

2021-2022 Freshman-Junior Programs of Study

PLANNING GUIDE FOR STUDENTS
RIDGEWOOD COMMUNITY HIGH SCHOOL

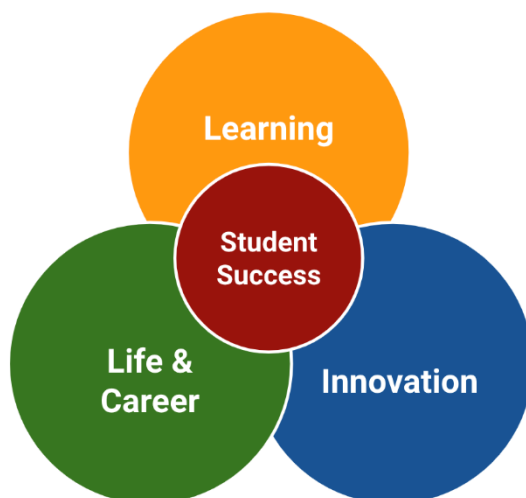
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**All forms can be found online on the parent portal of Skyward.

This handbook is updated annually to give students, parents, and staff the information needed to plan and manage each student's success in high school. Not only does course selection indicate a student's academic aptitude, but it also reflects a student's interests and initiative. The courses selected during high school will directly impact their post-secondary plans. Students should ask teachers, counselors, and administrators for help in selecting courses and discuss their plans, decisions, and choices with their parent(s)/guardian(s).

Learning Model



Students at Ridgewood High School demonstrate their learning through multiple opportunities and through varied forms of assessment. Students actively learn and apply critical-thinking and problem-solving skills along with the critical skills of communication, collaboration and cultural responsiveness to help them work in ever-changing, diverse workplaces. In addition to being graded on academic performance, students receive grades related to attendance, participation, effort, and other skills critical to academic and life success. A student's final grade is a reflection of the level of proficiency that a student has reached toward each of the competencies in the following categories: Learning, Innovation, and Life & Career.

Ridgewood High School does not see grading as a terminal event. Any student who is issued a Not Met is allowed additional time, practice, and/or instruction to ensure the student has learned the necessary skills. Students are not penalized by the averaging of assignment or assessment scores over time if additional interventions, including but not limited to additional time, practice, and/or instruction, are needed.

Grading Scale

A 90-100%

B 80-89%

C 70-79%

NM (Not Met) 0-69%

Grade Weights

Determining Grade Point Average

The following courses shall be given the grade weights indicated when used for the calculation of grade-point averages.

HONORS	GENERAL
<p style="text-align: center;">A = 5 points B = 4 points C = 3 points D = 1 point F = 0 points</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • English 1 Honors • English 2 Honors • English 4 Honors • AP Language & Composition • AP Literature & Composition • Algebra 2 Honors • Geometry Honors • Pre-Calculus Honors • AP Calculus A-B • AP Computer Science Principles • AP Computer Science A • Chemistry Honors • Biology Honors • AP Biology • AP Chemistry • AP Physics • AP Human Geography • AP U.S. History • AP Psychology • AP Government • AP Music Theory • Concert Band Honors • Concert Choir Honors • Percussion Methods Honors • Symphonic Band Honors • AP Italian • AP Spanish 	<p style="text-align: center;">A = 4 points B = 3 points C = 2 points D = 1 point F = 0 points</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All courses other than those specifically included under Honors.

*Honors credit is awarded when the student consistently exceeds the performance skills for the expected grade level of the course.

College & Career Readiness

Educators, families, and communities need more than a single test score to understand students' readiness for what they choose to do next after high school. The State of Illinois has developed indicators that more accurately reflect the educational landscape of the 21st century. A student who is college and career ready has the knowledge and skills to be successful in college and in the workplace. Students equipped to attend college and obtain meaningful employment after their time at Ridgewood High School is our top priority and drives the programming we offer to our students.

Distinguished Scholar

1. GPA: 3.75/4.0
2. ACT Composite Score: 30 or SAT Composite Score: 1400
3. At least one academic indicator in each English language arts (ELA) and mathematics during junior or senior year (Algebra II at any time)
4. Three career readiness indicators during junior or senior year
5. 95% attendance junior and senior year

College and Career Readiness

1. GPA: 2.8/4.0
2. 95% attendance in high school junior and senior year
3. **EITHER**
 - (A) College and Career Pathway Endorsement under Postsecondary and Workforce Readiness Act; OR
 - (B) All of the following:
 - One academic indicator in each of ELA and math during junior or senior year (or Algebra II at any time)
 - Identify a career area of interest by the end of the sophomore year
 - Three career readiness indicators during junior or senior year

Academic Indicators

ELA Indicators	Math Indicators
ELA Advanced Placement (AP) Exam (Score of 3 or Higher)	Math AP Exam (Score of 3 or Higher)
ELA AP Course (Grade of A, B, or C)	Math AP Course (Grade of A, B, or C)
Dual Credit English Course (Grade of A, B, or C)	Dual Credit Math Course (Grade of A, B, or C)
Transitional English (Grade of A, B, or C)	Transitional Math (Grade of A, B, or C)
	Algebra II (Grade of A, B, or C)
Minimum ACT Subject Scores of English: 18 and Reading: 22	Minimum ACT Subject Score of Math: 22 and Math Course in Senior Year
Minimum SAT Subject Score of Evidence-Based Reading and Writing: 540	Minimum SAT Subject Score of Math: 540 and Math Course in Senior Year

Career Readiness Indicators

- Industry Credential
- Workplace Learning Experience (Maintaining Consistent Employment for a Minimum of 12 Months &/or consecutive Summer Employment)
- Military Service or an ASVAB Score of 31 or Higher
- Dual Credit Career Pathway Course (College Credit Earned)
- 25 Hours of Community Service
- Two or More Organized Co-curricular Activities

RHS Distinguished Scholar Pathway

English

Year 1 -English 1 Honors

Year 2 -English 2 Honors

Year 3 -AP English Language and Composition

Year 4 -English 4 Honors
- AP English Literature and Composition

Math

Year 1 -Honors Integrated Math 2

Year 2 -Honors Algebra II

Year 3 -Honors Pre-Calculus

Year 4 -AP Calculus AB
- Honors Statistics

Science

Year 1 -PLTW (Physics and Engineering_

Year 2 -Honors Chemistry

Year 3 -Honors Biology

Year 4 -AP Biology
-AP Physics
-AP Chemistry

Social Science

Year 1 -World Cultures

Year 2 -AP Human Geography
-AP Government

Year 3 -AP U.S. History

Year 4 -AP Psychology
-AP Human Geography

World Languages

Years 1-4 -(Italian or Spanish)

Graduation Competencies

Competencies are student learning targets that represent specific concepts, skills, and knowledge applied within or across courses at Ridgewood High School. Graduation competencies are those needed for a student to be college and career ready when they leave our District. This includes core academic course competencies as well as knowledge, skills, and work-study practices.

Graduation Competencies		
Life & Career	Innovation	Learning
Professionalism	Project Quality	Reading
	Presentation	Writing
	Research	Problem Solving
	Collaborative Discussion	Financial Literacy
		Globally Informed Citizen
		Design Process
		Wellness

Students will meet their graduation competencies through a variety of courses and experiences throughout their time at Ridgewood. Certain courses are required for graduation. The number of credits in specific areas is listed below. Students must earn a total of 23 credits in order to graduate RHS.

Credits Required	Core Area
4	English
3	Math
3	Science
2	Social Studies (Civics & U.S. History)
3.5	Physical Education
.5	Health
2	World Language, Business, Vocational, Computer Science
1	Fine & Applied Arts

**Ridgewood High School Students must demonstrate proficiency in the U.S. and Illinois Constitutions which can be demonstrated in designated Social Studies courses. Students will also demonstrate proficiency in consumer education by taking the consumer education proficiency test offered throughout a variety of business and math courses.

**FAFSA completion required to graduate

Seal of Biliteracy*

Ridgewood High School students have the opportunity to be recognized by the State of Illinois for being proficient in a foreign language and in English. The Illinois State Board of Education's Seal of Biliteracy program will place an official seal on meriting student diplomas and confer official recognition on their transcripts. According to Illinois State law, students who receive the Seal can earn up to two years of college World Language credit in any public college or university. Thirty-nine states now offer the Seal, which means that conference of the award may be transferable to out-of-state public universities.

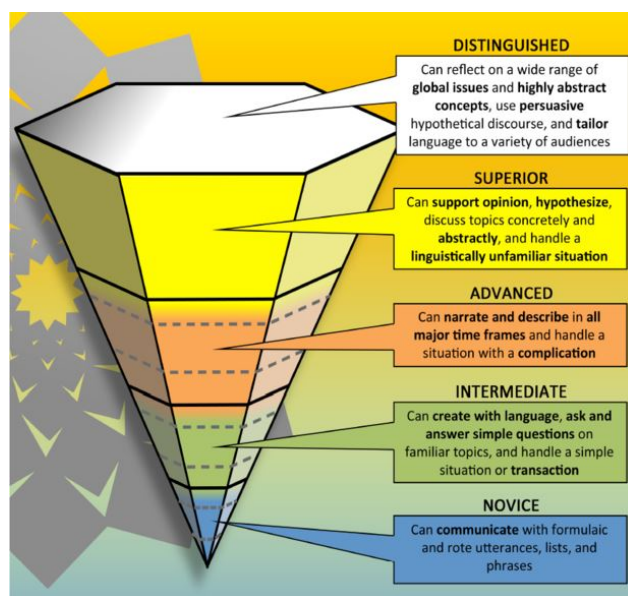
The Seal of Biliteracy is awarded to those whose proficiency level is equivalent to the Intermediate High scale set by the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages. To qualify for the Seal of Biliteracy, seniors must prove proficiency in English and a World Language.

To prove proficiency in English, students must

- earn a minimum score of a 540 on the Evidence-Based Reading and Writing portion of the SAT exam or earn a minimum composite score of 21 on an official administration of the ACT, or
- earn a minimum score of 18 on the English subject area test or
- earn a minimum composite score of 4.8 on the ACCESS for ELLs exam,

To prove proficiency in a World Language, students must:

- have earned a 4 or a 5 on the AP language exam or
- earn a minimum score of an I-5 (Intermediate High) on all components of ACTFL's Assessment of Performance toward Proficiency in Languages (AAPPL) exam, or for languages not offered by the AAPPL, on the STAMP 4S exam.



The following languages can be assessed with the AAPPL exam: Arabic, Chinese (Mandarin), French, German, Hindi, Italian, Japanese, Korean, Portuguese, Russian, Spanish, and Thai. The STAMP 4S assessment is offered in Arabic, Hebrew, Hindi, and Polish. For more information about this assessment, please contact our Assistant Principal, Eric Lasky, at 708-697-5545.

***This program is partially supported by a grant from the Illinois Arts Council Agency.**

Dual Credit Coursework

Ridgewood High School is proud to offer its students the opportunity to earn college credit while still in high school. The Dual Credit program allows our high school students the opportunity to satisfy high school graduation requirements while simultaneously earning college credit.

District 234 currently has agreements with Loyola University, Northeastern Illinois University, and Triton College. High school instructors and college adjunct faculty deliver college level course content within the walls of RHS. The following courses at Ridgewood qualify for college credit:

Ridgewood Course Name	Post- Secondary Institution	Post-Secondary Course Name
Honors Biology	Triton College	Principals of Biology 1
Marketing	Triton College	Sales Force Management
Business Incubator	Triton College	Entrepreneurship
Intro to Business	Triton College	Introduction to Customer Service
Mobile Makers	Triton College	IOS Applications Development
Introduction to Computer Programming	Triton College	Computer Science 101
Graphic Arts Sem 1	Triton College	Intro to Illustrator (VIC 142)
Graphic Arts Sem 2	Triton College	Intro to Photoshop (VIC 161)
PLTW	Triton College	Engineer Design Graphics/CAD Autodesk Invent Design & Rend
AP Italian	Triton College	Elementary Italian I & II
Honors Pre-Calculus Sem 1	Triton College	College Algebra (MAT 110)
Honors Pre-Calculus Sem 2	Triton College	Plane Trigonometry (MAT 114)
Statistics	Triton College	Elementary Statistics (MAT 170)
AP Calculus	Triton College	Calculus & Analytic Geometry 1 (MAT 131)
Geometry in Construction Sem 1	Triton College	Carpentry: Rough Carpentry (COT 106)
Geometry in Construction Sem 2	Triton College	Carpentry: Finish Carpentry (COT 206)
AP Language	Triton College	Freshman Rhetoric & Comp I & II
AP Spanish	Triton College	Elementary Spanish I & II

Physical Education: Athletic Fitness	Triton College	PED 100: Fundamentals of Exercise & Fitness
Physical Education: Lifetime Activities	Triton College	PED: Total Fitness
Physical Education: Walking & Fitness	Triton College	PED 117: Walking for Fitness
Physical Education: Soccer	Triton College	PED 128: Soccer
Physical Education: Volleyball	Triton College	PED 129: Volleyball
Physical Education: Bootcamp Fitness	Triton College	PED 105: Bootcamp Fitness
Physical Education: Basketball	Triton College	PED 130: Basketball
School as a Social Institution	NEIU	EDFN 215 School as a Social Institution

The Freshman Experience: Foundational Year

Ridgewood High School views ninth grade as both a transitional and foundational year. The Freshman Program helps connect student learning to real world experiences. It is the first step in expanding students' vision of possibilities after high school.

The freshman team is comprised of a group of teachers representing the following core subjects: English, Math, Social Studies, Science, Special Education, and Wellness. This team works closely with elective teachers to round out the program.

Core courses for Freshman Year:

1. English 1 *OR* English 1 Honors *OR* PEERS English
2. Integrated Math 1 *OR* Honors Integrated Math 2 *OR* PEERS Math
3. Introduction to Computer Programming (.5 credits)
4. World Cultures (.5 credits)
5. Health (.5 credits)
6. PE (.5 credits)
7. Project Lead the Way (PLTW)
8. Elective Choice (Language/ Band/ Strategic Study Skills)

All freshmen are assigned an advisor that meets with them daily to help track progress and keep students on the path to college and career readiness.

The freshman schedule allows for flexibility within their day to attend their classes in the morning and receive extra help for classes and group projects via flex time in the afternoon. If a student is not on track with their coursework (per their advisor), then they will receive an intervention period during their day to get the extra assistance that they need.

Freshman Course Descriptions

ENGLISH 1

1.0 Cr.

Description: All English courses at Ridgewood High School emphasize the acquisition and development of our Learning and Innovation Skills, specifically: reading critically, writing narratives, writing arguments, project quality, presentation, collaborative discussion, and conducting research. Students in English 1 acquire the habits of professionalism, growth in written and spoken self-expression, and a developing responsiveness to important works of fiction and non-fiction texts. These skills and experiences will provide students with a foundation that will help prepare them for future success.

NCAA Clearinghouse Approved Course

ENGLISH 1 HONORS

1.0 Cr.

Description: This course presents many of the same curricular experiences as English 1 and pursues topics in greater depth and at a faster rate. Students demonstrate their speaking and listening skills while leading discussions and presenting independent projects. In addition to the English 1 curriculum, students will also read other literary works both required and of their choosing. Summer reading is required. ***NCAA Clearinghouse Approved Course***

PEERS ENGLISH/ MATH/ SCIENCE (PLTW)

1.0 Cr.

- Prereq: Recommendation from special education case manager and IEP Team

Description: The PEERS program is designed for special education students whose unique needs require more restrictive environment. These self-contained classrooms are aligned with regular education curriculum. PEERS classes are designed to accommodate the individual students' ability/disability, skills, learning rate, and learning style in a smaller group setting.

All PEERS courses are NCAA Approved

INTEGRATED MATH 1

1.0 Cr.

Description: This course emphasizes the acquisition and development of our Learning and Innovation Skills, specifically: problem solving, project quality, and presentation. Integrated Math 1 will cover the following topics: probability and data analysis, equations in one variable, graphing linear equations, linear systems, exponents, quadratic equations, and polynomials. There will be an emphasis on the acquisition of mathematical skills related to these topics and applying them in a real world context.

NCAA Clearinghouse Approved Course

HONORS INTEGRATED MATH 2

1.0 Cr.

- Prereq: Recommendation from teacher

Description: This course will cover the following topics: quadratics, polynomials, measurement, angle relationships, various geometric figures and their properties, area and volume, trigonometry, congruence, and similarities. There will be an emphasis on the acquisition of mathematical skills related to these topics and applying them in a real world context. ***NCAA Clearinghouse Approved Course***

INTRODUCTION TO COMPUTER PROGRAMMING*

.5 Cr.

Description: This class is designed for first-time programmers and as an introduction to the Java programming language. Students are introduced to the programming language Java through an innovative and exciting 3D animation environment called Alice. Students will create 3-D animations, games, and manipulate images, audio files, and other media forms through programming. Get a head start on college requirements. Many majors now require at least one course in Computer Science, and for good reason: Computer Science has now impacted every other field in the workforce. Competencies addressed in this course are: Professionalism, Project Quality, Problem Solving and Design Process.

* Successful completion of this course earns Triton Dual Credit in Computer Science 101.

WORLD CULTURES

0.5 Cr.

Description: World Cultures is a one semester course designed to establish a foundation for becoming a well-informed citizen. This course will help to create global thinkers who can see all perspectives of world issues. Students will focus on the Graduation Competencies of Reading, Writing, Research, Engaging as a Citizen throughout the course. ***NCAA Clearinghouse Approved Course***

HEALTH EDUCATION

0.5 Cr.

Description: This course is designed to support skill acquisition through project-based learning. The course emphasizes reading, writing, relationship skills, self-awareness, and decision making skills. Upon completion of the course, students will have learned the foundational skills necessary to take responsibility for their overall health and wellness.

Description: This course is designed to meet students where they are in their physical wellness journey. Students will have an opportunity to choose a specific class they are interested in learning more about and improving their physical activity level. Each semester course taken throughout the students four years has the ability to count for a dual credit elective through Triton College. Your student will be given a choice of class based on their class periods availability. Possible course options are:

1. Lifetime Activities
2. Bootcamp
3. Athletic Fitness
4. Walking and Fitness Class
5. Basketball
6. Volleyball
7. Soccer

The objective of each of these course options are for a student to pick a focus area, progress monitor, reflect, and see how much they can grow throughout the course of the year.

PROJECT LEAD THE WAY: PHYSICS/ENGINEERING *

1.0 Cr.

Description: In this course, students will engineer and build contraptions in teams using various materials to demonstrate different technologies. Students will use a hands-on approach to investigate the 8 technology categories that include: biotechnology, electronic and electrical technology, materials and mechanical technology, optical, fluid, and structural technology. This course emphasizes the acquisition and development of the following Learning and Innovation Skills: design process, project quality, and presentation.

*Successful completion of this course earns Triton Dual Credit in Engineer Design Graphics/ CAD and Autodesk Invent Design and Rend

Freshman Elective Options

ITALIAN 1- Level 1- (Novice Low - Novice High)

1.0 Cr.

Description: In this course students will begin learning to speak, understand, read, and write Italian. Students will learn basic vocabulary and grammar while developing knowledge of Italian culture, including cities, the family, education, and food. Basic language learning materials will be supplemented by films, television, music, the Web, and field trips. Students will also pursue independent research projects and will participate in project based learning activities. ***NCAA Clearinghouse Approved Course***

ITALIAN 2- Level 2- (Novice High - Intermediate Low)

1.0 Cr.

Description: In this course, students will continue to learn to speak, understand, read, and write in Italian. Students will learn more specialized vocabulary and grammar while developing knowledge of Italian culture including cities, the family, education, Roman history and food. Basic language materials will be supplemented by films, YouTube videos, Italian articles, and the Italian web. Students will also pursue independent research projects on the city and Italian products, just to name a couple. Small skits on real life situations from Italian contemporary life will complete the course. We will go on two field trips one in the fall and one in the spring. ***NCAA Clearinghouse Approved Course***

Description: The course is designed to give students the opportunity to develop beginning level of understanding and speaking in Spanish. The course's topics include content will include personal identity, family, the classroom, pastimes, daily routine, shopping and vacations. Grammatical structures are included and cultural topics are explored. The objective of this course is for the student to be able to communicate information and ideas through the development of good listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills. *NCAA Clearinghouse Approved Course*

SPANISH 2 – Level 2 (Novice High- Intermediate Low)

1.0 Cr.

Description: This course is a continuation of Spanish 1. The students in this course will continue to develop their four communication skills while broadening their cultural knowledge of the target countries. Topics include celebrations, food, health and well-being, housing, city life and music. *NCAA Clearinghouse Approved Course*

CONCERT BAND/HONORS*

1.0 Cr.

Description: This course is for students who have the equivalent of 4 years of experience playing a band instrument and are interested in being in band, and for students who do not pass an audition for symphonic band requirements. Students in concert band must commit to yearly performances and obligations. Students must agree to purchase the required uniform. A fee will be charged for the cost of materials. **Students will have the opportunity to pursue Honors credit by completing alternative coursework throughout the course and additional work outside of class. Examples can include auditioning for the I.M.E.A. or studying privately.**

*Previous playing experience on a concert band instrument (not including guitar).

PERCUSSION METHODS/HONORS*

1.0 Cr.

Description: This class is for all percussionists with the equivalent of 4 or more years of experience who want to be part of the concert or symphonic band programs. Students will learn playing techniques on all the concert percussion instruments, study percussion ensemble literature, participate in the marching band drum line, and perform in all of the yearly concerts with the symphonic/concert bands. Students must agree to purchase the required uniform, and to attend all yearly band concerts, performances, and obligations. A fee will be charged for the cost of materials. **Students will have the opportunity to pursue Honors credit by completing alternative coursework throughout the course and additional work outside of class. Examples can include auditioning for the I.M.E.A. or studying privately.**

* Previous experience in a concert band percussion section, or consent of instructor.

STRATEGIC STUDY SKILLS

1.0 Cr.

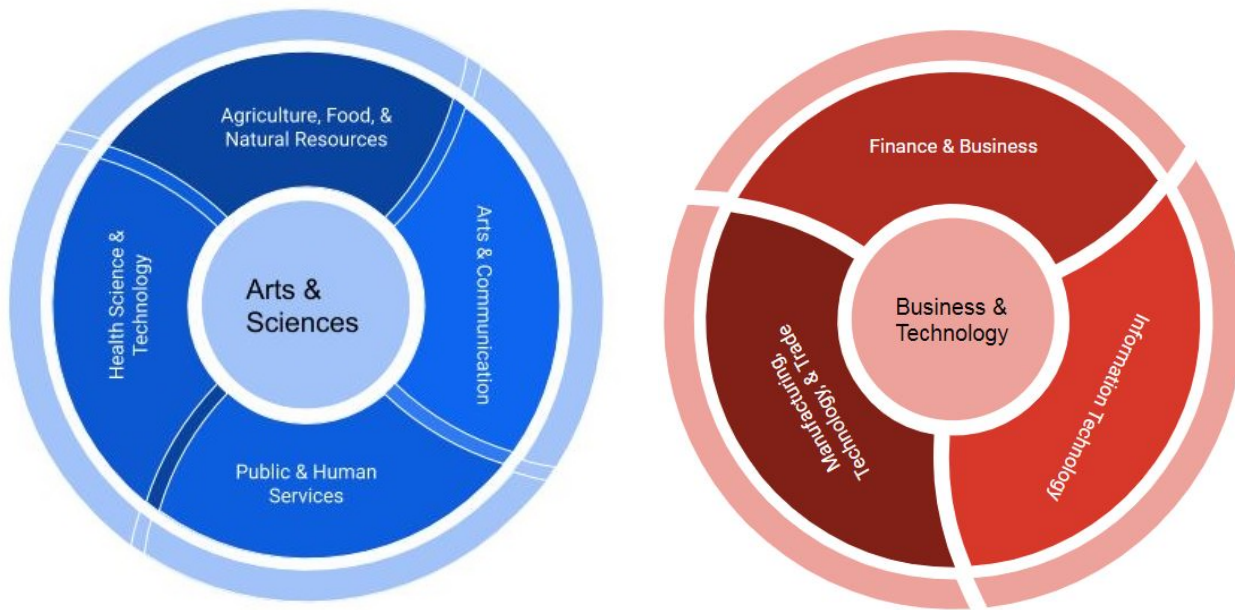
Description: Strategic Study Skills is a two-semester course offered to students who need more support in their courses. Students will receive advocacy, general academic and organizational assistance to support their success within the general curriculum. The course specifically emphasizes various study skill strategies, note-taking, and vocabulary development as well as test-taking strategies.

The Sophomore Experience: Career Pathways

Similar to freshman year, students entering 10th grade work with a team of teachers representing the following core subjects: English, Math, Social Studies, Science, Computer Science, Special Education, and Wellness. This team works closely with a variety of elective teachers in the building to add to each student's program.

With the foundational year behind them, the sophomore experience is all about Career Exploration and discovering career pathways. At RHS, we want students to explore career possibilities that build on their talents and interests. To do this, we have designed the sophomore experience.

Ridgewood High School has adopted two broad Career Pathways: Arts & Sciences and Business & Technology



These pathways allow students the opportunity to explore individual Career Clusters through their elective choices. Junior and Senior level pathways have a program of study which includes:

- Advanced Placement Courses
- Workplace Learning Experiences
- Career Activities
- Pathway Elective Courses
- Industry Certifications
- Career Endorsements
- Dual Credit

Sophomore year continues with the advisory program. Each student meets with an individual advisor daily to help track progress and keep students on the path to college and career readiness. Sophomores have the opportunity to choose a late start (school start time is 9:00 a.m. versus 8 a.m. on Tuesdays and Thursdays only).

Sophomore Year Course Options

Requirement		Options	My Selections
English		Regular English 2 Honors English 2 PEERS English 2	
Math		Integrated Math 2 Integrated Math 2 Honors Integrated Math 3 Honors Geometry in Construction* PEERS Integrated Math 2	
Science		Integrated Science 2- Food Science Integrated Science 2- Medical Honors Chemistry PEERS Integrated Science 2	
Physical Education		PE 1-4 Adapted PE	
Electives		Choose 2.0 Credits from the electives listed on the next page	

*Geometry in Construction counts as 2 credits. Students choosing this option should only choose one more elective their sophomore year.

CAREER PATHWAY ELECTIVES

Arts & Sciences Pathway Electives

English

Communications (.5 Cr.)
The Written Word (.5 Cr.)
Test Prep (.5 Cr.)
Science Fiction (.5 Cr.)
English Open Seminar (.5 Cr.)
Mixed Media (.5 Cr.)

Fine Arts

Introduction to Art (1 Cr.)
Advanced Painting & Drawing (1 Cr.)
Graphic Arts (1 Cr.)
Advanced Graphic Arts (1 Cr.)
Theater Arts (1 Cr.)

World Language

Italian (Levels 1-4 & A.P.) (1 Cr.)
Spanish (Levels 1-4 & A.P.) (1 Cr.)

Music

Introduction to Music (1 Cr.)
Concert Choir (1 Cr.)
Concert Band (1 Cr.)
Symphonic Band (1 Cr.)
Percussion Methods (1 Cr.)
A.P. Music Theory (1 Cr.)

Social Studies

Economics (.5 Cr.)
Practical Law (.5 Cr.)
Sociology (.5 Cr.)
Psychology (.5 Cr.)
Social Studies Survey (.5 Cr.)

Wellness

Adapted PE (1 Cr.)

Business & Technology Pathway Electives

Business

Incubator (1 Cr.)
Marketing (1 Cr.)
Introduction to Business (1 Cr.)
College, Career, & Life Planning (.5 Cr.)

Computer Science

PLTW: Cyber Security (1 Cr.)
Introduction to Computer Programming (.5 Cr.)
Technology Apprenticeship Program (1 Cr.)
Web Development (1 Cr.)
Computer Concepts & Software Applications (1 Cr.)

World Language

Italian (Levels 1-4 & A.P.) (1 Cr.)
Spanish (Levels 1-4 & A.P.) (1 Cr.)

Trades

Introduction to Construction Trades (1 Cr.)
Computer Aided Design (1 Cr.)
Production Technology: Woodworking (1 Cr.)
Architecture/ Drafting (1 Cr.)
Project Lead the Way- Principles of Design (1 Cr.)

Sophomore Course Descriptions: Core Courses

Sophomore English Options

ENGLISH 2 _____ 1.0 Cr.

- Prereq: Successful completion of English 1.

English 2 builds on the reading, writing, and speaking skills introduced in the English 1 competencies. Students further develop writing skills through narrative writing and argumentative research writing tasks. Throughout the year, students will read both fiction and nonfiction texts tailored to their interests and reading abilities in order to develop their reading comprehension. They will also develop their innovation and presentation skills through civic engagement and student-designed research projects. Summer Reading is required. *NCAA Clearinghouse Approved Course*

ENGLISH 2 HONORS* _____ 1.0 Cr.

- Prereq: Students must meet the criteria for English Honors courses.

Description: Students in English 2 Honors will build on the skills in the English competencies that English 2 students do, but will pursue those at a greater depth, faster rate, and with more rigorous texts. In addition to the English 2 curriculum, students will also read additional literary works. Summer reading is required. *NCAA Clearinghouse Approved Course*

EL 1 _____ 1.0 Cr.

- Prereq: Based upon ACCESS testing and teacher recommendations.

Description: This course is designed to develop the basic English language skills of listening, speaking, reading, and writing for students who have recently arrived in the United States from a foreign country and need to develop English proficiency.

During content area instruction, the emphasis will be on the development of academic vocabulary, academic communication, conceptual thinking, evaluation of problems/conflicts, compare/contrast, and problem-solving skills. Development of oral proficiency is an integral part of this course.

EL 2 _____ 1.0 Cr.

- Prereq: Based upon ACCESS testing and a diagnostic reading comprehension test which indicates the appropriate reading level; teacher recommendations.

Description: This course is designed to improve basic English language skills in reading, writing, speaking, and listening. The reading/writing program focuses on the reading and writing process. It stresses reading comprehension, vocabulary development, use of proper grammar and sentence structure, paragraphing, outlining, and revising. Students are expected to produce logical and coherent compositions on the computer. Oral book reports and impromptu speeches, which focus on the projection of a positive self-image and personal achievement, allow students to develop speaking proficiency.

- Prereq: Appropriate reading level and teacher recommendation; concurrent enrollment in English 1.

Description: This course is designed to improve reading/listening comprehension and speaking/writing proficiency.

The program focuses on academic reading and on expository, narrative, and persuasive writing. The program emphasizes vocabulary development. Students are expected to think critically, to write logically, and to produce and revise papers on the computer.

Sophomore Math Options

INTEGRATED MATH 2

1.0 Cr.

- Prereq: Integrated Math 1

Description: This course will cover the following topics: quadratics, polynomials, measurement, angle relationships, various geometric figures and their properties, area and volume, trigonometry, congruence, and similarities. There will be an emphasis on the acquisition of mathematical skills related to these topics and applying them in a real world context.

NCAA Clearinghouse Approved Course

INTEGRATED MATH 2 HONORS

1.0 Cr.

- Prereq: Successful completion of Algebra 1. Freshmen may be placed in this course based on performance on local assessment and teacher recommendation.

Description: This course will cover Geometry topics with an inductive and deductive approach. Topics will include measurement, angle relationships, various geometric figures and their properties, analytic proofs, area and volume, congruence and similarities. Material will be explored traditionally and with dynamic computer software. Graphing calculator is not required, but will be used by instructor to model. ***NCAA Clearinghouse Approved Course***

INTEGRATED MATH 3

1.0 Cr.

- Prereq: Integrated Math 2

Description: This course covers the following topics in depth. Topics include systems of inequalities, quadratics, polynomials, radical and rational functions, and exponential functions. There will be an emphasis on the acquisition of mathematical skills related to these topics and applying them in a real world context. This course is designed to prepare students for a transitional course for college level mathematics.

NCAA Clearinghouse Approved Course

GEOMETRY IN CONSTRUCTION

2.0 Cr.

- Prereq: Successful completion of Integrated Math 1 or recommendation from teacher.

Description: Geometry in Construction is an alternative approach to learning Geometry. It is an interdisciplinary course that integrates Geometry and Construction topics through the building of a significant construction project. The purpose of the course is to provide students with a better understanding of both the Geometry and the Construction content through the combination of the academic and work-world contexts. The Geometry content matches that of the other Geometry courses taught in the Math Department, and prepares students for the subsequent Algebra 2 course. Students will be exposed to and gain hands-on experience in the following areas of construction: safety, framing, plumbing, electrical, roofing, windows, doors, and siding. Additional emphasis is given to teamwork, problem-solving, and the promotion of STEM education. This is a double-period course in which students earn credit for both Geometry and for Construction.

- Prereq: Teacher recommendation or successful completion of some level of Geometry and the student meets criteria for Math Honors courses.

Description: This course requires a thorough understanding of Algebra 1. It is a fast paced course which covers Algebra 2 concepts in depth. Topics include: higher order equations and inequalities, functions and their graphs, systems of equations and inequalities and trigonometric functions. Graphing calculator required**. ***NCAA Clearinghouse Approved Course***

PRE-CALCULUS HONORS

1.0 Cr.

- Prereq: Successful completion of some level of Algebra 2 and the student meets criteria for Math Honors courses.

Description: This course is a Common Core Standard 4th year course which is intended to prepare students for Calculus. Topics include logarithmic, rational, and exponential functions, trigonometric and inverse trigonometric functions, conic sections, sequences and series, and an introduction to parametric, polar and complex coordinate systems. Also, probability topics of binomial distribution, counting principles and expected value for decision making are included. Graphing calculator required**. ***NCAA Clearinghouse Approved Course***

Sophomore Science Options

INTEGRATED SCIENCE 2

1.0 Cr.

- Prereq: Successful completion of Integrated Physics/Engineering

Description: This is a foundational science course designed for 10th grade students. The course will introduce science concepts through project based learning. We will use projects to develop the competencies and skills of scientific method, critical thinking, lab safety, writing, and analyzing information. This class will dive into more challenging and in depth concepts of Biology, Chemistry, and Physics.

Yes

INTEGRATED SCIENCE 2- FOOD SCIENCE

1.0 Cr.

- Prereq: Successful completion of Integrated Physics/Engineering

Description: This is a foundational science course designed for 10th grade students. The course will introduce science concepts through project based learning. We will use projects to develop the competencies and skills of scientific method, critical thinking, lab safety, writing, and analyzing information. This course considers why food matters and the science behind supporting a healthier food system. Conversations will address issues ranging from resilient agriculture and healthy food access to the future of seeds and making the most of available food resources. The course takes a multi-faceted approach to food through exposure to excellent writing about food, agriculture and environmental sustainability; cooking labs that will help students learn through the preparation and tasting of food.

NCAA Clearinghouse Approved Course

CHEMISTRY – HONORS*

1.0 Cr.

- Prereq: Successful completion of Honors Integrated Physics with a C or better or Integrated Physics/ Engineering by Design with an A and teacher approval. Successful completion of Algebra 1.

Description: This course is designed to have students learn chemistry at a more in depth level than regular chemistry including more topics and some more rigorous labs. Students will use various forms of technology to collect, analyze, and report data. This course is required for graduation and is a prerequisite for biology. Topics covered include: nature of science, matter, the atom, quantum theory, the periodic table, bonding, naming, types of reactions, stoichiometry, gases, solutions, acids and bases, thermochemistry, and electrochemistry. *NCAA Clearinghouse Approved Course*

Sophomore Physical Education Option

PHYSICAL EDUCATION 1-4

1.0 Cr.

Prereq: None

Description: This course is designed to meet students where they are in their physical wellness journey. Students will have an opportunity to choose a specific class they are interested in learning more about and improving their physical activity level. Each semester course taken throughout the students four years has the ability to count for a dual credit elective through Triton College. Your student will be given a choice of class based on their class periods availability. Possible course options are:

Lifetime Activities

1. Bootcamp
2. Athletic Fitness
3. Walking and Fitness Class
4. Basketball
5. Volleyball
6. Soccer

The objective of each of these course options are for a student to pick a focus area, progress monitor, reflect, and see how much they can grow throughout the course of the year.

ADAPTED PHYSICAL EDUCATION PEER TUTORS

1.0 Cr

- Prereq: Sophomore-Senior

Description: The Adapted P.E. Peer Tutor program is an opportunity to work with students with disabilities in pairs or small groups to master skills or concepts. Peer tutoring in P.E. is designed to increase practice time and feedback for students and often results in increased achievement and motivation among students. Peer tutors provide support for the P.E. teacher as well as encourage more independence for students with disabilities. Delivering instruction at an appropriate education level, providing a safe environment for all ability levels, and using peer support are essential components of this class.

Sophomore Social Studies Options

WORLD CULTURES

0.5 Cr.

- Prereq: Open to all grade levels. None

Description: This course will study diverse cultural groups throughout the world, with an emphasis on the history as well as the physical, social, political, and economic structures of cultures. This course stresses the development of academic skills, along with knowledge of the cultures of various regions of the world.

ADVANCED PLACEMENT GOVERNMENT*

1.0 Cr.

- Prereq: Sophomore or better standing. Student must meet the criteria for Social Studies Honors courses.

Description: The AP Government & Politics: United States course provides an analytical perspective on government and politics in the United States. This course involves both the study of general concepts used to interpret U.S. politics and the analysis of specific case studies. It also requires familiarity with the various government institutions, groups, beliefs, and ideas that constitute U.S. political reality. While there is no single approach that an AP Government & Politics: United States course must follow, certain topics are generally covered in college courses. These topics include, but are not limited to: current and controversial issues, and service learning. Students will also take part in a mock election that simulates the democratic process. This course meets the Civics requirement mandated by the State. A \$94 test fee will be collected with other fees. *NCAA Clearinghouse Approved Course*

SOCIAL STUDIES SURVEY

.5 Cr.

- Prereq: None

Description: Social Studies Survey is a skill-based experience within the social sciences: Psychology, Sociology, Economics, and Practical Law. Students will get exposure to choice elements of each larger subject in order to gauge future interest in related career pathways. This exploration includes but is not limited to clinical psychologist, social worker, lawyer, criminologist, forensic psychologist, police officer, small business owner, entrepreneur, bank officer, financial analyst, politician, activist. Studies will be encapsulated in the fundamental knowledge of the larger curricula. This problem/project-based curriculum focuses on the RHS Graduation Requirements of reading, writing, presentation and collaborative discussion and tailored by student interest.

PSYCHOLOGY

0.5 Cr.

- Prereq: None

Description: This course is a general survey of the field of psychology. Topics that are examined include: the biology of behavior (brain, etc.), perception, learning (classical and operant conditioning), language, thought, methods of research, and personality theory. The primary emphasis is on the exploration of individual human behavior and experience. *NCAA Clearinghouse Approved Course*

INTRODUCTION TO ECONOMICS/HONORS

0.5 Cr.

- Prereq: None

Description: This course will give students an understanding of the fundamental concepts of economics, their historical development, and their application to the current American market economy and other global economies. **Students will have the opportunity to pursue Honors credit by completing alternative coursework throughout the course** *NCAA Clearinghouse Approved Course*

PRACTICAL LAW

0.5 Cr.

- Prereq: None

Description: The course is designed to give students a basic overview of the American judicial system and to provide them with opportunities for practical applications of legal concepts. Topics covered will include the history of law and the American judicial system, adult and juvenile criminal law, tort law, current legal issues, and numerous actual cases involving individual rights and liberties. Additional topics might include family law, housing law and consumer law. Electronic resources will be used to complete legal research. Strong vocabulary and writing skills are very helpful in this class. *NCAA Clearinghouse Approved Course*

SOCIOLOGY

0.5 Cr.

- Prereq: None

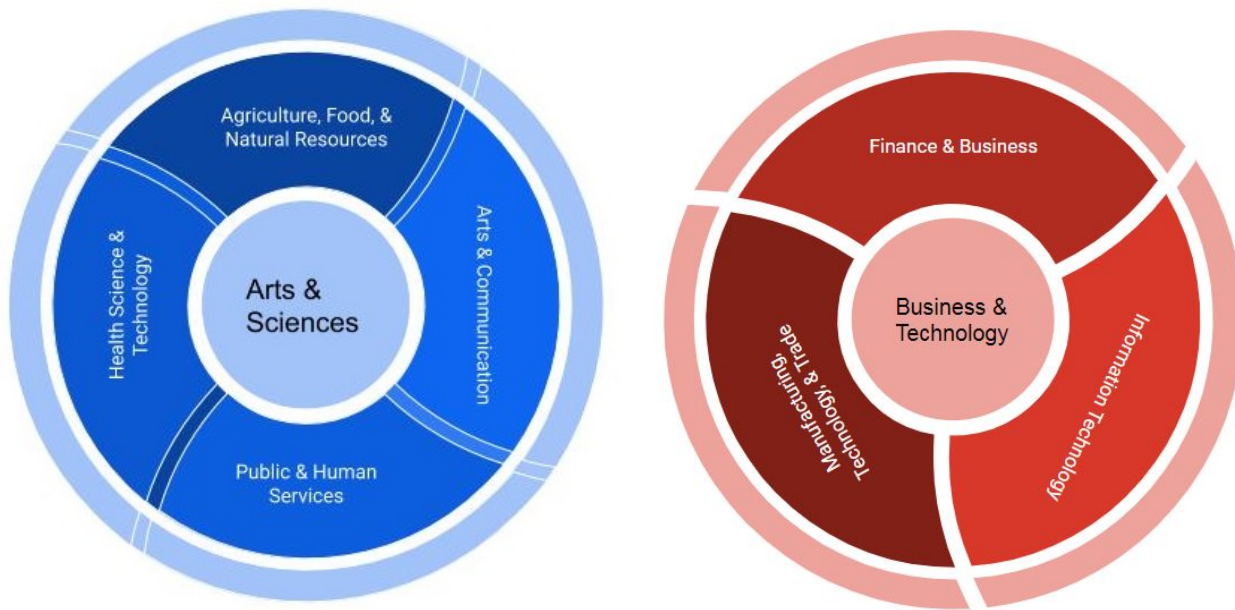
Description: Sociology is the examination of the nature of society as well as people's behavior in groups. Primary groups, secondary groups, communities, and societies are the substance of sociology. Students will examine the influences of society and culture on their own lives. Additionally, elements of social tension, such as prejudice, discrimination and racial/ethnic relations resulting from the interaction of different groups, will be studied and discussed. Strong vocabulary and writing skills are very helpful in this class. *NCAA Clearinghouse Approved Course*

The Junior Experience: Career Pathways

Similar to sophomore year, students entering 11th grade work with a team of teachers representing the following core subjects: English, Math, Social Studies, Science, Special Education, and Wellness. This team works closely with a variety of elective teachers in the building to add to each student's program.

With the foundational years behind them, the junior experience is all about continuing their experience within the career pathway that the student chose. At RHS, we want students to explore career possibilities that build on their talents and interests. They will have more experiences within their career pathway in and out of the building.

Ridgewood High School has adopted two broad Career Pathways: Arts & Sciences and Business & Technology



These pathways allow students the opportunity to explore individual Career Clusters through their elective choices. Junior and Senior level pathways have a program of study which includes:

- Advanced Placement Courses
- Workplace Learning Experiences
- Career Activities
- Pathway Elective Courses
- Industry Certifications
- Career Endorsements
- Dual Credit

Junior year continues advisory; however, the students will now meet with their counselor to help guide them further on the path to college and career readiness.

Junior Year Course Options

Requirement		Options	My Selections
English		American Experience English 3 AP Language and Composition PEERS English 3	
Math		Integrated Math 3 Integrated Math 3 Honors College Algebra Pre-Calculus Honors AP Computer Science A AP Computer Science Principles AP Calc A-B PEERS Integrated Math 3	
Science		Integrated Science 3 Honors Biology AP Biology AP Chemistry PEERS Integrated Science 3	
Physical Education		PE 1-4 Adapted PE	
Social Studies		American Experience American History AP US History	
Electives		Choose 1.0 Credit from the electives listed on the next page	

*American Experience counts as 2 credits- English and Social Studies required electives.

CAREER PATHWAY ELECTIVES

Arts & Sciences Pathway Electives

Adapted PE (1 Cr.)

English

Communications (.5 Cr.)

The Written Word (.5 Cr.)

Test Prep (.5 Cr.)

Science Fiction (.5 Cr.)

English Open Seminar (.5 Cr.)

Mixed Media (.5 Cr.)

Fine Arts

Introduction to Art (1 Cr.)

Advanced Painting & Drawing (1 Cr.)

Graphic Arts (1 Cr.)

Advanced Graphic Arts (1 Cr.)

Theater Arts (1 Cr.)

World Language

Italian (Levels 1-4 & A.P.) (1 Cr.)

Spanish (Levels 1-4 & A.P.) (1 Cr.)

Music

Introduction to Music (1 Cr.)

Concert Choir (1 Cr.)

Concert Band (1 Cr.)

Symphonic Band (1 Cr.)

Percussion Methods (1 Cr.)

A.P. Music Theory (1 Cr.)

Social Studies

Economics (.5 Cr.)

Practical Law (.5 Cr.)

Sociology (.5 Cr.)

Psychology (.5 Cr.)

Social Studies Survey (.5 Cr.)

Wellness

Business & Technology Pathway Electives

Business

Incubator (1 Cr.)

Marketing (1 Cr.)

Introduction to Business (1 Cr.)

College, Career, & Life Planning (.5 Cr.)

Computer Science

PLTW: Cyber Security (1 Cr.)

Introduction to Computer Programming (.5 Cr.)

Technology Apprenticeship Program (1 Cr.)

Web Development (1 Cr.)

Computer Concepts & Software Applications (1 Cr.)

World Language

Italian (Levels 1-4 & A.P.) (1 Cr.)

Spanish (Levels 1-4 & A.P.) (1 Cr.)

Trades

Introduction to Construction Trades (1 Cr.)

Computer Aided Design (1 Cr.)

Production Technology: Woodworking (1 Cr.)

Architecture/ Drafting (1 Cr.)

Project Lead the Way- Principles of Design (1 Cr.)

Junior Course Descriptions: Core Courses

Junior English Options

ENGLISH 3

1.0 Cr.

- Prereq: Successful completion of English 2.

Description: English 3 builds on the reading, writing, and speaking skills introduced in the English 2 competencies. Students further develop rhetorical skills through writing, reading, and speaking experiences. Throughout the year, students will read both fiction and nonfiction texts tailored to their interests and reading abilities in order to develop their reading comprehension. They will also develop their innovation and presentation skills in various Project Based Learning experiences. Summer Reading is required. *NCAA Clearinghouse Approved Course*

AMERICAN EXPERIENCE

2.0 Cr.

- Prereq: Successful completion of English 2.

Description: American Experience is a competency-based course that encourages junior students to appreciate the richness and diversity of the United States by exploring its culture from an interdisciplinary perspective. Through an inquiry-based study of American narratives using artifacts (novels, films, poems, plays, primary source documents, short stories, and others), American Experience integrates the disciplines of English and US History, to give junior students a personalized learning experience that will allow them to become literate and tolerant citizens. American Experience is a team-taught, double-period course. Students further develop rhetorical skills through writing, reading, and speaking experiences. Throughout the year, students will read both fiction and nonfiction texts tailored to their interests and reading abilities in order to develop their reading comprehension. They will also develop their innovation and presentation skills through research projects. Summer Reading is required. *NCAA Clearinghouse Approved Course*

ADVANCED PLACEMENT LANGUAGE AND COMPOSITION*

1.0 Cr.

- Prereq: Junior standing and students must meet the criteria for English Honors courses.

Description: AP English Language and Composition is an introductory college-level composition course. Students cultivate their understanding of writing and rhetorical arguments through reading, analyzing, and writing texts as they explore topics like rhetorical situation, claims and evidence, reasoning and organization, and style. Summer reading and written work is required. *NCAA Clearinghouse Approved Course*

Junior Math Options

INTEGRATED MATH 3

1.0 Cr.

- Prereq: Integrated Math 2

Description: This course covers the following topics in depth. Topics include systems of inequalities, quadratics, polynomials, radical and rational functions, and exponential functions. There will be an emphasis on the acquisition of mathematical skills related to these topics and applying them in a real-world context. This course is designed to prepare students for a transitional course for college level mathematics.

NCAA Clearinghouse Approved Course

INTEGRATED MATH 3 HONORS

1.0 Cr.

- Prereq: Teacher recommendation or successful completion of some level of Geometry and the student meets criteria for Math Honors courses. (see page 32).

Description: This course requires a thorough understanding of Algebra 1. It is a fast-paced course which covers Algebra 2 concepts in depth. Topics include: higher order equations and inequalities, functions and their graphs, systems of equations and inequalities and trigonometric functions. Graphing calculator required**. *NCAA Clearinghouse Approved Course*

ALGEBRA 2 IN BUSINESS

1.0 Cr.

Prereq: Successful completion of Integrated Math 2 and teacher recommendation.

Description: Algebra 2 in Business is an alternative approach to learning advanced algebra. The objective of this course will be the same as the objectives in the traditional algebra 2 course, the difference will be the order of the objectives, and the contextualized nature of the lesson plans. The course will be ordered around the naturally occurring steps for designing and running a business. Students will see mathematics in the context. Upon completing the course students will be able to continue into Pre-Calculus or Probability & Statistics with no curricular gaps. **Concurrent enrollment in Introduction to Business is required.**

COLLEGE ALGEBRA

1.0 Cr.

- Prereq: Successful completion of Algebra 2 and teacher recommendation.

Description: This course is to prepare students for college level mathematics, including calculus. Topics include logarithmic, rational, exponential, and trigonometric functions, conic sections, and an introduction of sequences and series. Graphing calculator required**. Successful completion of this course with a qualifying SAT score of 530 earns the student Dual Credit for Math 110.

PRE-CALCULUS HONORS*

1.0 Cr.

- Prereq: Successful completion of some level of Algebra 2 and the student meets criteria for Math Honors courses.

Description: This course is a Common Core Standard 4th year course which is intended to prepare students for Calculus. Topics include logarithmic, rational, and exponential functions, trigonometric and inverse trigonometric functions, conic sections, sequences and series, and an introduction to parametric, polar and complex coordinate systems. Also, probability topics of binomial distribution, counting principles and expected value for decision making are included. Graphing calculator required**. Successful completion of this course with a qualifying SAT score of 530 earns the student Dual Credit for Math 110. ***NCAA Clearinghouse Approved Course***

ADVANCED PLACEMENT CALCULUS A-B*

1.0 Cr.

- Prereq: Successful completion of Pre-Calculus Honors and the student meets criteria for Math Honors courses.

Description: This course follows a College Board approved syllabus. Students receiving a “3”, “4”, or “5” on the A.P. exam in May will be eligible for college credit at many colleges. Basic topics include functions and graphs, limits and continuity, and differential and integral calculus. Graphing calculator required**. A \$94 test fee will be collected with the other fees. ***NCAA Clearinghouse Approved Course***

Junior Science Options

INTEGRATED SCIENCE 3

1.0 Cr

- Prereq: Successful completion of Integrated Physics, Chemistry, Algebra and Geometry.

Description: This is a foundational science course aimed at 11th grade students. The course will introduce science concepts through project-based learning. We will use projects to develop the competencies and skills of scientific method, critical thinking, lab safety, writing, and analyzing information. This class will spiral in more challenging and in depth concepts, as students learn Biology, Chemistry, and Physics. ***NCAA Clearinghouse Approved Course***

BIOLOGY - HONORS*

1.0 Cr.

- Prereq: Successful completion of Honors Chemistry with a C or better or Chemistry with an A and teacher approval. Successful completion of Algebra 1 and Geometry.

Description: This course provides an opportunity for self-motivated learners to challenge themselves while gaining detailed and comprehensive knowledge of biology. Students in this course will study the same topics that are covered in biology, but should expect to do in depth study and cover additional topics. Participants should also be prepared to spend extra time at school and at home on biology projects. ***NCAA Clearinghouse Approved Course***

ADVANCED PLACEMENT BIOLOGY*

1.0 Cr.

- Prereq: Successful completion of Honors Chemistry with an A and teacher approval, AP chemistry with a C or better, or Honors Biology with a C or better.

Description: AP level Biology course meant for students who intend to pursue science or medicine as a career. Course is heavily lecture driven with mandatory reading assignments and twelve prerequisite in-class labs. The first 2/3 of the year deals with concepts of Biology including Cells, Ecology, Evolution and Genetics, while the last 1/3 of the course covers human anatomy. Students will be prepared for the AP Biology exam given in May. A \$94 test fee will be collected with other fees. ***NCAA Clearinghouse Approved Course***

ADVANCED PLACEMENT CHEMISTRY*

1.0 Cr.

- Prereq: Successful completion of Honors Chemistry with a B or better or Chemistry with an A and teacher approval, and any level of Algebra 2 with a C or better.

Description: This course will allow students to pursue college level study while still in high school. Emphasis will be placed on topics recommended by the College Board and found in introductory college chemistry courses. Students who register for this course should have a serious interest in receiving college credit in chemistry and are required to take the Advanced Placement Examination offered in May. Topics include: matter, atoms, molecules, ions, stoichiometry, solutions, thermochemistry, electronic structure of atoms, periodic properties, chemical bonding, molecular geometry, gases, intermolecular forces, solutions, kinetics, equilibrium, acids and bases, aqueous solutions, thermodynamics, electrochemistry, and organic chemistry. This course is a science elective. A \$94 test fee will be collected with other fees. ***NCAA Clearinghouse Approved Course***

ADVANCED PLACEMENT PHYSICS 1*

1.0 Cr.

- Prereq: Successful completion of geometry and either successful completion of algebra II or concurrent enrollment in algebra II.

Description: AP Physics 1 is an algebra based, introductory college level physics course that will explore the following topics: Newtonian mechanics and rotational motion; work, energy, and power; mechanical waves and sound; introductory, simple circuits. Through inquiry-based learning, students will develop scientific critical thinking and reasoning skills. A \$94 test fee will be collected with the other fees. ***NCAA Clearinghouse Approved Course***

ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE

1.0 Cr.

- Prereq: Successful completion of Chemistry and Biology or concurrent enrollment in Biology.

Description: The course focuses on the study of environmental science with an emphasis on the political and economic components. Students will develop an understanding of how environments interact with living and non-living elements and the challenges the modern world faces in maintaining a sustainable planet.

Some topics to be discussed are ecosystems, water, air, climate, land, energy, waste, population growth, environmental decisions and environmental problems. This course is a science elective. It does not fulfill the science requirement for graduation. ***NCAA Clearinghouse Approved Course***

Junior Physical Education Option

PHYSICAL EDUCATION 1-4

1.0 Cr.

Description: This course is designed to meet students where they are in their physical wellness journey. Students will have an opportunity to choose a specific class they are interested in learning more about and improving their physical activity level. Each semester course taken throughout the students four years has the ability to count for a dual credit elective through Triton College. Your student will be given a choice of class based on their class periods availability. Possible course options are:

- Lifetime Activities
- Bootcamp
- Athletic Fitness
- Walking and Fitness Class
- Basketball
- Volleyball
- Soccer

The objective of each of these course options are for a student to pick a focus area, progress monitor, reflect, and see how much they can grow throughout the course of the year.

ADAPTED PHYSICAL EDUCATION PEER TUTORS

1.0 Cr

- Prereq: Sophomore-Senior

Description: The Adapted P.E. Peer Tutor program is an opportunity to work with students with disabilities in pairs or small groups to master skills or concepts. Peer tutoring in P.E. is designed to increase practice time and feedback for students and often results in increased achievement and motivation among students. Peer tutors provide support for the P.E. teacher as well as encourage more independence for students with disabilities. Delivering instruction at an appropriate education level, providing a safe environment for all ability levels, and using peer support are essential components of this class.

SOCIAL STUDIES

PLACEMENT IN SOCIAL STUDIES COURSES & ELIGIBILITY FOR HONORS/AP SOCIAL STUDIES CLASSES

ALL of the following are required for placement in Social Studies Honors and A.P. classes:

- a) above average performance on locally administered standardized tests OR
- b) grades of A or B in all previous Social Studies courses.

WORLD CULTURES 0.5 Cr.

- Prereq: Open to all grade levels. None

Description: This course will study diverse cultural groups throughout the world, with an emphasis on the history as well as the physical, social, political, and economic structures of cultures. This course stresses the development of academic skills, along with knowledge of the cultures of various regions of the world.

CIVICS 0.5 Cr.

- Prereq: None

Description: The Civics course is designed to provide the students with the necessary tools to become an active member of our political society. To meet this goal the student will learn the foundations of our American Government, his/her role as a citizen of the United States, service learning, the makeup/functions/roles of our legislative, executive, and judicial branches, the role of state and local governments, government and the general welfare, and the U. S. role in the world today as compared to other world powers. We will discuss current topics that include both domestic and foreign policy issues. Current resources, both print and electronic, will be used. Students will also take part in a mock election to better learn about the democratic process.

The state and federal constitution test graduation requirement will be fulfilled when a student passes this course. *NCAA Clearinghouse Approved Course*

AMERICAN HISTORY 1.0 Cr.

- Prereq: Junior or senior standing.

Description: This course examines major themes in United States history through extensive use of critical thinking, analysis of primary source documents, and reading comprehension skills. The project-based learning activities will focus on the following themes: Freedom and Oppression, War and Peace, The Changing American Economy, American Dream v. Reality. In addition to these themes, students will be participating in the U.S. History Fair as part of National History Day. Student work will be assessed according to our graduation competencies, including reading, writing, collaborative discussion, research, project quality, and globally informed citizen. *NCAA Clearinghouse Approved Course*

- Prereq: Successful completion of English 2.

Description: American Experience is a competency-based course that encourages junior students to appreciate the richness and diversity of the United States by exploring its culture from an interdisciplinary perspective. Through an inquiry-based study of American narratives using artifacts (novels, films, poems, plays, primary source documents, short stories, and others), American Experience integrates the disciplines of English and US History, to give junior students a personalized learning experience that will allow them to become literate and tolerant citizens. American Experience is a team-taught, double-period course. Students further develop rhetorical skills through writing, reading, and speaking experiences. Throughout the year, students will read both fiction and nonfiction texts tailored to their interests and reading abilities in order to develop their reading comprehension. They will also develop their innovation and presentation skills through research projects. Summer Reading is required. ***NCAA Clearinghouse Approved Course***

ADVANCED PLACEMENT GOVERNMENT*

1.0 Cr.

- Prereq: Sophomore or better standing. Student must meet the criteria for Social Studies Honors courses.

Description: The AP Government & Politics: United States course provides an analytical perspective on government and politics in the United States. This course involves both the study of general concepts used to interpret U.S. politics and the analysis of specific case studies. It also requires familiarity with the various government institutions, groups, beliefs, and ideas that constitute U.S. political reality. While there is no single approach that an AP Government & Politics: United States course must follow, certain topics are generally covered in college courses. These topics include, but are not limited to: current and controversial issues, and service learning. Students will also take part in a mock election that simulates the democratic process. This course meets the Civics requirement mandated by the State. A \$94 test fee will be collected with other fees. ***NCAA Clearinghouse Approved Course***

ADVANCED PLACEMENT U.S. HISTORY*

1.0 Cr.

- Prereq: Student must meet the criteria for Social Studies Honors courses

Description: This course consists of a chronological survey of the political, economic, social, and foreign policy history of the United States. This course is designed to be equivalent to an introductory college level course for which a student receives honors credit. The readings, writing assignments, and exams are also selected to help students prepare for the Advanced Placement Examination in American History. Passing this course fulfills the American History graduation requirement. Students must purchase the required textbook for this course. A \$94 test fee will be collected with the other fees. ***NCAA Clearinghouse Approved Course***

ADVANCED PLACEMENT HUMAN GEOGRAPHY*

1.0 Cr.

- Prereq: Student must meet the criteria for Social Studies Honors courses

Description: The AP Human Geography course helps students develop critical thinking skills through the understanding, application and analysis of the fundamental concepts of geography. Through AP Human Geography, students are introduced to the systematic study of patterns and processes that have shaped human understanding, use, and alteration of the Earth's surface. Students will employ spatial concepts and landscape analysis to analyze human social organization and its environmental consequences. Students will meet the five college level goals as determined by the National Geographic Standards. They also learn the methods and tools geographers use in their science and practice. A \$92 test fee will be collected with the other fees.

ADVANCED PLACEMENT PSYCHOLOGY*

1.0 Cr.

- Prereq: Junior or Senior standing. Student must meet the criteria for Social Studies Honors Courses.

Description: The AP Psychology course is designed to introduce students to the systematic and scientific study of the behavior and mental processes of human beings and other animals. Students are exposed to the psychological facts, principles, and phenomena associated with each of the major subfields within psychology. They also learn about the ethics and methods psychologists use in their science and practice. A \$94 test fee will be collected with the other fees. ***NCAA Clearinghouse Approved Course***

SOCIAL STUDIES SURVEY

.5 Cr.

- Prereq: None

Description: Social Studies Survey is a skill-based experience within the social sciences: Psychology, Sociology, Economics, and Practical Law. Students will get exposure to choice elements of each larger subject in order to gauge future interest in related career pathways. This exploration includes but is not limited to clinical psychologist, social worker, lawyer, criminologist, forensic psychologist, police officer, small business owner, entrepreneur, bank officer, financial analyst, politician, activist. Studies will be encapsulated in the fundamental knowledge of the larger curricula. This problem/project-based curriculum focuses on the RHS Graduation Requirements of reading, writing, presentation and collaborative discussion and tailored by student interest.

PSYCHOLOGY

0.5 Cr.

- Prereq: None

Description: This course is a general survey of the field of psychology. Topics that are examined include: the biology of behavior (brain, etc.), perception, learning (classical and operant conditioning), language, thought, methods of research, and personality theory. The primary emphasis is on the exploration of individual human behavior and experience. ***NCAA Clearinghouse Approved Course***

INTRODUCTION TO ECONOMICS/HONORS

0.5 Cr.

- Prereq: None

Description: This course will give students an understanding of the fundamental concepts of economics, their historical development, and their application to the current American market economy and other global economies. **Students will have the opportunity to pursue Honors credit by completing alternative coursework throughout the course** ***NCAA Clearinghouse Approved Course***

PRACTICAL LAW

0.5 Cr.

- Prereq: None

Description: The course is designed to give students a basic overview of the American judicial system and to provide them with opportunities for practical applications of legal concepts. Topics covered will include the history of law and the American judicial system, adult and juvenile criminal law, tort law, current legal issues, and numerous actual cases involving individual rights and liberties. Additional topics might include family law, housing law and consumer law. Electronic resources will be used to complete legal research. Strong vocabulary and writing skills are very helpful in this class. ***NCAA Clearinghouse Approved Course***

- Prereq: None

Description: Sociology is the examination of the nature of society as well as people's behavior in groups. Primary groups, secondary groups, communities, and societies are the substance of sociology. Students will examine the influences of society and culture on their own lives. Additionally, elements of social tension, such as prejudice, discrimination and racial/ethnic relations resulting from the interaction of different groups, will be studied and discussed. Strong vocabulary and writing skills are very helpful in this class. ***NCAA Clearinghouse Approved Course***

Arts & Sciences Pathway Elective Options

Arts & Communication Electives

INTRODUCTION TO ART 1.0 Cr.

- Prereq: None

Description: For the student who has had little or no art instruction. Students begin with the fundamentals: drawing techniques, line, shape, mass, shading, and tone; moving into work in color and in other media. Students will work with still life, figure drawing, perspective, and design. Students will learn fundamentals of art vocabulary, art history, art appreciation and explore careers in the arts.

SCULPTURE 1.0 Cr.

- Prereq: None

Description: This course introduces the student to traditional and contemporary sculptural techniques and concepts, as well as materials. Art History and appreciation are used as background and comparison for projects use. It is a real “hands on course” in which all work is three-dimensional.

GRAPHIC ARTS 1.0 Cr.

- Prereq: None

Description: This course explores creative art-making through the use of computers. Students will work with Adobe Photoshop, Adobe Illustrator, and more. These are industry standard imaging and production tools for those interested in illustration, graphic design, multimedia, the web, print and 3-D imaging. Students develop a fundamental base of computer concepts and techniques upon which to build further skills in art and other fields. Students will work independently and collaboratively on both commercial and fine art projects.

ADVANCED GRAPHIC ARTS 1.0 Cr.

- Prereq: Completion of Graphic Arts (or comparable course) or recommendation from art teacher.

Description: This course is for the serious student interested in further developing their graphic design skills past the level of skills acquired in the basic Graphic Art course. The course is strongly recommended for students considering pursuing a career in graphic design. Students will work independently and collaboratively to explore advanced tools and techniques and to incorporate them into multifaceted projects. Students will create a final “college-ready” portfolio.

COMMUNICATIONS

0.5 Cr.

- Prereq: None

Description: What do employers want most in their new hires? Good communication skills! This introductory course explores the basic concepts of interpersonal, small group, digital, and public communication. Students will learn to look at all modes of media critically and to write and speak concisely and effectively. Projects may include group presentations, panel discussions, and public speaking.

Students will also develop the presentation competencies that are used and assessed throughout RHS and will prepare for their next steps into college or a career. This course begins with the belief that the communication should build, inspire, teach, or in some way motivate others.

THE WRITTEN WORD

0.5 Cr.

- Prereq: None

Description: The pen is mightier than the sword! Today, more than ever, what we write, how we express ourselves, and the words we choose matter. Have fun while learning the skills to use words in a variety of ways that will allow you to write that perfect tweet, express your feelings, free your imagination, come up with that perfect hook, and more! *NCAA Clearinghouse Approved Course*

SCIENCE FICTION

0.5 Cr.

- Prereq: None

Description: This course provides an introductory exploration of the science fiction literary genre. It identifies the characteristics of the genre and how those elements distinguish it from other genres. Students will analyze and interpret science fiction works and the way they comment on current issues of society and its future. Students will also examine the plausibility of scientific and technological advances portrayed in the literature and film through reading and discussion of non-fiction works of science fact. Written responses, viewing and discussing contrasting media, and oral presentations in connection with the readings will be a regular component of the course. The themes of the course's literature include futuristic technology, genetic engineering, artificial intelligence, space exploration, time travel, and extraterrestrials.

ENGLISH OPEN SEMINAR

0.5 Cr.

- Prereq: None

Description: This is a course designed to allow students to demonstrate competency and skill growth by studying topics of the student's choosing. Students may elect to focus on various genres, specific authors, career-driven focus areas, global issues, geographic areas, time periods, thematic topics, literary movements, student interests, or any combination of the above. Students will demonstrate the critical reading and research skills that will be crucial to their future success.

MIXED MEDIA

0.5 Cr.

- Prereq: None

From newspapers to news-feeds, the impact that all forms of media has had on our civilization is undeniable. Throughout the semester, students will travel through a brief history of how we have evolved into the digitally social creatures we have become, and examine its impact upon their own lives as well as the impact it could have on their professional lives.

INTRODUCTION TO MUSIC

1.0 Cr.

- Prereq: None

Description: A FUN and EXCITING way to earn your required Fine Arts credit! This course will allow students the choice of learning or continuing to get better at either guitar or piano (or both!), and writing their own EDM (electronic dance music) on Garage Band! Also included is some Rock and Roll history including everything from Elvis to The Beatles, Kurt Cobain, and Beyoncé, along with learning to read and write music/understand notes, chords, and more. 2 or more field trips are part of the class as well.

CONCERT BAND/HONORS*

1.0 Cr.

- Prereq: Previous playing experience on a concert band instrument (not including guitar).

Description: This course is for students who have the equivalent of 4 years of experience playing a band instrument and are interested in being in band, and for students who do not pass an audition for symphonic band requirements. Students in concert band must commit to yearly performances and obligations. Students must agree to purchase the required uniform. A fee will be charged for the cost of materials. **Students will have the opportunity to pursue Honors credit by completing alternative coursework throughout the course and additional work outside of class. Examples can include auditioning for the I.M.E.A. or studying privately.**

SYMPHONIC BAND/HONORS*

1.0 Cr.

- Prereq: Students must audition for this ensemble and obtain approval from the band director before being allowed to enroll.

Description: This course is for band students who have been placed by audition into this group. This group performs very challenging music that requires extra practices outside of the school day for all students who are enrolled. Students must agree to purchase the required uniform. Students must commit to all yearly performances, obligations, and rehearsals outside of the school day. A fee will be charged for the cost of materials. **Students will have the opportunity to pursue Honors credit by completing alternative coursework throughout the course and additional work outside of class. Examples can include auditioning for the I.M.E.A. or studying privately.**

- Prereq: Previous experience in a concert band percussion section, or consent of instructor.

Description: This class is for all percussionists with the equivalent of 4 or more years of experience who want to be part of the concert or symphonic band programs. Students will learn playing techniques on all the concert percussion instruments, study percussion ensemble literature, participate in the marching band drum line, and perform in all of the yearly concerts with the symphonic/concert bands. Students must agree to purchase the required uniform, and to attend all yearly band concerts, performances, and obligations. A fee will be charged for the cost of materials. **Students will have the opportunity to pursue Honors credit by completing alternative coursework throughout the course and additional work outside of class. Examples can include auditioning for the I.M.E.A. or studying privately.**

CONCERT CHOIR

1.0 Cr.

- Prereq: None

Description: A course for students who desire a choral experience. Through the performance of a variety of styles of music at school concerts, special programs and concert tours, students will develop and expand their ability to read music and sing in an ensemble. Students in Concert Choir must commit to evening performances and agree to purchase the required uniform.

THEATER ARTS 1: ACTING

0.5 Cr.

- Prereq: None

Description: Learn to perform in front of others! In this on-your-feet class, learn the skills to be confident when delivering a presentation, keeping cool during an interview, and acquiring the techniques for effective memorization and delivery. Improvisation, characterization, vocal techniques, and stage vs film acting are all included in the course.

THEATER ARTS 2: TECHNICAL THEATRE

0.5 Cr.

- Prereq: None

Description: Learn how to design, build, and bring your imagination to life through this interactive hands-on course. Learn the differences between mixing paint colors from light colors. Learn how to bring a sound design to life for a performance. Learn how to program lights for theatre, dance shows, and live music events. Learn to draft a stage design and how to build it. With the skills learned in this class, you can be hired to work for the Ridgewood Auditorium Staff, and learn the skills that you can take to the next level!

THEATER ARTS 3: MUSICAL THEATRE

0.5 Cr.

- Prereq: Theater Arts 1 or Instructor Recommendation

Description: Learn the methods to becoming a triple threat! An actor that can act, sing, and dance! Learn how to develop the skills to improving your singing voice, breath control and endurance while dancing, and improving your character development, including ensemble and chorus work. The final for this class is a live musical performance!

- Prereq: Theater Arts 2 or Instructor Recommendation

Description: In this advanced practical course, learn to bring your creations to life for live theatre productions and/or film and editing. Take fieldtrips to local Chicago theaters to meet and talk to designers and stage hands. Learn the skills that can lead to working in theatre/film behind the scenes.

ACCESO LATINO

1.0 Cr.

- Prereq: Sophomore, Junior or Senior standing with placement test and/or teacher recommendation

Description: This course, taught solely in Spanish, is intended for sophomore, junior or senior bilingual students seeking opportunities after high school. This course will focus on the Latinx experience, career pathways to bilingual jobs, resume building, preparing for interviews, college research, college applications, mentorship and volunteerism. Honors credit is available to students who complete a leadership plan and project.

SPANISH -Level 1 (Novice Low-Novice High)

1.0 Cr.

- Prereq: None

Description: The course is designed to give students the opportunity to develop beginning level of understanding and speaking in Spanish. The course's topics include content will include personal identity, family, the classroom, pastimes, daily routine, shopping and vacations. Grammatical structures are included and cultural topics are explored. The objective of this course is for the student to be able to communicate information and ideas through the development of good listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills. *NCAA Clearinghouse Approved Course*

SPANISH Level 2 (Novice High-Intermediate Low)

1.0 Cr.

- Prereq: Level 1 (Novice Low-Novice High) or Familias y Culturas

Description: This course is a continuation of Spanish 1. The students in this course will continue to develop their four communication skills while broadening their cultural knowledge of the target countries. Topics include celebrations, food, health and well-being, housing, city life and music. *NCAA Clearinghouse Approved Course*

SPANISH Level 3 (Intermediate Low -Intermediate Mid)

1.0 Cr.

- Prereq: Level 2 (Novice High-Intermediate Low) or Familias y Culturas

Description: This course is a continuation of Spanish 2. A greater emphasis is placed on reading in Spanish through the use of articles and short stories. Higher-order listening and speaking skills are emphasized, along with cultural awareness. Topics include visual art, nature and sciences, technology, the world of work and current events. More advanced grammatical structures will be used throughout this course. *NCAA Clearinghouse Approved Course*

- Prereq: A grade of C or better in Level 3 (Intermediate Low-Intermediate Mid), Familias y Culturas or teacher recommendation. .

Description: This course focuses on reading and writing in Spanish while building vocabulary. Students will begin to synthesize the information learned in Spanish 1 – 3 more meaningfully. Focus will be on incorporating interpretive, presentational and interpersonal skills. Students read a variety of Spanish texts in the course, while focusing on the history and culture of Spanish-speaking countries. *If enrollment is low, students may have the option to take Spanish 4 as Senior Instructional Leadership Corps (SILC) and will focus on leadership in a Spanish 1 or 2 classroom while studying the material more in depth and investigating topics of interest independently. ***NCAA Clearinghouse Approved Course***

ADVANCED PLACEMENT SPANISH LANGUAGE - Level 5 (Intermediate Mid-Advanced Low)

1.0 Cr.

Prereq: Spanish 1, 2, 3, a minimum of C in Spanish 3 or Familias y Culturas, and /or instructor permission

Description: AP Spanish Language and Culture allows students to pursue college-level Spanish studies while still in high school. Upon completion of the course, students take the AP exam, which could offer the possibility of earning college credit. The course prepares students to become proficient across three communication modes: interpersonal, interpretive and presentational. The course is meant to be comparable to third year college and university courses that focus on speaking and writing in Spanish at an advanced language and is taught exclusively in Spanish. This course is offered as a Dual Credit course in conjunction with Triton College and students will receive two courses of credit at Triton upon successful completion. A \$94 test fee will be collected with the other fees. ***NCAA Clearinghouse Approved Course***

ITALIAN - Level 1 (Novice Low - Novice High)

1.0 Cr.

- Prereq: None

Description: In this course students will begin learning to speak, understand, read, and write Italian. Students will learn basic vocabulary and grammar while developing knowledge of Italian culture, including cities, the family, education, and food. Basic language learning materials will be supplemented by films, television, music, the Web, and field trips. Students will also pursue independent research projects and will participate in project based learning activities. ***NCAA Clearinghouse Approved Course***

ITALIAN 2- Level 2 (Novice High – Intermediate Low)

1.0 Cr.

- Prereq: Italian 1.

Description: In this course, students will continue to learn to speak, understand, read, and write in Italian. Students will learn more specialized vocabulary and grammar while developing knowledge of Italian culture including cities, the family, education, Roman history and food. Basic language materials will be supplemented by films, YouTube videos, Italian articles, and the Italian web. Students will also pursue independent research projects on the city and Italian products, just to name a couple. Small skits on real life situations from Italian contemporary life will complete the course. We will go on two field trips one in the fall and one in the spring. ***NCAA Clearinghouse Approved Course***

- Prereq: Italian 2.

Description: This course continues the foundation developed in Italian 1 and 2. This course is strongly recommended for students who have completed two terms of Italian. After beginning with a review of grammar and vocabulary, students will develop advanced proficiency in oral and written communication, and a more specialized knowledge of Italian culture through units on buying and renting a home, professional life, sports, opera, and Italian monuments. We will also engage in beginning units on Italian medieval and contemporary literature. We will go on two field trips: a backstage tour of the Lyric Opera House in the Fall and an opera matinee in the Spring. *NCAA Clearinghouse Approved Course*

ITALIAN 4 Level 4 (Intermediate Mid -Intermediate High)

1.0 Cr.

- Prereq: Italian 1, 2, 3 and/or instructor permission.

Description: This course will develop students' fluency and literacy, promote an appreciation and understanding of great works of art and literature, improve communicative and interpretive skills, and prepare college-bound students for the further study of Italian language and literature. This class is designed to meet students' academic, professional, and personal objectives in business, travel, culture, literature and history. Focus will be on incorporating interpretive, presentational, and interpretive skills. The course will require both independent and group projects; students choose their own final projects. *NCAA Clearinghouse Approved Course*

ADVANCED PLACEMENT ITALIAN LANGUAGE and CULTURE* (Intermediate High – Advanced Low)

1.0 Cr.

- Prereq: Italian 1, 2, 3, a minimum of C in Italian 3, and/or instructor permission.

Description: AP Italian Language and Culture will allow students the opportunity to pursue college-level Italian studies while still in high school. Upon successful completion of the course, students will take the AP exam, which could offer them the possibility of earning college credit. This course will focus on the three modes of communication, Interpersonal, Interpretive, and Presentational. The AP Italian Language and Culture course develops students' abilities in the skill areas targeted by the AP exam: comprehension and comprehensibility, vocabulary usage, language control, communication strategies, and cultural awareness. A \$94 test fee will be collected with the other fees. *NCAA Clearinghouse Approved Course*

Public & Human Services Electives

SHELTERED ENGLISH SOCIAL STUDIES

1.0 Cr.

- Prereq: Currently enrolled in EL 2 or EL 1 with teacher recommendation.

Description: This course is intended to provide an introduction to social studies and our community and nation for ESL students new to our country. The course will include elements of U.S. geography World History, and World Cultures. Modified English materials will be used for readings, explanations of various concepts, and exams. Vocabulary development will be stressed. *NCAA Clearinghouse Approved Course*

SHELTERED ENGLISH AMERICAN GOVERNMENT

1.0 Cr.

- Prereq: Junior or Senior standing, EL teacher recommendation; an English proficiency of at least ESL 2.

Description: This course is designed for the EL student who has limited English proficiency. It is designed to give the student a working understanding of our government system on the state and federal levels. There is emphasis on participation in our government through various means. Passing this course fulfills the American Government graduation requirement. *NCAA Clearinghouse Approved Course*

SOCIAL STUDIES SURVEY

.5 Cr.

- Prereq: None

Description: Social Studies Survey is a skill-based experience within the social sciences: Psychology, Sociology, Economics, and Practical Law. Students will get exposure to choice elements of each larger subject in order to gauge future interest in related career pathways. This exploration includes but is not limited to clinical psychologist, social worker, lawyer, criminologist, forensic psychologist, police officer, small business owner, entrepreneur, bank officer, financial analyst, politician, activist. Studies will be encapsulated in the fundamental knowledge of the larger curricula. This problem/project-based curriculum focuses on the RHS Graduation Requirements of reading, writing, presentation and collaborative discussion and tailored by student interest.

PRACTICAL LAW

0.5 Cr.

- Prereq: None

Description: The course is designed to give students a basic overview of the American judicial system and to provide them with opportunities for practical applications of legal concepts. Topics covered will include the history of law and the American judicial system, adult and juvenile criminal law, tort law, current legal issues, and numerous actual cases involving individual rights and liberties. Additional topics might include family law, housing law and consumer law. Electronic resources will be used to complete legal research. Strong vocabulary and writing skills are very helpful in this class. *NCAA Clearinghouse Approved Course*

SOCIOLOGY

0.5 Cr.

- Prereq: None

Description: Sociology is the examination of the nature of society as well as people's behavior in groups. Primary groups, secondary groups, communities, and societies are the substance of sociology. Students will examine the influences of society and culture on their own lives. Additionally, elements of social tension, such as prejudice, discrimination and racial/ethnic relations resulting from the interaction of different groups, will be studied and discussed. Strong vocabulary and writing skills are very helpful in this class. ***NCAA Clearinghouse Approved Course***

INTRODUCTION TO ECONOMICS/HONORS

0.5 Cr.

- Prereq: None

Description: This course will give students an understanding of the fundamental concepts of economics, their historical development, and their application to the current American market economy and other global economies. **Students will have the opportunity to pursue Honors credit by completing alternative coursework throughout the course** ***NCAA Clearinghouse Approved Course***

PSYCHOLOGY

0.5 Cr.

- Prereq: None

Description: This course is a general survey of the field of psychology. Topics that are examined include: the biology of behavior (brain, etc.), perception, learning (classical and operant conditioning), language, thought, methods of research, and personality theory. The primary emphasis is on the exploration of individual human behavior and experience. ***NCAA Clearinghouse Approved Course***

ADVANCED PLACEMENT GOVERNMENT*

1.0 Cr.

- Prereq: Sophomore or better standing. Student must meet the criteria for Social Studies Honors courses.

Description: The AP Government & Politics: United States course provides an analytical perspective on government and politics in the United States. This course involves both the study of general concepts used to interpret U.S. politics and the analysis of specific case studies. It also requires familiarity with the various government institutions, groups, beliefs, and ideas that constitute U.S. political reality. While there is no single approach that an AP Government & Politics: United States course must follow, certain topics are generally covered in college courses. These topics include, but are not limited to: current and controversial issues, and service learning. Students will also take part in a mock election that simulates the democratic process. This course meets the Civics requirement mandated by the State. A \$94 test fee will be collected with other fees. ***NCAA Clearinghouse Approved Course***

- Prereq: Students must have a minimum Explore reading score of 15.

Description: The AP Human Geography course helps students develop critical thinking skills through the understanding, application and analysis of the fundamental concepts of geography. Through AP Human Geography, students are introduced to the systematic study of patterns and processes that have shaped human understanding, use, and alteration of the Earth's surface. Students will employ spatial concepts and landscape analysis to analyze human social organization and its environmental consequences. Students will meet the five college level goals as determined by the National Geographic Standards. They also learn the methods and tools geographers use in their science and practice. A \$92 test fee will be collected with the other fees.

Business & Technology Pathway Elective Options

ACCESO LATINO

1.0 Cr

Prereq: Sophomore, Junior or Senior standing with placement test and/or teacher recommendation

Description: his course, taught solely in Spanish, is intended for sophomore, junior or senior bilingual students seeking opportunities after high school. This course will focus on the Latinx experience, career pathways to bilingual jobs, resume building, preparing for interviews, college research, college applications, mentorship and volunteerism. Honors credit is available to students who complete a leadership plan and project.

SPANISH - Level 1 (Novice Low-Novice High)

1.0 Cr.

- Prereq: None

Description: The course is designed to give students the opportunity to develop beginning level of understanding and speaking in Spanish. The course's topics include content will include personal identity, family, the classroom, pastimes, daily routine, shopping and vacations. Grammatical structures are included and cultural topics are explored. The objective of this course is for the student to be able to communicate information and ideas through the development of good listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills. *NCAA Clearinghouse Approved Course*

SPANISH Level 2 (Novice High-Intermediate Low)

1.0 Cr.

- Prereq: Level 1 (Novice Low-Novice High) or Familias y Culturas

Description: This course is a continuation of Spanish 1. The students in this course will continue to develop their four communication skills while broadening their cultural knowledge of the target countries. Topics include celebrations, food, health and well-being, housing, city life and music. *NCAA Clearinghouse Approved Course*

SPANISH Level 3 (Intermediate Low -Intermediate Mid)

1.0 Cr.

- Prereq: Level 2 (Novice High-Intermediate Low) or Familias y Culturas

Description: This course is a continuation of Spanish 2. A greater emphasis is placed on reading in Spanish through the use of articles and short stories. Higher-order listening and speaking skills are emphasized, along with cultural awareness. Topics include visual art, nature and sciences, technology, the world of work and current events. More advanced grammatical structures will be used throughout this course. *NCAA Clearinghouse Approved Course*

- Prereq: A grade of C or better in Level 3 (Intermediate Low-Intermediate Mid), Familias y Culturas or teacher recommendation. .

Description: This course focuses on reading and writing in Spanish while building vocabulary. Students will begin to synthesize the information learned in Spanish 1 – 3 more meaningfully. Focus will be on incorporating interpretive, presentational and interpersonal skills. Students read a variety of Spanish texts in the course, while focusing on the history and culture of Spanish-speaking countries. *If enrollment is low, students may have the option to take Spanish 4 as Senior Instructional Leadership Corps (SILC) and will focus on leadership in a Spanish 1 or 2 classroom while studying the material more in depth and investigating topics of interest independently. ***NCAA Clearinghouse Approved Course***

ADVANCED PLACEMENT SPANISH LANGUAGE - Level 5 (Intermediate Mid-Advanced Low)

1.0 Cr.

Prereq: Spanish 1, 2, 3, a minimum of C in Spanish 3 or Familias y Culturas, and /or instructor permission

Description: AP Spanish Language and Culture allows students to pursue college-level Spanish studies while still in high school. Upon completion of the course, students take the AP exam, which could offer the possibility of earning college credit. The course prepares students to become proficient across three communication modes: interpersonal, interpretive and presentational. The course is meant to be comparable to third year college and university courses that focus on speaking and writing in Spanish at an advanced language and is taught exclusively in Spanish. This course is offered as a Dual Credit course in conjunction with Triton College and students will receive two courses of credit at Triton upon successful completion. A \$94 test fee will be collected with the other fees. ***NCAA Clearinghouse Approved Course***

ITALIAN - Level 1 (Novice Low - Novice High)

1.0 Cr.

- Prereq: None

Description: In this course students will begin learning to speak, understand, read, and write Italian. Students will learn basic vocabulary and grammar while developing knowledge of Italian culture, including cities, the family, education, and food. Basic language learning materials will be supplemented by films, television, music, the Web, and field trips. Students will also pursue independent research projects and will participate in project based learning activities. ***NCAA Clearinghouse Approved Course***

ITALIAN 2- Level 2 (Novice High – Intermediate Low)

1.0 Cr.

- Prereq: Italian 1.

Description: In this course, students will continue to learn to speak, understand, read, and write in Italian. Students will learn more specialized vocabulary and grammar while developing knowledge of Italian culture including cities, the family, education, Roman history and food. Basic language materials will be supplemented by films, YouTube videos, Italian articles, and the Italian web. Students will also pursue independent research projects on the city and Italian products, just to name a couple. Small skits on real life situations from Italian contemporary life will complete the course. We will go on two field trips one in the fall and one in the spring. ***NCAA Clearinghouse Approved Course***

- Prereq: Italian 2

Description: This course continues the foundation developed in Italian 1 and 2. This course is strongly recommended for students who have completed two terms of Italian. After beginning with a review of grammar and vocabulary, students will develop advanced proficiency in oral and written communication, and a more specialized knowledge of Italian culture through units on buying and renting a home, professional life, sports, opera, and Italian monuments. We will also engage in beginning units on Italian medieval and contemporary literature. We will go on two field trips: a backstage tour of the Lyric Opera House in the Fall and an opera matinee in the Spring. ***NCAA Clearinghouse Approved Course***

ITALIAN 4 Level 4 (Intermediate Mid -Intermediate High)

1.0 Cr.

- Prereq: Italian 1, 2, 3 and/or instructor permission.

Description: This course will develop students' fluency and literacy, promote an appreciation and understanding of great works of art and literature, improve communicative and interpretive skills, and prepare college-bound students for the further study of Italian language and literature. This class is designed to meet students' academic, professional, and personal objectives in business, travel, culture, literature and history. Focus will be on incorporating interpretive, presentational, and interpretive skills. The course will require both independent and group projects; students choose their own final projects. ***NCAA Clearinghouse Approved Course***

ADVANCED PLACEMENT ITALIAN LANGUAGE and CULTURE* (Intermediate High - Advanced Low)___ 1.0 Cr.

- Prereq: Italian 1, 2, 3, a minimum of C in Italian 3, and/or instructor permission.

Description: AP Italian Language and Culture will allow students the opportunity to pursue college-level Italian studies while still in high school. Upon successful completion of the course, students will take the AP exam, which could offer them the possibility of earning college credit. This course will focus on the three modes of communication, Interpersonal, Interpretive, and Presentational. The AP Italian Language and Culture course develops students' abilities in the skill areas targeted by the AP exam: comprehension and comprehensibility, vocabulary usage, language control, communication strategies, and cultural awareness. A \$94 test fee will be collected with the other fees. ***NCAA Clearinghouse Approved Course***

Finance & Business Electives

INTRODUCTION TO BUSINESS

1.0 Cr.

- Prereq: None

Description: In this course, students will come to understand different forms of business organizations such as sole proprietorships, partnerships and corporations, in addition to entrepreneurship, small businesses and franchising. They will learn many aspects of business ownership, personnel and resource management, ethics, marketing strategies, and basic accounting practices. Students will put their knowledge into practice by running an actual small business within the RHS community.

INCUBATOR

1.0 Cr.

- Prereq: Sophomore, Junior, or Senior Standing. Students **must** interview with the instructor prior to enrollment in the course.

Description: This dynamic program helps fulfill students' business aspirations. It teaches entrepreneurship through hands-on learning in which students and volunteers engage in an authentic learning experience that provides students the opportunity to create and fully develop their own product or service. Entrepreneurs and business experts currently working in their field serve as volunteer coaches and mentors to guide student teams through the processes of developing hypotheses about a business concept and testing, adapting, and continually learning and improving with the goal of pitching their idea at the end of the year to secure actual funding from local sponsors and investors. This cycle of experimentation is combined with foundational business content such as economics, marketing, and finance. The course is well suited for students who will study entrepreneurship and business in college as well as those students who intend to enter the workforce after graduation. **This course qualifies students to sit for the Consumer Education proficiency exam.**

MARKETING

0.5/1.0 Cr.

- Prereq: None

Description: Students interested in the area of marketing are encouraged to take this introductory course. This course will focus on team projects in the areas of marketing, promotion, and management functions through the fashion and/or sports marketing/entertainment lens. This hands-on, project-based course encourages students to explore numerous career opportunities through on-site industry events, as well. Students will utilize simulation software to apply the concepts they learn.

COLLEGE, CAREER AND LIFE PLANNING

0.5 Cr.

- Prereq: Junior or Senior Standing or instructor approval

Description: This course prepares students for life after high school. Students interested in career/college exploration, skills required to be successful in the workforce, and academic success after completion of high school should take this course. This course will focus on career development, building a resume, job attainment, work place skills, and the college application process. In addition students will develop the life skills to handle situations encountered when living away from home. Topics include quick and easy meal preparation, simple clothing care, nutrition and wellness, everyday home repairs and simple car repairs. All of these topics will contain a component related to budgeting. This course does not fulfill the State Consumer Education graduation requirement.

Information Technology Electives

INTRODUCTION TO COMPUTER PROGRAMMING

.5 Cr.

- Prereq: None

Description: This class is designed for first-time programmers and as an introduction to the Java programming language. Students are introduced to the programming language Java through an innovative and exciting 3D animation environment called Alice. Students will create 3-D animations, games, and manipulate images, audio files, and other media forms through programming. Get a head start on college requirements. Many majors now require at least one course in Computer Science, and for good reason: Computer Science has now impacted every other field in the workforce.

Competencies addressed in this course are Life and Career – Professionalism; Innovation – Project Quality; Learning – Problem Solving and Design Process.

* Successful completion of this course earns Triton Dual Credit in Computer Science 101.

PROJECT LEAD THE WAY: CYBERSECURITY

1.0 Cr.

- Prereq: None

Description: The Introduction to Cybersecurity is a competency based and project based learning cybersecurity course. This course is designed for students with some exposure to computer science, but there are no specific course prerequisites. Students will learn foundational cybersecurity topics including digital citizenship and cyber hygiene, the basics of cryptography, software security, networking fundamentals, and basic system administration. Students will complete projects at the end of each module, and a culminating course project where they will complete a simulated hack walkthrough. While this is not a coding intensive course, students will learn basic SQL, and will utilize basic HTML and JavaScript within specific contexts and will be provided supports within those contexts.

TECHNOLOGY APPRENTICE PROGRAM 1 (TAP 1)

1.0 Cr.

- Prereq: None

Description: The Technology Apprentice Program is a full year course that supports Ridgewood's 1:1 technology initiative. Students in the Technology Apprentice Program receive experience working in a real-life tech support environment. When students are not supporting students' technology needs, student work on a variety of independent pathways. These pathways allow students to explore and develop skills in a variety of technology subjects including computer programming, networking, app development, and web design. The students also are given the opportunity to become certified in multiple industry recognized certifications.

WEB DEVELOPMENT

1.0 Cr.

- Prereq: None

Description: This course introduces students to the concepts and skills of presentation design using Dreamweaver. Students will learn to create and manage a complete website. Topics covered will be: page development, site development, using graphic, optimizing graphic for the internet, storyboard development, basic animation, Flash game creation and Flash quiz creation.

· Prereq: none

Description: In this course, students will acquire knowledge of and experience in the proper and efficient use of Microsoft Word, PowerPoint and Excel, plus Microsoft Photosynth, Web 2.0, Podcasting, Google docs and emerging technologies. Through project based learning, students will learn to integrate the aforementioned tools and will increase their computer efficiency and their word processing skills which are essential in today's digital society. Students can choose to pursue Microsoft Certificates in any of the above mentioned Microsoft programs. This course will prepare students to successfully complete projects in all areas of study throughout their high school career. In addition, this course will meet the state's requirement of Internet Safety Education.

Manufacturing, Engineering, Technology & Trades Electives

INTRODUCTION TO CONSTRUCTION TRADES

1.0 Cr.

- Prereq: None

Description: This hands-on course introduces students to several construction trades and home repair techniques. It is designed for both college and non-college bound students. Real-life applications of math, science, and reading are reinforced through career experiences. Some of the areas of focus in this course include: frame carpentry, finish carpentry, plumbing, electrical wiring, dry walling, floor/wall/tile coverings, painting, cement foundations, and roofing. (May be accepted as Triton Credit).

PRODUCTION TECHNOLOGY: WOODWORKING

1.0 Cr.

- Prereq: None.

Description: This course will cover the areas of basic woodworking, cabinetmaking, blueprint reading, and finishing. The students will be instructed on the safe operation of hand tools, power tools, and machinery. Wood as a material will also be studied. Students will take home at least **three** projects. A \$50 fee will be charged for the cost of lumber and other consumables.

COMPUTER AIDED DESIGN+ (CAD 1)

1.0 Cr.

- Prereq: None.

Description: This is an introductory project based course that uses real world examples to teach the fundamentals of 2-dimensional and 3-dimensional drawing. Any student thinking about a career in architecture, engineering, interior design or any other drafting field will have the opportunity to explore the fundamentals of creating and designing on a computer. In addition, through the design process, students will create 3D assembly drawings and build working robots. All content is taught on industry standard software such as; AutoCAD, Autodesk Inventor, and Revit Architecture. After completion of this course, students can partake in an Autodesk Academic Certification program. This one time test enables students to earn a nationally recognized certificate which proves knowledge of specific Autodesk software applications. (May be accepted as Triton credit, see counselor).

GEOMETRY IN CONSTRUCTION

2.0 Cr.

- Prereq: Teacher placement into course is required

Description: It is an interdisciplinary course that integrates Geometry and Construction topics through the building of a significant construction project. The purpose of the course is to provide students with a better understanding of both the Geometry and the Construction content through the combination of the academic and work-world contexts. The Geometry content matches that of the other Geometry courses taught in the Math Department, and prepares students for the subsequent Algebra 2 course. Students will be exposed to and gain hands-on experience in the following areas of construction: safety, framing, plumbing, electrical, roofing, windows, doors, and siding. Additional emphasis is given to teamwork, problem-solving, and the promotion of STEM education. This is a double-period course in which students earn credit for both Geometry and for Construction.

A \$50 fee will be charged for the cost of materials.

- Prereq: Computer Aided Design 1

Description: This advanced course introduces students to architectural design and drawing methods. Students use freehand sketching, drawing instruments, AutoCAD Architecture software, and Revit software to create original house designs. Architectural proposals are produced and are rendered using marker, colored pencil and technical pen. Architectural model making is taught and each student builds a model of his/her design. Field trips are used to introduce students to building construction, architectural style and history.

- Prereq: PROJECT LEAD THE WAY: PHYSICS/ENGINEERING

Description: In this course, engineering scope, content and professional practices are presented through practical applications. Students in engineering teams apply technology, science, and mathematics concepts and skills to solve engineering design problems and innovative designs. Students research, develop, test and analyze engineering designs using criteria such as design effectiveness, public safety, human factors, and ethics. This course is an essential experience for students who are interested in technology, innovation, design, and engineering.

Special Education Services

The Special Education Department at Ridgewood High School provides a full continuum of services to students found eligible to receive special education services. The Ridgewood Special Education Department is committed to providing a supportive environment in which our students with special needs can develop academic, social, emotional, vocational, and life skills. We individualize instruction for all our students by offering modified curricula in a variety of classroom settings. In addition to academic support, we provide our students with a wide variety of therapeutic services including occupational therapy, physical therapy, speech therapy, music and art therapy, and specialized physical education instruction. Finally, we offer individualized transition support to help our students plan for life post high school. Our philosophy is to make every student a confident, productive member of society.

Ridgewood Community High School District 234 is a member of Leyden Area Special Education Cooperative (LASEC). Ridgewood High School and its associated districts in LASEC provide programs for students ages 3 through the day before their 22nd birthday.

Students under the following classifications are eligible to receive special education services:

- Specific Learning Disability
- Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder
- Conduct Disorder
- Hearing Impaired
- Social/Emotional Disability
- Other Health Impaired
- Autistic Spectrum Disorder
- Physical Disability
- Vision Impairment (including blindness)
- Deaf-Blindness
- Intellectual Disability
- Acquired Brain Injury
- Speech or Language Impairment

Special Education settings offered at Ridgewood High School are listed below. Placement is determined at a multi-disciplinary conference where an individual education program (IEP) is developed and appropriate placement is determined.

Consultation Setting: The students with disabilities receive instruction within the general education classroom. Special education services are provided indirectly. A special educator provides consultation on the needs of the students with special needs in the classroom. The goal is to assist the general education teacher in gaining access to appropriate materials and developing the skills and confidence required to meet the students' educational needs.

Co-taught Setting: A general educator and special educator co-teach a class composed of students with and without special needs. The teachers share responsibilities for all the students in the class with the special educator providing specialized interventions for students with special needs, as required. Cooperative planning and instruction are emphasized.

Self-Contained (PEERS): The PEERS program is designed for special education students whose unique needs require a more restrictive environment. These self-contained classrooms are aligned with regular education curriculum. PEERS classes are designed to accommodate the individual students' needs, skills, learning rate, and learning style in a smaller group setting. ***All PEERS courses are NCAA Approved***

PEERS courses include:

- PEERS English 1
- PEERS English 2
- PEERS English 3
- PEERS English 4
- PEERS Integrated Math 1
- PEERS Integrated Math 2
- PEERS Integrated Math 3
- PEERS Integrated Math 4
- PEERS Integrated Science 1
- PEERS Integrated Science 2
- PEERS Integrated Science 3
- PEERS U.S. History
- PEERS American Government

LIFE Setting: The LIFE program is part of the LASEC cooperative family of programs that provide serves for students with multiple disabilities. Students in our LIFE program are typically our most impacted learners (i.e. non-verbal, medically fragile, wheel chair users), who require a highly structured and supportive learning environment.

Transition Setting: The transition program is a part of the LASEC corporative family of programs that provide transition support to our students ***after*** they have completed four years of high school. Students receive their RHS diplomas after they exit the transition program. The transition program provides students with experiences to help them be lead successful, productive lives (i.e. job internships, job shadowing experiences, functional skill building experiences and college readiness experiences).

When appropriate, courses may be combined. You have the right to receive a copy of § 226.50 of ISBE regulations upon request.

Special Education Electives

STRATEGIC STUDY SKILLS

1.0 Cr.

- Prereq: Recommendation from Case Manager, approval by IEP Team

Description: Strategic Study Skills is a two-semester course offered to Special Education students. Students will receive advocacy, general academic and organizational assistance to support their success within the general curriculum. The course specifically emphasizes various study skill strategies, note-taking, and vocabulary development. The course will also provide additional test-taking strategies preparing for the PSAE/ACT test.

STRATEGIC STUDY SKILLS 2

1.0 Cr.

- Prereq: Recommendation from Case Manager, approval of IEP Team, completion of Strategic Study Skills Part 1, approval of the Special Education Division Head

Description: Strategic Study Skills 2 is a two-semester course offered to Special Education students. Students will receive advocacy, general academic and organizational assistance to support their success within the general curriculum. The course specifically emphasizes various study skill strategies, executive functioning strategies, note-taking, and vocabulary development. The course will also provide additional time for progress monitoring and other special education related activities.

RISE (RECOGNIZING AND IDENTIFYING SPECIFIC EMOTIONS)

1.0 Cr.

- Prereq: Recommendation from Case Manager, approval of IEP Team

Description: Students will develop an understanding of measurement, currency, banking, insurance, taxes, and how to spend money wisely. Students will practice measuring, money transactions, create budgets, reinforce calculating skills, and identify wise consumer choices.

SHINE (SHARING HELPFUL INFORMATION NEEDED FOR EXCELLENCE)

1.0 Cr.

- Prereq: Recommendation from Case Manager, approval of IEP Team

Description: Shine is our introductory occupational prep course. It teaches students the skills they need to succeed in high school along with preparing them for future employment. The course focuses on four main areas. These include personal information where students learn to fill out forms and applications; self-awareness where they learn to describe their strengths, interests, disability, etc.; transition to adulthood where they explore post-secondary education and training options along with jobs; and self-advocacy where the students learn about IEPs and setting goals. Students will practice the skills they learn in the class out in the community during community-based instructional trips since students with low incidence disabilities have great difficulty in generalizing skills to new settings and will need to use the skills in the community upon graduation from Ridgewood.