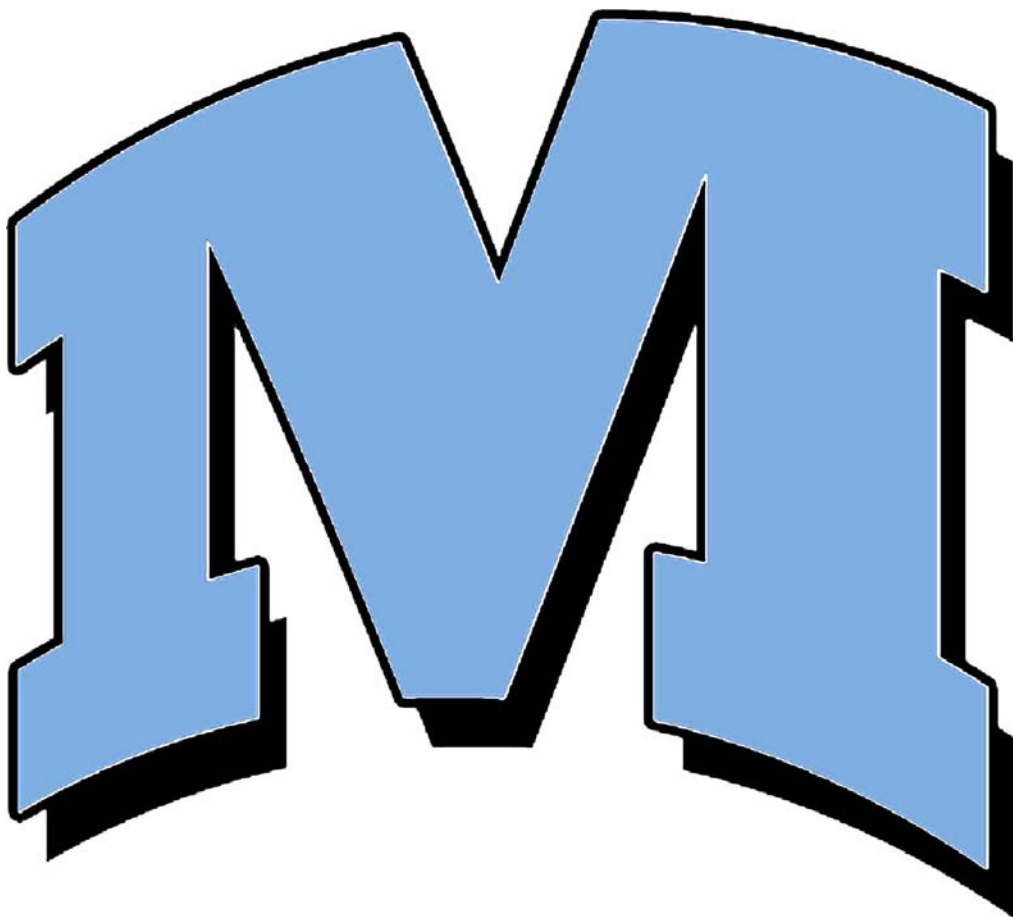


Middletown High School



**Course Selection Catalog
2012-2013**

MIDDLETOWN HIGH SCHOOL

MIDDLETOWN, CT 06457

* * * * *

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STATEMENT OF NON-DISCRIMINATION

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The Middletown Board of Education is an affirmative action/equal opportunity employer, and it does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religious creed, age, marital status, civil union, military or veteran status, national origin, ancestry, sex, gender identity or expression*, sexual orientation, or past or present physical or mental disability in any of its education programs, activities, or employment policies. All educational programs and offerings, including vocational education and extracurricular activities, subscribe to this policy. Elizabeth K. Nocera, Director of Grant Services, has been designated to handle inquiries regarding the district non-discrimination policies and may be reached at 311 Hunting Hill Avenue, Middletown, CT 06457; phone (860) 638-1414

- "Gender identity or expression" means a person's gender-related identity, appearance or behavior, whether or not that gender-related identity, appearance or behavior is different from that traditionally associated with the person's physiology or assigned sex at birth.

Effective 10/1/11

The coordinators for each program are as follows:

Section 504/Americans with Disabilities

?

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Title IX

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**MIDDLETOWN HIGH SCHOOL
COURSE SELECTION CATALOG
2012-2013**

This catalog describes the courses offered in grades nine (9) through twelve (12) at Middletown High School. These course descriptions will assist students and parents in selecting specific courses and in planning a high school program.

Students, with the help of parents, teachers and school counselors, are encouraged to take a long range view of the high school program. As early as grade nine, students may work out a tentative four-year plan that is reviewed each year and modified as the student matures. One should approach the four-year plan by attending first to graduation requirements; but just meeting requirements is usually not enough. Students should also choose courses that reflect their goals, talents and interests by aiming for a full program rather than a minimal one. Colleges will have their own requirements that need to be considered as well. Information on colleges, careers and other post high school options can be found in School Counseling Department.

In February, students select courses for the following year. School counselors will use the student's career goals, student's grades and standardized testing information to assist the course selection process. During the spring, a master schedule for the high school is built and each course is assigned to one or more periods in the day. In some cases, selected courses will not fit because of conflicts in the times they are offered, i.e. courses that only meet during the same periods, or will not be offered due to low enrollment.

REQUIREMENTS FOR HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION

Students who graduate from our public schools have:

- (1) satisfactorily completed the prescribed courses of study for the several grade levels in accordance with their abilities to achieve;
- (2) satisfactorily passed any examinations and/or standards established by the faculty and approved by the Board of Education;
- (3) fulfilled the legally mandated number and distribution of credits;
- (4) successfully demonstrated the performance expectations identified by the Middletown Board of Education in compliance with the legislature's HB 01-166. Graduation shall not be held until 180 days and 900 hours of schoolwork are completed.

The Board of Education in compliance with state regulations shall require twenty-one (21) credits for graduation from high school. A credit is defined as the equivalent of a 40-minute class period for each school day of a school year. The following twenty-one (21) credits are necessary:

English	4 credits (<i>including 1 credit English 9, 1 credit English 10</i>)
Mathematics	3 credits (<i>including 1 credit in Algebra I and 1 credit in Geometry effective with the 2002 graduating class</i>). Juniors and seniors new to the high school will be placed in appropriate math classes based on previous courses taken and credits earned. They will be expected to earn 3 credits in math; however, some of these students may not necessarily meet either or both of the Algebra I or geometry requirements. For instance, a new junior or senior may complete only Algebra I or, in rare instances, Pre-Algebra may be included as part of the three-credit requirement.
Science	2.5 credits (<i>1 credit in biology</i>). One credit in biology can be earned by completing four years in the Vocational Agricultural Program.
Physical Education/Health	2 credits <i>including 1.5 credits in P.E. and .5 credit in health and first aid</i> . Students will be able to earn .25 towards their junior or senior physical education requirement for each season of successfully completed interscholastic sports participation.

NOTE: These requirements changed starting with the ninth grade in 2005. P.E./Health will be offered at all grade levels. Alternative credit may also be arranged through the Department Chairperson.

Social Studies	3 credits (<i>including 1 credit in United States History and .5 credit in Civics; (please refer to page 70 for Civics courses).</i>)
Career & Technical/ Fine Arts	1 credit
Electives	5.5 credits
Total	21 credits

Students must satisfy two requirements for graduation. They must successfully obtain twenty-one (21) credits in required areas of study and they must also meet proficiency requirements in mathematics, English, social studies, and science. The first method used to demonstrate proficiency is their score on the CAPT. Please refer to the overall result section of your son/daughter's scores. Students in the top three bands in each area are considered to be proficient. If your child does not meet that standard in one or more areas, we would suggest he/she re-take the test in March. The information below lists other methods that can be used to satisfy this requirement. If you have any questions, please contact the Guidance Department at 860-704-4520.

Students may demonstrate this level of proficiency in the following ways:

1. If a student meets state goal, or demonstrates proficiency (band three) on the CAPT, he/she will automatically meet the graduation requirement for performance in the related academic area. (i.e., English, mathematics, science, and social studies)

or

2. If a student achieves a score of 450 on the mathematics and/or critical reading sections of the SAT or corresponding SAT II (45 on the PSAT), he/she will automatically meet the graduation requirement for performance in the related area.

or

3. Students who do not meet the standards as noted may demonstrate the required level of proficiency through a portfolio review process in any of the subjects in question. The portfolio review process must occur prior to the beginning of the student's senior year. A team of assessors will review each student portfolio.

or

4. Students who fail to demonstrate the required level of performance through the portfolio process may be required to revise, re-submit, or present one or more pieces of work that reflect the required level of proficiency. Each of the academic areas will develop criteria with which these submissions will be assessed.

or

5. Students who fail to demonstrate the required proficiency in these academic areas may enroll in Middletown's summer offerings to develop the skills and understandings to meet the various academic performance expectations. The work meeting the standards in their summer school courses will become a part of their portfolio to meet the required proficiency for graduation.

Exemptions

1. Transfers: If a student enters Middletown High School after grade ten (grade nine in science), portions of the portfolio requirement may be waived by the department supervisor and/or principal. Portfolio waivers shall be considered on a case-by-case basis. The same procedure shall apply to students returning from expulsion.
2. Students enrolled in the alternative evening high school shall maintain portfolios providing evidence that they have met Middletown's proficiency requirement. The evening high school's instructors will review portfolios at the end of each semester and recommend to core area supervisors the names of students they have determined meet the performance requirement. Portfolio waivers may be considered on a case-by-case basis by the high school principal.
3. Special Needs: Students with special needs may be exempt from district performance standards as described in this policy if so indicated in their Individual Education Plans.

REQUIREMENTS FOR PROMOTION

Promotion to Grade	Minimum Credits Earned
10	5.0
11	9.0
12	15.0

COURSE CREDIT

1. Students must carry a minimum of five (5) subjects that meet daily each semester.
2. Students should carry a minimum of four (4) academic subjects per semester.

PREREQUISITES

If a student wishes to take a course for which the prerequisite has not been met, permission must be obtained from the department head for that subject.

INDEPENDENT STUDY PROGRAMS

Independent study programs are available, but prior approval must be obtained from the principal who will review the suggested program, assign an advisor, and designate credit to be awarded.

OTHER CONSIDERATIONS IN COURSE SELECTION

1. Students are encouraged to take a Career and Technical Education course during their high school career as these courses provide critical skills for collegiate and workplace success.
2. Students interested in engineering, science, vocational, or technical post-secondary education are urged to take four years of mathematics and science.
3. Many colleges require a laboratory science. At least one college or advanced level chemistry, biology, or physics course will meet this requirement.
4. Many colleges require at least three years of the same world languages.
5. All Juniors must take Personal Finance (can be replaced with Marketing or DECA).

WESLEYAN UNIVERSITY HIGH SCHOOL SCHOLARS PROGRAM

The Wesleyan University High School Scholars' Program permits outstanding juniors and seniors from Middletown area high schools to take **one course** per semester at the University. The program enables these students to take more advanced work than is normally available at the high school level.

Applications for admission to the program are available in the Guidance Office in late spring and fall. For the most part, only those courses at the 100-level are available to the High School Scholars. A list of course offerings is available on the Internet at <http://www.wesleyan.edu/course/home/html>. High School Scholars may not enroll in a course that is substantially equivalent to a course offered in the high school.

Students are strongly encouraged to adhere to the application deadlines. The Guidance Office will forward applications to the Admission's Office at Wesleyan University along with a copy of each applicant's transcript and counselor recommendation. Acceptance by Wesleyan is determined by a student's academic record, enrollment size of a particular class and approval of the course instructor.

UNIVERSITY OF CONNECTICUT EARLY COLLEGE EXPERIENCE

UCONN Early College Experience (ECE) provides academically motivated students the opportunity to take university courses while still in high school. These challenging courses allow students to preview college work, build confidence in their readiness for college and earn college credits that provide both an academic and financial head-start on a college degree.

ECE instructors, who are certified as adjunct professors by UCONN faculty, create a classroom environment fostering independent learning, creativity and critical thinking - all pivotal for success in college. Middletown High School offers ECE courses in a variety of disciplines. To support rigorous learning, University of Connecticut library resources are also available to students.

ECE students must successfully complete the course with a grade of C or better and take the course final exam in order to receive university credit. University credits are highly transferable to other universities.

Students are charged a \$25.00 per credit fee. For additional information visit:
www.ece.uconn.edu.

Students may enroll in both the UCONN and AP Program.

HIGH SCHOOL PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM

Middlesex Community College has signed agreements with many area high schools which permit eligible high school juniors and seniors to enroll in general fund supported credit courses at no cost. Students are eligible to take one (1) course free of charge (General Tuition and Fees). Students are responsible for purchasing their own textbooks. In order to participate in the college's High School Partnership Program, students are expected to have at least a "B" average, be in the top twenty percent of their class and have the written recommendation of their counselor. Students must also submit an admissions application, an official high school transcript and a High School Partnership application form. High School Partnership applicants are also required to take the Basic Skills Assessment. For additional information on the High School Partnership Program, contact the Admissions Office, 860-343-5719.

ADVANCED PLACEMENT TESTING PROGRAM

The Advanced Placement Program is a cooperative educational endeavor of the College Entrance Examination Board. Advanced Placement courses are offered in Art, English, Mathematics, Science, Social Studies, and World Languages. The Advanced Placement Examinations are offered each May. It is suggested that a student interested in a particular college, write for information concerning its Advanced Placement policy. Advanced Placement courses are identified in the course descriptions. Additional information is available from the Guidance Department. Students enrolled in an AP course must take the AP exam, UCONN final or course final exam. Students may enroll in both the UCONN and AP program.

COLLEGE CAREER PATHWAYS PROGRAM

The College Career Pathways (CCP) Program links classes at Middletown High School with classes at Middlesex Community College. This program permits students in good standing to get a head start on their college courses at no cost. A student may earn up to 15 college credits while in high school. Credits may transfer to a two or four year college of the students' choice. The admissions office of a college will determine if the credits earned through the CCP program will be accepted.

Starting with the class of 2011:

To receive credit for the program, a high school student must complete the following:

1. Maintain an overall academic grade point average of 74 or high.
2. Plan ahead and take at least one class in each of the following areas:
 - One of the following Math classes:
 - MHS Algebra 2 (Advanced) = MxCC Intermediate Algebra
 - MHS Pre Calc (College or Advanced) = MxCC Pre-Calculus
 - One of the following Science classes:
 - MHS Biology (College or Advanced) = MxCC General Biology I
 - MHS Chemistry (College or Advanced) = MxCC Concepts of Chemistry
 - One of the following English classes:
 - MHS Public Speaking = Mxcc Public Speaking

One of the following Career classes:

MHS Accounting II = MxCC Basic Account

MHS Child Development III = MxCC Child and Adolescent Development

MHS Marketing = MxCC Principles of Marketing

MHS TV/Video I = MxCC TV Production

3. Receive a 74 or higher in the above listed classes.
4. Fill out a CCP application during their public speaking class.
5. Hand in CCP application to Ms. White in Career Center by the deadline.

Students can only receive Middlesex credit for one of the classes in each subject area. For example, if a student takes biology and chemistry, they will only receive the college credit for chemistry.

VIRTUAL HIGH SCHOOL (VHS)

Self-motivated juniors and seniors will now be offered an alternative to the ordinary classroom environment. Each semester, thirty-five (35) students will be eligible to enroll in Virtual High School. This gives students the opportunity to choose from a wide variety of courses not offered at M.H.S., including Mandarin Chinese, AP Statistics, Music Composition, AP Computer Science, Entrepreneurship, Investing in the Stock Market, and many more. If your son/daughter chooses this option, they will be participating in a course comprised of students from various regions, cultures, and countries. These students bring their own unique perspectives and experiences to each course. Students that have participated in VHS courses often gain a broader view of the world around them and a greater sense of the global community. As there is only a limited number, students must prepare an application packet (available online) and submit all materials to their counselor prior to the deadline posted on the Middletown High Guidance website. For more information, log on to the M.H.S. website and click on the Guidance/Virtual High School link or visit the Site Coordinator in Guidance,.

SERVICE CREDIT OPPORTUNITIES

Community Service Credit

Prerequisite: none

<u>Semester</u>	<u>Grade (s)</u>	<u>Credits</u>
Full year	9, 10, 11, 12	.5 pass/fail

The core concept of offering Community Service Credit is the belief that high school students are worthy citizens, capable of giving of themselves and willing to do so when encouraged. This course is designed for students to provide 50 hours of community service that must be completed in one of the four years while attending high school. In addition, students will have 10 hours of classroom instruction in the evening hours.

Peer Tutoring Credit

Prerequisite: none

<u>Semester</u>	<u>Grade (s)</u>	<u>Credits</u>
Both	11, 12	.3-.5 pass/fail

Students involved in the Peer Tutoring Program will work alongside other students in a variety of possible settings: the classroom during regular school hours, after school as part of the detention program, in-school suspension. Students will commit to a minimum of three days a week of service. As a classroom tutor, students will work closely with the classroom teacher to assist students in need of extra help or to implement classroom lessons and activities.

As an after-school tutor, students will work with students serving detention as part of the school-wide detention program and offer assistance in areas such as homework completion and quiz/test preparation. Students will earn .3-.5 credits per semester (maximum of one (1) elective credit) and will be graded on a pass/fail basis.

NATIONAL COLLEGIATE ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION

The NCAA Clearing House and Middletown High School have approved those courses labeled with an asterisk (*) for credit. Students who plan to participate in Division I or Division II athletics in college should discuss these requirements with their school counselor.

PROGRAM OF STUDIES

The following program is designed to guide students and parents/guardians in planning course selections for grades 9-12. Students are encouraged to meet with their counselor to discuss course selections and appropriate course recommendations.

Courses taken in the following areas may be used to fulfill elective requirements including the Vocational Education/Arts requirement:

- | | |
|---|----------------------|
| Art - Fine & Performing | Business |
| Family and Consumer Sciences | Technology Education |
| Vocational Agriculture (4-year program) | |

SAMPLE 4-YEAR HIGH SCHOOL PROGRAM

<u>Grade 9</u>	<u>Grade 10</u>	<u>Grade 11</u>	<u>Grade 12</u>
English 9	English 10	English Electives	English Electives
Mathematics	Mathematics	Mathematics	*Mathematics
Physical Science	Biology	Science Elective	*Science Elective
World History	U.S. History	Social Studies	*Social Studies
		Elective	Elective
World Language	*World Language	*World Language	*World Language
P.E. 9	P.E.. 10	First Aid & Health	P.E. Elective
			(one semester)
P.E./Health 9	P.E./Health 10	P.E./Health 11	P.E./Health 12
Elective	Elective	Personal Finance	Elective

*Although not required for graduation, these courses may be needed to fulfill college entrance requirements. Students are encouraged to meet with their counselor to plan individual program.

ARTS - FINE AND PERFORMING

ART

All courses in the Art Department are elective courses and are appropriate for both the college program and the non-college/military/vocational education program. Courses in this area will fulfill the vocational education/art credit requirement.

The art courses offered at Middletown High School appeal to the needs of not only the serious art student, but to the interested student who enjoys the process of creating and self expression. Those students possessing artistic skills will have an opportunity to further expand, develop, and refine their natural abilities to seriously pursue art as an avocation or a career. Those students who may not believe they are artistically talented, but who possess a genuine interest in the subject, will be given the opportunity to develop new skills that will enrich their perception and appreciation of the world around them.

Those students planning to pursue art-related careers are strongly encouraged to take at least three years of art so that they will have sufficient time to develop their portfolios, a requirement for entrance into most art schools and universities.

<u>General Art</u>	<u>Semester</u>	<u>Grade (s)</u>	<u>Credits</u>
Prerequisite: none	Full year	9, 10, 11, 12	1.0

This fundamental course will offer the student an introduction to the basic elements of design that include line, texture, shape, form, color and space. These elements will be examined and applied through a variety of media and techniques that may include drawing, painting, collage, printmaking, sculpture and crafts. Both two- and three-dimensional art forms will be explored. Art history, art criticism, and aesthetics will also be incorporated into this course.

<u>Drawing & Painting</u>	<u>Semester</u>	<u>Grade (s)</u>	<u>Credits</u>
Prerequisite: none	Full year	9, 10, 11, 12	1.0

Semester I will cover drawing skills from real-life observations with emphasis on line, shading, composition and perspective. Students will draw from natural and man-made objects, still life composition and the human figure. A variety of media will be used, including pencil, charcoal, pastel, pen and ink. Semester II will focus on color theory and color mixing. Techniques in pastel, watercolor and acrylic will be taught. Students will be exposed to both realistic and abstract interpretations in style. Art history, art criticism and aesthetics will also be incorporated into this course.

<u>Advanced Drawing & Painting</u>	<u>Semester</u>	<u>Grade (s)</u>	<u>Credits</u>
Prerequisite: one year of Drawing and Painting with average of 85 or higher <u>or</u> permission of department chair	Full year	10, 11, 12	1.0

This course will place greater emphasis on the refinement of drawing and painting techniques including the introduction of oil painting. Projects will allow for more creativity and personal interpretations in style. Art history, art criticism and aesthetics will also be incorporated into this course.

<u>Pottery & Sculpture</u>	<u>Semester</u>	<u>Grade (s)</u>	<u>Credits</u>
Prerequisite: none	Full year	9, 10, 11, 12	1.0

This course offers the study of three-dimensional design with emphasis on clay construction. Projects will cover basic hand-building techniques as well as an introduction to wheel throwing. The processes of drying, firing and glazing will be covered. Sculptural techniques such as relief carving, modeling in the round and 3-D construction will be included using a variety of other materials. Art history, art criticism, and aesthetics will also be incorporated into this course.

<u>Advanced Pottery & Sculpture</u>	<u>Semester</u>	<u>Grade (s)</u>	<u>Credits</u>
Prerequisite: one year of Pottery and Sculpture with an average of 85 <u>or</u> higher <u>or</u> permission of department chair	Full year	10, 11, 12	1.0

This course offers the continued study of three-dimensional design with emphasis on the refinement of clay techniques. Hand building, wheel throwing, carving and sculpting will be covered. A variety of other materials will be used in 3-D construction. Projects will be individualized and of greater scope than those in the introductory course. Art history, art criticism, and aesthetics will also be incorporated into this course.

<u>Studio Art**</u>	<u>Semester</u>	<u>Grade (s)</u>	<u>Credits</u>
Prerequisite: One year of Advanced Drawing & Painting or Advanced Pottery & Sculpture with an average of 80 <u>or</u> higher <u>and</u> permission of department chair	Full year	11, 12	1.0

This course is specifically designed for those students who are seriously interested in pursuing art as a career or avocation. Students may work in either two or three dimensional art forms. Art history, art criticism and aesthetics will be integral parts of this course. The major focus will be the preparation of a portfolio required for entrance to most art schools and colleges. The student may pay for materials requested for projects that go beyond what is specifically required by the curriculum.

*This course is required for juniors who plan to take AP Studio Art in their senior year.

*Due to relatively small numbers, Studio Art and AP Studio Art students may be enrolled in the same class.

<u>AP Studio Art*</u>	<u>Semester</u>	<u>Grade (s)</u>	<u>Credits</u>
Prerequisite: One year of Studio Art (junior year) with an average of 80 <u>or</u> higher <u>and</u> permission of department chair	Full year	12	1.0

This course will specifically focus on the preparation of a portfolio required for the AP Studio Art exam. All students enrolled in this course will be expected to complete and submit a portfolio in order to receive credit. Students may submit a portfolio in a two dimensional or three dimensional art form.

*Due to relatively small numbers, Studio Art and AP Studio Art students may be enrolled in the same class.

<u>Photography I</u>	<u>Semester</u>	<u>Grade (s)</u>	<u>Credits</u>
Prerequisite: none	Half year	9, 10, 11, 12	.5

Basic photography will introduce students to the tools, materials and processes of photography. Students will be involved with black and white film, development, printmaking and enlarging. The course will investigate the use of the simple camera, graphic camera and the 35mm camera. Student evaluation will be based on lab work and written evaluations.

<u>Photography II</u>	<u>Semester</u>	<u>Grade (s)</u>	<u>Credits</u>
Prerequisite: Photography I or Permission of Instructor	Half year	9, 10, 11, 12	.5

Will use advanced camera techniques including composition, candid shots, close-ups and experimentation using existing light. In addition, there will be advanced darkroom techniques such as sabattier developing techniques and hand coloring. An oral presentation of all work is required. An introduction to digital photography will be included in the course of study.

MUSIC

All courses in the Music Department are elective courses and are appropriate for both the college program and the non-college education program. Courses in this area will fulfill the vocational education/arts credit requirement.

The music courses provide a variety of experiences in performance and appreciation as well as advanced technical skills and music awareness.

<u>Jazz Ensemble</u>	<u>Semester</u>	<u>Grade (s)</u>	<u>Credits</u>
Prerequisite: Permission of Instructor (by audition) Please see instructor by March 1 st for audition time.	Full year	9, 10, 11, 12	1.0

This course offers an applied study of music rudiments, popular music styles, and performance techniques. Topics covered include study of all scales in common use, key signatures, musical terms, intervals, basic chord construction and proper sequences, improvisation, transposition and development of rhythmic facility. Advance students will be required to work, rehearse, and perform concert band literature as well as jazz ensemble literature. This course involves participation in school and public performances. This course is recommended for students interested in performing popular musical styles in preparation for music as a vocation or avocation. Please schedule auditions before course selection cards are due.

<u>Concert Band</u>	<u>Semester</u>	<u>Grade (s)</u>	<u>Credits</u>
Prerequisite: Ability to play a band instrument	Full year	9, 10, 11, 12	1.0

This course offers an applied study of care of equipment, music rudiments, performance techniques, marching techniques, musical style and composers. Topics covered include study of all scales in common use, key signatures, musical terms, intervals, transposition and the development of rhythmic facility. In preparation for public performance, there is a study of band literature and composers representing various musical periods. The course includes developing marching routines for public presentation. This course is recommended for students who enjoy performing. This course requires student attendance at performances. Also, many small advance ensembles are formed with the concert band.

<u>Chamber Choir</u>	<u>Semester</u>	<u>Grade (s)</u>	<u>Credits</u>
Prerequisite: Audition required	Full year	9, 10, 11, 12	1.0

This course offers an applied study of advanced singing experiences and music theory. Topics covered include music reading, common musical symbols and terminology, development of independent singing, development of vocal skills, singing music of a moderately difficult to difficult grade level. This course is recommended for students interested in advanced singing activities. This course requires student attendance at all performances. Please schedule auditions before course selection cards are due.

<u>Concert Choir</u>	<u>Semester</u>	<u>Grade (s)</u>	<u>Credits</u>
Prerequisite: Permission of Instructor	Full year	9, 10, 11, 12	1.0

This course offers an applied study of music theory, singing independence and proper use of the singing voice. Topics covered include working knowledge of musical symbols, elements of music, and understanding of conductor's hand signals. Also covered is the development of vocal skills, in preparation for performance. There is also a study of vocal literature representing various styles of music. This course is recommended for students who enjoy singing. This course requires student attendance at all performances.

<u>Classroom Piano I</u>	<u>Semester</u>	<u>Grade (s)</u>	<u>Credits</u>
Prerequisite: none	Full year	9, 10, 11, 12	1.0

This course offers a beginner's view of piano/keyboard technique and proper basics for students. Topics covered include scales, basic music theory, easy songs, and finger exercises. The student does not need any past experience with piano, but some experience might help with progress. No performance is required outside the classroom, but quizzes and tests will include playing for class and the instructor.

<u>Classroom Piano II</u>	<u>Semester</u>	<u>Grade (s)</u>	<u>Credits</u>
Prerequisite: Piano I or two years of private piano	Full year	9, 10, 11, 12	1.0

This course will be a continuation of Piano I and will offer a more in-depth experience with piano. Students will be required to practice on a daily basis during class to develop their musicianship and technique. Songs will be chosen based on the student's level of expertise. Performances will take place at least twice a year and weekly quizzes and written tests may accompany certain units of study.

<u>Guitar I</u>	<u>Semester</u>	<u>Grade (s)</u>	<u>Credits</u>
Prerequisite: Permission of instructor	Full year	9, 10, 11, 12	1.0

This course is for beginners only. Students will be familiar with the parts of the instrument and learn to tune by ear and using an electronic tuner. Several playing styles will be covered and students will learn some history of the guitar. Students will learn to play chords, strumming techniques, flat picking and finger picking techniques, play melody reading notes, play scales and finger positions. Some playing will be the entire class while other experiences will include small group and individual. Grades will be determined by tests and quizzes, and by class participation.

<u>Guitar II</u>	<u>Semester</u>	<u>Grade (s)</u>	<u>Credits</u>
Prerequisite: Permission of instructor	Full year	9, 10, 11, 12	1.0

Students must take Guitar I or have two years or more of private lessons to take this class. Students will continue in the Hal Leonard Guitar Book 2 and learn more scales, key signatures, finger picking techniques, new chords, syncopation and improvisation. The objective is to move out of open position to extend notes up the fingerboard. Students work independently and with other students for songs, quizzes and projects. Music from other sources will also be used.

<u>Gospel Choir</u>	<u>Semester</u>	<u>Grade (s)</u>	<u>Credits</u>
Prerequisite: Permission of instructor	Full year	9, 10, 11, 12	1.0

This course is by audition only. Students will learn and sing songs from the gospel and spiritual literature for concert performance. As with Chamber Choir, students will also be responsible for Concert Choir literature. Singing techniques and vocal health as well as music reading will be covered. Grades will be determined by tests and quizzes, participation in concerts and performances, and by class participation.

<u>Wind Ensemble</u>	<u>Semester</u>	<u>Grade (s)</u>	<u>Credits</u>
Prerequisite: Audition Required	Full year	9, 10, 11, 12	1.0

This course offers an advanced applied study of care of wind instruments/percussion instruments, music rudiments, performance techniques, marching techniques, musical style, and composers. Topics covered include the study of all scales in common use, key signatures, musical terms, intervals, transposition, and the development of rhythmic facility. In preparation for public performance, there is a study of wind ensemble literature and composers representing various musical periods. This course also includes the development and participation in marching band and concert band. Students are required to study Southern Regional audition literature and audition for the Southern Regional Band Festival. This course is recommended for students who enjoy performing and plan to further their performance at the college level. This course requires student's attendance at marching, concert and wind ensemble performances.

<u>Strings/Orchestra</u>	<u>Semester</u>	<u>Grade (s)</u>	<u>Credits</u>
Prerequisite: Ability to play violin, viola, cello, or bass	Full year	9, 10, 11, 12	1.0

This course offers an applied study of care of equipment, music rudiments, performance techniques, musical style and composers. Topics covered include study of all scales in common use, key signatures, musical terms, intervals, transposition and the development of rhythmic facility. In preparation for public performance, there is a study of string/orchestra literature and composers representing various musical periods. This course is recommended for students who enjoy performing string orchestral music. This course requires student attendance at performances. There is also an opportunity to participate in small advance ensembles.

<u>Music Theory</u>	<u>Semester</u>	<u>Grades (s)</u>	<u>Credits</u>
Prerequisite: Ability to sing or play an instrument and read music	Full year	10, 11, 12	1.0

Music Theory is designed for students who are interested in further exploration of music principles. The purpose of this course is to acquaint students with the basic design of music; how to build chords, music composition, etc., all within a historical context. Materials such as staff paper, score paper, solfege materials and workbooks will be provided to each student at a \$20.00 expense. This course is extremely valuable and highly recommended to students thinking of a major or minor in music at the collegiate level.

DRAMA

<u>Acting I</u>	<u>Semester</u>	<u>Grade (s)</u>	<u>Credits</u>
Prerequisite: none	Half year	9, 10, 11, 12	.5

This course will explore the many facets of theater including acting and technical theater in order to familiarize the student with the workings of this art form. The course will include improvisation, ensemble building theater games, readings, the preparation of a formal scene from a play, and hands-on technical experience. Through these activities, students will build their confidence and learn to apply this new skill to all facets of life.

<u>Acting II</u>	<u>Semester</u>	<u>Grade (s)</u>	<u>Credits</u>
Prerequisite: Acting I or director approval	Half year	9, 10, 11, 12	.5

This course focuses on the continued development of the actor's primary tools, the voice and the body, in relation to the two major acting styles, psychophysical (emotional) acting and comedy. Work will include a study of the basic principles of stage, voice, diction, blocking and stage business, and script analysis and interpretation. The relationship of the actor to technical theater elements will also be discussed.

<u>Acting III</u>	<u>Semester</u>	<u>Grade (s)</u>	<u>Credit</u>
Prerequisite: Acting II or director approval	Half year	10, 11, 12	.5

A course for advanced students, which specializes in varying styles of performance including psychophysical or emotional acting and comedy. Acting exercises for stage movement and theater voice and diction are included. Students will perform extended scenes after being given detailed notes and performance assignments.

<u>Acting IV</u>	<u>Semester</u>	<u>Grade (s)</u>	<u>Credit</u>
Prerequisite: Acting III or director approval	Half year	10, 11, 12	.5

Designed for advanced acting students, this course explores the techniques and styles characteristic of classical theater as well as contemporary trends as evidenced by regional theater, college theaters and off Broadway. Scenes from the above types of plays will be performed by students; followed by detailed critiques and class discussion. Students in this course will be exposed to the skills and flexibility for college work in acting.

<u>Directing</u>	<u>Semester</u>	<u>Grade (s)</u>	<u>Credit</u>
Prerequisite: none	Half year	9, 10, 11, 12	.5

Students in this course will be required to act and direct. The course will focus on the study of a variety of theater and film directors, their styles, visions and approaches to performance. Students will interpret and reinterpret scripts, devise an audition process, create purposeful blocking and meaningful stage pictures. Students will be required to keep a director's journal and write short papers describing their "director's vision".

<u>Black Theater</u>	<u>Semester</u>	<u>Grade (s)</u>	<u>Credit</u>
Prerequisite: none	Half year	9, 10, 11, 12	.5

This course examines the emergence of the black and African-American playwright in contemporary society. Works studied will focus on the perspectives of black experience and include but are not limited to award-winning plays by Lorraine Hansberry, August Wilson, Charles Fuller, Ntozake Shange, Langston Hughes, and Amiri Baraka. In addition, students will have opportunities to develop and perform improvisations and short scenes based on their personal experience.

<u>Technical Theater</u>	<u>Semester</u>	<u>Grade (s)</u>	<u>Credit</u>
Prerequisite: none	Half year	9, 10, 11, 12	.5

This course will concentrate on the elements of technical theater, set design and construction, stage lighting, costume, sound, props and make-up. Students will explore design and its execution as a means of communicating the idea, concept, theme and mood of a play through class and workshop sessions. Students will play an integral role in the design and construction of the scenery for the High School Drama Club productions. This course will be team taught within the Fine Arts and Tech Ed Departments.

BUSINESS EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

Business Education Department courses prepare students to compete and to be successful in pursuing college and career goals. It is recommended that all students elect courses within this area, which fulfill the career & technical/arts credit requirement for graduation. All students are encouraged to participate in our local chapter of Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA), Distributive Education Clubs of America (DECA) and Skills USA.

ACCOUNTING

<u>Personal Finance</u>	<u>Semester</u>	<u>Grade</u>	<u>Credits</u>
Prerequisite: none	Half year	11	.5

This is a required course for all juniors to gain financial literacy skills. Topics covered will include budgeting, apartments/houses/mortgages, career searches, inflation, taxes, checking accounts, saving/investing, credit, loans, automobile purchases, insurance, college funding, retirement, death, and funerals. Students may earn extra credit if they provide documentation and regular use of a savings account either at Dragon's Vault of Seasons Federal Credit Union or another bank/credit union. This course is designed for students to understand and manage money. Students taking DECA meet this requirement.

<u>Accounting I</u>	<u>Semester</u>	<u>Grade (s)</u>	<u>Credits</u>
Prerequisite: none	Full year	10, 11, 12	1.0

This course will give students a thorough background in basic accounting procedures. Students will record, maintain, and summarize financial documents. Individual and team projects will be completed.

NOTE: Accounting I fulfills one credit of the MATH requirements for graduation.

<u>Accounting II</u>	<u>Semester</u>	<u>Grade (s)</u>	<u>Credits</u>
Prerequisite: Passing grade in Accounting I	Full year	11, 12	1.0

This course offers an advanced study of the financial operation of a business. Emphasis is placed on analyzing and interpreting financial transactions. The realities of business accounting are brought to the classroom.

NOTE: This course is accredited by Middlesex Community College's College Career Pathways Program.

COMPUTER COURSES

<u>Introduction to Programming*</u>	<u>Semester</u>	<u>Grade (s)</u>	<u>Credits</u>
Prerequisite: Algebra or Geometry	Half year	10, 11, 12	.5

This is an entry-level course to programming in the VisualBasic.net environment. It is designed for students interested in application programming in a “windows” environment. The focus in this course is on problem solving, sequence control structures, and conditional coding.

<u>Programming*</u>	<u>Semester</u>	<u>Grade (s)</u>	<u>Credits</u>
Prerequisite: Introduction to Programming <u>or</u> recommenda- tion of teacher based on assess- ment of computer skill	Half year	10, 11, 12	.5

This course is designed to further develop skills and concepts required for writing higher-level programs in the VisualBasic.net environment. The focus in this course is on decision-making, conditional and repetition control structures. Students will also code their own procedures and functions and learn how to debug a windows application.

<u>Web Page Design*</u>	<u>Semester</u>	<u>Grade (s)</u>	<u>Credits</u>
Prerequisite: Firm understanding of the Windows environment	Half year	9, 10, 11, 12	.5

This course is designed to give students an in-depth understanding of web design concepts and techniques that are essential to planning, creating, testing, and maintaining Web sites. Students will learn how to create Web documents using HTML.

<u>Mastering Microsoft Office 2010</u>	<u>Semester</u>	<u>Grade (s)</u>	<u>Credits</u>
Prerequisite: None	Half year	9, 10, 11, 12	.5

A comprehensive course designed for students to obtain the Microsoft Word and PowerPoint skills required for any field or occupation. In this course, students will create, edit and enhance standard business documents using Microsoft Word. Students will also create complex Word documents by adding lists, tables, charts, and graphics. Students will also learn how to create presentations in Microsoft PowerPoint enhanced with features such as text animations, pictures, movies, sounds and charts.

<u>Mastering Microsoft Office 2010</u> (Advanced)	<u>Semester</u>	<u>Grade (s)</u>	<u>Credits</u>
Prerequisite: Algebra I	Half year	9, 10, 11, 12	.5

A comprehensive course designed for students to obtain the Microsoft Excel and Access skills required for any field or occupation. This course will introduce students to workbooks, worksheets and formulas. Students will also work with test and data enhancements to improve the appearance of the worksheet. In addition, this course will also introduce students to database management. Instruction will be provided to design, develop and edit tables, datasheets; edit a database using the table and form views, modify the basic design structure, create queries and generate basic reports and forms.

DISTRIBUTIVE EDUCATION

<u>DECA I (Retailing)</u>	<u>Semester</u>	<u>Grade (s)</u>	<u>Credits</u>
Prerequisite: none	Full year	11, 12	1.0

This course offers a basic study of activities involved in the retail distribution of merchandise. Topics covered include areas in economics, retailing, marketing, preparing for employment, human relations, advertising, display, sales and the operation of a school store. All students in DECA I are encouraged to participate in the local chapter of the Distributive Education Clubs of America (DECA) and compete in local, state, and national competitions. Retailing students may elect to take Cooperative Work Experience-Distributive Education (CWE-DE).

*Tenth grade students may select this course with written permission of instructor.

<u>DECA II (Marketing)</u>	<u>Semester</u>	<u>Grade (s)</u>	<u>Credits</u>
Prerequisite: Passing grade in Retailing	Full year	11, 12	1.0

This course offers an advanced study of marketing and related areas. Topics covered include marketing, economics, retailing, market segmentation, marketing and human behavior, and market research. All students enrolled in DECA II are also encouraged to participate in the local chapter of the Distributive Education Clubs of America (DECA) and compete in local, state, and national competitions. All students enrolled in Marketing should be available for employment in retail and marketing occupations, and are required to work a minimum of 200 hours per semester.

NOTE: This course is accredited by Middlesex Community College's College Career Pathways Program.

BUSINESS ESSENTIALS

<u>Career Investigation</u>	<u>Semester</u>	<u>Grade (s)</u>	<u>Credits</u>
Prerequisite: none	Half year	9, 10, 11, 12	.5

This course provides the opportunity to conduct a thorough self-appraisal, investigate career opportunities, and develop a career action plan. Preparing a résumé and learning interviewing techniques are key components of the course.

NOTE: This course is required of all students who wish to enroll in Cooperative Work Experience- Diversified Occupations (CWE-DO).

<u>On Your Own</u>	<u>Semester</u>	<u>Grade (s)</u>	<u>Credit</u>
Prerequisite: none	Half year	11, 12	.5

This simulation course offers juniors and seniors the opportunity to learn life skills. Units include investments, health, nutrition, insurance, taxes, budgeting, banking, apartment and house hunting and auto maintenance. Heavy emphasis is placed on projects and hands-on learning. This course meets the Personal Finance requirements.

<u>Work I (Work Experience I)</u>	<u>Semester</u>	<u>Grade (s)</u>	<u>Credits</u>
Prerequisite: At least 16 years old; concurrent enrollment in Co-operative Work Experience (CWE-DO) <u>and</u> permission of the instructor	Full year	10, 11, 12	1.0

This course offers a practical program of related vocational instruction and must be taken concurrently by all students who are enrolled in CWE-DO. Topics covered include job seeking skills, safety, job retention and advancement skills, self-management, problem solving, teamwork, and specific instruction related to the student's current job and occupational goal. Students will begin to work as teams with all students accepting leadership roles, developing their abilities to work with diverse people and situations. Students who are at least 16 years old should be available for employment in diversified occupations and are required to work a minimum of 200 hours per semester in order to receive credit.

NOTE: Students must successfully complete this course in order to earn credit in CWE-DO.

<u>Work II (Work Experience II)</u>	<u>Semester</u>	<u>Grade (s)</u>	<u>Credits</u>
Prerequisite: Work I, concurrent enrollment in Cooperative Work Experience (CWE-DO) <u>and</u> permission of the instructor	Full year	11, 12	1.0

This course offers an advanced study of the world of work and must be taken concurrently with CWE-DO. Particular emphasis will be placed upon group working situations and team/individual leadership in personal and professional problem solving.

NOTE: Students must successfully complete this course in order to earn credit in CWE-DO.

WORK EXPERIENCE PROGRAMS

<u>Cooperative Work Experience Business/Office Education</u>	<u>Semester</u>	<u>Grade (s)</u>	<u>Credits</u>
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(CWE-BOE)

Prerequisite: Concurrent enrollment in any of the following courses:	Full year	9, 10, 11, 12	1.0
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Accounting I or II, Web Page Design, Personal Finance, Introduction to Programming, or Programming.

This course offers practical experience in a business environment for those students in grades 9, 10, 11, and 12 who are enrolled in the Business Education Program. Students are placed in a part-time paid position related to business and office work, and are required to work a minimum of 200 hours per semester in order to receive credit. Related instruction is provided in school through the prerequisite courses. Students must successfully complete the prerequisite course to receive credit for Cooperative Work Experience - Business/Office Education (CWE-BOE). Students may receive Work Experience credit in only one Work Experience Program each year

<u>Cooperative Work Experience Distributive Education</u>	<u>Semester</u>	<u>Grade (s)</u>	<u>Credits</u>
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(CWE-DE)

Prerequisite: Concurrent enrollment in DECA I or DECA II	Full year	11, 12	1.0
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This course is a practical experience in retail occupations for those students in grades 11 and 12 who are enrolled in D.E.C.A. I or II. Students are placed in a part-time paid position related to marketing and retailing and are required to work a minimum of 200 hours per semester in order to receive credit. Students may receive Work Experience credit in only one Work Experience Program each year.

NOTE: This course is highly recommended for students who enroll in DECA II and must be taken concurrently. Students must earn credit in Distributive Education I or II in order to receive credit for Work Experience-Distributive Education (CWE-DE).

<u>Cooperative Work Experience</u>	<u>Semester</u>	<u>Grade (s)</u>	<u>Credits</u>
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(CWE-DO)

Prerequisite: Concurrent enrollment in Work I or Work II and permission of the CWE-DO Coordinator	Full year	10, 11, 12	1.0
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This course offers a practical learning experience for students, sixteen years of age or older, through part-time employment and who plan to seek employment immediately upon graduation. This course **MUST** be taken concurrently by all students who are enrolled in Work I or Work II. Any form of employment must have the prior approval of the CWE-DO Coordinator. Students will work under the supervision of the employer and the CWE-DO Coordinator. Students must be available for employment and must work at least 200 hours during the semester in order to receive credit. Students may receive Work Experience credit in only one Work Experience Program each year.

NOTE: Students must successfully complete Work I or Work II in order to earn credit for Cooperative Work Experience - Diversified Occupations (CWE-DO).

ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS

Students are assigned to grade 9 and 10 English Language Arts courses on the basis of their past academic records and scores on district and state assessments. In grades 11 and 12, students select courses from those listed under English courses, grades 11 and 12, after consultation with their current English teachers.

Four credits of English are required for graduation from Middletown High School. One of these required credits must be in a ninth grade English course, and one must be in a tenth grade English course. The remaining will be selected from 11th and 12th grade English courses, one of which must be a full-year course.

<u>English 9 (Advanced)</u>	<u>Semester</u>	<u>Grade (s)</u>	<u>Credits</u>
Prerequisite: dept. approval	Full year	9	1.0

This full-year core course introduces students to a cross section of literature from around the globe. Students are exposed to various genres intended to allow them to explore and examine essential questions of personal identity as it is shaped by family, friends, culture and society. The genres offered include short stories, novels, poetry, non-fiction, and Greek and Shakespearean drama. The Advanced level focuses on developing literary interpretations and longer critical essays using primary literary sources. Students also produce reader responses to literature and a variety of other types of written pieces. A formal vocabulary program is also included as preparation for the Scholastic Assessment Test (SAT I).

<u>English 9 (College)</u>	<u>Semester</u>	<u>Grade (s)</u>	<u>Credits</u>
Prerequisite: none	Full year	9	1.0

This full-year core course introduces students to a cross section of literature from around the globe. Students study a variety of genres intended to allow them to explore and examine essential questions of personal identity as it is shaped by family, friends, culture and society. The genres offered include: short stories, novels, poetry, non-fiction, and Greek and Shakespearean drama. The course focuses on writing in response to the literature and the development of the multi-paragraph essay. Students also produce a variety of other types of written pieces as well as standards-based performance tasks.

<u>American Studies</u>	<u>Semester</u>	<u>Grade (s)</u>	<u>Credits</u>
Prerequisite: English 9, World History 9	Full Year	10	1.0 English (College/ Advanced) 1.0 U.S. History

This full-year, interdisciplinary course is taught collaboratively by one social studies teacher and one English teacher over two consecutive periods. This course encourages students to explore the ideas that have shaped the United States through both literature and historical events. Students will examine America through the lens of three essential questions: (1) What does it mean to be an American? (2) What is the American Dream? (3) How has the human desire for freedom impacted America? A strong interrelation exists between a literature and its people and often between literature and the historical context in which a work exists. Students will learn to make these connections by reading both classical and contemporary literature and primary and secondary historical works. A rigorous writing program emphasizes critical, analytic essays in response to readings and includes argumentation and rhetoric, extemporaneous essays and creative writing. Research skills, including source evaluation, citation, and thesis construction are a key component of the curriculum. Team teaching affords the opportunity for large and small group work, performance learning, and a variety of innovative activities. All components of advanced and college English and American history classes are included in this interdisciplinary course. A formal research paper and systematic SAT vocabulary preparation are included in this course.

<u>English 10 (Advanced)</u>	<u>Semester</u>	<u>Grade (s)</u>	<u>Credits</u>
Prerequisite: English 9 Advanced or College or approval of instructor	Full year	10	1.0

This course focuses on American literature, complementing the Grade 10 American history program and prepares students for the college preparatory junior/senior elective program in English. Selections from the rich and diverse literature of this nation, highlighting two essential questions: **What is an American?** (How is our definition of ourselves reflected in the literature of our nation?) and **What is the American dream?** (How is our definition of this dream reflected in the literature of our nation?). This study includes a variety of genres (short stories, non-fiction, novels, drama and poetry) and both classical and contemporary selections. This course provides students with an understanding of our literature in an historical and cultural context. A rigorous writing program emphasizes performance learning, critical, analytic essays in response to literature and includes argumentation and rhetoric, extemporaneous essays and creative writing. Students are expected to be active participants in class discussion. A formal research paper and systematic SAT vocabulary preparation are also part of the course.

<u>English 10 (College)</u>	<u>Semester</u>	<u>Grade (s)</u>	<u>Credits</u>
Prerequisite: English 9	Full year	10	1.0

This course focuses on American literature, complementing the grade 10 American history program and prepares students for the college preparatory junior/senior elective program in English. Selections from the rich and diverse literature of this nation, highlighting two essential questions: **What is an American?** (How is our definition of ourselves reflected in the literature of our nation?) and **What is the American dream?** (How is our definition of this dream reflected in the literature of our nation)? This study includes a variety of genres (short stories, non-fiction, novels, drama and poetry) and both classical and contemporary selections. This course provides students with an understanding of our literature in an historical and cultural context. A developmental writing program and an emphasis on critical reading strategies are also a major portion of this course. Students focus on developing their writing skills with critical, analytic, creative and personal essays in response to their reading.

English Courses: Grades 11 and 12

All students are required to earn four (4) credits in English. Grade 11 and 12 English courses are electives. Students may not take grade 11 and 12 courses unless they have previously taken English 9 and 10 or their equivalents.

All students are required to take at least one full-year course in grade 11 or 12 prior to graduation.

Full year (1 credit)

1. AP Language & Comp.
2. AP Literature & Comp.
3. World Literature
4. Journalism
5. Popular Literature
6. Seminar in the Humanities
7. Creative Writing

One Semester (.5 credit)

1. Expository Writing (Fall & Spring)
2. Literature by Women (Spring)
3. Myth & Folklore (Fall & Spring)
4. Mystery and Science Fiction (Fall)
5. Reading & Writing Workshop (Fall & Spring)
6. Visual Literature (Spring)
7. Cinema Studies (Fall)
8. Speech (Fall & Spring)
9. American Multicultural Literature (Fall & Spring)

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

AP English Language

Prerequisite: English 10
Advanced or teacher
recommendation

Semester

Full year

Grade (s)

11

Credits

1.0

From the College Board:

“[This course] engages students in becoming skilled readers of prose written in a variety of periods, disciplines, and rhetorical contexts, and in becoming skilled writers who compose for a variety of purposes. Both their writing and their reading should make students aware of the interactions among a writer’s purposes, audience expectations, and subjects as well as the way generic conventions and the resources of language contribute to effectiveness in writing.

The course emphasizes the expository, analytical, and argumentative writing that forms the basis of academic and professional communication, as well as the personal and reflective writing that fosters the development of writing facility in any context. Students [learn] that the expository, analytical, and argumentative writing they must do in college is based on reading, not solely on personal experience and observation, and therefore, [they learn] to read primary and secondary sources carefully, to synthesize material from these texts in their own compositions, and to cite sources [appropriately... This course] helps students move beyond such programmatic responses as the five-paragraph essay. [Students are] encouraged to place their emphasis on content, purpose, and audience and to allow this focus to guide the organization of their writing.”

Students will study a variety of texts, both fiction and nonfiction, throughout the year. As an exit exam, students enrolled in this course must take the Advanced Placement Examination in English Language and Composition, for which the course prepares them.

AP English Literature and Composition

Prerequisite: AP Language or
teacher recommendation

Semester

Full year

Grade (s)

12

Credits

1.0

From the College Board:

“An AP English Literature and Composition course engages students in the careful reading and critical analysis of imaginative literature. Through the close reading of selected texts, students deepen their understanding of the ways writers use language to provide both meaning and pleasure for their readers. As they read, students consider a work’s structure, style, and themes as well as such smaller-scale elements as the use of figurative language, imagery, symbolism, and tone. The course includes intensive study of representative works from various genres and periods, concentrating on works of recognized literary merit. [... Students] read deliberately and thoroughly, taking time to understand a work’s complexity, to absorb its richness of meaning, and to analyze how that meaning is embodied in literary form.

In addition to considering a work’s literary artistry, students reflect on the social and historical values it reflects and embodies. Careful attention to both textual detail and historical context provides a foundation for interpretation, whatever critical perspectives are brought to bear on the literary works studied [...].”

As an exit exam, students enrolled in this course must take the Advanced Placement Examination in English Literature and Composition, for which the course prepares them.

<u>Popular Literature</u>	<u>Semester</u>	<u>Grade (s)</u>	<u>Credits</u>
Prerequisite: English 10	Full year	11, 12	1.0

This course includes the reading and discussion of popular literature. Possible works to be studied include: *The Contender*, *The Body*, *Girl Interrupted*, *Athletic Shorts*, *Ellen Foster*, *The Shawshank Redemption*, *This Boy’s Life* and other high-interest, contemporary texts. Some texts will be based on student self-selection. The texts in this course will change frequently according to interests of the students. Students will improve their reading comprehension and sharpen their critical reading skills. Students will produce a variety of written pieces, including reader response, analytic and creative assignments.

<u>World Literature</u>	<u>Semester</u>	<u>Grade (s)</u>	<u>Credits</u>
Prerequisite: English 10	Full year	11, 12	1.0

World Literature examines great ideas as interpreted from great writers from around the world. This global approach to World Literature includes major themes, a variety of genres (short stories, non-fiction, novels, drama and poetry) and a balance of classical and contemporary literature. Classical works such as Sophocles’ *Oedipus the King* and Shakespeare’s *Hamlet*, may be included with works from the best writers from Asia, Africa, South America and Europe. This course fosters strong reading and writing skills. Students do in-depth critical reading, produce many written pieces of a variety of types, including both critical and creative, in response to the literature, and they participate in active class discussions. Outside reading is required.

<u>Cinema Studies</u>	<u>Semester</u>	<u>Grade (s)</u>	<u>Credits</u>
Prerequisite: English 10	First	11, 12	.5

Cinema Studies is divided into units in which students study film techniques and several major types of films, such as: Western, Comedy, Documentaries, Great Classics, and Art films. Oral and written reports on films are required. Projects will be designed to fit the unit being studied. Since films can only be shown once, it is difficult for students to participate in class discussions unless present on the day films are viewed. The major portion of the course involves students in viewing and appraising films. This course includes related assignments outside of the class.

<u>Creative Writing I & II</u>	<u>Semester</u>	<u>Grade (s)</u>	<u>Credits</u>
Prerequisite: English 10	Full year	11, 12	1.0

This course provides students with the opportunity to express themselves using the forms of writing usually considered to be creative. Students may write short stories, drama, poetry, and/or scripts and screenplays. A children's book is an option in some classes. Originality is encouraged within the limits imposed by the choice of these forms. Only students who are eager to write every day and improve their writing skills should take the class. Students will be required to write in class and at home and should be prepared to share their writing on a regular basis.

<u>Expository Writing</u>	<u>Semester</u>	<u>Grade (s)</u>	<u>Credits</u>
Prerequisite: English 10	First, Second	11, 12	.5

Expository writing is an intensive writing course which develops writing skills of students who have already mastered basic writing skills. Students will write examples of particular forms of writing, such as personal, narrative, description, character sketch, process, exposition, analysis, opinion, argumentation, and persuasion, criticism of mass media, and/or criticism of prose and poetry. Students will find this course very useful for developing the ability to handle the writing demands of a college preparatory program.

<u>Literature by Women</u>	<u>Semester</u>	<u>Grade (s)</u>	<u>Credits</u>
Prerequisite: English 10	Second	11, 12	.5

This course is intended for students interested in a study of literature written by women. Students should be prepared to follow a very demanding reading and writing schedule. Emphasis is on fiction, both novels and short stories, but plays and poetry will also be considered. Course content is flexible. Works covered will be chosen based both on student and teacher interest, including Margaret Atwood, Charlotte Bronte, Kate Chopin, Charlotte Perkins Gilman, Zora Neale Hurston, Toni Morrison, and Alice Walker.

<u>Mystery and Science Fiction</u>	<u>Semester</u>	<u>Grade (s)</u>	<u>Credits</u>
Prerequisite: English 10	First	11, 12	.5

This course involves the reading of science fiction, fantasy and mystery texts. Character, theme, and story development are emphasized. Students are expected to produce a variety of written pieces and to participate actively in class. Outside reading is required.

<u>Myths and Folklore</u>	<u>Semester</u>	<u>Grade (s)</u>	<u>Credits</u>
Prerequisite: English 10	First, Second	11, 12	.5

The purpose of Myths and Folklore is to study the underlying relationship among tales, myths, ballads and legends evolved from the thousands of years of human cultures. Students are offered exposure to a number of literary concepts such as heroism, tragedy, and the epic found in ancient and modern literature. This course requires outside research and several short essays.

<u>Reading & Writing Workshop</u>	<u>Semester</u>	<u>Grade (s)</u>	<u>Credits</u>
Prerequisite: English 10	Both	11, 12	.5

Any level. *required course for some

This course is **required** for seniors who have not met the graduation requirement of proficiency on the reading or writing sections of the CAPT. It is an opportunity for these seniors to develop and improve reading and writing skills and address their areas of weakness in reading and writing. Over the course of the semester, students will develop a portfolio of writing pieces designed to meet the Middletown graduation performance expectations. Students may **elect** to take this course junior year.

<u>Seminar in the Humanities</u>	<u>Semester</u>	<u>Grade (s)</u>	<u>Credits</u>
Prerequisite: English 10	Full Year	11, 12	.5

Seminar in the Humanities is a demanding pre-college course offered in cooperation with Wesleyan University. The course is rigorous and designed for junior and senior students eager to experience the challenges inherent in reading, writing and discourse at a college level. Several humanistic perspectives are closely examined through varied works of literature as chosen by the Wesleyan professors involved in the course. Therefore, a student's active participation in the bi-weekly lectures given by the professors is essential to his/her ability to interact with the texts, to think and write critically about those texts, and to enjoy the overall experience of learning in a collegiate environment. Students are expected to keep pace with a heavy reading load, and to be assessed on their learning through lecture notes/homework, quizzes, critical papers, and oral presentations.

<u>Visual Literature</u>	<u>Semester</u>	<u>Grade (s)</u>	<u>Credits</u>
Prerequisite: English 10	Second	11, 12	.5

This course will emphasize and apply former knowledge regarding various types of literature, literary elements and the structure of literature to the viewing of contemporary film classics. In our visual society, film and other visual media greatly influence the formation of opinions and ideas; therefore, it is important to have the ability to evaluate the messages of this critical media in today’s society. Students will be expected to keep a journal of all viewing, participate in discussions, take tests and write critical papers on the movies reviewed.

<u>Journalism</u>	<u>Semester</u>	<u>Grade (s)</u>	<u>Credits</u>
Prerequisite: English 10	Full year	11,12	1.0

This course provides students with an understanding of journalism in an historical and cultural context. A rigorous writing program emphasizes performance learning and critical and analytical essays. Emphasis first semester is stressed on the writing of basic print stories such as a survey story, news story, feature story, interview, sports story, review and editorial. Students must actively participate in class discussions and activities. It may also focus on public speaking skills and include a research component for debate skills.

<u>Public Speaking</u>	<u>Semester</u>	<u>Grade (s)</u>	<u>Credits</u>
Prerequisite: English 10	First,Second	11,12	.5

This course is designed to enhance students’ ability to present effective speeches to groups in college, career, or personal settings. Students will learn the basic principles of oral communication and practice theories and tools that will nurture their overall academic growth and professional development. Rather than memorizing or reciting words from a page, students will develop strategies to overcome nervousness, projecting confidence in their ideas. In preparation for speaking in “real” life situations, students will imagine themselves in a variety of scenarios: business, academic, and community. Students will practice choosing topics, organizing materials, and developing detailed support. In addition, students will study the effective use of visuals and learn how to conduct, evaluate, and incorporate research into presentations. As the relationship between speaker and audience is essential to successful communication, students will be evaluated on their role as both communicator and listener. By the term’s end, students will have learned valuable 21st century skills, which apply to many areas of everyday life.

As part of the MHS partnership with MXCC, students may receive college credit for this course.

<u>American Multicultural Literature</u>	<u>Semester</u>	<u>Grade(s)</u>	<u>Credits</u>
Prerequisite: None	First,Second	11,12	.5

In this course, students study contemporary literature written by Hispanic, Native American, African American and Asian American authors. In addition to reading novels, short stories and poems, students will learn about the historical, social and cultural trends of each group. Students build their skills of literary analysis in discussions as well as in several short papers.

ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE

The English as a Second Language (ESL) program provides students who are foreign born or who have limited English proficiency with the opportunity to learn and study the English language.

ESL services are provided for students to become English proficient and to receive academic support with their studies. The program is designed around the individual needs of the students. Additional information is available from the Guidance Department or school administration.

English as a Second Language - Advanced

English as a Second Language - Intermediate

English as a Second Language - Beginning

FAMILY & CONSUMER SCIENCES

All courses in this department are elective courses and are appropriate for both the college program and the non-college program. Courses within this area will fulfill the vocational education/arts credit requirement for graduation.

The family and consumer sciences program is designed to prepare students for adult living. The variety of courses available provide students with the information necessary to make wise individual decisions concerning foods and nutrition, child development and family life, home management, and fashions and clothing.

FOODS AND NUTRITION

<u>Foods I</u>	<u>Semester</u>	<u>Grade (s)</u>	<u>Credits</u>
Prerequisite: none	Half year	9, 10, 11, 12	.5

This course will provide instruction in the area of nutrition, food preparation and meal planning. Practical laboratory work will provide the opportunity for students to become familiar with kitchen tools, equipment, terminology, recipes, math, and safety and sanitation procedures. Each student will also have an opportunity to develop cooperative learning skills, organizational skills, and time management techniques. Students in this class must be able to work cooperatively in a group situation.

<u>Foods II</u>	<u>Semester</u>	<u>Grade (s)</u>	<u>Credits</u>
Prerequisite: Foods I with 70 or above & permission of teachers	Half year	9, 10, 11, 12	.5

Foods II is designed to build upon the knowledge gained in Foods I. The focus will be on planning and preparation of meals that require advanced preparation techniques. This course offers the opportunity to investigate international, ethnic and regional foods. Students will also study food safety and sanitation and meal planning to meet a variety of nutritional needs. Students will be required to work both individually and in group situations.

CHILD DEVELOPMENT AND FAMILY LIFE

<u>Child Development I</u>	<u>Semester</u>	<u>Grade (s)</u>	<u>Credits</u>
Prerequisite: none	Half year	9, 10, 11, 12	.5

This semester course offers students an in-depth opportunity to study child development. In Child Development I, the content includes families, parenting, teenage pregnancy, birth, prenatal and postnatal care. This course is the first of three courses in the Child Development area.

<u>Child Development II</u>	<u>Semester</u>	<u>Grade (s)</u>	<u>Credits</u>
Prerequisite: Child Development I With grade of 75 or above Permission of teacher	Half year	9, 10, 11, 12	.5

This course will provide instruction in the area of Child Development. In Child Development II the content includes physical, emotional, social, and intellectual development among infants, toddlers, and preschool aged children. This course prepares students for the child care experience course the following year where they will work with preschool age children.

<u>Child Development III</u>	<u>Semester</u>	<u>Grade (s)</u>	<u>Credits</u>
Prerequisite: Child Development I & II, with grade of 75 or above Permission of teacher	Full year	10, 11, 12	1.0

This full year course will provide students with the opportunity to work with preschool aged children by teaching them in a nursery school program. Students will be given the opportunity to study in depth a preschool student and follow the child's growth and development through his/her time in the program. This course is designed for students interested in a career working with children. (CCP Course)

FASHIONS AND CLOTHING

<u>Fashion & Clothing Design I</u>	<u>Semester</u>	<u>Grade (s)</u>	<u>Credits</u>
Prerequisite: none	Half year	9, 10, 11, 12	.5

This course offers a basic study of clothing design and construction. Topics include basic sewing skills and clothing and accessory construction skills, fiber and fabric types, and care and maintenance of clothing. Students are required to sew a minimum of one project per marking period. They will be responsible for providing their own pattern and fabric.

<u>Fashion & Clothing Design II</u>	<u>Semester</u>	<u>Grade (s)</u>	<u>Credits</u>
Prerequisite: Fashion & Clothing I With a 70 or above	Half year	9, 10, 11, 12	.5

This course offers students a chance to study units in fashion design and fashion coordination as well as enhancing their clothing construction skills. Students will use their skills to complete a project to be in a fashion show at the end of the term. Students will be responsible for completing a project for each unit. Students will be expected to provide fabric for one project.

<u>Fashion & Clothing Design III</u>	<u>Semester</u>	<u>Grade (s)</u>	<u>Credits</u>
Prerequisite: Fashion & Clothing Design II with a 70 or above and/or permission of the teacher	Full Year	10, 11, 12	1.0

This course offers a more advanced study of clothing construction skills. Topics will include pattern fitting and design, techniques for working with specialty fabrics, repairing and recycling of clothing and creative stitchery. Students will work on both class projects and independently on projects at their skill level. Students will be expected to provide fabric for one project.

WORLD LANGUAGE

The study of world languages is encouraged in all student programs. For the college program, many schools require three years of the same world language.

LANGUAGE PROGRAMS

French IA	Spanish IA
French IIA	Spanish IB
French III	Spanish IIA
French IV	Spanish IIB
French V (AP) UCONN	Spanish III
Spanish IV	
Spanish V (AP)	

Students who fail semester one in any level of a world language class may not continue onto semester two of that class. Students who earn a grade of 69 or lower in any level of a world language class are encouraged to repeat the year. Those students will be able to keep the second grade (in addition to the first grade earned) on their transcripts; however, no credit will be issued for a class that is repeated.

<u>French I*</u>	<u>Semester</u>	<u>Grade (s)</u>	<u>Credits</u>
Prerequisite: none	Full year	9, 10, 11, 12	1.0

This introductory French course is designed to give students opportunities to explore French language and culture. While the oral aspect of the language is emphasized, students gain a facility with aural and written components as well. Successful completion of this course allows the student to continue onto French II.

<u>French II*</u>	<u>Semester</u>	<u>Grade (s)</u>	<u>Credits</u>
Prerequisite: Students must have passed French I; a grade of 70 or better is strongly recommended	Full year	9, 10, 11, 12	1.0

This course offers a continued study of the French language and culture. This course aims to strengthen and expand the students' control of basic conversational patterns, to increase reading vocabulary and to improve comprehension. French culture and heritage are also studied through media and student projects. Emphasis is on increasing students' abilities in listening, speaking, reading and writing the language.

<u>French III*</u>	<u>Semester</u>	<u>Grade (s)</u>	<u>Credits</u>
Prerequisite: Students a grade of 70 or better is strongly recommended	Full year	10, 11, 12	1.0

This course offers a continuation of the study of the French language and culture. An overview of French civilization is presented. A primary goal is the strengthening of the listening and speaking skills. Reading skills and vocabulary development are also emphasized using readings in civilization and some literature. Grammatical skills are refined and organized; composition is introduced.

<u>French IV*</u>	<u>Semester</u>	<u>Grade (s)</u>	<u>Credits</u>
Prerequisite: Students must have passed French III; a grade of 70 or better is strongly recommended	Full year	11, 12	1.0

This course offers a rigorous continuation of the study of the French language and culture through an in-depth study of French civilization and selections from the writings of some of the most famous French authors of the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. It is taught exclusively in French. Grammatical structures are reviewed and refined. Vocabulary development, both in reading and speech, is emphasized. Students are expected to make a series of oral presentations in French and to begin a writing portfolio. Vocabulary development, familiarity with contemporary conversational expressions, highlights of French history and art, refinements in grammar, and the inclusion of novels in French, form the basis of this advanced language course.

<u>French V*</u> (AP Prep) (UCONN)	<u>Semester</u>	<u>Grade (s)</u>	<u>Credits</u>
Prerequisite: Students must have passed French IV; a grade of 80 or better or Dept. Chair signature	Full year	11, 12	1.0

This course offers the continuation of study in the French language and culture. Student expectations include the use of French for active and clear communication on a variety of topics. Vocabulary will be increased so as to comfortably read and understand a variety of writings including literature, magazines, and newspapers. Course content reflects intellectual and personal interests shared by students and teacher (the arts, current events, school and personal life, etc.). Students have the option to take this course for UCONN credit, AP credit or as French 5. Students must make this decision at the time of registration. Also, students enrolled in a Level 5 class must take the AP exam, UCONN final or course final exam. Students may enroll in both the UCONN and AP Program.

<u>Spanish I*</u>	<u>Semester</u>	<u>Grade (s)</u>	<u>Credits</u>
Prerequisite: none	Full year	9, 10, 11, 12	1.0

This course offers a study of the Spanish language and culture. It emphasizes the acquisition of correct habits and understanding of the speaking and reading of the Spanish language. Facility in oral-aural language and with reading of the language is stressed. The instructional process includes a balance of recognition, imitation, repetition, variation and selection. This course is leveled per system-wide criteria and teacher recommendation. Those incoming 9th graders who have successfully completed ANDALE! (8th grade not-for-credit Spanish elective) may choose Spanish I, or any other Level I world language class.

<u>Spanish II*</u>	<u>Semester</u>	<u>Grade (s)</u>	<u>Credits</u>
Prerequisite: Students must have passed Spanish I; a grade of 70 or better is strongly recommended	Full year	9, 10, 11, 12	1.0

This course offers a continued study of the Spanish language and culture. It aims to strengthen and expand the student's control of basic conversational patterns, to increase reading vocabulary and to improve comprehension. Spanish culture and heritage are also studied through media and student projects. Emphasis is on increasing student's facility in the listening, speaking, reading and writing of the language. This course is leveled per system-wide criteria and teacher recommendation.

<u>Spanish III*</u>	<u>Semester</u>	<u>Grade (s)</u>	<u>Credits</u>
Prerequisite: Student must have passed Spanish II; a grade of 70 or better is strongly recommended	Full year	10, 11, 12	1.0

This course offers a rigorous continuation of the study of the Spanish language and culture. Students will read selected literary excerpts from famous Spanish and Hispanic writers. Grammatical structures are reviewed and refined. Oral presentations and occasional directed compositions are required.

<u>Spanish IV*</u>	<u>Semester</u>	<u>Grade (s)</u>	<u>Credits</u>
Prerequisite: Student must have passed Spanish III; a grade of 70 or better is strongly recommended	Full year	10, 11, 12	1.0

This course offers an in-depth continuation of the study of the Spanish language and culture, with emphasis on oral development. The class will be taught entirely in Spanish. Work will involve oral and written presentations, analysis of literary pieces and class discussions of past and current Hispano-American events.

<u>Spanish V (AP)*</u>	<u>Semester</u>	<u>Grade (s)</u>	<u>Credits</u>
Prerequisite: Student must have passed Spanish IV; a grade of 80 or better or Dept. Head signature	Full year	11, 12	1.0

This course offers an intensive application and development of skills attained in the first four years. The class will be taught exclusively in Spanish and will focus on literature, oral ability and review of grammar. Written work will be required in the form of compositions and term papers or projects on given topics relative to literature and culture. Students enrolled in the Level 5 class must take the AP exam.

MATHEMATICS

All students are required to pass a full year of both Algebra and Geometry.

Students moving up a level (college to advanced) require a 90% average in the prior course, teacher recommendation and approval of the department supervisor.

Many prerequisites require teacher recommendation and approval of the department supervisor. Such recommendations are to be made in consultation with the mathematics department.

Students interested in engineering, science or vocational technical post-secondary education are urged to take four years of mathematics. Students interested in the business field should be aware that advancement is often dependent on further studies in mathematics which require a background in Algebra I, Geometry, Algebra II, etc.

The sequences of math courses for college preparation students should be Algebra I, Geometry, and Algebra II. Students interested in continuing their study of mathematics are encouraged to take Pre-Calculus, Statistics and Trigonometry, and/or Calculus.

<u>Algebra I Team*</u>	<u>Semester</u>	<u>Grade (s)</u>	<u>Credits</u>
Prerequisite: Placement determined by PPT <u>or</u> CMT raw score 1 or 2 and Dept. supervisor recommendation.	Full year	9, 10, 11	1.0

This course offers students an opportunity to extend their study of mathematics to basic algebra concepts. For each topic in the curriculum, students will experience a number of real world applications while developing the necessary skills. Many applications involve the analysis of data and require the use of scientific calculators, provided students daily in class.

<u>Algebra I (Advanced)*(1 section)</u>	<u>Semester</u>	<u>Grade (s)</u>	<u>Credits</u>
Prerequisite: CMT raw score—4 or 5 <u>and</u> Teacher recommendation in top 10 of 8th grade pre-algebra students.	Full year	9	1.0

This course offers a rigorous study of Algebra I and its operations. Topics include patterns, algebraic expressions; solving equations and inequalities (linear, simultaneous, exponential) and graphing functions. Improving skills, developing problem-solving strategies, and real-world applications are emphasized. This course is recommended for students who are enthusiastic about mathematics and its applications.

<u>Algebra I (College)*</u>	<u>Semester</u>	<u>Grade (s)</u>	<u>Credits</u>
Prerequisite: CMT raw score 2,3,4 or 5 and Pass a full year of Pre-Algebra (offered in Grade 8) or department supervisor recommendation.	Full year	9, 10, 11, 12	1.0

This course offers a conceptual study of Algebra I and its operations. Topics include patterns, algebraic expressions; solving equations and inequalities (linear, simultaneous, exponential) and graphing functions. Improving skills, developing problem-solving strategies, and real-world applications are emphasized. This course is recommended for college and business preparation and advanced vocational studies.

<u>Geometry (Advanced)*</u>	<u>Semester</u>	<u>Grade (s)</u>	<u>Credits</u>
Prerequisite: CMT raw score 4 or 5 and pass a full year of Algebra 1 Advanced (offered in grade 8) With at least an 80% and department supervisor recommendation	Full year	9, 10	1.0

This course offers a rigorous and theoretical study of geometry. Proofs are studied extensively. Topics covered include plane and solid geometry including all topics covered in the college geometry plus applications with the Geometer's Sketchpad. This course is recommended for advanced college preparation.

<u>Geometry (College)*</u>	<u>Semester</u>	<u>Grade (s)</u>	<u>Credits</u>
Prerequisite: Pass a full year of Algebra I or Algebra I Advanced (offered in grade 8 and 9)	Full year	9, 10, 11, 12	1.0

This course offers a conceptual study of geometry. Topics include basic geometric figures, triangle relationships, congruence, similarity, parallel and perpendicular lines, quadrilateral properties, perimeter, area, surface area and volume. Improving skills, developing problem-solving strategies and real-world applications are emphasized. This course is recommended for advanced vocational studies and college or business preparation.

<u>Algebra II (Advanced)*</u>	<u>Semester</u>	<u>Grade (s)</u>	<u>Credits</u>
Prerequisite: Pass a full year of Algebra I in 8th grade and Geometry Advanced with at least an 80% and Department supervisor recommendation	Full year	10, 11, 12	1.0

This course offers a rigorous study of Algebra II. Topics studied include equations with two or three variables, complex numbers, functions (linear, quadratic, exponential, logarithmic, rational and radical), matrices, probability and data analysis. Problem solving and real-world applications are emphasized. Students who meet all requirements may receive credit from Middlesex Community College through the Tech Prep Program.

<u>Algebra II (College)*</u>	<u>Semester</u>	<u>Grade (s)</u>	<u>Credits</u>
Prerequisite: Pass a full year of Geometry or Geometry Advanced	Full year	10, 11, 12	1.0

This course offers a conceptual study of Algebra II. Topics include equations with two unknowns, complex numbers, functions (quadratic, exponential, logarithmic, rational and irrational), matrices, probability and data analysis. Improving skills, developing problem-solving strategies and applications to the sciences and business are emphasized.

<u>Transitional College Math*</u>	<u>Semester</u>	<u>Grade (s)</u>	<u>Credits</u>
Prerequisite: Pass a full year of Algebra I and Geometry	Full year	11, 12	1.0

This course offers students an opportunity to review and refresh skills in Algebra I and Geometry, thus preparing them to succeed on the CAPT and PSAT.SAT. Topics include writing and solving equations and inequalities (linear, simultaneous, exponential), graphing functions, perimeter, area, surface area, volume, probability and data analysis. Through the course, students will develop a portfolio of items demonstrating mastery of important mathematics skills that all students should have upon graduation. Improving skills, developing problem-solving strategies and applications to real-world problems are emphasized.

<u>Pre-Calculus (Advanced)*</u>	<u>Semester</u>	<u>Grade (s)</u>	<u>Credits</u>
Prerequisite: Pass a full year of Algebra II Advanced with at least a 80% average, <u>or</u> Department supervisor recommendation.	Full year	11, 12	1.0

This course offers a rigorous study of Trigonometry and Pre-Calculus. Students are provided with an in-depth study of various types of trigonometric and pre-calculus equations and the graphs of their functions. Other topics include the study of matrices, vectors, conics, probability and series and sequences. There is an intense treatment of problem-solving strategies with real world applications. Students who meet all requirements may receive credit from Middlesex Community College through the Tech Prep Program.

<u>Pre-Calculus (College)*</u>	<u>Semester</u>	<u>Grade (s)</u>	<u>Credits</u>
Prerequisite: Pass a full year of Algebra II Advanced Or Algebra II College	Full year	11, 12	1.0

This course is designed for students who have potential to achieve success in trigonometry and further study of algebraic topics. Students study various types of trigonometric and algebraic equation solving and graphing of trigonometry functions. This course develops computational and logical strategies for problem solving with trigonometric and algebraic topics. Students taking this course should have an interest in pursuing higher levels of mathematics. Students who meet all requirements may receive credit from Middlesex Community College through the Tech Prep Program.

<u>Statistics*</u>	<u>Semester</u>	<u>Grade (s)</u>	<u>Credits</u>
Prerequisite:	First	11, 12	.5
*Pass a full year of Algebra II (Advanced or College) or			
*Department supervisor recommendation.			

Statistics is a field of study that is gaining attention by leaps and bounds. Becoming literate in the language of statistics and probability is becoming a necessity in business and industry. Nearly every business has a need to effectively analyze data to ensure proper planning and future success. Researchers in education and industry must carefully design experiments, collect random samples of data, and then substantiate conclusions based on laws of probability and accepted statistical practices. This course offers a conceptual and applied study of topics within this field. Topics covered include one-variable statistical analyses, laws of probability, the binomial and normal distribution, the central limit theorem, and statistical hypotheses testing. There will be much emphasis on the use of the graphing calculator. This course is recommended for college preparation.

<u>SAT/ACT Skills and Concepts*</u>	<u>Semester</u>	<u>Grade (s)</u>	<u>Credits</u>
Prerequisite:	Second	11, 12	1.0
*Pass a full year of Algebra II (Advanced or College) or			
*Department supervisor recommendation			

This course is designed to improve the students' SAT and/or ACT scores in Mathematics. Students will review Algebra I, Geometry, Algebra II and Trigonometry concepts. Students will develop an understanding of the topics on each test and how the tests are scored. Throughout the course, students will have multiple opportunities to practice mathematics problems in the format of the SAT and ACT. In addition, this course emphasizes study and test-taking strategies.

<u>AP Calculus* UCONN 1131Q*</u>	<u>Semester</u>	<u>Grade (s)</u>	<u>Credits</u>
Prerequisite:	Full year	11, 12	1.0
Pass a full year of Pre-Calculus Advanced with at least an 85% or			
Department supervisor recommendation			

This course meets seven periods per week and offers a rigorous study of the theory and operations of calculus with intense treatment of differential and integral topics. Emphasis is made on those strategies relevant to real world situations. A student who takes this course must be eligible for UCONN credit or plan to take the Advanced Placement exam.

Students in this course must take one of the following exit exams:

AP Calculus Exam - Course Final Exam - UCONN Exam

See page 9-10 for further information on AP and UCONN courses.

<u>Calculus*</u>	<u>Semester</u>	<u>Grade (s)</u>	<u>Credits</u>
Prerequisite:	Full year	12	1.0

- *Pass a full year of Pre-Calculus (Advanced or College) or
- *Department supervisor recommendation

This course offers a rigorous study of the theory and operations of calculus with intense treatment of differential and integral topics. There is emphasis on the application of calculus to real-world situations. This course is designed for the student who is not eligible for UCONN credit and who does not plan to take Advanced Placement Test.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION/WELLNESS
Grades 9, 10, 11, 12

Presently, it is a graduation requirement for all students to complete 2.0 credits of Physical Education/Health. This requirement must include Wellness 11 as part of the 2.0 credits.

Wellness 9 – Includes physical education and (8) seminars with guest speakers on health-related topics.
 Full year 1.0 credits

Wellness 10 – Includes physical education and CPR/First Aid Training. Students have the opportunity to become Red Cross certified. Half year .5 credits

Wellness 11 – Includes physical education and health education.
 Half year .5 credits

P.E. Elective – Includes physical education and Drug & Alcohol Seminar, and may be taken in grades 11 or 12.
 Half year .5 credits

In addition to the 2.0 credits required, students are encouraged to take electives in Physical Education/Health which will develop and maintain a healthy fitness level.

<u>Wellness 9</u>	<u>Semester</u>	<u>Grade (s)</u>	<u>Credits</u>
Prerequisite: none	Full year	9	1.0

Students will meet six days out of the eight day cycle with an emphasis on physical education. Also includes instructional seminars on healthy relationships, gender roles, sexual awareness, sexual assault, and drugs & alcohol, as well as, other health-related topics.

<u>Wellness 10</u>	<u>Semester</u>	<u>Grade (s)</u>	<u>Credits</u>
Prerequisite: none	Half year	10	.5

Students will meet six days out of the eight day cycle with an emphasis on physical education. Also includes drug & alcohol awareness, and an instructional unit on CPR/Rescue Breathing & First Aid.

<u>Wellness 11</u>	<u>Semester</u>	<u>Grade (s)</u>	<u>Credits</u>
Prerequisite: none	Half year	11	.5

Students will meet six days out of the eight day cycle with an emphasis on physical education. Also includes instruction on various topics such as: controlling stress, bullying, suicide prevention, human sexuality, disease prevention, fitness, domestic violence, sexual harassment and drugs & alcohol.

<u>Recreational Activities</u>	<u>Semester</u>	<u>Grade (s)</u>	<u>Credits</u>
Prerequisite: Core two years	Half year	11, 12	.5

The elective course meets six days out of the eight day cycle. Activities may include: golf, volleyball, badminton, flag football, ultimate Frisbee, softball, soccer and fitness. Also, a seminar dealing with drug & alcohol awareness will be included.

<u>Water Sports</u>	<u>Semester</u>	<u>Grade (s)</u>	<u>Credits</u>
Prerequisite: Core two years	Half year	11, 12	.5

The elective course meets six days out of the eight day cycle and is designed to cover basic swimming and recreational swimming. Also, a seminar dealing with drug & alcohol awareness will be included.

<u>Personal Fitness</u>	<u>Semester</u>	<u>Grade (s)</u>	<u>Credits</u>
Prerequisite: Core two years	Half year	11, 12	.5

The elective course meets six days out of the eight day cycle and is designed to get students acquainted with the proper physical exercise needed to maintain a healthy body. Activities will include weight-training and cardiovascular exercise. Students will learn basic muscle anatomy and exercise physiology. Also, a seminar dealing with drug & alcohol awareness will be included.

<u>Bicycling</u>	<u>Semester</u>	<u>Grade (s)</u>	<u>Credits</u>
Prerequisite: Core two years	Half year	11, 12	.5

The elective course meets six days out of the eight day cycle and is designed to acquaint students with the safety aspects, as well as, the maintenance and operations of cycling. This class will be limited to a maximum of 15 students. Also, a seminar dealing with drug & alcohol awareness will be included.

<u>Team Sports</u>	<u>Semester</u>	<u>Grade (s)</u>	<u>Credits</u>
Prerequisite: Core two years	Half year	11, 12	.5

The elective course meets six days out of the eight day cycle and is offered to students interested in developing the team concept and fair play. Activities covered may include: soccer, flag football, basketball, floor hockey, speedball, ultimate Frisbee, and softball. Also, a seminar dealing with drug & alcohol awareness will be included.

SCIENCE

Science students are strongly encouraged to consider at least one course in Computer Education. See course descriptions under Business Education Department.

<u>Physical Science (Advanced)*</u>	<u>Semester</u>	<u>Grade (s)</u>	<u>Credits</u>
Prerequisite: Students should have scored a 4 or 5 on both the grade 7 Math and Reading CMTs	Full year	9	1.0

Major topics studied in Advanced Physical Science include energy for world consumption, reactions and interactions of matter, electricity and magnetism and environmental issues. Fundamental ideas in these topics are developed and explored in the context of real-life applications. Laboratory experiences are hands-on and inquiry-based. Students acquire skills in using the scientific method to problem solve, collecting and analyzing data, graphing and calculating, and assessing validity of scientific investigations. Student responsibilities may include projects, homework, tests, quizzes and laboratory reports. This course meets seven times per eight day rotation.

<u>Physical Science (College)*</u>	<u>Semester</u>	<u>Grade (s)</u>	<u>Credits</u>
Prerequisite: Students should have scored a 1,2, or 3 on both the grade 7 Math and Reading CMTs	Full year	9	1.0

Major topics studied in College Physical Science include energy for world consumption, reactions and interactions of matter, electricity and magnetism and environmental issues. Fundamental ideas in these topics are developed and explored in the context of real-life applications. Laboratory experiences are hands-on and inquiry-based. Students acquire skills in using the scientific method to problem solve, collecting and analyzing data, graphing and calculating, and assessing validity of scientific investigations. Student responsibilities may include projects, homework, tests, quizzes and laboratory reports. This course meets seven times per week.

<u>Biology (Advanced)*</u>	<u>Semester</u>	<u>Grade (s)</u>	<u>Credits</u>
Prerequisite: Scored 5 on the Grade 7 Reading CMT and Scored 5 On the Grade 7 Math CMT and Concurrently enrolled in College Geometry or higher	Full year	9*, 10	1.0

This course is recommended for highly motivated and conscientious students who have strong skills in reading, writing and math and a strong interest in science. Ninth grade students with exceptionally high abilities who are planning to take both AP Biology and AP Physics their junior and senior years may petition the department chairperson to take this course.

This is a laboratory based biology course with an emphasis on understanding key biological concepts in areas including the nature of life, biochemistry/molecular biology, cell study, genetics, evolution and ecology.

The course involves traditional classroom activities, cooperative group activities and a variety of laboratory experiments. This course meets seven periods in an eight day cycle. Students may earn credit through Middlesex Community college Tech Prep Program.

<u>A.P. Biology</u>	<u>Semester</u>	<u>Grade (s)</u>	<u>Credits</u>
Prerequisite: 80 or above in Advanced Biology, and 80 or above in Advanced Chemistry, pass Algebra II, or permission of Dept. Supervisor. Strong student interest in biological sciences	Full year	11, 12	1.0

This course is a second year study in biological sciences, which prepares students for the AP Bio exam in May. It is a very challenging, fast-paced course covering major topics such as molecules, cells, heredity, evolution, organisms and populations. Activities in this course include lectures, class discussions, literature review, research and laboratory experimentation. Students are assigned summer work which will be due on the first day of class. The course meets nine periods in an eight day cycle.

<u>Biology (College)*</u>	<u>Semester</u>	<u>Grade (s)</u>	<u>Credits</u>
Prerequisite: Skills in above average. Pass Advanced or College Science 9 (Course fulfills MHS biology graduation requirement)	Full year	10	1.0

This is a laboratory based biology course with an emphasis on understanding key biological concepts in areas including the nature of life, biochemistry/molecular biology, cell study, genetics, evolution and ecology.

The course involves traditional classroom activities and cooperative group activities, a variety of laboratory experiments. This course meets seven periods in a eight day cycle. Students may earn credit through Middlesex Community College Tech Prep Program.

<u>Chemistry (Advanced)*</u>	<u>Semester</u>	<u>Grade (s)</u>	<u>Credits</u>
Prerequisites: Students must achieve 80% or better in all Math and Science classes	Full year	10, 11, 12	1.0

Advanced chemistry integrates student laboratory experimentation with extensive class discussion to clarify and reinforce basic concepts of chemistry and science. When possible, a historical perspective is presented in terms of the struggle involved with the evolution of ideas and concepts in the science.

The topics studied include oxidation-reduction, atomic theory, the mole, periodicity, nuclear chemistry, atomic structure, bonding, organic chemistry, thermodynamics, kinetics, and acid base theory. Activities involve the use and operation of laboratory instrumentation, computers, and wet chemical experiences. This class meets six times per eight day rotation, with two lab sessions included.

<u>Chemistry (College)*</u>	<u>Semester</u>	<u>Grade (s)</u>	<u>Credits</u>
Prerequisite: Successful Completion (Adv. Or Coll. Biology) and concurrent with Algebra II; Skills in reading, writing and math: above average	Full year	11, 12	1.0

General principles that describe the behavior of matter and energy are related to the study of atomic structure, chemical bonding and stoichiometry. These concepts are then applied to the study of acid-base, oxidation-reduction, equilibrium, kinetics and thermal systems. Laboratory exercises and experiments are a definite part of the course structure. This class meets six times per week— includes one double period lab in the cycle.

<u>Forensic Science:*</u>	<u>Semester</u>	<u>Grade (s)</u>	<u>Credits</u>
Prerequisite: Successful completion of Science 9	Half year	11, 12	.5

This, inquiry-based course, focuses on various aspects of forensic science and modern criminal investigation. Students will learn analytical laboratory procedures and develop the critical thinking skills that will enable them to see through the eyes of a forensic scientist. Students will practice the careful collection and analysis of evidence including trace evidence, fingerprints, hair, and soil composition. Arson investigations and analysis of unknown substances will also be covered. This one semester elective is offered to juniors and seniors who have an interest in pursuing a career in law enforcement or criminal investigation science.

<u>A.P. Physics</u>	<u>Semester</u>	<u>Grade (s)</u>	<u>Credits</u>
Prerequisite: 80 or above in Advanced Chemistry and Math IV, and concurrent with Calculus, or permission of Dept. Supervisor. Strong student interest in physical sciences.	Full year	11, 12	1.5

Starting with the class of 2014, students who are planning on taking AP Physics must previously have completed a course in Advanced Physics.

The Advanced Placement Physics B class is equivalent to a first year college survey course that prepares students for the AP exam in May. Although the problem solving does not use calculus, the connection between calculus and physics is emphasized.

Topics covered are mechanics, conservation laws, thermodynamic, waves and electromagnetism, sound, optics and modern physics. The laboratory component will include both traditional labs and computer-assisted labs. This is a rigorous course that requires a good amount of work outside the classroom. Work is assigned during the summer prior to the class and must be handed in the first day of school. This class meets nine times per rotation.

Students enrolled in this class must take the A.P. exam or the final exam in June, regardless of the semester GPA.

<u>Physics (Advanced)*</u>	<u>Semester</u>	<u>Grade (s)</u>	<u>Credit</u>
Prerequisite: Successful completion of Science 9 (Adv. or Coll.) and Biology (Adv. or Coll.), concurrent with Math IV or Calculus Skills in reading and math: high	Full year	11, 12	1.0

The first semester covers classical mechanics and compares it to modern physics. The second semester studies waves, light, sound and electricity. The laboratory program involves extensive use by the students of computers and instrumentation. This class meets eight times per rotation.

<u>Physics (College)*</u>	<u>Semester</u>	<u>Grade (s)</u>	<u>Credits</u>
Prerequisite: Pass Science 9 (Adv. or Coll.) and Biology (Adv. or Coll.), concurrent with Math IV. Skills in reading & math: above average	Full year	11, 12	1.0

A Physics course with the traditional studies, in class and laboratory, of mechanics, waves, sound, light and electromagnetic phenomena. Emphasis on mathematics will be realistic; a stronger emphasis will be on understanding the concepts and ideas. This class meets eight times per rotation.

<u>Microbiology*</u>	<u>Semester</u>	<u>Grade (s)</u>	<u>Credits</u>
Prerequisite: Pass Biology (Adv. or Coll.) or equivalent. Skills in reading & math: above average	Half year	11, 12	.5

This course offers a conceptual study of microscopic life with emphasis on protozoa, viruses and bacteria. Major areas of study include virology, bacteriology and microorganisms role in human disease. Laboratory procedures include aseptic techniques, bacterial staining procedures and microscope investigations. This course is recommended for students interested in pursuing a health profession. This course meets seven times per eight day cycle

<u>Field Biology*</u>	<u>Semester</u>	<u>Grade (s)</u>	<u>Credits</u>
Prerequisite: Pass Biology or equivalent. Skills in reading & math: average	Half year	11, 12	.5

This biology course is designed for students who plan to attend a two-year college or technical education after graduation. The emphasis is on understanding key biological concepts in areas including taxonomy, ecology, and interactions among various species within major world biomes.

The course involves traditional classroom activities, cooperative group work, and activities designed to enhance student awareness of science content and process skills.

<u>Oceanography*</u>	<u>Semester</u>	<u>Grade (s)</u>	<u>Credits</u>
Prerequisite: Pass Science 9 Skills in reading & math: average	Half year	11, 12	.5

Oceanography is a general education science that studies the chemical, physical, geological and biological aspects of the ocean. Topics include history of oceanography, topography, plate tectonics and sea floor spreading, the nature of sea water, circulation of the oceans and its relation to atmospheric circulation and climate, waves and tides, coasts and life in the ocean.

Field trips usually include a guided trip through Mystic Aquarium, a research-oriented boat trip on Long Island Sound, and a collection trip to Hammonasset Beach and Salt Marsh. Class participation with maintenance of salt-water aquaria from samples collected from beaches and marshes is offered and encouraged. This course meets five times per week.

<u>Anatomy and Physiology</u>	<u>Semester</u>	<u>Grade (s)</u>	<u>Credits</u>
Prerequisite: Passing grade in College or Advanced Biology	Half year	11, 12	.5

Students enrolled in Anatomy and Physiology will study the major body systems such as the nervous system, skeletal/muscular system, digestive, reproductive, circulatory system, and endocrine system. Upon completion of anatomy and physiology, students will be able to describe the structure and function of major body systems, explain how common diseases affect each system and describe the body's mechanisms for preventing disease, identify major muscles, bones, and organs of the body and be able to describe function of each and apply concepts chemistry to explain biological process of body systems. The lab component will include dissections and cellular studies using microscopes. This course meets seven periods per eight day cycle.

<u>Astronomy</u>	<u>Semester</u>	<u>Grade (s)</u>	<u>Credits</u>
Prerequisite: Average skills in reading, passing grade in Algebra I, passing grade in 1 semester of Science 9 (regular or college)	Second	11, 12	.5

Students enrolled in astronomy will study the formation of the universe and stars. Students will explain the formation of the universe and solar system based on scientific evidence, use their knowledge and understanding of stellar life cycles and the H-R diagram to make predictions regarding the age, temperature, and evolution of a star (including the Sun), apply the life cycle of star to the understanding of a star's energy, and use spectroscopy to explain the motion and chemical composition of stars. Additionally, students will apply Newton's Law of Motion and Law of Universal gravitation, as well as other concepts in physics, to explain motion in the universe, including but not limited to, motion of stars and planetary bodies, use present scientific knowledge of the moon to describe its historical formation, structure, and formation, and describe and explain everyday phenomenon such as eclipses, tides, and phases of the moon. This course meets six times per rotation.

<u>Meteorology</u>	<u>Semester</u>	<u>Grade (s)</u>	<u>Credits</u>
Prerequisite: Average skills in reading, Passing grade in Algebra I, passing grade in one semester of Science 9 (regular or college)	First	11, 12	.5

Students enrolled in Meteorology will study the Earth's atmosphere, its weather patterns (local and global) and climate and environmental changes through history. Students will explain how the Sun is a major source of energy for Earth and other planets, explain the role of the atmospheric changes on climatic changes, and explain how the differential heating of Earth results in circulation patterns in the atmosphere and oceans that globally distribute heat. Students will also know that Earth's rotation influences circular motions of ocean currents and air, describe the role of energy transfer in and out of the atmosphere on weather and climate, use information such as latitude, elevation, topography, proximity to large bodies of water, and ocean currents to predict regional climate, correlate changes in Earth's climate to changes in Earth's geography, atmospheric conditions, solar radiation, and tectonic plate movement and explain the causes and effects of weather and climatic phenomenon including, but not limited to global warming El Nino, hurricanes and tornadoes. This course meets six times per rotation.

<u>Topics in Science</u>	<u>Semester</u>	<u>Grade (s)</u>	<u>Credits</u>
Prerequisite: Average to high skills in reading, passing grade in Algebra I, passing grade in one semester Biology (regular, college or advanced)	Half year	11, 12	.5

Students enrolled in Topics in Science will experience current issues in science through a seminar-type format. Through independent and group research, discussion and presentations, students will learn about various issues under scientific topics such as alternative fuel sources, biotechnology, bioethics, stem cell research and environmental issues. The main goal of this course is to broaden students' understanding of science in current, real-world issues that affect American (and global) lifestyles and drive decision-making at the local, national, and international level. In addition to the selected content, students will acquire and use appropriate research and communication skills. This course meets six times per rotation.

SOCIAL STUDIES

The social studies courses prepare students for intelligent participation in a free society. Three credits in social studies are required for graduation. One high school credit must be in United States History taken during grade 10.

Under Connecticut law, all students must take and pass a semester course (.5 credit) in civics. Civics is a course in American Government. Each of the following courses meets the Connecticut State Civics standard. Be sure to take one of the following courses as part of your program of study: American Politics, Democracy in Action, or Civics and the Law (formerly Street Law).

Grade 9

World History - Full year - 2 levels
Advanced World History
College World History

Grade 10

United States History - Full year - 2 levels
* United States History - American Studies - Advanced and College
Advanced U.S. History
College U.S. History

Grades 11 & 12 Electives

If you have taken Advanced or College courses, you might consider the following:

Advanced Placement U.S. History - Full year
Advanced Placement U.S. Government & Politics - Full year
Advanced Placement Psychology—Full year
American Politics - Half year
Contemporary Issues - Half year
Introduction to Psychology - Half year
African-American Experience - Half year
U.S. and the World from 1945 - Half year
Introduction to Economics - Half year
Western Civilization 100/101 (UCONN) - Full year
Democracy in Action - Half year
Social Problems - Half year
Witness to History - Half year

If you have taken college-level courses, you might consider the following:

- African-American Experience - Half year
- Contemporary Issues - Half year
- Civics and the Law - Half year
- Social Problems - Half year
- Democracy in Action - Half year

If you wish to choose a course in a level you have not been in, be sure to discuss it with your guidance counselor.

<u>World History (Advanced, College)*</u>	<u>Semester</u>	<u>Grade (s)</u>	<u>Credits</u>
Prerequisite: Placement with approval	Full year	9	1.0

World History is a two-semester social studies course designed for freshmen and offered at two academic levels (advanced and college). This course is a chronological narrative which traces the patterns of both western and non-western civilizations. World History is intended to familiarize the student with the political, economic, and social development of civilizations. It will examine how science, technology, religion, and philosophy evolved and will integrate art, architecture, literature, writing, and music. The course is organized into five key themes: Development of Early Civilization, Middle Ages, Origins of the Modern World, Twentieth-Century Events, and The World Today.

<u>U.S. History (Advanced, College)*</u>	<u>Semester</u>	<u>Grade (s)</u>	<u>Credits</u>
Prerequisite: Placement with approval	Full year	10	1.0

U. S. History is a two-semester social studies course for sophomores and is offered at two academic levels (advanced and college). This course is a chronological narrative which traces the history of the United States from Reconstruction to the present. The course begins with a review unit which surveys U.S. History from the colonial era to the Civil War.

<u>American Studies*</u>	<u>Semester</u>	<u>Grade (s)</u>	<u>Credits</u>
Prerequisite: English 9 & World History 9 (Advanced)	Full Year	10	1.0 English 1.0 U.S. History

This full-year interdisciplinary course is taught collaboratively by one social studies teacher and one English teacher over two consecutive periods. This course challenges both advanced and college level tenth grade students. This course encourages students to explore the ideas that have shaped the United States through both literature and historical events. Students will examine America through the lens of three essential questions, (1) What does it mean to be an American?

(2) What is the American Dream? (3) How has the human desire for freedom impacted America? A strong interrelation exists between a literature and its people and often between literature and the historical context in which a work exists. Students will learn to make these connections by reading both classical and contemporary literature and primary and secondary historical works. A rigorous writing program emphasizes critical, analytic essays in response to readings and includes argumentation and rhetoric, extemporaneous essays and creative writing. Research skills, including source evaluation, citation, and thesis construction are a key component of the curriculum. Team teaching affords the opportunity for large and small group work, performance learning, and a variety of innovative activities. All components of advanced and college English and American history classes are included in this interdisciplinary course. A formal research paper and systematic SAT vocabulary preparation are included in this course.

SOCIAL STUDIES - ELECTIVES

AP U.S. History - Advanced Placement*

Prerequisite: Advanced or	<u>Semester</u>	<u>Grade (s)</u>	<u>Credits</u>
College U.S. History or	Full year	11, 12	1.0
American Studies or Teacher recommendation			

This course is an in-depth study of American history from the pre-Columbian era to the present. Emphasis is placed on critical and evaluative thinking skills, essay writing, interpretation of primary sources and historiography. Topics covered include the clash of cultures that impacted American institutions, the American Revolution, the Constitution, the development of political parties, the Age of Jackson, Westward expansion, the Civil War and Reconstruction, the Gilded Age and Progressivism, Imperialism and War, the Great Depression, World War II, Cold War, Civil Rights and Post Cold War America.

The Advanced Placement program provides an opportunity for highly motivated students to pursue college level studies while in secondary school. The national exam is administered in May. Students earning high scores may earn college credit or be placed in higher level courses upon entering college.

*Students enrolled in AP courses must take one of the following exit exams: AP Exam or Course Final.

AP U.S. Government and Politics - Advanced Placement*

Prerequisite: Advanced U.S. History	<u>Semester</u>	<u>Grade (s)</u>	<u>Credits</u>
or Teacher recommendation	Full year	11, 12	1.0

The Advanced Placement course in U.S. Government and Politics is designed to give students an analytical perspective. This course includes both the study of general concepts used to interpret U.S. politics and the analysis of specific examples drawn from current events and contemporary political affairs. It also will explore the various institutions, groups, beliefs and ideas that constitute U.S. politics. **This course meets the state civics requirement.**

*Students enrolled in AP courses must take one of the following exit exams: AP Exam or Course Final.

<u>AP Psychology*</u>	<u>Semester</u>	<u>Grade (s)</u>	<u>Credits</u>
Prerequisite: Advanced U.S. History or teacher recommendation	Full year	11, 12	1.0

This is a year long class designed to introduce students to the systematic and scientific study of the behavior and mental processes of human beings and other animals. The course is a rigorous study of psychology; included in the course is a study of the psychological facts, theories and phenomena associated with each major subfield of psychology: psychoanalytical, behaviorism, cognitive and humanism. Students also learn about the ethics and methods psychologists use in their science and practice. The aim of the class is to provide a learning experience equivalent to that obtained in most college psychology classes. Assessments will mirror the advanced placement test. Students will be required to read one approved book over the summer and keep dialectical notes as well as a paper on the book. Students will take the advanced placement exam in May.

Students enrolled in AP courses must take one of the following exit exams: AP exam or Course final.

<u>African American History*</u>	<u>Semester</u>	<u>Grade (s)</u>	<u>Credits</u>
Prerequisite: none	Half year	11, 12	.5

This is a one semester course for juniors and seniors interested in the African-American experience. It is a history course covering the experience of African Americans beginning in the 1600's. Special emphasis is placed on the period from the 1950's to the present. Students will explore the history of African Americans through class discussions and debates, individual and group research projects, class presentations and course readings, including historical and literary sources.

<u>American Politics*</u>	<u>Semester</u>	<u>Grade (s)</u>	<u>Credits</u>
Prerequisite: none	Half year	11, 12	.5

American Politics is a fall semester elective* course for juniors and seniors. It is a political science course covering both contemporary politics and the development of American politics from a historical perspective. An integral part of the course is hands-on experience in a political campaign and original research of a city government department or agency. It also surveys local, state and national governments. This course meets the state civics requirement.

Note: Students earning credit in American Politics may not take Democracy in Action.

<u>Contemporary Issues*</u>	<u>Semester</u>	<u>Grade (s)</u>	<u>Credits</u>
Prerequisite: none	Half year	11, 12	.5

Contemporary Issues is designed to help students investigate, define and analyze current political, economic and social issues in the United States and around the world. Students will examine and analyze the role of the media and learn to evaluate our sources of information and their impact on public opinion. Other topics include current national political issues such as health and education policies, employment, foreign policy decision-making, human rights in the U.S. and around the world, and the politics of terrorism.

<u>Social Problems*</u>	<u>Semester</u>	<u>Grade (s)</u>	<u>Credits</u>
Prerequisite: none	Half year	11, 12	.5

This course introduces students to the sociological perspective and asks students to apply this perspective to the study of a number of issues facing our society. Students will develop an understanding of each topic and evaluate its impact. Investigation of mental illness, poverty and crime, social class, family, gender roles, economics and social policy, prejudice and discrimination and terrorism establish a framework for students to learn about contemporary social problems and assess the impact of each.

<u>Introduction to Psychology*</u>	<u>Semester</u>	<u>Grade (s)</u>	<u>Credits</u>
Prerequisite: none	Half year	11, 12	.5

This course encourages students to capture all the passions, ambitions, and atrocities of the human condition. It is designed to be adopted to various students' learning styles, teach critical thinking and learning strategies, help students recognize and be sensitive to issues of diversity, including age, gender and ethnicity. Students will be encouraged to critically evaluate psychological research and to apply this knowledge to everyday situations.

<u>Introduction to Economics*</u>	<u>Semester</u>	<u>Grade (s)</u>	<u>Credits</u>
Prerequisite: none	Half year	11, 12	.5

This course is designed to introduce students to basic economics. Capitalism and command economies, the principle of supply and demand, banking and credit, and taxation are covered. The course is also developed to acquaint students with the dynamics of the global economy. The students will apply economic concepts to their lives.

<u>Civics and the Law*</u>	<u>Semester</u>	<u>Grade (s)</u>	<u>Credits</u>
Prerequisite: none	Half year	11, 12	.5

Civics and the Law is a one-semester course for college-level juniors and seniors. It covers principles of criminal and civil law. It also covers the foundations of American national, state, and local government, with an emphasis on the judiciary system. This course meets the state civics requirement.

<u>Democracy in Action*</u>	<u>Semester</u>	<u>Grade (s)</u>	<u>Credits</u>
Prerequisite: none	Half year	11, 12	.5

This semester course is designed for students who are interested in exploring the rights and responsibilities of citizens in our democratic society. Students will be asked to participate in a variety of activities in which they will demonstrate how citizens can use our system of government to effect change in their lives. Active involvement in debate and discussion, completion of individual and group research projects, and presentations on course reading will be required. Opportunities for experiences at the local, state and federal levels of government will be explored. This course meets the state civics requirements.

Note: Students earning credit in Democracy in Action may not take American Politics.

<u>U.S. and the World Since 1945*</u>	<u>Semester</u>	<u>Grade (s)</u>	<u>Credits</u>
Prerequisite: U.S. History: College or Advanced	Half year	11, 12	.5

This course will cover U.S. History from 1945 to today. It will review the Cold War, the fall of the Soviet Union and the U.S. involvement in the Middle East. Other areas of study will include the presidential administrations of Truman through Bush, McCarthyism, the civil rights movement, the turmoil of Vietnam, the Watergate crisis and the rise of the new conservatism.

<u>Western Civilization 100/101</u> <u>(UCONN)*</u>	<u>Semester</u>	<u>Grades (s)</u>	<u>Credits</u>
Prerequisite: Permission of instructor	Full year	11, 12	1.0

This course presents an analysis of the traditions and changes that have shaped Western Civilization. The first semester is given to the study of Ancient and Medieval History. The second semester is devoted to the creation of the Modern World. One-half of this course is presently required of all UCONN students enrolled at the university. This course awards three UCONN credits per semester. Highly motivated students may also enroll to prepare for the Advanced Placement European History Exam.

<u>Witness to History*</u>	<u>Semester</u>	<u>Grade (s)</u>	<u>Credits</u>
Prerequisite: none	Half year	11, 12	.5

Witness to History will focus on eyewitness testimony and primary documents that reveal a human dimension to historical events around the world. This course will include the study of areas where cultures have been impacted by revolution or political violence, including Rwanda, Bosnia, China, Viet Nam, Cambodia, Poland, Iran and Peru, for example. Students will gain an understanding of the contemporary manifestations of revolution, nationalism and economic change. Extensive reading, research and writing will be required.

SPECIAL EDUCATION

Middletown High School offers a program in Special Education in compliance with the state and federal guidelines for students identified as being in need of special education services.

A Planning and Placement Team (PPT) decides eligibility for, and participation in a Special Education program.

The program for Special Education students is designed at a Planning and Placement Team meeting; individual programming is based on the Individual Education Program (I.E.P.), which serves as a blueprint for instructional goals. An Individual Transition Plan (I.T.P.) is developed for students fifteen years old and older to prepare a smooth transition for post-graduate activities.

Courses are taught on the basis of the needs of the students for whom services are provided, and therefore, vary according to the Special Education population. Additional information is available from the Guidance Department or the school administration.

<u>Structured Study</u>	<u>Semester</u>	<u>Grade (s)</u>	<u>Credits</u>
	Full Year	9, 10, 11, 12	0

Students' placement into Structured Study is a PPT decision. The purpose of these services is to support the curriculum areas by providing specialized instruction and assistance as needed within a general education setting. Services are provided in the Student Achievement Center. Students will participate in and complete various informal transition assessments per IEP. Structured Study is not a credited course and is taken in lieu of a study hall.

<u>Resource English - Composition</u>	<u>Semester</u>	<u>Grade (s)</u>	<u>Credits</u>
	Full year	9, 10, 11, 12	1.0

This course offers individualized and/or group instruction in English, with a particular emphasis on composition, including grammar rules and usage. Topics include sentence writing (i.e., parts of speech, basic sentence patterns, and subject/verb agreement) as well as paragraphs, reports, and personal experience writing which is based on literature presented in class. Reading skills will be developed through the use of short stories, plays, and novels. Specific course content is adapted to the student's individual educational plan.

<u>Resource English - Literature</u>	<u>Semester</u>	<u>Grade (s)</u>	<u>Credits</u>
	Full year	9, 10, 11, 12	1.0

This course offers individual or group instruction in the various forms of literature, including the short story, novels, poetry, and drama. Students are required to read and to respond to various types of literature as required by the teacher. Specific course content is adapted to the student's individual educational plan.

<u>Resource General Science</u>	<u>Semester</u> Full year	<u>Grade (s)</u> 9, 10, 11, 12	<u>Credits</u> 1.0
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This course is designed to offer a better understanding of the Physical Science methods involving: Classification of Matter, Atomic Structure and the Periodic Table as well as Elements and their Properties. Students will explore the uses of Electricity, Magnetism, Energy and Forces of Motion. Specific course content is adapted to the student's individual educational plan.

<u>Resource Biology</u>	<u>Semester</u> Full year	<u>Grade (s)</u> 9, 10, 11, 12	<u>Credits</u> 1.0
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This course is designed to offer a better understanding of Biology, involving the Study of the Cell of Living Organisms, Animals, the Human Body and Ecology and Evolution. Specific course content is adapted to the student's individual educational plan.

<u>Resource Civics</u>	<u>Semester</u> Full year	<u>Grade (s)</u> 9, 10, 11, 12	<u>Credits</u> 1.0
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This course is designed to help students achieve a better understanding of how our government has developed and how it continues to work. It covers how local, state and federal governments are structured, and what our rights and responsibilities are as citizens. Students will investigate and analyze current political, economic and social issues that impact our governments locally and nationally. Assignments will emphasize the improvement of reading, writing, critical thinking and research skills, as well as the development of report writing. Specific course content is adapted to the students' individual educational plan.

<u>Resource World History</u>	<u>Semester</u> Full year	<u>Grade (s)</u> 9, 10, 11, 12	<u>Credits</u> 1.0
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This course is designed to offer students an understanding of the historical development of both western and non-western civilizations. Assignments emphasize the improvement of reading, writing, critical thinking and research skills. Actual course objectives are adapted to the student's individual educational plan.

<u>Resource Math</u>	<u>Semester</u> Full year	<u>Grade (s)</u> 9, 10, 11, 12	<u>Credits</u> 1.0
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This course is designed to develop and enhance basic computation and problem solving skills. Topics include the four basic operations using whole numbers, decimals and fractions. Emphasis is placed on applying math skills and problem solving strategies to real world situations. Specific course content is adapted to the student's individual educational plan.

<u>Resource Reading</u>	<u>Semester</u> Full year	<u>Grade (s)</u> 9, 10, 11, 12	<u>Credits</u> 1.0
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This course is designed for students who need continuing instruction in decoding, encoding, comprehension, and reading fluency. The purpose of this course is to develop and strengthen these skills through daily skill lessons in phonics, spelling, reading comprehension and fluency drills. Specific course content is adapted to the student's individual educational plan.

TECHNOLOGY EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

All courses in the Technology Education Department are elective courses and are appropriate for all students. Courses within this area will fulfill the vocational education/arts requirement for graduation.

Courses are offered in the following areas: video production, communication, construction, and transportation. These courses are designed to provide students with the opportunity to acquire life skills that will be of value regardless of career choice. Advanced courses are designed to prepare the student with entry-level job skills. Students are encouraged to join the Blue Tube Club.

COMMUNICATION AREA

VIDEO PRODUCTION

<u>TV/Video I</u>	<u>Semester</u>	<u>Grade (s)</u>	<u>Credits</u>
Prerequisite: none	Full Year	9, 10, 11, 12	1.0

This is an introductory course for students to develop a working knowledge of film and television production. Course work matches theory with practical assignments involving sound, lighting, camera techniques, editing and scriptwriting. Students work collaboratively in production teams. Focus includes TV/Video concept development, preproduction planning, production photography and postproduction editing. Creative projects include music videos, commercials, PSA's, TV Programming, Stop Motion. Emphasis is placed on creative video expression, visual literacy, collaboration, organization and project planning skills. Students are encouraged to join the after school Blue Tube club for more opportunities such as competitions and field trips. (CCP Course)

<u>TV/Video II</u>	<u>Semester</u>	<u>Grade (s)</u>	<u>Credits</u>
Prerequisite: TV/Video I 70 or better in TV/Video I	Full Year	10, 11, 12	1.0

Students will continue to develop a working knowledge of film and television concepts. Students will explore in depth TV and Film production. Students will be expected to create high quality TV programming and Film projects including documentaries, News programming, Short Films and Stop Motion. Emphasis is placed on creative video expression, visual literacy, collaboration, organization and project planning skills. Students are encouraged to join the after school Blue Tube club for more opportunities such as competitions and field trips.

<u>TV/Video III</u>	<u>Semester</u>	<u>Grade (s)</u>	<u>Credits</u>
Prerequisite: TV/Video I & II Approval by instructor	Full year	10, 11, 12	1.0

This is an advanced-skills level course designed to allow students to apply the knowledge and abilities acquired in TV/Video I and II. Students will continue to explore advanced techniques in filming, scriptwriting and editing. Students will create a DVD portfolio of their best works and prepare for the National Student Television Network Convention. Emphasis is placed on creative video expression, visual literacy, collaboration, organization and project planning skills. Students are encouraged to join the after school Blue Tube club for more opportunities such as competitions and field trips.

<u>Morning News</u>	<u>Semester</u>	<u>Grade (s)</u>	<u>Credits</u>
Prerequisite: TVVideo I	Full Year	11, 12	1.0
Approval by Course Instructor			

This is an advanced level course designed to allow students to apply the knowledge and abilities acquired in TV/Video Production courses. Students will produce the Blue Tube Morning News on a daily basis. Tasks include anchoring, directing, floor manager, etc. The course meets from 7:10-7:35 every morning in the studio. Students are encouraged to join the after school Blue Tube club for more opportunities such as competitions and field trips.

<u>A+ PC Repair</u>	<u>Semester</u>	<u>Grade (s)</u>	<u>Credits</u>
Prerequisite: Familiarity with basic computer functions	Full Year	10, 11, 12	1.0

This course is designed to prepare students to successfully complete the A+ certification exam for skills required of an entry-level computer technician. This course uses training materials to prepare the student with the knowledge and skills necessary to become proficient in core computer principles for both hardware components and operating systems. This course is beneficial for any student interested in installation, upgrade, and troubleshooting of microcomputer (PC) hardware and operating system software.

Students must be familiar with the basic functioning of a computer (creating, saving, and managing files) and operating system. Some familiarity with computer hardware (disk drives, memory modules, CD drives) will aid success.

<u>Computer Media & Design I</u>	<u>Semester</u>	<u>Grade (s)</u>	<u>Credits</u>
Prerequisite: none	Half year	9, 10, 11, 12	.5

This course focuses on the exciting world of computer graphics and media. Students explore advertising, the Internet, photography and the impacts of media while learning the elements of design and computer programs including Adobe Photoshop and Microsoft Publisher.

<u>Computer Media & Design II</u>	<u>Semester</u>	<u>Grade (s)</u>	<u>Credits</u>
Prerequisite: Pass Computer Media & Design I	Half year	9, 10, 11, 12	.5

This course is designed to further develop skills and concepts required for the advanced application of technologies related to communication. Individual and group projects will be completed. Students will explore and create flash media such as animations, slideshows, banner ads and web buttons in Adobe Flash.

CONSTRUCTION AREA

Construction I

Prerequisite: none

<u>Semester</u>	<u>Grade (s)</u>	<u>Credits</u>
Half year	9, 10, 11, 12	.5

This course provides the students with the opportunity to learn how to use various hand and machine tools properly and safely. Students participate in hands-on learning activities that incorporate planning and design, scale modeling and fabrication concepts.

Construction II

Prerequisite: none

<u>Semester</u>	<u>Grade (s)</u>	<u>Credits</u>
Half year	9, 10, 11, 12	.5

The Construction II course gives students the opportunity to apply previously learned construction concepts. This course will focus on practical application in specific areas including foundations, framing, plumbing, electrical wiring and material selection.

Robotics & Engineering

Prerequisite: none

<u>Semester</u>	<u>Grade (s)</u>	<u>Credits</u>
Full Year	9, 10, 11, 12	1.0

The Robotics and Engineering course will give students the opportunity to implement problem solving and design to achieve specific project objectives and goals. The VEX Robotics system is used to explore various technology and engineering concepts through hands-on experience and practical application.

AGRICULTURAL SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

Agricultural Science & Technology is an elective course within the curriculum of Middletown High School. Students take a regular academic program to meet the requirements for graduation. Enrollment in Agricultural Science & Technology can assist students in preparing for a four-year college, a two-year college, or securing employment upon graduation. The program is designed to allow students to develop an interest in agriculture and gain hands-on experiences. Two (2) credits are earned each year for successful completion of the in-school instruction, practical agricultural experience program, and the FFA (leadership and personal growth). The curriculum provides instruction in Plant Science, Agricultural Mechanics, Animal Science, and Natural Resources. Additional information is available from the guidance department or the Agricultural Science & Technology Education Center.

One (1) credit in science can be earned upon successful completion of the total Agricultural Science & Technology program.

<u>Ag-Science I</u>	<u>Semester</u>	<u>Grade (s)</u>	<u>Credits</u>
	Full year	9, 10	2.0

Ag-Science I offers an exploration of the field of agriculture, as well as more in-depth study of curriculum area. This course is open to ninth or tenth grade students who have shown an interest in agriculture. Students must complete enrollment procedures of the Ag-Science Department and be accepted into the program. A Supervised Agriculture Experience Program and participation in the FFA is required.

<u>Ag-Science II</u>	<u>Semester</u>	<u>Grade (s)</u>	<u>Credits</u>
	Full year	10, 11	2.0

This course is open to students who have successfully completed Ag-Science I, or with consent of the Director of Agricultural Science & Technology. Students will select a major curriculum area for study, as well as required units of instruction. Requirements include active participation in the FFA and development of a Supervised Agriculture Experience Program. Grade 10 and 11 students who have not completed Ag-Science I may be enrolled with consent of the Director of Agricultural Science & Technology.

<u>Advanced Ag-Science</u> <u>(Ag-Science III or Ag-Science IV)</u>	<u>Semester</u>	<u>Grade (s)</u>	<u>Credits</u>
	Full year	11, 12	2.0

This course is open only to students who have successfully completed Ag-Science II. Active participation in the FFA, and an approved Supervised Agriculture Experience Program is required. Students will concentrate in a major curriculum area, as well as required units of instruction.