or "B" in Grade 11 English CP and Teacher Recommendation

This course provides dual enrollment credit at Middlesex County College in English Composition, a required course for all college freshmen. This course is reading intensive, and students are expected to take an active role in the learning via class discussion, as well as written responses to various fiction and non fiction material. Since it is commensurate to a college entry level course, the pacing and intensity of study will at the very least resemble an honors course. Students will develop critical thinking skills necessary to evaluate and construct written and oral arguments. Students are responsible for daily reading at home and daily participation in class.

Shakespeare Focus: Hamlet

Students electing to take this course have the option of earning college credits from Middlesex County College (To earn college credit, students must pay a tuition fee to Middlesex County College, and earn a grade of "C" or higher).

HONORS ENGLISH 12 (#0141)

Credits: 5

Grade: 12

Prerequisite: Teacher Recommendation; Grade of "A" or "B" in English 11 Honors; Grade of "A" in English 11 CP

This course is designed specifically for students who have developed outstanding speaking, reading, and writing skills. Students are provided with a valuable repertoire of college-level composition approaches and resources. Literature is drawn from a variety of contemporary and classic sources in a Humanities approach. Students will write a research paper and work on their college applications and essays.

Shakespeare Focus: Hamlet and/or King Lear

Students electing to take this course have the option of earning college credits from Middlesex County College which may be transferable. (To earn college credit, students must pay a tuition fee to Middlesex County College and obtain a grade of "C" or higher.)

ADVANCED PLACEMENT ENGLISH LITERATURE & COMPOSITION (#0145)

Credits: 5

Grade: 12

Prerequisite: Teacher Recommendation and Grade of "A" in

English 11 Honors or Advanced Placement English Language and Composition

This rigorous course is designed to engage students in the careful reading and analysis of literature so that they will achieve success on the required Advancement Placement English Exam and earn college credits in English. Students will focus on the structure of literary works, authors' styles, and thematic analysis. Students will work independently and in groups to support their ideas with direct references from the text. Students will keep writing portfolios and are responsible for extensive reading at home.

Shakespeare Focus: Hamlet and King Lear

A summer assignment is required for this course.

Students may earn college credit by successfully completing this course and scoring a 3 or better on the required AP examination.

CREATIVE WRITING (#0160)

Credits: 5

Course Length: 1 year

Prerequisite: None

Grades: 9, 10, 11, 12

Students in this class will explore a variety of types of writing, using their own experiences in life and literature to develop their expressive skills. Short stories, plays, poems, lyrics, children's literature, personal narratives, dramatic monologues and other literary forms will provide outlines for students' creative efforts. This class will feature visits by professional writers and performances of original pieces. Students will also have the opportunity to work on all aspects of our school art and literary magazine.

JOURNALISM (#0154)

Credits: 5

Course Length: 1 year

Prerequisite: None

Grades: 9, 10, 11, 12

This exciting and challenging course is an introduction to the news media with particular emphasis on newspaper writing and production, including an examination of controversial issues in the modern world. Students will build their writing and research skills as journalists and examine the various forms of news media for their effects on the content they present. Students will also have the opportunity to work on all aspects of our school newspaper, *The Scribbler*.

MYTHOLOGY AND MEDIA (#0173)

Credits: 5

Course Length: 1 Year

Prerequisite: None

Grades: 9, 10, 11, 12

This is a reading course that focuses on the common themes in world mythology across cultures. Students will read humankind's great stories and epics, as well as contemporary tales of fantasy and heroism. Readings include *The Iliad*; *The Odyssey: Medea*; *The Inferno*, and *The Hobbit*. Film study includes the foundation of American Westerns in *The Searchers*; *The Man Who Shot Liberty Valance*; and *Star Wars*. This course is reading intensive and aligns with NJSLS in assessing various forms of texts and media together. Assessments include projects and challenging close reading assignments. Outside reading required.

FILM APPRECIATION (#0178)**Course Length: 1 Year****Grades: 10, 11, 12**

Students will study significant achievements in filmmaking and their impact on the genre itself, throughout a survey course highlighting the art and evolution of film in the 20th century. Films studied may include *Psycho*, *Inception*, *The Martian*, *Sleepless in Seattle*, and *The Incredibles*.

Credits: 5**Prerequisite: English 9****PUBLIC SPEAKING (#0176) coupled with Debate****Course Length: 1 Semester****Grades: 9, 10, 11, 12**

Students will incorporate techniques in public speaking in order to hone their oratory and analytical skills on a wide range of topics and strategies. Course aligns with NJSL Standards and is designed to improve students' speaking, listening, and comfort level when speaking for a purpose to an audience.

Credits: 2.5**Prerequisite: None****DEBATE (#0177) coupled with Public Speaking****Course Length: 1 Semester****Grades: 9, 10, 11, 12**

After completing this course, students will have a set of portable argumentation and advocacy skills that they can use in a variety of experiences. Students will initially learn about and practice structured extemporaneous speeches with emphasis on verbal and nonverbal delivery skills (organization, projection, inflection, eye-contact, hand gestures, and more). Students will then build a foundation for effective argumentation and advocacy. Special emphasis will be placed on critical thinking and listening skills as well as argument resolution.

Credits: 2.5**Prerequisite: None**

MATHEMATICS

It is the mission of the Spotswood Public Schools Mathematics Department to inspire students to understand the fundamental concepts of mathematics, think analytically, communicate mathematically, become resourceful problem solvers, and develop an appreciation for the usefulness of mathematics. Spotswood High School offers a variety of sequences that provide students opportunities to achieve this mission. Our goal is to ensure all students are ready for success after high school and are prepared for today’s entry-level careers, freshman-level college courses, and workforce training programs. All students must take Algebra I, Geometry, and Algebra II. Although only three math courses are required for high school graduation, students are strongly encouraged to enroll in a mathematics course in each year of their high school experience. Depending on pre-high school and high school course selections, students may complete their mathematics study with Pre-Calculus, Calculus, Probability & Statistics, Algebraic Systems, Advanced Algebra and Trigonometry, Advanced Placement Calculus or Advanced Placement Statistics. All courses are aligned to the New Jersey Student Learning Standards (NJSLS). Because of the sequential nature of mathematics course offerings, many courses have prerequisites.

Mathematics Department Course Flow Chart

This chart illustrates possible course sequencing in the Mathematics Department. Courses have been grouped according to level of academic rigor. The rigor of a student’s academic schedule and the grades received are key aspects considered by college admission officers.

Please note: Sequencing need not be constant; students may move between “levels” as long as prerequisite courses are taken.

9 th Grade	10 th Grade	11 th Grade	12 th Grade
Sequence I			
Honors Geometry	Honors Algebra II	Honors Pre-Calculus	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ AP Calculus ▪ AP Statistics ▪ Honors Calculus
Sequence II			
College Prep Geometry	College Prep Algebra II	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ College Prep Pre-Calculus ▪ College Prep Advanced Algebra and Trigonometry ▪ College Prep Probability and Statistics ▪ College Prep Algebraic Systems 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ AP Statistics ▪ Honors Calculus ▪ Honors Pre-Calculus ▪ College Prep Pre-Calculus ▪ College Prep Advanced Algebra and Trigonometry ▪ College Prep Algebraic Systems ▪ College Prep Probability and Statistics
Sequence III			
College Prep Algebra I	College Prep Geometry	College Prep Algebra II	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ College Prep Pre-Calculus ▪ College Prep Advanced Algebra and Trigonometry ▪ College Prep Algebraic Systems ▪ College Prep Probability and Statistics
Sequence IV			
Algebra I	Geometry	Algebra II	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ College Prep Advanced Algebra and Trigonometry ▪ College Prep Algebraic Systems ▪ College Prep Probability and Statistics

ALGEBRA I Block (#0308)**Course Length: 1 year****Grade: 9****Credits: 10****Recommendation: D or below in 8th Grade Algebra I
Below 80 in Pre-Algebra Part 2
or Teacher Recommendation**

This course covers the content of Algebra I. Additional time is built in for reinforcement of basic skills, application, and guided practice since the content is taught over two class periods daily. The major objectives of this course are to build a solid foundation of basic math skills required for success in all mathematics, and to reach proficiency in the New Jersey Student Learning Standards (NJSLS) for Algebra 1. Topics include: linear, quadratic, and exponential equations and inequalities; functions and relations; systems; polynomials; rational and irrational expressions; and descriptive statistics. Technology is used for investigation and support of algebraic topics. Students are placed in this section based on their math performance in grade 8, or by teacher recommendation. Five of the ten credits earned in this course count towards the 15 credit mathematics graduation requirement. The other five credits count towards elective credits.

ALGEBRA I (College Preparatory) (#0313)**Course Length: 1 year****Grade: 9****Credits: 5****Recommendation: F in 8th Grade Honors Algebra I
C- to C+ in 8th Grade Algebra I
80 or above in Pre-Algebra Part 2
or Teacher Recommendation**

This course covers all of the topics generally taught in a full-year rigorous college preparatory Algebra I course. Students are expected to have an excellent background in basic math skills, and some prior experience with algebraic manipulations. Topics include: linear, quadratic, and exponential equations and inequalities; functions and relations; systems; polynomials; rational and irrational expressions; and descriptive statistics. Technology is used for investigation and support of algebraic topics.

GEOMETRY (#0310)**Course Length: 1 year****Grade: 9, 10****Credits: 5****Prerequisite: Algebra I with passing score on
Algebra 1 State Assessment
Recommendation: A- or below in Algebra I
C- or lower in CP Algebra I
D+ or below in 8th Grade Honors Algebra I
with Teacher Recommendation**

This course is designed to help students understand the basic concepts of geometry. The course focuses on key topics that provide a strong foundation in the essentials of geometry. Topics covered in the course include geometric constructions, transformations, angle relationships, congruence, similarity, trigonometry, circles, volume, coordinate geometry, and probability. Proofs will be introduced throughout the course. Students will have the opportunity to practice skills, as well as apply concepts to real-world geometric problems.

GEOMETRY (College Preparatory) (#0321)**Course Length: 1 year****Grade: 9, 10****Credits: 5****Prerequisite: Algebra I with passing score on
Algebra 1 State Assessment****Recommendation: A or better in Algebra I****C or better in CP Algebra I****B- to C- in 8th Grade Honors Algebra I****B or better in 8th Grade Algebra I****with Teacher Recommendation**

This course is designed to help students understand topics inherent to Euclidean plane and solid geometry. Topics covered in the course include geometric constructions, transformations, angle relationships, congruence, similarity, trigonometry, circles, volume, coordinate geometry, and probability. Real-world problem solving is emphasized in the study of each topic. Proofs are incorporated throughout the course. Technology is used as a tool for investigation, discovery and verification.

HONORS GEOMETRY (#0324)**Course Length: 1 year****Grade: 9, 10****Credits: 5****Prerequisite: Algebra I with passing score on
Algebra 1 State Assessment****Recommendation: B or better in 8th Grade Honors Algebra I****A or better in 8th Grade Algebra I or CP Algebra I****with Teacher Recommendation**

Honors Geometry is a weighted course which emphasizes topics inherent to Euclidean plane and solid geometry. A formal treatment of deductive proof is presented throughout this course with an emphasis on problem-solving and critical thinking skills. Topics covered in the course include geometric constructions, transformations, angle relationships, congruence, similarity, trigonometry, circles, volume, coordinate geometry, and probability. Students placed in this course complete a rigorous, enriched and accelerated geometry curriculum in which concepts are examined abstractly and in-depth. Technology is used as a tool for investigation, discovery, and verification.

ALGEBRA II (#0309)**Course Length: 1 year****Grades: 10, 11, 12****Credits: 5****Prerequisite: Algebra I & Geometry****Recommendation: D or better in Algebra I & Geometry****C- or below in CP Algebra I & CP Geometry****with Teacher Recommendation**

Algebra II provides the student with a review of some basic concepts from Algebra I, followed by topics for instruction to include: quadratics and functions; polynomials and polynomial functions; powers, roots, and radicals; exponential and logarithmic functions; rational equations; statistical inferences and conclusions with data; and trigonometric functions. This course meets the requirements for students to attend two and four year colleges.

ALGEBRA II (College Preparatory) (#0331)**Credits: 5****Course Length: 1 year****Grades: 10, 11, 12****Prerequisite: Algebra I & Geometry****Recommendation: B+ or better in Algebra I & Geometry****B- or below in Honors Geometry****C or better in CP Algebra I and CP Geometry**

This course investigates the concepts of Algebra and provides the foundation for applying algebraic skills to other mathematical and scientific fields. Topics for instruction include: algebraic expressions and equations; linear equations, inequalities and functions; systems of equations and inequalities; quadratic functions; polynomials and polynomial functions; powers, roots and radicals; exponential and logarithmic functions; trigonometric functions; rational equations and function; and statistical inferences and conclusions with data.

HONORS ALGEBRA II (#0327)**Credits: 5****Course Length: 1 year****Grades: 10, 11****Prerequisite: Algebra I & Geometry****Recommendations: A- or better in CP Algebra1****and B or better in Honors Geometry****or A or better in CP Geometry****with Teacher Recommendation**

This is a weighted course which emphasizes the critical thinking skills necessary to understand mathematical theory as well as the concrete manipulative and graphing skills necessary to master additional objectives and topics. Topics for instruction include: equations and systems of equations and inequalities; matrices and determinants; polynomial functions; powers, roots and radicals; exponential and logarithmic functions; rational equations and functions; trigonometric functions; and statistical inferences and conclusions with data. Technology is used for investigation and support of algebraic topics.

Advanced Algebra and Trigonometry (College Preparatory) (#0370)**Credits: 5****Course Length: 1 year****Grades: 11, 12****Prerequisite: Algebra II****Recommendations: A- or better in Algebra II****B- or better in CP Algebra II****C- or below in Honors Algebra II****B or better in Algebraic Systems****with Teacher Recommendation**

This course combines advanced algebraic topics with trigonometry and is intended for students who have completed Algebra 1, Geometry, and Algebra 2. The contents of this course will provide students an opportunity to strengthen and expand their algebra knowledge and skills and build a solid understanding of trigonometry in preparation for taking Pre-Calculus the following year in high school or college. Topics will include an in depth study of constant, linear, quadratic, and higher degree polynomial equations and inequalities; solving systems of linear and nonlinear equations; graphs of algebraic and trigonometric functions; inverse functions and relations; operations with complex numbers; rational and irrational expressions; solving right and oblique triangles; the unit circle; and trigonometric identities and equations. ***Students electing to take this course have the option of earning college credits from Middlesex County College which may be transferable. (To earn college credit, students must pay a tuition fee to Middlesex County College and obtain a grade of "C" or higher.)***

ALGEBRAIC SYSTEMS (College Preparatory) (#0368)**Course Length: 1 year****Grades: 11, 12****Credits: 5****Prerequisite: Algebra II****Recommendation: B- or below in Algebra II****C+ or below in CP Algebra II****D or below in CP Pre-Calculus****C+ or below in Advanced Algebra & Trigonometry
with Teacher Recommendation**

This course for juniors and seniors is designed to prepare students for a fourth-year high school mathematics course or an entry-level college mathematics course. Students are provided opportunities to strengthen their content knowledge and problem solving skills related to previous mathematics courses while expanding their knowledge through exposure to new mathematics topics. Specific topics to be covered are geometry, discrete math, set theory, relations and functions, systems of equations, quadratics, matrices, introductory probability, complex numbers, sequences and series, college-level algebra, trigonometry, and consumer credit.

PRE-CALCULUS (College Preparatory) (#0343)**Course Length: 1 year****Grades: 10, 11, 12****Credits: 5****Prerequisite: Algebra II and/or Advanced Algebra & Trigonometry****B+ or better in CP Algebra II****C or better in Honors Algebra II****B- or better in Advanced Algebra & Trigonometry
with Teacher Recommendation**

This course enables students to make the transition from algebra to calculus. Students will acquire a solid foundation in algebra and trigonometry which will prepare them for Honors Calculus. Topics for instruction will include: right triangle and unit circle trigonometry; analytic trigonometry including the laws of sines and the law of cosines; solving and graphing linear, quadratic, polynomial, rational, logarithmic, exponential, and trigonometry functions; and real and imaginary solutions. Problem solving and graphing are stressed throughout this course.

Students electing to take this course have the option of earning college credits from Middlesex County College which may be transferable. (To earn college credit, students must pay a tuition fee to Middlesex County College and obtain a grade of "C" or higher.)

HONORS PRE-CALCULUS (#0341)**Course Length: 1 year****Grades: 10, 11, 12****Credits: 5****Prerequisite: Algebra II****A or better in CP Algebra II****B or better in Honors Algebra II****with Teacher Recommendation**

This is a weighted course designed for students who have exhibited high ability in mathematics. This course extensively covers the topics studied in Pre-Calculus (#0343). The honors section stresses analytical thought and problem solving through enrichment experiences and extends the study of these topics. The course prepares the student for Advanced Placement Calculus AB.

Students electing to take this course have the option of earning college credits from Middlesex County College which may be transferable. (To earn college credit, students must pay a tuition fee to Middlesex County College and obtain a grade of "C" or higher.)

HONORS CALCULUS (#0351)**Course Length: 1 year****Grades: 11, 12****Credits: 5****Prerequisite: Pre-Calculus****A- or better in CP Pre-Calculus****C+ or better in Honors Pre-Calculus
with Teacher Recommendation**

Honors Calculus is a weighted rigorous course that includes extensive study of limits, rates of change, derivatives, and integration with interesting real-life applications as well as a brief review of polynomials, trigonometric, exponential, and logarithmic functions.

Students electing to take this course have the option of earning college credits from Middlesex County College which may be transferable. (To earn college credit, students must pay a tuition fee to Middlesex County College and obtain a grade of "C" or higher.)

ADVANCED PLACEMENT CALCULUS AB (#0342)**Course Length: 1 year****Grades: 11, 12****Credits: 5****Prerequisite: Honors Pre-Calculus****Recommendation: B or better in Honors Pre-Calculus
with Teacher Recommendation**

This is a weighted course designed for the mathematically mature student who plans to enter a profession where technical or scientific background is desirable. The AB course is equivalent to a first semester college-level Calculus consisting of the following topics: rate of change, differentiation, integration, applications, transcendental functions, and analytic geometry. A graphing calculator (or equivalent) will be used extensively for this course.

A summer assignment is required for this course.

Students may earn college credit upon successful completion and by passing the required Advanced Placement exam administered by the College Board.

Students electing to take this course have the option of earning college credits from Middlesex County College which may be transferable. (To earn college credit, students must pay a tuition fee to Middlesex County College and obtain a grade of "C" or higher.)

PROBABILITY AND STATISTICS (College Preparatory) (#0348)**Course Length: 1 year****Grades: 11, 12****Credits: 5****Prerequisite: Algebra II****Recommendation: B or better in Algebra II
C or better in CP Algebra II
with Teacher Recommendation**

This course is designed for students who plan to major in fields like the social sciences and business. Topics covered include: one- and two-variable descriptive statistics, data collection methods, and probability and inferential statistics procedures including confidence intervals and hypothesis tests. The focus is on analysis of these methods. Some topics in Discrete Mathematics will be introduced as part of this course, such as systematic counting and free structures. Modern technology (graphing calculators and/or computers) will be an integral component of this course.

Students electing to take this course have the option of earning college credits from Middlesex County College which may be transferable. (To earn college credit, students must pay a tuition fee to Middlesex County College and obtain a grade of "C" or higher.)

ADVANCED PLACEMENT STATISTICS (#0347)

Course Length: 1 year

Grades: 11, 12

Credits: 5

Prerequisite: Algebra II

A- or better in CP Algebra II

**B- or better in Honors Algebra II
with Teacher Recommendation**

This is a weighted course which includes the following topics: exploring data, planning a study, anticipating patterns, and statistical inferences. Computers and/or calculators are used as frequent exploration tools. This course is excellent for students who intend to study business, economics, and/or social sciences where data analysis is required.

A summer assignment is required for this course.

Students may earn college credit upon successful completion and by passing the required Advanced Placement exam administered by the College Board.

Students electing to take this course have the option of earning college credits from Middlesex County College which may be transferable. (To earn college credit, students must pay a tuition fee to Middlesex County College and obtain a grade of "C" or higher.)

PERFORMING ARTS

Students at Spotswood High School are presented with a myriad of courses that provide the opportunity for the performance and study of the theories, history, and practices of all music, as well as development of theatre performance. Each course enables students to investigate their own perspectives on music and theatre. Empowering students to shape their philosophies on music and theatre’s role in humanity is the cornerstone of a Spotswood performing arts education.

The following chart indicates the performing arts course options at each grade level:

Course	9 th Grade	10 th Grade	11 th Grade	12 th Grade
Band Lessons	x	x	x	x
Concert Band	x	x	x	x
Honors Music Theory	x	x	x	x
Honors Wind Ensemble		x	x	x
Advanced Placement Music Theory		x	x	x
Drama I/II: Acting	x	x	x	x
Drama III: Play Production		x	x	x
Drama IV: Studio Theater			x	x
Honors Drama V				x

CONCERT BAND (#0813)

Credits: 5

Course Length: 1 year

Prerequisite: 8th Grade Band or Band Director’s Approval

Grades: 9, 10, 11, 12

Instrumental techniques such as embouchure, breath control, articulation, and phrasing are basic requirements along with musical skills such as ability in rhythmic recognition, sight reading, and scale playing. The emphasis at the high school level is placed on further development of instrumental technique striving toward the refinement of performance, elements of musical style, and interpretation. Compositions from many different periods of music history are studied and performed. Students are urged to participate in the PEP/Marching band. Those students who meet the following criteria will be awarded an additional credit in the higher weighted course for their combined participation in Concert Band and/or Honors Wind Ensemble and their PEP/Marching Band activities. Minimum requirements for the PEP/Marching Band will include participation at all home and away games, participation in the Spotswood Memorial Day parade, and attendance at a summer band camp. Students enrolled in only Concert Band or Honors Wind Ensemble will receive five (5) credits and must participate in the Winter and Spring Concerts.

DRAMA I / 2: ACTING (#0152/#0155)

Credits: 2.5/2.5

Course Length: 1 year

Prerequisite: None

Grades: 9, 10, 11, 12

In this course “the play’s the thing.” Students are introduced to acting, directing, and the backstage world of the theatre. They have an opportunity to participate in classroom performances from several types of drama and to produce a one-act play.

DRAMA III: PLAY PRODUCTION (#0157)**Credits: 5****Course Length: 1 year****Prerequisite: Drama 1/2: Acting****Grades: 10, 11, 12**

An advanced offering for enthusiastic actors and technicians, this course will explore the intricacies of play production. Students will refine their acting skills and expand their knowledge of makeup, costumes, lighting and set design. The course will culminate in the presentation of a full length play.

DRAMA IV: STUDIO THEATER (#0184)**Credits: 5****Course Length: 1 year****Prerequisite: Drama III****Grades: 11, 12**

Drama IV is an advanced course for the serious actor/director/playwright. Students will perform and research a particular style of theatre to direct their peers. Students will fulfill all the necessary roles needed for the performance process and refine their leadership abilities in the performing arts.

HONORS DRAMA V (#0185)**Credits: 5****Course Length: 1 year****Prerequisite: Drama IV: Studio Theater****Grades: 12**

Honors Drama V is an advanced course where students will gain insight into the philosophies, purposes, and processes of developing theatre for youth and young audiences. The course will explore teaching drama to youth, devising and adapting stories, acting styles and techniques, and production design and management. The class will culminate in a fully realized production, produced and performed by the students, for visiting elementary and middle school populations. NOTE: Drama IV/Studio Theatre is a prerequisite for this course. Essential Skills/Understandings.

HONORS WIND ENSEMBLE (#0820)**Credits: 5****Course Length: 1 year****Prerequisite: Concert Band, Audition-Only****Grades: 10, 11, 12**

Honors Wind Ensemble is an advanced ensemble of instrumentalists from grades 10 through 12. Students wishing to enroll in this course must prepare for and successfully complete a formal audition in February of the previous school year. Students will be challenged with music of a more difficult nature and will perform as a separate ensemble. Honors Wind Ensemble is intended for high achieving music students who have previously maintained an A average in Concert Band. At the conclusion of the school year, students will be able to play on their instrument major scales up to five sharps and five flats and three minor scales from memory. Performance requirements include the Winter Concert, Spring Concert, and District Bands Night.

HONORS MUSIC THEORY (#0816)**Credits: 5****Course Length: 1 year****Prerequisite: Music Performance Background and/or
Band Director's Recommendation****Grades: 9, 10, 11, 12**

Because this course will cover the basic fundamentals required to progress to a more intricate theoretical analysis of music, the ability to read music with ease is essential. Topics covered include music notation basics,

aural theory, sightsinging, simple analysis, and the beginning stages of composition. As this course is preparatory for the Advanced Placement Music Theory curriculum, an accelerated course study should be expected. Students considering this course must be enrolled in either Concert Band or Wind Ensemble. Any student not involved in either must receive the band director's recommendation before taking this course.

ADVANCED PLACEMENT MUSIC THEORY (#0824)

Credits: 5

Course Length: 1 year

**Prerequisite: Completion of Honors Music Theory
with a final average of B or better**

Grades: 10, 11, 12

Because this course is comparable to a first-year college course, Advanced Placement Music Theory will substantiate and add to the course work covered in the Honors Music Theory curriculum. Students enrolled in this course will be expected to perform the following tasks: notate pitch and rhythm through dictation, sighting melodies, recognize intervals and harmonies using aural skills, transposition, understand and recognize basic musical forms, and should be skilled in 18th century harmonic analysis.

A summer assignment is required for this course.

Students may earn college credit upon successful completion and by passing the required Advanced Placement exam administered by the College Board.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION AND HEALTH

Physical Education courses in grades 9-12 are designed to provide all students with the opportunity to engage in positive, health-enhancing experiences. In promoting wellness, integrated skills, motor skill development, and fitness, the department attempts to guide students to physical activities and life skills they will enjoy and continue to participate in after high school in order to maintain a healthy lifestyle. Organizing the curriculum into an “arena” schedule, students are presented with choices grouped as team, individual, and fitness activities. Each marking period, students will be given selective choice in each of these three identified areas to decide activities in which to participate. By engaging in and focusing on each grouped area every marking period, the department believes students will be better prepared to fulfill the department mission and goals. Students are required to complete Health and Physical Education courses each year in accordance with New Jersey State requirements. To this end, the following activities are offered:

Team Activities

Basketball, Beach Games, Challenge I & II, Elementary Games, Flag Football, Floor Hockey, Frisbee Games, Horseshoes, Lacrosse, Netball, Newcomb, Soccer, Softball, Speedball, Team Handball, Volleyball, Wiffleball

Mastery Objectives

Activities offered within the team activities section of the arena will involve students working as a large group to accomplish a specific goal. Students will develop the use of strategy and exploratory tactics. Students will also use cooperative and leadership skills in the group atmosphere with the occasional added motivation of competition. Skill development of kicking, passing, catching, throwing, and striking will be emphasized, practiced, and mastered.

Individual Activities

Archery, Badminton, Bocce, Bowling, Croquet, Golf, Lifetime Leisure Activities, Line Dance, Partner Dance, Pickleball, Square Dance, Tennis, Modified Track & Field Events

Mastery Objectives

Activities offered within the individual activities section of the arena will provide students opportunities to learn a number of activities they can do on their own or with a small amount of people or equipment. Student focus will be on developing and learning activities that foster an active lifestyle without the intensity of team sports and without the focus of “exercise.” Students will master the concepts of hand-eye coordination, manipulative skills, and rhythmic skills.

Fitness Activities

Aerobics, Aerobic Kickboxing, Circuit Training, Core Training, Endurance Training, Interval Training, Jogging, Non-Contact Martial Arts, Pilates, Power Walking, Resistance Band Routines, Self Defense, Step Aerobics, Strength Training, Weight Training, Yoga

Mastery Objectives

Activities offered within the fitness activities section of the arena will allow students to participate in any activity that is directly related to improving flexibility, body composition, muscular endurance, muscular strength, and/or cardiovascular endurance. All students will apply health-related and skill-related fitness concepts and skills to develop and maintain a healthy, active lifestyle. Students will also understand key components of training in regards to overload and specificity. They will also work to improve balance, agility, power, and speed. Students will be able to measure heart rate, body composition, and body mass index. Students will also develop the skills to be able to assess personal level of fitness, design a plan that addresses goals and interests, and have the tools to monitor and evaluate the plan.

Students in grades 9-12 are required to complete a Health course each year in accordance with New Jersey State Standards. Health courses at Spotswood High School are organized by grade and include the following units of study:

9th Grade Health Education Program

Unit 1: Nutrition

Unit 2: Drugs, Alcohol, and Tobacco

Unit 3: Family Life

10th Grade Health Education Program

Unit 1: Graduated Driver's License

Unit 2: Risk Management

Unit 3: Signs, Signals, & Roadway Markings

Unit 4: Alcohol Awareness

11th Grade Health Education Program

Unit 1: Mental and Emotional Health

Unit 2: CPR/First Aid

12th Grade Health Education Program

Unit 1: Disease Prevention

Unit 2: Drugs, Alcohol, and Tobacco

Unit 3: Body Systems

HEALTH EDUCATION PROGRAM (#0514/#0515 alt.*)

Credits: 1.25/1.00*

Course Length: 1 Quarter

Grade: 9

A course in Drugs, Alcohol and Tobacco will be given with an emphasis on various substances and their physical and psychological effects on the body. Students will explore the history of drugs, medical uses, and substance abuse. Human sexuality gives students a chance to explore the ever-changing interpersonal relationships within society. Dating, marriage, and healthy relationships are included in this course as well as the changing attitude toward sexuality. This is a required course for ninth graders.

HEALTH EDUCATION PROGRAM (#0524/#0525 alt.*)

Credits: 1.25/1.00*

Course Length: 1 Quarter

Grade: 10

The completion of this program leads to certification in Driver Training. The following course must be taken in order to achieve certification:

DRIVER THEORY: This unit deals with the development of good driving techniques. Some of the included areas are preventive maintenance of the car, reacting to various road situations, and defensive driving. A study of New Jersey's traffic laws and preparation for the state written test will be undertaken. This is a required course for tenth graders.

HEALTH EDUCATION PROGRAM (#0534/#0535 alt.*)**Credits: 1.25/1.00*****Course Length: 1 Quarter****Grade: 11**

The 11th grade health curriculum consists of a five week unit in Mental Health. Students learn that personality is related to the satisfaction of human needs at each successive stage of development, how to deal effectively with stress, and how emotional maladjustment has impacted on the individual and society. Students will receive CPR/AED training and certification to meet the state mandate. This is a required course for eleventh graders.

HEALTH EDUCATION PROGRAM (#0544/#0545 alt.*)**Credits: 1.25/1.00*****Course Length: 1 Quarter****Grade: 12**

Students learn about the general classifications of disease. Over a five week period they learn the symptoms, causes, and prevention of communicable diseases, heart disease, cancer, and diseases of the other major body systems. The second part of the course, Current Issues in Health, deals primarily with teaching students about the dynamics of interpersonal relationships, parenting, family financial planning, sexually transmitted diseases, and violence in the American family. This is a required course for twelfth graders.

SCIENCE

The Spotswood High School Science Department offers students the opportunity to explore the physical and living world. Science courses are designed to meet individual career goals. In today's job market, it is important for students to have as many career opportunities as possible. State graduation requirements mandate 15 credits (three years) in science, including Lab Biology, Lab Chemistry and/or Physics and/or Environmental Science, plus a third laboratory/inquiry-based science. Courses designated as lab sciences may meet for either five periods or six periods a week, as long as there is a significant laboratory based component within the course. All students, and especially college bound students, are strongly encouraged to take four years of science, and those considering future careers related to science are strongly encouraged to take advanced level coursework, including Chemistry, Physics, and Honors Biology II, or an Advanced Placement Science class.

Science Department Course Flow Chart

The chart below illustrates possible course sequencing in the Science Department and each progression listed in the chart meets State graduation requirements. Courses have been grouped according to level of academic rigor. The rigor of a student's academic schedule and the grades received are key aspects considered by college admission officers. **Please note: Sequencing need not be constant; students may move between "levels" as long as prerequisite courses are taken and State graduation requirements are met.**

9 th Grade	10 th Grade	11 th Grade	12 th Grade
Sequence I			
Honors Biology I	Honors Chemistry I	The following courses may be taken in 11th or 12th Grade: Honors Anatomy & Physiology AP Physics AP Biology AP Chemistry AP Environmental Science Forensic Science* Meteorology & Astronomy* Food Science & Nutrition*	
Sequence II			
College Prep Biology I	College Prep Chemistry	The following courses may be taken in 11th or 12th Grade: College Prep Physics Environmental Science* Honors Anatomy & Physiology Forensic Science* Meteorology & Astronomy* Food Science & Nutrition*	
Sequence III			
Biology I	Physical Science*	Environmental Science*	Forensic Science* Meteorology & Astronomy* Food Science & Nutrition*

* Courses are 5 credit elective science courses. All others are 6 credit courses. Elective courses are not intended to meet the NJ High School Graduation 15 Credits in Science Requirement.

BIOLOGY I (#0420)**Credits: 6****Course Length: 1 Year****Prerequisite: Teacher Recommendation****Grades: 9, 10**

This lab science course has been designed to equip students with a fundamental understanding of Biological science. Students learn about the basic units of life and basic life functions along with the interactions within ecosystems. Specific attention is given to the mechanisms of genetics and evolution.

BIOLOGY I (College Preparatory) (#0421) Credits: 6**Course Length: 1 Year****Prerequisite: Teacher Recommendation****Grades: 9, 10**

Student work is centered in the classroom where lectures, discussion and demonstration are used to introduce biological concepts. Weekly lab experiments enable students to explore the concepts and problems of biology. The student will be developing an understanding of science by the development of a realization that there is basic order underlying the growth and structure of plants and animals and the discovery of the sensitive balances regulating the lives of all organisms, including man.

HONORS BIOLOGY I (#0422) Credits: 6**Course Length: 1 Year****Prerequisite: Teacher Recommendation****Grades: 9, 10**

Honors Biology 1 is a laboratory oriented, basic science course emphasizing the conceptual approach to the study of life science. Lectures, lab work, and activities, hands-on and virtual, are collectively used to develop and foster critical thinking skills and the fundamental principles of biology beyond minimal comprehension of facts. The major areas covered in Honors Biology I are the cellular and molecular structure and functions for life, energy transformations within living systems, genetics (Mendelian and modern), biotechnology, evolution theory, the classification of organisms, and human ecology. The study of history of major discoveries in biology will also be used to facilitate the understanding and give insight into modern and future problems and solutions. Two dissections of chosen organisms will be used to promote the understanding of organization and functions of living things.

PHYSICAL SCIENCE (#0435) (Previously Integrated Science)**Credits: 5****Course Length: 1 Year****Prerequisite: Biology I****Grades: 10, 11, 12**

This laboratory science course introduces the general principles of physics and chemistry. First semester topics include motion, Newton's laws of motion, momentum, energy, work, power, heat, thermodynamics, waves, sound, light, electricity, magnetism. Second semester topics include atoms and the periodic table, chemical and physical properties, atomic bonding and chemical reactions. Selected topics in Earth and Space Science will also be covered. Emphasis is placed on inquiry-style learning and development of skills such as observing, inferring, data collecting, and graphing.

CHEMISTRY (College Preparatory) (#0432)**Course Length: 1 Year****Grades: 10, 11****Credits: 6****Prerequisite: Biology, Algebra I****Recommendation: Biology I, Minimum "B+" or
CP Biology I, Minimum "C-" and Teacher Recommendation**

This is a lab-oriented course for college-bound students whose goals may include attendance at two-year colleges or non-science majors at four-year colleges; also pre-technical programs, careers in nursing and allied health fields. Major concepts considered are: properties, classification and reactions of matter, atomic theory, bonding and periodic properties, and ideal gas laws. The major portion of the course is devoted to practical and applied aspects of Chemistry, and an emphasis is placed on learning good lab practices.

HONORS CHEMISTRY I (#0431)**Course Length: 1 Year****Grades: 10, 11, 12****Credits: 6****Prerequisite: Biology I, Algebra I****Recommendation: CP Biology I Minimum "A-"
or Honors Biology I Minimum "B-"
Honors Geometry Minimum "B" or
CP Geometry Minimum "A-" and Teacher Recommendation**

Honors Chemistry I is a laboratory oriented, basic science course emphasizing the conceptual approach to the study of matter and energy designed to develop and foster understanding of the fundamental principles of chemistry beyond minimal comprehension of facts. The major areas considered in Honors Chemistry I are: matter and energy; the kinetic molecular and atomic models of matter; the changes matter undergoes; the conditions affecting those changes; and the underlying principle of mass-energy conservation. Honors Chemistry I is an intensive course intended primarily for college-bound students who seek a future in the sciences, medicine, engineering, or mathematics. It is specifically suited for those who have demonstrated a high ability in mathematics and science and who seek a challenge.

HONORS ANATOMY & PHYSIOLOGY (#0465)**Course Length: 1 Year****Grades: 11, 12****Credits: 6****Prerequisite: Chemistry I****Recommendations: CP Biology I Minimum "A-"
or Honors Biology I Minimum "B-" and Teacher Recommendation**

Honors Anatomy and Physiology is a laboratory-based course designed for students interested in exploring further studies in medical fields that investigates the structure and function of the human body. Topics covered will include the basic organization of the body and major body systems along with the impact of diseases on certain systems. Topics of study include anatomical terminology, biochemical composition of the human body, and all the major body systems. **Dissection will be a mandatory and major component of the course.**

ADVANCED PLACEMENT BIOLOGY (#0454)**Course Length: 1 Year****Grades: 11, 12****Credits: 6****Prerequisite: Chemistry I****Recommendations: CP Chemistry Minimum "A-"
Honors Chemistry Minimum "B-"
Honors Biology Minimum "B-"
CP Biology I Minimum "A-"
and Departmental Recommendation**

AP Biology is designed to be the equivalent of a general biology course taken by biology majors during the first year of college. Topics covered include: Biochemistry; Cellular Structures; Photosynthesis and Cellular

Respiration; Genetics and Molecular Genetics; Evolution; Population Genetics and Phylogeny; Anatomy and Physiology of Plants and Animals with an emphasis on Humans; Ecology. In Advanced Placement Biology, the students will perform many hands-on labs as determined by the curriculum. The time spent on lab work will allow the students to directly observe biological phenomena, while developing observation and data analysis skills. Lab activities are hands-on so that students can experience the process of science, not just the results. During lab activities, students will develop and test hypotheses, collect, analyze and present data and clearly present the results. Lab reports will include discussion of the aforementioned areas and also clearly presented tables and graphs.

A summer assignment is required for this course.

Students may earn college credit upon successful completion and by passing the required Advanced Placement exam administered by the College Board.

ADVANCED PLACEMENT CHEMISTRY (#0455)

Course Length: 1 Year

Grades: 11, 12

Credits: 6

Prerequisite: Honors Chemistry, Algebra II

Recommendations: Chemistry (#0431) Minimum "A"

CP Algebra II Minimum "A"

Honors Algebra II Minimum "B"

and Departmental Recommendation

Advanced Placement Chemistry is designed to be the equivalent of the general chemistry course usually taken during the first year of college. The objectives of this college are to have students attain an in-depth understanding of chemical principles and competence in solving chemical problems. Topics include structure of matter (atomic theory and atomic structure, chemical bonding and nuclear chemistry), states of matter (solids, liquids, gases and solutions), reactions (oxidation-reduction, stoichiometry, kinetics, catalysis, thermodynamics and chemical equilibrium) and descriptive chemistry (periodic table, organic and polymer chemistry) would be covered in more depth than those of a high school college-preparatory course. In addition, topics in quantum theory of the atom, electronic configuration and periodicity, molecular geometry and chemical bonding theory, materials science and coordination complexes would be covered. Extensive laboratory work with report writing would accompany the lectures.

A summer assignment is required for this course.

Students may earn college credit upon successful completion and by passing the required Advanced Placement exam administered by the College Board.

PHYSICS (College Preparatory) (#0442)

Course Length: 1 Year

Grades: 11, 12

Credits: 6

Prerequisite: Chemistry, Geometry

Recommendations: Chemistry & Geometry Minimum "B-"

College Preparatory Physics is a first year, lab-based Physics course intended for students who would like to develop a basic understanding of the laws governing motion and energy in the Universe. The course is ideal for college-bound students, as well as those students who may pursue trades or other fields requiring a basic understanding of the laws of Physics. Topics of study include, Newtonian Physics, Physics – including kinematics, statics, dynamics and rotational motion, as well as Universal Gravitation and orbital motion, Momentum, Special Relativity, Work and Energy, Light, Sound and Waves and basic Electromagnetism. Topics will be covered mathematically, but all students with a solid understanding of Algebra I level mathematics should be comfortable with the material in this course.

AP PHYSICS 1 (#0464)**Course Length: 1 Year****Credits: 6****Co-requisite: Honors Pre-Calculus, Honors Calculus or AP Calculus****Prerequisite: Honors Chemistry, Honors Algebra II****Recommendations: Honors Chemistry Minimum "B+"****Honors Algebra II Minimum "B+"**

AP Physics 1 is a rigorous introductory college level physics course. Students will master the concepts of Newtonian mechanics, wave motion, and electricity. Classical physics will form a basis for the student's understanding of the role of physics in our technological world, as well as its historical and social development. The students will be able to apply higher level mathematical analysis and experimental techniques to the understanding of the knowledge of physics.

A summer assignment is required for this course.

ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE – College Preparatory (#0457)**Course Length: 1 Year****Credits: 5****Prerequisite: Integrated Science****Grade: 11**

Environmental Science is a college preparatory level laboratory science course which reviews the Earth as a living system. Environmental Science is designed to enhance student understanding of the complex dynamics that occur between the living and nonliving factors on earth that together shape our environment. It is also designed to illustrate human involvement in this ongoing process and to stimulate the development of an environmental awareness that can help the student become a responsible member of our society. Concepts addressed include: Earth Systems and Structure; Matter and Energy Transformations; Ecosystems and Interdependence; Climate and Weather; Biogeochemical Cycles: Population Dynamics; and Sources and Effects of Pollution.

ADVANCED PLACEMENT ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE (#0458)**Course Length: 1 Year****Credits: 6****Prerequisite: Chemistry I****Grades: 11, 12****Recommendation: Chemistry Minimum "A-"****Honors Chemistry Minimum "B-"****Honors Biology I Minimum "B-"****or Biology I Minimum "A-"****and Departmental Recommendation**

The Advanced Placement Environmental Science course is designed to be the equivalent of a one semester, introductory college course. Environmental Science encompasses a wide variety of scientific fields including geology, biology, chemistry and geography. The Advanced Placement Environmental Science course is developed to stress scientific principles and analysis and includes a laboratory component. The content of the course reflects the breadth and level of detail found in introductory college courses and enables students to fulfill a basic requirement for a laboratory science course or undertake a more advanced study of topics in environmental science.

A summer assignment is required for this course.

Students may earn college credit upon successful completion and by passing the required Advanced Placement exam administered by the College Board.

FORENSIC SCIENCE (#0456)**Course Length: 1 Year****Credits: 5****Prerequisite: Chemistry or Environmental Science****Grades: 11, 12****Recommendations: CP Chemistry Minimum "C" or**

Environmental Science Minimum “B-“

Forensic Science is an elective course for students who have previously completed Biology and Chemistry or Integrated Science II courses. The course concerns the application of basic biological, chemical and physical science principles and technological practices to the purposes of justice in the study of criminal and civil issues. Major themes of study in this course are pathology, anthropology, odontology, ballistics, trace evidence, biological fluids, DNA, fingerprints, impression evidence, questioned documents and forensic psychiatry/psychology.

Note: This course is intended as an elective course and not to fulfill the NJ High School 15-Credit Graduation Requirement.

METEOROLOGY (#0459)

Credits 2.5

Course Length: 1 Semester

Prerequisite: Chemistry or Environmental Science

Grades: 11,12

Recommendations: CP Chemistry Minimum “C” or Environmental Science Minimum “B-“

Meteorology is a one semester course for students interested in understanding the complex systems that control our weather. Students will learn through a lab-based approach with an emphasis on real world applications and interpretation of data on weather maps. Students will be expected to construct, interpret, analyze, interpolate and extrapolate data on maps. Meteorology topics will include: a broad overview of the basics of meteorology, including temperature, air pressure, relative humidity, global wind patterns and the role the sun plays in driving annual weather patterns. Additional topics will include an exploration of severe weather including tornadoes, storms and hurricanes as well as global disruptions to climate patterns, El-Nino and La-Nina cycles.

Note: This course is intended as an elective course and not to fulfill the NJ High School 15-Credit Graduation Requirement.

ASTRONOMY (#0460)

Credits 2.5

Course Length: 1 Semester

Prerequisite: Chemistry or Environmental Science

Grades 11,12

Recommendations: CP Chemistry Minimum “C” or Environmental Science Minimum “B-“

This is a laboratory-oriented course that will provide the student with an introduction to the concepts of modern astronomy, the origin and history of the Universe and the formation of the Earth and the solar system. Students will study such topics as lunar motions; compare the Earth's properties with those of the other planets, the origin and life cycle of stars, the Milky Way and other galaxies and extreme objects such as black holes. Students will explore the tools of modern astronomy, from telescopes to radio wave and x-ray analysis to spectroscopy. Additional topics will include the origin of the universe and its evolution and fate. Although largely descriptive, the course will require the use of algebra level mathematics.

Note: This course is intended as an elective course and not to fulfill the NJ High School 15-Credit Graduation Requirement.

FOOD SCIENCE AND NUTRITION**Credits: 5****Course Length: 1-year****Grades: 11, 12****Prerequisite: Chemistry or Environmental Science****Recommendations: CP Chemistry Minimum "C"
or Environmental Science Minimum "B-"**

Food Science and Nutrition is a hands-on, inquiry-based elective course which challenges students to take on the role of scientist and chef, as they boil, bake, and toast their way to better understanding of preparation, cooking and preservation of foods. The course integrates science concepts from chemistry, biology, and physics. By cooking edible items such as pancakes, bread, cookies, butterscotch, etc. students have the opportunity to learn about physical changes in states of matter, acids and bases, biochemistry, and molecular structure. Students will also explore the nutritive value of foods and the relationship between food consumption, health, and human development. Students will be able to explore the importance of macronutrients and micronutrients, and how nutritional needs change throughout a person's lifetime. Careers in food science, dietetics, and nutrition will also be explored. Demonstrations, hands-on food labs, guided instruction and cooperative learning are used throughout the course.

Note: This course is intended as an elective course and not to fulfill the NJ High School 15-Credit Graduation Requirement.

SCIENCE LAB ASSISTANT (#0416)**Credits: 2.5****Course Length: 1 Year****Prerequisite: B or better in****Chemistry and Staff Recommendation****Grades: 11, 12**

The Lab Assistant program is a practical, career-oriented course that provides the student with basic skills in the science laboratory with staff training, guidance and direction. Students learn how to set up, take-down, clean and store laboratory equipment; make solutions; inventory equipment, supplies and chemicals with full knowledge of Right-to-Know (RTK) laws; and provide classroom assistance during lab periods.

SOCIAL STUDIES

All students at Spotswood High School must take Modern World History and two years of United States History. Although ONLY THREE SOCIAL STUDIES COURSES ARE REQUIRED FOR HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION, students are strongly encouraged to enroll in a social studies course in each year of their high school experience. The Social Studies Department offers a variety of both year-long and semester courses to fulfill both scheduling and academic needs. All courses are aligned with the New Jersey Student Learning Standards. Because of the vertical alignment of skill assessments in each course offering, many of the required courses have prerequisites. The semester electives can be taken at any grade level.

Social Studies Department Course Flow Chart

The chart illustrates possible course sequencing in the Social Studies Department. Required curricular courses have been grouped according to level of academic rigor. The rigor of the student’s academic schedule and student performance are key aspects considered by college admission offices.

Please Note: Sequencing need not be constant; students may move between “levels” as long as prerequisite courses are taken, and the appropriate recommendation is achieved.

Sequence I:			
Grade 9	Grade 10	Grade 11	Grade 12
Honors Modern World History Electives from list below	Honors US History I Electives from list below	AP US History AP Electives from list below	AP Electives from list below
Sequence II:			
Grade 9	Grade 10	Grade 11	Grade 12
Honors Modern World History Electives from list below	Honors US History I Electives from list below	Honors US History I AP Electives from list below.	AP US History AP Electives from list below
Sequence III:			
Grade 9	Grade 10	Grade 11	Grade 12
Modern World History (CP)	US History I (CP)	US History II (CP) Electives from list below	Electives from list below
Sequence IV:			
Grade 9	Grade 10	Grade 11	Grade 12
Modern World History	US History I	US History II Electives from list below	Electives from list below

Electives

Grade 9	Grade 10	Grade 11	Grade 12
Criminal Justice American Law History of Psychology Sociology Economics	Criminal Justice American Law History of Psychology Sociology Economics	Criminal Justice American Law History of Psychology Sociology Economics	Criminal Justice American Law History of Psychology Sociology Economics

Sports in History Holocaust Studies Gender Studies	Sports in History Holocaust Studies Gender Studies	Sports in History Holocaust Studies Gender Studies AP US Gov. & Politics AP Human Geography AP Psychology	Sports in History Holocaust Studies Gender Studies AP US Gov. & Politics AP Human Geography AP Psychology
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REQUIRED CURRICULAR COURSES

MODERN WORLD HISTORY (#0214) **Credits: 5**
MODERN WORLD HISTORY (College Preparatory) (#0211) **Credits: 5**
Course Length: 1 Year **Prerequisite: None.**
Grade: 9

This course introduces students to the major themes of historical thinking skills, with balanced coverage of Western and Non-Western people and places. Students will explore global events, trends, and contemporary developments, as well as the promotion of critical thinking skills using research analysis and document analysis.

HONORS MODERN WORLD HISTORY (#0210) **Credits: 5**
Course Length: 1 Year **Prerequisite: Teacher recommendation,**
Grade: 9 **“A-” or better in 8th Grade Social Studies AND**
“A-” or better in 8th Grade Honors Language Arts
& completion of summer assignment.

This course is designed for advanced ninth grade students. It emphasizes Modern World History in terms of eras, individuals and events that have shaped the contemporary world balancing Western and Non-Western history. Using both research analysis and document analysis this advanced course will cover intellectual, cultural, political, economic, and social history as integral components of the curriculum.

UNITED STATES HISTORY I (#0223) **Credits: 5**
UNITED STATES HISTORY I (College Preparatory) (#0222) **Prerequisite: Modern World History**
Course Length: 1 Year
Grade: 10

This course introduces students to an overview of major themes in United States History ranging from man’s advancement in the Western Hemisphere to the events leading to the 20th Century. Leaders, events, concepts and historical patterns are examined to give students an awareness and appreciation of the origins of the United States and its evolution into a democratic world power, with an emphasis on document interpretation and research skills connecting each to the evaluation of historical evidence to promote critical thinking skills.

HONORS UNITED STATES HISTORY I (#0220) **Credits: 5**
Course Length: 1 Year **Prerequisite: Teacher recommendation,**
Grade: 10 **“B+” or better in Honors Modern World,**
“A” or better in Modern World (CP) &
completion of summer assignment.

This course is designed for advanced tenth grade students. Students will examine major themes in United States History ranging from man's advancement in the Western Hemisphere to the events leading to the 20th Century. Leaders, events, concepts and historical patterns are examined to give students an awareness and appreciation of the origins of the United States and its evolution into a democratic world power, with an emphasis on document interpretation and research skills connecting each to the evaluation of historical evidence to promote critical thinking skills. The history of the United States is explored on a college level, therefore, proficiency in reading and written expression is necessary.

UNITED STATES HISTORY II (#0232)

Credits: 5

UNITED STATES HISTORY II (College Preparatory) (#0231)

Prerequisite: U.S. History I

Course Length: 1 Year

Grade: 11

This course will examine United States History from the turn of the 20th Century to modern times. Students will analyze key events, people and issues in American history with an emphasis on document interpretation and research skills connecting each to the evaluation of historical evidence to promote critical thinking skills.

HONORS UNITED STATES HISTORY II (#0230)

Credits: 5

Course Length: 1 Year

Prerequisite: Teacher recommendation,

Grade: 11

"B+" or better in Honors US I,

"A" or better in US I (CP) &

completion of summer assignments.

This course is designed for advanced eleventh grade students. Students will investigate United States History from the turn of the 20th Century to modern times. Students will analyze key events, people and issues in American history with an emphasis on document interpretation and research skills connecting each to the evaluation of historical evidence to promote critical thinking skills. The history of the United States is explored on a college level, therefore, proficiency in reading and written expression is necessary.

OPTIONAL FULL-YEAR ELECTIVE COURSES

ADVANCED PLACEMENT UNITED STATES HISTORY (#0224)

Credits: 5

Course Length: 1 Year

Prerequisite: Teacher recommendation,

Grades: 11, 12

"A" or better in Honors US I or II &

completion of summer assignment.

This course is designed to provide students with analytic skills and factual knowledge necessary to deal critically with issues and materials in United States history. Students will learn to assess historical materials and to weigh the evidence and interpretations presented in historical scholarship. The time frame for this course is the age of the explorers through the present. This rigorous coursework will require a minimum of one hour of homework each night. It is suggested that parents of enrolled students meet with the teacher prior to final scheduling. **This course can count as the second required year for United States history**, or can be selected as an elective for twelfth grade students.

A summer assignment is required for this course.

Students may earn college credit upon successful completion and by passing the required Advanced Placement exam administered by the College Board.

ADVANCED PLACEMENT UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT & POLITICS (#0225)**Credits: 5****Course Length: 1 Year****Prerequisite: Teacher recommendation****Grades: 11, 12**

This course is designed to provide students with an analytical perspective on government and politics in the United States. This course includes both the study of general concepts used to interpret U.S. government and politics and the analysis of specific examples. Students will become acquainted with the variety of theoretical perspectives and explanations for various behaviors and outcomes. It also requires familiarity with the various institutions, groups, beliefs, and ideas that constitute U.S. government and politics.

A summer assignment is required for this course.***Students may earn college credit upon successful completion and by passing the required Advanced Placement exam administered by the College Board.*****ADVANCED PLACEMENT PSYCHOLOGY (#0274)****Credits: 5****Course Length: 1 Year****Prerequisite: Teacher recommendation
& completion of summer assignment****Grades: 11, 12**

The Advanced Placement Psychology course is designed to introduce students to the systematic and scientific study of the behavior and mental processes of human beings and other animals. Students are exposed to the psychological facts, principles, and phenomena associated with each of the major subfields of Psychology. They also learn about the ethics and methods psychologists use in their rigorous academic curriculum.

A summer assignment is required for this course.***Students may earn college credit upon successful completion and by passing the required Advanced Placement exam administered by the College Board.*****ADVANCED PLACEMENT HUMAN GEOGRAPHY (#0275)****Credits: 5****Course Length: 1 Year****Prerequisite: Teacher recommendation
& completion of summer assignment****Grades: 11, 12**

The purpose of the AP course in Human Geography is to introduce students to the systematic study of patterns and processes that have shaped human understanding, as well as use and alteration of Earth's surface. Students employ spatial concepts and landscape analysis to examine human social organization and its environmental consequences. They also learn about the methods and tools geographers use in their science and practice. Upon successful completion of the course, the student should be able to use and think about maps and spatial data, recognize and interpret the implications of associations among phenomena in places, recognize and interpret, at different scales, the relationships among patterns and processes, define regions and evaluate the regionalization process and, finally, characterize and analyze changing interconnections among places.

A summer assignment is required for this course.***Students may earn college credit upon successful completion and by passing the required Advanced Placement exam administered by the College Board.*****OPTIONAL SEMESTER ELECTIVE COURSES****CRIMINAL JUSTICE (#0253)****Credits: 2.5****Course Length: 1 Semester****Prerequisite: US History I****Grades: 11, 12**

This course examines the criminal justice process in America. Criminal law is the primary focus of the curriculum. Students study the institutions, sequence, organizations, and government entities that make up

American Criminal Justice. Constitutional rights and liberties are examined with the intention of giving students practical knowledge that can be utilized by those seeking a profession in the field of criminal justice. Moot courts, mock trials, guest speakers, and investigations and observations of actual litigation are integral parts of the course.

AMERICAN LAW (#0249)

Course Length: 1 Semester

Grades: 11, 12

Credits: 2.5

Prerequisite: US History I

This course examines the theory, application, enforcement, and fundamental principles of law in America. Civil Law is the primary focus of the curriculum. Students study tort, consumer law, and family law, as well as Constitutional rights and liberties. Moot courts, mock trials, guest speakers, and investigations and observations of actual litigation are integral parts of the course.

HISTORY OF PSYCHOLOGY (#0256)

Course Length: 1 Semester

Grades: 9, 10, 11, 12

Credits: 2.5

Prerequisite: None

This is a one semester social studies elective, designed as an introductory psychology course for students of different backgrounds and interest levels. The purpose of the course is to provide the student with an acquaintance to the past and current psychological theories. Emphasis will be placed on those aspects of mental development which affect personality and behavior.

SOCIOLOGY (#0254)

Course Length: 1 Semester

Grades: 9, 10, 11, 12

Credits: 2.5

Prerequisite: None

Sociology is an eleventh and twelfth grade one semester social studies elective. The purpose of this course is to provide each student with perspectives on American Society, culture and human behavior. Emphasis is placed on the basic characteristics of modern society; such as, population growth, urbanization, technological change and social organization.

ECONOMICS (#0278)

Course Length: 1 Semester

Grades: 11, 12

Credits: 2.5

Prerequisite: US History I

Economics is a one semester social studies elective that will examine microeconomic and macroeconomic theory. The primary focus of the curriculum is a comprehensive introduction to the principles of economics. Students are exposed to issues in economics including market analysis, monetary, and banking policy. They will become acquainted with the American economic structure. Students will work on their analytical and innovation skills with applied knowledge in different areas of study within economics.

This course fulfills the Financial Literacy Graduation requirement.

THE STUDY OF THE AMERICAN EXPERIENCE THROUGH SPORTS (#0279)

Course Length: 1 Semester

Grades: 11, 12

Credits: 2.5

Prerequisite: US History I

The Study of the American Experience through Sports course is designed to introduce students to the history of major sports, as well as their impact on American society. Students will examine the origins of baseball, football, basketball, and hockey. There will be a focus on the interaction between major figures in sports and moments in history. Students will explore significant sporting events and how they impacted the social and political issues of the time period. The goal of this course is to develop innovative and engaging ways to study sports in American history.

HOLOCAUST STUDIES (#0281)

Credits: 2.5

Course Length: 1 Semester

Prerequisite: None

Grades: 9, 10, 11, 12

Major events of the twentieth and twenty-first century, such as the Holocaust, Cambodian Genocide, Rwandan Genocide, and Armenian Genocide will be studied. Social studies content such as the causes and effects of each genocide will be balanced with critical thinking concerning implications for the modern world. Psychology, philosophy, political science, sociology, and history will be highlighted through this course.

GENDER STUDIES (#0280)

Credits: 2.5

Course Length: 1 Semester

Prerequisite: None

Grades: 9, 10, 11, 12

Gender and society will be examined, including how cultures delineate tasks among gender roles and how stereotypes are reinforced. The women's rights movement will be a feature of this course, as well as the current direction of the movement.

WORLD LANGUAGES

Spotswood High School students are required to complete one full year of study in World Language for graduation. Students are strongly encouraged to take a minimum of two years as the great majority of four-year colleges require two years of World Languages for admission. Spotswood offers four-year programs in Spanish and German. Additionally, we offer an Honors track in Spanish for those students who wish to be enrolled in a program with increased academic rigor that leads to further study. Course offerings and suggested sequencing is shown in the chart below:

World Language Department Course Flow Chart - Spanish and German			
9 th Grade	10 th Grade	11 th Grade	12 th Grade
Sequence I			
Spanish I	Spanish II	Spanish III	Honors Spanish IV
Sequence II			
Honors Spanish I	Honors Spanish II	Honors Spanish III	Honors Spanish IV or AP Spanish
Sequence III			
Honors Spanish II	Honors Spanish III	Honors Spanish IV	Honors Spanish IV or AP Spanish
Sequence IV			
German I	German II	German III	Honors German IV

GERMAN OR SPANISH I (#0611/#0612/#0613)

Course Length: 1 Year

Credits: 5

Prerequisite: Grade of "B" or higher in Grade 8 English or Teacher Recommendation

Grades: 9, 10, 11

This course provides a basic introduction to language and culture. It stresses the development of oral communication as well as reading, writing, and listening skills. Students learn about the people who speak the language and about the countries where they live. The skills needed for a foreign language are simply self-discipline, determination, and patience. Homework assignments include oral and written drills, short readings, and a variety of special projects. No prior language learning is required for level I.

GERMAN OR SPANISH II (#0621/#0622/#0623)

Course Length: 1 Year

Credits: 5

Prerequisite: Level I

Grades: 9, 10, 11, 12

During the second year of foreign language study, students expand their speaking, writing, and reading skills. Their increased proficiency allows them to read literary selections and conduct conversations entirely in another language. They also learn about the cultural and vocational opportunities available to those who speak German, French, and Spanish.

GERMAN OR SPANISH III (#0631/#0632/#0633)**Course Length: 1 Year****Grades: 10, 11, 12**

Level III develops linguistic interests and talents. Students may pursue several cultural and vocational concentrations and learn about careers in foreign languages. Because Level III emphasizes communication, assignments will include conversations, drills, exercises, literary readings, and short papers written in the foreign language.

Credits: 5**Prerequisite: Level II****HONORS SPANISH I (#0635)****Course Length: 1 Year****Grades: 9, 10, 11**

This course will focus on speaking, reading, writing, and listening skills in Spanish at an introductory level. Students will be introduced to classical elements of Spanish culture, literature, and art. Students who begin at this level may be able to take Advanced Placement Spanish in their fourth year.

Credits: 5**Prerequisite: Teacher Recommendation;****Grade of "A" or "B" in English; or****Grade of "A" or "B" in Spanish I in Grade 8 Spanish****HONORS SPANISH II (#0636)****Course Length: 1 Year****Grades: 10, 11, 12**

This course will develop students' speaking, reading, writing, and listening skills in Spanish. Students will keep Spanish journals and communicate in Spanish only during class and will learn the history and culture of Spanish-speaking people through literature, art and film.

Credits: 5**Prerequisite: Grade of "A" or "B" in Honors Spanish I;****Grade of "A" in Spanish I with teacher recommendation;****Grade of 95 in Grade 8 Spanish, Grade of "A" in Grade 8 English AND teacher recommendation****HONORS SPANISH III (#0637)****Course Length: 1 Year****Grades: 11, 12**

This advanced-level course will develop students' speaking, reading, writing, and listening skills in Spanish. Students will experience class works of literature in Spanish from Spain and the Americas. Students will keep Spanish journals and communicate in Spanish only during class and will write and speak extensively in Spanish.

Credits: 5**Prerequisite: Grade of "A" or "B" in Honors Spanish II****GERMAN, SPANISH IV (HONORS) (#0641/#0643)****Course Length: 1 Year****Grades: 11, 12 (Weighted Grade)**

Students study language, literature and culture at an advanced level. They perform intensive oral drill, conduct oral presentations, and develop all their language skills to a high degree of competence.

Credits: 5**Prerequisite: Level III**

ADVANCED PLACEMENT SPANISH (#0644)

Course Length: 1 Year

Grades: 11, 12

Credits: 5

**Prerequisite: Grade of "A" in Spanish III Honors,
Grade "B" or better in Spanish IV Honors;
and Teacher Recommendation**

The Advanced Placement Spanish exam is both a spoken and written test of contemporary Spanish used to discuss current issues in a modern format. Instruction in this class will be geared to the daily use of Spanish to improve writing and speaking skills on sophisticated topics such as immigration, current events, the arts, and world politics. Instruction will take place in Spanish only.

A summer assignment is required for this course.

Students may earn college credit upon successful completion and by passing the required Advanced Placement exam administered by the College Board.

GRADING SYSTEM

Report cards are issued four times a year. Only letter grades are given. There will also be an area for teachers' comments, which will be indicated by a number that will correspond to a series of comments printed on the report card. The marks are as follows:

Starting with the 2018-2019 school year, Spotswood High School instituted a new grading system.

	A+	A	A-	B+	B	B-	C+	C	C-	D+	D	F
	100	96	92	89	86	82	79	76	72	69	66	64
	99	95	91	88	85	81	78	75	71	68	65	OR
	98	94	90	87	84	80	77	74	70	67		LOWER
	97	93			83			73				
GPA	4.33	4.0	3.67	3.33	3.0	2.67	2.33	2.0	1.67	1.33	1.0	0.0
(H) GPA	4.83	4.5	4.17	3.83	3.5	3.17	2.83	2.5	2.17	1.83	1.5	0.0
(AP) GPA	5.33	5.0	4.67	4.33	4.0	3.67	3.33	3.0	2.67	2.33	2.0	0.0

Excellent – Masters all course standards/cumulative progress indicators:

- A+ 97-100
- A 93-96
- A- 90-92

Good – Masters a major portion of course proficiencies:

- B+ 87-89
- B 83-86
- B- 80-82

Fair – Masters the minimum course proficiencies:

- C+ 77-79
- C 73-76
- C- 70-72

Poor – Completes the minimum:

- D+ 67-69
- D 65-66

Failing:

- F 64 or Below

Incomplete Work:

INC

Withdrew:

W

Withdrew Failing:

WF

Pass/Fail:

P/F

Withdrew Passing:

WP

Note: If a student attends an institution of higher learning while attending SHS and registers for a course, which is not offered at our school, the student will not receive high school credit for the course nor will any grade be averaged into the student's G.P.A. However, the course will be noted on the student's high school record.

SUMMARY OF COURSE WITHDRAWAL ACTION

In the event that the administration determines that a student should be withdrawn from a course the following calendar applies to the grading procedure.

Transcript Record	Withdrawal from full year course:	Withdrawal from semester course by:
No record	By 2 nd week from start of year	2 nd week from start of course
W (not in GPA)	By 4 th week from start of year	4 th week from start of course
WP/WF (not in GPA)	Between 5th week from start of year - end of 2 nd marking period	10 th week from start of course
F (in GPA)	After the start of 3 rd marking period	After the start of 11 th week

NCAA DIVISION I AND II INITIAL ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

FRESHMAN AND SOPHOMORE STUDENTS –

- Start planning now.
- Work hard to get the best grades possible.
- Take classes that match our high school's list of NCAA courses.
- You can access and print our high school's list of NCAA courses at www.eligibilitycenter.org.
- SHS school code is 311412.
- If you fall behind, do not take shortcuts. Classes you take must be four-year-college preparatory and must meet NCAA requirements.

JUNIOR STUDENTS –

- Continue to take college preparatory courses. Double check to be sure the classes match our school's list of NCAA courses.
- Before picking classes for senior year check to see the number of core courses you need to complete.
- Register at NCAA and request your transcript be sent at the end of the school year.
- The registration fee is \$90. Fee waivers are available to those students that already received a waiver of the SAT/ACT fee.
- Registration is online. Click the link to enter as an NCAA College-Bound Athlete. Click on the "New Account" button at the top of the screen.

SENIOR STUDENTS –

- Continue to take college preparatory classes.
- Continue to work hard to get the best possible grades.
- Review your amateurism responses and request final amateurism certification on or after April 1.
- Graduate ON TIME (in eight academic semesters).
- After graduation, have your final transcript sent to the NCAA Eligibility Center.

WHAT IS A CORE COURSE? A core course must:

- Be an academic course in one or a combination of these areas: English, math, natural/physical science, social science, foreign language, comparative religion, or philosophy.
- Be a four-year college preparatory course.
- Be taught at or above your high school's regular academic level (no remedial courses, those taught at a slower pace or those that cover less content).

NOT ALL CLASSES YOU TAKE TO MEET HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS MAY BE USED AS CORE COURSES. Also, courses completed through credit-by-exam will not be used. Credit recovery courses must meet the NCAA definition of a core course. The credit recovery course must be comparable to the regular course in length, content, and rigor.

ACADEMIC ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS FOR DIVISION I SCHOOLS

- Graduate from high school.
- Complete these 16 core courses: 4 years of English, 3 years of math (Algebra 1 or higher), 2 years of natural/physical science including 1 year of lab science, 1 extra year of English, math or science, 2 years of social science, 4 years of extra core courses (from any category above or foreign language).
- Earn a combined SAT or ACT sum score that matches your core-course grade-point and test score sliding scale. The minimum GPA is 2.3. Grades earned before the senior year are “locked in” for purpose of GPA calculation. The sliding scale is available on the website.
- You must complete the 16 core-course requirement within four consecutive academic years from the start of ninth grade. Ten of the 16 core courses MUST be completed before the 7th semester of high school. Seven of the 10 core courses MUST be English, math or science.

ACADEMIC ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS FOR DIVISION II SCHOOLS

- Graduate from high school.
- Complete these 16 core courses: 3 years of English, 2 years of math (Algebra I or higher), 2 years of natural/physical science including one year of lab science, 3 additional years of English, math, or science, 2 years of social science, 4 years of additional core courses (from any category above or foreign language).
- A GPA of 2.2 or better and a combined SAT score (CR and M) of 820 or an ACT sum score of 68.

The NCAA Eligibility Center will calculate the GPA of your core courses on a 4.0 scale. The best grades from classes taken on the SHS list of approved courses will be used. Grades from additional core courses will be used only if they improve your GPA. The NCAA Eligibility Center does not use plus or minus grades when configuring GPA. For example, grades of B+, B and B- will each be worth 3 points.

NCAA CORE COURSE INFORMATION

What is a Core Course?

NCAA legislation guides the NCAA Eligibility Center staff in its review of core courses. This legislation requires that a course meet the following standards:

- A core course must be an academic course that receives high school graduation credit in the following:
- a. One or a combination of these areas: English, mathematics, natural/physical science, social science, foreign language, comparative religion or philosophy;
 - b. Four-year college preparatory;
 - c. At or above your high school’s regular academic level;
 - d. Algebra I or higher in the mathematics area; and
 - e. Taught by a qualified instructor.

What is NOT a Core Course?

1. Courses in non-core areas or vocational courses: Driver’s Education, keyboarding, art, music, physical education, construction.
2. Courses that prepare students for the world of work or life, or for a two-year college or technical school. Examples include personal finance, consumer education, and technology.

3. Courses that are taught below grade level, at a slower pace, with less rigor or depth. Examples include basic, essential, fundamental, or foundations courses.
4. Courses that are not academic in nature. Examples include TV production, child lab, construction.

Additional Tips

What courses can be submitted in the “additional” core area?

- Courses in foreign/world languages, philosophy, comparative religion, or American sign language.

What courses should NOT be submitted as “additional” core courses?

- Miscellaneous non-academic courses such as physical education, leadership/community service, driver’s education, weightlifting, study skills, marching band, software applications, etc.

What about fine arts or performing arts courses?

- Courses in art, music, dance, or acting/theater cannot be approved as NCAA core courses in any core area.

What about computer science courses?

- If the course (a) receives math or science graduation credit, and (b) is an academic programming course or an AP course, it should be submitted in the appropriate core area (math or science) and not as an additional core course.
- If your school awards computer science courses technology credit only, the courses cannot be approved in any NCAA core area.
- Courses in software applications, spreadsheets, website construction, keyboarding, computer repair, or other tech prep computer courses cannot be used as NCAA core courses.

Approved Spotswood High School NCAA Courses as of 7/18/2018

ENGLISH

Honors English 9
English 9 CP
Honors English 10
English 10 CP
Honors English 11
English 11 CP
Pre-AP English
Honors English 12
English 12 CP
AP English Literature & Composition
AP English Language & Composition
College Composition
Creative Writing
Journalism

SOCIAL STUDIES

Honors World History 9
World History 9 CP
Honors US History I
US History I CP
Honors US History II
US History II CP
AP US History
AP US Government and Politics
AP Human Geography
AP Psychology
AP European History
History of Psychology
Sociology
Criminal Justice
American Law
Economics
American Experience Through Sports

MATHEMATICS

Algebra I CP
Honors Geometry
Geometry CP
Honors Algebra II
Algebra II CP
Honors Pre-Calculus
Pre-Calculus CP

Honors Calculus
AP Calculus
Probability/Statistics CP
AP Statistics
Algebraic Systems CP
Advanced Algebra and Trigonometry CP

SCIENCE

Environmental Science I CP
Honors Biology I
Biology I CP
Honors Chemistry I
Chemistry CP
Integrated Science II
Honors Physics
Physics CP
Honors Biology II
Honors Chemistry II
AP Biology
AP Chemistry
AP Environmental
AP Physics
Forensic Science
Meteorology/Astronomy

WORLD LANGUAGE

Honors Spanish I
Spanish I
Honors Spanish II
Spanish II
Honors Spanish III
Spanish III
Honors Spanish IV
AP Spanish
German I
German II
German III
Honors German IV
French I
French II
French III
Honors French IV

SPOTSWOOD HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION COURSE REQUIREMENT CHECKLIST

NAME: _____ COUNSELOR: _____
USE X FOR COMPLETED COURSES; / (SLASH) FOR COURSES IN PROGRESS.

- ENGLISH:**
- English 9
 - English 10
 - English 11
 - English 12

- FINANCIAL LITERACY:**
- 2.5 credits: _____

CAREER, FAMILY, CONSUMER, LIFE SKILLS OR VOCATIONAL/ TECHNOLOGICAL EDUCATION (5 Credits):

- WORLD LANGUAGE:**
- Year One
 - Year Two

- 2.5 Credits: _____ and
- 2.5 Credits: _____ or
- 5 Credits: _____

- MATHEMATICS:**
- Algebra 1
 - Geometry
 - Algebra 2

VISUAL & PERFORMING ARTS (5 Credits):

- SCIENCE:**
- Biology
 - Science 2 _____
 - Science 3 _____

- 2.5 Credits: _____ and
- 2.5 Credits: _____ or
- 5 Credits: _____

- SOCIAL STUDIES:**
- World History
 - US History 1
 - US History 2

- PE/HEALTH:**
- 9TH Grade
 - 10th Grade
 - 11th Grade
 - 12th Grade

CREDITS: **Grade 9** _____

Grade 10 _____ **TOTAL FOR TWO YEARS** _____

Grade 11 _____ **TOTAL FOR THREE YEARS** _____

Grade 12 _____ **TOTAL FOR FOUR YEARS** _____

MUST MEET 125 CREDIT GRADUATION REQUIREMENT

The Course Selection Sheets are marked to indicate which courses are applicable to meet graduation requirements. An index of the markings is below:

- * Meets Visual/Performing Arts Requirement
- \$ Meets Financial Literacy Requirement
- ** Meets Career, Family, Consumer, Life Skills or Vocational/Technological Education Requirement

NEW JERSEY HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION ASSESSMENT REQUIREMENTS

Classes of 2023–2025 High School Graduation Assessment Requirements

Updated July 2022

On Tuesday, July 5, 2022, Governor Murphy signed P.L.2022, c.60 (ACS for A-3196/S-2349), which requires the State Board of Education to administer the New Jersey Graduation Proficiency Assessment (NJGPA) as a field test for the class of 2023. There is no graduation assessment requirement for any student who is expected to graduate with the class of 2023. Students in the class of 2023 must still meet all the other State and local graduation requirements, including but not limited to credit, curriculum, and attendance requirements. The graduation assessment requirements for the classes of 2024 and 2025 remain in place.

The requirements in this section were adopted by the New Jersey State Board of Education on September 8, 2021 for the classes of 2023–2025.

English Language Arts and Literacy (ELA)

If, after completing the New Jersey Graduation Proficiency Assessment in grade 11, students did not demonstrate proficiency by passing the ELA component, such students may access the following pathways:

- Second Pathway: By meeting the designated cut score on a substitute competency test such as other high school-level NJSLA/PARCC assessments, the SAT, ACT, or ACCUPLACER; or
- Third Pathway: By submitting, through the district, a student portfolio appeal to the New Jersey Department of Education.

Mathematics

If, after completing the required New Jersey Graduation Proficiency Assessment in grade 11, students did not demonstrate proficiency by passing the mathematics component, such students may access the following pathways:

- Second Pathway: By meeting the designated cut score on a substitute competency test such as other high school-level NJSLA/PARCC assessments, the SAT, ACT, or ACCUPLACER; or
- Third Pathway: By submitting, through the district, a student portfolio appeal to the New Jersey Department of Education.

New Jersey High School Graduation Assessment Requirements:

https://www.nj.gov/education/assessment/requirements/2023_2025.shtml