

BEACON HIGH SCHOOL COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

ART

Course Title: Studio Art

Term: One Semester

Credit: 0.50

Prerequisite: None

Description: This class examines the elements and principles of art and how to analyze artwork using them. Projects will include drawing, painting, printmaking, and sculpture.

Course Title: Art Theory

Term: One Semester

Credit: 0.50

Prerequisite: None

Description: This is a half year course that is an historical survey of the element of design from Prehistoric Art to Modern Art. Each student will learn about each period of Art through slides, pictures, and discussions then create artwork about that period.

Course Title: Studio Art II

Term: One semester

Credit: 0.50

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Art Theory and Studio Art

Description: This course is for students that enjoy creating art in a variety of mediums. Collage', painting, drawing/illustration, sculpture, digital photography and printmaking will be included.

Course Title: Ceramics I

Term: One semester

Credit: 0.50

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Studio Art and Art Theory

Description: Hand built pottery, techniques of coil, slab, pinch as well as throwing on the potters' wheel will be introduced. The firing process and glazing process of clay are also explored. Form, function and decoration are the emphasis of his course.

Course Title: Ceramics II

Term: One semester

Credit: 0.50

Prerequisite: Ceramics I

Description: Building methods developed in Ceramics I will be further explored and refined. More complex projects, such as teapots as well as production pieces will be introduced.

Course Title: Drawing & Painting I

Term: One semester

Credit: 0.50

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Art Theory and Studio Art

Description: concepts of gesture, contour line, shading and perspective will be explored using still life, figure drawing and imaginative subjects. Mediums used will include pencil, charcoal, markers, pastel, color pencil, oil pastel, and ink. Exploration of color, hue, and value using tempera, water color, acrylic and oil paint will be included in this course.

BEACON HIGH SCHOOL COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

Course Title: Drawing & Painting II

Term: One Semester

Credit: 0.50

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Drawing & Painting I

Description: Advancement of techniques in creating the illusion of form, light, texture and space in drawings and painting. Working on canvas and a variety of art papers to create skillful solutions to design problems.

Course Title: Textiles I

Term: One Semester

Credit: 0.50

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Studio Art and Art Theory

Description: Students will design and construct clothing, jewelry and accessories. Influences from culture and style will be examined. Craft projects working in fiber, paper, metal and various other materials will be explored.

Course Title: Textiles II

Term: One Semester

Credit: 0.50

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Textile I

Description: This course will build on the concepts and principles explored in Textiles I. Advanced techniques of design and craftsmanship as they relate to fashion, jewelry and crafts will be the emphasis of this course.

Course Title: Yearbook

Term: Full year

Credit: 1.00

Prerequisite: None

Description: All phases of yearbook production, including marketing, selling and layout, digital desktop publishing, photo journalism, illustration, advertising and accounting.

Course Title: AP Studio Art/Portfolio Development

Term: Full year

Credit: 1.00

Prerequisite: Art Theory, Art Studio, Drawing and Painting I, and teacher recommendation

Description: Enhancing skills from Studio Art, Art Theory, Drawing and Painting, as well as other Art elective courses to develop a portfolio that reflects individual abilities and post high school goals. Students will examine career options and training opportunities in various Art professions. A student that demonstrates exceptional quality, production and dedication in their artwork can apply for AP Credit (Advance Placement in Studio Art). However, the AP is not a requirement for course credit. This course may be repeated for a second credit. It is recommended the course start Junior year and conclude at the end of the Senior year.

Course Title: ADL Art

Term: Full year

Credit:

Prerequisite: CSE approval

Description: This course is designed to improve skills of dexterity, visual perception, and problem solving with art materials.

BEACON HIGH SCHOOL COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

ENGLISH

Course Title: English 9RR;RP

Term: Two semesters

Credit: 1.00

Prerequisite: None

Description: This course is an introduction to literature. It is designed to help students become better readers and writers. The goal of this class is to prepare students for the more demanding requirements of English 10 through 12. Students will explore many genres of literature, including the short story, novel, nonfiction, drama, poetry, biography, mythology, and Shakespeare. Major works include but are not limited to The Odyssey, Romeo and Juliet, The Chocolate War, House on Mango Street. Emphasis is placed on independent reading and writing, which includes spelling and vocabulary development. All students will receive study skills instruction to prepare them for the New York State Regents Exams.

Course Title: English 10RR;RP

Term: Two semesters

Credit: 1.00

Prerequisite: English 9

Description: This course includes the reading of literature such as Monster, Much Ado About Nothing, Julius Caesar, Raisin in the Sun, Johnny Got His Gun, The Pearl, A Separate Peace, Twelve Angry Men, selected short stories, poems and essays. Extensive compositions and writings include ten book reports on different literature selected from a specially prepared listing of works available; exercises in the techniques of writing a research paper, continued emphasis in grammar, the study of vocabulary development from a prepared list stressing spelling, meaning, and usage in informal and formal speaking as well as for the SAT. Students in this course must pass the Regents examination in order to receive a high school diploma.

Course Title: English 11 RR;RP

Term: Two semesters

Credit: 1.00

Prerequisite: English 10

Description: This course provides a survey of all genres of American writing from the colonial period to the present. Special emphasis is given to multiculturalism in twentieth century literature. Major works will include, but not be limited to The Crucible, Death of a Salesman, The Great Gatsby, Brighton Beach Memoirs, The Glass Menagerie, Huckleberry Finn, To Kill a Mockingbird, The Scarlet Letter, and The Color of Water. Students will show adult competence in narrative and expository essays. A research paper will be required by May. Vocabulary and study skills will be emphasized to enable students to approach college level work and prepare for the SAT. Students must pass the Regents exam in order to receive a high school diploma.

Course Title: AP English Literature and Composition

Term: Two semesters

Credit: 1.00

Prerequisite: English 11

Description: Designed to address the needs of the potential top-college level student, AP English examines and analyzes a wide variety of novels, short stories, poems, essays, and other genres of literature encompassing the scope and breadth of the literary canon. Major works include novels by John Steinbeck, Ernest Hemingway, Gabriel Garcia Marquez and prominent others. The study of drama includes plays dating from Sophocles and continuing to the present day, with a particular emphasis on the works of William Shakespeare. Works by romantic and Victorian poets are also stressed. Other vital literary elements, including motifs, archetypes, and schools of literary criticism. Finally, this course culminates in the administration of the College Board's AP English Literature and Composition exam, a mandated requirement to receive course credit.

BEACON HIGH SCHOOL COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

Course Title: Senior Seminar

Term: One semester

Credit: .5

Prerequisite: English 11

Description: Senior Seminar is a reading and writing course designed to prepare graduating seniors for the college admission process, college writing, professional writing, and the world of work. Students will develop a portfolio of work showcasing their mastery in a variety of reading and writing disciplines: letters; reports; research papers; descriptive, narrative, compare/contrast, narrative, persuasive writing. An oral/Powerpoint presentation will also be required. Students will accrue one hundred points toward the completion of the portfolio to qualify for graduation and course credit. Each assignment will have a point value. Completion of the assignment will award the point value. Grades will also be assigned and used to calculate the student average.

Course Title: Freshman Seminar

Term: One Semester

Credit: .50

Description: Freshman Seminar is a course designed to target reading, writing, and test-taking skills through a variety of activities. A minimum of two days per week is spent in the computer lab. Emphasis is given to oral reading for vocabulary building and comprehension. There is also extensive work with writing: grammar, sentence structure, punctuation, and essay formats.

Course Title: DCC English 101/102

Term: Two (2) Semesters – 12th grade core English or college placement

Credit: 1.00 High School Credit and 6 (6) SUNY Credits contingent upon achieving a C or higher.

Prerequisite: English 11 (90), Teacher Recommendation, Summer Reading List, DCC Pre-test

Description: The first course will emphasize the variety of writing styles necessary for college course work: description, narration, cause-effect, process analysis, compare-contrast, persuasion and argument and definition. Students will read model papers and essays and then write paper in and out of class using processes that include discovering ideas and evidence, organizing that material, and revising, editing, and polishing the finished paper; think critically so that they can recognize the difference between opinion and evidence and so that they can support an intelligent, challenging thesis; read non-fiction critically and write analytically about it; address papers to a range of audiences; develop a sense of voice appropriate to the subject, the writer's purpose, the context, and the reader's expectations; compose unified, coherent paragraphs that develop topic sentences with detailed support; shape effective sentences; write correctly following the conventions of standard edited English; and document essays using textual evidence. The literature component (102) will focus on the written critical analysis of the short story, drama, and poetry. A continuation of English 101, students will reinforce and extend their abilities to write correct, well-organized essays using various rhetorical strategies and stylistic techniques. Students will be introduced to a variety of writing strategies used in composing interpretive and analytical essays. Writing assignments will include a critical research paper. Students must pass a pretest and complete a summer reading list.

Course Title: Effective Communication Skills

Term: One semester

Credit: 0.50 – 12th grade core English

Prerequisite: Passing grades on the Comprehensive English Exam and English 11 course.

Description: This course will provide a basis for lifelong learning as students read, write, listen and speak for pleasure, personal growth, and intellectual challenge. Students will employ a variety of effective processes and strategies, including the use of electronic technology, to generate, gather and organize information and ideas. Students will enhance the precision, clarity and artistry of their communications by using processes that professional authors and presenters use to appraise and improve their communications. Students will demonstrate their understanding of and abilities to use a variety of forms and styles of communication that are relevant to specific purposes and audiences. This course will primarily be project based.

BEACON HIGH SCHOOL COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

Course Title: Performance Shakespeare

Term: One Semester

Credit: 0.50

Prerequisite: Senior Core

Description: Experience the fun and enjoyment that Shakespeare intended for his audiences. No tragedies or tears here! This course will delve into the comedies and one tragedy where magic, music, mayhem, song and dance rule! Follow four lovers on a magical trip through a **Midsummer Night's Dream**. Witness the **Taming of the Shrew** – or is it Kate who tames Petruchio? Be part of the **Twelfth Night** festivities as friends become lovers and lovers find new friends. In addition, have it your way, or **As You Like It**, as you enter the French woods to witness confusion, mistaken identity, and funny chaos. Examine one of the greatest and saddest love stories ever told: **Othello**. In addition to units on the four festive comedies and one tragedy, this course will include Renaissance song and dance, costume construction, and set design. Brush up on your Shakespeare. Overcome your fear of his language by viewing modern day versions and interpretations of Shakespeare's classics. This course is Shakespeare made simple and fun

Course Title: British and Celtic Storytelling from Ancient Times to the Renaissance

Term: One semester

Credit: 0.50 – 12th grade core English

Prerequisite: Passing grades on the Comprehensive English Exam and English 11 course.

Description: Myths, monsters, magic, and music are the focus of this new literature course. Students will be offered a glimpse into the vast study of British and Celtic storytelling. From ancient times to the Renaissance, explanations of life's mysteries emerged through music, dance, art and the spoken word. Students will learn about the secrets of Stonehenge and King Arthur. Through ghost stories, myths and folk tales of Wales and Ireland, students will meander toward the Middle Earth of The Hobbit. The course will also provide a brief study of the multicultural origins of American blues and folk, which have led to a modern fusion of musical styles from both sides of the Atlantic. Tentative reading list: Beowulf, Grendel by John Gardner, Sir Garwain and the Green Knight, Hamlet, The Hobbit by Tolkein, British and Celtic Ballads Book of Invasions, Ulaid and Fenian Cycles (Irish). Some readings may be assigned prior to the first class.

Course Title: Literature of Protest

Term: One semester

Credit: 0.50 – 12th grade core English

Prerequisite: Passing grades on the Comprehensive English Exam and English 11 course.

Description: This course will focus on British and Irish writers from the Renaissance times to the present day. Each author questions dysfunction in political and social systems. Our focus will be on the novel. Writers will include Shakespeare, William Blake, Charles Dickens, Mary Shelley, Thomas Hardy, Jonathan Swift, James Joyce, Chinua Achebe, Joseph Conrad, George Orwell, and Margaret Atwood.

Course Title: Foundations of Modern Thought

Term: One semester

Credit: 0.50 – 12th grade core English

Prerequisite: Passing grades on the Comprehensive English Exam and English 11 course.

Description: There are trends in thought and ideas, as in fashion. Those trends can be identified by looking at the literature of different time periods. Why do cultures subscribe to certain thoughts? The course will offer a study of the foundations of Eastern and Western thought. Why do we think what we do? Why do we value what we do? It is difficult to believe but our values have their roots in Socrates and Plato and other ancient Greek philosophers. Early philosophers will be studied as well as more modern thinkers such as Nietzsche and Sartre

BEACON HIGH SCHOOL COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

Course Title: Multicultural Perspectives in American Literature

Term: One Semester

Credit: 0.50

Prerequisite: Senior core

Description: Students will develop an understanding of American cultures, their impacts in society, and to bring new awareness and create change. Some of the indirect benefits of the course will be to affirm every student's voice and experience and create a positive atmosphere for developing an appreciation for the experience of all Americans. Research report: biographical and historical information about the author, summary of the author's literary output, description of the author's critical reception, and personal critical opinion of the author's work.

Course Title: Theater Production

Term: One semester

Credit: .5

Prerequisite: None

Description: If all the world is a stage, someone has to build the set and light it! The behind-the-scenes people who produce the magic of a production sometimes steal the spotlight from the actors who perform it! This course will focus on those behind-the-scene jobs. Students will engage in a variety of activities that are necessary for live productions: set building, lighting design and operation, costume design and construction, house management, video, advertising, stage management. A hands-on approach to learning, this course will expose students to the multi-faceted world found in theater as they work on current scheduled productions occurring in the theater and productions of their own event.

Course Title: Sports Literature

Term: One semester

Credit: .5

Prerequisite: English 9

Description: This course examines sport themes expressed in films, fiction, and poetry, with special emphasis on themes that can be compared with real sport experiences. These themes include, but are not limited to: heroes in American sport; youth and aging in sport; sport in the country and the city; nationalism, racism, and sexism in sport; the individual versus the community (team) in sport; and humor and poetry. The student will explore recurring themes that are often evident in sport stories and compare and contrast experiences that actually occur in sport with the stories that have been assigned. The student should be able to express in oral and written form specific narratives that define sport experiences. Works include but are not limited to Brian's Song, Gladiator, The Natural, Field of Dreams, Friday Night Lights, We Are Marshall.

BEACON HIGH SCHOOL COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE

Beacon High School has successfully introduced its newly designed ESL program with goals to prepare LEP/ELL students to meet the *revised Teaching of Language Arts to Limited English Proficient/English Language Learners*, as well as the standards in English and content areas to pass the five required Regents exams. Through intensive instruction, students will develop skills in listening, speaking, reading and writing for:

1. Information and understanding
2. Literary response and expression
3. Critical analysis and evaluation
4. Social interaction
5. Cross cultural knowledge and understanding

Course Title: English as a Second Language (ESL) – Beginning Level

Term: Two semesters

Credit: 1.00

Prerequisite: Non-English speaking or limited English proficiency as determined by the LAB-R State exam of listening, speaking, reading and writing or the NYSESLAT (New York State ESL Achievement Test). The NYSESLAT is given yearly in the spring to determine progress. This exam determines continuing placement and level or exiting criteria for the following year as per NYS regulations.

Description: This course will develop skills in English for social interaction, basic vocabulary (both general and content area), acculturation to school and community, basic grammar and beginning dictation. A mastery of beginning reading and writing skills and basic conversation are the goals of this course. Vocabulary essential to academic settings will be included in the content oriented approach to ESL. *This course meets for three daily ESL periods; an additional support period is offered every other day for help with schoolwork in content area classes.*

Course Title: English as a Second Language (ESL) – Intermediate Level

Term: Two semesters

Credit: 1.00

Prerequisite: Non-English speaking or limited English proficiency as determined by the LAB-R exam of eligibility or the NYSESLAT (New York State ESL Achievement Test). The NYSESLAT is given yearly in the spring to determine progress. This exam determines continuing placement and level or exiting criteria for the following year as per NYS regulations.

Description: This course is designed to continue development in speaking/listening/reading/writing for information and understanding, with greater emphasis in reading, writing, grammar and vocabulary. Instruction supports language development in the content area as well as literary analysis and more advanced dictation skills. Higher level oral communication is stressed with integrated activities in all skill areas. *This course meets for two daily ESL periods, with an additional support class every other day.*

BEACON HIGH SCHOOL COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

Course Title: English as a Second Language (ESL) – Advanced Level

Term: Two semesters

Credit: 1.00

Prerequisite: Non-English speaking or limited English proficiency as determined by the LAB-R or continuing placement as evaluated by the NYSESLAT (New York State ESL Achievement Test). The NYSESLAT is given yearly in the spring to determine progress. This exam determines continuing placement and level or exiting criteria for the following year as per NYS regulations.

Description: This course is designed for literary response and for further development of speaking/listening/reading/writing skills needed for success in the New York State Regents English program, in content area classes and in the community at large. Emphasis is on content embedded reading and writing skills as well as more advanced grammar, richer vocabulary, greater control of English syntax, active listening, writing strategies and testing strategies. It can include critical analysis, more literature such as short stories, poetry, short novels and more writing development. *This course meets for one daily ESL period, one daily ELA period and one support period every other day.*

Course Title: ESL Skills

Term: Two Semesters

Credit: None

Prerequisite: Non-English speaking or limited English proficiency as determined by the above evaluation process or support for exiting ESL students.

Description: This course meets for one daily period or every other day as time permits as a support period (s) to ESL students.

BEACON HIGH SCHOOL COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

FOREIGN LANGUAGE

Course Title: French I

Term: Two semesters

Credit: 1.00

Prerequisite:

Description: Students will be given an introduction to French by learning vocabulary based upon themes (family words, weather, time, dates, household objects, food, etc.). Students will also learn simple verb conjugations. Conversation will be emphasized with the creation of dialogues. Daily practice through repetition will reinforce vocabulary and pronunciation. Textbooks will be accompanied by workbooks. Audiotapes and videotapes will be incorporated into lessons. The use of Internet to explore the cultures of French speaking countries will be encouraged.

Course Title: French II

Term: Two semesters

Credit: 1.00

Prerequisite: French Teacher Recommendation or passing grade on the French Proficiency Exam

Description: Conversation and comprehension skills are developed further with a greater attention to reading and writing. Tapes as well as audiovisual aids are used to supplement basic course materials. Classes are conducted in French and contacts with the foreign language through films, plays, art exhibits, and musical recitals are encouraged.

Course Title: French III R

Term: Two semesters

Credit: 1.00

Prerequisite: French IIR or Teacher Recommendation

Description: In French III, while emphasis continues to be placed on the development of the understanding and speaking skills, increased attention is devoted to extensive and intensive reading designed to provide a source of pleasure through exposure to works in the foreign language. Selections are made from literary and civilization texts with a view to the accomplishment of course goals. Intensive oral practice is provided, and some time is devoted to formal auditory comprehensive development with tape and text materials coordinated. Classes are conducted in French. Students will be taking the Regents exam in French at the end of this course.

Course Title: French IV - Honors

Term: Two semesters

Credit: 1.00

Prerequisite: French III R or Teacher Recommendation

Description: French IV is a prerequisite for Advanced French in which emphasis will be placed on the integration and extension of the knowledge and skills acquired in previous years. The fundamental literary genres will be studied. The course will consist of analysis and discussion of reading materials.

Course Title: French V – Advanced Placement

Term: Two semesters

Credit: 1.00

Prerequisite: French IV or Department Approval

Description: This French language course covers the equivalent of a third college course in advance French composition and conversation. It stresses oral skills, composition and grammar, and emphasizes the use of French for active communication. The successful completion of this course will result in earning a college credit for French 101.

BEACON HIGH SCHOOL COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

Course Title: Spanish I

Term: Two semesters

Credit: 1.00

Prerequisite: None: for students who failed the proficiency test and those who never had exposure to the Spanish language.

Description: Beginning language students are immersed in the language and culture of Spain and Latin America through a variety of activities in the areas of listening, speaking, reading and writing. Songs, skits and multimedia technology will be included. There will be emphasis on theme related vocabulary such as family, weather, time expressions, traveling, going shopping, etc. This everyday practical vocabulary will be used in dialogues and question-answer sessions throughout the entire year.

Course Title: Spanish II

Term: Two semesters

Credit: 1.00

Prerequisite: Spanish IR and 65% or better on the Proficiency Exam

Description: This course elaborates on those skills introduced in the beginning level. Students are becoming more proficient orally and are encouraged to demonstrate this proficiency through other motivating activities. A basic text and reader for vocabulary expansion and comprehension are used. Students read longer and more elaborate Spanish selections. There are oral and written supplementary activities which provide students with an opportunity for free conversation and creative writing. Classes are conducted mostly in Spanish.

Course Title: Spanish IIIR

Term: Two semesters

Credit: 1.00

Prerequisite: Spanish IIR and/or Teacher Recommendation.

Description: Skills development in comprehension, speaking, reading and writing is stressed. Emphasis is placed on oral communication and expansion of grammar presented in levels I and II. Students read longer and more complicated passages from literary pieces. There is a major oral and written supplementary project aimed at providing the student with an opportunity for free conversational and creative writing. Abundant practice materials for the Regents Examinations are provided during the course of the second semester. Classes are mostly conducted in Spanish.

Course Title: Spanish IVH

Term: Two semesters

Credit: 1.00

Prerequisite: Spanish IIIR and/or Teacher Recommendation

Description: This course is designed to capitalize on the student's communicative proficiency in Spanish and to extend into the areas of the classical novel, contemporary theater, and modern novel, the short story, advanced Spanish Grammar and some of the great Spanish American authors of the 20th century.

BEACON HIGH SCHOOL COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

HEALTH

Course Title: Health

Term: One semester

Credit: 0.50

Prerequisite: None

Description: Health is a course required of all high school graduates. The course includes topics of personal, social and mental health along with topics relating to the quality of life in general. Parenting Education, nutrition, disease, drugs, alcohol, tobacco, mental health, consumer health and public health are among the topics included in the course of studies. Class participation, an outside the class project and a final examination are requirements for this course to be successfully completed.

BEACON HIGH SCHOOL COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

MATHEMATICS

Course Title: Algebra A

Term: Two Semesters

Credit: 1.00

Prerequisite: 8th Grade Math

Description: This course is designed to cover the first half of the NYS Integrated Algebra performance indicators. Topics include: Number/Set Theory, Geometric Formulas, Ratio and Proportion, Operations with Polynomials, Algebraic/Graphic Solutions to Linear Equations/Inequalities, Systems of Equations, and Probability. Students must have a scientific calculator for this course. A graphing calculator is permitted.

Course Title: Algebra B

Term: Two Semesters

Credit: 1.00

Prerequisite: Algebra A

Description: This course covers the second half of the NYS performance indicators that were begun in Algebra A. The course culminates with the NYS Integrated Algebra Regents exam. Topics include: Statistics, Operations with Radicals, Factoring/Solving Quadratics, Parabolas, Exponential Functions, Right Triangle Trigonometry, and Operations with Rational Expressions. Students must have a scientific calculator for this course but a graphing calculator is suggested.

Course Title: Integrated Algebra

Term: Two Semesters

Credit: 1.00

Prerequisite: 8th grade Math with at least a 75 average

Description: This course covers the entire NYS Integrated Algebra curriculum. Upon completion of this course, students will take the Integrated Algebra Regents exam in June. Topics include: Number/Set Theory, Ratio and Proportion, Operations with Polynomials, Algebraic/Graphic Solutions to Linear Equations/Inequalities, Systems of Equations, Probability, Statistics, Operations with Radicals, Quadratics, Exponential Functions, Right Triangle Trigonometry, and Operations with Rational Expressions. A graphing calculator (TI-83 or 84) is strongly recommended for this course.

Course Title: Topics in Math

Term: Two Semesters

Credit: 1.00

Prerequisite: Algebra B or Integrated Algebra

Description: This is a hands-on course designed to help students see Math in the world around them. The course is divided up into four 10-week modules. Topics include: Math in Art(including Photography), Math in Architecture, Math in Nature, Math in Sports, Geometry, Statistics, 3-D Shapes, Maps and Scales, Logic, and Matrices. A scientific calculator is required for this course.

Course Title: Integrated Geometry

Term: Two Semesters

Credit: 1.00

Prerequisite: Integrated Algebra, or in a rare case, Algebra B

Description: This course will cover the NYS Integrated Geometry curriculum. It is a rigorous course involving extensive work with proofs. The course will lead to the Integrated Geometry Regents in June. Topics include: Logic Laws/Proofs, Geometry Proofs (many!), CPCTC, Parallelograms, Coordinate Geometry w/Proofs, Constructions, Locus, 3-Dimensional Solids, and Similarity. A TI-83 or TI-84 graphing calculator is required for this course.

BEACON HIGH SCHOOL COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

Course Title: Math B1

Term: Two Semesters

Credit: 1.00

Prerequisite: Math 2A

Description: This course will cover half of the New York State Math B curriculum. Students who are successful in this course will proceed on to take Math B2 or possibly Math 3B. Topics include: Operations with Radicals, Absolute Value, Quadratic Formula and Inequalities, Complex Numbers, Probability, Logic and Geometry Proofs. A TI-83 or TI-84 graphing calculator is required for this course.

Course Title: Math B2

Term: Two semesters

Credit: 1.00

Prerequisite: Math B1

Description: This course will conclude the Math B curriculum begun in Math B1. Topics covered include: Trig Applications, Trig Graphs, and Assorted Regressions with Scatter Plots, Exponents, and Logarithms. Students will take the Math B Regents exam at the conclusion of the course. A TI-83 or TI-84 graphing calculator is required for this course.

Course Title: Math/Technology (M/T)

Term: One Semester

Credit: 0.50

Prerequisite: Math 2A or Topics in Math

Description: Math/Technology is designed to give the student computer skills to either go on to higher education or to join the work force. The course is intended for seniors. It is a project-based course that integrates Math into real world applications. Students will do individual as well as group projects which will all require the use of a computer. The first half of the course is dedicated to learning the computer skills and the latter half will require the application of these skills to complete more advanced projects.

Course Title: The Mathematics of Money

Term: One Semester

Credit: 0.50

Prerequisite: Math 2A or Topics in Math

Description: This course is designed to contain information the students can use now and in the future. The students will employ algebra skills to help manage their own finances. Topics covered include banking, interest, credit cards, investments, taxes, car maintenance and more. It is a hands-on course with extensive use of calculators and computers. Where applicable, guest speakers will be used. Grades will be determined by tests and project-oriented work.

Course Title: Math 3B

Term: Two Semesters

Credit: 1.00

Prerequisite: Math 2A/B

Description: This course will cover the final two semesters of the New York State Math B curriculum. The course will culminate with the Math B Regents exam in June. Topics include: Geometry of the Circle, Trigonometry: Laws, Graphs, Identities, and Equations, Logs/Exponents, Probability, and Statistics. Student are required to have a graphing calculator for this course (must be a TI-83 or TI-84).

BEACON HIGH SCHOOL COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

Course Title: Pre-Calculus (Honors)

Term: Two semesters

Credit: 1.00

Prerequisite: Math 3B

Description: This course is designed to provide the college bound student with a solid background in pre-Calculus mathematics. Topics include: exponential, logarithmic, and circular functions, linear programming, sequences, polar coordinates, conic sections (in depth), matrices, vectors, and some elementary Calculus topics. Students are required to have a graphing calculator, preferably a TI-83 or TI-84.

Course Title: Dutchess Community College Statistics

Term: Two semesters

Credit: 1.00

Prerequisite: Math 3B, and a teacher recommendation

Description: This course introduces students to the major concepts and tools for collecting, analyzing, and drawing conclusions from data. The course consists of four major themes: 1) Exploring data, 2) Planning a study, 3) Anticipating patterns, and 4) Statistical inference. Students are required to have a TI-83 or TI-84 graphing calculator.

Course Title: Advanced Placement Calculus

Term: Two semesters

Credit: 1.00

Prerequisite: Pre-Calculus or Math 3B (with teacher recommendation only)

Description: This course is designed for the accelerated senior math student. At the end of the course, students take the Advanced Placement examination provided by the College Board. Generally if the student scores a three or higher, they receive college credit. This course includes topics in differential Calculus, integral Calculus, and Analytic Geometry. Students are required to have a TI-83 or TI-84 graphing calculator. *Taking the Advanced Placement exam is a requirement of this course.*

BEACON HIGH SCHOOL COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

MUSIC/PERFORMING ARTS

Course Title: Concert Band

Term: Two Semesters

Credit: 1.00

Prerequisite: Two years playing experience

Description: This course is for students with at least two years of playing experience in a school band who wish to improve their instrumental ability. Participation in Marching Band is required for all students enrolled in Concert Band. Students will be pulled from their classes once a week on a rotating basis to attend lessons.

Course Title: Symphonic Band

Term: Two Semesters

Credit: 1.00

Prerequisite: Recommendation following audition

Description: This course is designed for advanced instrumental students capable of performing more difficult repertoire. An audition, followed by the director's recommendation, is required for enrollment. Participation in Marching Band is required for all students enrolled in Symphonic Band. Students will be pulled from their classes once a week on a rotating basis to attend lessons.

Course Title: Chorus

Term: Two semesters

Credit: 1.00

Prerequisite: None

Description: This course strives to develop a high level of vocal performance while enjoying singing and learning to participate in an organized group. Vocal skills such as proper diction, intonation and breathing are emphasized. Concert participation is required. Students will be involved in school performances and concerts with the community. This course is open to students who behave well and enjoy singing. An audition is required. The chorus will perform in at least three (3) concerts each year.

Course Title: Music Theory

Term: Two semesters

Credit: 1.00

Prerequisite: Enrolled in Band or Chorus, Grade 10, 11 and 12

Description: This course is open to students enrolled in Chorus or Band wishing to learn the foundations upon which music is built. Students will study scales, intervals, key signatures, music history, and music composition. Meets every day for one credit. The emphasis will be on developing the ability to compose music using piano and computers.

Course Title: Music in Our Lives/Music History

Term: One Semester

Credit: 0.50

Prerequisite: none

Description: This course will trace music from the beginning of time to Jazz. It is intended to give the student an overview of different eras of music history and relate them to different historical events.

BEACON HIGH SCHOOL COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

Course Title: Advance Chorus

Term: Full year

Credit: 1.00

Prerequisite: Must be recommended by the chorus director

Description: This course is open to students who enjoy singing a variety of musical styles and have a desire to sing at a high level. Students will continue with the development of their voices, progress in the ability to read music and learn how to make music. Students in this chorus will be selected because of their positive attitude and work habits, high degree of self-control, and of singing and desire to be part of a musically challenging group. Performing in concerts, both in and out of school is mandatory.

Course Title: Music in our Lives/Digital Music

Term: Two Semesters

Credit: 1.00

Prerequisite: Knowledge of music theory would be useful to students although not mandatory.

Description: This class will focus on using standard music notation to compose and play music on pianos and computers. Computers and M.D. instruments will be used in developing creativity in composing and learning how to use electronic resources.

BEACON HIGH SCHOOL COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Course Title: Physical Education 9/10

Term: Two semesters (every other day)

Credit: 0.50

Prerequisite: none

Description: This course will consist of a variety of foundation based units in which students will acquire skills and strategies of problem solving, goal setting and cooperative learning as well as units in aquatics, dance, personal fitness and individual and team sports. The ninth/tenth grade curriculum has been developed to comply with New York State, National and Beacon High School standards. Students will be assessed and graded on overall performance, written work, attendance, attitude and effort.

Course Title: Physical Education 11/12

Term: Two semesters (every other day)

Credit: 0.50

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Physical Education in grade 9 and 10

Description: This course will provide students with the necessary knowledge to make educational decisions about lifetime fitness, activities and sports. The course content will be more extensive and advanced as a tactical approach as well as a variety of assessments will be implemented. This course will offer a variety of units that will include personal fitness, aquatics, and team sports, dual and individual sports. These activities will be challenging and competitive as well as comply with New York State, National and Beacon High School standards. Students will be assessed and graded on overall performance, written work, attendance, attitude and effort.

Course Title: Introduction to Athletic Training

Term: Two semesters

Credit: 1.00

Prerequisite: Junior or Senior

Description: Students will attend class for one (1) year and be required to do thirty (30) hours of observation of allied health professional. The Athletic Training course will investigate all aspects of sports medicine for those students who wish to enter the allied health field. Students will study about the care, prevention, and rehabilitation of athletic injuries. Athletic training skills such as first aid, CPR, and taping/wrapping techniques will be demonstrated and practiced. General anatomy, physiology, and directional Terminology will be studied and applied by students to develop their skills in using diagnostic tools for measuring fitness and evaluating injuries. The class would benefit any student who wishes to pursue a career as an allied health provider as well as students who wish to learn about how to care for injuries. Possible career paths include, but are not limited to, physician, nurse, therapist, personal trainer, paramedic, and athletic trainer.

BEACON HIGH SCHOOL COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

ELECTIVES FOR PHYSICAL EDUCATION ARE NOT TO BE USED AS A REPLACEMENT FOR THE PHYSICAL EDUCATION REQUIREMENT FOR GRADUATION

Course Title: Life Guarding - ELECTIVE

Term: One semester

Credit: 0.50

Prerequisite: Red Cross pre-test

Description: This course is designed to teach students/lifeguard candidates various skills and knowledge in life guarding as well as lifesaving techniques. Students will be required to pass a mandatory Red Cross pre-test before begin admitted to this course. This test will include the following: a 500 yard continuous swim using a crawl stroke, breaststroke and sidestroke for at least 100 yards each. The test also includes treading water for two minutes and submerging at least seven feet to retrieve a 10-pound brick. These prerequisites determine whether prospective participants have the basic skills needed to pass the Lifeguard Training Course. At the successful conclusion of this course, students will have the knowledge and skills to become a competent lifeguard.

Course Title: Sports Management - ELECTIVE

Term: Two semesters (every day)

Credit: 1.0

Prerequisite:

The student must receive a recommendation from a Physical Education teacher.

The student must possess an 85 or above average in Physical Education.

The student must possess technology skills.

The student must be mature, self-motivating, dependable, and ambitious.

The ideal student assistant to the Athletic Director is a student wishing to pursue a career in Sports Business, Journalism, Technology, Business Management or Physical Education and Athletics.

The Student Assistant does not need to be an athlete.

Description:

The Student Assistant will need to work in the Athletic Office a minimum of 6 hours per week.

The Student Assistant will report to the Athletic Director or his/her secretary.

The Student Assistant will be required to keep a daily log.

The Student Assistant will be required to complete one project per semester. The project must be approved by the Athletic Director.

The Student Assistant will engage in such activities as Homecoming, tournaments, banquets, mailings, public relations projects, and other appropriate tasks within the Athletic Office.

The Student Assistant will input statistical data to the website, Max Preps.

The Student Assistant will assist in technology projects such as Power Point presentations, spread sheets, and slide show presentations.

The Student Assistant will be invited to attend coaching staff meetings, Board of Education meetings, and Section One meetings at Southern Westchester BOCES.

BEACON HIGH SCHOOL COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

SCIENCE

Course Title: Living Environment A

Term: Two Semesters

Credit: 1.00

Prerequisite: Grade 9 students only

Description: This course is designed to be a regents prep course. Students will study concepts in biology while improving their study, reading, and scientific skills. Laboratory activities will be used to accomplish these goals.

Course Title: Living Environment R/H

Term: Two semesters

Credit: 1.00

Prerequisite: Teacher recommendation.

Description: **This is the first laboratory science class which is required to meet minimum requirements for graduation. All students of laboratory regents sciences must complete the NYS laboratory requirement of 30 successful lab hours, completed successfully and supported by laboratory reports.** If this requirement is not met, the student may not take the regents exam. This course covers basic similarities in living things as well as the unity and diversities of life. Emphasis is placed on the relationship of living things to one another, the structure and function of cells, homeostasis, genetics and evolution.

Honors: The difference between Honors and Regents lies mainly in the depth and methods of study, not in the subject matter itself. The final examination is a Regents.

Course Title: Physical Setting/Earth Science R

Term: Two semesters

Credit: 1.00

Prerequisite: Living Environment R credit

Description: ***This is a Regents course for a sequence in science towards a Regents diploma. Students must successfully complete the required number of laboratory exercises to qualify to take the final regents examination. The students must successfully complete both the course and the Regents examination to get Regents credit for the course.*** Earth Science is an integrated, interdisciplinary course that considers the earth, its materials, processes, history and environment in space. Continuing development in many of the phases of earth science offer an ongoing interest in the earth and its surroundings.

Course Title: Conceptual Chemistry

Term: Two semesters

Credit: 1.00

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Integrated Algebra and Living Environment A or R

Description: General Chemistry is designed for students who are not skilled with the math that is involved in the Chemistry Regents course. The topics to be covered are matter and energy, atomic structures, bonding, chemical formulas, acid-base theory, chemistry and its application to the real world.

Course Title: Conceptual Earth Science

Term: Two semesters

Credit: 1.00

Prerequisite: Credit for Living Environment R

BEACON HIGH SCHOOL COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

Description: Students will earn a local credit in Science which will be applied to a Regents Diploma (not the Honors Regent Diploma). Course of study will include: meteorology, astronomy, geology, and dynamic earth processes. Although this course does not have a lab requirement, laboratory activities will be included.

Course Title: Physical Settings/Regents Chemistry/H

Term: Two semesters

Credit: 1.00

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Regents Living Environment and concurrent enrollment or successful completion of Integrated Algebra exam. Successful completion shall be defined as a passing grade in class and on the Regents exam.

Description: This is a Regents course for a sequence in science toward a Regents diploma. Students must successfully complete the required number of laboratory excursions to qualify to take the final Regents examination. The students must successfully complete both the course and the regents examination to get Regents credit for the course. The course presents a modern view of chemistry covering topics such as matter and energy, atomic structure and bonding, the periodic table, mathematics of chemistry, kinetics and equilibrium, acid-based theories, electrochemistry and organic chemistry.

Course Title: Physical Settings/Regents Physics

Term: Two semesters

Credit: 1.00

Prerequisite: Credit for Algebra A, enrolled in Algebra B and successful completion (Regents credit) in Living Environment R, Chemistry R or Earth Science R.

Description: This is a Regents course for a sequence in science towards a Regents diploma. Students must successfully complete the required number of laboratory exercises to qualify to take the final Regents exam. The students must successfully complete both the course and the Regents examination to get Regents credit for the course. The course topics include the study of matter and energy with emphasis on mechanics, wave phenomena including light and sound, electricity and magnetism and atomic and nuclear physics.

Course Title: AP Biology

Term: Two semesters

Credit: 1.00

Prerequisite: Living environment Regents plus Chemistry and Physics are recommended plus teacher recommendation.

Description: The textbook and laboratory exercises are of college caliber. The course terminates with the required Advance Placement Biology examination. Some colleges and universities grant credit for scores of 3, 4, or 5 on the AP examination.

Course Title: Ecology/Nutrition

Term: Two semesters

Credit: 1.00

Description: The topics involved in Ecology are Populations and Communities, Ecosystems and Biomes, Biodiversity, Environmental Issues, Living Resources, Land Water and Air Resources, Renewable and Nonrenewable Energy Resources. Students are exposed to the science of relationships in nature and how they are dependent on one another. Conservation and the role of humans in the natural environment are discussed. Students use scientific inquiry to ask meaningful questions, design and carry out meaningful studies, analyze and report results. The topics covered in Nutrition are exploration of the nutrients our bodies need (carbohydrates, fats, protein, vitamins, minerals, and water) and their specific functions. Topics will include nutrient sources, food consumption, individual nutritional analysis, diet and disease, eating disorders, development of a healthy eating plan. Students will better understand nutritional issues and the

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science that relates to them. They will use research and data collection to evaluate individual eating patterns. There are discussions of nutritional issues, problems, and solutions.

Course Title: Marine Biology

Term: One semester

Credit: 0.50

Prerequisites: Successful completion of two years of science, including living environmental regents.

Description: Marine Biology is the scientific study of the plants, animals, and other organisms that live in the ocean. The course of study will include: principles of marine science, marine life, marine ecosystems, humans and the sea. The course of study will include class discussions, laboratory activities, exposure to various professionals and audiovisual presentations.

Course Title: Geology

Term: One semester

Credit: 0.50

Prerequisite: Living Environment Regents and at least one other science, preferably Earth Science.

Description: In this half-year course we will emphasize understanding the dynamic processes of the earth as we survey a broad range of physical Geology topics. We will learn and apply the methodology, terminology and techniques used by scientists. Lab work will give you hands-on experience with many aspects of Mineralogy and Geology. There will be various Saturday, Sunday and afternoon day trips to different locations in the vicinity. We will be studying the different Geologic formations and history of the Hudson Valley. Also planned is a trip to the Museum of Natural History as well as Central park to study glaciation.

Course Title: Astronomy

Term: One semester

Credit: 0.50

Prerequisite: Living Environment Regents and at least one other science, preferably Earth Science.

Description: In this half-year course we will be studying about ancient astronomers and their ideas as opposed to modern day thoughts and ideals. We will be looking at our planetary system, stars and stellar evolution, galaxies, charting the heavens and spectroscopy. There will also be a field trip to the American Museum of Natural History as well as the Lamont Daugherty Observatory.

Course Title: Human Anatomy

Term: One semester

Credit: 0.50

Prerequisites: Successful completion of two years of Regents science including Regents Living Environment, or instructor's approval with previous instructors' recommendation.

Description: An elective course designed to give students a concentrated study of the human systems. Topics covered: anatomical planes and sections, histology, skeletal, muscular, nervous, endocrine, circulatory, respiratory, digestive and excretory systems. Students will be exposed to various health professionals, laboratory activities and surgical videos showing the human anatomy. This course is a must for any student considering any health profession.

BEACON HIGH SCHOOL COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

SOCIAL STUDIES/SOCIAL SCIENCE

Course Title: Global Studies IRP

Term: Two semesters

Credit: 1.00

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Social Studies 8

Description: Global Studies I is an intensive course instructing students in the history of the world from Pre-history until 1700. The course follows a chronologically approach addressing themes discussed in the NYS Social Studies Core Curriculum. This course is the first part of a two part series. Upon completion of Global Studies II, students will be given a Regents Exam that will cover material from both Global Studies I and Global Studies II. Students are encouraged to keep all notes and materials until they pass the Global Studies Regents Exam. Global Studies Regents Prep classes will focus on basic concepts and developing skills necessary to pass the Global Studies Regents Exam. Skills in essay writing and test taking will be developed.

Course Title: Global Studies IR

Term: Two semesters

Credit: 1.00

Prerequisite: Completion of Social Studies 8 with an 80% average or appropriate DRP score.

Description: Global Studies I is an intensive course instructing students in the history of the world from Pre-history until 1700. The course follows a chronologically approach addressing themes discussed in the NYS Social Studies Core Curriculum. This course is the first part of a two part series. Upon completion of Global Studies II, students will be given a Regents Exam that will cover material from both Global Studies I and Global Studies II. Students are encouraged to keep all notes and materials until they pass the Global Studies Regents Exam. Global Studies Regents Ready classes will focus on developing skills necessary to pass the Global Studies Regents Exam and analysis of materials to enrich the curriculum. Skills in essay writing and test taking will be sharpened for success on the Regents Exam.

Course Title: Global Studies IH

Term: Two semesters

Credit: 1.00

Prerequisite: Completion of Social Studies 8 with a 90% average, appropriate DRP score and teacher recommendation.

Description: Global Studies I is an intensive course instructing students in the history of the world from Pre-history until 1700. The course follows a chronologically approach addressing themes discussed in the NYS Social Studies Core Curriculum. This course is the first part of a two part series. Upon completion of Global Studies II, students will be given a Regents Exam that will cover material from both Global Studies I and Global Studies II. Students are encouraged to keep all notes and materials until they pass the Global Studies Regents Exam. Global Studies Honors classes assume that students have developed skills for social studies and will focus on enrichment activities and more in depth study of course material.

Students will learn sharpen writing and test- taking skills and be required to complete assignments that prepare them for continuation on the Honors track in tenth and eleventh grade. Successful completion will result in receiving a weighted score for their GPA. Students enrolled in this course are expected to maintain minimum 85% average each quarter.

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Course Title: Global Studies IIRP

Term: Two semesters

Credit: 1.00

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Global Studies I

Description: Global Studies II is an intensive course geared toward instructing students in the history of the world from 1700- present. The course follows a chronologically approach addressing themes discussed in the NYS Social Studies Core Curriculum. This course is the second part of a two part series. Upon completion of Global Studies II, students will be given a Regents Exam that will cover material from both Global Studies I and Global Studies II. Global Studies Regents Prep classes will focus on basic concepts and developing skills necessary to pass the Global Studies Regents Exam. Skills in essay writing and test taking will be developed.

Course Title: Global Studies IIR

Term: Two semesters

Credit: 1.00

Prerequisite: Completion of Global Studies I with an 80% average and teacher recommendation.

Description: Global Studies II is an intensive course geared toward instructing students in the history of the world from 1700- present. The course follows a chronologically approach addressing themes discussed in the NYS Social Studies Core Curriculum. This course is the second part of a two part series. Upon completion of Global Studies II, students will be given a Regents Exam that will cover material from both Global Studies I and Global Studies II. Global Studies Regents Ready classes will focus on developing skills necessary to pass the Global Studies Regents Exam and analysis of materials to enrich the curriculum. Skills in essay writing and test taking will be sharpened for success on the Regents Exam.

Course Title: Global Studies IIH

Term: Two semesters

Credit: 1.00

Prerequisite: Teacher recommendation and either completion of Global Studies I Regents Ready with a 90% average or completion of Global Studies I Honors with an 85% average.

Description: Global Studies II is an intensive course geared toward instructing students in the history of the world from 1700- present. The course follows a chronologically approach addressing themes discussed in the NYS Social Studies Core Curriculum. This course is the second part of a two part series. Upon completion of Global Studies II, students will be given a Regents Exam that will cover material from both Global Studies I and Global Studies II. Global Studies Honors classes assume that students have developed skills for social studies and will focus on enrichment activities and more in depth study of course material. Students will learn sharpen writing and test- taking skills and be required to complete assignments that prepare them for continuation on the Honors track in tenth and eleventh grade Successful completion will result in receiving a weighted score for their GPA. Students enrolled in this course are expected to maintain minimum 85% average each quarter.

Course Title: US History and Government RP

Term: Two semesters

Credit: 1.00

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Global Studies I and II

Description: This course is a chronological study of American History with great emphasis on the Constitution of the United States. Current events play a major role in this course. The course is designed to give students a realization of the impact of government on their lives. The Five District Standards will be

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used with emphasis on essay writing and primary source documents. A passing grade on the Regents Exam in American History and Government is required in order to qualify for graduation.

Course Title: US History and Government RR

Term: Two semesters

Credit: 1.00

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Global Studies I and II- Enrollment in the RR (Regents Ready) class is based on 80% or above average in Global Studies II, 75% or above on the Global Studies II Regents Exam or Teacher Recommendation.

Description: This course is a chronological study of American History with great emphasis on the Constitution of the United States. Current events play a major role in this course. The course is designed to give students a realization of the impact of government on their lives. Students will be expected to have mastery of essay and DBQ writing skills to be recommended. The Five District Standards will be used with emphasis on essay writing and primary source documents. A passing grade on the Regents Exam in American History and Government is required in order to qualify for graduation.

Course Title: AP US History and Government

Term: Two semesters

Credit: 1.00

Description: Teacher recommendation and either completion of Global Studies II Regents Ready with a 90% average or completion of Global Studies II Honors with an 85% average.

Description: This two-semester course prepares students for the Advanced Placement Exam in mid-May. It is equivalent to the freshman-level United States History survey course taught in colleges and universities, and it covers the time period from before the Colonial Era to the 1980's. Critical thinking abilities, careful reading comprehension and analytical writing skills are integral to this course, as would be expected of university freshmen students. In addition, this course will focus on other aspects of government to align itself with the NYS Regents Exam in US History and Government, after the AP has been taken in May. Students enrolled in this course are expected to maintain minimum 85% average each quarter.

Course Title: Economics

Term: One semester

Credit: 0.50

Prerequisite: Successful completion of American History and Government

Description: Successful completion of this course is required for graduation. Topics covered will be appropriate for seniors to provide them with economic skills that will enable them to function as informed and economically literate citizens in society. Emphasis is placed on being an informed consumer.

Course Title: Participation in Government

Term: One semester

Credit: 0.50

Prerequisite: Successful completion of American History and Government

Description: Successful completion of this course is required for graduation. This course is intended to encourage civic-minded citizens. the "office of citizens" is a fundamental part of any democracy. In-depth discussions on both national and international governments and their organizations are the essential part of the course. A term project is required.

Course Title: Government 121 (DCC Government)

Title: One Semester

Credit: 0.5 (3 DCC Credits)

Prerequisite: Seniors Only!!! Successful completion of Global Studies, Global Studies II, American History

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and a minimum grade of 80% on the American History Regents exam/Teacher Recommendation

Description: This course is a college sanctioned course sponsored by Dutchess Community College. The government course will give students the concept of linkage institutions and of those groups who have the power to make decisions for the government. Class discussion is a must skill as well as research skills.

Course Title: Economics 105 (DCC Economics)

Term: One Semester

Credit: 0.5 (3 DCC Credits)

Prerequisite: Seniors Only!!! Successful completion of Global Studies, Global Studies II, American History and a minimum grade of 80% on the American History Regents exam/Teacher Recommendation

Description: This course is a college sanctioned course sponsored by Dutchess Community College. Students will learn the basic concepts of Microeconomics and Macroeconomics. Class discussion is a must skill as well as research skills

Course Title: Psychology

Term: One semester

Credit: 0.50

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Global Studies I and Global Studies II

Description: This course is an introduction to the basic concepts of psychology. Emphasis is placed on helping the student learn more about the mind and behavior. Topics include; infancy, childhood, adolescence, memory, abnormal behavior, intelligence, etc.

Course Title: DCC Psychology 111

Term: One semester

Credit: 0.5 (3 DCC Credits)

Prerequisite: SENIORS ONLY. Successful completion of American History with at least an 80% on the regents exam.

Description: This course is a college-sanctioned course sponsored by Dutchess Community College. Successful completion will give students three Credits in psychology from D.C.C. These student interactive courses focus on the basic principles of psychology and psychological research. College level reading and research paper writing essential.

Course Title: DCC Psychology 112

Term: One semester

Credit: 0.5 (3 DCC Credits)

Prerequisite: SENIORS ONLY. Successful completion of Psychology 111.

Description: This course is a college-sanctioned course sponsored by Dutchess Community College. Successful completion will give students three Credits in psychology from D.C.C. These student interactive courses focus on the basic principles of psychology and psychological research. College level reading and research paper writing essential.

Course Title: Introduction to Criminal Justice

Term: One semester

Credit: 0.50

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Global Studies I and Global Studies II

Description: This course of study of the system and systematic relationships in discussing the functions of criminal law, police, courts, trials, prosecution and defense. Field trips and guest speakers will be an integral part of the experience.

Course Title: Great Conflicts in History

Term: One Semester

Credit: 0.50

BEACON HIGH SCHOOL COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Global Studies I and II with a 75 plus average.

Description: This course will cover the causes and effects of the major wars in history. Ancient, Medieval and modern conflicts will be studied. Emphasis will be on wars from Napoleon to the present. Conflicts to be covered include but are not limited to, The 100 years, Napoleonic Wars, World War I and II. Study of the wars will analyze social, economic and political effects of these wars and their impact on the world today. A term project will be required for this course.

Course Title: Contemporary Issues

Term: One Semester

Credit: 0.50

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Global Studies II.

Description: This course will focus on the major social, political and economic issues which face the United States and the world today. Students will use a variety of sources of information to become informed of the major modern issues which face individual nations and the global community. An interactive approach will be used. A term project will be required for this course.

Course Title: Global Events

Term: One Semester

Credit: 0.50

Prerequisite: None.

Description: This course will focus on helping those students who are having difficulty attaining a passing grade on either the Global Studies II and/or the American History Regents Exams. Emphasis will be on review of information for these exams and specific test taking skills to help students pass the regents exams in January.

BEACON HIGH SCHOOL COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

SPECIAL EDUCATION COURSE DESCRIPTION GUIDE

The following courses are offered to meet the needs of classified students.

Course Title: Basic English I
Term: Two Semesters
Credit: 1.00
Prerequisite: none
Description: A course for students grade 9 through 12.

Course Title: Basic English II
Term: Two Semesters
Credit: 1.00
Prerequisite: Teacher recommendations
Description: A course for students grades 10 through 12.

Course Title: Basic Math I
Term: Two Semesters
Credit: 1.00
Prerequisite: none
Description: A basic math course for students grades 9 through 12

Course Title: Basic Algebra A
Term: Two Semesters
Credit: 1.00
Prerequisite: none
Description: A course for students grades 9 through 12.

Course Title: Basic Global Studies I
Term: Two Semesters
Credit: 1.00
Prerequisite: none
Description: A credit class for students grades 9.

Course Title: Basic Global Studies II
Term: Two Semesters
Credit: 1.00
Prerequisite: Teacher recommendation
Description: A course for students grades 10 through 12.

Course Title: Basic American History
Term: Two Semesters
Credit: 1.00

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Prerequisite:

Description: A course for students grades 10 through 12.

Course Title: Basic Living Environment

Term: Two Semesters

Credit: 1.00

Prerequisite: Teacher recommendation

Description: A course for students grades 9 through 12.

Course Title: Basic Health

Term: Two Semesters

Credit: 1.00

Prerequisite: Teacher recommendation

Description: A course for students grades 9 through 12.

Course Title: Resource

Term: Two Semesters

Credit: 1.00

Prerequisite: CSE recommendation

Description: A course to provide extra assistance with work from mainstream courses

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TECHNOLOGY

Course Title: Computer Graphics I

Term: One Semester

Credit: 0.50

Prerequisite: None

Description: This course will introduce the computer as an artist's tool. Programs such as Photoshop will be explored.

Course Title: Advanced Computer Graphics

Term: One semester

Credit: 0.50

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Computer Graphics I

Description: Enhancing skills from Computer Graphics I, digital cameras, and advanced capabilities in the Photoshop program will be the emphasis of this course.

Course Title: TV Production I

Term: One Semester

Credit: 0.50

Prerequisite: None

Description: This course is the introduction of skills involving the communication through video. Students will learn camera techniques, lighting, sound, composition video and audio editing as well as scriptwriting. Each skill will be taught through hands-on work in the classroom and on location. Students will create a real commercial and a spoof commercial for the district cable show. Students will be required to videotape school events for the district cable show.

Course Title: TV Production II

Term: One Semester

Credit: 0.50

Prerequisite: TV Production I

Description: TV Production II is advanced camera, editing and scriptwriting techniques. Students will create short non-fictional and fictional videos for airing on the district cable show. In this course students will be introduced to directing and producing studio productions and on-location productions. Students will be required to videotape school events for the district cable show.

Course Title: TV Production III

Term: One Semester

Credit: 0.50

Prerequisite: TV Production II

Description: TV Production III is advanced study and independent work in TV Production. Students will continue the learning process toward a greater understanding of all the elements that go into creating a video. Students in this course will be expected to create a large part of the district cable show. Students will be required to videotape school events for the district cable show.

Course Title: TV Production IV

BEACON HIGH SCHOOL COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

Term: One Semester
Credit: 0.50
Prerequisite: TV Production III
Description: Putting together quality film for local broadcast. Creation three to five short film.

Course Title: Photography I
Term: One Semester
Credit: 0.50
Prerequisite: Successful completion of Art Theory and Studio Art
Description: This course will introduce the camera as an artist's tool. Black and white film development and darkroom printing will be required.

Course Title: Photography II
Term: One Semester
Credit: 0.50
Prerequisite: Successful completion of Photography I
Description: This course is designed to develop technical competence with a camera and advanced darkroom techniques. Vignette, texture screens and toning will be utilized. Digital cameras and altering images on the computer will be explored.

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Course Title: CAD I (Computer Aided Drafting)

Term: One Semester

Credit: 0.50

Prerequisite: None

Description: This course is an introduction to computer-aided drafting (CAD) using the AutoCAD LT software program. The topics covered in this course include: the AutoCAD LT graphics and text windows, user interface, drawing, setup parameters, rectangular and polar coordinate entry, display control functions, 2D geometric objects, selection sets, object snap models, X and Y coordinate filters, inquiry commands, text creation and modification, and 2D editing commands.

Course Title: CAD II (Computer Aided Drafting II)

Term: One Semester

Credit: 0.50

Prerequisite: CAD I

Description: This course introduces the more advanced features of the AutoCAD LT software program. The topics covered in this course include: editing polylines and splines, dimensioning and dimension variables, hatching, patterns and techniques, printing and plotting a drawing, blocks, attributes and external references, isometric drawing and dimensioning, slide shows and script files, floating view ports, view port-specific layer control in paper space, and an introduction to 3D modeling.

Course Title: CAD III (Computer Aided Drafting III)

Term: One Semester

Credit: 0.50

Prerequisite: CAD I and CAD II

Description: Through a combination of lecture, hands-on exercises and drawing assignments, the AutoCAD LT Level III course introduces the students to the more advanced features of AutoCAD LT. Designed to provide the student with the necessary skills to streamline mundane drawing tasks, the topics covered include: blocks and blocks, block attribute creation and editing, external references, paper space vs. model space, viewport-specific layer control, slide shows, and script files. An introduction to 3D modeling is also presented.

Course Title: Pathways

Term: Full year

Credit: 1.00

Prerequisite: None

Description: Pathways is a unique course offered as a full year elective. During the year, students will rotate through three lab areas, called suites, to experience hand on activities in communications, free enterprise and multimedia. Each activity will be accomplished through a four interval process: knowledge, teamwork, application, presentation.

BEACON HIGH SCHOOL COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

VOTCH COURSES

Course Title: BOCES Vocational Studies

Term: Two semesters

Credit: Up to four credits

Prerequisite: Application and completion of grade 10.

Description: This is a cooperative education program for juniors and seniors which provides opportunity for the qualified student to select, enter into, and progress in learning a vocational skill of his/her choice through on the job training correlated with in school instruction s in general and technical aspects of the occupation. Students are enrolled in an academic and related study class for one half of the day and receive vocational training during the other half. Course offerings are detailed in the BOCES Course Description Guide available in the Guidance Office.

Course Title: Cooperative Education Program

Term: Two semesters

Credit: 1.00

Prerequisite: Acceptance by the coordinator, job that overlaps with the school day, eleventh or twelfth grade status.

Description: This is a work program in which the school, student and business community work together to help prepare students for employment in various occupations these occupations include, but are not limited to secretarial, computer applications, banking, accounting, sales/marketing and management programs, services, ect. Students' workday must overlap with the school day and can not include weekends. Six hundred hours of work over the full school year must be verified by the coordinator with the employer. Employer evaluations are used to calculate grades.