

Program of Studies 2016-17

Oblock Jr. High

The following changes were updated at the Education Committee meeting in June 2015 and are currently not offered.

READING SKILLS - EIGHTH GRADE

This course is designed to meet the needs of students who need extra practice and preparation for standardized tests, daily critical thinking skills, and reading skills. The purpose is for the student to develop competencies required by the Pennsylvania State Standards and study skills that are essential for learning across all subjects. Continued practice using these strategies will help students master the skills and apply them to other classes. This course will concentrate on reading and writing skills and provide sufficient practice for the various skills. Students are selected for this class based on test scores and/or administrative decisions.

MATH SKILLS- EIGHTH GRADE

This course, targeted to the needs of at-risk students, focuses on developing competencies required by the Pennsylvania State Standards, as well as everyday math skills. The course will teach students efficient and effective math, problem solving, and study skills. Addressing each skill and providing adequate practice for a mastery level of achievement, the course will enable students to progress in the development of their math competencies. Students are selected based on test scores and/or administrative decision.

READING SKILLS- SEVENTH GRADE

The seventh grade Reading Skills course designed to meet the needs of students who need extra practice and preparation for standardized tests, daily critical thinking skills, and reading skills. The purpose is for the student to develop competencies required by the Pennsylvania State Standards and study skills that are essential for learning across all subjects. Continued practice using these strategies will help students master the skills and apply them to other classes. This course will concentrate on reading and writing skills and provide sufficient practice for the various skills. Students are selected for this class based on test scores and/or administrative decisions.

MATH SKILLS- SEVENTH GRADE

This course, targeted to the needs of at-risk students, focuses on developing competencies required by the Pennsylvania State Standards, as well as everyday math skills. The course will teach students efficient and effective math, problem solving, and study skills. Addressing each skill and providing adequate practice for a mastery level of achievement, the course will enable students to progress in the development of their math competencies. Students are selected based on test scores and/or administrative decision.

HIGH SCHOOL

A.P. Physics I

Added “A.P. Physics C” to course description for A.P. Physics 1 (pg. 33)

425 AP Physics I

Grade 11-12

Level AP

1 Credit (Year)

The AP Physics I course is offered to 11th grade students wishing to prepare themselves for *AP Physics II* or *A.P. Physics C* during the 12th grade year, and/or to prepare themselves for the undergraduate physics courses that are typical of pre-health programs. The course is *algebra-based*, with students utilizing mathematical competencies mastered during previous or concurrent courses such as Geometry, Algebra II, and Pre-Calc/Trigonometry. Core areas of study include kinematics, dynamics, circular motion & gravitation, energy, momentum, waves, electrostatics, and DC circuits. Emphases are placed on quantitative analytical methods, qualitative/conceptual understanding, and on laboratory experimentation in order to prepare students for the AP Physics I exam.

PREREQUISITE: Chemistry

RECOMMENDATION: “C” or better in Chemistry (A), Pre-Calc/Trigonometry, and teacher recommendation

AFJROTC

Addition of uniform requirements to the AFJROTC section (pg. 50)

All cadets in every course will have a uniform requirement. All cadets will be issued an AFJROTC uniform at no cost, including tailoring. The uniform wear requirement is designed to teach cadets attention to detail, discipline, and dedication. Students will be required to wear the uniform once a week according to AFJROTC uniform regulations. Students will also be required to provide a V-neck white t-shirt or white undershirt, black socks, and will be required to maintain their hair according to Air Force uniform standards.

Aviation History- Adjustment of AFJROTC courses to reflect this year’s offering in the three-year cycle (pg. 17, 50, and 51)

Algebra I Foundations

Course added (pg. 15, 26, and 28)

Grade 10-11 1 Credit (Year)

Algebra 1 Foundations provides a foundation of algebraic concepts and methods necessary for students to succeed in future math classes. Students will represent and use numbers in equivalent forms; use exponents, roots, and absolute values to solve problems; simplify expressions; write, solve, and graph linear equations, systems of linear equations, and linear inequalities; analyze and use patterns; interpret and use linear functions and their equations, graphs, or tables; describe, compute, and use the rate of change (slope) of a line; analyze and interpret data on a scatter plot; use measures of dispersion to describe a set of data; use data displays to make predictions; apply probability to practical situations.

Throughout the course students will use appropriate technology, including TI graphing calculators, to estimate, measure, and compute and solve theoretical and practical

problems. The culminating assessment for this class is the Keystone Exam for Algebra I. A score of Proficient or Advanced is a graduation requirement as per the PA Department of Education.

PREREQUISITE: Pre-Algebra

RECOMMENDATION: "C" or better in Pre-Algebra

Biology Remediation

Addition of course (pg. 15 and 32)

415 Biology Remediation (elective credit)

Grade 10-11 .5 Credit (Year)

This 2 out of 6 day course offers students remediation who have not yet scored proficient or advanced on the Biology Keystone Exam. Students who score proficient during the winter retest of the Keystone Exams will still be awarded the .5 credit and moved to a study hall when scores are released.

Business Calculus

ALEKS test requirement to be awarded Pitt credits for Business Calculus added to course description (pg. 30)

332 Business and Social Sciences Calculus

Grade 12 1 Credit (Year) 4 Credits U. of Pittsburgh

The course is designed for college bound students planning to major in areas of study other than engineering, science or mathematics. This course will cover differential and integral calculus as related to polynomial, rational, exponential, and logarithmic functions, and does not assume knowledge of trigonometry. The purpose of the course is to support the student interested in accounting, business, biological sciences, economics, the social sciences and liberal arts.

RECOMMENDATION: Suggested that the student took Advanced Algebra 2, or "B" in Algebra II, a "C" in Pre-Calc/Trig, and teacher recommendation.

NOTE: *In order to register for credits and have an opportunity to earn them, the University of Pittsburgh requires that students register and pass an ALEKS test. The deadline for the test will be sometime during the first few weeks of school, but can also be completed during the summer. Details for how to register and complete this test will be communicated to students will be made available on the high school website under the link "Summer Work."*

CCAC credit offerings

Removed for Pre-Calc/Trig (A) and Honors Accounting (pg. 6, 28, and 39)

Civics and Honors Civics

Removed reference to Civics Keystone Exam from course descriptions (pg. 23)

College Algebra

Prerequisites corrected (pg. 29)

PREREQUISITE: Algebra II or Intermediate Concepts II

English

Changes in course descriptions

101 English I - Composition

Grade 9 Level 1 1 Credit (Year)

This course is based on the academic 9th grade curriculum, but is intended to provide students with more opportunity to practice and develop the reading and writing skills necessary for proficiency on the Keystone Exams, success in the classroom, and college or career readiness. Students will focus on reading strategies in fiction and non-fiction, and develop writing skills in expository, persuasive and research-based compositions.

Course Requirements: selected non-fiction

102 English 9, Honors - Composition

Grade 9 Level 3 1 Credit (Year)

Students will focus primarily on expository, persuasive, and research writing in the enriched setting of an honors level class. Intended for the student who is advanced in reading and writing in 8th grade, students will be able to express ideas through expository and persuasive writing, building upon the elements of composition through concurrent instruction of vocabulary, grammar and usage and reading for meaning. Students will continue to develop the skills necessary to reach high achievement levels on the English Composition Keystone Exam and other forms of standardized testing. Students will read a variety of fiction and non-fiction works, developing skills and strategies to extract the author's meaning and purpose in an enriched environment.

Course Requirements: *A Tale of Two Cities* by Charles Dickens, *A Midsummer Night's Dream* by William Shakespeare, and selected non-fiction

RECOMMENDATION: Teacher recommendation

142 Speech (Elective Offering)

Grade 11-12 Level 2 .5 Credit (Sem.)

This course is designed to introduce students to the fundamentals of speech. Students will present research through various forms of media. Students will be exposed to a variety of types of speech, while enhancing their research and writing skills.

146 College Writing (Elective Offering)

Grade 11-12 Level 2 .5 Credit Sem.

This course is designed for college bound students who would like to improve their composition skills. Students will be introduced to a variety of types of writing that might be assigned in a college freshman introductory composition course. The writing process is emphasized and utilized for each piece that students write.

Summer Reading Selections - (pg. 20 and 21)

English 11 – *Into Thin Air* and *The Glass Castle*

English III – *Of Mice and Men*

English 12 – *Tuesdays with Morrie*

A.P, English Language and Composition – *Fast Food Nation* eliminated

Environmental Science

Addition of course, therefore shifting the course matrix for science (pg. 15)

GRADE	HONORS	ACADEMIC	ACADEMIC SUPPORT
9	Biology (A)	Environmental Science	Introduction to Physical Science
10	Chemistry Chemistry (A)	Biology Biology (A)	Environmental Science Intermediate Science I
11	A.P. Biology Physics A.P. Physics I	Chemistry Chemistry (A) Anatomy and Phys. Forensics	Intermediate Science I Biology Biology Remediation
12	AP Biology AP Chemistry AP Physics (C) AP Physics II	Anatomy and Physiology AP Biology AP Chemistry Forensics Physics AP Physics I Intro to Geoscience	Chemistry Intro to Geoscience Intermediate Science II

Honors Spanish IV (pg. 16, 34, and 35)

Previous course description was labeled as senior level course. Description corrected to show that the course is available to 11th and 12th grade students.

Previous Course Description:

This course is designed for the exceptional student who has successfully completed level three and seeks the challenge of a course comparable in difficulty and content to college level courses. Each quarter the student will be expected to complete an independent study project in addition to frequent reading and writing assignments and extensive oral participation. The course content includes improving skills in reading, writing, speaking and listening comprehension with regard to topics such as the ancient civilizations, Hispanic cultures, the atmosphere, societal rights and responsibilities, Hispanics in the United States and various customs and beliefs of Hispanic and American cultures. Students will read two Spanish novels.

PREREQUISITE: Level III

RECOMMENDATION: "B" or better in Level III and teacher recommendation.

New Course Description (Changes Italicized):

This course is designed for the exceptional student who has successfully completed level three and seeks the challenge of a course comparable in difficulty and content to college level courses. *Each quarter the student will be expected to complete a quarter essay in addition to reading and writing assignments and extensive oral participation.* The course content includes improving skills in reading, writing, speaking and listening comprehension with regard to topics such as *Hispanic cultures, societal rights and responsibilities, Hispanics in the United States, and various customs and beliefs of Hispanic and American cultures.*

PREREQUISITE: Spanish III

RECOMMENDATION: "B" or better in Spanish III and teacher recommendation.

Photography II (pg. 17, 44, and 48)

Previous course description was labeled as a senior level course. Description corrected to show that the course is available to 11th and 12th grade students.

Tech Apprenticeship Added (pg. 12-13)

Technology Help Desk Apprenticeship 0.5 elective credits

This course provides hands-on technology support. Student help desk apprentices will build meaningful technical knowledge and problem-solving skills while providing valuable support to their peers. Student help desk apprentices will provide technical consultation and service, perform hardware repairs, resolve software problems, and develop art/graphics.

Open to 11th and 12th grade students

Pass/Fail monitored quarterly

Prerequisite: 2.5 GPA, 90% Attendance, Instructor Permission, Resume, and Successful Interview