

Morgantown High School

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Course Description Booklet Freshman 2018-2019

**Please note this book only contains courses required, or offered, for 9th grade students. The full Monongalia County Schools High School Course Description Handbook will be available on the MHS website.*

CORE SUBJECTS (1 OF EACH CORE SUBJECT REQUIRED):

WVEIS Code

Course Title and Description

400910/20

ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS 9

Prerequisite: None

Grade Level: 9

FULL YEAR

English 9 will focus on the effective use of written language in educational and occupational endeavors and interpersonal communication. The use of a broad array of literature will also be covered.

40091H/2H

ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS 9 HONORS

Prerequisite: None **Required:** Completed Enrollment Agreement. Completed Summer Reading and Writing Assignment.

Grade Level: 9

FULL YEAR

English 9 Honors is an accelerated program with the emphasis on evaluation of literature, analytical thinking and special topics. • Completion of a summer reading and writing assignment prior to the course start date is required.

620110/20

EARTH AND SPACE SCIENCE

Prerequisite: None

Grade Level: 9

FULL YEAR

Reveals the complexity of Earth's interacting systems, evaluating and using current data to explain Earth's place in the universe and enabling students to relate Earth Science to many aspect of human society. Students will focus on five science topics: Space Systems, History of Earth, Earth's Systems, Weather and Climate, and Human Sustainability. Students will engage in active inquiries, investigations, and hands-on activities as they develop and demonstrate conceptual understandings and research and laboratory skills described in the objectives.

6201H/2H

EARTH AND SPACE SCIENCE HONORS

Prerequisite: 'A' or 'B' in Science 8 **Required:** Completed Honors enrollment agreement with the signature of the 8th grade science teacher.

Grade Level: 9

FULL YEAR

Reveals the complexity of Earth's interacting systems, evaluating and using current data to explain Earth's place in the universe and enabling students to relate Earth Science to many aspect of human society. Students will focus on five science topics: Space Systems, History of Earth, Earth's Systems, Weather and Climate, and Human Sustainability. Students will engage in active inquiries, investigations, and hands-on activities as they develop and demonstrate conceptual understandings and research and laboratory skills described in the objectives. This honors course will cover these topics in greater mathematical and conceptual depth and breadth.

CORE SUBJECTS Continued (1 OF EACH CORE SUBJECT REQUIRED):

WVEIS Code

Course Title and Description

301210/20

MATH I

Prerequisite: None

Grade Level: 9, 10, 11, 12

FULL YEAR

Math 1 is a math course that adheres to the West Virginia State Department of Education Standards and Objectives. The Math 1 curriculum is covered in 6 units: relationships between quantities, reasoning with equations, linear and exponential relationships, descriptive statistics, congruence, proof and construction, and connecting algebra and geometry through coordinates.

301410/20

MATH II

Prerequisite: Math I

Grade Level: 9, 10, 11, 12

FULL YEAR

Math II is a math course that adheres to the West Virginia Department of Education Standards and Objectives. The Math II curriculum focuses on quadratic expressions, equations, and functions; comparing their characteristics and behavior to those of linear and exponential relationships from Mathematics I as organized into six critical areas, or units. The link between probability and data is explored through conditional probability and counting methods, including their use in making and evaluating decisions. The study of similarity leads to an understanding of right triangle trigonometry and connects to quadratics through Pythagorean relationships. Circles and their quadratic algebraic representations round out the course.

30141H/30142H

MATH II HONORS

Prerequisite: Math 1, Teacher Recommendation **Required:** Completed Honors Agreement and Summer Assignment

Grade Level: 9,10,11,12

FULL YEAR

Honors Math 2 covers the same standards as Math 2 but in a more complex and rigorous fashion. This course will spend minimal time reviewing previously taught concepts and will move at a quicker pace and spend much less time on basic topics. Students enrolled in this course will be presented more challenging examples and asked to apply multiple math concepts at one time to find and justify the appropriateness of solutions. An exploratory based learning environment with an emphasis on project based learning will be employed.

A minimal number of students may take either Math III (301510/20) OR Math III STEM (301610/20) in 9th grade. This course may only be taken after successful completion of Math II and with teacher recommendation.

CORE SUBJECTS Continued (1 OF EACH CORE SUBJECT REQUIRED):

WVEIS Code

Course Title and Description

701010/20

WORLD STUDIES

Prerequisite: None

Grade Level: 9

FULL YEAR

The study of the world emphasizing the historic, economic, geographic, political, and social structure of various cultural regions of the world from the dawn of civilization to the interdependent world of the twentieth century.

70101H/2H

WORLD STUDIES HONORS

Prerequisite: None **Required:** Teacher Recommendation

Grade Level: 9

FULL YEAR

This class includes the study of the world, at an accelerated pace, emphasizing the historic, economic, geographic, political, and social structure of various cultural regions of the world from the dawn of civilization to the interdependent world of the twentieth century. The use of historical thinking skills and themes will be an essential part of the Honors World Studies. Applying these skills through primary source analysis and historical writing will be necessary to succeed.

70481A/2A

ADVANCED PLACEMENT WORLD HISTORY

Prerequisite: None

Required: Teacher Recommendation and Summer Assignment

Grade Level: 9

FULL YEAR

The purpose of the AP World History course is to develop greater understanding of global processes and contacts in different types of human societies. The course highlights the nature of changes in global frameworks and their causes and consequences, as well as comparisons among major societies. It emphasizes relevant factual knowledge, leading interpretative issues, and skills in analyzing types of historical evidence. Periodization forms an organizing principle to address change and continuity throughout the course. This course takes the place of ninth grade world history. Students are expected to take the AP exam in May. Summer assignments are required.

****SUMMER ASSIGNMENTS CAN BE FOUND ON THE MHS WEBSITE UNDER STUDENTS/PARENTS TAB****

WORLD LANGUAGES (MINIMUM 2 YEARS OF SAME LANGUAGE RECOMMENDED FOR COLLEGE):

ALL COURSES ARE FULL YEAR COURSES

561110/20

CHINESE I

562110/20 FRENCH I

561210/20

CHINESE II

566110/20 SPANISH I

563110/20

GERMAN I

56611H/2H SPANISH I HONORS

568110/20

ITALIAN I

566210/20 SPANISH II

568210/20

ITALIAN II

56621H/2H SPANISH II HONORS

FINE ART-1 Required for Graduation:

WVEIS Code

Course Title and Description

321110/20

ART I

Prerequisite: None * **Grade Level:** 9,10,11,12

FULL YEAR

Emphasis will be placed on teaching the elements of design by examining and discussing samples of artworks by famous artists. Experiences in producing two-dimensional and three-dimensional artworks using a variety of media, techniques, and processes will be provided. Critical thinking skills will be developed through analysis of works both orally and in written form. An understanding of the arts in relation to culture, history, other disciplines, and careers will be emphasized. * **Note: Art I is a prerequisite for all advanced art classes.**

32111H/2H

ART I HONORS

Required: Art Teacher Recommendation and Review of Portfolio

Grade Level: 9, 10, 11, 12

FULL YEAR

This is an accelerated program with an emphasis on production of 2 & 3 dimensional art based on the study of the elements of design and their historical references. Higher level thinking skills will be developed through critical analysis of works in written and oral format. The arts will be studied in relation to culture, careers and other disciplines.

336110/20

APPALACHIAN ARTS

Prerequisite: None

Grade level: 9,10,11,12

FULL YEAR

This course design is for students to explore the vast and rich artistic culture of the Appalachian region. Students will be acquainted with various types of folk art while understanding and appreciating their purposes, techniques, form and content. The course will survey selected arts & crafts, such as woodworking, scrimshaw, fibers, ceramics, metal working, and painting with a focus on West Virginia artisans. Students will explore ways in which objects have been provided for the practical, religious, and spiritual needs of cultures, past and present. Students will investigate issues of cultural diversity and their effects on folk arts in contemporary times.

416510/20

SPEECH – DYNAMIC SPEAKING

Prerequisite: None **Grade level:** 9, 10, 11, 12

1ST SEMESTER OR FULL YEAR

For students who want to express themselves in various speech activities (e.g. public speaking, oral interpretations of literature, broadcasting, competitive speaking, Lincoln Douglas Debate.) *

Note: Speech will fulfill your fine arts credit requirement.

340110/20

DANCE I

Prerequisite: None **Grade Level:** 9,10,11,12

1 SEMESTER OR FULL YEAR

At the high school level, formal electives are provided for students to develop advanced skills in dance, choreography, critical and creative thinking. (This course does not meet the Physical Education graduation requirement; it does count as an elective credit or a fine arts credit.)

FINE ART Continued-1 Required for Graduation:

WVEIS Code

Course Title and Description

380110/20

THEATRE I

Prerequisite: None

Grade level: 9, 10, 11, 12

FULL YEAR

Introduction to the theatre courses provides an overview of the art, conventions, and history of the theatre. Although experiential exercises may be included, the courses focus on learning about the theatre rather than performance. Students learn about one or more of the following topics: basic techniques in acting, major developments in dramatic literature or major playwrights, and critical appreciation of the art. Other aspects of theatrical production such as technical aspects, costume, makeup, and so on, may also be explored.

374610/20

FOUNDATIONS OF MUSIC

Prerequisite: None

Grade Level: 9, 10, 11, 12

FULL YEAR

This course will provide an introduction into music. Music notation, rhythm, musical terms, and expressions will be addressed. Students will have the opportunity to apply what they have learned on the guitar which is provided in the course. This course is for beginner musicians only

376610/20

TREBLE CHOIR

Prerequisite: None

Grade Level: 9, 10, 11, 12

FULL YEAR

This course will provide an ensemble that focuses solely on treble (higher), soprano and alto voices. Students do NOT have to audition to enroll in this course. The class will study proper vocal techniques, theory and perform a wide variety of literature for treble choirs. This ensemble will perform in annual public concerts. This course requires a commitment of attendance at scheduled rehearsals and concerts outside of the school day.

361110/20

BAND I (CONCERT BAND/SYMPHONIC/WIND ENSEMBLE)

Prerequisite: Audition Required

Grade level: 1st Year

FULL YEAR

An open instrumentation with emphasis on improving the musicianship of the ensemble performer. Music selected will be tailored to the group. Topics explored will include theory concepts and technique development. This ensemble participates with marching band and performs in 1-2 concerts annually. This course will include an outside of course time commitment and summer band and band camp.

353210/20-9

PERCUSSION ENSEMBLE

Prerequisite: Audition Required

Grade level: 9, 10, 11, 12

FULL YEAR

A performing ensemble that will play a variety of percussion literature as well as percussion parts for marching, concert, symphonic, and wind ensemble. An emphasis is placed on music theory concepts and improving technique on all percussion instruments. This ensemble participates with marching band and performs in concerts with various groups. This course will include an outside of course time commitment, including summer band and band camp.

FINE ART Continued-1 Required for Graduation:

WVEIS Code

Course Title and Description

353610/20 ADVANCED JAZZ ENSEMBLE (Can also count as Fine Art requirement)

Prerequisite: Enrollment in a regular Band class

Required: Teacher Recommendation - Audition Only

Grade level: 9, 10, 11, 12

FULL YEAR

This is an ensemble that focuses on jazz performance and will have a select instrumentation which may include guitar, bass, and piano. Experiences in full ensemble as well as small group will be provided. Emphasis will be placed on learning jazz styles, theory, and improvisation. The group may perform as a large ensemble or in smaller combinations depending on instrumentation. Students must enroll in a regular band class. This course will include an outside of course time commitment.

376410/20 ORCHESTRA I (Can also count as Fine Art requirement)

Prerequisite: Instrumental Music I, II, III or Audition

Required: Teacher Recommendation Grade level: 9

FULL YEAR

A class for string players designed to expand the student's musical experience to include music theory and appreciation through the performance of a wide variety of music. Students will participate in small ensembles, public concerts, competitions, and may participate in solo and ensemble, and All-State Orchestra. This course will include an outside of course time Commitment.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION- 1 Required for Graduation:

660910/20 PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Prerequisite: None

Grade level: 9

FULL YEAR

Students participate in individual, dual and team sports, outdoor recreation and lifetime leisure activities toward the development of healthy lifestyle. Changing clothes is mandatory for this class.

660930/40 HEALTH RELATED FITNESS

Prerequisite: None

Grade level: 9

FULL YEAR

This class meets the state requirement for high school Physical Education credit. This class has a fitness and wellness focus as opposed to the usual sport based PE model. Students plan and follow their own fitness plan and participate in activities and games which can be played recreationally throughout their lives. This class is great for students who might not feel comfortable in a competitive sports setting and for students wanting to improve their overall health and body image.

ADDITIONAL ELECTIVES:

WVEIS Code

Course Title and Description

402210/20

CREATIVE WRITING I

Prerequisite: None

Grade level: 9, 10, 11, 12

FULL YEAR

This course is for elective graduation credit only (not for required English credit). In this course students will explore the use of imagination and the resources of the English language to create various forms of personal and creative expression such as (but not limited to) short stories, poems, screenplays, and writers' sketchbooks. Emphasis will be placed on both creating and sharing through the use of the writing process and appropriate technologies.

766310/20

TRAVEL WEST VIRGINIA

Prerequisite: None

Grade level: 9, 10, 11, 12

1ST OR 2ND SEMESTER

This course will provide information and activities related to West Virginia history, geography, the tourism industry and related topics. Activities may include use of maps and may include visits to West Virginia tourist attractions.

695110/20

FIRST AID/CPR/AED

Prerequisite: None

Grade level: 9,10,11,12

1ST OR 2ND SEMESTER

A one semester elective structured around the American Red Cross First Aid/CPR/AED for Schools and the Community program. The course includes practical instruction in infant, child, and adult emergency care. Students are afforded the opportunity to become nationally certified in a variety of Red Cross programs such as, First Aid, CPR, AED, Lifeguarding, Disaster Response, and Scrubby Bear. Certification cards may be obtained at the successful completion of the course.

141110/20

BUSINESS COMPUTER APPLICATIONS

Prerequisite: None

Grade level: 9, 10, 11, 12

FULL YEAR

This course is designed to develop student understanding and skills in such areas as applying integrated software to business applications, word processing, spreadsheets, presentations, database applications, Internet and/or personal information programs. Students utilize problem solving techniques and participate in hands-on activities to develop an understanding of course concepts. This course prepares students for the Microsoft Office 2013 Specialist Exam.

28011A/2A

AP COMPUTER SCIENCE- A

Prerequisite: Completion of Math I (or equivalent) or higher and teacher approval

Required: Completed AP Enrollment Agreement with signatures of Math and AP Computer Science Teacher

Grade Level: 9, 10, 11, 12

FULL YEAR

This course is intended to prepare the student for the Advanced Placement test in Computer Science. Students will develop increasing proficiency in programming methodology, algorithms, and data structures. They will be able to design and implement computer-based solutions to problems in several application areas. Students will also develop an understanding of hardware and software parameters and recognize the ethical and social implications of the use of computers.

ADDITIONAL ELECTIVES Continued:

WVEIS Code

Course Title and Description

28061A/2A AP COMPUTER SCIENCE PRINCIPLES

Prerequisite: Completion of Math I (or equivalent) or higher, concurrent with Honors-level English highly recommended due to the writing requirements of the class.

Required: Completed AP Enrollment Agreement with signatures of Math and English teacher and AP Computer Science Principles Teacher **Grade Level:** 9, 10, 11, 12 **FULL YEAR**

This course is an introductory level course that offers a multidisciplinary approach to teaching the underlying principles of computation that would be useful in any field of future study. The course is intended for students with no experience in programming or computational problem solving. The course will introduce students to creative aspects of programming, using abstractions and algorithms, working with large data sets, developing an understanding of the Internet and issues of cybersecurity, as well as the impacts of computing that affect different populations. Computer Science Principles will give students the opportunity to use current technologies to solve problems and create meaningful computational artifacts. This is an Advanced Placement course and, as such, the course is meant to prepare students for the AP test in May

406610/20 SCHOOL NEWSPAPER

Prerequisite: None **Required:** Application **Grade level:** 9, 10, 11, 12 **FULL YEAR**

In School Newspaper, we will study and create top-notch journalism, focusing on reporting, storytelling and a developing a wide range of creative skills. Students will produce content for the school's newspaper, The Mohigan Post. Additionally, you will be required to contribute to the paper outside of class in some way, especially photography during evenings/weekends. All students are expected to attend assigned events, to conduct themselves properly during said events, and to be responsible for reliable transportation to and from the events. All equipment will be provided, but all students will need their own SD cards for photo storage. ***NOTE: This course does not fulfil the Fine Art graduation requirement.**

407110/20 SCHOOL YEARBOOK

Prerequisite: None **Required:** Application **Grade level:** 9, 10, 11, 12 **FULL YEAR**

In School Yearbook, we will devote ourselves to the school year's edition of The Mohigan, learning photography and design skills as we create. We will work with Studio Works, our yearbook software program, nearly every day, and you will frequently be sent off during class to interview students and gather information. Additionally, you will be required to contribute to the book outside of class in some way, especially photography during evenings/weekends. All students are expected to attend assigned events, to conduct themselves properly during said events, and to be responsible for reliable transportation to and from those events. All equipment will be provided, but all students will need their own SD cards for photo storage. ***NOTE: This course does not fulfil the Fine Art graduation requirement.**

786910/20 INDEPENDENT RESEARCH 1 SEMESTER OR FULL YEAR
RECOMMENDED FOR EVERY NINTH GRADE STUDENT.