

Meridian High School *Course Descriptions*



2017 - 2018

This packet provides you important information concerning graduation requirements and the courses offered at MHS to help you not only graduate but also assist you beyond high school.

There are opportunities in addition to the traditional schedule (AP courses, college in the high school, running start, NCTA) that you should learn about to help guide your choices for next year and in planning for the years after that.

It is important to take time to think about what classes you would be interested in taking next year.

- The courses offered in this packet will only be offered if enough students register to fill a class.
- The choices made determine your schedule for next year and what you need to take in the years that follow. You are making a commitment to take the classes you sign up for next year, and may not be able to change your schedule.

An electronic copy of this catalog can be found at <http://www.meridian.wednet.edu/mhs/resources>

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MERIDIAN HIGH SCHOOL
Graduation requirements for the class of 2018

24 credits are required to graduate. All subjects receive .5 credits per semester. Only the semester grades are recorded on the transcript, which is the official record. The six week and twelve week grades are progress reports.

ENGLISH – 4 credits

English 9 - 1 credit – 2 semesters
English 10 - 1 credit – 2 semesters
English 11 – 1 credit – 2 semesters
English 12 – 1 credit – 2 semesters

FINE ARTS – 1 credit

1 credit is required. 2nd credit is dependent on High School & Beyond Plan (HSBP)

HEALTH AND FITNESS – 2 credits

Physical Education – 1.5 credits – 3 semesters
Health – .5 credit - 1 semester

MATH - 3 credits

3 credits of Math include Algebra 1, Geometry and a 3rd credit of high school math which is based on High School & Beyond Plan (HSBP).

OCCUPATIONAL EDUCATION (CTE) – 1 credit

1 credit is required. 2nd credit is dependent on High School & Beyond Plan (HSBP)
Occupational Education are found in the CTE Programs. Classes include: Industrial Arts, Family and Consumer Science, Business and Office Education, Trade and Technical Education, Vocational and Agriculture classes.

SCIENCE - 3 credits (2 credits must be lab sciences)

Lab Sciences include Biology, Food Science, Chemistry, Physics, and Applied Physics.

SOCIAL STUDIES - 3 credits

Contemporary World Problems (CWP) – 1 credit - 2 semesters
Civics – .5 credit - 1 semester
U.S. History – 1 credit - 2 semesters
Senior Social Studies – .5 credit – 1 semester
WA St. History – State requirement (Usually fulfilled @ Meridian Middle School)

ELECTIVES – 7 credits with High School & Beyond Plan (HSBP)

NOTE: Students will be required to pass an ELA (English Language Arts) Exit Exam or an 11th grade Smarter Balanced ELA Test and an EOC (End of Course) or 11th grade Smarter Balanced Mathematics and Science Test (or a state approved alternative) in order to receive a Meridian High School diploma.

MERIDIAN HIGH SCHOOL
Graduation requirements for the class of 2019 & Beyond

24 credits are required to graduate. All subjects receive .5 credits per semester. Only the semester grades are recorded on the transcript, which is the official record. The six week and twelve week grades are progress reports.

ENGLISH – 4 credits

English 9 - 1 credit – 2 semesters
English 10 - 1 credit – 2 semesters
English 11 – 1 credit - 2 semesters
English 12 – 1 credit – 2 semesters

FINE ARTS – 1 credit

1 credit is required. 2nd credit is dependent on High School & Beyond Plan (HSBP)

HEALTH AND FITNESS – 2 credits

Physical Education – 1.5 credits – 3 semesters
Health – .5 credit - 1 semester

MATH - 3 credits

3 credits of Math include Algebra 1, Geometry and a 3rd credit of high school math which is based on High School & Beyond Plan (HSBP).

OCCUPATIONAL EDUCATION (CTE) – 1 credit – 1 credit

1 credit is required. 2nd credit is dependent on High School & Beyond Plan (HSBP)
Occupational Education are found in the CTE programs. Classes include: Industrial Arts, Family and Consumer Science, Business and Office Education, Trade and Technical Education, Vocational and Agriculture classes.

SCIENCE - 3 credits (2 credits must be lab sciences)

Lab Sciences include Biology, Food Science, Chemistry, Physics, and Applied Physics.

SOCIAL STUDIES - 3 credits

Contemporary World Problems (CWP) – 1 credit - 2 semesters
Civics – .5 credit - 1 semester
U.S. History – 1 credit - 2 semesters
Senior Social Studies – .5 credit – 1 semester
WA St. History – State requirement (Usually fulfilled @ Meridian Middle School)

WORLD LANGUAGE – 2 credits dependent on High School & Beyond Plan (HSBP)

Two consecutive years of the same World Language

ELECTIVES – 5-8 credits determined by High School & Beyond Plan (HSBP)

NOTE: Students will be required to pass an ELA (English Language Arts) Exit Exam or an 11th grade Smarter Balanced ELA Test and an EOC (End of Course) or 11th grade Smarter Balanced Mathematics and Science Test (or a state approved alternative) in order to receive a Meridian High School diploma.

DUAL CREDIT OPPORTUNITIES

Advanced Placement Courses

Courses will be identified by the  logo next to the course title in the catalog

Advanced Placement courses are college level courses taught at the high school. Students in AP courses may earn college credit by performing well on the AP exam. Students who sign up for **AP classes will be expected to stay in that class for the entire year.**

College in the High School

Courses will be identified by the  logo next to the course title in the catalog

College in the High School is a cooperative program between local districts and selected colleges/universities in the state of Washington. The program is designed to offer 10th – 12th grade high school students the opportunity to earn college credit while staying on their high school campus and completing pre-approved course work in their high school classes. Students will need to pay for credits (at a reduced price) but do not have to pay additional fees or for books.

Running Start

Running Start is an opportunity for juniors and seniors to attend classes at either Whatcom Community College or Bellingham Technical College. Eligibility to participate is determined either by the student's GPA or an assessment test. Successful completion of the classes results in earning both college and high school credit. Meridian High School pays for the tuition for college level courses. The student is responsible to purchase books, pay any fees and materials needed for the class. Students also need to provide transportation to/from the college. Eligible students may qualify for a fee waiver. Discussion with a counselor of the positive features and possible pitfalls of this program is strongly encouraged before making a decision to enroll in Running Start.

Course equivalencies for WCC and BTC can be found at <http://www.meridian.wednet.edu/mhs/resources>

College Tech Prep

Courses will be identified by the  logo next to the course title in the catalog

College Tech Prep is a unique program that allows high school students to get a jump-start on their college education. High school Tech Prep courses meet the entry-level course requirements of comparable college courses at local community and technical colleges. Students who take College Tech Prep courses earn both high school and college credit provided the student demonstrates proficiency in the identified college course competencies with a "B" or better grade. Registration for college credit must be completed during the same academic year the course is taken at the high school.

College Tech Prep credits are primarily intended for two-year technical education programs in Washington's community and technical college system. Students should consult with four-year colleges or universities to determine specific credit transfer requirements.

For additional information contact the Counseling Center, the teacher of a College Tech Prep class or visit <http://www.whatcomtechprep.org>

Washington Engineering Institute

Meridian High School and Washington Engineering Institute (WEI) have articulation agreements on several classes offered at MHS that will count towards classes at WEI. You can begin working towards a certificate or degree while taking classes at MHS. More information can be found in the office or by talking with Mr. Feller.

PERSONAL PLAN DIPLOMA TYPE

FRESHMAN

1ST SEMESTER

1. ENGLISH 9
2. CONTEMPORARY WORLD PROBLEMS
3. MATH
4. BIOLOGY
5. ELECTIVE To Meet Grad Req. + HSBP
6. ELECTIVE To Meet Grad Req. + HSBP

2ND SEMESTER

1. ENGLISH 9
2. CONTEMPORARY WORLD PROBLEMS
3. MATH
4. BIOLOGY
5. ELECTIVE To Meet Grad Req. + HSBP
6. ELECTIVE To Meet Grad Req. + HSBP

SOPHOMORE

1ST SEMESTER

1. ENGLISH 10
2. CIVICS
3. SCIENCE
4. MATH
5. ELECTIVE To Meet Grad Req. + HSBP
6. ELECTIVE To Meet Grad Req. + HSBP

2ND SEMESTER

1. ENGLISH 10
2. HEALTH
3. SCIENCE
4. MATH
5. ELECTIVE To Meet Grad Req. + HSBP
6. ELECTIVE To Meet Grad Req. + HSBP

JUNIOR

1ST SEMESTER

1. ENGLISH 11
2. U.S. HISTORY
3. MATH
4. SCIENCE
5. ELECTIVE To Meet Grad Req. + HSBP
6. ELECTIVE To Meet Grad Req. + HSBP

2ND SEMESTER

1. ENGLISH 11
2. U.S. HISTORY
3. MATH
4. SCIENCE
5. ELECTIVE To Meet Grad Req. + HSBP
6. ELECTIVE To Meet Grad Req. + HSBP

SENIOR

1ST SEMESTER

1. ENGLISH 12
2. SENIOR SOCIAL STUDIES
3. ELECTIVE To Meet Grad Req. + HSBP
4. ELECTIVE To Meet Grad Req. + HSBP
5. ELECTIVE To Meet Grad Req. + HSBP
6. ELECTIVE To Meet Grad Req. + HSBP

2ND SEMESTER

1. ENGLISH 12
2. ELECTIVE To Meet Grad Req. + HSBP
3. ELECTIVE To Meet Grad Req. + HSBP
4. ELECTIVE To Meet Grad Req. + HSBP
5. ELECTIVE To Meet Grad Req. + HSBP
6. ELECTIVE To Meet Grad Req. + HSBP

COLLEGE READY PLAN TO GRADUATE

FRESHMAN

1ST SEMESTER

7. ENGLISH 9
8. CONTEMPORARY WORLD PROBLEMS
9. MATH
10. BIOLOGY
11. ELECTIVE To Meet Grad Req. + HSBP
12. ELECTIVE To Meet Grad Req. + HSBP

2ND SEMESTER

1. ENGLISH 9
2. CONTEMPORARY WORLD PROBLEMS
3. MATH
4. BIOLOGY
5. ELECTIVE To Meet Grad Req. + HSBP
6. ELECTIVE To Meet Grad Req. + HSBP

SOPHOMORE

1ST SEMESTER

7. ENGLISH 10
8. CIVICS
9. SCIENCE
10. MATH
11. YEAR 1 FOREIGN LANGUAGE
12. ELECTIVE To Meet Grad Req. + HSBP

2ND SEMESTER

1. ENGLISH 10
2. HEALTH
3. SCIENCE
4. MATH
5. YEAR 2 FOREIGN LANGUAGE
6. ELECTIVE To Meet Grad Req. + HSBP

JUNIOR

1ST SEMESTER

7. ENGLISH 11
8. U.S. HISTORY
9. MATH
10. SCIENCE
11. YEAR 2 FOREIGN LANGUAGE
12. ELECTIVE To Meet Grad Req. + HSBP

2ND SEMESTER

1. ENGLISH 11
2. U.S. HISTORY
3. MATH
4. SCIENCE
5. YEAR 2 FOREIGN LANGUAGE
6. ELECTIVE To Meet Grad Req. + HSBP

SENIOR

1ST SEMESTER

7. ENGLISH 12
8. SENIOR SOCIAL STUDIES
9. ELECTIVE To Meet Grad Req. + HSBP
10. ELECTIVE To Meet Grad Req. + HSBP
11. ELECTIVE To Meet Grad Req. + HSBP
12. ELECTIVE To Meet Grad Req. + HSBP

2ND SEMESTER

1. ENGLISH 12
2. ELECTIVE To Meet Grad Req. + HSBP
3. ELECTIVE To Meet Grad Req. + HSBP
4. ELECTIVE To Meet Grad Req. + HSBP
5. ELECTIVE To Meet Grad Req. + HSBP
6. ELECTIVE To Meet Grad Req. + HSBP

MUST TAKE A QUANTITATIVE MATH CLASS OR AN ALGEBRA BASED SCIENCE DURING YOU SENIOR YEAR IF YOU HAVE NOT YET PASSED OR ARE CURRENTLY TAKING PRE CALCULUS

TAKE SAT AND/OR ACT

HIGH SCHOOL AND BEYOND PLAN

The High School and Beyond Plan is a graduation requirement. It is an electronic guidance unit designed to assist students to think about their future goals and how to accomplish those goals. This includes exploring interests, career options, post high school education opportunities, reality checks, and mapping out a course of study that reflects those individual choices. It allows students to take ownership and responsibility over their high school experience by choosing coursework and activities that are relevant to their plan. Students revisit their plan through the guidance units each year and update any changes as they progress through high school. The HSBP (High School And Beyond Plan) serves as a guide for the student as they select their Personal Pathway, courses, and post high school goals.

- **Community College, Technical College, Military:**
Meridian High School Diploma

- **4 Year University:**

In addition to our diploma, students need the following:

1. World Language: 2+ years same language
2. Science: Biology, Chemistry, Physics
3. Mathematics: Algebra 1, Geometry, Algebra 2
Recommended: Pre-Calculus
4. Quantitative Mathematics Class during Senior Year (Chemistry, Physics, Mathematics) **or** the completion of Pre-Calculus

It is recommended that during the spring of the junior year, and/or fall of the senior year, 4 year university bound students take the SAT and/or ACT test. These tests are not needed for community or technical colleges

SPECIAL PROGRAMS

EL (ENGLISH LEARNER) SERVICES -

Meridian High School is solidly committed to providing English classes that are appropriate for all learners--including students who are new to the country. The EL program provides a welcoming atmosphere where EL students can feel comfortable and learn English at a level that is appropriate for each individual. Students are qualified with level 1-3 through the WELPA (Washington English Language Proficiency Assessment), and are entitled to EL services until they test out of the program. Our program focuses not only on proficiency in spoken English, but also on academic English that will prepare students for the transition into traditional English classes. Any student who speaks a home language other than English may qualify for EL services. The amount of time a student spends in the program may vary depending on the student's previous level of education and/or experience with the English language.

SPECIAL EDUCATION SERVICES –

As a learning community, Meridian High School is committed to providing multiple levels of service for ALL of our students with disabilities. Under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) of 2004, ALL students with disabilities are provided with a free appropriate public education. Student success is our primary focus, thus we provide a continuum of instructional alternatives within the least restrictive environment to ensure that each child has the opportunity to be successful. MHS offers special education classes and general education classroom instruction with special education assistance and/or modifications. Our program options are designed to prepare our students to function at their highest academic and vocational ability. We share the common goal of preparing our students to lead a productive and independent adult life.

In order to be enrolled into any Special Education Course, students must be found eligible for special education services and must have a current Individualized Educational Plan (IEP) in place. Please contact your student's case manager with specific questions about program and scheduling options.

STUDENT ACTIVITIES AVAILABLE AT MERIDIAN HIGH SCHOOL

Meridian High School encourages students to get involved in an activity, club, or sport. Research shows students who are connected to extracurricular activities have higher academic success. All students in extracurricular activities are under the same eligibility code. See the Athletic Director for further information.

ATHLETICS

FALL

**Cross Country (Coed)
Football (Boys)
Soccer (Girls)
Volleyball (Girls)**

WINTER

**Basketball (Boys & Girls)
Wrestling (Boys & Girls)**

SPRING

**Baseball (Boys)
Golf (Coed)
Soccer (Boys)
Softball (Girls)
Track (Coed)**

SCHOOL ORGANIZATIONS, CLUBS AND ACTIVITIES

**Chamber Choir
Cheerleading
Chess Club
Class Officer
Drama Club
FFA – Future Farmers of America
Floral Club
Pride Alliance Club
Honor Society
International Club
Jazz Ensemble
Meridian Tech Video Club
Mock Trial
Robotics/TSA (Technology Student Association)
Student Council
Trojan Café Club
Winter Ride**

Northwest Career & Technical Academy

The academies are for 11th and 12th grade students

Opportunities at MHS

NCTA courses will be taught in the Career and Technical Building on the Meridian High School campus. These courses meet the first three periods of each day: 7:55 AM – 10:25 AM.

Construction Careers Academy

Construction prepares students for careers in the construction industry. Students will study a nationally recognized construction trade curriculum and participate in hands-on building activities. Students will learn about work-site safety, construction-based applied math, safe use of hand and power tools, blueprint reading, communication skills, employability skills, material handling and framing skills. The program helps students explore a variety of construction-related career opportunities, develops appropriate work readiness skills and prepares them to enter construction-related apprenticeships, post-secondary education programs or entry-level jobs. With successful completion of the program, students will receive a national, industry-recognized certificate of training completion. High School Credits Earned: 1.0 Technical Math, 1.0 Technical English and 1.0 Occupational Education.

Welding Academy

Welding is an industry-based shop environment designed for the student who would like to develop a deeper understanding of metalworking as a foundation for continuing education or being in a job-ready market. Students are trained in the basic skills of oxyacetylene welding, and cutting, shielded metal arc welding, gas metal and flux cored arc welding, gas tungsten arc welding, many other areas. Additionally, this program trains students in blueprint reading, math, layout and fit-up, and fabrication of a wide variety of projects. High School Credits Earned: 0.5 Technical English, 0.5 Fine Arts, 1.0 Technical Math and 1.0 Occupational Education.

Off-campus Northwest Career & Technical Academy courses

The Northwest Career & Technical Academy provides students with the skills, knowledge, and training necessary for the workplace or continuing education through an apprenticeship, community college, or university. The Academy is tuition free for high school students; however some programs may have industry related costs/lab fees. Many courses are offered off campus and students need to provide their own transportation. Students learn more about NCTA offerings by going to nwtech.k12.wa.us.

BUSINESS AND HOSPITALITY

Culinary Arts

HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Animal Care and Handling
Applied Medical Sciences
Criminal Justice and Public Safety
Dental
Fire Science and EMS
Veterinary Assisting

COMPUTERS AND ENGINEERING

Video Game Development

INDUSTRY TECHNOLOGY

Aerospace Manufacturing
Automotive Services
Marine Services

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

ENGLISH

Integrated Language Arts 9 (Yearlong)

Prereq: None
Credit: English

This course is aligned with the Advanced Placement Vertical Teams Guide for English. The class includes learning the processes for close-reading and annotation of literature; explication and annotation of verse; writing essays and self and peer editing, assessing, revising of those same compositions; vocabulary enhancement; developing technical writing skills; establishing a common language vocabulary for grammar, parts of speech, the literary elements, poetry and literary terms.

Integrated Language Arts 10 (Yearlong)

Prereq: None
Credit: English

This course is aligned with the Advanced Placement Vertical Teams Guide for English. The class reinforces through repetition the learning processes for close-reading and annotation of more sophisticated literature; explication and annotation of verse; writing essays and self and peer editing, assessing, revising of those same compositions; vocabulary enhancement; developing technical writing skills; establishing a common language vocabulary for grammar, parts of speech, the literary elements, poetry and literary terms.

American Literature (Yearlong)

Prereq: Grade 11
Credit: English

This course is aligned with the Advanced Placement Vertical Teams Guide for English. The class reinforces through repetition the learning processes for close-reading and annotation of more sophisticated literature to include contemporary American short stories and novels; writing essays and self/peer editing, assessing, revising of those same compositions; vocabulary enhancement; developing technical writing skills; establishing a common language vocabulary for grammar, parts of speech, the literary elements, and literary terms. The genres explored will include mystery and futurism.

Advanced Placement English Language and Composition (Yearlong) Prereq: Grades 11-12 Credit: English

Advanced Placement English Language and Composition is a class that gives high school students the opportunity to receive advanced placement and/or college credit through passing the AP exam in May of each year. The curriculum level of this class is comparable to an introductory college course. Students who choose AP English Language and Composition should be interested in studying and writing various kinds of analytic or persuasive prose on primarily nonliterary topics. In short, the goal of the class is to develop our skills as effective writing through a study of style and effective techniques, as well as reading critically how other authors and writers develop their craft. The opportunity that this class provides to enter college-level conversations about composition is unique and opens the door to many opportunities in our high school and in university-level education.

Students may have the opportunity to earn college credit via the College in the High School program or by passing AP exam in May.

Advanced Placement English Literature and Composition (Yearlong) Prereq: Grade 12 Credit: English

This course will be offered again in the 2018-2019 school year

This course intends to prepare students for the university level as well as for the AP English Literature & Composition test in May. Those who score high on that test (4 or 5) will receive their freshman English credit from most accredited universities in the US. Students will engage in critical reading and analysis of imaginative literature through the close-reading and annotation of selected works – poems, short stories, plays, and novels – they will deepen their understanding of the ways writers use language to provide both meaning and pleasure for their readers. Students, in their readings, will consider a work’s structure, style, and themes as well as such smaller scale elements as the use of figurative language, imagery, symbolism, and tone. Student writing emphasis and practice will include essays (personal narrative, expository, argumentative), timed writes, reflective narratives, dialectical journaling. Instruction will focus on development of voice and style as well as improvement in written fluency. Students will become familiar with, and practice, writing the multi-paragraph essay.

Students may have the opportunity to earn college credit via the College in the High School program or by passing AP exam in May.

Bridge to College English (Yearlong)

Prereq: Grade 12

Credit: English

The course curriculum emphasizes focused reading, writing, speaking & listening, and research work based on Washington State's K-12 Learning Standards for English language arts (the Common Core State Standards, CCSS-ELA). This course will develop students' college and career readiness by building skills in critical reading, academic writing, speaking and listening, research and inquiry, and language use as defined by the CCSS-ELA for high school. The course will also develop essential habits of mind necessary for student success in college, including independence, productive persistence, and metacognition. For seniors who score in Level 2 on the Smarter Balanced 11th grade assessment, the Bridge to College English Language Arts (ELA) course will offer an opportunity (with a B or better course grade) to place into college-credit courses when entering college directly from high school.

English Learner 1-2 (Yearlong)

Prereq: Grades 9-12, Instructor approval required

Credit: English (pending) or Elective

This course is for beginning English Learners who are new to the country. The course focuses on vocabulary, grammar, speaking and basic writing skills. Also emphasized are school and community routines. Students qualify through English Learner testing.

English Learner 3-4 (Yearlong)

Prereq: Grades 9-12, Instructor approval required

Credit: English

This course is for intermediate English Learners. The course focuses on reading vocabulary, high level grammar, reading, note-taking and essay writing. Students qualify through ELL testing and or success in English Learner 1-2

Basic English 9 (Yearlong)

Prereq: IEP goal or instructor permission

Credit: English / Elective

This course provides reading and writing interventions for students. Instruction is focused on vocabulary and language development, thinking skills. Reading and writing strategies are also developed.

Basic English 10 (Yearlong)Prereq: 10th Grade, IEP goal or instructor permission

Credit: English / Elective

This course provides reading and writing interventions for students. Instruction is focused on inference and author's purpose, mechanics and paragraph and essay writing. Reading and writing strategies are also developed.

Basic English 11 (Yearlong)Prereq: 11th Grade, IEP goal or instructor permission

Credit: English / Elective

This course provides reading and writing interventions for students. Instruction is focused on figurative language, inference, author's purpose, and essay writing in a variety of forms. Reading and writing strategies are also developed. This course will also support the controversial issue research paper and the cultural history project.

Basic English 12 (Yearlong)Prereq: 12th Grade, IEP goal or instructor permission

Credit: English / Elective

This course provides reading and writing interventions for students. Instruction is focused on reading and writing strategies including analysis of informational and narrative text, compare and contrast, as well as writing for a variety of contexts. This class will also support transition planning, senior presentation portfolio components, and the senior presentation.

FINE & PERFORMING ARTS**ART****Fundamentals of Art (Semester)**

Prereq: None, Repeatable

Credit: Fine Arts

This is an introductory art course for students who have had no previous high school art experience. It is also a prerequisite for Advanced Art. This course includes an introduction to the principles and elements of 2D design, painting, and emphasis on drawing. Instruction in the use of pencil, charcoal, chalk, colored pencils, and oil pastels and their application will be an integral part of the course.

***This course requires a \$10.00 fee to cover materials due by the end of the first six weeks.**

Ceramics (Semester)

Prereq: None, Repeatable

Credit: Fine Art

This course is designed to introduce students to the fundamentals of sculpture and 3-D design. Creative expression will be emphasized while gaining familiarity with clay. Clay basics will be emphasized, including pinch, slab, and coil methods. Students will be encouraged to begin identifying their strengths, as well as add personal expression to their projects. They will also learn to begin talking about and identifying aspects of their own works of art.

***This course requires a \$20.00 fee to cover materials due by the end of the first six weeks.**

Pottery (Semester)

Prereq: Ceramics, Repeatable, Instructor Approval

Credit: Fine Art

This class is designed for students who have an interest in working with clay on the pottery wheel. It gives students experiences in making functional as well as sculptural pieces developed from the pottery wheel. Well thought out forms, designs, and functional uses along with good craftsmanship are emphasized. This class is LIMITED TO 6 INDIVIDUALS AT ANY TIME. It also requires a signature of the teacher and may only be taken during the Ceramics class.

***This course requires a \$20.00 fee to cover materials due by the end of the first six weeks.**

Advanced Art (Semester)

Prereq: Fundamentals of Art, Repeatable, Instructor Approval

Credit: Fine Art

This is an advanced art course in which students will begin strengthening skills and techniques from Fundamentals of Art and 3-D Design with an emphasis on drawing, painting, and sculpture. They will complete projects using a variety of two-dimensional media which will include: Graphite, Prism color/sticks, acrylic, portrait drawing, watercolor, pastel, pen and ink. Techniques include: Drawing, shading (value, gradation, stipple, crosshatching), painting, and collage. They may also be asked to complete projects using a variety of three dimensional media including clay, plaster and wire. Students will be encouraged to continue identifying their strengths, as well as add personal expression to their projects. They will also learn to begin talking about and identifying aspects of their own works of art. Depending upon the student's grade, (10-12) the final result may be an accumulation of artwork in which they would be able to develop an AP Art Portfolio.

***This course requires a \$10.00 fee to cover materials due by the end of the first six weeks.**

Floral Design (Semester)

Prereq: None

Credit: Fine Art or Occ Ed

Cross Credit for Art Credit requires Fundamental of Art Prerequisite.

This course is a semester long course in floriculture that focuses on the art of arranging flowers and learning skills that you can apply to a floriculture related job. This course will include units on the principles and elements of design, floriculture careers, and most importantly, the basic skills in designing floral arrangements for all occasions. If you are interested in working with flowers, making boutonnieres or corsages, and bringing home arrangements to your family, this is a great class for you. It is recommended that students become involved in leadership, career development, service learning activities, Floral Club, and school and community experiences.

***Class Fee: \$20.00**

Advanced Welding  (Semester)

Prereq: Ag Mechanics, Int Metals, Repeatable

Credit: Occ Ed, Fine Art if repeated (pending school board approval)

Cross Credit for Art Credit requires Fundamental of Art Prerequisite. (pending school board approval)

After a shop safety review, the semester will be spent working on independent projects of the student's choice. The course will further develop skills learned in beginning metals and small gas engines and the opportunity for application of those skills. This is an excellent class for career preparation for mechanics or engineering careers. The school will provide the first pair of safety glasses and communal welding gloves and coveralls. Students will have the opportunity to showcase their skills through displays, projects and career development events facilitated through course work and FFA participation. If the student receives a "B" grade or better they may be able to receive 6 credits from Bellingham Technical College through the tech prep program.

***Shop Fees: \$25.00 initial fee and additional fees may apply depending on student projects.**

Digital Photography (Semester)

Prereq: None

Credit: Fine Art or Occ Ed

Cross Credit for Art Credit requires Fundamental of Art Prerequisite.

Do you want to learn how to take better photos and use Photoshop? This class uses computers, digital cameras, and Photoshop. You will design and make a wide variety of projects that you can take home. Several assignment projects will allow you to make your own choices so that your personal interests can be expressed. Join this class and have a great time while being creative and learning employable skills. No previous knowledge or skills are required to take this class. Are you interested in being considered to be a part of Yearbook staff? If this class is for you, the answer to this question is, "Yes."

AP Studio Art (Yearlong) **AP**

Prereq: Fundamentals of Art, Adv. Art, Instructor Approval

Credit: Fine Art

AP Studio Art is recommended for students who have college-level ability. It is strongly recommended that students enrolling in AP Studio Art be extremely interested in Visual Arts. There is no exam for AP Studio Art; instead, assessment and evaluation are based upon the completion of all the requirements for the AP portfolio. Students will work toward the development of a comprehensive portfolio that may meet the requirements for entry into college-level classes. Students learn to seek out creative problems that are interesting and challenging and use goal setting, informed decision making and problem solving skills to pursue their own artistic interest in an informed way.

Students are responsible for demonstrating mastery at using the elements of art to organize the principles of design in their work. A minimum of 24 works will be completed for the College Board's exam.

***This course requires a \$10.00 fee to cover materials due by the end of the first six weeks.**

Yearbook (Yearlong)

Prereq: Instructor approval required, Repeatable

Credit: Fine Art or Occ Ed

Cross Credit for Art Credit requires Fundamental of Art Prerequisite.

This is a year-long course in which you will be creating the Meridian High School's yearbook the Zenith. You will be introduced to and work with Photoshop, InDesign and will use digital photography. Instructor permission and initials on your registration form are required to be in this class.

MUSIC

Symphonic Band (Yearlong)

Prereq: Play a band instrument, Repeatable

Credit: Fine Art

The Symphonic Band is made up of brass, woodwind players and percussionists who wish to continue their growth in instrumental music. The Symphonic Band performs master concert band literature, pep band music from the pop genre and various types of marching band music. The MHS symphonic band performs in concerts, festivals, graduation, parades, sporting events, and school and community events. Percussionists are also members of the MHS Drum line, which meets once a week in the evening. Most graded performance events take place outside of the school day. Each student will be required to attend all concerts and performances. This course may be repeated for credit. To help cover costs of department activities, students of the music department will participate in ASB fundraising.

***General Fee: \$100.00 for percussion, \$80.00 for all other instruments** (Students in multiple ensembles only pay one fee - the largest amount).

Jazz Ensemble (Yearlong) (.25 credit per sem)

Prereq: Audition and Instructor Approval, Repeatable

Credit: Fine Art

The Jazz Ensemble explores various styles of music, such as blues, swing, pop, rock, Latin and funk. The MHS jazz ensemble performs in concerts, festivals, and school and community events. Most graded performance events take place outside of the school day. Each student will be required to attend all concerts and performances.

The Jazz Ensemble rehearses two times per week during zero hour (6:50am to 7:45am) and an occasional evening sectional. Experience on a musical instrument is required. Jazz Ensemble is made up of students who are also enrolled in core music classes (symphonic band or concert choir). This course may be repeated for credit. To help cover costs of department activities, students of the music department will participate in ASB fundraising.

***General Fee: \$35.00 - Students in multiple ensembles only pay one fee - the largest amount.**

Concert Choir (Yearlong)

Prereq: None, Repeatable

Credit: Fine Art

Offered to all students, choir introduces the principles of music theory, vocal technique and sight-singing through choral master literature, Broadway and popular music. The MHS concert choir performs in concerts, festivals, and school and community events.

Most graded performance events take place outside of the school day. Each student will be required to attend all concerts and performances. This course may be repeated for credit. To help cover costs of department activities, students of the music department will participate in ASB fundraising.

***General Fee: \$25.00 - Students in multiple ensembles only pay one fee - the largest amount.**

Chamber Choir (Yearlong) (.25 credit per sem)

Prereq: Audition and Instructor Approval, Repeatable

Credit: Fine Art

The Chamber Choir explores varying styles of pop and A Cappella choral literature from several different time periods. The MHS Chamber Choir performs in concerts, festivals, and school and community events. Most graded performance events take place outside of the school day. Each student will be required to attend all concerts and performances. Chamber choir is made up of students who are also enrolled in core music classes (concert choir or symphonic band).

The Chamber Choir rehearses two to three times per week during zero hour (6:50am to 7:45am) and an occasional evening. A basic understanding and demonstration of vocal skills and sight singing are required. To help cover costs of department activities, students of the music department will participate in ASB fundraising.

***General Fee: \$35.00 - Students in multiple ensembles only pay one fee - the largest amount.**

HEALTH & PHYSICAL EDUCATION

HEALTH

Health (Semester)

Prereq: Grade 10

Credit: Health

This course explores health issues, concepts, and behaviors in 5 main units of study. These units include: Social and Emotional Health; Alcohol, Tobacco, and Other Drugs; Relationships, Reproduction, and Reducing Risk; Nutrition and Body Image; and First Aid and CPR.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Recreational PE (Semester)

Prereq: None, Repeatable

Credit: PE

Team sports, individual and dual sports, and fitness are all taught in recreational sports. The emphasis will be on advanced techniques and strategies. A variety of skills and rules of sports are learned including but not limited to; flag football, volleyball, basketball, softball, indoor soccer, speedball, team handball, badminton, and pickle ball.

Lifetime Sports (Semester)

Prereq: Grade 10 to 12, Repeatable

Credit: PE

Students will receive basic instruction in technique, strategy, rules and safety of lifetime activities. Since many of the activities will be performed outside the school facilities, fees will be required to cover costs. This class teaches a number of activities that can be done for a lifetime to stay physical active including; bowling, tennis, archery, frisbee golf, roller hockey, floor hockey, golf, softball, bocce ball, lacrosse, and croquet.

***Approximate \$40.00 fee required for field trips.**

Fitness and Performance (Semester)

Prereq: None, Repeatable

Credit: PE

This semester long course offers students the opportunity to improve upon fitness and performance in both life and athletics. Students will learn the basic fundamentals of anaerobic, aerobic, and flexibility exercises through use of weight training, yoga, balance, and agility drills.

Yoga (Semester)Prereq: None, Repeatable
Credit: PE

In this class students will learn the skills of various yoga techniques that build strength and flexibility. Through this class students will learn breathing techniques, basic to intermediate yoga, different equipment that can be used, as well as how to create a flow sequence. By the end of the semester, students will be able to perform their own yoga sequences so they can continue incorporating yoga into their daily lives.

Adapted Physical Education (Yearlong)Prereq: Instructor permission; repeatable
Credit: PE

This course provides a wide variety of experiences in P.E. that challenges students, builds upon their current skills and imparts additional skills necessary to remain healthy and active throughout life. The students work to develop and refine motor skills, hand-eye coordination, balance and flexibility to maintain mobility. Social skills are integrated in all activities. Students are encouraged to maximize their abilities as they engage in a variety of modified individual and team activities.

MATHEMATICS

The usual sequence for Math courses is Algebra 1, Geometry, Algebra 2, Pre-Calculus, AP Statistics or AP Calculus. Select students may double-up on Geometry and Algebra 2 their sophomore year. Further, students may choose to double-up on AP Statistics with Pre-Calculus or AP Calculus with AP Statistics.

Pre-Algebra (Yearlong)Prereq: None
Credit: Elective

This course is a way to prepare students for Algebra and future math courses. Students spend two days a week working on strengthening arithmetic skills (fractions, decimals, percents) and two days a week working on Algebra concepts to build a better foundation for Algebra I (graphing, expressions, equations).

Pre-Algebra Support (Yearlong)Prereq: Pre-Algebra simultaneously
Credit: Elective

This course is an opportunity for students to receive individualized help in Pre-Algebra as well as support for all their core classes.

Algebra I (Yearlong)Prereq: None
Credit: Math

Students will be exposed to a powerful set of mathematical tools called Algebra. Algebra forms the foundation of higher mathematics. Students will collaborate with other students as members of study teams. Emphasis is placed on the understanding of patterns as tables, rules, and graphs.

Algebra 1 Support (Yearlong)Prereq: Algebra I simultaneously
Credit: Elective

This course is an opportunity for students to receive individualized help in Algebra 1.

Geometry (Yearlong)Prereq: Algebra I
Credit: Math

This course centers on the study of shapes. Students will investigate new situations, discovering relationships, and figuring out what strategies can be used to solve problems. Students will collaborate with other students as members of study teams. By the end of the year students will have an understanding of a variety of geometric principles and properties that govern the world around us.

Algebra 2 (Yearlong)Prereq: Algebra 1, Geometry
Credit: Math

Study will focus on functions including linear, quadratic, polynomial, exponential, absolute value, simple rational, logarithmic, and square root equations. Other topics include conics, sequences and series, systems with and without matrices, and complex numbers. Students will collaborate with other students as members of study teams. Whenever possible, topics will be investigated in context of real problems. Students are required to have a TI-84 calculator. A limited number of these calculators are available for checkout in the school library.

Algebra 2 Support (Yearlong)

Prereq: Algebra 2 simultaneously

Credit: Elective

This course is an opportunity for students to receive individualized help in Algebra 2.

Pre-Calculus (Yearlong) 

Prereq: Algebra 2

Credit: Elective

Study will focus on trigonometry and sinusoidal motion, parent graph functions and their transformations, exponential and logarithmic functions including the natural logarithm, conics, polar functions, vectors, sequences and series, and an introduction to the fundamentals of the calculus.

Students may have the opportunity to earn college credit via the College in the High School program.

Trades Math (Yearlong)

Prereq: Algebra, Geometry, Instructor Approval

Credit: 3rd Year Math

Math in the Trades provides the practical mathematics skills needed for a wide variety of trade, technical, and other occupational areas, including plumbing, automotive, electrical and construction trades, machine technology, landscaping, HVAC, allied health, and more. The course will cover a direct, practical approach that emphasizes careful, complete explanations and actual on-the-job applications. This course is designed to meet the 3rd year math requirement for students who have completed Algebra and Geometry and intend to enter a trade rather than pursue a four year technical degree.

AP Calculus (Yearlong) Prereq: Pre-Calculus with grade of C or better at the end of 2nd semester.

Credit: Elective

Students will approach Calculus using a four-pronged approach: numerically, graphically, algebraically, and verbally (whichever is appropriate). This course will prepare the student to take the optional Advanced Placement exam at year's end to earn college credit. Scope and sequence for the course is: Limits, Derivatives, and Integrals; Properties of Limits; Derivatives and Indefinite Integrals; Products, Quotients, and Parametric Functions; Definite and Indefinite Integrals; The Calculus of Exponential and Logarithmic Functions; The Calculus of Growth and Decay; The Calculus of Plane and Solid Figures; Algebraic Techniques for the Elementary Functions; The Calculus of Motion, Averages, Extremes, and Vectors; The Calculus of Variable-Factor Products; and The Calculus of Functions Defined by Power Series. Students are required to have a TI-84 calculator. A limited number of these calculators are available for checkout in the school library.

Students may have the opportunity to earn college credit via the College in the High School program or by passing AP exam in May.

AP Statistics (Yearlong) Prereq: Pre-Calculus with grade of C or better at the end of 2nd semester.

Credit: Elective

Statistics is the science of reasoning from data. Its purpose is to aid people in making decisions based on the analysis of numerical information. Data and numerical arguments occur not only in science and the social sciences but also in almost every field of academic inquiry. In addition most people encounter statistical reasoning in everyday life.

Therefore, it is appropriate and important for all educated citizens to study the principles and methods of statistics. Students are required to have a TI-84 calculator. A limited number of these calculators are available for checkout in the school library.

The emphasis in this course will be on understanding statistical concepts and on interpreting and communicating the results of statistical analyses. In other words, you will be asked to read carefully, write well, and speak knowledgeably in addition to "doing math." You will be expected to construct and analyze numerical arguments as well as draw conclusions based on statistical evidence. You are expected to actively participate in class activities and projects throughout the course. Since statistics is applicable in everyday life and most academic fields, you will analyze genuine data from a variety of applications throughout the course. These data will span a wide variety of subject matter; most should be of interest to a general audience. Students may have the opportunity to earn college credit via the College in the High School program or by passing AP exam in May.

Basic Math 1 (Yearlong)

Prereq: 9 Grade, IEP goal or instructor permission

Credit: Math / Elective

This course provides instruction in basic mathematical skills and concepts. The overall goal of the Basic Math classes is to give students skills they need to gain confidence in solving everyday math problems in order to successfully apply math in their adult lives and/or move up to the next levels in math. These skills include determining the question, picking out important information, identifying math operations needed to solve the problem, performing accurate number calculations, and communicating the solution words, numbers, or pictures. In addition, students will be working on their needed individual skills which may include math calculation skills, problem solving, and math fluency.

Basic Math 2 (Yearlong)

Prereq: 10 Grade, IEP goal or instructor permission

Credit: Math / Elective

This course provides instruction in basic mathematical skills and concepts. The overall goal of the Basic Math classes is to give students skills they need to gain confidence in solving everyday math problems in order to successfully apply math in their adult lives and/or move up to the next levels in math. These skills include determining the question, picking out important information, identifying math operations needed to solve the problem, performing accurate number calculations, and communicating the solution words, numbers, or pictures. In addition, students will be working on their needed individual skills which may include math calculation skills, problem solving, and math fluency.

Basic Math 3 (Yearlong)

Prereq: 11 Grade, IEP goal or instructor permission

Credit: Math / Elective

This course builds on the instruction in basic mathematical skills and concepts from math I & II. The overall goal of the Basic Math classes is to give students skills they need to gain confidence in solving everyday math problems in order to successfully apply math in their adult lives and/or move up to the next levels in math. These skills include determining the question, picking out important information, identifying math operations needed to solve the problem, performing accurate number calculations, and communicating the solution words, numbers, or pictures. In addition, students will be working on their needed individual skills which may include math calculation skills, problem solving, and math fluency.

Basic Math 4 (Yearlong)

Prereq: 12 Grade, IEP goal or instructor permission

Credit: Math / Elective

This course builds on the instruction in basic mathematical skills and concepts from math I & II. The overall goal of the Basic Math classes is to give students skills they need to gain confidence in solving everyday math problems in order to successfully apply math in their adult lives and/or move up to the next levels in math. These skills include determining the question, picking out important information, identifying math operations needed to solve the problem, performing accurate number calculations, and communicating the solution words, numbers, or pictures. In addition, students will be working on their needed individual skills which may include math calculation skills, problem solving, and math fluency.

SCIENCE

Biology (Yearlong)

Prereq: None

Credit: Lab Science

This lab science course is designed to promote lasting understandings of life science. Topics include: Molecules to Organisms, Ecosystems, Heredity, and Biological Evolution. As a STEM course, Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics will be integrated throughout the curriculum. This includes application of scientific practices, scientific inquiry and engineering practices to each topic. The course has been correlated to the NGSS national science standards and the biology end-of-course state exam (EOC) must be passed to graduate.

Chemistry (Yearlong)

Prereq: Grades 10-12, Algebra 1 (or taking concurrently), & Biology

Credit: Lab Science

Chemistry is the study of the material world, and is a part of all other sciences! Students learn how the material world works by studying atomic structure and changes in matter and energy. Topics may include: density, naming chemicals, chemical formulas and equations, and studying matter and its interactions. This is a STEM course, Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics, and Society are all used to make chemistry connections. This course has been correlated to the NGSS national science standards.

Honors Chemistry (Yearlong) 

Prereq: Grades 10-12, Algebra 1 (or taking concurrently), & Biology Instructor Approval

Credit: Lab Science

Honors Chemistry is designed for the student that seeks to challenge themselves to deeper understanding of the chemistry concepts and earn a credit designated as an Honors Chem course. Students learn about the atomic nature of matter and its interactions, including atomic structures, bonds, reactions, dimensional analysis, and stoichiometry. There will be a wide variety of labs with opportunities given to research and investigate chemistry using inquiry. Topics may include: nuclear chemistry, medicine and aspirin testing, space, materials testing, forensics, water chemistry, acids and bases, food chemistry, and geology. This is a STEM course, (Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics, and Society) and the course has been correlated to the NGSS national science standards.

Students may have the opportunity to earn college credit via the College in the High School program.

Physics (Yearlong)

Prereq: Grades 11-12, Alg I, Geometry, Biology & either Chemistry or Food Science
 Credit: LabScience

Physics is a lab class that deals with the study of the physical universe, studying the relationship between matter and energy. It is helpful if the student has had chemistry, but it is not mandatory. Topics covered include motion and forces, gravity and space, matter and energy, electricity, optics, and electronics. Students will design and engineer multiple projects, which typically include egg gravity drop, bridge construction, roller coasters, materials testing, and airplane design. This is a STEM course, using the relationships between Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics, and Society to learn about physics.

Applied Physics (Yearlong)

Prereq: Grades 11-12, Alg I, Geometry, Biology & either Chemistry or Food Science
 Credit: LabScience

Applied Physics students will learn basic physics concepts as well as written and oral technical communication through several large hands on inquiry projects. Physics concepts include investigations in motion, forces, Newton's Laws, momentum, collisions, work, energy, and simple machines. Small group projects typically include the design, construction and testing of parachutes, rockets, crash test vehicles, and catapults. A focus on scientific communication requires students to design and execute controlled experiments, present original research, critique peer presentations, and write scientific reports in a format similar to peer-reviewed journals.

AP Biology (Yearlong) 

Prereq: Grades 11-12, Biology and Chemistry
 Credit: Lab Science

The Advanced Placement Biology course is designed to both prepare students for success on the AP Biology exam and to provide students with an advanced biology course that expands on knowledge presented in first year Biology. The AP program is based on the premise that college-level material can be taught successfully to motivated, academically able and well-prepared high school students. It aims to provide students with the conceptual framework, factual knowledge and analytical skills necessary to deal critically with the rapidly changing science of biology. The course is structured around the four big ideas, enduring understandings and science practices as mandated by the College Board. The development of critical thinking skills is one of the most important parts of this course, and students are expected to spend time out of class preparing to learn in class. In AP Biology, students spend approximately 25% of instructional time in a lab setting and perform at least 2 inquiry based labs within each big idea.

Students may have the opportunity to earn college credit via the College in the High School program or by passing AP exam in May.

Food Science (Yearlong)

Prereq: Grade 10 to 12, Biology
 Credit: Lab Science or Occ Ed

Food Science is the study of the nature of food, the causes of deterioration, the principles underlying food processing, and the improvement of food for the consuming public. During the course, students will work in teams to prepare and conduct food experiments. They will predict, interpret, and evaluate food lab results. Throughout the course students will discover careers in the food science industry.

This course includes food microbiology, food chemistry, risk management procedures, technology in food production, and diet and nutritional analysis and planning. Science is integrated throughout the course in such experiments as the caramelization of sugars and starches, the production and growth of yeast, or the effects of tempering chocolate.

Students may study such topics as the effects of antioxidants on humans, the shelf life of food products, and the positive and negative effects of bacteria on food.

This course does not meet CADR college requirements.

SOCIAL STUDIES

Contemporary World Problems (Yearlong)

Prereq: Grade 9
 Credit: Social Studies

This freshman level course will cover the geography and contemporary cultures of our world. The students will focus on Africa, South Asia, and the Middle East and challenges that are present in those areas. Students will be stretched to look at problems through various perspectives in order to gain optimum knowledge and understanding of pressing issues in today's world.

Civics (Semester)Prereq: Grade 10
Credit: Social Studies

In this semester class the student will cover the basics of the U.S. government, including the Constitution and the three branches of government and how they interact. The student will also apply this knowledge to see how decisions are made in all levels of government and to demonstrate thoughtful, participatory citizenship.

U.S. HistoryPrereq: Grade 11
Credit: Social Studies

This course covers U.S. History from 1900 to the present. The focus for the course is cultural history which means the students will study the relationship between historical events and various aspects of our culture (music, art, sports, entertainment, etc.). Students will be asked to explain how history is reflected in music, art, entertainment, sports, etc. and how those aspects of our culture have changed as a result of historical developments. During the second semester students will complete a Cultural History Project in which they create their own “book” of American cultural history.

The Law and Society (Semester)Prereq: Grade 12
Credit: Social Studies

This course examines the American legal system and its impact on our society. The first half of the course focuses on Constitutional Law with the goal of helping students understand their rights and responsibilities. Other aspects of the course deal with criminal law and civil law. The course is designed for those who want to understand their rights and/or those seeking a career in law enforcement or other legal field.

Current Issues (Semester)Prereq: Grade 12
Credit: Social Studies

The goal of this class is to examine contemporary events and develop the essentials of knowledge for operating in today’s society. Topics will include: various domestic policy issues including the environment, education, health care, immigration, and the budget. The course will also look at key foreign policy concerns and practical economics.

Comparative Religions (Semester)Prereq: Grade 12
Credit: Social Studies

Students in Comparative Religions learn about the seven major historic religions of the world. Students will study each religion’s historical background and impact on the world. The religions studied will include Hinduism, Buddhism, Taoism, Confucianism, Judaism, Christianity and Islam. Coursework includes readings, class discussion, individual research, guest speakers and field trips.

AP U.S. Government and Politics (Yearlong)Prereq: Grade 12
Credit: Social Studies

This course serves as a comprehensive study of the U.S. national government and public policy. The course will help students understand the structure and institutions of our government, political beliefs and behaviors, political parties and interest groups, public policy, civil rights, and civil liberties. Students will also gain thorough knowledge of the constitutional foundations of the U.S. government. This is a year-long course. Students will receive senior social studies credit upon completion of the full-year course. There is a summer reading requirement
College credit is possible upon successful completion of AP exam.

WORLD LANGUAGE

American Sign Language 1 (ASL 1) (Yearlong)Prereq: None
Credit: World Language

Year one courses introduce the language. Students will practice reading, writing, listening and speaking. In the ASL class students will practice receptive comprehension and expressive signing skills.

American Sign Language 2 (ASL 2) (Yearlong)Prereq: ASL 1
Credit: World Language

This course builds on first year by expanding vocabulary and placing a greater emphasis on grammar. Students continue to develop skills in reading, writing, listening/comprehension, and speaking/signing. Students also expand their knowledge of other cultures including the Deaf culture. ASL grammar includes components of signing, expression, body language, gestures as well as visual connection. This class is conducted primarily in the target language.

Spanish I (Yearlong)

Prereq: None

Credit: World Language

Spanish I is an introduction to the study of the Spanish language and the cultures of the Spanish speaking world. Audio activities, written texts, music, games and movies will be used to develop the three modes of communication: Interpersonal, Interpretive and Presentational. Acquisition of Spanish vocabulary is of utmost importance; therefore students should plan a minimum of 10-15 minutes of study each night.

Spanish II (Yearlong) 

Prereq: Completion/passing of Spanish I

Credit: World Language

Spanish II broadens communication skills through the study of the three simple tenses (past, present and informal future) with a large emphasis on the simple past. Audio activities, written texts, music, games and movies will be used to assist vocabulary acquisition and comprehension of more complex grammar functions. In Spanish II, students are expected to present on a variety of topics in the target language. Acquisition of Spanish vocabulary is of utmost importance; therefore students should plan a minimum of 10-15 minutes of study each night.

Students may have the opportunity to earn college credit via the College in the High School program.

CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION

AGRICULTURE

Students in FFA must take at least one Agricultural course every year to remain in FFA. Likewise, students in Agriculture classes are strongly encouraged to be in FFA.

Introduction to Agriculture (Semester)

Prereq: None

Credit: Occ Ed

This semester long orientation course provides the opportunity for students to learn how the agricultural industry is organized; its major components; the economic influence of agriculture at state, national and international levels; and the scope and types of job opportunities in the agricultural field. Basic concepts in animal science agribusiness management, agricultural biotechnology, and food science technology will be presented.

Beginning Welding (Semester)

Prereq: None

Credit: Occ Ed

This is an introductory course in agricultural mechanics. It includes units on metal shop tools and safety, arc and MIG welding, oxygen and acetylene cutting, sheet metal fabrication and soldering, hot iron forge work, and tap and die. Students' first pair of safety glasses will be provided. The school will provide communal welding gloves and coveralls for this class. Students will also have the opportunity to showcase their skills through displays, projects and career development events facilitated through course work and FFA participation.

***Shop fee \$25.00**

Intermediate Welding  **(Semester)**

Prereq: Beg. Welding

Credit: Occ Ed

This is a continuation of beginning metals however the student will learn to weld GMAW with E7018, E6013, and E6010 welding rods. They will also be expected to become proficient in GMAW (MIG) welding in various processes and metal thicknesses. There will also be a section on oxy-acetylene welding. The students will learn the plasma arc cutting process. There will be a culminating project that will test all the skills they have learned in both beginning and intermediate welding. Students' first pair of safety glasses will be provided. The school will provide communal welding gloves and coveralls. If the student receives a "B" grade or better they may be able to receive 6 credits from Bellingham Technical College through the tech prep program.

***Shop fee \$25.00**

Advanced Welding (Semester)

Prereq: Ag Mechanics, Int Metals, Repeatable
Credit: Occ Ed, Fine Art if repeated (pending school board approval)

Cross Credit for Art Credit requires Fundamental of Art Prerequisite. (pending school board approval)

After a shop safety review, the semester will be spent working on independent projects of the student's choice. The course will further develop skills learned in beginning metals and small gas engines and the opportunity for application of those skills. This is an excellent class for career preparation for mechanics or engineering careers. The school will provide the first pair of safety glasses and communal welding gloves and coveralls. Students will have the opportunity to showcase their skills through displays, projects and career development events facilitated through course work and FFA participation. If the student receives a "B" grade or better they may be able to receive 6 credits from Bellingham Technical College through the tech prep program.

***Shop Fees: \$25.00 initial fee and additional fees may apply depending on student projects.**

Ag Mechanics (Semester)

Prereq: None
Credit: Occ Ed

Beginning Agriculture mechanics will be a one semester class. In this class students will learn safe operation of a variety of agricultural tools. They will also learn Arc welding fundamentals using 6010 welding rods, gas torch cutting and tap and die. The students will also go through small gas engine theory, disassembly, repair, reassembly and trouble shooting.

***\$25.00 Shop Fee Required**

Intro to Manufacturing (Semester)

Prereq: Beg. Metals
Credit: Occ Ed

Introduction to manufacturing is your introduction to the world of manufacturing/fabrication. In this class not only will students polish their welding skills but, they will also learn to read and draw blue prints, measure and use geometry. There will be several opportunities to work on projects both big and small. Students will learn lathing and milling. As part of this class, students will also be expected to complete a SAE project on the AET website.

***\$25.00 Shop Fee Required plus any costs of personal project expenses.**

Horticulture (Yearlong)

Prereq: None
Credit: Occ Ed

Students will participate in learning the plant science required for the commercial production of bedding plants and hanging baskets. A large part of this class will be spent in the greenhouse performing "hands-on" activities with various plants and propagation methods. Turf and landscape management and floral design units will be explored. Students will also have the opportunity to showcase their skills through displays, projects and career development events facilitated through course work.

Nursery & Landscape Production (Semester)

Prereq: None
Credit: Occ Ed

Agricultural science course that prepares individuals for immediate entry into careers related to Horticulture and Greenhouse operations and management. The course provides training in all phases of plant science including production, research, plant breeding, species management, irrigation, transportation, distribution, inventory, marketing wholesale, commercial and retail, indoor climate control, equipment maintenance operation, safety, facilities planning, construction and ownership, human resource management, enterprise management, agriculture finance and economics.

Turf Management (Semester)

Prereq: None
Credit: Occ Ed

Landscape and turf grass management class is designed to be an introductory class to introduce you into the world of landscaping and lawn care. In this class it is my hope to pique your interest and show you the possibilities in this profession. You will learn what it takes to get a job in this profession and possibly start your own business. As part of this class you will also be expected to complete a SAE project on the AET website.

Floral Design (Semester)

Prereq: None
Credit: Fine Art or Occ Ed

Cross Credit for Art Credit requires Fundamental of Art Prerequisite

This course is a semester long course in floriculture that focuses on the art of arranging flowers and learning skills that you can apply to a floriculture related job. This course will include units on the principles and elements of design, floriculture careers, and most importantly, the basic skills in designing floral arrangements for all occasions. If you are interested in working with flowers, making boutonnieres or corsages, and bringing home arrangements to your family, this is a great class for you. It is recommended that students become involved in leadership, career development, service learning activities, Floral Club, and school and community experiences.

Class Fee: \$20.00

Advanced Floral Design (Semester)

Prereq: Floral Design

Credit: Occ Ed

This course is a follow-up of Floral Design. In this course, students will learn about specific floral holidays and seasons and will make various arrangements for these special days. Students will also cover Contemporary Floral Designs and arrangements made from artificial materials.

Class Fee: \$20.00**BUSINESS****Microsoft IT Academy  (Semester)**

Prereq: None, Repeatable

Credit: Occ Ed

This academy, which consists of Web-based instruction, includes topics ranging from computer basics to high-level programming. Students will have the opportunity to get hands-on experience and certification in a number of Microsoft products, such as Microsoft Word, Microsoft Excel and Microsoft PowerPoint, as well as advanced topics, including programming, Web development and database development. Once students have completed the Microsoft IT Academy training, they can become certified in their areas of study to earn industry-recognized Microsoft Office Specialist, Microsoft Technology Associate or Microsoft Certified Professional certifications.

These credentials can help give students an edge in today's competitive job market.

Accounting 1  (Semester)

Prereq: None

Credit: Occ Ed

This course offers principles of accounting for personal and service business use. Students will learn to keep and prepare financial records for a small service business. This is an excellent class for students who plan to operate a business, work in the business world, or plan to take accounting in college. Students who maintain a "B" average qualify for Tech Prep college credit.

Digital Photography (Semester)

Prereq: None

Credit: Fine Art or Occ Ed

Cross Credit for Art Credit requires Fundamental of Art Prerequisite.

Want to learn how to take better photos and use Photoshop? This class uses computers, digital cameras, and Photoshop. You will design and make a wide variety of projects that you can take home. Several assignment projects will allow you to make your own choices so that your personal interests can be expressed. Join this class and have a great time while being creative and learning employable skills. No previous knowledge or skills are required to take this class. Are you interested in being considered to be a part of Yearbook staff? If this class is for you, the answer to this question is, "Yes."

Computer Applications (Semester)

Prereq: None

Credit: Occ Ed

Do you have aspirations of becoming a graphic designer? Have you ever wanted to "Photoshop" pictures? You will be introduced to the power of Photoshop. You will create a variety of images. We will concentrate on manipulating images into fantastic works of art. You will learn what the professionals do to literally every picture that you see in every magazine you see. This is a project-based class with only one (yes only one) test. If you have aspirations of being a part of the Yearbook staff, you should take this class.

Video Production (Semester)

Prereq: None

Credit: Occ Ed

Video Production is an entry-level course that will serve as an introduction to basic video/film/audio production. The goal of the course is for students to develop the ability to capture great video images and audio, and to be able to edit those two elements together to tell a story.

During the course you will learn:

- The basic understanding of operating a video camera.
- The basic principles of how to capture great video & audio.
- How to edit video and audio.
- How to tell a story by combining video and audio.

Personal Finance (Semester)

Prereq: None

Credit: Occ Ed

Who wants to be a millionaire? Learn how! You will learn a variety of money management skills that you can use now and throughout your life. Budgeting, balancing a checkbook, managing savings, investing, tax forms, loans, credit cards, and retirement are just some of what you will learn about in this class. You probably know an adult who would have loved to take this class in high school!

Yearbook (Yearlong)

Prereq: Instructor approval, repeatable, Grade 10 and above

Credit: Fine Arts or Occ Ed

Cross Credit for Art Credit requires Fundamental of Art Prerequisite.

This is a year-long course in which you will be creating the Meridian High School's yearbook the Zenith. You will be introduced to and work with Photoshop, InDesign and will use digital photography. Instructor permission and initials on your registration form are required to be in this class.

FAMILY AND CONSUMER SCIENCE EDUCATION

Foods (Semester)

Prereq: None

Credit: Occ Ed

After passing the WA State Food Worker's Card safety and sanitation test, students will participate in cooking labs representing the six basic food groups – at least two recipes from each, with additional recipes to supplement as time allows. Balanced nutritional facts and concepts, measuring skills and techniques, fundamental kitchen utensils and equipment, safe food storage and preparation principles, introductory knife skills, and meal preparation are included.

***\$20.00 Lab Fee Required**

Culinary Arts/Catering A (Semester)

Prereq: Grades 9-12, Foods

Credit: Occ Ed

With a concentration on safety and sanitation (from the first half of the *ServSafe* course text), the course also includes instruction and hands-on application of a variety of cooking methods, continuous instruction to further develop knife skills and presentation techniques, a chance to evaluate nutritional fads and facts, menu cost analysis, an introduction to a selection of ethnic foods and world flavors, and an exploration of post-high school culinary educational opportunities. Students will demonstrate their competency in many of these skills during their involvement in food service events; participation in catered events outside of the regular school day is part of the course requirements.

***\$20.00 Lab Fee Required**

Culinary Arts/Catering B (Semester)

Prereq: Grades 9-12, Foods

Credit: Occ Ed

With a concentration on safety and sanitation (from the second half of the *ServSafe* course text), the course also includes instruction and hands-on application of a variety of cooking methods, continuous instruction to further develop knife skills and presentation techniques, a chance to evaluate nutritional fads and facts, menu cost analysis, an introduction to a selection of ethnic foods and world flavors, and an exploration of culinary career opportunities. Students will demonstrate their competency in many of these skills during their involvement in food service events; participation in catered events outside of the regular school day is part of the course requirements.

***\$20.00 Lab Fee Required**

Food Science (Yearlong)

Prereq: Grade 10 and above, Biology

Credit: Science or Occ Ed

Food Science is the study of the nature of food, the causes of deterioration, the principles underlying food processing, and the improvement of food for the consuming public. During the course, students will work in teams to prepare and conduct food experiments. They will predict, interpret, and evaluate food lab results. Throughout the course students will discover careers in the food science industry.

This course includes food microbiology, food chemistry, risk management procedures, technology in food production, and diet and nutritional analysis and planning. Science is integrated throughout the course in such experiments as the caramelization of sugars and starches, the production and growth of yeast, or the effects of tempering chocolate.

Students may study such topics as the effects of antioxidants on humans, the shelf life of food products, and the positive and negative effects of bacteria on food.

This course does not meet CADR college requirements.

TECHNOLOGY

Computer-Aided Design (CAD) (Semester)

Prereq: None
Credit: Occ Ed

Everything from video games to clothing, jewelry and homes is now designed using computers. This class is an introduction to design, manufacturing and shop processes. You will design, draw, and then construct various projects in the lab. You will also gain experience in planning, organizing and producing drawings and products commonly found in business and industry. Join this class and learn how to use both 2-D and 3-D Computer-Aided Design (CAD) software as well as designing and building test models.

Wood Technology 1 (Semester)

Prereq: None
Credit: Occ Ed

In this course you will create personal projects in the wood shop! The goal of this class is to provide you with the opportunity to plan and construct products made of wood and other materials. Topics to be covered include use of hand and power tools, shop safety, methods of construction, and finishing techniques. Students learn how to select materials, plan, design, build, and finish a project. Students also learn about careers related to wood technology and the skills required to obtain these jobs. Components of employability and leadership skills are covered throughout the duration of the course. No previous knowledge or skills are required to take this class, just a strong interest to be creative.

\$15.00 lab fee is required for initial project. Students supply their own wood and materials after the 1st project.

Wood Technology 2 (Semester)

Prereq: Wood Technology 1
Credit: Occ Ed

In this course you will continue to design and build a variety of wood projects. The projects are student chosen and should reflect a more complex product when compared to the Level I course. Lab fee is \$15 to cover all finish and fastening materials.

\$15.00 lab fee is required for initial project. Students supply their own wood and materials after the 1st project.

Robotics (Semester)

Prereq: None
Credit: Occ Ed

During this class students will explore the field of robotic design using a variety of hands on activities. Students begin the semester with an introduction to the tools used to create robotic devices. Students work in teams to create simple robots of various capabilities. Mechanical concepts such as gearing/torque/speed/power are introduced.

These topics are explored through the use of hands on labs. Students must use this knowledge to design and build custom drive trains capable of meeting a variety of criteria including climbing, pushing, attaining maximum speed, etc. Sensors are introduced to allow robotic devices to interact with the environment. The final few weeks of class will be comprised of a robot design project.

WORK BASED LEARNING

Work Based Learning (Semester)

Prereq: 11th or 12th grade
Credit: Occ Ed

The Work-Based Learning experience provides students with opportunities to gain exposure to an occupational area related to their interests and career goals. This experience helps students identify some of the needed skills, knowledge and preparation wanted by employers. Hours will include time both on and off campus. Record keeping will be required.

OTHER CREDIT OPPORTUNITIES

LEADERSHIP

Leadership (Yearlong)

Prereq: Election to ASB or Class office/Instructor Approval
Credit: Elective or Occ Ed

The purpose of this class is to help you identify and develop specific leadership skills that will aid you in your leadership role in our school, as well as in life. The assignments for this course include activities in assembly planning, community service, goal setting, problem solving, group process, stress management, student and staff recognition, project planning, fundraiser processes, time management, communication skills, managerial skills, public speaking and self-awareness as a leader—all of which in some way will be aligned with the mission of serving the school in your role as a leader.

This is year-long class for ASB officers. \$30.00 ASB Card Required

ASSISTANTS – LIBRARY/OFFICE/TEACHER

Students may take no more than one class per semester and a total of 1.0 credit of assistant classes. All assistant grades are pass/fail.

Library Assistant (Semester)

Prereq: Grades 11-12, Librarian approval
Credit: Elective

Library assistants will perform a variety of daily tasks such as collecting mail, taking statistics, checking materials in and out, filing and shelving materials, preparing and repairing books, and running errands. They will be expected to learn the operation of the library well enough to help students and teachers use the library. *Students may not use a PE Waiver with this course on their transcript.*

Teacher Assistant (Semester)

Prereq: Grades 11-12, Teacher approval
Credit: Elective

The TA course is designed to give students direct knowledge of the teaching profession by working closely with a selected teacher and his/her students. *Students may not use a PE Waiver with this course on their transcript.*

Office Assistant (Semester)

Prereq: Grades 11-12, Principal approval
Credit: Elective

Need a chance to develop skills in customer service, business machine operation, and telephone etiquette? Earn an elective credit while growing your resume for countless jobs in your future. TA's will learn a variety of useful tasks, including how to run copy machines, use a multi-line phone system, and attend to customer needs in a busy office or classroom setting. *Students may not use a PE Waiver with this course on their transcript.*

Peer Tutor (Semester)

Prereq: Grades 11-12, Teacher approval
Credit: Elective

Peer tutors, under the direct supervision of the classroom teacher, will assist students in the class with understanding material and assignments. This is not a teacher assistant class. Peer tutors are student assistants, thus PE waivers are not impacted by this course.

SUPPORT CLASSES

English Learner 1-2 (Yearlong)

Prereq: Grades 9-12, Instructor approval required
Credit: English (pending) or Elective

This course is for beginning English Learners who are new to the country. The course focuses on vocabulary, grammar, speaking and basic writing skills. Also emphasized are school and community routines. Students qualify through English Learner testing.

Learning Strategies (Semester)

Prereq: IEP or instructor permission; repeatable
Credit: Elective

This class is designed for those students who need additional support/training in organizational, time management, and note taking skills. Classroom teachers collaborate regularly to ensure success in the content education curriculum. Post high school and High School and Beyond Plans are also addressed in this class. This class also provides assistance with class assignments, research, studying and projects.

English Learner Study Skills (Semester)

Prereq: Instructor permission; repeatable
Credit: Elective

This portion of the class is designed mainly for serious EL or former EL students who need extra time and/or support to successfully complete work or assessments for academic classes. Self-advocacy is emphasized through used of scaffolding and support aids. Teacher recommendation is required for this class.

Independent Study (Semester)

Prereq: Grade 11-12, Instructor & Principal permission prior to semester
Credit: Elective

Students wishing to study a subject area not offered in a course at the high school may work with a teacher to design an independent study project. Specific guidelines, benchmarks and goals will need to be included. This is a pass/fail course.

Collection of Evidence - English (Semester)

Prereq: Grade 12, Instructor permission; repeatable
Credit: Elective (converted to English with a successful portfolio)

This course is designed for students who have not yet passed the ELA state assessment, which is a requirement for graduation. Students will produce and submit a COE portfolio to the state for an alternative assessment. If approved, the portfolio will count as meeting the ELA state assessment graduation requirement.

Collection of Evidence - Math (Semester)

Prereq: Grade 12, Instructor permission; repeatable
Credit: Elective

This course is designed for students who have not yet passed the math state assessment, which is a requirement for graduation. Students will produce and submit a COE portfolio to the state for an alternative assessment. If approved, the portfolio will count as meeting the math state assessment graduation requirement.