



WELCOME TO THE 9TH GRADE

ENGLISH

English 9 - 1 credit

The purpose of this course is to immerse students in full-length literature, focusing on the use of literary elements by authors and the development of themes over longer narratives. Students will be introduced to poetic forms, the fundamentals of research, and writing for clarity, purpose and accuracy. Students will read and analyze at least four novels in addition to a wide range of poetry and shorter texts. Grade 9 begins preparation for the ELA Regents Exam by focusing on listening skills and informational writing. **NCAA Approved.**

English 9 Honors – 1 credit

The purpose of this course is to bridge students from young adult literature into the literary canon, laying the foundation for success throughout the Honors/AP program. Students will develop critical thinking and writing skills, conduct self-directed research, and read a wide range of sophisticated literature, learning to apply a variety of literary techniques to these discussions. Students will focus on writing with purpose and clarity. Students will read and analyze at least six full-length literary works, in addition to a wide range of poetry and other shorter works. **NCAA Approved.**

SOCIAL STUDIES

Global History 9 – 1 credit

The purpose of this course is to prepare students to take the Regents examination in Global History. It is the first year of a two-year course of study. During their sophomore year, students study Global History and Geography II. At the conclusion of the two-year course, students will take a Regents Examination covering the content and skills from both years. The units of study covered in the students' freshman year are Introduction to Global History, the Ancient World, Expanding Zones of Exchange and Encounter, Global Interaction, and the Age of Absolute Monarchs. The study of the geography of the world is an integral part of each unit in the course. **NCAA Approved.**

MATHEMATICS

Introduction to Algebra 1 - 1 credit

This course is designed for students who need to build on 8th grade algebra skills before transitioning into the **Algebra 1** course. **Intro to Algebra 1** will allow extensive opportunity to practice basic algebraic skills and provide a stronger foundation for the topics tested on the Regents Exam in Algebra I (common core). To see these topics please refer to the **Algebra 1** course description. A school final will be given in June. Upon successful completion of this course, students will move to **Algebra 1**.

Algebra I – 1 credit

This course is a minimum requirement for graduation in New York State. Strong emphasis is placed on Algebraic thinking and seeing structure in expressions. Arithmetic operations with polynomials and rational functions, creating equations to model functions, and reasoning with equations and inequalities are the roots of the course. Mathematical practices are also emphasized. The Regents Exam in Algebra (Common Core) will be given at the end of the course in June, aligned with the Common Core Learning Standards. **NCAA Approved.**

Geometry 1- credit

The fundamental purpose of the course in Geometry is to formalize and extend students' geometric experiences from the middle grades. Students explore more complex geometric situations and deepen their explanations of geometric relationships, moving towards formal mathematical arguments. Important differences exist between this Geometry course and the historical approach taken in Geometry classes. For example, transformations are emphasized early in this course. Close attention should be paid to the introductory content for the Geometry conceptual category found in the high school CCSS. Students will take the Geometry Regents Exam (Common Core) after the completion of this course in June.

SCIENCE

Introduction to Biological Sciences – 1 credit

This course is intended to prepare the student for later Regents level work in Living Environment/Biology. This "pre-regents" course will cover basic lab skills in measuring, observing and organizing data and the writing of lab reports. Reading comprehension, scientific writing and an overview of basic principles of Living environment including human environmental biology will be emphasized. Students will be enrolled in this course based on recommendations from 8th grade science teachers and school counselor.

Earth Science Regents / Physical Setting – 1 credit

This course of study investigates the earth model, its history, process of change, the earth's energy budget, and the rock cycle, leaving the student with the concept that we live in a dynamic earth which is constantly changing. This is a laboratory science and a written record of a minimum of 1200 minutes of lab work is a prerequisite for sitting for the Regents final exam. Lab meets every other day for one period. **NCAA Approved.**

Chemistry Regents / Physical Setting – 1 credit

This is a laboratory science leading to a Regents Level sequence in science. This course represents a modern view of Chemistry based on topics that include atomic structure, bonding, mathematics of chemistry, kinetics and equilibrium, acid/base theories, oxidation/reduction, organic chemistry, nuclear chemistry and the application of the principles of reaction. A written record of a minimum of 1200 minutes of lab work is a prerequisite for sitting for the Regents final exam. This laboratory course meets 3 periods in each 2-day rotation. **NCAA Approved.**

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Physical Education – 1/2 credit

The Physical Education Department will provide intensive instruction in the motor and self-management skills needed to enjoy a wide variety of physical activity experiences, including competitive and non-competitive activities. Students will design a personal fitness program to improve cardio-respiratory endurance, flexibility, muscular strength and body composition.

FRESHMAN SEMINAR

Freshman Seminar – 1/2 credit

This seminar is a mandatory ELA elective that coincides with the objectives set in *The Lake Shore Freshman Academy*. In the *Lake Shore Freshman Seminar*, students will learn basic study, social, organization and life skills that are essential in order to be successful in and after high school. This course is designed to be a positive, hands-on and collaborative environment where students will work together to foster professional communication (verbal and written) skills that will be applied in the classroom, at home and later in the workplace. Using the skills and lessons gained in this course, students' will graduate on time with their cohort.

LANGUAGE

French 2, German 2, Spanish 2, Seneca 2 – 1 credit

This course continues study of the second language at the High School level from Middle School level 1. Comprehension and production of written and spoken language will continue to be emphasized. Students will receive continued instruction in vocabulary and grammar through thematic units designed to develop fluency. Cultural knowledge of the target culture will be enriched. In second year language study, students will gain greater confidence in producing both spoken and written language. Spoken and written fluency will be developed through informal presentations, group activities, and interactions with peers and familiar adults. Successful completion of course occurs with a passing final average. **NCAA Approved.**

MUSIC PERFORMANCE GROUPS

Concert Band – 1 credit

The purpose of this course is to teach students advanced skills needed for playing various musical instruments as well as participation in an instrumental ensemble through rehearsal and performance. During rehearsals students will be exposed to various types and styles of instrumental literature. In addition to rehearsals and performances, every band student is scheduled for one 1 period lesson each week. Students will also participate in mandatory instrumental performances approximately 5 times per school year, which will make up a major part of each student's band grade. Any student interested in learning a band instrument (no experience necessary) should sign up for this course. Any student new to taking an instrument should see Mrs. Poissant and may need to arrange for an instrument rental for the year. **This course satisfies the N.Y.S. mandated arts credit for music leading to an Advanced Regents Diploma.**

Symphony Orchestra- 1 credit

The purpose of this course is to teach students advanced skills needed for playing various string instruments as well as participation in an orchestral ensemble through rehearsal and performance. During rehearsals students will be exposed to various types and styles of orchestral literature. In addition to rehearsals and performances, every orchestra student is scheduled for at least one 1 period lesson each week. Students will also participate in mandatory orchestral performances approximately 4 times per school year, which will make up a major part of each student's orchestra grade. Any student interested in learning a string instrument (no experience necessary) should sign up for this course. Any student new to taking an instrument should see Mr. Molik and may need to arrange for an instrument rental for the year. **This course satisfies the N.Y.S. mandated arts credit for music leading to an Advanced Regents Diploma.**

Mixed Chorus – 1 credit

The purpose of this course is to teach students advanced skills needed for participation in a vocal ensemble through rehearsal and performance. During rehearsals students will be exposed to various types and styles of choral literature. In addition to rehearsals, every chorus student may be scheduled for a 1 period lesson each week. The mandatory choral performances average 5-6 times per school year, which will make up a major part of each student's chorus grade. **This course satisfies the N.Y.S. mandated arts credit for music leading to an Advanced Regents Diploma.**

COURSES THAT MEET ART/MUSIC REQUIREMENT

New 9th grade students must take their ART/MUSIC Requirement needed for graduation. The courses listed below meet this requirement.

Studio in Art – 1 credit

Studio In Art provides students with the fundamentals of the art-making process. It is a hand -on, project -based course, which encourages students to develop their creativity through individual expression. Students will learn basic techniques of drawing, painting, sculpting and printmaking. All students interested in art, regardless of experience, are encouraged to take this course. This course satisfies the Regents requirement of 1 credit in art.

Students attaining a 75% average or higher in Studio In Art will meet the prerequisite to take any upper level art

Clothing, Housing and Textiles – 1 credit

Exploration of the culture, history and fashion cycles of clothing and housing will be discussed in this class. Clothing design, house choices and construction will be included. Students will be responsible for creating a piece of clothing as part of the clothing portion of this class. **THIS COURSE CAN BE COUNTED AS AN ART CREDIT.**

iMusic – 1 credit

The purpose of this new-age course is to provide instruction in today’s popular music using the newest available technology. Students will listen to, evaluate, and create music through the use of this new technology and applications. The content of this course includes but is not limited to:

“Behind the Music” biographical study of popular music artists, film music, DJ composition/mixing, Floccabulary (current events study through hip-hop music videos), and more!

This course satisfies the N.Y.S. mandated arts credit for music.

Popular Guitar / Piano Class – 1 credit

The purpose of this course is to provide group instruction on guitar and at the piano keyboard. The emphasis of this course is on reading and playing chord charts, basic tablature, and piano melody with simple chord accompaniment. The content of this course includes but is not limited to: basic hand position, five-finger patterns, music reading skills, contemporary pop, rock, hip-hop/rap, and classic rock genres, evolution of the rock genre, examination of rock artists of the past and present, guitar and piano technique, tuning, ensemble playing, practice skills, and various performance opportunities. **This course satisfies the N.Y.S. mandated arts credit for music.**

Music in Our Lives – 1 credit

The purpose of this course is to cover a broad range of topics in music including basic elements of music (rhythm, melody, harmony) composition and performance, basic music theory, vocations in music, music history (Western European “classical” through Rock ‘n’ Roll/Contemporary) and music appreciation. Students will use a variety of experiences to gain a greater understanding of the way music plays a large role in human life including listening and analyzing various types and styles of music, along with composing their own musical compositions through a variety of media. **This course satisfies the N.Y.S. mandated arts credit for music.**

Drawing and Design Production DDP – 1 credit

Design and Drafting for Production is a class based on creative thinking, decision making processes, problem solving activities, and the design process. Students will combine these to come up with solutions to real world problems. Possible solutions are generated using 3-D software (Inventor by AutoDesk) and then turned into prototypes. Projects are developed using a variety of skills involving sketching, printing, plotting, 3-d printing, modeling and creation of prototypes.

**Students taking this course receive Technology Credit as well as satisfying the Art/Music credit requirement.*

BUSINESS

Keyboarding & Computers - 1 credit

Keyboarding skills are a must to be successful at work or in school. Most students have learned the basics in their elementary library skills class and in 6th grade keyboarding. Knowing proper finger placement and some basic word processing functions is just the beginning. In this keyboarding class we will take it to a whole new level. Students will learn how to create documents that will be useful for personal, school, college, and work purposes through the use of Microsoft Office Programs, including Word, Excel, PowerPoint, and Access. Students will complete several fun and relevant projects, creating their own “Dream Team” to help them improve their skills while learning new ones.

Personal Keyboarding – 1/2 credit

The purpose of this course is to teach students fundamental keyboarding skills. The main focus will be on proper keyboarding technique, speed and accuracy. Students will also be introduced to Microsoft Word and Excel. They will use the software to prepare entry-level business documents and reports as well as personal documents.

Internet & Web Design – 1/2 credit

The purpose of this course is to serve as an introduction to the Internet and Web Design. We will focus on gaining an understanding of the history of the Internet, protocols, browsers, HTML, and web page and site design using Adobe’s Dreamweaver application. Students will learn how to conduct effective web searches as well as create their own personal web sites. Each student will plan, design, and create professional Web pages.

Principles of Business – 1 credit

The purpose of this course is to introduce the students to the business world and the many roles they play in it. The course serves as an introduction and background for other business courses. Topics covered include; basic principles of economics, types of business ownership and the advantages & disadvantages of each, and computers and technology in the business world. Practical business topics that relate to everyday life such as how to be a smart consumer, banking, saving & investing, budgeting and using credit make this a course that can be applied to every student’s life.

FAMILY AND CONSUMER SCIENCE

Introduction to Foods – 1 credit

Contents of this course include nutrition, safety and sanitation, and preparation of a variety of foods. Food labs will be based on meal planning, meal service and preparation. Basic principles include measuring, abbreviations, equivalents, kitchen equipment and food preparation techniques. It is recommended that students take this class before moving on to advanced food courses.

Child & Human Development – 1 credit

Students will study various stages of development from pre-natal through adulthood. Emphasis will be placed on teen issues, dating, family, parenting roles and responsibilities. Various projects will be part of this class.

APPLIED ENGINEERING AND TECHNOLOGY

Home Maintenance / Repair – 1/2 credit

Have you ever wired a light, plumbed a sink, tiled, painted, or fixed something around the house. Well what are you waiting for? Anyone can watch it on TV, but it’s more fun doing it for yourself, and more rewarding also! Students will get “hands on” training on a variety of tools and power equipment used to do projects in areas such as basic wiring, basic plumbing, installation and maintenance of home appliances, remodeling principles, home safety, etc. Projects will reflect these areas and the interest of students as well.

Electronics & Computer Repair – 1 credit

Electronics and computers have become a part of our everyday life, but do you know how and why they work? Nearly every technical occupation requires some understanding or background in electronics or computers. This course is designed to give students a better understanding of general terminology and electrical safety, along with projects revolving around the basics of soldering, circuit testing, creation of circuit boards, electric motors, electronic fabrication and basic electrical repair. Once these general concepts have been learned, students will learn to assemble, diagnose, maintain and repair a common PC.

Recording & Audio Production RAP – 1/2 credit

Sound Recording & Live Sound Production is the sister industry to the Video, Gaming and Telecommunications industry. Students will learn techniques used in live music/theater set up and operation, recording music, TV and movie sound. Microphone types and techniques, production practices, mixing and mastering sound will be taught in our “state of the art” Mac lab using software apps such as Garage Band, Soundtrack Pro and various other audio editing programs. Projects will include recording songs by real bands and artists, working with sound loops, creating ring tones and creating soundscapes.

Technical Applications – 1/2 credit

Have you stopped to think how some of the simplest things you do every day actually happen? Everything you do, everything that is human made, is the way it is today because of the advancements in Technology. This class will introduce you to different ways of tooling and developing products in wood, metal, plastics, or any other material that may peak interest. Students will learn to plan and process materials to produce useable products that they will take home.

Digital Communications – 1 credit

Our society can't exist without communicating. Enhance your skills by learning some of the basics behind Radio and TV broadcasting, computer-based audio and video editing, screen & vinyl printing, computer and internet exploration, desktop publishing, and digital photography. Students will complete activities such as producing a computer edited radio commercial and video production, participate in a group television newscast. design computer graphics, and create vinyl cut designs using *CS5 InDesign, PhotoShop, Illustrator, and Blender* desktop publishing technology.

EXAMPLES OF TYPICAL 9th GRADE SCHEDULES

Students must take at least 6 ½ credits

STANDARD EXAMPLE

Period 1	English 9
Period 2	Earth Science
Period 3	Earth Science Lab/ Physical Education
Period 4	Algebra 1
Period 5	Lunch
Period 6	Freshman Seminar/ Study Hall
Period 7	Mixed Chorus
Period 8	Spanish 2
Period 9	Global 9

ACCELERATED STUDENT EXAMPLE

Period 1	Honors English 9
Period 2	Chemistry
Period 3	Chemistry Lab/ Physical Education
Period 4	Geometry
Period 5	Lunch
Period 6	Freshman Seminar/ Study Hall
Period 7	Symphony Orchestra
Period 8	German 2
Period 9	Global 9

NO LANGUAGE EXAMPLE

Period 1	English 9
Period 2	Intro to Biology
Period 3	Draw and Design for Production
Period 4	Intro Algebra 1
Period 5	Lunch
Period 6	Freshman Seminar/ Physical Education
Period 7	Study Hall
Period 8	Electronics and Computer Repair
Period 9	Global 9

CLASSIFIED STUDENT EXAMPLE

Period 1	English 9
Period 2	Intro to Biology
Period 3	Intro to Algebra
Period 4	Supervised Skills
Period 5	Lunch
Period 6	Freshman Seminar/ Study Hall
Period 7	Studio in Art
Period 8	IMusic
Period 9	Global 9

NO LUNCH EXAMPLE

Period 1	Honors English 9
Period 2	Chemistry
Period 3	Chemistry Lab/ Physical Education
Period 4	Geometry
Period 5	Mixed Chorus
Period 6	Freshman Seminar/ Study Hall
Period 7	Symphony Orchestra
Period 8	German 2
Period 9	Global 9

