

Arts Academy in the Woods

Curriculum Guide 2011-2012



Arts Academy in the Woods

32101 Caroline St.

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www.artsacademy-woods.org

Graduation Requirements

Students graduating from the Arts Academy in the Woods (AAW) will have completed a well-rounded and rigorous study of both core academic and artistic coursework. A primary goal of AAW is to integrate the arts across the curriculum providing students with many opportunities to make connections between the different disciplines and experience the richness of creative expression throughout their high school career.

Students take the equivalent of seven full courses each semester. The student's parents, counselor and administrator must approve any exceptions such as dual enrollment, work study, etc.

The chart below gives a breakdown of specific requirements. Students must earn a total of 26.5 credits for graduation. All students will adhere to the Michigan Merit Curriculum as part of their graduation requirements.

AAW Graduation Requirements

SUBJECT AREA	CREDITS REQUIRED	SUBJECT AREA	CREDITS REQUIRED
<u>ART</u>	<u>6.5</u>	<u>MATHEMATICS</u>	<u>4</u>
Art Major	6	Algebra I	1
Senior Project	0.5	Geometry	1
Electives	3	Algebra II	1
<u>ENGLISH</u>	<u>4</u>	Senior Math	1
English 9	1	<u>SCIENCE</u>	<u>3</u>
English 10	1	Biology	1
English 11	1	Chemistry or Physics	1
English 12	1	Science Elective	1
<u>FOREIGN LANGUAGE</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>SOCIAL STUDIES</u>	<u>3</u>
Foreign Language	2 (must be in the same language)	American History	1
<u>HEALTH/PE</u>	<u>1</u>	Civics	0.5
Health	0.5	Economics	0.5
Physical Education	0.5	World History	1

Community Service

The counselor will include community service hours on the student's transcript. Community service should be considered an integral part of the AAW experience; but it is not a graduation requirement. Community service hours may be handed in to the counselor on a note signed by the person who supervised the service.

ARTS DEPARTMENTS

The curriculum that is followed at AAW is in accordance with the guidelines for the Standards, Benchmarks, and Grade Level Content Expectations for Visual Arts, Music, Dance, and Theater created by the Michigan Department of Education.

Most art courses are year long (2 semesters) courses. When completing one level it is not automatic that the student progress to the next level. All students are required to audition for arts classes.

Many art courses have materials requirements. It is suggested that students not purchase specific materials until schedules are finalized. If your student is unable to obtain these materials, the school administration may be able to accommodate your needs. Please see an administrator if you would like to make arrangements.

Senior Project

SENIOR PROJECT

GRADE LEVEL: 12

CREDITS: 0.5 credit

PREREQUISITE: Instructor approval

DESCRIPTION: Senior Project is a one semester class. This course is designed as the culmination of a student's efforts from their four years of study in the Arts Academy in the Woods arts program. This course is required for graduation for students at AAW. The content of what will be studied is determined by the student and is facilitated by the teacher and will involve the student's art major as the basis of the course.

All seniors in this course will be required to provide a project, reflective essay and a portfolio.

Projects have consisted of the following: senior recital, original composition, research paper, presentation for children, presentation collaboration with dancers, singers, artists, etc. Projects can be collaboration with another student in the same or different art discipline; for example, a flutist may wish to prepare a joint recital with a dancer or actor from AAW.

Detailed instructions for the reflective essay will be provided by each instructor.

The finished portfolio will be suitable for applying to a college or university art program and may include print, digital, audio, or video work.

Dance Department

INTRODUCTION TO DANCE – DANCE CONCEPTS A/B

GRADE LEVEL: 9-12

CREDITS: 1 credit

PREREQUISITE: Placement by audition.

DESCRIPTION: This course is an elective and allows the student an opportunity to be exposed to the different techniques offered within the dance department at AAW. All students participating in this course will be given an overview of dance history, dance concepts, classical ballet, modern, jazz and hip hop. This is an ideal course for the musical theater student, actor, singer or musician who wants to be exposed to the main elements of dance in both theory and practice. The 'Introduction to Dance' course aims to help students majoring in other arts disciplines gain an understanding and insight into the world of dance so that they can enrich their learning and progression in their art major.

DRESS CODE

Girls: Black leotards, pink tights, pink ballet slippers, hair tied back and fastened securely. No shorts or skirts.

Boys: White tee shirt, black tights, leggings or dance pants, black ballet slippers. Students should also have jazz shoes and / or dance sneakers. Avoid excessive jewelry and baggy leg warmers that obscure the body's alignment.

BALLET I A/B

GRADE LEVEL: 9-12

CREDITS: 1 credit

PREREQUISITE: Placement by audition. At least 1 year of classical ballet training.

DESCRIPTION: Students must be familiar with basic vocabulary, footwork, port de bras and center work. This course is an introduction to the fundamentals of classical ballet at beginning level and a continuation to pre-intermediate level. Ballet I will focus on developing and maintaining classical ballet technique, correct body alignment, positions of the feet, head and arms, port de bras, arabesques, body positions and facings, strength, discipline and coordination, basic and intermediate locomotors and increase in vocabulary and motor movement memory. Girls will also be introduced to *pre-pointe work and towards the end of the course they will be introduced to *basic pointe work at the barre (*qualifying students only).

DRESS CODE

Girls: Black leotards, pink tights, pink ballet slippers, hair tied back and fastened securely. No shorts or skirts.

Boys: White tee shirt, black tights, leggings, or dance pants, black ballet slippers. Avoid excessive jewelry and baggy leg warmers that obscure the body's alignment.

BALLET II & POINTE I A/B

GRADE LEVEL: 9-12

CREDITS: 1 credit

PREREQUISITE: Placement by audition. At least 2 years of classical ballet training. Students must be strong enough to begin pointe training (girls only). Placement by audition.

DESCRIPTION: The continued practice of beginner / intermediate classical ballet technique with an emphasis on more advanced barre work and vocabulary, core strength and endurance, flexibility, musicality, movement quality and performance ability. Students will study pointe work at the barre and be introduced to pointe work in the center. The class will aim to strengthen foot work in preparation for more structured pointe work.

DRESS CODE

Girls: Black leotards, pink tights, pink ballet slippers, pink pointe shoes, hair tied back and fastened securely. No shorts or skirts.

Boys: White tee shirt, black tights or dance pants, black ballet slippers. Avoid excessive jewelry and baggy leg warmers that obscure the body's alignment.

BALLET III & POINTE II A/B

GRADE LEVEL: 9-12

CREDITS: 1 credit

PREREQUISITE: Placement by audition. At least 3 years of classical ballet training and at least 1-2 years of pointe training (girls only). Placement by audition.

DESCRIPTION: Students will further increase their physical and technical strength and flexibility which propels the student toward artistic growth. Students will study reconstructions of classical ballets (corps / ensemble work), as well as new works. This class will focus on more intermediate vocabulary, core strength, musicality and pointe work and the introduction of classical ballet solo variations. Students will also focus on motor movement memory and the ability to pick up movement quickly (in preparation for audition), critical thinking and technical ability.

DRESS CODE

Girls: Black leotards, pink tights, pink ballet slippers, pink pointe shoes, hair tied back and fastened securely. No shorts or skirts.

Boys: White tee shirt, black tights or dance pants, black ballet slippers. Avoid excessive jewelry and baggy leg warmers that obscure the body's alignment.

BALLET IV & POINTE III A/B

GRADE LEVEL: 9-12

CREDITS: 1 credit

PREREQUISITE: At least 3-4 years of classical ballet training and at least 2-3 years of pointe training (girls only). Placement by audition.

DESCRIPTION: An elaboration and extension of the technical movement skills in the ballet idiom. Students will further increase their physical and technical strength and flexibility which propels the student toward artistic growth. This class will focus on advanced vocabulary, musicality and pointe work and increasing the student's classical repertoire through reconstructing the classics, solo variations and partnering; the ability to pick up movement quickly (in preparation for audition), critical thinking and above all performance quality and ability.

DRESS CODE

Girls: Black leotards, pink tights, pink ballet slippers, pink pointe shoes, hair tied back and fastened securely. No shorts or skirts.

Boys: White tee shirt, black tights or dance pants, black ballet slippers. Avoid excessive jewelry and baggy leg warmers that obscure the body's alignment.

MODERN DANCE I A/B

GRADE LEVEL: 9-12

CREDITS: 1 credit

PREREQUISITE: At least 1 year of classical ballet training. Placement by audition. *Students enrolled in Modern I should also be enrolled in the appropriate level ballet class and study both techniques simultaneously.*

DESCRIPTION: This class is designed as an introduction to the technique of modern dance. Students will study the basic structure and protocol of a variety of styles of modern dance with an emphasis on spatial aspects, rhythm, and quality of movement, musicality, and fall and recovery techniques.

DRESS CODE

Girls: Black leotard and black non-footed tights. No shoes or socks. Long hair in a bun and short hair pulled off the face. No large earrings (small pierced, not dangling are ok), no bracelets or necklaces. No gum, food, or drink in class (water will be allowed at the end of class).

Boys: Plain solid color t-shirt or white tank, black dance shorts or dance pants and black dance belt. No shoes or socks. No hats or large bracelets, necklaces, or earrings. No gum, food, or drink in class (water will be allowed at end of class).

MODERN DANCE II A/B

GRADE LEVEL: 9-12

CREDITS: 1 credit

PREREQUISITE: At least 2 or more years of classical ballet training and at least one / two years of modern training. Placement by audition.

Students enrolled in Modern II should also be enrolled in the appropriate level ballet class and study both techniques simultaneously.

DESCRIPTION: In this class students will focus on more complex combinations and strengthening alignment while moving through space. Combinations with weight shifts and changes of directions and facings will be introduced. Students will also be introduced to mixed meter musicality and work on developing performance quality.

DRESS CODE

Girls: Black leotard and black non-footed tights. No shoes or socks. Long hair in a bun and short hair pulled off the face. No large earrings (small pierced, not dangling are ok), no bracelets or necklaces. No gum, food, or drink in class (water will be allowed at the end of class).

Boys: Plain solid color t-shirt or white tank, black dance shorts or dance pants and black dance belt. No shoes or socks. No hats or large bracelets, necklaces, or earrings. No gum, food, or drink in class (water will be allowed at end of class).

MODERN DANCE III/IV A/B

GRADE LEVEL: 9-12

CREDITS: 1 credit

PREREQUISITE: At least 3 or more years of classical ballet training and at least two years of modern training. Placement by audition.

Students enrolled in Modern III/IV should also be enrolled in the appropriate level ballet class and study both techniques simultaneously.

DESCRIPTION: In this class students will focus on more complex combinations and strengthening alignment while moving through space. Combinations with weight shifts and changes of directions and facings will be included to develop strength and flexibility beyond large muscle groups. Students will study advanced mixed meter musicality and the importance of performance aesthetics.

DRESS CODE

Girls: Black leotard and black non-footed tights. No shoes or socks. Long hair in a bun and short hair pulled off the face. No large earrings (small pierced, not dangling are ok), no bracelets or necklaces. No gum, food, or drink in class (water will be allowed at the end of class).

Boys: Plain solid color t-shirt or white tank, black dance shorts or dance pants and black dance belt. No shoes or socks. No hats or large bracelets, necklaces, or earrings. No gum, food, or drink in class (water will be allowed at end of class).

JAZZ HOP I/II A/B

GRADE LEVEL: 9-12

CREDITS: 1 credit

PREREQUISITE: At least 2 years of classical ballet training. Placement by audition.

Students enrolled in Jazz Hop I/II should also be enrolled in the appropriate level ballet class and study both techniques simultaneously.

DESCRIPTION: An introduction and continuation into the theory and technique of fast paced jazz dance. This style is then blended with cult hip hop styles to music's most popular grooves. Students will also study elements of classical jazz styles; i.e. Bob Fosse

DRESS CODE

Girls: solid color leotards black jazz pants, or leggings and dance sneakers/gores.
Boys: White or solid colored tee shirt, black jazz pants / leggings and dance sneakers

CHOREOGRAPHIC PRINCIPLES

GRADE LEVEL: 12

CREDITS: 1/2 credit

PREREQUISITE: Dance majors only

DESCRIPTION: This class will introduce students to the art of making and crafting dance. Students will study the basic elements of dance- Space, Time, Form, Body, Force, Movement Quality, and the “sub-elements” of each as they apply to choreography. Students will view dances choreographed by various artists and be involved in class discussions and reflective assignments of these works. Students will participate in experimental/lab projects that will include informal showings throughout the course. Students will read articles, discourse, and critiques of choreography. This course is a requirement for all students who plan on doing their Senior Project in Dance. Majors from other art areas must have instructor’s permission and will be placed dependent upon enrollment.

DRESS CODE

Girls: solid color leotards, black jazz pants, or leggings and appropriate dance footwear.
Boys: White or solid colored tee shirt, black jazz pants / leggings and appropriate dance footwear.

Instrumental Music Department

BEGINNING GUITAR A/B

GRADE LEVEL: 9-12

CREDITS: 1 credit

PREREQUISITE: Placement by audition.

DESCRIPTION: This course offers the beginner an environment that allows the exploration of fundamentals of playing guitar. The class provides an introduction to the basic chords, scales and reading music. Students analyze and critique their sound and performances regularly. Daily practiced routines focus on physical technique and sight reading while developing an understanding of music theory.

INTERMEDIATE GUITAR A/B

GRADE LEVEL: 9-12

CREDITS: 1 credit

PREREQUISITE: Placement by audition.

DESCRIPTION: This course allows students to gain a strong sense of reading, composing and performing. There is an emphasis on ensemble practice and performance. Students expand their knowledge base in theory, notation, and practice techniques in a variety of styles.

ADVANCED GUITAR A/B

GRADE LEVEL: 11-12

CREDITS: 1 credit

PREREQUISITE: Placement by audition.

DESCRIPTION: Advanced guitar emphasizes preparation for senior projects. Advancing students expand their knowledge base in theory, notation and practice techniques in a variety of musical styles. College bound music students have the opportunity to prepare for scholarship and acceptance auditions for universities and conservatories.

MATERIALS REQUIREMENT: It is required that you provide or have access to an acoustic or an electric guitar. If you are a bass player, you need to provide an acoustic or electric bass. If you need to purchase one or the other, it is recommended that you purchase an acoustic because it will be much easier to hear during class time.

BEGINNING PIANO/KEYBOARD

GRADE LEVEL: 9-12

CREDITS: 0.5 credit

PREREQUISITE: Placement by audition.

DESCRIPTION: This course is offered to any student that has interest in learning how to play the piano. In this introductory semester to the piano students will learn to read standard notation, proper playing technique, music theory and begin to build their piano repertoire.

ADVANCED PIANO/COMPOSITION

GRADE LEVEL: 9-12

CREDITS: 0.5 credit

PREREQUISITE: Placement by audition.

DESCRIPTION: This course is designed for students at the advanced piano level and aspiring composers. Students will be participating in a supervised independent study setting. In-class performances as well as performances at school assemblies will be a regular part of this course. Understanding music theory and composition will also be a requirement for all students. This course is recommended for music majors, and for experienced non-music majors who wish to have additional piano/keyboard and theory training.

MATERIALS REQUIREMENT: If you are taking private piano lessons, it is required that you bring in your music that you are working on with your private instructor. If you are not taking private lessons you will be provided with music to work on that is appropriate to your level of playing.

JAZZ BAND A/B

GRADE LEVEL: 9-12

CREDITS: 1 credit

PREREQUISITE: Placement by audition.

DESCRIPTION: This group will explore various styles of jazz. Special emphasis will be placed on scales, chords, blues progressions and other music theory as related to composition and improvisation. This group will focus on developing improvisation skills and ensemble playing.

MATERIALS REQUIREMENT: It is required that you provide to your own brass or woodwind instrument for this course.

Vocal Music Department

CHORALE CHOIR A/B

GRADE LEVEL: 9-12

CREDITS: 1 credit

PREREQUISITE: Placement by audition.

DESCRIPTION: This course offers beginning choir students an exploration into the fundamentals of being in a high school choir. Students focus on basic music theory such as note and symbol recognition as well as reading and writing music. Students work daily on their class music in preparation for performances throughout the year. Students analyze and critique their sound and performances regularly. Prior singing experience is recommended but not required.

MATERIALS REQUIREMENT: Students are asked to provide approximately \$40 for performance uniform.

CONCERT CHOIR A/B

GRADE LEVEL: 9-12

CREDITS: 1 credit

PREREQUISITE: Chorale, or Show Choir; Placement by audition.

DESCRIPTION: In this choir, students should be proficient in basic music theory, music reading and writing, and sight reading. Students should also be able to demonstrate proper vocal techniques. This class will offer advanced choral literature with increased parts and harmonies. The focus will be on gaining vocal skills and being able to perform as a group. Students will work to achieve and maintain a high level of musicianship, leadership, responsibility, and respectable character. Students work daily on their class music in preparation for performances throughout the year. During the school year the group will perform outside of school at civic, cultural, and educational activities. Students analyze and critique their sound and performances regularly.

MATERIALS REQUIREMENT: Students are asked to provide approximately \$40 for performance uniform.

MADRIGALS CHOIR A/B

GRADE LEVEL: 10-12

CREDITS: 1 credit

PREREQUISITE: Chorale or Concert Choir; Placement by audition.

DESCRIPTION: This choir is a SSAA ensemble (Soprano1, Soprano2, Alto1, and Alto2). In this choir, students should be proficient in basic music theory, music reading and writing, and sight reading. Students should also be able to demonstrate proper vocal techniques, coordination, and stage presence. This class will offer advanced SSAA choral literature with increased parts and harmonies, incorporating staging and movement.

Students will work to achieve and maintain a high level of musicianship, leadership, responsibility, and respectable character. Students work daily on their class music in preparation for performances throughout the year. During the school year the group will perform outside of school at civic, cultural, and educational activities. Students analyze and critique their sound and performances regularly.

MATERIALS REQUIREMENT: Students are asked to provide approximately \$40 for performance uniform.

THEATER A

GRADE LEVEL: 9-12

CREDITS: 1 credit

PREREQUISITE: No experience required

DESCRIPTION: This course will focus on stage presence, vocal production and becoming comfortable with being on stage. Students will work on pantomimes, monologues and group scenes. The large project will be a straight play that will be AAW's fall production. Students will leave this class with a better understanding of how to perform and be more comfortable with your abilities as an actor.

THEATER B

GRADE LEVEL: 9-12

CREDITS: 1 credit

PREREQUISITE: Theater A, Placement by audition

DESCRIPTION: This course will focus on dramatic theater. Students will research different dramatic plays as well as creating scripts of their own. The students will build on concepts learned in Theater A and add the emotion of dramatic theater. The overall project for the semester will be producing a full length dramatic play, which will be presented at the end of the semester. The show will include lighting, sound, marketing, set design, directing and stage managing.

Multimedia Arts Department

DIGITAL IMAGING I A/B

GRADE LEVEL: 9-12

CREDITS: 1 credit

PREREQUISITE: Placement by audition.

DESCRIPTION: This course is an introduction to digital photography and image manipulation. Students will learn the basics of photography, including lighting techniques, exposures, and focal lengths. Students will learn basic Photoshop techniques including color correction, selections, layers, transparencies, and the basics of file formats. Projects include composition theory, working with aperture settings, working with shutter speed settings, a photo scavenger hunt, vector based projects, as well as occasional studies of corporate style graphics, including business cards and brochures.

MATERIALS REQUIREMENT: Digital camera – preferably with the ability to set aperture and shutter speeds manually.

DIGITAL IMAGING II A/B

GRADE LEVEL: 9-12

CREDITS: 1 credit

PREREQUISITE: Digital Imaging I or Permission of Instructor.

DESCRIPTION: This is an intermediate level class which will give students an in-depth knowledge of Photoshop techniques. We will be looking at web versus print issues (file formats, resolution, type styles, bitmap vs. vector images, and color systems). In addition, we will be working with the pen tool, work paths, kerning, and color channels. We will have projects related to the display of statistical data, annual reports, and identity packaging. The major project for the Graphics II class is a personal book project. We will also study composition theory and marketing techniques, and periodically look at the work of contemporary artists. In the spring, after the yearbook is submitted, we will have a short animation project to prepare students for animation work in the following year.

MATERIALS REQUIREMENT: Digital camera – preferably with the ability to set aperture and shutter speeds manually.

MULTIMEDIA DESIGN I A/B

GRADE LEVEL: 9-12

CREDITS: 1 credit

PREREQUISITE: Digital Imaging II or Permission of Instructor

DESCRIPTION: This class will combine advanced photo shop techniques with multimedia production and web design. Students will gain a foundation in html coding as well as web design theory. Students will begin learning the basics of Animation, including storyboarding, stop motion animation, Macromedia Flash Animation and video

editing. Students will also use be experimenting with traditional black and white film photography in the darkroom.

MATERIALS REQUIREMENT: Digital camera – preferably with the ability to set aperture and shutter speeds manually.

MULTIMEDIA DESIGN II A/B

GRADE LEVEL: 9-12

CREDITS: 1 credit

PREREQUISITE: Multimedia Design I or Permission of Instructor

DESCRIPTION: This class will combine advanced Photoshop techniques with multimedia production and web design. We will study how media and marketing techniques are used to sway public opinion and form cultural trends. Students will examine race and gender issues as portrayed through the lens of a camera. Hands-on projects in a variety of formats will give students an opportunity to use these concepts in practical applications. Students will also be working in the darkroom with traditional film photography during this class.

MATERIALS REQUIREMENT: Digital camera – preferably with the ability to set aperture and shutter speeds manually.

Visual Arts Department

BEGINNING, INTERMEDIATE, AND ADVANCED 2D ART A/B

GRADE LEVEL: 9-12

CREDITS: 1 credit

PREREQUISITE: None for Beginning; Intermediate and Advanced will require approval of instructor.

DESCRIPTION: Students will develop a range of two-dimensional art skills; emphasis will be placed on realistic drawing and painting. Students will also be encouraged to find creative solutions for a wide range of different types of projects. Upper level classes will increasingly be focused on students learning to look at their art in a more analytical and critical manner. Advanced students will be expected to be responsible for generating a significant amount of work based on their own interests and creative vision.

Materials will include pencil, pen & ink, colored pencil, oil pastel, watercolor, and tempera paint (Beginning); also acrylic paint and printmaking (Int./Adv.) Art History lessons will be included, and will be frequently integrated into class projects.

BEGINNING, INTERMEDIATE AND ADVANCED 3D ART A/B

GRADE LEVEL: 9-12

CREDITS: 1 credit each course

PREREQUISITE: None for Beginning; Intermediate and Advanced will require approval of instructor.

DESCRIPTION: Students will develop a range of three-dimensional art skills; emphasis will be placed on ceramics and sculpture, with metal jewelry being added for upper level students. Students will also be encouraged to find creative solutions for a wide range of different types of projects. Upper level classes will increasingly be focused on students learning to look at their art in a more analytical and critical manner. Advanced students will be expected to be responsible for generating a significant amount of work based on their own interests and creative vision.

Materials will include clay, paper-mâché, wood, fabric, metal, and “found” objects. Assemblage and installation art will also be included for upper level classes. Art History lessons will be included, and will be frequently integrated into class projects.

VISUAL ART STUDIO

GRADE LEVEL: 11-12

CREDITS: 1 credit

PREREQUISITE: Permission of Instructor. Visual Art majors, Seniors and Juniors only.

DESCRIPTION: For 2D and 3D Art students. This course gives students an opportunity to take what they have learned in their previous art courses, and use that knowledge and ability to express their individual creative vision. Skill building continues, but the

emphasis here is for students to develop a greater level of maturity and sophistication in their work. Students taking this class must have a high level of self-motivation and be dedicated to their work. *This course is for serious art students only.* (Note: Visual Art Studio will probably not be a separate class/section. Students signing up for this class will typically be "embedded" in another section of 2D or 3D Art.)

ACADEMIC DEPARTMENTS

The academic curriculum that is followed at AAW is in accordance with the guidelines of Michigan's content standards. These standards are a set of learning expectations developed by parents, educators, business leaders and university professors to assist schools in the development of local district curricula. These standards and more detailed learning objectives called *benchmarks* are contained within the Michigan Curriculum Framework.

English Department

ENGLISH 9 A/B – INTRODUCTION TO LITERATURE AND COMPOSITION

GRADE LEVEL: 9
CREDITS: 1 credit
PREREQUISITE: None

DESCRIPTION: The goal for English Grade 9 is to build a solid foundation of knowledge, skills, and strategies that will be refined, applied, and extended as students engage in more complex ideas, texts, and tasks. In English Language 9, students will be introduced to the various genre of classic and contemporary narrative and informational texts that will be read and analyzed throughout high school. Ninth graders will connect with and respond to texts by analyzing relationships within and across families, communities, societies, governments, and economies. Through the lens of Inter-Relationships and Self-Reliance, they will consider how they build relationships, how their relationships impact others, and their responsibility to society.

ENGLISH 10 A/B – AMERICAN LITERATURE AND COMPOSITION

GRADE LEVEL: 10
CREDITS: 1 credit
PREREQUISITE: Successful completion of English 9 A/B

DESCRIPTION: The goal for English 10 is to continue to build a solid foundation of knowledge, skills, and strategies that will be refined, applied, and extended as students engage in more complex ideas, texts, and tasks. In English 10, students will add to the list of various genres of classic and contemporary narrative and informational texts that will be read and analyzed throughout high school. Tenth graders will connect with and respond to texts through critical response and stance. They will learn to evaluate for validity and quality, to balance and expand their perspectives promoting empathy, social action and appropriate use of power. Critical Response and Stance offers students the lens to assess and modify their beliefs, views of the world, and how they have power to impact them.

ENGLISH 11 A/B – WORLD LITERATURE AND COMPOSITION

GRADE LEVEL: 11
CREDITS: 1 credit
PREREQUISITE: Successful completion of English 10 A/B

DESCRIPTION: The goal for English 11 is to continue to build a solid foundation of knowledge, skills, and strategies that will be refined, applied, and extended as students engage in more complex ideas, texts, and tasks. In English 11, students will add to the list of various genre of classic and contemporary narrative and informational texts that will be read and analyzed throughout high school with a special focus on British and World literature and ACT success. Eleventh graders will connect with and respond to texts through transformational thinking. They will learn to use forward thinking to help make better decisions, to generate new ideas for solving problems, and to find wisdom. They will build a context for change in their lives and develop realistic plans for the future.

ENGLISH 12 A/B – ADVANCED LITERATURE AND COMPOSITION

GRADE LEVEL: 12

CREDITS: 1 credit

PREREQUISITE: Successful completion of English 11 A/B

DESCRIPTION: The goal for English 12 is to refine, apply, and extend the solid foundation of knowledge, skills, and strategies developed in English 9 through 11. Using the lens of leadership skills, English 12 students will develop a world perspective by analyzing classic and contemporary texts in a variety of genre, including post-colonial literature. Twelfth graders will synthesize information, ideas, and themes to understand the past, the present, and to think innovatively about the future. They will identify and apply their own leadership skills and prepare for responsible action as American citizens in the context of a global world.

English Department Electives

INTRODUCTION TO CREATIVE WRITING

GRADE LEVEL: 11 or 12

CREDITS: .5 credit

PREREQUISITE: Successful completion of English 10 A/B

DESCRIPTION: Creative Writing will invite the learner to discover original meaning and then to create forms of expression manifest in a written aesthetic. Students will maintain a notebook, participate in a workshop environment, and present a portfolio at the end of each quarter. Students are required to write daily. Students are required to focus on revising, growth, and development. This course focuses on process writing and is recommended for serious writers only.

ADVANCED CREATIVE WRITING

GRADE LEVEL: 11 or 12

CREDITS: .5 credit

PREREQUISITE: Successful completion of English 10 A/B

DESCRIPTION: Students participate in serious process writing in an attempt to define themselves and their relationship with and effect on world culture. Creative writing will focus on the process of the creation of “self myth” in the forms of writing from poetry to

fiction. This course is a workshop and will include critical discussion and analysis of writing and theory, interaction with other writers, daily writing, and a well maintained writing notebook. Students will focus on revising, development, and growth. A ready to publish manuscript / portfolio is the ultimate “product.”

Math Department

ALGEBRA I A/B

GRADE LEVEL: 9 – 11

CREDITS: 1 credit

PREREQUISITE: Placement in class is based on preliminary testing and/or teacher recommendation. Proficiency in fractions and the use of negative and positive numbers is expected.

DESCRIPTION: This course will focus on problem solving through the use of algebraic techniques and methods. Students will learn to solve complex linear and polynomial equations and to draw the graphs associated with those equations. Also covered are the coordinate plane, factoring of polynomials, systems of equations, inequalities, quadratic and radical functions, polynomial fractions and long division. Critical thinking is used in all applications of Algebra. This course fulfills the MME requirement for Algebra I.

MATH SUPPORT A/B

GRADE LEVEL: 9 – 11

CREDITS: 1 credit

PREREQUISITE: Placement in class is based on preliminary testing and/or teacher recommendation. Students must also be enrolled in Algebra I.

DESCRIPTION: This course is designed to enhance student skills in the application of integers, solving one and two step equations and inequalities, factors and fractions, linear functions and graphing, ratio, proportion, and percent. Probability and statistics will also be introduced. Critical thinking and problem solving skills will be emphasized throughout the course. This class is taken in conjunction with Algebra I. The students participate in board work, varied mathematical exercises in packet form and computer activities.

GEOMETRY A/B

GRADE LEVEL: 9 – 12

CREDITS: 1 credit

PREREQUISITE: Successful completion of Algebra I with a C or better.

DESCRIPTION: The principals of Euclidian Geometry, integrated with problem solving through algebraic methods, will be used in this course. Geometry topics will include inductive and deductive reasoning, lines, angles and planes, area and volume, geometric proofs, circles, polygons and polyhedrons, and the principals of trigonometry. Higher level critical thinking skills will be emphasized as students use mathematic applications to understand their environment. This course fulfils the MME requirement for Geometry.

GEOMETRY ESSENTIALS A/B

GRADE LEVEL: 10– 12

CREDITS: 1 credit

PREREQUISITE: Successful completion of Algebra I. Students with a C or better in Algebra I will take Geometry.

DESCRIPTION: This course is a study of the basic relationships of parallelism, perpendicularity, similarity and congruence of figures with emphasis on triangles, parallelograms and circles. Logical reasoning and higher level critical thinking skills will be developed through a study of simple deductive proofs. This course fulfills the MME requirement for Geometry.

ALGEBRA II/TRIGONOMETRY A/B

GRADE LEVEL: 10 – 12

CREDITS: 1 credit

PREREQUISITE: Successful completion of Geometry with a C or better. It is recommended that the student owns a graphing calculator (TI-83/84 or TI-83/84 Plus).

DESCRIPTION: A continuation of Algebra and Geometry expanding algebraic principles to complex numbers, logarithms, rational and irrational numbers, rational and irrational exponents, and graphing of quadratic functions, including transformations and shifts, right triangle trigonometry, and matrices. Problem solving strategies and critical thinking are taught and used throughout the course. A TI-83/84 or TI-83/84 Plus will be introduced and suggested for use throughout the course. This course fulfills the MME requirement for Algebra II.

ALGEBRA II A/B

GRADE LEVEL: 10 – 12

CREDITS: 1 credit

PREREQUISITE: Successful completion of Algebra I and Geometry or Geometry Essentials. Students with a C or better in Geometry will not be admitted.

DESCRIPTION: This course will review, strengthen and extend the algebraic skills learned in first-year algebra. The course is designed for those who would be unable to handle the rigor of Algebra II/Trigonometry. Problem solving strategies and critical thinking skills will be stressed throughout the course. This course fulfills the MME requirement for Algebra II.

PRE-CALCULUS A/B

GRADE LEVEL: 11 – 12

CREDITS: 1 credit

PREREQUISITE: Successful completion of one year of Algebra II/Trigonometry with a B- or better. It is recommended that the student owns a graphing calculator (TI-83/84 or TI-83/84 Plus).

DESCRIPTION: This course is an intense analytic study of functions and their graphs. Topics covered are polynomial, rational, exponential, logarithmic, and trigonometric functions. Vectors and vector applications will be discussed. Problem solving applications and use of the TI-83/84 or TI-83/84 Plus graphing calculator will be stressed throughout the course.

TRIGONOMETRY/COLLEGE ALGEBRA A/B

GRADE LEVEL: 11 – 12

CREDITS: 1 credit

PREREQUISITE: Successful completion of Algebra II/Trigonometry or Algebra II. Students with a B- or better in Algebra II/Trigonometry will not be admitted.

DESCRIPTION: This course is designed for the student who has not sufficiently mastered the Algebra required for Pre-Calculus, but who requires a fourth year of mathematics to further prepare him/her for their college program. Algebraic, geometric and trigonometric skills will be strengthened as the students study functions and analytic geometry.

CALCULUS

GRADE LEVEL: 11 – 12

CREDITS: 0.5 per semester

PREREQUISITE: At least a C average in Pre-Calculus. It is recommended that the student owns a graphing calculator (TI-83/84 or TI-83/84 Plus).

DESCRIPTION: This course will parallel the first course in calculus on the college level. Analytic geometry, limits, differential and integral calculus will be studied. Problem solving strategies, real-world applications and the use of the TI-83/84 or TI-83/84 Plus graphing calculator will be stressed throughout the course. The Advanced Placement (AP) Calculus AB Examination will be offered to students successfully completing this course.

If enrollment restrictions prevent calculus from running at AAW, we will offer ANALYTIC GEOMETRY AND CALCULUS I (Math 1760), through dual enrollment at Macomb Community College.

THE MATHEMATICS OF PERSONAL FINANCE (ONLINE)

GRADE LEVEL: 9-12

CREDITS: ½ credit

PREREQUISITE: Math Department Approval; Basic computer skills are necessary to progress normally through this online course. It is not necessary to be an expert, but a student should know how to launch a browser, get online to the Internet, send and receive email, open and close files, save files and use the mouse and keyboard.

DESCRIPTION; *The Mathematics of Personal Finance* is a foundational course in understanding the mathematics concepts and processes associated with personal finance. This course should be taken by those who want to improve their mathematics skills. This course can be taken for one-half credit or as one semester of a two-part, one-credit course about personal finance.

MATH MODELS AND APPLICATIONS (ONLINE)

GRADE LEVEL: 9-12

CREDITS: ½ credit

PREREQUISITE: Math Department Approval; Basic computer skills are necessary to progress normally through this online course. It is not necessary to be an expert, but a student should know how to launch a browser, get online to the Internet, send and receive email, open and close files, save files and use the mouse and keyboard

DESCRIPTION: This course is intended to reinforce, broaden, and extend the mathematical knowledge and skills acquired in Algebra I. The primary purpose of this course is to use mathematics as a tool to model real-world phenomena students may encounter daily, such as finance and exponential models. The finance topic includes many types of models, such as growth models, smart money saving models and installment loans models. Through these various situations, prior mathematical knowledge will be expanded and new mathematical knowledge and techniques will be developed. The use of technology is taught and highly encouraged for this course.

Social Studies Department

U.S. HISTORY AND GEOGRAPHY A/B

GRADE LEVEL: 9
CREDITS: 1
PREREQUISITE: None

DESCRIPTION: U.S. History and Geography is a two-semester course that is required for graduation. This class will begin with a review of Early American History (from the Native American world through the Civil War and Reconstruction). The remainder of the course will be spent learning about the people and social forces which shaped the United States from Industrialization to the Present. Students will learn through traditional methods related to the textbook and lectures as well as special projects integrating the arts, film, computer research and simulations.

CIVICS

GRADE LEVEL: 10-12
CREDITS: 0.50
PREREQUISITE: None

DESCRIPTION: The focus of this course is to help students understand the meaning of citizenship as they interact with their community, state, nation and the rest of the world. Focus will be on the foundations and function of the American system of government with a review of other historic and contemporary forms of government. Students will understand how individuals and groups have impacted the American political landscape over the course of our history and how they can meet the responsibilities of citizenship now and in the future. Discussion and debate are critical elements of this course and frequent oral participation is expected.

ECONOMICS

GRADE LEVEL: 11-12
CREDITS: 0.50 credit
PREREQUISITE: None

DESCRIPTION: Economics is a semester course in which students will study the American Economic System in terms of Microeconomics and Macroeconomics. The principles of capitalism will be examined with the emphasis on individual and household choices, business choices, money, banking, finance, and the government's role in the economy and trade in both domestic and international markets.

WORLD HISTORY AND GEOGRAPHY A/B

GRADE LEVEL: 11-12
CREDITS: 1 credit
PREREQUISITE: None

DESCRIPTION: World History and Geography is the study of civilizations, people, places, and events over the past 5,000 years of human history. It includes the Foundations

of History, Expanding Hemispheric Interactions, the First Global Age, Global Revolutions, and Global Crisis and Achievement, The Cold War and Aftermath, and Contemporary Global Issues. Students will realize that man has had similar needs and problems universally through time and has met those needs and problems in different ways. Students will learn through traditional methods related to the textbook and lectures as well as special projects integrating the arts, film, computer research and simulations.

MODEL UNITED NATIONS / INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

GRADE LEVEL: 11 - 12
CREDITS: 0.50 credit
PREREQUISITE: Instructor Approval

DESCRIPTION: This class is for those who want to know more about the rest of the world and our relationship to it. Students will study politics on a global level while developing research, writing, negotiation and public speaking skills. All students must prepare and participate in a Model U.N. conference, a simulation of what really takes place on the floor of the United Nations! This conference will take place over several days and may require staying on a college campus. Strong academic and teamwork skills required.

CONTEMPORARY ISSUES - PARTS I AND/OR II

GRADE LEVEL: 11-12
CREDITS: 0.50 credit
PREREQUISITE: None

DESCRIPTION: The Contemporary Issues class is a seminar style class based on current events and on-going domestic and international issues and controversies. Students select a series of topics at the beginning of the semester and then explore those topics through readings, research, discussion and other activities. Grading is primarily based on participation and a few major assignments.

Foreign Language Department

FRENCH I A/B

GRADE LEVEL: 10-12

CREDITS: 1 credit

DESCRIPTION: An introductory course providing for the elementary acquisition of a second language, language appreciation, and language consciousness. The work shall be toward the development of:

1. Accurate pronunciation of French, making use of the mechanics of the language;
2. Ability to listen and understand, to speak, to read, and to write the language in its simple forms;
3. Awareness and understanding of the culture of the French-speaking world

FRENCH 2 A/B

GRADE LEVEL: 10-12

CREDITS: 1 credit

PREREQUISITE: Successful completion of French 1 or consent of instructor

DESCRIPTION: A continuation of French I /Italian I, providing the opportunity to obtain fluency in both written and spoken French. The work shall be toward the development of:

1. Fluency and accuracy of pronunciation;
2. Ability to converse freely in simple, practical, everyday French/Italian;
3. Ability to read easily and intelligently, prose of increased difficulty;
4. Ability for oral comprehension of the language, including idioms and common expressions;
5. Appreciation of the contemporary civilization of the French/Italian-speaking world.

ITALIAN I A/B

GRADE LEVEL: 10-12

CREDITS: 1 credit

DESCRIPTION: An introductory course providing for the elementary acquisition of a second language, language appreciation, and language consciousness. The work shall be toward the development of:

1. Accurate pronunciation of Italian, making use of the mechanics of the language;
2. Ability to listen and understand, to speak, to read, and to write the language in its simple forms.
3. Awareness and understanding of the culture of the Italian-speaking world

ITALIAN II A/B

GRADE LEVEL: 10-12

CREDITS: 1 credit

PREREQUISITE: Successful completion of Italian I or consent of instructor

DESCRIPTION: A continuation of Italian I, providing the opportunity to obtain fluency in both written and spoken French. The work shall be toward the development of:

1. Fluency and accuracy of pronunciation;
2. Ability to converse freely in simple, practical, everyday French/Italian;
3. Ability to read easily and intelligently, prose of increased difficulty;
4. Ability for oral comprehension of the language, including idioms and common expressions;
5. Appreciation of the contemporary civilization of the Italian-speaking world.

SPANISH 1 A/B

GRADE LEVEL: 10-12

CREDITS: 1 credit

DESCRIPTION: This is an introductory course providing for the elementary acquisition of a second language and language appreciation. There is an equal emphasis on listening, reading, speaking, writing and culture. Course work focuses on developing accurate pronunciation and will make use of the mechanics of the language. Students will gain an awareness and understanding of Spanish culture and the Spanish speaking world.

SPANISH II A/B

GRADE LEVEL: 10-12

CREDITS: 1 credit

PREREQUISITE: Successful completion of Spanish 1A/B or teacher recommendation

DESCRIPTION: This course is a continuation of Spanish I, providing the opportunity to obtain fluency in both written and spoken Spanish. Students continue to develop proficiency in the areas of listening, reading, speaking, writing and culture. Course work focuses on the ability to converse freely in simple, practical, everyday Spanish; to easily and intelligently read prose of increased difficulty; or oral comprehension of the language, including idioms and common expressions.

Science Department

PHYSICAL SCIENCE A/B

GRADE LEVEL: 9-12

CREDITS: 1 credit

PREREQUISITE: Reasoning and problem solving skills.

DESCRIPTION: Physical Science is a two semester course that will introduce basic concepts in chemistry and physics. This course will focus on how and why scientists study the physical world. Topics will include discussions of the chemical building blocks of matter and how they interact; the periodic table; chemical bonding; chemical reactions; motion, forces, and energy, including sound and light, electricity and magnetism.

BIOLOGY A/B

GRADE LEVEL: 9-12

CREDITS: 1 credit

PREREQUISITE: Physical Science or passing score on placement exam

DESCRIPTION: Biology is a two semester course that will focus on how and why Biology is studied. The course will include the chemistry of living things, cell structure and function, genetics, evolution, and the history and diversity of life. The second semester of this course will give an introduction to the Kingdoms of living things from single celled organisms through complex multicellular organisms. Following the various Kingdoms of living things, the course will finish with Ecology.

CHEMISTRY A/B

GRADE LEVEL: 9-12

CREDITS: 1 credit

PREREQUISITE: Biology and/or Physical Science; Algebra 1 or consent of Instructor

DESCRIPTION: Chemistry is the science dealing with the structure, composition, properties, and reactive characteristics of matter. Topics include lab safety, physical & chemical properties of matter, energy, chemical nomenclature, mole relationships, chemical equations, stoichiometry, gas laws, atomic theory, periodicity, bonding, solutions, and acid-base theory. Laboratory experiments and demonstrations will consistently reinforce and aid in the understanding of each of the basic concepts of chemistry. The ultimate goal of this course is to get students acquainted with the basics of chemistry and the world's chemical makeup.

ANATOMY & PHYSIOLOGY A/B

GRADE LEVEL: 10 -12

CREDITS: 1 credit

PREREQUISITE: Biology and/or Chemistry

DESCRIPTION: Anatomy & Physiology is a project- and laboratory-based course where students will obtain knowledge about the structure and functions within the human body. This course is considered an advanced biology course, and students are expected to acquire knowledge about the human body actively, allowing the teacher to simply guide

their discoveries. Topics include anatomy vocabulary and terminology, skeletal system, cells and tissues, skin and membranes, muscular system, nervous system, endocrine system, blood and pathogens, cardiovascular system, lymph, respiratory system, digestive system, urinary system and reproductive system. Memorization of terminology and functions is crucial when it comes to student success in this course. The ultimate goal of this course is to get students acquainted with human biology.

PHYSICS A/B

GRADE LEVEL: 9-12

CREDITS: 1 credit

PREREQUISITE: Algebra II/Trig; completion of Chemistry is preferred

DESCRIPTION: This course introduces the essential physics principles that explain how objects interact with each other. Topics include 1-dimensional and projectile motion, Newton's Laws, momentum and conservation of energy, circular motion, waves, sound, light, color, reflection & refraction, lenses, electric currents and magnetism. Laboratory experiments and demonstrations consistently reinforce and aid in the understanding of each of the basic concepts of physics. The goal of this course is to increase student awareness of how physics can affect their surrounding environment, problem solving as well as generate further appreciation of the sciences.

If enrollment restrictions prevent Physics from running at AAW, we will offer College Physics 1 (PHYS-1180), through dual enrollment at Macomb Community College.

ADVANCED BIOLOGY A/B

GRADE LEVEL: 9-12

CREDITS: 1 credit

PREREQUISITE: Successful completion of Biology and Chemistry

DESCRIPTION: Advanced Biology A/ B is an advanced science course, consisting of two independent semester-length classes, to be taken after successful completion of the Biology and Chemistry. The course of study for Advanced Biology A/B will contain both new material and some content area previously studied in the Biology A and B course. Advanced Biology A will study topics and ideas including molecules and the cell, genetics and evolution. Advanced Biology B will discuss topics including (but not limited to) zoology, botany and ecology/field ecology.

Students enrolling in this class will need to be motivated and committed to working and learning at an accelerated pace. Students will be expected to complete assignments working independently outside of the classroom as well as in class. Knowledge of laboratory skills and procedures will also be required.

Goals of this course include the further study and greater understanding of biological topics, ideas and concepts in our world, providing for a stronger foundation in preparation for college level biology course work, and promoting student motivation, self-drive and willingness to achieve in the classroom.

ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE (ONLINE)

GRADE LEVEL: 9-12

CREDITS: ½ credit

PREREQUISITE: Science Department Approval; Basic computer skills are necessary to progress normally through this online course. It is not necessary to be an expert, but a student should know how to launch a browser, get online to the Internet, send and receive email, open and close files, save files and use the mouse and keyboard.

DESCRIPTION: Understanding our planet and how to protect it is important. In this course students learn about ecosystems and the organisms that live within them. They learn how important it is to protect the many species of Earth and learn some ways they can do so. In addition, students explore how their own habits affect the Earth's environment. By the end of the course, students will have developed scientific literacy in these areas in order to participate effectively in a democratic society.

OCEANOGRAPHY (ONLINE)

GRADE LEVEL: 9-12

CREDITS: ½ credit

PREREQUISITE: Science Department Approval; Basic computer skills are necessary to progress normally through this online course. It is not necessary to be an expert, but a student should know how to launch a browser, get online to the Internet, send and receive email, open and close files, save files and use the mouse and keyboard.

DESCRIPTION: Oceanography provides an excellent opportunity to gain knowledge about the physical and chemical structures of both salt and freshwater ecosystems. This course is interdisciplinary by way of explorations of various topics, providing an assortment of hands-on labs and video field trips. Oceanography encourages students to evaluate the appropriate kinds of research that are related to both natural and environmental issues.

This course includes a proctored midterm and final exam.

Physical Education Department

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

GRADE LEVEL: 9-12

CREDITS: 1/2 credit

DESCRIPTION: This is a course that addresses what students need to know and be able to do to manage their activity in ways that maximize their overall well-being. The course equips students to apply the skills and concepts associated with engaging in lifelong activity. Students acquire knowledge and experience essential to monitoring their personal health-related fitness levels. Course topics that will be covered are fitness principles, strength training, basketball, volleyball, racket sports, jogging and softball. Others areas of concentration may include: football, floor hockey, handball, soccer and Frisbee.

HEALTH

GRADE LEVEL: 9-12

CREDITS: 1/2 credit

DESCRIPTION: This class provides an informational and practical learning situation for developing life-long healthy living. Areas of concentration will include: HIV/AIDS, suicide, stress, self-esteem, nutrition, physical activity, smoking, drugs and alcohol, sexual activity; influence of media, culture, and technology, goal setting, decision making skills, interpersonal communication skills and health promotion and disease.

Special Services

LEARNING RESOURCE CENTER A/B

GRADE LEVEL: 9-12

CREDITS: None

PREREQUISITE: Student must have an IEP or 504 plan.

DESCRIPTION: The Learning Resource Center (LRC) provides individualized learning services through the use of consultive, diagnostic and prescriptive functions, to support the diverse population of students at AAW who qualify for assistance under IDEIA or Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. The LRC also endeavors to support and assist General Education Teachers' classroom instruction to enable students with special needs to develop the skills necessary to continue in school through graduation, attain academic and future employment success, and develop life skills that will lead to independence.

Virtual Learning

Online Learning

GRADE LEVEL: 9-12

CREDITS: ½ minimum; up to 16 in a high school career.

PREREQUISITE: Counselor Approval

Online courses offered through AAW can be found in the individual department sections. AAW will also use online courses as appropriate to provide students with opportunities to earn credit in classes which they had previously failed.