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LEARNING

2020 - 2021 Program Guide

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Program Snapshot

1.

A Collaborative Approach to Sharing Minnesota's Passion for Education

Infinity Online, a state certified online provider, is a joint effort of approximately 30 school districts offering supplemental online courses to high school students throughout Minnesota. Students are able to take online classes without leaving their home districts, teachers, and friends who make up the school experience. In addition, 100% of foundation aid dollars of member-school students stay in the home district.

Infinity Online instructors work closely with students, parents, and local district staff to promote a positive learning environment, encouraging each student to reach their potential.

One Program To Fit Different Needs

Infinity online courses are flexible, engaging, and challenging; offering a wide variety of core, elective, and advanced options.

Students enroll in the Infinity Online Program for a variety of reasons:

- To take a class not available at their local high school
- To recover credits
- Unable to attend traditional school full time
- To try a new learning experience

Vision

Infinity Online is the trusted provider of innovative educational opportunities for today's learner and tomorrow's workforce

How it Works @ Infinity

Courses

Infinity Online courses encompass a wide variety of offerings in Mathematics, Language Arts, Science, Social Studies, Health and Personal Fitness, and Electives.

Courses feature interactive modules that meet or exceed Minnesota State Standards. Course activities may include multimedia demonstrations, virtual and at-home labs, practice problems, checking for understanding interactives, quizzes and exams, written response and essays, class discussions, and research projects.

Students access courses via Infinity Online's online learning environment, needing just a computer or laptop and an internet connection to participate. Infinity Online's course management system provides a password-protected, secure learning environment.

Instructors

All Infinity Online instructors are Minnesota licensed instructors, certified to teach in their course discipline. Infinity Online instructors, hired from member school districts, are required to complete an in-depth course in the facilitation of online learning prior to beginning online instruction.

All instructors keep both structured and unstructured virtual office hours (using email, phone, video conferencing and discussion boards) providing multiple opportunities to interact.

Instructors respond to student inquiries within 24 hours and grade most assignments within 48 hours. In fact, most instructors log on multiple times per day to respond promptly to student questions.



How it Works @ Infinity

3.

Learning Materials

Most learning materials are provided online. There are certain courses that require additional materials. Local district staff will assist students in obtaining these materials when possible. Students working outside a local school setting will be responsible for obtaining any materials not provided.

Technology Access

It is the responsibility of the student working outside the local school setting to have access to equipment that meets the minimum requirements. Students accessing their course from within a local school setting will need to work with the local school online coordinator to arrange computer access.

Orientation Seminar

Once an enrollment has been accepted, students will receive an informational email on how to get started with the orientation seminar. This email contains the course website, username and password, contact information for the helpdesk and their instructor. All students are required to complete the orientation prior to accessing their scheduled online course.

Parents and Online Mentors

Monitoring accounts (for parents, counselors, online mentors) can be requested to add real-time visibility into each student's academic status, using Infinity Online's course management system. Interested parents should contact the Infinity office for more information.

A local district appointed online mentor will assist in the coordination and support of local district online students, according to MDE guidelines.

Technical Support

If students encounter problems accessing their course, navigating the course, or other technical issues, they are encouraged to submit their question to the help desk via email (helpdesk@mninfinity.org) or phone (1-800-624-4072 x8001).

Academic Support

If students require additional academic support, the local member district and Infinity Online work together to assist the student in reaching their academic goals.

How it Works @ Infinity

College Credit Courses

Concurrent credit (high school and college) may be earned for certain courses provided the student meets the academic pre-requisite and qualifying criteria of the college partner. In addition to registering for the course through Infinity Online, the student must also submit an application with the college partner, as well as provide Infinity Online with transcripts and qualifying scores.

Summer School

Summer courses are available for students who need to make up courses or credits, or those who want to take additional courses for graduation, enrichment or college preparation.

Course availability is based on teacher availability. Not all courses will be available, thus it is advisable to contact the Infinity Online offices prior to enrollment.

If a student wishes to take an online course during summer school, or as part of an extended day, the local district may require the student/family to pay the full cost of tuition or other expenses. Check with your local school counselor for more information.

ADA Compliance

Local district staff and/or qualified student with disabilities needing appropriate adjustments should contact the Infinity Online program before enrolling in an online course to ensure needs are met in a timely manner.

Title VI/Title IX

Infinity Online does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age or handicap in admission or access to, or treatment of employment in, its educational programs or activities.

NCAA Eligibility

Most Infinity Online core courses have been approved for NCAA eligibility. To view the list of courses that have been approved, please visit the NCAA Eligibility Center website at: <https://web3.ncaa.org/hsportal/exec/hsAction>, enter the CEEB code: 851181.

From NCAA Website: "The list of NCAA courses, and courses contained within, are maintained as a guide for prospective student-athletes seeking NCAA initial-eligibility. The list of approved courses does not, nor is intended to, signify accreditation, certification, approval or endorsement of any high school or specific courses by the NCAA or NCAA Eligibility Center and is subject to change at any time and without notice. Core course information included on this Web site is provided for guidance purposes only and should not be solely relied on as an indication of NCAA initial-eligibility. Certification of a prospective student-athlete is case-specific, and the Eligibility Center has the authority to determine in its sole discretion whether the prospective student-athlete has met all criteria."

Academic Policies

5.

Statement of Assurances

Students and their parents are required to review and affirm their understanding of the Acceptable Use, Academic Integrity, and Attendance policies. The student agrees to abide by these policies while taking an Infinity Online course.

Academic Integrity

Students are responsible for the content and academic integrity of any work they submit. Actions violating academic integrity include falsifying the results of one's research; presenting ideas, data, or work of another as your own; or cheating on an examination. Any violation of this policy will result in disciplinary action and may jeopardize the student's continuation in the course and any award of academic credit.

Acceptable Use

All students participating in online courses are expected to conduct their communications in a professional, respectful manner. The use of proper Internet etiquette is expected at all times. Inappropriate language or behavior will not be tolerated.

Attendance Policy

Attendance will be tracked through the online student management systems. Attendance will incorporate completion of course requirements, participation in online discussions, and communications with instructor. Students must login a minimum of 3 times a week and show adequate progress on a weekly basis.

Minnesota Online Learning Options Act

To learn more about policies and guidelines outlined in the Minnesota Online Learning Options Act, go to the Minnesota Department of Education's website: <https://education.mn.gov/MDE/dse/online/>

Enrollment Process

Enrolling in an Infinity Online course is a straightforward process which students and parents can do on their own. However, students are encouraged to work with their school guidance counselor, as they can help facilitate and streamline the process as well as offer guidance regarding needed courses and credits and the likelihood of success for individual students.

Student

- Create Registration Account
- Choose Courses
- Validate Understanding of Expectations

Parent

- Affirm Courses
- Validate Understanding of Program

Counselor

- Update Information
- Verify Courses

Program

- Approve Enrollment
- Send Orientation Information

To enroll, go to www.mninfinity.org and click ENROLL from the menu.

Language Arts

7.

American Literature

Duration: Semester

Pre-Requisite: English I, English II

Suggested Grade Level: 11 – 12

American Literature is a literature survey course that navigates chronologically through the periods of American literature from Native American oral traditions through contemporary works of poetry, fiction, drama, and nonfiction. Each unit explores a literary movement as it reflects a changing America. Literature of each period becomes the basis of study for models of literary analysis and modes of rhetorical writing. Each lesson engages the student through interactive introduction to concepts and skills, guided practice of those skills and concepts, and an assessment of the student's mastery. Learning activities include reading, listening, discussing, writing, speaking, completing projects, and taking quizzes and exams. Units will include a combination of activities and assessments and will culminate in a unit speaking, writing, or media project.

Composition I (CIS)

Duration: Semester

Pre-Requisite: English I, English II

Suggested Grade Level: 11 – 12

**Students must meet the academic and pre-requisite requirements of college partner.*

After learning the basics of the academic writing process and practicing its components, students will write several essays, each requiring pre-writing, thesis development, outlining, inclusion of support and evidence as well as in-text citations and works cited. Revising and editing are included in this process. Students will be required to peer review one another's work and participate in weekly academic discussions. In addition, grammar review and practice will be incorporated. Students will demonstrate awareness of audience, tone, unity, and coherence in their writing. *college credit opportunity

Composition II (CIS)

Duration: Semester

Pre-Requisite: English I, English II, Composition I

Suggested Grade Level: 11 – 12

**Students must meet the academic and pre-requisite requirements of college partner.*

This course involves discovering and developing an argument for a research paper. Students learn how to conduct research in support of and counter reasonable objections to their arguments. Students learn how to locate and evaluate sources as well as how to integrate, document, and cite sources. They will be able to demonstrate the ability to use the writing process to produce academic essays. Finally, students will participate in the Rogerian argument process where they form an opinion backed with evidence, read and ponder other viewpoints on the same issue, and find common ground. *college credit opportunity

Creative Writing

Duration: Semester

Pre-Requisite: English I, English II

Suggested Grade Level: 11 – 12

Students in this course learn to express themselves creatively by composing original stories, poems, and a host of other writing assignments based upon literature and personal experience. The work in this class relies heavily upon use of the writing process: generating ideas, drafting, revising and proofing, and publishing/sharing. Students are introduced to the concept of a writing workshop, wherein they share pieces with peers in order to give and receive feedback. Some formal academic writing is included, specifically analyzing select professional pieces and use of the collaborative discussion board. In addition, students will produce a writing portfolio of polished work by the end of the semester. If you like to write, this class is for you!

Language Arts

English I

Duration: Full Year

Pre-Requisite: None

Suggested Grade Level: 9

This is a general English class especially designed to prepare students for high school level reading and writing requirements. The class blends language, grammar, writing, and speaking instructions with lessons in literature. Genres explored include short stories, novels, poetry, plays, non-fiction, and autobiography.

English II

Duration: Full Year

Pre-Requisite: English I

Suggested Grade Level: 10

In English II, students will further develop and apply their reading and critical thinking strategies in the comprehension and evaluation of various literature genres. Students will continue to develop effective written communication strategies with a variety of audiences. Preparation for the reading MCA II is included.

Introduction to Literature (CIS)

Duration: Semester

Pre-Requisite: English I, English II, Composition I (CIS) strongly encouraged

Suggested Grade Level: 11-12

**Students must meet the academic and pre-requisite requirements of college partner.*

Students define and investigate the genres of literature: fiction, poetry, drama. They learn approaches to analysis and interpretation of literature from diverse cultures. Through the literature, students will demonstrate an understanding of writers as world citizens. *college credit opportunity

Myths & Legends

Duration: Semester

Pre-Requisite: English I, English II

Suggested Grade Level: 11 – 12

Through the study of myths, folk tales, and legends, students learn to develop their own creative ideas. This course examines how myths and legends are used in various literary forms, particularly drama and epic, and how they appear in today's culture.

Language Arts

9.

Short Stories

Duration: Semester

Pre-Requisite: English I, English II

Suggested Grade Level: 11 – 12

One of the favorite types of fiction to read is the short story. At first, short stories were told orally and passed down by word of mouth. Later, the stories were written down and preserved forever. Each story can usually be read in one sitting and includes a masterful use of plot, setting, character, and theme. In a few words, the author makes us care about his or her characters and what is happening to them. This survey course uses classic and modern stories to explore the elements of short stories and various genres of these shorter works of fiction (such as coming-of-age, horror, and science fiction). The culmination of the course will be a two-part final exam that will assess the semester's work.

Technical Writing

Duration: Semester

Pre-Requisite: English I, English II

Suggested Grade Level: 11 – 12

This course will emphasize clear, concise and grammatically correct writing whose purpose is to convey descriptive and process information. Students will learn how to analyze the needs of the audience and create descriptive prose for step-to-step procedures and objective explanations. Students will also read and critically examine samples of technical writing.

World Literature

Duration: Semester

Pre-Requisite: English I, English II

Suggested Grade Level: 11 – 12

This course presents a study of the development of world literature from ancient times through the present. With emphasis on major authors and literary trends, many forms of literature will be covered including poetry, prose, and drama. Discussion and written assignments will stress insight into the works and the correlation of history, culture, literature, and other fine arts.

Young Adult Literature

Duration: Semester

Pre-Requisite: None

Suggested Grade Level: 9 – 12

In this course you will read a wide variety of young adult novels. You will respond to these novels in many ways, focusing on the elements of story, vocabulary, and class discussions.

Algebra I

Duration: Full Year

Pre-Requisite: None

Suggested Grade Level: 8

In this course students will review fundamental math skills and then delve into the concepts of Algebra. Each module takes a step by step approach into the world of integers, equations, graphs, and functions. This course connects algebra to the real world, demystifying it and making it easier to understand and master.

Algebra II

Duration: Full Year

Pre-Requisite: Algebra I, Intermediate Algebra, Probability & Data Analysis

Suggested Grade Level: 9 – 12

In this course, students will learn about exponents and radical expressions, including rules of exponents, how to evaluate and use rational exponents and how to simplify radical expressions. Students will learn about operations with polynomials, including graphing and factoring. Lastly, students will learn about quadratic functions: examining the graphs of quadratics, solving quadratic equations by graphing, factoring, completing the square and using the quadratic equation.

College Prep Math

Duration: Semester

Pre-Requisite: Algebra I, Geometry, Algebra II

Suggested Grade Level: 11-12

This course extends Algebra I and Algebra II skills; using calculators and computers to assist problem solving. Polynomial, exponential, and Quadratic functions and the extension of number to irrational and complex numbers are emphasized. Covers in-depth graphing, systems of linear equations and inequalities and quadratics.

Consumer Math

Duration: Semester

Pre-Requisite: Algebra I

Suggested Grade Level: 9 – 12

Consumer Mathematics will give the students the opportunity to learn the math that is used on a daily basis, in daily life. Examples of the type of math that will be covered are: counting by multiples, money management, working with interest, banking, taxes, fractions, time, measurement, basic algebra, and basic calculator skills.

Geometry

Duration: Full Year

Pre-Requisite: Algebra I

Suggested Grade Level: 9 – 12

The Geometry course is a comprehensive look at the study of geometric concepts including the basic elements of geometry, proofs, parallel and perpendicular lines, the coordinate plane, triangles, quadrilaterals, polygons, circles, trigonometry, congruence and similarity, surface area, volume and transformations.

Pre-Calculus

Duration: Full Year

Pre-Requisite: Algebra I, Intermediate Algebra, Geometry, Algebra II

Suggested Grade Level: 11 – 12

This course uses our national parks as the setting to examine complex, nonlinear processes. Plotting and projecting the population of park wolves is typical of the complexities encountered when park administrators make policy decisions. Students will learn about functions, matrix algebra, and sequences and series, as well as acquire the confidence to think like a mathematician, finding logic and order in a complex world.

Probability & Data Analysis

Duration: Semester

Pre-Requisite: Algebra I

Suggested Grade Level: 9 – 12

This course takes a look into mathematical branches of probability and data analysis. Topics include displaying and analyzing data to draw conclusions, identifying trends to describe data relationships, draw inferences, make predictions, calculate probabilities and apply probability concepts to solve real-world and mathematical problems. Students will be active participants in the discovery and investigation of the mathematical techniques unique to the topics of probability.

Statistics (CIS)

Duration: Full Year

Pre-Requisite: Algebra I, Algebra II, Geometry

Suggested Grade Level: 11 – 12

**Students must meet the academic and pre-requisite requirements of college partner.*

This course covers descriptive statistics, sampling, probability, probability distributions, normal probability distributions, estimates and sample size, hypothesis testing, correlation and regression, inferences of two samples, and process control. *college credit opportunity

Anatomy & Physiology

Duration: Full Year

Pre-Requisite: Biology

Suggested Grade Level: 11 – 12

This course involves the study of the structure of the human body including a gross and microscopic study of cell, tissues, and organ systems as well as how these structures carry out the life-sustaining tasks required to keep us healthy and alive. This is a challenging course geared toward the student interested in pursuing a medical career.

Astronomy

Duration: Semester

Pre-Requisite: Earth Science

Suggested Grade Level: 11 – 12

This course is an introduction to modern astronomy. Starting with an exploration of the historical development of astronomy, building up along the way the basic toolkit of physical concepts that will be applied during discussions. Students will also study an overview of the modern solar system, comparative planetology (structure, surfaces, & atmospheres) and stars, star life cycles, comets, asteroids, pulsars, quasars, and black holes. Note: This course is designed as a science elective course; stories and mythology associated with each constellation are not covered in this course.

Biology

Duration: Full Year

Pre-Requisite: Physical Science

Suggested Grade Level: 10 – 12

The purpose of this course is to provide exploratory and laboratory experiences with real-life applications in the biological sciences. The Biology course is an in depth look at the fundamental characteristics of living organisms, designed to promote scientific inquiry and discovery. The students will be introduced to the structure, function, diversity, and evolution of living matter.

Chemistry (CIS)

Duration: Full Year

Pre-Requisite: Biology

Suggested Grade Level: 11 – 12

**Students must meet the academic and pre-requisite requirements of college partner.*

This interactive course is designed to serve as a foundation for the study of Chemistry. Topics include the composition, properties, and changes associated with matter and their applications. The utilization of scientific inquiry, interactive experiences, higher order thinking, collaborative projects, real world application through labs and a variety of assessments all aid the student in ultimately demonstrating a vast understanding of the importance of Chemistry in the world around them; enabling them to apply these properties to their everyday lives. *college credit opportunity

Ecology

Duration: Semester

Pre-Requisite: Biology

Suggested Grade Level: 11 – 12

Ecology is the study of how living things, plant and animal, interact with their environment. Students will study environmental problems, science and ecological principles, and sustaining biodiversity. The final third of the class is dedicated to helping students understand the unique place humans occupy in the natural world.

Forensic Science

Duration: Semester

Pre-Requisite: Biology

Suggested Grade Level: 11 – 12

Fingerprints. Blood spatter. DNA analysis. The world of law enforcement is increasingly making use of the techniques and knowledge from the sciences to better understand the crimes that are committed and to catch those individuals responsible for the crimes. Forensic science applies scientific knowledge to the criminal justice system. This course focuses on some of the techniques and practices used by forensic scientists during a crime scene investigation (CSI). Starting with how clues and data are recorded and preserved, the student will follow evidence trails until the CSI goes to trial, examining how various elements of the crime scene are analyzed and processed.

Marine Biology

Duration: Full Year

Pre-Requisite: Biology

Suggested Grade Level: 11 – 12

Since seventy-five percent of our planet is covered by water, there are plenty of things to see and research in all that water. Understanding our oceans, seas, and lakes is essential for our survival. In this course, you will start out by exploring the different ocean zones and discover how they were formed through the movement of tectonic plates. The course will explain how the oceans affect our weather and overall climate as well as the interactions that occur between our oceans and the air. As a member of the class, you will also learn about the different marine ecosystems, the biodiversity found within these different systems, and how they interact with each other. We will end the course by looking at the impact that humans have on the marine ecosystems as well as different ways we can conserve these very delicate environments.

Weather & Meteorology

Duration: Semester

Pre-Requisite: Physical Science

Suggested Grade Level: 10 – 12

This course introduces the study of weather, including the atmospheric conditions that control temperature, wind, precipitation, and storm systems. Students will gain an understanding of daily weather events, their causes and impacts. Students will also explore weather forecasting, air pollution, and climate change. As a final project, students will try their hand at predicting the weather.

Social Studies

Criminology

Duration: Semester

Pre-Requisite: Civics

Suggested Grade Level: 11 – 12

In today's society, crime and deviant behavior are often one of the top concerns of society members. From the nightly news to personal experiences with victimization, crime seems to be all around us. In this course, we will explore the field of criminology, or the study of crime. In doing so, we will look at possible explanations for crime from psychological, biological, and sociological standpoints, explore the various types of crimes and their consequences for society, and investigate how crime and criminals are handled by the criminal justice system.

Cultural Anthropology (CIS)

Duration: Semester

Pre-Requisite: World History

Suggested Grade Level: 11 – 12

**Students must meet the academic and pre-requisite requirements of college partner.*

This is a college level anthropology course introducing the scientific study of the origin and behavior of man, including the development of societies and cultures. Students will examine each of the four subfields of anthropology: physical (the study of human genetic and cultural evolution and diversity), archaeology (the study of past human material culture), linguistics (the study of human language, communication, and writing systems), and cultural (the study of human society and culture). Content will touch on issues of human evolution, modern human diversity and genetics, and explore the development of both ancient and modern human societies. *college credit opportunity

Cultural Geography (CIS)

Duration: Semester

Pre-Requisite: World History

Suggested Grade Level: 11 – 12

**Students must meet the academic and pre-requisite requirements of college partner.*

Cultural Geography is the study of relationships between different groups of people and places. The field is concerned with understanding how humans interact with and shape landscapes and how landscapes change over space and time. Students will explore fundamental geographic concepts and processes and evaluate the interrelationships between humans and their environments. *college credit opportunity

Economics

Duration: Semester

Pre-Requisite: None

Suggested Grade Level: 11 – 12

Economics is the social science that deals with the production, distribution, and consumption of goods and services. Decisions made by consumers, workers, investors, managers, and government officials determine the allocation and cost of limited resources. Economists have developed principles for understanding the economic decisions of individuals (microeconomics) and the economy as a whole, through such measures as unemployment, inflation, economic growth, and balance of trade (macroeconomics). Today's students face a variety of important economic decisions in their personal lives and as citizens in a democratic society. The study of economics enables students to make reasoned judgments about both personal economic issues and broader economic questions in a complex and interconnected world.

Introduction to Economics (CIS)

Duration: Semester

Pre-Requisites: None

Suggested Grade Level: 11-12

**Students must meet the academic and pre-requisite requirements of college partner.*

This course is an introduction to, and a descriptive survey of, the modern American economy. Concentration is on the major forces affecting the economy, with special attention given to the role and responsibility of the federal government. Fundamental economic concepts: determinants of supply and demand, elasticity, marginal reasoning, market & market failures. Aggregate performance, economic policy, money & banking will be introduced. *college credit opportunity

U.S. Government

Duration: Semester

Pre-Requisite: None

Suggested Grade Level: 9-12

U.S. Government is the study of the historical background, governing principles, and institutions of the government of the United States. The focus is on the beliefs upon which the Constitution was founded and how federalism provides shared powers at the national, state, and local levels. The principles of popular sovereignty and civil rights will be examined, as well the role of individuals and groups in the American political process. The emphasis will be on the importance of citizenship and participation and how activism can affect elections and thereby public and foreign policy. Current issues will be addressed to better understand how the government applies the democratic principles today.



Social Studies

U.S. History I – Early American

Duration: Semester

Pre-Requisite: None

Suggested Grade Level: 10 – 12

This course will cover early American history from the pre-Columbus times through the Civil War. The course will cover topics in American history including: Exploration, Colonization, Revolution, Expansion, and Civil War. We will follow the first half of the Minnesota state standards in U.S. History.

U.S. History II – 20th Century Topics

Duration: Semester

Pre-Requisite: None

Suggested Grade Level: 10 – 12

This course will cover 20th century US history, following the second half of the Minnesota State US History standards. This course will cover topics in US history including: Expansion, WWI, Roaring Twenties, Great Depression, WWII, Post WWII, Civil Rights and the Cold War.

World History I – Ancient Civilization

Duration: Semester

Pre-Requisite: None

Suggested Grade Level: 11 – 12

This course involves the exploration of the historical development of people, places and patterns of life from ancient times until about 1500 A.D. Students will examine the geography, economy, government, social structure, religion, technology and history of selected civilizations. The survey will include human pre-history, the agricultural revolution, and the rise and fall of civilizations in Africa, Asia, the Americas, and from ancient through the medieval period.

World History II – Modern Civilization

Duration: Semester

Pre-Requisite: None

Suggested Grade Level: 11 – 12

This course will cover history from the Dawn of the Renaissance (1500A.D.) to the present day. Cultural emphasis is placed upon literature, art, religion, philosophy, and social systems. Historical emphasis is placed upon such areas as comparative political, economic systems, and geographical areas. Contemporary emphasis is placed upon current crises, international relations and the increasing interdependence of nations.

Electives

17.

Accounting

Duration: Full Year

Pre-Requisite: None

Suggested Grade Level: 11 – 12

Does your future include a degree in business, marketing, management, finance or even cosmetology? Through accounting simulations, students apply their knowledge of accounting to real-world situations. Upon completion of accounting, students will have the basic understanding needed to succeed in future accounting courses at the university or technical college level.

Art Appreciation (CIS)

Duration: Semester

Pre-Requisite: None

Suggested Grade Level: 11 – 12

**Students must meet the academic and pre-requisite requirements of college partner.*

This course is an introduction to the history and appreciation of art through a survey of humanity's needs and aspirations as expressed in painting, sculpture, printmaking, crafts, and architecture among others. A study of individual artists and art movements in specific context relative to the political and economic circumstances is a component of the class. Other components include an introduction to the elements, functions, forms, and processes of visual art with critical analysis and writing requirements. *college credit opportunity

Art Around the World

Duration: Semester

Pre-Requisite: None

Suggested Grade Level: 9 – 12

Art around the World is an online course designed to introduce students to various Western and Non-Western media and periods of the visual arts. Periods covered will include prehistoric, ancient cultures, Greek and Roman art, medieval, renaissance, baroque, 18th, 19th, and 20th centuries. Media covered will include: photography, graphic arts, painting, sculpture, and architecture.

Career & Job Skills

Duration: Semester

Pre-Requisite: None

Suggested Grade Level: 9 – 12

Good career information is essential in making good career decisions. This course will allow students to investigate a variety of occupations, identify career fields that best fit their interests, and identify skills needed to pursue different careers. Students will complete a skills inventory, develop a resume, write a letter of application, and practice good interview techniques. Students will use the Minnesota Career Information System (MCIS) website extensively.

Electives

Cybersecurity

Duration: Semester

Pre-Requisite: None

Suggested Grade Level: 11-12

We depend more and more on the technologies we interact with every day, and we put more and more of our personal data out there online. Can all that data really be kept “secret”? We all need to know more about how to protect our personal information, especially given how much we rely on and use our network devices and media. You’ll learn about the various parts of your computer, how they work together, and how you can manipulate them to keep your data safe. You’ll also dive into the tools, technologies, and methods that will help protect you from an attack and discover the many opportunities in the rapidly growing field of cybersecurity.

Foundations of Programming I

Duration: Full Year

Pre-Requisite: Algebra I

Suggested Grade Level: 10-12

Learn the skills required to be competitive in today’s high-tech workforce. This course covers the fundamentals of programming using the computer language Python. It provides you with the concepts, techniques, and processes associated with computer programming and software development. You’ll also explore the vast programming career opportunities available in this high-demand field.

Game Design

Duration: Semester

Pre-Requisite: None

Suggested Grade Level: 10 – 12

This course is for anyone who loves gaming and wants to design and build original games from scratch. Students learn how to use popular game-development software to create engaging, interactive games in a variety of styles. After learning about game genres, students learn about all aspects of the game-design process. From there, it's on to a series of increasingly challenging hands-on projects that teach all the elements of successful game development. This course provides a solid foundation in the essentials of game design.

Health Occupations

Duration: Semester

Pre-Requisite: None

Suggested Grade Level: 10 – 12

In this course, students will be introduced to the various disciplines within the health sciences, including toxicology, clinical medicine, and biotechnology. They will explore the importance of diagnostics and research in the identification and treatment of diseases. The course presents information and terminology for the health sciences and examines the contributions of different health science areas.

Health & Wellness

Duration: Semester

Pre-Requisite: None

Suggested Grade Level: 9 – 12

Health & Wellness is a study of contemporary issues affecting one's wellness. In this course, students will gain and demonstrate knowledge and understanding of information in the six priority areas of wellness including nutrition, physical fitness, HIV/STI prevention, teen pregnancy prevention, alcohol, tobacco and drug use prevention, and injury prevention.

Human Growth & Development (CIS)

Duration: Semester

Pre-Requisite: None

Suggested Grade Level: 10 – 12

**Students must meet the academic and pre-requisite requirements of college partner.*

This course provides a broad overview of theories, research methods, and current knowledge of human development from conception into adolescence. Course material covers infancy, childhood, adolescence, and some adulthood. Students will study and debate the most fundamental and exciting questions about human nature as they examine the theories and research methods philosophers and scientists have developed and used over the years.

**college credit opportunity*

Interior Design

Duration: Semester

Pre-Requisite: None

Suggested Grade Level: 9 – 12

This course introduces the student to the basic principles of interior design, including unity, balance, proportion, scale, rhythm, and emphasis. In addition, students will explore basic color psychology, client analysis, selection of finishes; mood and sample board presentation techniques, as well as investigate career opportunities.

Marketing

Duration: Semester

Pre-Requisite: None

Suggested Grade Level: 9 – 12

In this course students will learn how key marketing concepts, principles, and theories affect the product decisions consumers make. Upon completion of this course, students will be able to explain and apply core marketing concepts to the marketing planning process. Students will also investigate a variety of marketing occupations.

Electives

Medical Terminology (CIS)

Duration: Semester

Pre-Requisite: English I, English II

Suggested Grade Level: 11 – 12

**Students must meet the academic and pre-requisite requirements of college partner.*

This course covers introduction to word analysis by study of root words, prefixes, suffixes, and abbreviations common to the medical profession.

*college credit opportunity

Money Management

Duration: Semester

Pre-Requisite: None

Suggested Grade Level: 10 – 12

This course places emphasis on using personal financial planning activities as a framework for developing effective money management practices and is designed to inform students how their individual choices directly influence occupational goals, future earnings potential and overall financial stability.

Upon completion of the course, students will have a sound foundation for making informed personal financial decisions.

Personal Development

Duration: Semester

Pre-Requisite: None

Suggested Grade Level: 9 – 12

This course is designed to increase student knowledge and ability in skills necessary for everyday living. The course explores defining personal values, goal-setting and goal-planning, evaluating information, making decisions, problem solving, dealing with media and peer pressure, communication and relationships, and wellness and personal safety.

Photography & Design

Duration: Semester

Pre-Requisite: None

Suggested Grade Level: 9 – 12

This class is an introduction to digital photography and design. It will include the basic elements and principles in relation to photography. The course will cover composition, editing, criticism and story-telling through photography. Assignments include camera angles, lighting, macro-photography, shadows, stop action, blurred motion, portraits, and storytelling.

Physical Education: Fitness for Life

Duration: Semester

Pre-Requisite: None

Suggested Grade Level: 9 – 12

Physical fitness and nutrition are important parts for everyday life. Fitness for Life will give you the opportunity to create personal fitness goals and make nutrition plans that are useful and fun. We will explore different ways to exercise and use your personal talents and ambitions to make physical activity a part of your daily routine. Fitness for Life enables students to utilize their daily athletic schedule and/or activities as a way to practice the principles used in this class.

Physical Education: Personal Fitness

Duration: Semester

Pre-Requisite: None

Suggested Grade Level: 9 – 12

Upon completion of this course, students will feel the difference both physically and mentally. Students begin by assessing their current physical condition and monitor their progress each week by completing a workout log focused on key areas: cardiovascular endurance, muscular endurance, flexibility, and target heart rate. Students will learn about exercise, conditioning, nutrition, and stress management.

Principles of Public Service: Serve & Protect

Duration: Semester

Pre-Requisite: None

Suggested Grade Level: 9-12

Ambulances scream along, heading toward those in need. But who makes sure someone is there to answer the 9-1-1 call? When you take a pill, who has determined that drug is safe for the public? All these duties are imperative to our comfort and success as a society. Public service is a field that focuses on building a safe and healthy world, and in Principles of Public Service: Serve & Protect you will be introduced to its many different career choices. The protection of society is not only one of our greatest challenges, but it also provides ways for people to work together to ensure safety and provide indispensable services. If you have ever contemplated being one of these real-life heroes, now is the time to learn more!

Psychology

Duration: Semester

Pre-Requisite: None

Suggested Grade Level: 10 – 12

This course investigates how and why humans behave as they do. Theories and research are presented for students to critically evaluate and understand. Each unit presents terminology, theories, and research that are critical to the understanding of the topic. Assignments and assessments are included along with tutorials and interactive elements.

Electives

Psychology (CIS)

Duration: Semester

Pre-Requisite: None

Suggested Grade Level: 11 – 12

**Students must meet the academic and pre-requisite requirements of college partner.*

This class presents a general introduction to psychology as a biosocial science. This survey course will familiarize the student with the basic principles of psychology, show how psychologists employ the scientific method, and equip the beginning student of psychology with a working vocabulary of psychological terminology and critical thinking skills. Areas to be covered include research, the nervous system, learning, personality, memory, psychological disorders and therapy. *college credit opportunity

Public Speaking

Duration: Semester

Pre-Requisite: None

Suggested Grade Level: 9-12

In this course, students will learn how to select an appropriate topic for their audience, research it effectively, organize their ideas, and write a quality speech. They will develop self-confidence in speaking in a variety of situations before others and learn how to better connect with their listeners. The course will cover the history and rhetoric of public speaking. It will help students evaluate and understand communication contexts, including how to improve listening skills. Students will develop skills in analyzing their audience, and writing introductions, conclusions, as well as transitions to fully support the content of their speeches. They will also improve skills in creating powerful visual aids and using their voices successfully to persuade and inform.

Study Skills

Duration: Semester

Pre-Requisite: None

Suggested Grade Level: 9 – 12

This course will prepare students to succeed on reading, math, and writing assessments. Through reading, writing, and math activities, students will develop their critical thinking skills and test-taking strategies. The objectives of this course go beyond mere test preparation. In addition to becoming familiar with the common test formats, question-types, and rubrics, students will develop the critical thinking skills they will need to succeed in the 21st century.

Web Design

Duration: Semester

Pre-Requisite: None

Suggested Grade Level: 9 – 12

Web Page Design enables you to use and recognize the Hyper Text Markup Language (HTML). HTML is the fundamental knowledge used to create Web pages. Elements of effective Web page design such as graphics, layout, sound, text, frames, tables, buttons, icons and more will be explored as you learn how to create your own web pages. The course begins with learning basic HTML coding. As the course progresses, we will switch to using a WYSIWYG (What You See Is What You Get) web page editing program. This course also includes learning photo editing skills.

American Sign Language I

Duration: Full Year

Pre-Requisite: None

Suggested Grade Level: 9-12

This course introduces students to the basics of American Sign Language (ASL) structure. As ASL is a visual language, this immersive course will be delivered to students in the target language of ASL with a minimum of spoken and printed English. Students will practice fundamental sign skill development. A brief overview of Deaf culture will be presented throughout the class. Students will learn skills such as counting, fingerspelling, talking about differences and similarities, practice meeting people, identifying others, giving instructions, appropriate cultural norms for getting attention, sharing personal information, telling/asking questions, giving basic instructions, discuss hobbies, and descriptive practices. Students will also use ASL to discuss living situations, give directions, describe pets, express needs and talk about family units.

American Sign Language II

Duration: Full Year

Pre-Requisite: American Sign Language I

Suggested Grade Level: 9-12

Building upon skills students learned previously in ASL I, students will review and expand practice of previously learned key grammar, practice other language functions and their key grammatical features, expand vocabulary and range of topics, and increase narrative and conversational fluency. Additionally, students will compare aspects of ASL and English through translation exercises, compare aspects of the Deaf culture, American culture and their own culture, as well as understand their role as an ASL student in the Deaf community.

World Language

French I

Duration: Full Year

Pre-Requisite: None

Suggested Grade Level: 9 – 12

French I is a beginner level course introducing the essential elements of structure, vocabulary, and introductory through themes such as greetings, introductions, good-byes, the alphabet, calendar, numbers, weather, time, colors, familiar objects, and places, family, food, pastimes, and school. This course is designed to meet the standards of the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages. These standards call for a method of teaching that focuses on successful communication through speaking, writing, reading, and listening, as well as a thorough grounding in aspects of culture. Each unit embodies all of these standards in accordance with the theories described in this document. Unit activities blend different forms of communication and culture to ensure that the student meets all the standards. Course strategies include warm-up activities, vocabulary study, reading, threaded discussions, multi-media presentations, self-checks, practice activities and games, oral and written assignments, projects, quizzes, and exams.

French II

Duration: Full Year

Pre-Requisite: French I

Suggested Grade Level: 10 – 12

French II is a continuation of French I, further developing communication skills. Students learn to make comparisons, use idiomatic expressions, use pronouns and speak in past tense, all with increasing emphasis on reading and writing in a cultural context. Themes include daily routines, animals, the body, descriptions, the house, shopping, free time activities and transportation.



Spanish I

Duration: Full Year

Pre-Requisite: None

Suggested Grade Level: 9 – 12

Spanish I is a beginner level course introducing the essential elements of structure, vocabulary, and introductory conversation through themes such as greetings, introductions, good-byes, the alphabet, calendar, numbers, weather, time colors, familiar objects and places, family, food, pastimes, and school. This course is designed to meet the standards of the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages. These standards call for a method of teaching that focuses on successful communication through speaking, writing, reading, and listening, as well as a thorough grounding in aspects of culture. Each unit embodies all of these standards in accordance with the theories described in this document. Unit activities blend different forms of communication and culture to ensure that the student meets all standards. Course strategies include warm-up activities, vocabulary study, reading, threaded discussions, multi-media presentations, self-checks, practice activities and games, oral and written assignments, projects, quizzes, and exams.

Spanish II

Duration: Full Year

Pre-Requisite: Spanish I

Suggested Grade Level: 10 – 12

Students travel virtually through Central America and the Caribbean, spending time in museums, traffic jams, and even the hospital. In this course, students broaden their Spanish vocabulary and their knowledge of grammar. They meet people from many different countries and cultures. While waiting for the plane ride home, students also meet some Spanish-speaking people from different parts of the United States. The purpose of this course is to strengthen Spanish listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills. Students also experience the beauty and expressiveness of a language that is shared by different people and cultures throughout the world.

Spanish III

Duration: Full Year

Pre-Requisite: Spanish II

Suggested Grade Level: 11 – 12

Dive into the rich diversity of Hispanic culture across the globe by exploring the tastes, sights, and sounds of this dynamic language that reflects triumph, struggle, celebration, and so much more. During this cultural journey, you'll improve conversational, vocabulary, and writing skills through authentic tasks. Short of obtaining a passport, there is no better way to discover new lands, peoples, or experiences. Take your Spanish language abilities to the next level!



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