

# SPECIAL SERVICES

## Philosophy Statement

The Special Services Department is committed to providing a supportive environment in which students with special educational needs can develop intellectual, academic, physical, emotional, social and civic life skills. The department strives to assist each student in accessing a variety of learning opportunities provided by the high school. The Special Services program supports each student's effort to become a self-aware, self-directed, self-advocating learner.

Special Services courses provide specialized instruction and support to eligible students. A team of school professionals determines a student's eligibility for special education according to the guidelines of the Illinois State Board of Education. The identification, placement and provision of special education services are governed by federal and state regulations and are provided with the input of the professional staff, the student and the parents.

Courses are designed to meet individual learner needs and address any exceptional characteristic that interferes with learning. Each eligible student has a written Individual Education Plan (IEP) that specifies annual goals, benchmarks and related services. The Special Services Program is led by the Director of Special Services for Community High School District 128. The Special Services Supervisor coordinates the programs within the high school building. Student needs are met by professional instructors and paraprofessional teacher assistants.

## Special Services

### Course Descriptions

- Courses listed in this department will be offered on a need basis and may not be available every year.

## Algebra I

Course No.: 9606B

Prerequisite: Placement

Credit: 1.0 / Full Year

Fees:

Grades: 9, 10, 11, 12

Other: A TI-84+ graphing calculator is required.

**Algebra I** topics include properties of real numbers, linear equations and inequalities and their graphs, solving equations, systems of linear equations, algebraic expressions, quadratic equations, functions, operations with polynomials and radicals, properties of exponents, factoring, general problem solving, critical thinking, and elementary probability and statistics concepts.

## Algebra II

Course No.: 9612B

Prerequisite: Placement; Algebra I and Geometry.

Credit: 1.0 / Full Year

Fees:

Grades: 10, 11, 12

Other: A TI-84+ graphing calculator is required.

**Algebra II** (does not include Trigonometry) includes such topics as the real number system, functions and relations, linear functions, systems of linear equations and inequalities, quadratic functions, exponential and logarithmic functions, rational functions, irrational algebraic functions, and matrices. A strong emphasis is placed on problem solving and technology applications.

## American Literature

Course No.: 9542L, 9642B

Prerequisite: Placement

Credit: 1.0 / Full Year

Fees:

Grades: 11

Other: Writing Intensive

**American Literature** encourages students to explore prominent themes of American culture through the reading of texts of all genres and historic periods. This course embodies an integrated, inquiry-based approach to reading, writing, speaking, and research, with critical thinking underpinning all of these strands. American Literature fulfills the third year English requirement for graduation.

## Applied Mathematics

Course No.: 9532L, 9634B

Prerequisite: Placement

Credit: 1.0 / Full Year

Fees:

Grades: 9, 10, 11, 12

Other:

**Applied Mathematics** are designed to reinforce general math skills, extend these skills to include some pre-algebra and algebra topics, and use these skills in a variety of practical, consumer, business, and occupational applications. Course topics typically include rational numbers, measurement, basic statistics, ratio and proportion, basic geometry, formulas, and simple equations.

## Business Mathematics

Course No.: 9614B

Prerequisite: Placement

Credit: 1.0 or 0.5 / Full Year or One Semester

Fees:

Grades: 10, 11, 12

Other: Credit may be applied toward Mathematics graduation credits.

**Business Mathematics** is the application of mathematical concepts to practical business situations or problems.

The goals include the development and improvement of specific business and math skills that will enable students to function effectively as intelligent consumers in the market place and in a career environment. Units will include payroll, banking, budgeting, recordkeeping, sales taxes, and personnel records. Students will need a calculator.

### **Consumer Education**

*Course No.: 9522LS, 9604BS*

*Prerequisite: Placement*

*Credit: 0.5 / Semester 2 only*

*Fees:*

*Grades: 12*

*Other: In special circumstances, grade 11 students may be allowed to enroll in this course, with staff approval and space permitting.*

**Consumer Education** provides students with the basic principles necessary to make wise economic decisions that will benefit their personal and professional lives. The major areas of study will focus on checking accounts and online banking, budgeting, using credit, advertising, car and home buying, insurance, renting an apartment, comparison shopping, and good financial management.

### **Contemporary World Issues**

*Course No.: 9609BF, 9611BS*

*Prerequisite: Placement*

*Credit: 0.5 / Semesters 1 and 2*

*Fees:*

*Grades: 11, 12*

*Other:*

**Contemporary World Issues** provides an opportunity to study and analyze a wide variety of vital present day world topics. Emphasis is placed on oral presentations, classroom discussions and written research assignments. Instruction includes the use of the library, Internet, and research materials.

### **Critical Reading**

*Course No.: 9540L*

*Prerequisite: Placement*

*Credit: 1.0 / Full Year*

*Fees:*

*Grades: 9, 10, 11, 12*

*Other: Students may choose to continue their development of reading skills by re-enrolling for grade and credit.*

**Critical Reading** provides small group and individualized instruction to improve the student's reading level. The program is designed to remediate reading skills and improve the reading levels of students who are reading below grade level. This course is individually structured to improve the student's ability to phonetically read the written word, improve silent reading fluency, use comprehension strategies effectively, and improve vocabulary.

### **English Language Arts IV**

*Course No.: 9544L, 9644B*

*Prerequisite: Placement*

*Credit: 1.0 / Full Year*

*Fees:*

*Grades: 12*

*Other: Writing Intensive*

**English Language Arts IV** blends reading of literature and non-fiction materials with written composition. Students will continue to improve reading, writing, speaking, research, and critical thinking skills through reading, analyzing and comparing selected literature and non-fictional materials. Emphasis is placed on oral presentations, classroom discussions and written assignments. Instruction includes the use of the library, Internet, and research materials. English Language Arts IV fulfills the fourth year English requirement for graduation.

### **Freshman Literature and Composition**

*Course No.: 9546L, 9646B*

*Prerequisite: Placement*

*Credit: 1.0 / Full Year*

*Fees:*

*Grades: 9*

*Other: Writing Intensive*

**Freshman Literature and Composition** is structured to improve listening, reading, speaking, research and writing skills with critical thinking underpinning all of these strands. Students will practice literary interpretation through a variety of critical lenses. There is an emphasis on organizing thoughts; sentence, paragraph and essay structure; and proof reading, vocabulary, grammar and writing mechanics. This course fulfills the Freshman Literature and Composition requirement for graduation.

### **Geography**

*Course No.: 9506L, 9662B*

*Prerequisite: Placement*

*Credit: 1.0 / Full Year*

*Fees:*

*Grades: 9, 10, 11, 12*

*Other:*

**Geography** is an introduction to the study of the people of the world and their ways of life. The introductory unit emphasizes the practical use of maps and globes and reading including place location and geographical data. The remainder of the course is devoted to the study of the various physical and cultural regions of the world. A required research project will be completed each semester.

## **Geometry**

*Course No.: 9636B*

*Prerequisite: Algebra I or Placement*

*Credit: 1.0 / Full Year*

*Fees:*

*Grades: 9, 10, 11, 12*

*Other: A TI-84+ graphing calculator is required.*

**Geometry** students will learn to recognize and understand the various geometric shapes and solids, and know their properties. They will develop deductive reasoning ability and use it on proofs of geometric ideas. The course includes such topics as polygons, similar figures, circles, areas and volumes, three-dimensional figures, and drawing and construction of lines, planes, and angles.

## **Government**

*Course No.: 9507LF, 9663BF*

*Prerequisite: Placement*

*Credit: 0.5 / Semester 1 only*

*Fees:*

*Grades: 12*

*Other: In special circumstances, grade 11 students may be allowed to enroll in this course, with staff approval and space permitting.*

**Government** examines the fundamentals of the United States Constitution, State and local governments, the political process, and the rights and responsibilities of United States citizenship. A required research project will be completed.

## **Informal Geometry**

*Course No.: 9638B*

*Prerequisite: Algebra I or Placement*

*Credit: 1.0 / Full Year*

*Fees:*

*Grades: 10, 11, 12*

*Other: A TI-84+ graphing calculator is required.*

**Informal Geometry** is similar to Geometry with the difference being a lighter emphasis on formal proofs. Informal Geometry will study shapes and sizes and their uses in real life. Students will study area, volume, congruency, similarity, special right triangles, and right triangle trigonometry.

## **Tutorial**

*Course No.: 9510L, 9512L, 9611B*

*Prerequisite: Placement*

*Credit: 1.0 / Full Year*

*Fees:*

*Grades: 9, 10, 11, 12*

*Other: Grades will be issued on a credit/no credit basis. Students supported on a consult/monitor basis do not receive credit.*

**Tutorial** courses are designed to address individual student IEP needs in academic, social and/or behavioral areas and to support the completion of classroom and homework

assignments. The course emphasizes the development of self-advocacy and problem solving skills. Tutorial courses are designed to aid students enrolled in regular education or special education courses.

## **Unified Science**

*Course No.: 9536L*

*Prerequisite: Placement*

*Credit: 1.0 / Full Year*

*Fees:*

*Grades: 9, 10, 11, 12*

*Other:*

**Unified Science** explores life science, physical science, and earth science and their relation to student daily lives. General scientific concepts are explored, as are the principles underlying the scientific method and experimentation techniques. Course material is presented in both classroom and laboratory settings.

## **United States History**

*Course No.: 9560L, 9682B*

*Prerequisite: Placement*

*Credit: 1.0 / Full Year*

*Fees:*

*Grades: 11, 12*

*Other: In special circumstances, grade 10 students may be allowed to enroll in this course, with staff approval and space permitting.*

**United States History** is a broad survey of the major social, economic, political and cultural forces in the development and growth of the United States. It is a sequential approach to history from the colonial times to the present. A research project will be required each semester.

## **World History**

*Course No.: 9572L*

*Prerequisite: Placement*

*Credit: 1.0 / Full Year*

*Fees:*

*Grades: 9, 10, 12*

*Other:*

**World History** examines the major trends in history, economics and culture from a global perspective. The course emphasizes the relationship between contemporary issues and past and present events. A required research project will be completed each semester.

## **World Literature and Composition**

*Course No.: 9548L, 9648B*

*Prerequisite: Placement*

*Credit: 1.0 / Full Year*

*Fees:*

*Grades: 10*

*Other: Writing Intensive*

**World Literature and Composition** is structured to continue to improve listening, reading, speaking, research, writing and critical thinking skills through the reading of

texts from around the globe. Using an integrated approach continued emphasis will be placed organizing thoughts; sentence, paragraph and essay structure; and proof reading, vocabulary, grammar and writing mechanics, Students will practice literary interpretation through a variety of critical lenses. World Literature fulfills the second year English requirement and a requirement for graduation.

### **Additional Special Services Courses**

*Course Descriptions*

#### **Community Workplace Experience Program**

*Course No.: 9591L*

*Prerequisite: Placement*

*Credit: 1.0 per semester / Full Year*

*Fees:*

*Grades: 11, 12*

*Other: Students must be at least 16 years old and have a good attendance record.*

Students in the **Community Work Place Experience Program** spend a portion of their school day in a closely supervised community job site. A Job Coach provided by the Special Education District of Lake County, SEDOL, supervises students. Job sites vary and may change during the semester. This work experience concentrates on development of general employability skills, not specific work skills.

#### **Independent Community Work Experience**

*Course No.: 9593L*

*Prerequisite: Placement*

*Credit: 0.5 per semester / Full Year*

*Fees:*

*Grades: 11, 12*

*Other: This course receives academic credit and is counted toward the maximum credits per school year.*

**Independent Community Work Experience** credit will be awarded to Special Services students who are behind in VHHS academic credits. Juniors and seniors may apply at the beginning of each semester with their Transition Counselor. To earn credit in this course, students must find their own job, work at least fifteen hours a week for the semester and provide documentation of current employment through paycheck stubs and/ or employer contacts.

#### **In School Work Experience**

*Course No.: 9595L*

*Prerequisite: Placement*

*Credit: 0.5 per semester / Full Year*

*Fees:*

*Grades: 10, 11, 12*

*Other: Students must have a good attendance record.*

**In School Work Experience** provides a structured in-school job experience for eligible Special Services students. Students work in school offices or on school

related projects in the classroom. Emphasis is on following directions, appropriate social interactions with a variety of adults and peers, and development of pre-employment skills.

#### **Mentoring Training Program**

*Course No.: 9590L*

*Prerequisite: Placement*

*Credit: 1.5 per semester / Full Year*

*Fees:*

*Grades: 12*

*Other: Students must have a good attendance record.*

The **Mentoring Training Program** is on site at either the Veterans Administration Hospital in North Chicago, Great Lakes Naval Hospital in North Chicago or Good Shepherd Hospital in Barrington. The Special Education District of Lake County, SEDOL, supervises this program. Students are placed in a supervised training area to gain job training skills as well as develop general employability skills.