

# Herscher High School Freshman 2023-2024 Curriculum Guide



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## **ART AND MUSIC CURRICULUM**

### **Subject: Band**

Year Offered: 9, 10, 11, 12

Prerequisite: Playing experience from junior high or approval from director

Length of course: 1 year - No Exceptions

Credit: 1 credit

Course Description: The Herscher High School Band Program presently consists of four major organizations: Concert Band, Jazz Band, Marching Band, and Pep Band. By being in Band, students are required to participate in Concert Band, Marching Band, and Pep Band and must be in the class for the entire year. Seating placement for concert is determined by audition after the marching season, and students are required to take part in solo and ensemble contest, organizational contests, all concerts, and all public performances on the band schedule. Individual lessons, and writing assignments are also a part of the curriculum for band. Jazz Band is the only extra-curricular ensemble and is not required by all students.

### **Subject: Orchestra**

Year Offered: 9, 10, 11, 12

Prerequisite: Junior High school string experience or instructor's permission

Length of course: 1 year

Credit: 1 credit

Course Description: The Herscher High School Orchestra is open to any student with Junior High experience on violin, viola, cello, or string bass. The Orchestra meets daily to further develop skills and prepare a wide variety of orchestral literature for performances. After completion of the band's marching season, selected wind and percussion players are added to the group to provide full orchestra experience. In addition to concert performance, the orchestra participates in IHSA solo and ensemble contest and organizational contest. Smaller ensembles are formed as needed to provide chamber music experience and community service. **Individual lessons are required for this course.**

### **Subject: Concert Choir**

Year Offered: 9, 10, 11, 12

Prerequisite: Meet with Instructor

Length of course: 1 year - exceptions can be made at directors' discretion

Credit: 1 credit

Course Description: Concert Choir is a non-auditioned, friendly atmosphere choir that is still musically challenging, but with more accessible music to more students. This is open to anyone interested in singing. Additionally, students are enrolled in choir lessons to further musical education.

### **Subject: Music Survey**

Years Offered: 9, 10, 11, 12

Prerequisite: None, other than interest in music, willingness to try new things

Length of Course: 1 semester

Credit: ½ credit

Course Description: This course will serve HHS students who are not enrolled in a music performance class, and who still want to find out more about music. Students will be able to explore music in a hands-on laboratory setting, including but not limited to: becoming reacquainted with an instrument or trying out a new one, using electronic and internet means to record and create their own arrangements of tunes, composing their own tunes, charting trends in pop music, researching composers and/or bands, and exploring other student-generated topics. This class will provide a framework for further individual study and a jumping-off point for students who wish to expand their participation in performance-based classes. Emphasis is on student-centered topics and concerns.

**Subject: Art I**

Year Offered: 9, 10, 11, 12

Prerequisite: None

Length of course: 1 semester

Credit: ½ credit

Course Description: Students will explore and express art concepts, processes, materials, and techniques through all the art elements and principles. Art processes will include drawing, painting, as well as several other mediums. Students who plan on taking advanced drawing and painting and the graphics art courses are required to take this class.

## **BUSINESS CURRICULUM**

### **Subject: Intro to Business**

Year Offered: 9, 10, 11, 12

Prerequisite: None

Length of Course: 1 semester

Credit: ½ credit

Course description: This course is designed for students interested in pursuing business careers or becoming entrepreneurs. Students will learn forms of business ownership, basic economic concepts, principles of free enterprise and basic managerial functions. Each topic will be related to its affect on entrepreneurs and their business ventures. Emphasis will be placed on recognizing and preparing for the ever-changing local and world economies.

### **Subject: Desktop Publishing**

Year Offered: 9, 10, 11, 12

Prerequisite: None

Length of Course: 1 semester

Credit: ½ credit

Course Description: This skill-level course is designed to address specific desktop publishing features and concepts. Using graphics, fonts, and color, students will create newsletters, magazine ads/advertisements, gift certificates, programs, and tickets. In addition, students will use digital photography to create digital images and be introduced to the wonderful features offered in MS Publisher. This course will give hands-on experience through computer desktop publishing. **Students must have a parent signed AUP on file.**

## **ENGLISH**

### **Subject: Foundations of English I**

Year Offered: 9  
Prerequisite: None  
Length of Course: 1 year  
Credit: 1 credit

Course Description: This course is directed to the student who has experienced special difficulties in reading and grammar. The purposes of the course are to improve the reading level through short story, nonfiction, fiction, poetry, epic, drama, and the novel. Students will also improve vocabulary, grammar, and spelling, composition skills while increasing the student's appreciation and understanding of literature and writing. Essay writing is assigned. A research paper is also required. Students will read and study the following pieces of literature: **That Was Then, This Is Now; Tears of a Tiger; The Odyssey; and Romeo & Juliet**. Various projects related to areas of study will also be assigned.

### **Subject: English I**

Year Offered: 9  
Prerequisite: None  
Length of Course: 1 year  
Credit: 1 credit

Course Description: This course includes the introduction to various types of literature, basic grammatical, writing, spelling, and vocabulary skills. Areas of literature studied include the following: short story, nonfiction, nonfiction, poetry, the epic, drama, and the novel. Essay writing is assigned. A research paper is also required. Students will read and study **To Kill a Mockingbird, Tears of a Tiger, Romeo & Juliet, and The Odyssey**. Various projects related to units studied will also be assigned.

### **Subject: Honors English I**

Year Offered: 9  
Prerequisite: None  
Length of Course: 1 year  
Credit: 1 credit

Course Description: This course includes the study of world literature, traditional grammar, composition, and vocabulary. Additional reading is encouraged, with an emphasis on the in-depth study of *Romeo & Juliet*, *The Odyssey*, *To Kill a Mockingbird*, and *The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian*. Writing is stressed and assigned in the form of journals, essays, a narrative, and a short expository research paper. Various projects related to units studied will also be assigned. Students will be expected to identify literary terms and grammatical elements introduced during the freshman year in their subsequent advanced English classes.

## **PHYSICAL HEALTH ED**

### **Subject: Physical Education/Health**

Year Offered: 9, 10, 11, 12  
Prerequisite: None  
Length of Course: 1 semester  
Credit: .5 credit

Course Description: Each physical education semester will consist of four units with each unit lasting approximately four weeks. Units will consist of skills presentation, skills practice, rules and strategy discussions, game and tournament play, a skills test and a written test. Typical units that will be covered in physical education are flag football, soccer, volleyball, pickle ball, basketball, team handball, badminton, softball, and fitness.

### **Subject: Driver Education**

Year Offered: 9, 10, 11  
Prerequisite: State Requirements  
Length of Course: 9 weeks  
Credit: Included in P.E. credit

Course Description: Herscher High School offers both classroom and behind-the-wheel courses in driver education. The classroom segment of the course consists of nine weeks of instruction on driving techniques, rules, state regulations, and proper attitude. The behind-the-wheel portion of the class includes 6 hours of actual driving time divided into 12-14 sessions. This course strictly follows state guidelines for drivers education.

A \$20 fee is collected and turned over to the Secretary of State for the students' instruction permit and their first drivers' license. A \$150 fee is collected at the time of Freshman registration for the students' Behind the Wheel instruction.

### **Subject: Athletic Weight Training**

Year Offered: 9, 10, 11, 12  
Prerequisite: None  
Length of Course: 1 Semester  
Credit: .5 credit

Course Description: Athletic weight training is an advanced course that focuses on proper weight training techniques. Weight lifting activities will be routinely performed on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays throughout the semester. A department-wide workout program will be used for weight training activities. Tuesdays and Thursdays activities will consist of various cardiovascular, ply metric, speed training and abdominal workouts. This course is progressive to meet the changing needs of the individual student. Instruction in weight lifting techniques, exercise principles, and the positive effects of exercise on overall fitness and well-being will be provided. The students will be expected to demonstrate knowledge in these areas on written tests and skills tests.

# **MATHEMATICS**

## **Subject: Algebra 1A**

Year Offered: 9, 10, 11

Prerequisite: Appropriate knowledge of basic mathematical operations

Length of Course: 1 year

Credit: 1 credit

Course Description: This course is a Pre-Algebra course designed for the student who has essentially developed the basic math skills but may need review, drill and application in order to transition to Algebra 1B. Many examples and problem-solving applications are used to stress understanding of these basic skills.

## **Subject: Algebra IB**

Year Offered: 9, 10, 11, 12

Prerequisite: Alg IA or Junior High Pre-Algebra

Length of Course: 1 year

Credit: 1 credit

Course Description: Algebra is a logical development of mathematical knowledge and procedures. Applications of this study are used in physics, economics, and linguistics. The Algebra IB course is designed to help students understand the basic structure of equations and functions. Students will solve linear equations, linear inequalities, and systems of equations, and be able to utilize the structure of equations to recognize properties of mathematics. Students will also delve into properties of linear, exponential and quadratic functions by comparing and contrasting function properties, transforming functions to reveal equivalent structures, and solving applications by choosing and applying the appropriate functional model. Finally, students will gain a firm grasp of mathematical vocabulary to be used when describing the mathematics they are performing.

## **Subject: Algebra IB-Double Block**

Year Offered: 9, 10, 11, 12

Prerequisite: Junior High Pre-Algebra or Alg 1A.

Length of Course: 1 year

Credit: 2 credit

Course Description: Algebra is a logical development of mathematical knowledge and procedures. Applications of this study are used in physics, economics, and linguistics. The Algebra IB course is designed to help students understand the basic structure of equations and functions. Students will solve linear equations, linear inequalities, and systems of equations, and be able to utilize the structure of equations to recognize properties of mathematics. Students will also delve into properties of linear, exponential and quadratic functions by comparing and contrasting function properties, transforming functions to reveal equivalent structures, and solving applications by choosing and applying the appropriate functional model. Finally, students will gain a firm grasp of mathematical vocabulary to be used when describing the mathematics they are performing.

This course is a special double-block course which will meet with students for two consecutive periods every day. This course is structured to provide students additional teacher and small group in an effort to help build stronger foundational skills and provide additional time to explain concepts in a different way. A student will receive a math credit for the first period and an elective credit for the 2<sup>nd</sup> period.



**Subject: Honors Geometry**

Year Offered: 9, 10, 11, 12

Prerequisite: Pass Algebra 1B with a B or better; or Teacher approval

Length of Course: 1 year

Credit: 1 credit

Course Description Students develop thinking patterns by examining mathematical relationships involving lines, angles, surfaces, solids, triangles, quadrilaterals, and circles. Advanced Geometry will challenge the student to use inductive and deductive reasoning for problem solving, and provide clear communication of their reasoning. Use of formal proofs will also be developed by using the various types: two-column, coordinate, flow, indirect, and paragraph. Students will also be introduced to trigonometry.

## **SCIENCE**

### **Subject: Biology**

Year Offered: 9  
Prerequisite: None  
Length of Course: 1 year  
Credit: 1 credit

Course Description: One-year life science course. Biology presents an integrated view of the essential units of life both structurally and functionally. Concepts will be applied through laboratory experiences. Units covered in Biology I are: The Nature of Life; Ecology; Cells; Genetics; Evolution; From Microorganisms to Plants; Animals; The Human Body; and The Diversity of Life

### **Subject: Honors Biology**

Year Offered: 9  
Prerequisite: This course requires prior life science knowledge and maturity and study skill levels beyond those of most freshmen.  
Technology Requirement: Access to a computer with Internet required for utilization of online collaboration tools, among other enrichment activities and assignments  
Length of Course: 1 year  
Credit: 1 credit

Course Description: One-year life science course. Biology presents an integrated view of the essential units of life both structurally and functionally. Concepts will be applied through laboratory experiences. The focus in this course will be on critical thinking, experimental design, laboratory procedures, reading and writing in science, and the use of technology while exploring scientific topics of student interest. Units covered in Biology I are: The Nature of Life; Ecology; Cells; Genetics; Evolution; From Microorganisms to Plants; Animals; The Human Body; and The Diversity of Life.

## **SOCIAL SCIENCE**

Subject: **World History I**

Year Offered: 9, 10, 11, 12

Prerequisite: None

Length of Course: 1 semester

Credit: ½ credit

Course Description: A study of the ancient world to the building of the nation state. The years are from 5,000 B.C. - A.D. 1789. Class includes group work, a project on a relevant topic, maps, and a variety of other classroom assignments.

**Subject: World Geography**

Year Offered: 9, 10, 11, 12

Prerequisite: None

Length of Course: 1 semester

Credit: ½ credit

Course Description: World Geography is treated as a social as well as a physical science, and material is brought in from allied social sciences such as history, economics, and government, so that the student learns how physical geography is related to man and society. A human orientation is one of the main features of World Geography. Regional units are taught with the study of earth as the home of man. Individual nations as well as the region as a whole are discussed. A discussion lecture method is used. Map work for each unit is required.

## **WORLD LANGUAGE**

**Subject: Spanish I**

Year Offered: 9, 10, 11, 12

Recommended Prerequisite: At least a C average in English is highly recommended.

Length of Course: 1 year

Credit: 1 credit

Course Description: This course offers an introduction to listening, speaking, reading and writing in Spanish. Vocabulary acquisition is stressed as well as learning basic grammar concepts. Each lesson contains cultural information. A variety of activities are used to enhance learning.

## **VOCATIONAL/FAMILY & CONSUMER SCIENCE**

### **Subject: Foods I**

Year Offered: 9, 10, 11, 12  
Prerequisite: None  
Length of Course: 1 semester  
Credit: ½ credit

Course Description: This course will emphasize basic food preparation skills and nutrition. Units of instruction will include: basic measuring techniques, equipment, recipe math, terminology, nutritive value of foods, making wise food choices and career exploration. Students will plan, prepare and serve a variety of food to supplement the class work.

### **Subject: Foods II**

Year Offered: 9, 10, 11, 12  
Prerequisite: Completion of Foods I with a C or better or consent of instructor.  
Length of Course: 1 semester  
Credit: ½ credit

Course Description: Students will continue the study of nutrition and more advanced food preparation skills. Menu-planning, food purchasing, and meal preparation will be included. Careers in the food industry will be explored. The Foods I textbook and workbook will be used in this class.

## **VOCATIONAL/TECH**

### **Subject: Technology Education**

Year Offered: 9, 10, 11

Prerequisite: None

Length of Course: 1 year

Credit: 1 credit

Course Description: Technology Education is an orientation level course that introduces students to a variety of skills and career fields. Students will learn the technical processes, learn to use the technical resources, and learn to weigh the technological impacts of technology through the following activities:

Transportation Alternative energy Computer Aided Drafting

Computer repair Electronics Manufacturing Products

Materials Processing Small Engines Welding

Engineering towers Construction Robotics

Computer graphics Computer Animation Plumbing

Electricity Wood working Home repair

CNC Manufacturing Energy, Power, & Mechanics

All areas will include individual hands on experience.

## **VOCATIONAL/AG**

### **Subject: Introduction to the Agriculture Industry**

Year Offered: 9, 10

Prerequisite: None

Length of Course: 1 year

Credit: 1 credit

Course Description: This orientation course provides an 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, plant science, soil science, horticulture, natural resources, agribusiness management, agricultural mechanics, biotechnology, food science technology, environmental science and aqua cultural science will be presented. The development of leadership, employability, and computer skills will also be taught. Because FFA and Supervised Agricultural Experience programs (SAEP's) are integral components of this course, the student is required to conduct a Supervised Agricultural Experience (SAE) at home and become a member of the FFA.