

# **ELECTIVES**

The following descriptions represent a comprehensive listing of electives, **some of which may be offered every other year, or subject to enrollments.**

## **SOCIAL STUDIES ELECTIVES**

(All half year, unless otherwise noted)

### WORLD WAR II (grades 10 – 12)( Soc. Studies avg. of 80 + and/ or instructor's approval)

This half-year elective examines various causes of the conflict, leaders of the Allied and Axis powers, significant battles fought in both theaters, and the use of the atomic bomb. In addition, there will be studies of the Holocaust, Japanese-American internment camps, the use of propaganda and the American home front. With many opportunities for discussion, this course is appropriate for students who maintain a strong interest in history. **This course is offered every other year.**

### THE 60's (grades 11-12) (Soc. Studies avg. of 80+ and/or instructor's approval)

This course examines the turbulent and pivotal decade of the 1960's. Some of the topics to be covered include the Cultural Revolution, space exploration, the civil rights movement, the Viet Nam War, the emerging concern with environmental issues, the nuclear arms race, fashion and music, the growing influence of sporting events, and a thorough review of the Kennedy and Johnson administrations. With many opportunities for discussion, this course is appropriate for students with a strong interest in history. **This course is offered every other year.**

### CURRENT EVENTS (grades 9-12)

This course is discussion based and revolves around the major events happening in the United States and the world. Each day of the week has a different focus (foreign, domestic, economic, politics), with regard to a variety of countries.

### TRIAL PRACTICES (grades 9-12)

This half-year course includes basic knowledge utilized by a defense or prosecuting attorney at trial. Students will participate in four (4) to five (5) trials each semester

### PSYCHOLOGY (grades 11, 12) **pending - 3 credits awarded through TC3**

This half-year elective covers human behavior and mental processes. Through discussion, participation, and research, students will learn a variety of topics including adolescent and developmental psychology, personality, intelligence, and abnormal psychology.

### PSYCHOLOGY 2: ABNORMAL PSYCHOLOGY (prerequisite: Psychology)

This elective covers the branch of psychology, which deals with abnormal behavior and disorders such as obsessive-compulsive disorders, eating disorders, multiple personality, schizophrenia, and phobias. Course discussions will include case studies, difficulties associated with these disorders, and treatments.

### ROCK AND ROLL HISTORY (9-12)

Study the roots of Rock and Pop, beginning with country blues, R&B, and Elvis. Then learn about the British Invasion (Beatles, Rolling Stones), Folk Rock and Protest Music. Finish with a look at pop music fragmentation (Metal, Grunge, Hip-Hop, New Wave, Country Rock). We will spend time listening to great tunes while understanding to stories behind the music. This is a one semester course and is open to all High School students who want to ROCK!

# **ENGLISH ELECTIVES**

(All half year, unless otherwise noted)

## PUBLIC SPEAKING (grades 10-12)

This course is designed to increase a student's confidence when speaking to an audience and will stress speaking skills such as eye contact, poise, expression and gesture. The final presentation will be a researched persuasive speech. This course is highly recommended by colleges.

## CREATIVE WRITING (grades 10-12) 3 credits awarded through SUNY Oswego

This course carries OCC college credit. In this class students will learn to read and write poetry, short fiction, personal essay, and entertainment reviews through work shopping, revising, reading, and performing. Important writers' books will be used to help students become writers and editors who are able to accept and apply constructive criticism.

## CREATIVE WRITING II (Ind. Study - grades 10-12)(prerequisite of 85 in Cr. Wtg. and Teacher Rec.)

This course is an independent study that requires the prerequisite of Creative Writing or permission from the instructor. Instead of a survey of genres, this course will focus on the intense writing, reading, and work shopping of one genre of the student's choosing.

# **MATH ELECTIVES**

(Full year)

## STATISTICS

This elective class is open to juniors and seniors interested in exploring statistics in greater depth. Students will study the major concepts and tools for collecting, organizing, analyzing, and drawing conclusions from data. Course topics include data organization, measures of central tendency and dispersion, correlation and regression, normal curves, and sampling distributions, hypothesis testing, confidence intervals, and difference. **This course meets the third year course requirement in mathematics required for graduation.**

## APPLIED MATH

**This course meets the third year course requirement in mathematics required for graduation.** The course is designed to prepare students for freshmen level college math courses and introduce them to topics related to personal finance and college level business classes. Included are units on keeping a checkbook, understanding loans/interest, personal finances, and other real world applications.

# **SCIENCE ELECTIVES**

(Full year)

## CONCEPTUAL SCIENCE (no lab)

This course covers scientific issues of importance for society today and in the future, with minimal use of math. Topics may include atomic concepts, alternative energy sources, and forensic science. No separate lab period is included, but hands-on experiments will be included. **This course may be used as the 3rd credit in the 3 credit science requirement for graduation.** Students complete a final exam in June.

## SUNY ESF - GLOBAL ENVIRONMENT AND THE EVOLUTION OF HUMAN CULTURE (meets every other day)

ESF Course Catalog Number: EFB 120

Prerequisites: Successful completion of Living Environment (Biology), Earth Science, and completion of, or concurrent enrollment in, Regents Chemistry.

This is a challenging, college level course that carries an extensive reading component and writing assignments. The focus is on detailed aspects of environmental issues and their impact on the development of social and historical patterns. A required research project and paper is included in the course. Tuition for this three (3) credit hour course is currently \$175.

## SUNY ESF II- RESEARCH PROBLEMS IN ENVIRONMENTAL AND FOREST BIOLOGY (ind. study)

ESF Course Catalog Number: EFB498 RESRCH PROB/ENV&FOR BIO

(Prerequisite: Successful completion of ESF and permission of instructor)

This is an independent study, one credit hour college course offered by special arrangement through SUNY ESF. Students will conduct one or several college level research projects and present their findings before a group of peers, graduate students, and professors. Students must be highly motivated to take the course, and must arrange a weekly meeting time during a study hall or the activity period with the teacher to discuss their research. The one credit tuition is approximately \$60.

## SUNY ESF - Introduction to Renewable Energy, with Research Problems (ind. study)

(ESF 120, with EFB 498)

Prerequisites: Successful completion of Living Environment (Biology), Earth Science, and completion of, or concurrent enrollment in, Regents Chemistry.

This dual enrollment course is open to juniors and seniors who have successfully completed Regents level Biology, Earth Science and Chemistry (or concurrent enrollment in Chemistry with permission of instructor). In this course, students apply concepts learned in the sciences to ideas about the transfer of energy, and investigate both traditional and alternate forms of creating energy. The course involves both scientific and technological approaches to renewable energy creation. Students will select a form of energy that they want to study and complete a project on it. Tuition for this 3 credit college course is about \$200.

# **FINE ARTS ELECTIVES**

## **(ART, MUSIC)**

(All full year, unless otherwise noted)

### **STUDIO ART**

This is an exploratory, introductory course in the visual arts concentrating on the elements of art and the principles of design. Students will use many media such as pencil, pastel, charcoals, watercolor, acrylic, clay, etc. Evaluation will include weekly sketchbooks. This course is a prerequisite for the Advanced Art, Photography, Digital Photo and Sculpture classes.

### **ADVANCED ART II – IV (prerequisite – Studio Art)**

This course is designed to further explore the elements of art and the principles of design. Students will be expected to develop assigned projects and a weekly sketchbook on an independent basis. Students will need to use time outside of the classroom to complete projects.

### **PHOTOGRAPHY I AND II (prerequisite – Studio Art)**

These two half-year courses combined, provide a full year of introductory photography, including basic black and white techniques, film developing, and making prints. Students are required to spend time outside of the classroom taking photographs and developing film. Photo I must be passed to take Photo II.

### **DIGITAL PHOTOGRAPHY (11-12 only) (prerequisite – Studio Art) 3 credits awarded through OCC**

This course carries OCC college credit and covers the basics of Digital Photography. Students will apply skills in composition and color theory to create photographic work and will use Adobe Photoshop. Other components of the program include a history of Photography, self-led critique, and portfolio presentation. The skills learned are relevant to careers in graphic design, marketing and advertising, photojournalism, fashion and movie photography and public relations. Students must take pictures outside of class.

### **ADVANCED SCULPTURE (prerequisite – Studio Art)**

This course is an advanced course in the techniques of sculpture, design, and artistic presentation. Students will be expected to work independently on individually designed projects.

### **THE BANDS**

The 6<sup>th</sup> grade band, 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade middle school band, and the 9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade high school symphonic band make up the band program at the Middle School/High school. The bands perform modern, orchestral and solo works, ranging from an easier level to a more difficult level at the high school. Membership is based on prior district band experience or by audition. Weekly, rotational lessons are a requirement.

### **CHORUS**

This is a vocal performing ensemble designed to foster singing, creativity, and performance skills. The choirs perform between two and four concerts a year as well as special events like competition festivals. Weekly voice lessons are required for participation at the high school level.

### **INDEPENDENT STUDY CHORUS (9-12) (pre-requisite – prior music credit)**

Students enrolled in this course are expected to maintain acceptable levels in performance skill and knowledge of voice parts. Course requirements include weekly small group voice lessons, participation in all scheduled chorus concerts, and additional regular meetings with the High School Chorus Director. **To enroll in this course students must have permission of the instructor.**

### **MUSIC THEORY**

This is an independent study course taken by students who are concurrently enrolled in band and/or chorus. This is a recommended course for juniors and seniors planning to major in music.

# **TECHNOLOGY ELECTIVES**

(All half year, unless otherwise noted)

## TECHNICAL DRAWING (TD) / DRAWING AND DESIGN FOR PRODUCTION (DDP)

**These two courses taken together meet the one credit fine arts requirement required for graduation.** This basic course provides the students with a working knowledge of 2-D and 3-D graphic representation. This course is recommended for students interested in possible careers in engineering, draftsmanship, architecture, interior design, carpentry, and more.

## ADVANCED WOODWORKING (full or half year)

This is an upper level course open to students who are pursuing advanced work in the concepts of design, carpentry, and construction. TD and DDP are prerequisites for this course.

# **FAMILY AND CONSUMER SCIENCE ELECTIVES**

(All half year, unless otherwise noted)

## FINANCIAL LITERACY (grade 12 only)

Part of this course will help with the transition issues from high school to college including such basics as laundry, cooking and handling other concerns that may occur. Guest speakers will visit the classroom as well.

Students will learn about:

- 1) establishing a budget and creating a financial plan
- 2) strategies for handling credit and debit issues
- 3) understanding financial services such as life insurance, car insurance and employers benefits
- 4) making appropriate decisions that will influence future lifestyles

## HOUSING AND ENVIRONMENTAL DESIGN - (grades 9-12)

This class will study elements and principles of design, and students will explore housing trends during history as well as examining their own individual needs throughout the various life stages. . Students will also create a 3-D room using computer applications and design with color graphics. A field trip tour of a furniture company is included.

## TEXTILE AND FASHION DESIGN – (grades 9-12)

Students will explore fashion trends throughout history, learn the elements on how to create clothing, and will design and make a garment or accessory for their personal use. Other basic sewing techniques will be learned such as adding a zipper, making darts, creating a buttonhole and other hand sewing applications.

## FOOD NUTRITION AND CULINARY ARTS - (grades 9-12)

This course includes the study of food preparation techniques from appetizers to desserts. Students will explore cultural food differences and prepare an authentic meal from a foreign country. Proper nutrition during teen and adult years will be investigated as well as learning about dietary restrictions based on health reasons, such as diabetes. Students may help with commercial food preparation in a cafeteria setting, including menu planning.