

Herkimer High School



Course Description Book 2023-2024

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GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

COURSE REQUIREMENTS FOR GRADUATION

Students must earn 22 units of credit or more in grades 9-12 in order to graduate. Students must also:

- Pass four (4) years of English – 4 credits
- Pass four (4) years of Social Studies – 4 credits
- Pass three (3) years of Math – 3 credits
- Pass three (3) years of Science – 3 credits
- Pass one (1) year of Foreign Language (Spanish) – 1 credit
- Pass one half (1/2) year of Health – 0.5 credit
- Pass one (1) unit of Fine Arts* – 1 credit
- Pass four (4) years of Physical Education (1/2 credit each year) – 2 credits
- Pass four (4) Elective Courses – 3.5 credits

*Fine Arts requirements may be met by taking Studio Art, Design and Drawing for Production, Choir, or Band.

REQUIRED COURSE BREAKDOWN

In addition to these required courses, students planning their course selections must select additional credits from the elective courses available each year. Students are enrolled in at least 5.5 credits each year (5 classes plus PE), but may select more credits if they wish. (*R*) = *Regents exam*

Required Courses – Grade 9

- English 9 – 1 credit
- Social Studies 9 – 1 credit
- Algebra I (*R*) OR Algebra Extended 1 – 1 credit
- Living Environment (*R*) and Lab – 1 credit
- Studio Art, Band, or Choir – 1 credit
- Physical Education – 0.5 credit

Students are offered the opportunity to earn the required Foreign Language credit in 8th grade. The Checkpoint A exam is required for graduation, and is offered at the end of their accelerated 8th grade study. If a student does not earn this credit in 8th grade, it will be part of their 9th grade studies.

Required Courses – Grade 10

- English 10 – 1 credit
- Social Studies 10 (*R*) – 1 credit
- Geometry (*R*), Applied Geometry (*R*), or Algebra Extended 2 (*R*) – 1 credit
- Earth Science (*R*) and Lab – 1 credit
- Health – 0.5 credit
- Physical Education – 0.5 credit

Required Courses – Grade 11

- English 11 (R) – 1 credit
- US History and Government (R) – 1 credit
- (A Third Year of Math) – 1 credit
- (A Third Year of Science) – 1 credit
- Physical Education – 0.5 credit

Required Courses – Grade 12

- English 12 – 1 credit
- Government & Economics 12 – 1 credit
- Physical Education – 0.5 credit

NEW YORK STATE REGENTS EXAMINATION GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

- Regents Diploma: Five required Regents exams with a score of 65 or better:
 - Math
 - Science
 - English Language Arts (ELA)
 - Social Studies
 - One additional exam from either Math, Science, or Social Studies

* The Regents Diploma with Honors requires a minimum average of 90% on these five exams.
- Advanced Regents Diploma: Eight required Regents exams with a score of 65 or better as follows:
 - Math (3)
 - Science (2)
 - ELA
 - Global History and Geography
 - US History and Government
 - Either a locally developed Checkpoint B Language Other Than English (LOTE) examination (3 unit sequence in LOTE) or a 5 unit sequence in the Arts or CTE

* The Advanced Designation Diploma with Honors requires a minimum average of 90% on these eight exams. **Note: Each Regents grade is averaged at the same weight of one, and scores below 90.0 shall not be rounded upward to 90% (Source: New York State Education Department)*
- Regents Diploma with Advanced Designation with Mastery in Math meets all assessment requirements for the Regents with Advanced Designation AND scores 85 or better on each of three Regents Examinations in Mathematics.
- Regents Diploma with Advanced Designation with Mastery in Science meets all assessment requirements for the Regents with Advanced Designation AND scores 85 or better on each of three Regents Examinations in Science.

**LOCAL DIPLOMA (Accessible Only to Students with Disabilities
with an IEP or Section 504 Accommodation Plan)**

- Low Pass Safety Net Option: 5 required Regents exams with a score of 55 or better as follows:
 - Math
 - Science
 - ELA
 - Social Studies
 - One additional exam from either Math, Science, or Social Studies

- Compensatory Safety Net Option: Scores between 45-54 on one or more of the five required Regents exams, other than the English Language Arts (ELA) or mathematics exam, but compensates the low score with a score of 65 or higher on another required Regents exam. *A score of at least 55 must be earned on both the ELA and mathematics exams. A score of 65 or higher on a single examination may not be used to compensate for more than one examination for which a score of 45-54 is earned.*

AGRICULTURE & TECHNOLOGY

AGRICULTURE, FOOD & NATURAL RESOURCES (AFNR)

Introduces students to the range of agriculture, food and natural resources. Students will discover careers and opportunities they may pursue including leadership development, agritourism, animal science, plant science, food production and natural resources. This course is a prerequisite for advanced agriculture studies.

ANIMAL SCIENCE

Student experiences involve the study of animal behavior, nutrition, reproduction, health, selection, and marketing. Throughout the course, students consider the perceptions and preferences of individuals within local, regional, and world markets.

DIY HOME MAINTENANCE (½ credit)

Whether you live in an apartment, dorm room, or house, you will need to make repairs at some point. This ½ credit 20-week course is designed for students to gain experience in basic home repair in areas like refinishing, light construction, plumbing, and masonry – electrical and other minor home repairs. Hands-on approach with students working individually or in groups.

LANDSCAPE DESIGN (½ credit)

Landscaping of homes and public buildings. Nomenclature, uses, placement, and care required by ornamentals used in landscaping learn how to complete hand drawn and digital designs that are currently used in the industry. Implement designs at school and in the community.

ART

STUDIO IN ART (1 credit)

Studio in Art is a full-year course, which focuses on a variety of topics and skills, involved in the creation of art. Studio in Art is in succession with Junior High Art. This course follows the elements and principles of art, at a more advanced level. While learning the elements and principles, students will experiment with a variety of art-making tools to create their own works. Students will also study various styles of art, influential artists, diverse cultures, and art history. They will understand how art influences cultures, and how cultures influence art. Upon completion of this course, students will have fulfilled their visual arts high school graduation requirement. This course is a prerequisite for advanced art courses.

BASIC DRAWING TECHNIQUES (DRAWING 1) (½ credit)

(Prerequisite: Studio In Art)

This course focuses on a variety of topics and skills, involved in the creation of realistic drawing. This course helps students to become familiar with specific drawing materials, techniques, and styles. In this course, students will complete a variety of projects involving various drawing media, such as pencil, charcoal, colored pencil, pen and ink, chalk pastel, and oil pastel.

This course is eligible for College Now credit.

INTRODUCTION TO PAINTING (PAINTING 1) (½ credit)

(Prerequisites: Studio In Art, Drawing 1)

Introduction to Painting addresses beginner painting skills and techniques. In this course, students will learn how to handle a variety of painting media, such as tempera, acrylic, watercolor, and oil paint. Students will have the opportunity to create a number of paintings, throughout the duration of this course. The size and subject of the work is student choice.

This course is eligible for College Now credit.

CERAMICS (½ credit)

(Prerequisite: Studio In Art)

Ceramics is an art elective course offered to all high school students. In Ceramics, students will learn basic sculpting techniques and methods for creating clay pottery. Throughout this course, students will become familiar with the basic terminology and methods used in creating three-dimensional pottery construction. Students will be expected to complete a number of mandated and individual projects.

This course is eligible for College Now credit.

SCULPTURE (½ credit)

(Prerequisite: Studio In Art)

Sculpture is an overview of basic skills used to create three-dimensional works of art in a half-year course. This course has an emphasis on studio production, while learning about influential artists, diverse cultures and art history. Students will be experimenting with a variety of materials and tools to create their own three-dimensional works. Materials such as clay, papier-mâché and found objects will be used.

INTRODUCTION TO COMPUTER GRAPHICS & DESIGN (½ credit)

(Prerequisite: Studio In Art)

This will be a half year elective course that will focus on the digital side of the arts with emphasis placed on the creative side of technology. Students will be taking and using their own digital photos to create different graphics pieces. This computer-based graphic design course will consist of using vector-based drawing and photographic image editing software. The main softwares used are Adobe Photoshop and Adobe Illustrator. In addition to these programs, students will also be using numerous websites, graphics programs, 3-d printer, apps, iPad or iPods, and smartphones for the duration of the class.

This course is eligible for College Now credit.

DIGITAL DRAWING (½ credit)

(Prerequisite: Studio In Art)

Digital drawing course is a half-year elective course where students use iPads and Apple pencils to create digital art pieces. Students will learn to edit and adjust photographs, create original photo manipulations, original illustrations, and commercial art.

This course is for students in grades 10 - 12.

MIXED MEDIA (½ credit)

(Prerequisite: Studio In Art)

Mixed Media focuses on a variety of topics and skills involved in the creation of art. This course allows students to combine media (art-making materials), techniques, and styles, while experimenting with a variety of art-making tools to create their own unified works.

This course is for students in grades 10 - 12.

NEW MEDIA (½ credit)

Students will be creating and publishing original content in a variety of media forms for an authentic audience. Students will explore but not be limited to: Website design, Journalism, Graphic design, Video, Digital photography, Social media. The New Media course students will problem solve, challenge, collaborate, design and create innovative projects. Student experiences will be across a full spectrum of digital products and interfaces.

This course is for students in grades 10 - 12.

ART HISTORY I (½ credit)

Art History I is an art elective course which explores an understanding and knowledge of architecture, sculpture, painting, and other art forms within diverse historical and cultural contexts. In this course, students will begin their journey learning about the earliest known artifacts, such as cave paintings and stone sculptures, and we will end at the Renaissance, one of the most exciting periods in art history. Art History is not a traditional lecture course. Throughout the duration of this course, students will also create their own art forms to accompany well-known periods of history.

This course is for students in grades 10 - 12.

ART HISTORY II (½ credit)

(Prerequisite: Art History I)

Art History II is an art elective course that continues where Art History I left off. In this course, we will continue learning about the Renaissance, through the present day works of Postmodernism.

This course is for students in grades 10 -12.

ADVANCED ART (½ credit)

(Prerequisites: Studio In Art and at least two Art electives, or teacher recommendation)

Students will further develop as artists, as they expand on the skills and techniques previously learned in the basic art courses. Advanced Art students are required to complete both mandated and independent projects, however they are allowed to choose their own sizes, subjects, and themes for many of their projects. Students in Advanced Art plan projects that reflect creativeness and higher-level thinking. They should produce works suitable for portfolio presentation for art majors.

PRE-AP ART (½ credit)

(Prerequisite course: Studio In Art)

Pre-AP Art is a half-year art elective course that is in preparation for enrollment in the AP Art Immersion Program. Studio in Art and certain art electives are prerequisites to Pre-AP. Students will further develop as artists, as they expand on the skills and techniques previously learned in the basic art courses. Pre-AP students are allowed to choose their own sizes, subjects, and media concentration for many of their projects. Students in Pre-AP plan projects that reflect creativeness and higher-level thinking. They should produce works suitable for portfolio presentation for art majors.

This course is for students in grade 11.

AP Art (1 credit)

(Prerequisite: Pre-AP Art/at least two Art electives, or teacher recommendation)

This class is for 12th grade students that are interested in going to college or a career ready field in the arts. AP Studio Art is not based on a written exam; instead, students submit portfolios for evaluation in May. In building the portfolio, students experience a variety of concepts, techniques, and approaches designed to help them demonstrate their abilities as well as their versatility with techniques, problem solving, and ideation. AP Studio Art students demonstrate mastery through any two-dimensional or three-dimensional medium or process, such as drawing, graphic design, digital imaging, photography, collage, fabric design, weaving, fashion design, fashion illustration, painting, printmaking, ceramics and sculpture. AP Studio Art students will also experience guest artists and a variety of field trips to support learning.

This course is for students in grade 12.

This course is eligible for Advanced Placement credit.

Innovative Arts (½ credit)

This course is designed for students to be introduced to many different forms of creative and innovative art forms. Some lesson examples are glass mosaic and fusing, crochet, use of the glowforge (laser cutter) vinyl and much more.

This course is for students in grades 10 - 12.

ENGLISH

ENGLISH 9

English 9 is a literature-based course in which students analyze various novels, plays, short stories, and poems. Works are explored through discussions and writing assignments. Oral expression is addressed in the form of speeches, debates, and oral presentations. Extensive reading and writing are required, as well as completing a research paper. Students will also read novels independently.

This course is required for graduation.

ENGLISH 10

(Prerequisite: English 9)

The goals of English 10 are to increase students' skills in reading and writing, to prepare students for the eleventh grade ELA Common Core Regents, and to encourage an appreciation of literature and an interest in writing. Students read, interpret, and discuss various literary genres: plays, short stories, poetry, and novels. There is an emphasis on reading comprehension and also relating relevant themes to the students' lives. Vocabulary and grammar are studied in the context of the literature read. Through writing journals, poems, essays, and a short story, writing fluency and writing skills are encouraged. A mandatory research paper teaches the students the process of constructing a research paper.

This course is required for graduation.

ENGLISH 11

(Prerequisite: English 10)

Survey course in American Literature from early American writers to the present day. Analysis of this literature and its themes through a variety of methods —cooperative learning, research on literary criticism and classroom discussions. Also, there will be an emphasis on writing in this class, both on the literature we read and for the English Language Arts Exam given during the junior year. A research paper is REQUIRED for this class.

This course culminates in a Regents Exam that is a graduation requirement.

ENGLISH 12

(Prerequisite: English 11)

This course is designed as an introduction to literary genres leading to a greater appreciation of fiction, poetry, and drama, as well as an acquisition for writing skills for all students. This course is designed as an intensive writing course that covers the following stages of writing: preliminary thought and discussion, research, organization, writing, revising, and editing. A special unit including the world of work will be included where college essays, resumes, emails, and business letters will be covered.

This course is eligible for two separate College Now credits.

PUBLIC SPEAKING (½ credit)

This course is designed to develop the student's skill in oral rhetoric. Emphasis is on research, organization and presentation of speeches that inform and persuade. Delivery, style, and audience analysis are stressed. Extemporaneous speeches are evaluated by the group.

This course is for students in grades 10 - 12.

This course is eligible for College Now credit.

CREATIVE WRITING (½ credit)

Creative Writing is designed to encourage students to write in various forms, with increased diversity and creativity. Some of the writing that students will complete includes journals, short stories, poems, and songs. Students will compile portfolios and will edit and revise their own and other's work. Grades will be based on these finished portfolios, as well as students' participation and effort in class.

SENIOR SEMINAR (aka ADULTING) (½ credit) - Watkins

What do you wish you had been taught?

This course will help students learn how to navigate the journey of adulthood. Students largely develop the curriculum based on things they feel they need to know and are lacking and will then be learning from adults who have real life experiences and expertise. Students will develop critical thinking and communication skills while exploring life's milestones of budget and finance, employment and career success, home ownership, insurance, health care, auto repair, and any number of other areas they feel are necessary yet underdeveloped.

This course is for students in grade 12.

FAMILY & CONSUMER SCIENCE

CHILD GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT (½ credit)

This course will provide the student with a knowledge base and practical experience in child development for application for his/her own role as a family member, as a future parent and/or in a career. In this course, students will explore how to help all children, prenatal through school age, establish optimal physical, emotional, social, and cognitive foundations. Through class instruction, projects, speakers and lab experiences, students will learn to recognize the factors that influence the development of an unborn child, identify the variety, forms and responsibilities of new parents, careers, and relationships by new parents and to examine the choices available to new parents who may need support.

BAKE SHOP I & II (½ credit)

This course is for those who love to bake or want to learn! Learn about the functions of ingredients, proper mixing/measuring, tools, and equipment used, plus following recipes. Students will choose their recipes, explore, and make various baked goods, such as muffins, cookies, pies, cakes, and yeast breads. Students will also be provided the opportunity to evaluate career options offered in the baking industry. The second semester will focus on developing and implementing a successful business model to apply these skills.

FOOD AND NUTRITION I (½ year)

This course is designed to focus on the many aspects of food and nutrition. Students will learn safety and sanitation, food preparation, culinary techniques, and basic nutrition.

This course is designed to focus on the many aspects of food and nutrition. Get ready to prepare and eat a variety of foods from all food groups!

This course is for students in grades 9 & 10

FOOD AND NUTRITION II (½ credit)

(Prerequisite- Food and Nutrition I)

This course will build off of Food and Nutrition I. We will advance safety and sanitation, food preparation, influences, marketing, as well dietary analysis to develop a healthy lifestyle with pathways to career readiness. The students will participate in various hands-on food labs. The students will be provided with the knowledge to plan, purchase, and prepare nourishing meals.

This course is for students in grades 11 & 12

HEALTH & FITNESS

HEALTH (½ year)

This class fulfills the state requirement for graduation. Through interactive discussions, activities, use of periodicals and the textbook, the following topics will be covered: nutrition, alcohol, tobacco, vaping, drugs, mental health, human sexuality including sexting, social media & teens' on-line presence, HIV/STDs and other current issues. The state mandate for CPR training is met through this course of study.

This course is required for graduation.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

The physical education program, together with the health education and safety education program, provides opportunities for students to achieve the skills, knowledge, and the attitudes that will allow them to attain an optimal quality of life and well-being. Physical education is taught within a curricular framework that focuses on the physical activities, skills, and attitudes that will prepare students to function effectively in a changing society.

FITNESS CENTER (½ year)

Weight training and conditioning is open to those students who would like to gain muscular strength, muscular endurance, cardiorespiratory endurance, flexibility, and body composition. Activity will include proper training in weight lifting techniques and muscular development. This course is designed to enhance physical muscular structure and cardiovascular conditioning. Workouts are designed for total body development and with a focus on overall fitness improvement. Safety and lifting techniques are the main focuses of instruction. Students who want to improve their overall fitness level or athleticism should sign up for this class.

DRIVER EDUCATION (½ year)

(Prerequisite: Students MUST have a driving permit BEFORE class begins.)

There are two sections of class: classroom and road. In the classroom section, six areas are covered: rules and regulations, seatbelt use, special driving situations, effects of vision and hearing on driving, buying and insuring a vehicle, car maintenance, effects of drinking and drugs on driving. In the road section of the class, students will prepare themselves and the vehicle for driving, normal city driving skills, country driving, highway driving, maneuvers, defensive driving, commentary driving, handling road emergencies, and preparing for the NYS road test.

LANGUAGE OTHER THAN ENGLISH

SPANISH I

This course is designed to acquaint the beginning student with the basic understanding of the Spanish language and culture. Basic vocabulary and grammar along with communicative phrases will be emphasized, focusing on specific conversational topics such as: greetings, classes, friends and activities, family, weather time and more. Videos, teacher websites, online tools and music will be used to augment the curriculum. Stories and storytelling techniques will address the four language skills of listening, reading, writing, speaking. Students will be able to create and tell their own stories in Spanish.

This course is required for graduation.

SPANISH II

(Prerequisite: Spanish I)

This course continues to develop reading, writing, speaking and listening skills in the Spanish language. A variety of verb tenses are introduced and utilized through various classroom activities, as well as more complex grammar and vocabulary. There is also an emphasis on Hispanic culture.

SPANISH III

(Prerequisite: Spanish II)

This course enables the student to practice and refine their reading, writing, speaking and listening skills in the Spanish language. Material learned in the previous year will be reviewed and built upon, including previously learned verb tenses and grammar. There will also be an emphasis on Hispanic culture and extensive vocabulary study.

SPANISH IV

(Prerequisite: Spanish III)

This course is designed to enable the student to better understand Hispanic culture through the use of authentic materials, cultural activities, literature and advanced grammar study. Students have the opportunity to register for College Now through Herkimer College and receive college credit for this course.

This course is eligible for College Now credit.

SPANISH V

(Prerequisite: Spanish IV)

Students participate in this course almost entirely in Spanish and focus on reading and discussions, improving speaking, listening, reading, and writing proficiency. They will be supported to reach an advanced proficiency level by the end of the year through short films, literature, and other authentic sources. Students have the opportunity to receive the Seal of Biliteracy with the completion of a presentation at the end of the year.

AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE

This course is a virtual learning option that is only available when there is enough interest to contract for it. A certified teacher provides live instruction off-site to provide foundational skills in American Sign Language.

MATH

ALGEBRA EXTENDED I and II

This two-year course is designed to strengthen students' basic math skills in preparation for the Algebra Regents exam, which is a graduation requirement. Students will be introduced to concepts including operations with fractions, decimals and integers, probability and statistics, basic geometry, inequalities, and graphing linear equations, as well as all course material from the standard Algebra course.

ALGEBRA

This course is designed to teach the Common Core Algebra standards that align with topics such as foundations for algebra, solving equations, solving inequalities, introduction to functions, linear functions, systems of equations and inequalities, exponents and exponential functions, polynomials and factoring, quadratic functions and equations, radical expressions and equations, rational expressions and functions, and data analysis and probability. These topics will prepare students for a Regents examination in June.

This course culminates in a Regents Exam.

GEOMETRY

(Prerequisite: Algebra)

This course is designed to teach the Common Core Geometry standards, with an emphasis on the meaning of geometry and the application of mathematics in a technological world. Topics include constructions, congruent and similar figures, transformational geometry (both with and without coordinates), basic trigonometry, linear systems, circles, and geometric and coordinate proofs.

This course culminates in a Regents Exam.

APPLIED GEOMETRY

(Prerequisite: Algebra or Algebra Extended I&II)

Topics include basic geometry, coordinate geometry, linear and quadratic systems, locus, transformational geometry, probability, statistics, algebraic Fractions, and mathematical systems.

ALGEBRA II

(Prerequisite: Geometry)

This course is designed to teach the Common Core Algebra II standards. It will focus on functions as the cornerstones of algebra, linear functions, equations and their algebraic, exponential, and logarithmic functions, sequences and series, quadratic functions, transformations of functions, radicals and the quadratic formula, complex numbers, polynomial and rational functions, the circular functions, probability, and statistics.

This course culminates in a Regents Exam.

PRE-CALCULUS

(Prerequisite: Algebra II)

A more in-depth study of several topics introduced in trigonometry. Topics include polynomial functions and their graphs, exponential and logarithmic functions including introduction of the natural base, e , and natural logarithms, trigonometry, analytic geometry, matrices, limits, analytic geometry, and differentiation.

Emphasis will be placed on several topics that are used extensively in calculus. Juniors and seniors who demonstrate strong math skills may be permitted to concurrently enroll in Algebra II.

This course is eligible for College Now credit.

CALCULUS

(Prerequisite: Pre-calculus)

This course will give you a leg up on the incoming college freshman class. Calculus is an essential mathematical discipline for the sciences, engineering, computer studies and a host of other fields. You will learn about the Cartesian plane, limits and the continuity of functions, definitions of derivative, formulas for differentiation of algebraic functions and integral and integration techniques.

This course is eligible for College Now credit.

STATISTICS

(Prerequisite: Algebra II)

Every day we are confronted with statistical terms in sporting events, news programs, textbooks, the Internet, newspapers and on the radio. This course is suitable for students who are interested in a wide variety of subjects. Whether you want to go on into advertising, business, science, teaching, sports or psychology, you will need to know the tools of statistics. You will learn about the organization of data, measures of central tendency, probability theory, distributions, hypothesis testing, and regression and correlation.

This course is eligible for College Now credit.

FINANCIAL MATH

Mathematics as applied to financial operations. Topics include recordkeeping, interest and discount, credit and payments, loans, checking and savings, insurance, taxes, financial analysis, investments, and business operations. An integral part of this course includes real-world applications which answers the age-old question of "When am I ever going to use this?"

This course is for students in grades 11 & 12.

MATH MATTERS

We all use math in everyday applications whether we're aware of it or not. If you look hard enough, you'll see math emerge from some of the most unlikely places. Students will use math applications to tackle life's challenges through project-based learning.

This course is for students in grades 11 & 12.

MUSIC

CHAMBER CHOIR

Study of choral music for singers, including advanced study. Students form a cohesive musical chorus through reading and musicality, including tone evaluation, intonation work, and ensemble singing. Music selections include a number of styles from the 1600's (Mozart, Beethoven) to popular music. Students will also participate in community events. Select choirs may be formed from this group.

Concert performance is mandatory to receive course credit.

SYMPHONIC BAND

The Symphonic Band includes instrumental musicians in grades 9-12. The Symphonic Band provides students with a chance to explore excellent works in the field of instrumental music. Styles covered include pop, jazz, classical, and traditional concert band literature. Students may also participate in Jazz Ensemble, Pep Band and Marching Band, and may elect to participate in the NYSSMA solo festival each year, as well as possible consideration for All-County, Area All-State and All-State Bands. Each student is provided with a lesson each week as part of his or her musical training and curriculum. The band performs at several concerts and events throughout the year.

Concert performance is mandatory to receive credit.

BEGINNING PIANO I & II (½ credit)

Students with no previous experience in piano will learn basic early piano skills from understanding bass clef and treble clef, simple melodies, some simple harmony, hand position, and chord basics. Class requires playing in class sometimes as a group and sometimes alone.

Prerequisite: Chamber Choir or Symphonic Band

MUSIC HISTORY I & II (½ credit)

A course recommended for the aspiring music professional that focuses on the foundations of music in Prehistoric times, Baroque, Classical, Romantic, Impressionistic, and beyond. Music History I will conclude with the Classical Period, Music History II will pick up from Classic to modern day music. Literature and performance study will allow for connections between multicultural music and influences that shape new performances today. If students are part of a curricular performance ensemble, literature from the prospective courses will be tied into the course material.

MUSIC THEORY I & II (½ credit)

Music Theory I & II will focus on teaching basic understanding of the elements of music, covering clefs, time signatures, articulations, rhythm, dynamics, key signatures, scales, intervals, solfege, transposition, chords, and musical form. Students will creatively apply their knowledge and understanding through opportunities to engage in musical composition.

THEATER AND STAGE (½ credit)

Students learn a basic appreciation and understanding of the theater through hands-on experiences in improvisation and monologues, two person scenes and multiple character scenes from the Dramatic literature. Students also gain an understanding of the musical theater and its forms, innovations and conventions through reading and staging scenes, viewing excerpts or singing select examples. Students also learn some of the important personalities (directors, choreographers, performers, etc.) and the important writing teams (Lerner & Loewe, Gershwin Brothers, Rodgers & Hart, Jerry Herman, Rodgers & Hammerstein, Sondheim, etc.)

SCIENCE

LIVING ENVIRONMENT

Corequisite: Living Environment Lab Class

Living Environment presents the materials as outlined in the NYS Core Curriculum transitioning to New York State Science Learning Standards. (NYSSLS). There are five topic areas that are covered: Biological Structure and Function, Matter & Energy in Organisms & Ecosystems, Interdependent Relationships in Ecosystems, Inheritance and Variation of Traits, and Natural Selection and Evolution. These themes are discussed in class with numerous lab experiences reinforcing the major topics of the course. Requirements include textbook readings, written lab reports, daily homework, and in-class assignments. Time will be spent in preparation for the Regents exam and the development of test-taking skills. A 1200 lab minute minimum is required to take the Regents exam. *This course meets the life science requirement for graduation. This course culminates in a Regents Exam.*

EARTH SCIENCE

Corequisite: Earth Science Lab Class

Earth Science Regents classes present material according to NYS Core Curriculum transitioning to New York State Science Learning Standards. (NYSSLS). The various topics covered are Introduction to Earth Science, Spheres of Earth, and Mapping; Astronomy, Celestial Objects, and Orbits; Meteorology, Insolation, Energy Transfer, and Climate; Weathering, Erosion, and Deposition; Rocks and Minerals; Dynamic Earth, Earthquakes; Historical Geology; and Landforms. Each of these is presented with lab experiences to meet the NYS 1200-minute lab requirement. Homework, classwork, participation, along with quizzes and tests will provide students with adequate information, test taking strategies, and a hands-on approach in preparation of the Regents exam. At the end of the course, students take a two-part Regents exam: the performance portion and the written portion. A field trip with a field trip lab report will occur. *This course meets the physical science requirement for graduation. This course culminates in a Regents Exam.*

PHYSICS

(Prerequisite: 2 units of science, 2 units of math)

Corequisite: Physics Lab Class

Physics is an excellent preparatory course for any student who plans to major in a science, technical or math-intensive college program. Extensive application of analytical thinking, math skills, and scientific curiosity are stressed. Topics include mechanics (linear, circular, & projectile motion, momentum & energy conservation laws), sound & light wave phenomena (reflection, refraction, diffraction, basic optics); static & current electricity, magnetism, basic circuits; and modern physics (quantum theory, sub-atomic structure, and nuclear reactions). Many everyday examples of the use of these physical principles are presented both in class and through discovery-based labs. *This course culminates in a Regents Exam.*

CHEMISTRY

(Prerequisite: 2 units of science, 2 units of math)

Corequisite: Chemistry Lab Class

Major areas of study are the structure and composition of matter, atomic structure, chemical bonding, processes and energy changes involved in chemical reactions, acid and base properties, equilibrium, electrochemistry, organic chemistry, nuclear chemistry, and applications of chemical principles. *This course culminates in a Regents Exam.*

HUMAN ANATOMY AND PHYSIOLOGY

A lecture and laboratory course in the anatomy and physiology of the human body. Study begins with basic terminology and cell structure; then extends to a survey of the organ systems. The areas covered will include, medical terminology, basic chemistry, cell and tissue structure, and the 11 systems of the human body: Integumentary, Skeletal, Muscular, Nervous, Endocrine, Circulatory, Lymphatic, Digestive, Respiratory, Urinary and Reproductive. Midterm and Local Final Exam

This course is for students in grades 11 & 12.

Forensics 1 and Forensics 2

Forensic science is a laboratory-based introduction to the analysis of crime scenes that explore the collecting and analyzing of physical evidence. This course is designed to integrate the core scientific disciplines while giving students both theory and hands-on experience with the skills and knowledge required of a forensic crime scene investigator. This multidisciplinary approach will highlight topics in DNA, genetics, anatomy, chemistry, physics, entomology, botany, and investigative techniques with supplemental subject matter through case studies, earth science, mathematics, medicine, technology and sociology. Project-based learning through laboratory investigations and discussions/class lectures will serve as the main method of content delivery. Individually and in groups, you will work on case studies using facts, logic, and objective thinking to research crimes and apply the processes used to solve them.

This course is for students in grades 11 & 12.

SOCIAL STUDIES

GLOBAL HISTORY AND GEOGRAPHY I

Global History 1 is the first part of a two-year Global History sequence, culminating in a Regents exam at the end of the 10th grade. World history is studied chronologically from the dawn of man to European exploration of the Americas (c.1600). Major themes include cultural diffusion, patterns of settlement and migration, religions and connections to our world today.

This course is required for graduation.

GLOBAL HISTORY AND GEOGRAPHY II

(Prerequisite: Global History I/Social Studies 9)

Global History II is the second year of a two-year sequence in Global History and Geography. During this year, we examine world history from 1750 to today. Major themes this year include conflict, security, power, imperialism, and current issues of global concern.

This course is required for graduation. This course culminates in a Regents Exam.

AP EUROPEAN HISTORY

(Prerequisite: Grade 10 student or higher; recommended by a social studies teacher)

The AP European History course focuses on developing students' understanding of European history from approximately 1450 to the present. The course has students investigate the content of European history for significant events, individuals, developments, and processes in four historical periods, and develop and use the same thinking skills and methods (analyzing primary and secondary sources, making historical comparisons, chronological reasoning, and argumentation) employed by historians when they study the past. The course also provides five themes (interaction of Europe and the world; poverty and prosperity; objective knowledge and subjective visions; states and other institutions of power; and individual and society) that students explore in order to make connections among historical developments in different times and places.

This course culminates in a Regents Exam and an AP Exam.

UNITED STATES HISTORY AND GOVERNMENT

(Prerequisite: Global History & Geography II)

In United States History and Government, we will examine the political, economic, and social history of the United States from colonial times to the present as well as take an in-depth look at the foundational document of our government, the Constitution. You will develop the knowledge and skills to become a well-informed, empathetic citizen who understands that the past can provide us with the context we need to understand the present.

This course is required for graduation. This course culminates in a Regents Exam.

AP UNITED STATES HISTORY

(Prerequisite: Global History II or AP European History, recommended by a social studies teacher)

AP U.S. History is an introductory college-level U.S. history course. Students cultivate their understanding of U.S. History from c. 1491 CE to the present through analyzing historical sources and learning to make connections and craft historical arguments as they explore concepts like American and national identity; work, exchange, and technology; geography and the environment; migration and settlement; politics and power; America in the world; American and regional culture; and social structures. College credit can be earned by performing well on the AP exam given in May. Juniors taking this class will be required to take the Regents exam in United States History and Government in June in addition to the AP exam.

This course culminates in a Regents Exam and an AP Exam.

PARTICIPATION IN GOVERNMENT / ECONOMICS

(Prerequisite: US History & Government or AP American History)

Students will learn to be informed and productive citizens in their community. All levels of government are surveyed, your obligations as American citizens are addressed, and current issues are debated. There is a community service requirement of 12 hours, and two local legislative meetings required. Students will become economically literate. The course teaches students how to understand what is going on in our economy, overviews general investment strategies, and includes basic economic theory. Designed to prepare students for real-life economics as well as college economics.

This course is required for graduation.

CIVICS (½ credit)

Civic readiness is the ability to make a positive difference in the public life of our communities through the combination of civic knowledge, skills and actions, mindsets, and experiences. Through civic education, students learn how to identify and address problems in their community or school community. Students also learn how to demonstrate respect for the rights of others, respectfully disagree with other viewpoints, and provide evidence for a counterargument. Civic education can strengthen the relationships of schools and students with parents, families, civic leaders, and organizations and community partners.

CIVICS CAPSTONE PROJECT (½ credit)

Students will identify a civic issue affecting their school and/or community and, by gathering data, reaching out to stakeholders, and conducting research, they will recommend and/or enact change(s). Students will present their findings and recommendations to a faculty panel and upon successful completion of this project and other requirements will earn a Seal of Civic Literacy endorsement on their high school diploma.

CURRENT EVENTS (½ credit)

This half-year course will examine current issues and problems on the local, national, and global levels. Course structure and requirements will vary by instructor, but many include a combination of class discussion, newspaper analysis, written assignments, presentations, and projects.

LAW AND ORDER: INTRODUCTION TO LEGAL STUDIES (½ credit)

Every society needs some form of regulation to ensure peace in our daily lives and in broader areas like business, family disputes, traffic violations, and the protection of children. In “Law and Order: Introduction to Legal Studies”, you’ll delve deeper into the importance of laws and consider how their application affects us as individuals and communities. Topics we will be learning about include: career exploration in legal studies, law enforcement, the Constitution and the Bill of Rights, legal practice - lawyers, law school, and types of law, policing - history, practices, issues, courts - local, state, federal, and Supreme Court, juvenile justice, corrections, and case studies / analysis of criminal and civil cases.

TOPICS IN LAW AND LEGAL STUDIES (½ credit)

This course will explore historical and contemporary topics in law and legal studies. Topics will be based on student-interest surveys and current events. Students will be required to complete at least one research project during this course.

WORLD WAR II (½ credit)

The great conflict of the 1930’s and the 1940’s rings loud and clear in the halls of history and remains an item for extensive study. The WWII course enables a student of history the opportunity to discover the details of the causes and effects of WWII. We study the leaders of the 20th century, the battles, generals, and other significant events that played a role during this time. The students will be able to understand how a world war of this magnitude happened and explain the aftermath.

HOLOCAUST (½ credit)

The course will allow students to understand the history of the Holocaust; the perpetrators, the victims, and the bystanders. We will also evaluate how genocide continues in the 21st century.

HISTORY THROUGH FILM I – U.S. HISTORY (½ credit)

Like written history, contemporary Hollywood feature films are an interpretation of their society. A major goal of this semester course is determining what is valid in contemporary films and historical dramas about United States history and what these films say about the people who created them, the politics behind their creation, and how they reflect the values, ideas, and larger historical issues of the times in which they were created. Students are expected to view films, participate in class discussions, and write a series of short essays comparing the film evidence to information in more traditional sources such as articles, film review, and critical commentaries.

HISTORY THROUGH FILM II – WORLD HISTORY (½ credit)

Like written history, contemporary Hollywood feature films are an interpretation of their society. A major goal of this semester course is determining what is valid in contemporary films and historical dramas about World History and what these films say about the people who created them, the politics behind their creation, and how they reflect the values, ideas, and larger historical issues of the times in which they were created. Students are expected to view films, participate in class discussions, and write a series of short essays comparing the film evidence to information in more traditional sources such as articles, film review, and critical commentaries.

PSYCHOLOGY (½ credit)

This course is designed to give students a solid background in the field of psychology. Topics include: the fields of psychology, methods of psychology, Principles of Learning, Intelligence and Creativity, Infancy and Childhood, Adolescence, Adulthood and Aging, Personality, and Mental Illness.

This course is for students in grades 11 & 12.

This course is eligible for College Now credit.

WOMEN'S HISTORY (½ credit)

This class takes on the history of the United States through a different lens. Students take a much deeper dive into the study of famous (and sometimes not so famous) women of the United States, the roles they played in shaping this country and women's rights for not only themselves but more importantly the future generations.

MILITARY HISTORY SEMINAR (½ credit)

Military History is a very large topic. The goal of this course is to describe a series of major considerations that military leaders have employed while practicing warfare throughout history. In doing this we will also look at the technical and theoretical developments in the military art over time as well as specific leaders and battles that influenced military history. We are going to use the United States Army's Nine Principles of War as a framework for this undertaking.

TECHNOLOGY

EMERGING TECHNOLOGIES (½ credit)

Students are introduced to tools and technologies that are shaping our future, including but not limited to coding, 3-d printing, drones, virtual or augmented reality, and game design.

COMPUTER SCIENCE DISCOVERIES (½ credit)

Students explore problem solving and computing, web development, programming, the design process, and using data to solve problems. Students may build their own websites, apps, games, and physical computing devices.

DRONES I & II (½ credit)

This course explores the core technologies of Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS), both historical and current, as applied to commercial and residential applications. It examines the integration of payload and programming with operational best practices and flight planning as they relate to mission application. Students who complete both semesters of this course will learn the fundamental knowledge and skills required to pass the FAA Part 107 B Commercial Drone pilots license.

DIGITAL COMMUNICATIONS (½ credit)

This course explores the skills and tools associated with the production of digital media (photography, video production, audio recording). Students create their own portfolio of digital work, and explore the career opportunities associated with the field.

TECH SEMINAR (½ credit)

This course is designed for students who have already taken Computer Science, Drones, or Digital Communications and are looking for a way to expand on them. Tech Seminar is an individualized, project-based course in which students will identify their own area of study, and then work collaboratively with the instructor to identify their own goals and objectives for the semester. At the conclusion of the course, students will have a public project that ties together all of their learning over the semester.

SPORTS MEDIA & MARKETING (½ credit)

This class will take a deep dive into the world of sports media and marketing. Students will get to see how different athletes and influencers play a role in different parts of society that they might not even realize. This class will also create a school sports twitter page, cover school athletic events, possibly make 'Sportscenter'-like short videos with highlights. We will also go through, reorganize, and digitalize the school trophy case (with help from the school technology department).

CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION THROUGH HERKIMER COUNTY BOCES

The CTE program through Herkimer BOCES is designed primarily for juniors and seniors. Students who choose to take CTE courses spend one-half (1/2) day in their home school, taking required courses, and the other 1/2 day at the BOCES Center.

Four units of high school credits are given each year for successful completion of a course. CTE programs are designed to be two year in duration. A listing of courses offered at BOCES follows. Course descriptions are available online at www.herkimer-boces.org.

PREREQUISITE: To be eligible to take a CTE program at Herkimer BOCES, students must be a true junior. This means that students will need to have passed two years of English, math, science, and social studies, and received passing test scores for all of the Regents exams for each of these courses, before the beginning of their junior year.

PROGRAMS

Automotive Technology
Building Construction
Child & Family Services
Conservation
Cosmetology
Criminal Justice
Culinary Arts
Heavy Equipment
Health Sciences
Information Technology
Outdoor Power
Visual Communications
Welding

