

**2020-2021**  
**Graduation Requirements and Four-Year Plan**  
**Yellow Springs High School**

**To earn a Diploma from Yellow Springs High School, a student must:**

1. Earn 21 credits as defined below
2. Meet the new testing requirements explained below (beginning with the class of 2018)
3. Complete 45 hours of community service
4. Complete a senior capstone (project, internship, focused community service)

**Credits required to graduate:**

*21 credits, including:*

- English: 4 credits
- Math: 4 credits including Algebra II (or equivalent Intermediate Algebra)
- Science: 3 credits, including 1 Life/Biological Science, 1 Physical Science and 1 advanced science in chemistry, physics, biology or other science
- Social Studies: 3 credits, including ½ credit of World History, 1 US History, ½ Government
- Health: ½ credit
- Physical Education: ½ credit or exemption (see below)
- Elective Credits: 6 additional credits from one or any combination of foreign language, fine arts, business, career-technical education, or English language arts, mathematics, science, or social studies courses not otherwise required
- Fine Arts: 2 semesters taken any time between grades 7 and 12

**2020-2021 School Fees**

- AP Biology, Calculus, Chemistry, Physics \$15
- AP Exams \$95 each
- Human Anatomy \$25
- Ecology \$25
- Art \$35
- Digital Arts \$35
- Sculpture/Ceramics \$35
- 3-D Art: Wood and Metals \$35
- Musical Instrument Rental \$40

## **State Testing Requirements**

*\*\*Ohio's State Testing Requirements are being updated by the Ohio Department of Education. At printing, the updates have not all been communicated. We are awaiting the details and will be responsive to student graduation plans regarding end-of-course exams.*

### **Assessments**

In addition to course credits, students will earn points toward graduation on Ohio Department of Education's end-of-course exams. The courses in which students take an end-of-course exam will be: English 10, Algebra I, Geometry, Biology, American History and American Government. Students can earn from 1-5 points for each exam, based on their performance.

- 5 – Advanced
- 4 – Accelerated
- 3 – Proficient
- 2 – Basic
- 1 – Limited

Students who take Physical Science, American History or American Government as part of Advanced Placement, International Baccalaureate, college dual credit or Credit Flexibility programs can use their scores from the programs' end-of-course exams in place of the state end-of-course exam scores to accumulate graduation points.

### **Class of 2021-2022:**

Students will be given three pathways to graduation to work toward. First, they can earn at least 18 points on seven end-of-course state tests. Students must have a minimum of four points in math, four points in English and six points across science and social studies. Second, students can earn a minimum of 12 points by receiving a State Board of Education-approved, industry-recognized credential or group of credentials in a single career field and earn the required score on WorkKeys, a work-readiness test. Third, students can earn remediation-free scores in mathematics and English language arts on either the ACT or SAT. Students in the Class of 2021 or 2022 can also graduate by meeting the requirements of the Class of 2023 listed below.

### **Class of 2023 and beyond:**

Students earn competency scores on Ohio's high school Algebra I and English II tests. Students who do not pass the tests will be offered additional support and must retake the test at least once. Students who retake the exams and do not earn a passing score will be asked to also show competency in three ways: demonstrate two career focused activities (proficient scores on WebXams, earn a 12 point industry credential, participate in a pre-apprentice or apprenticeship work-based learning experience, earn the OhioMeansJobs Seal), enlist in the military, or earn credit for one college-level English and/or math course through College Credit Plus course work.

## **Exam Retakes**

Students that score below proficient on an exam may retake it after they receive some extra help on the material. Students that score proficient or higher on an end of course exam can retake exams only if, once they take all the exams, they have not met the minimum graduation points to graduate. In this case, a student can retake any exam after receiving some extra help on the material. The same rules apply to substitute exams, which may be used interchangeably with approved tests.

## **Honors Diploma Opportunity**

To earn a Diploma with Honors from Yellow Springs High School, a student must earn 7 of the following 8 criteria:

1. Earn four units of English;
2. Earn four units of mathematics which shall include Algebra I, Geometry, Algebra II and another higher level course or a four-year sequence of courses which contains equivalent content;
3. Earn four units of science including one unit of physics and one unit of chemistry;
4. Earn four units of social studies;
5. Earn three units of world languages (must include no less than two units for which credit is sought), e.g. three units of one world language or two units of two different languages;
6. Earn one unit of fine arts;
7. Maintain an overall high school grade point average of at least 3.5 on a four-point scale up to the last grading period of the senior year; or
8. Obtain a composite score of 27 on the American College Testing Services' ACT assessment (excluding the optional writing test) or a combined score of 1210 on the College Board's SAT verbal and mathematics sections (excluding the writing section).

**A college preparatory curriculum** expects more than the minimum standards to graduate. The more rigorous the curriculum chosen in high school, the better the student's preparation will be for college. In general, taking a core course from each content area each year is highly recommended, as is striving to reach the most rigorous courses available within each content area (for example, striving to take AP Chemistry, AP Physics, and/or AP Biology within the science curriculum rather than taking easier courses that satisfy minimum requirements to graduate but do not excel within this content area.)

Striving to meet the Diploma with Honors requirements and excelling beyond those within each content area as much as possible is a good rule to follow for preparing you for the work you will do in college, increasing your likelihood of being admitted to the college of your choice, and increasing your chances of receiving scholarships from that college. Note that colleges look at the following when assessing an applicant:

1. Rigor of high school curriculum over the four years of high school
2. Grades in core academic classes
3. Grade point average
4. Relative position in the class (we don't report rank, but can report percentile upon request from a college)
5. Scores on the ACT or SAT
6. Student essay on the college application; letters of recommendation from content area teachers and the guidance counselor, extra-curricular involvement and leadership.

For applications at many colleges, school officials are asked to comment on the student's academic achievement, extracurricular accomplishments, and personal qualities and character, comparing them to other students in their class and to all students they've ever taught.

We're also asked to specifically comment on the following:

Academic achievement; intellectual promise; quality of writing; creative, original thought; productive class discussion; respect accorded by faculty; disciplined work habits; maturity; motivation; leadership; integrity; reaction to setbacks; concern for others; self-confidence; initiative and independence.

We're asked to say what distinguishes the student from others. As you can see, there are many fine things that students need to focus on above and beyond a minimum number of credits needed to graduate from high school. As you seek to plan out the path of courses you'll choose to take in high school, always keep your mind on the longer term goals of life after high school.

### **AP Capstone Diploma**

Students can earn the AP Capstone Diploma™ or the AP Seminar and Research Certificate™. Students who earn scores of 3 or higher in AP Seminar and AP Research and on four additional AP Exams of their choosing receive the AP Capstone Diploma™. Students who earn scores of 3 or higher in AP Seminar and AP Research but not on four additional AP Exams receive the AP Seminar and Research Certificate™.

### **Study Hall Policy**

Study hall will be reserved for juniors and seniors and will be limited to one study hall period per student.

### **Late Arrival/Early Dismissal Requests**

Seniors will be permitted to request a late entry or early release. Students who are granted this privilege must be in good standing academically (passing all courses, on track to graduate and must maintain a minimum grade point average of 2.0 each quarter), have good attendance and maintain appropriate school behavior. Students will not be granted both late entry and early release. Students will be required to sign in/out at the office each day and the district will not provide transportation for students arriving late or leaving early.

## **Courses offered at Yellow Springs High School in each content area:**

### **English**

Required to graduate: 4

Required as part of *Diploma with Honors*: 4

- English 9
- English 10
- English 11 or CC+ English / AP Seminar
- Creative Writing or AP English Literature

### **Mathematics**

Required to graduate: 4 (Including Algebra II or the equivalent)

Required as part of *Diploma with Honors*: 4 (Including a course above Algebra II)

- Applied Algebra
- Algebra I
- Geometry
- Algebra II
- Intermediate Algebra
- Pre-Calculus
- AP Calculus

### **Science**

Required to graduate: 3 (including 1 life or biological, 1 physical and 1 advanced science in chemistry, physics, biology or other science)

Required as part of *Diploma with Honors*: 4 (including Chemistry and Physics)

- Biology (biological)
- Chemistry (physical)
- Conceptual Physics (physical)
- AP Biology (biological)
- AP Physics I (physical)
- AP Chemistry (physical) (not offered in 20/21, will be offered again in 21/22)
- Human Anatomy and Physiology (biological)
- Ecology (biological)

### **Social Studies**

Required to graduate: 3 (including ½ credit of World History, 1 credit of US History and ½ credit of Government)

Required as part of *Diploma with Honors*: 4

- World History
- United States History
- Government & Economics
- Psychology/Sociology
- AP US History
- Contemporary Issues

## **Physical Education**

Required to graduate\*: ½ credit

- Wellness Education

*\*Students who took PE prior to the 2020-2021 school year needed 2 semesters of PE to earn ½ credit. Beginning in 2020-2021, students earn ½ credit of PE and ½ credit of health through one year of the Wellness class.*

*\*Students who have participated in interscholastic athletics or cheerleading for at least two full seasons with at least a 95% attendance rate at practices and games/matches as defined in the YSHS Athletic Handbook, while enrolled in grades 9-12 and as documented by the Athletic Director, may be excused from the high school PE requirement (YS Policy 5460).*

## **Health**

Required to graduate: ½ credit (one semester)

- Wellness Education

## **World Language**

Required to graduate: none specifically, but these count as electives, and can count as the “required elective” among the 21 credits required to graduate.

Required as part of *Diploma with Honors*: 3 of the same foreign language, or 2 each of 2 languages

- Spanish I or French I
- Spanish II or French II
- Spanish III or French III
- Spanish IV or French IV

## **Arts and Other Electives**

Required to graduate: two semesters of fine arts any time from 7<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> grade

- Art I
- Art II
- Art III - Portfolio Prep
- Art IV - Senior Art Portfolio
- AP Studio Art
- Digital Photography and Image Editing
- Video Production
- Sculpture, Ceramics and 3-D Art: Wood and Metals
- AP Research
- Band
- Orchestra
- Choir
- Acting & Script Analysis
- Stagecraft
- Combo Music Introduction
- Engineering Principles (counts as a general elective credit)
- Engineering Design (counts as a general elective credit)

- Robotics (counts as a general elective credit)
- Aerospace Engineering (counts as a general elective credit)
- Digital Electronics

### **Greene County Career Center**

Students can complete their last two years of high school coursework at the Greene County Career Center. Students take their academic courses in English, Math, Science, and Social Studies at the Career Center, while also specializing in one of the following programs:

Auto Collision Repair Automotive Technology Aviation Maintenance Career X Construction Technology Cosmetology Criminal Justice Culinary Arts Cybersecurity Digital Design & Development Electrical Wiring & Controls	Engineering Technology Equine Science Health Science Academy Information Technology Natural Resource Technology Power Equipment Mechanics Sports & Exercise Science Veterinary Science Video & Animation Welding & Metal Fabrication
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In order to be accepted at the Career Center, students need to have earned enough credits in 9th and 10th grade to be able to graduate in two more years at the Career Center. Credit deficiencies can jeopardize a student being accepted into the program of their choice. Certain programs also have grade and specific course prerequisites. See the guidance office for specific program details, or go to [www.greeneccc.com](http://www.greeneccc.com).

### **Course Descriptions**

**NOTE:** All students taking an Advanced Placement class are required to take the national AP exam in May. The cost is \$95. Payment is due by midterm of the first quarter. Any difficulties in meeting this cost or deadline should be addressed to the Principal as soon as possible to make other arrangements. There is a fee waiver for students who qualify for free or reduced lunch, meaning the student does not need to pay the exam fee. In addition to the exam fee, some AP classes have a fee for lab materials.

## **English Department**

### **English 9**

9th grade

No prerequisite

English 9 is a freshman level language arts course loosely organized around the cowriting concept of the Hero's Journey. During this course, you will develop and apply reading comprehension strategies suitable for a variety of print material. You will also develop critical thinking skills and expand media literacy skills. Writing assignments will emphasize the writing process and consist of both creative and academic writing, including literary analysis, research writing, persuasive writing, and expository writing. The grammar and mechanics of writing learned in previous years will be reviewed, as well as literary devices and non-fiction rhetorical techniques. Reading selections will reflect a variety of genres, eras, and cultures. You will also develop and use criteria to choose independent reading materials.

### **English 10**

10th grade

Prerequisite: English 9

Students living in America need a cultural foundation on which to base their participation in their communities, country and world. American Literature will explore the various authors, literary movements, themes, and genres that have built the foundation for American Literature. Students will demonstrate improved competency in reading comprehension and analysis, writing, speaking, and listening through process learning. Composition will consist of both creative and academic writing. Students will experience research and writing as tools to substantiate ideas and to encourage intellectual growth.

### **English 11**

11th grade

Prerequisites: English 9, 10

### **Course Overview**

ELA 11/AP Seminar is a foundational course that engages students in cross-curricular conversations that explore the complexities of real-world topics and issues by analyzing divergent perspectives. Using an inquiry framework, students practice reading and analyzing articles, research studies, and foundational literary and philosophical texts; listening to and viewing speeches, broadcasts, and personal accounts; and experiencing artistic works and performances. Students learn to synthesize information from multiple sources, develop their own perspectives in research-based written essays, and design and deliver oral and visual presentations, both individually and as part of a team. Ultimately, the course aims to equip students with the power to analyze and evaluate information with accuracy and precision in order to craft and communicate evidence-based arguments. Students who opt to take this course for the AP Seminar credit will be expected to submit all components of the AP exam.



### **\*Dual Enrollment Options**

In addition to course credit for ELA 11, qualified students have the option to take the course for college credit and/or AP Seminar credit. Through a unique partnership with Clark State Community College, students can earn 6 semester credits, the equivalent of two college courses (ENG 1111 and ENG 1112). Qualifying students also have the option to earn AP credit for this course. The syllabus for ELA 11 follows the content prescribed for the AP Seminar course. All students will complete the same assignments, but students enrolled for AP credit will submit assignments to AP for external evaluation and take an AP end of course exam (in lieu of a final exam).

### **AP Seminar English (CC+)**

11th grade

AP exam fee: \$95

Prerequisites: For AP Seminar - A or B in English 10 and/or teacher recommendation; For CC+ a passing score on the Clark State admission test administered during sophomore year.

### **Course Overview**

AP Seminar/CC+ is a college preparatory course that engages students in cross-curricular conversations that explore the complexities of real-world topics and issues by analyzing divergent perspectives. Using an inquiry framework, students practice reading and analyzing articles, research studies, and foundational literary and philosophical texts; listening to and viewing speeches, broadcasts, and personal accounts; and experiencing artistic works and performances. Students learn to synthesize information from multiple sources, develop their own perspectives in research-based written essays, and design and deliver oral and visual presentations, both individually and as part of a team. Ultimately, the course aims to equip students with the power to analyze and evaluate information with accuracy and precision in order to craft and communicate evidence-based arguments. Students who opt to take this course for the AP Seminar credit will be expected to submit all components of the AP exam.

### **\*Dual Enrollment Options**

Qualified students take the course for college credit and AP Seminar credit. Through a unique partnership with Clark State Community College, students can earn 6 semester credits, the equivalent of two college courses (ENG 1111 and ENG 1112). The course syllabus follows the content prescribed for the AP Seminar course. All students will complete the same assignments, but students enrolled for AP credit will submit assignments to AP for external evaluation and take an AP end of course exam (in lieu of a final exam).

### **AP English Literature**

12th grade

AP exam fee: \$95

Prerequisites: English 9, 10, and AP Seminar, good grades or permission of the teacher and completion of summer reading program. Students taking this course will be expected to take the AP exam.

The primary goal of the senior Advanced Placement English class is to develop students' abilities as independent readers, writers, and thinkers while engaged in a college level course. The course

will serve to develop advanced habits in critical thought as demonstrated through writing and speaking. Literature will be approached on both academic and artistic levels while students work to understand literature in its artistic sense and in its universal and historical sense. Students will study literature in a manner that allows them to develop intellect, cognitive design skills, aesthetic sensitivity, intra-and intercultural awareness, ethical sensitivity and existential maturity.

### **\*Dual Enrollment Options**

In addition to course credit for AP English, qualified students have the option to take the course for college credit. Through a unique partnership with Clark State Community College, students can earn 3 semester credits in ENG 1600.

### **Creative Writing**

Grade 12 or permission from teacher and school counselor

The Creative Writing course introduces and explores the various styles and genres of writing creatively. We will write poetry, short stories, plays, creative nonfiction, multimedia scripts, and podcasts. Assessment will largely consist of participation as we write and share daily. Daily exercises will explore elements of writing such as characterization, figurative language, syntax, diction, and narrative structure. Examples of summative assessments are vignette collections, podcasts, one-act plays, and radio dramas.

## **Mathematics Department**

### **Applied Algebra**

9th grade

No prerequisite

The course covers foundational standards in Algebra I with focus on linear functions. Students will solve many real world problems and turn verbal scenarios into mathematical form. Study begins with an in-depth review of fractions, decimals, integers, real numbers, exponents and order of operations. Students will become familiar with various data representations including functions, graphs and tables. Students will gain greater understanding with linear models and relationships. Polynomials will be introduced along with performing basic operations. Students will conclude with a brief study of data analysis and statistical measures. By the end, they will have gained a thorough working knowledge of variables, terms, expressions and equations.

## **Algebra I**

9th-12th grade

Prerequisite: Successful completion of 8th grade math

Algebra I presents a course in real numbers, expressions, equations, inequalities, problem-solving, algebraic fractions, linear systems, roots, algebraic properties, graphing, powers, basic statistics, and factoring. Students entering this class should already have a strong grasp of basic arithmetic skills and number sense. Many basic algebra concepts will be mastered in Algebra I, while other, more complicated, algebra concepts will be introduced.

## **Geometry**

9th-12th grade

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Algebra I

This course integrates synthetic, coordinate, and transformation approaches to Euclidean geometry within a deductive system reinforcing algebra. It includes the study of transformations, proofs of congruences, logic of geometry, measurements of plane and solid figures.

## **Algebra II**

10th-12th grade

Prerequisites: Successful completion of Algebra I and Geometry and the recommendation of the Geometry teacher.

Algebra II is a course for students who have done well in Algebra I and who anticipate taking college algebra or higher courses at the college level. Algebra II covers advanced topics such as: functions, recursive and explicit sequences, linear functions, quadratic functions, exponential functions, graphs, matrices, systems of equations, imaginary numbers, powers, radicals, and several factoring techniques.

## **Intermediate Algebra**

10th-12th grade

Prerequisites: Successful completion of Algebra I and Geometry

Intermediate Algebra covers the more difficult Algebra I topics such as solving equations and inequalities, using proportional reasoning, graphing linear and nonlinear functions, quadratics and systems of equations. It also begins to cover several Algebra II topics such as: sequences, advanced factoring and functions. Intermediate Algebra is intended to strengthen the students' skills and prepare students for either Algebra II or College Algebra.

**Pre-Calculus**

11th - 12th grade

Prerequisites: Successful completion of Math I, Math II, and Math III

This course is designed for students who intend to further study math and science beyond high school and provides an excellent preparation for AP Calculus. The first semester of class covers trigonometry and focuses on applications of trigonometry; including ratios and functions, solving triangles, identities, properties, solutions of equations, and periodic graphs. During the second semester students will analyze linear, quadratic, exponential, logarithmic, radical, polynomial, and rational functions. This course focuses on the mastery of critical skills and exposure to new skills necessary for success in subsequent math courses.

**AP Calculus**

11th-12th grade

AP course fee: \$15

AP exam fee: \$95

Prerequisite: Pre-Calculus

Students taking this course will be expected to take the AP exam.

AP Calculus AB is the study of limits, derivatives, definite and indefinite integrals, and the Fundamental Theorem of Calculus. Consistent with AP philosophy, concepts will be expressed and analyzed geometrically, numerically, analytically, and verbally. Students learn how to use technology to help solve problems, experiment, interpret results, and support conclusions. Success in AP Calculus is tied to the preparation students have leading up to their enrollment in this course which includes a comprehensive study of algebra, geometry, coordinate geometry, trigonometry, and functions.

**Science Department****Biology**

9th grade

Biology is taught at a level such that students can successfully achieve a laboratory science credit. The classroom section includes biochemistry, cell biology, genetics, evolution, ecology, biotechnology, and basic anatomy of the fetal pigs and perch. Students will learn through inquiry lab experiments, lab reports, projects, lecture, lab practical, and written tests. Students learn more about lab safety and the use of microscopes. It is strongly recommended for college-bound students.

## **Chemistry**

10th grade

Prerequisite: Biology

This is an in-depth chemistry course, especially relevant for the student interested in a science, medical or engineering career. Emphasis will be on high-level problem solving, math, reading and writing. Laboratory and project work emphasized, with multiple labs/projects per quarter. Taking chemistry is recommended before taking AP Biology. Lab fee \$5.00

## **AP Chemistry (Not offered until the 2021-2022 school year.)** 11th-12th grade

AP course fee: \$15

AP exam fee: \$95

Prerequisite: Chemistry I (A, B, or teacher recommendation)

Students taking this course will be expected to take the AP exam.

Advanced Placement Chemistry is a second year chemistry course for students who want a college level course. AP Chemistry is designed to prepare students for further college study in the areas of medicine, natural science, engineering, chemistry, etc. It is a challenging, laboratory-oriented course with several shorter projects. Students investigate atomic structure, bonding, thermochemistry, quantitative analysis, kinetics, equilibrium, and electrochemistry.

## **Conceptual Physics**

10th-12th grade

Conceptual Physics is an introductory physics course with an emphasis on the fundamentals of physics, applications of physics in projects, and reasoning behind equations. The goal is to refine and expand everyday thinking. Mathematics is less of a focus than it is in AP Physics. However, Conceptual Physics serves as a good foundation for future college level courses in physics, chemistry, and biology. Conceptual Physics may be taken as a precursor to AP Physics I (offered every other year). Lab fee \$5.00

## **AP Physics I - (Offered in 2020-2021 but not offered again until 2022-2023)**

10th-12th grade

AP course fee: \$15

AP exam fee: \$95

Prerequisite or Concurrent Enrollment: Math III

Students taking this course will be expected to take the AP exam.

AP Physics I: Algebra-Based is the equivalent to a first-semester college course in algebra-based physics. It is a challenging, in-depth, technical course for the college-bound student, especially important for the student interested in a science, physics, or engineering career. The course covers Newtonian mechanics (including rotational dynamics and angular momentum); work, energy, power, mechanical waves, and sound. It will also introduce DC electric circuits.

## **AP Biology**

11th - 12th grade

AP course fee: \$15

AP exam fee: \$95

Prerequisites: Biology (grade of A or B); Chemistry (grade of A or B); or teacher recommendation. Students taking this course will be expected to take the AP exam.

AP Biology course is designed to be the equivalent to college introductory biology course usually taken by biology majors during their freshman year. It is designed to be taken by students after successful completion of a first course in high school biology. Its aim is to provide students with the conceptual framework, factual knowledge, deeper understanding, and analytical skills necessary to deal critically with the rapidly changing science in biology.

## **Human Anatomy and Physiology**

10th - 12th grade

Course fee: \$25

Prerequisite: successful completion of Biology

This course will be an investigation into the human anatomy and physiology. It will use the comparative anatomy of various vertebrates to understand form and functions of various human systems. Units will include: basic human body chemistry, all the major body systems and special systems (eye, ear and nose). It will be a laboratory based course that will investigate the structure and function of the human body. Students will learn through dissections, group work, projects, labs, reading materials, class discussions and activities.

Students will be able to:

- Explain the function of each organ system and how structure relates to function.
- Describe, classify, and analyze objects.
- Demonstrate ability to develop problem solving skills, using proper problem solving techniques.
- Identify key anatomical structures and demonstrate how they function.
- Engage in self directed study and be able to demonstrate that knowledge to their peers.

## **Ecology**

10th-12th grade

Course fee: \$25

Prerequisite: Biology

Ecology is the study of how all organisms interact with their environment. Ecology is a year long course designed for students of all abilities and academic pursuits. This course will introduce students to major understanding of how organisms interact within the different biomes. Both biotic (living) and abiotic (non-living) factors. The only prerequisite for this class is a successful completion of the Biology course. A hands-on approach will be used throughout the units to show

human effect on the environment- both positive and negative. Instructional methods include a field study, a lab experiment, projects, a field trip, research, gardening and composting methods.

## **Social Studies Department**

### **World History**

9th-12th grade

No prerequisite

World History is a full-year, one-credit course designed primarily for 9th graders. It explores World History from 1500 to the present, focusing on developments in Africa, Asia, Europe, Latin America, and the Middle East. Each unit traces major historical and cultural developments as well as investigating connections to our world today. While mastering this content, students will also practice historical thinking skills through a wide range of activities to better understand the past, present and future.

### **US History**

10th-12th grade

Prerequisite: World History recommended

This course examines the history of the United States of America thematically. The students will explore topics through American History from the 1400s to modern day as they explore this country's history through multiple perspectives. The episodes of U.S. history have shaped the nature of the country today and through that study will help prepare students to attend to the challenges of the future. Understanding how these events came to pass and their meaning for today's citizens is the purpose of this course. The students will master the content of historical events by exploring the following themes (note: not all themes are covered in a given year): The Struggle for Equality; The Experience of Women; The Experience of African Americans; The Experience of Asian Americans; The Experience of Latino Americans; The Experience of Arab Americans; The Experience of People with Disabilities; The Experience of LGBTQ Americans; 20th Century Conflict. While learning this content, the students will master skills that apply to critical and spatial thinking, critical reading, civic participation, and empathy.

### **Government & Economics**

11th-12th grade

Prerequisite: US History

This is an introductory course surveying the basic concepts and questions that drive the U.S. political system. Students will study the origins, development, structure, and functions of American national government. Topics include the constitutional framework; federalism; the three branches of government, including the bureaucracy; civil rights and liberties; political participation and behavior; and policy formation. Upon completion, students will demonstrate an understanding of the basic concepts and participatory processes of the American political system. Basic concepts of

state and local government and their relationships with the federal government are also examined. (During an election year students will become experts on the office of the Presidency in order to better understand how elections work in the United States.) During the second semester, students will learn about how individual and societal decisions allocate the world's scarce resources. Recognizing that we live in an interdependent world, the goal for this portion of the course will be to prepare students for living in a truly global economy by giving them the tools necessary to make informed decisions about micro- and macro-economic issues. Special emphasis will be placed on making rational economic decisions using sound reasoning and good research.

### **Psychology/Sociology**

11th-12th grade

No prerequisite

Psychology/Sociology is a full year, one-credit course, with one semester dedicated to each subject. **Psychology** investigates behavior and mental processes with an emphasis on hands-on activities. Topics include research methods, the biology of behavior, consciousness, learning, sensation and perception, lifespan development, personality, social psychology, and psychological disorders and treatments. **Sociology** focuses on human society and social behavior, examining issues in contemporary society such as culture, deviance and social control, class, race, gender and social problems.

### **Contemporary Issues**

11th-12th grade or permission from teacher and school counselor

In this class, students will examine global, national, and local issues in their historical and cultural contexts. We will investigate problems of war and peace, trade and globalization, the environment, human rights, technology, religion, food security, and foreign policy to formulate productive responses to the challenges of our time. Using skills of critical thinking, media analysis, geography, economics, cultural understanding and more. The class will explore case studies from around the world and our own backyard.

### **AP US History**

11th-12th grade

AP exam fee: \$95

Prerequisite: A or B in US History and Government and teacher recommendation

This is a writing intensive course. Students taking this course will be expected to take the AP exam.

The AP US History course is designed to provide students with the analytic skills and factual knowledge necessary to deal critically with the problems and materials in US history. The program prepares students for intermediate and advanced college courses by making demands upon them equivalent to those made by full-year introductory college courses. Students should learn to assess historical materials-their relevance to a given interpretive problem, reliability, and importance – and to weigh the evidence and interpretations presented in historical scholarship. An



AP US History course should thus develop the skills necessary to arrive at conclusions on the basis of an informed judgment and to present reasons and evidence clearly and persuasively in essay format.

## **World Language Department**

### **French I**

9th-12th grade

No prerequisite

This course is an introduction to the language through the four basic communication skills: listening, speaking, reading and writing. Conversation is stressed using basic structures. Nightly study is a must! Focus is also on the cultural aspects of French speaking people and countries.

### **French II**

10th-12th grade

Prerequisite: French I

A continuation of the study of the French language. A more in-depth study of language, vocabulary and grammar, moving toward free-expression in speaking, listening, reading and writing skills along with a continued study of French culture is stressed. Reading comprehension and oral fluency are stressed using a variety of new structures.

### **French III**

11th-12th grade

Prerequisites: French II

This is an advanced course in language and literature. Students will read novels, short stories, poetry and essays in French, and develop their speaking and writing skills at a higher level. Grammar review and the study of more complex structures are stressed.

### **French IV**

12th grade

Prerequisites: French III

This is an advanced course in language and literature. Students will read novels, short stories, poetry and essays in French, and develop their speaking and writing skills at a higher level. Grammar review and the study of more complex structures are stressed.

### **Spanish**

The Spanish language courses at Yellow Springs High School are modeled after the Organic World Language methodology. This methodology promotes a proficiency-based experience

conducted 100% in the target language. In order for students to show growth and achieve success in the language learning process the following elements are incorporated in every learning experience: a high degree of community development, a student-centered approach, the opportunity to be student-driven, and a desk-free learning environment that promotes communication. To learn more about Organic World Language, please visit the following link: <http://owlanguage.com/>.

### **Spanish I**

9th-12th grade

No prerequisite

The beginner level course is the first experience in the full immersion program. Only Spanish is spoken by the instructor and students at all times. Students will develop skills in speaking, listening, reading, and writing, with an emphasis on speaking. Culture is interwoven into the communicative tasks and projects. There much importance placed on movement, social interaction, and community development. Students should exit the course with the ability to communicate via lists and memorized phrases on topics related to the students' immediate experiences and environments, such as introducing themselves and those with whom they come in contact.

### **Spanish II**

10th-12th grade

Prerequisite: Spanish I

Also considered a beginner level course, this is a continuation of skill-building in the full immersion program. Only Spanish is spoken by the instructor and students at all times. Students will develop skills in speaking, listening, reading, and writing, with an emphasis on speaking. Culture is interwoven into the communicative tasks and projects. There is a much importance placed on movement, social interaction, and community development. Students should exit the course with the ability to communicate via phrases and memorized chunks. They will also be able to ask and answer simple questions.

### **Spanish III**

11th-12th grade

Prerequisite: Spanish II

Students who have chosen to continue their pursuit of being bilingual will capitalize on their independence gained from the foundation formed from the Spanish I and II courses. The only language spoken in this course is Spanish. They will continue to develop their language proficiency with the result of communicating in simple complete sentences on a broader range of topics. Culture will continue to be interwoven into the various provided communicative tasks and project experiences.

## **Spanish IV**

11th-12th grade

Prerequisite: A or B in Spanish III or teacher recommendation

Students in this course will be able to communicate independently and confidently on various Topics. Here they will learn to conduct formal and informal conversations, narrate and describe in paragraph length discourse, navigate through unfamiliar linguistic scenarios, and start to incorporate a mixture of tenses in their communication on a daily basis and throughout their project experiences.

## **Health/Physical Education Department**

### **YSHS Wellness**

10th grade

No prerequisite

This year-long, interdisciplinary course fulfills the Yellow Springs High School Health and Physical Education requirement for graduation. An immersive, kinesthetic experience engages students in their own learning by putting theory into practice. Students should expect to participate in physical activity or movement, daily. Included with this class is an additional 45-hour commitment to physical activity and health-related practices beyond the walls of the traditional classroom setting. Students will have the entire academic year to attain this additional hour requirement. Participation in Yellow Springs High School arts, athletics, and student-led organizations may contribute to the attainment of said hours.

## **Art Department**

### **Art I**

9th grade

Course fee: \$35

No prerequisite

A keen eye for detail, art elements, design principles and styles of art are essential to the world of visual communications. Students learn proper composition with such principles as color theory, typography and drawing. They create designs targeted for the Internet and for two- or three-dimensional products while adhering to copyright laws and deadlines.

### **Art II**

10th-12th grade

Course fee: \$35

Prerequisite: Art 1 (or Visual Creation I)

A keen eye for detail, art elements, design principles and styles of art are essential to the world of visual communications. In this level II class students continue to develop proper composition with such principles as color theory, typography and drawing. They create advanced designs targeted for the Internet and for two- or three-dimensional products while adhering to copyright laws and deadlines.

### **Art III - Portfolio Prep**

*This class will require extensive work beyond the classroom, and teacher permission*

11th-12th grade

Course fee: \$35

Prerequisite: Drawing, Painting and Printmaking I (or Art II)

Students in Art III will continue to develop the skills introduced in Art I & II. This class is for students who can be successful working independently, can meet deadlines, and are eager to design their own projects. Students will develop an art portfolio and do an in-depth focus in their chosen medium. This course will prepare students for completion of the AP Portfolio, and successful completion is required for all students who wish to take AP Studio Art.

### **Art IV - Senior Art Portfolio**

12th grade

Course fee: \$35

Prerequisite: Advanced Drawing, Painting and Printmaking (or Art III)

Students will apply the knowledge and skills gained in Visual Creation I, II, and III, as they are guided in the creation of a high quality, competitive art portfolio. This class is for students who can be successful working independently, can meet deadlines, and are eager to design their own projects. Students will develop an art portfolio and do an in-depth focus in their chosen medium.

### **AP Studio Art**

12th grade

Course fee: \$35

*This class will require extensive work beyond the classroom, and teacher permission*

Prerequisite: Advanced Drawing, Painting and Printmaking (or Art III)

AP students will submit their portfolios to the College Board at the end of the course. The coursework is the same as Art IV: Senior Art Portfolio, but AP students will complete more assignments and will have to meet specific criteria for the AP College Board requirements. (The AP portfolio requires 33 finished projects in 3 areas) Students can submit a portfolio in one of 2 categories: Drawing (which includes drawing and painting) or 2-D Design (which can include any traditional or nontraditional 2D artwork with a focus on design and composition).

### **Digital Photography and Image Editing**

9th-12th grade

Course fee: \$35

No prerequisite

This course focuses on manipulating images for final output through print and Web-based production. Students obtain a brief perspective on analog image editing and delve into the world of editing digital photos, illustrations and other artwork. They learn to adjust resolution and exposure, modify color, compress data and format and manage files. Students will use problem-solving strategies and work collaboratively to complete the creative process with artists, printers and Web developers.

### **Video Production**

9th-12th grade

Course fee: \$35

Video Production This course focuses on video production for commercial use. Students plan and coordinate work with clients to produce projects on a tight timeline. They learn how to read and interpret a script, select and maintain equipment and combine graphics, text and special effects. Skills attained include pre-production documentation and planning; in-production audio and video recording; and post-production editing and distribution.

### **Sculpture/Ceramics and 3D Art: Wood and Metals**

9th-12th grade

Course fee: \$35

No prerequisite

This course is designed for students who wish to develop advanced 3D art skills. This is a foundational course which focuses on building skills with sculpture and clay media, as well as an introduction to functional arts and fibers. Students will create ceramics pieces using basic handbuilding techniques, sculpture from recycled materials (both 2D and 3D), papier maché, clay, kinetic sculpture, weaving, fiber works and more. Students will transfer their knowledge of foundational art through the use of metals, fibers, clay and wood to create sculptures, free-form art, copper tooled art and signage, enameled wares, as well as jewelry and wire sculpture in this advanced art class.

## **Performing Arts**

### **Band**

9th-12th grade

Musical instrument rental: \$40

Prerequisite: experience playing instrument, ability to read music and director's recommendation

Band is a rehearsal/performance course with emphasis on developing all aspects of musicality on standard concert band instruments. Learning happens in a cooperative group setting. Students are expected to attend all rehearsals, performances, and competitions. Homework is on-going in the form of personal practice. Private instruction is highly recommended. A music fee of \$40.00 is charged for students using school instruments to help offset maintenance costs (including percussionists).

### **Orchestra**

9th-12th grade

Musical instrument rental: \$40

Prerequisite: experience playing instrument, ability to read music and director's recommendation

Orchestra is a rehearsal/performance course with an emphasis on developing all aspects of musicality on string orchestra instruments. Learning happens in a cooperative group setting. Students are expected to attend all rehearsals, performances, and competitions. Homework is on-going in the form of personal practice. Private instruction is highly recommended. A music fee of \$40.00 is charged for students using school instruments to help offset maintenance costs.

### **Combo Music Introduction**

9th-12th grade

Musical instrument rental: \$40

No prerequisite

Students will be introduced to combo music and how to play modern music of popular genres of the last 60 years. Combo music typically includes Guitar, Bass Guitar, Ukulele, Vocals and percussion. Using school-provided acoustic guitars, students will focus on reading chord symbols to be able to strum songs and eventually sing the lyrics while strumming.

### **Choir:**

9th-12th grade

No prerequisite

From warm up skills to singing harmonies to performing complex rhythmic and technical passages, students combine theory and technique to sing in ensemble and solo work. They recognize different harmonic, rhythmic and melodic structures based on culture, era and style. They write, read and understand musical symbols. Students perform as a choir in concerts at least twice a year and at school events for credit. Breathing, constructs of vocal performance and rehearsal techniques are taught and practiced daily in choir.

### **Acting and Script Analysis:**

9th-12th grade

No prerequisite

This course combines understanding of the relationship between actor and script. Students research major theatre genres and influences, breaking down a script to discover objectives, obstacles, tactics and character development, including exploration of reading for understanding and retention. They create a script with scenes, plot points and characters. They learn acting techniques, including imagery, personal associations and inner monologue. They perform a role within an original or established piece of work. Very hands on, doing-focused class.

**Stage Crafts:**

9th-12th grade

No prerequisite

Creating the set, balancing the lights, projecting video and engineering the sound all help to accentuate the script and characters in a show. Students learn the skills of stagecraft through research, critique and hands-on experience. They use technology, background design, makeup and costuming to enhance overall production with a focus on the script and director vision. Managing the Maker's Space and Theater Bus Barn equipment, building and sewing costumes and developing scenic designs, along with working with guest professionals within industry is also a part of the class. Class is very hands on.

**Elective Courses**

**Engineering Principles:**

9th-12th grade

No prerequisite

This course will introduce students to fundamental engineering concepts and scientific principles associated with engineering design applications. Topics include mechanisms, energy, statics, materials, and kinematics. Additionally, students will learn material properties and electrical, control and fluid power systems. Students will learn to apply problem solving, research and design skills to create solutions to engineering challenges. Dual enrollment available through Clark State CC+. Students can receive 3 semester hours for ENT 1000: Introduction to Industrial and Engineering Technology.

**Engineering Design:**

9th-12th grade

No prerequisite

The focus of Engineering Design is the application of the engineering design process. Topics include work-processes, optimization methods, design optimization, and risk management tools. Students will use 2D and 3D modeling software to help them design solutions to solve proposed problems, document their work, and communicate solutions. Additionally, students will interpret

industry prints, and create working drawings from functional models. Emphasis is given to experimental problem solving in real systems.

**Robotics:**

9th-12th grade

No prerequisite

Students will apply the knowledge and skills necessary to program and operate robots, using the teach pendant as the main interface point. The students will learn robotic operations and system configurations. Students will code, compile, and debug programs using the robotic programming language.

**Aerospace Engineering:**

9th-12th grade

No prerequisite

Aerospace engineering transforms the dream of flight into vehicles that ignite our imagination. Students explore fundamentals of flight in air and space through software simulations and hands-on experiences using flite test curriculum. Students learn how these concepts apply to a career in aerospace engineering and to other engineering fields. Where can aerospace engineering take us next?

**Digital Electronics:**

9th-12th grade

No prerequisite

From smartphones to appliances, digital circuits are all around us. This course provides a foundation for students who are interested in electrical engineering, electronics, or circuit design. Students study topics such as combinational and sequential logic and are exposed to circuit design tools used in industry, including logic gates, integrated circuits, and programmable logic devices. Students will solder and breadboard circuits to display a variety of text, do calculations for them, and respond to a variety of input. A grade of "C" or better in your most recent math course is strongly recommended.

**AP Research:**

Grade 12

Prerequisite: AP Seminar or teacher permission

AP Research, the second course in the AP Capstone experience, allows students to deeply explore an academic topic, problem, issue, or idea of individual interest. Students design, plan, and implement a year-long investigation to address a research question. Through this inquiry, they further the skills they acquired in the AP Seminar course by learning research methodology, employing ethical research practices, and accessing, analyzing, and synthesizing information.



Students reflect on their skill development, document their processes, and curate the artifacts of their scholarly work through a process and reflection portfolio. The course culminates in an academic paper of 4000 to 5000 words (accompanied by a performance, exhibit, or product where applicable) and a presentation with an oral defense.

**AP Capstone Diploma:**

By taking both AP Seminar and AP Research, students can earn the AP Capstone Diploma™ or the AP Seminar and Research Certificate™. Students who earn scores of 3 or higher in AP Seminar and AP Research and on four additional AP Exams of their choosing receive the AP Capstone Diploma™. Students who earn scores of 3 or higher in AP Seminar and AP Research but not on four additional AP Exams receive the AP Seminar and Research Certificate™. Students who earn these awards can view and print their diploma or certificate online. The award is also acknowledged on any AP score report that is sent to colleges after the award has been conferred. Note: the AP Capstone Diploma and AP Seminar and Research Certificate are reported to colleges and universities as AP Scholar Awards and appear in Scholar Roster reports.