

# **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 WARS TO WOODSTOCK: People, Events and Movements of the mid-20<sup>th</sup> Century (grades 10 – 12)( Soc. Studies avg. of 80 + and/ or instructor's approval)

This elective examines the turbulent and pivotal decades in the middle of the last century. Some of the topics covered will include Adolf Hitler, the Holocaust, Pearl Harbor, D-Day, Hiroshima, the Cuban Missile Crisis, the Kennedy assassination, the Vietnam War, NASA, the civil rights movement, the environmental movement, changes in fashion and music, and the growing influence of sporting events and television. With many opportunities for discussion, this course is appropriate for students who maintain a strong interest in history.

### WOMEN IN HISTORY (grades 9-12)

Throughout history, there have been many women who broke from tradition and exercised their power. This course will help increase student knowledge about the role of women throughout history, from ancient civilizations to present day, and in both world and United States histories. The class will also provide an excellent opportunity for students to increase content knowledge in both Global History and in US History.

### 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)

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 I (grades 9-12)**

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.

## **PUBLIC SPEAKING II: COMMUNICATIONS (prerequisite: Public Speaking I)**

Students in this class will advance their knowledge in the fields of both Public Speaking and Communications (a popular choice among college freshmen). This class would allow the development of communications in business, real life, and other career fields. Students will write and deliver longer, more detailed speeches. Their writing will be more closely monitored; editing, drafting, scripting, and annotating will be heavily weighted in this class.

## **POETRY WRITING (fall only, grades 10-12) 3 credits awarded through SUNY Oswego**

In this class students engage with this conversation while exploring the building blocks of poetry – image, metaphor, diction, voice, line, form, sound, and revision. Class includes some craft lecture, but focuses primarily on discussion of contemporary poets and student work. A final portfolio of revised poetry is required. **Only 11<sup>th</sup> or 12<sup>th</sup> graders may earn college credit.**

## **FICTION WRITING (spring only, grades 10-12) 3 credits awarded through SUNY Oswego**

This class prepares you for writing fiction by focusing on the elements of stories: scene, dialogue, character, and plot. We'll be doing exercises on each of these as well as reading some writers and seeing how their techniques work. Eventually, you will write a full story and have it workshopped by the class. **Only 11<sup>th</sup> or 12<sup>th</sup> graders may earn college credit.**

# **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.**

# **SCIENCE ELECTIVES**

(Full year)

## CONCEPTUAL SCIENCE (no lab)

This course will focus on studying the environment by looking at a combination of topics taken from various subjects including biology, earth science, chemistry, physics, and the social sciences. No separate lab period is included, but hands-on experiments will be included. Students will complete a final exam in June. **This course may be used as the 3rd credit in the 3 credit science requirement for graduation.**

## 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 course is about \$200.

## 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 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 – 6<sup>th</sup>, 7-8, and HS Band

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.

### MUSIC THEORY – recommended for students pursuing a college major in Music

This is an independent study course taken by students who are concurrently enrolled in band and/or chorus.

### THEATRE IN ACTION (I & II) (Every other year)

(half year / half year)

Students will explore all aspects of the Theatre Arts. The class units include theatre history, acting (pantomime, improvisation, character analysis, monologue and scene work), stage combat, play-writing, directing and technical theatre (lights, sound, props, costume and make-up).

### THEATRE WORKSHOP (I & II)

(half year/ half year)

Students will attend local productions and explore different aspects of the Theatre Arts. Class units will include play analysis, directing, acting (pantomime, improvisation, character analysis, monologue and scene work), musical theatre, stage combat, and technical theatre (Lights, sound, props, costume and make-up). Lab assignments will include hands-on work with Fabius-Pompey productions.

# **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)

## **FOUNDATIONS FOR COLLEGE SUCCESS (grades 10- 12 only)**

This course will help students to achieve success in college and in life through the study of these principles:

- Personal Responsibility
- Self Motivation and Management
- Interdependence
- Self Awareness
- Lifelong Learning

Students will also have the opportunity to master effective study skills.

## **HOUSING AND INTERIOR 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.

## **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.

## **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.

# **BUSINESS ELECTIVES**

*(All are half year, half credit, unless otherwise noted)*

## WEB DESIGN I (Prerequisite: Basic Computer Knowledge)

This is an exciting and fascinating course for students who have an interest in designing, editing, and publishing a website. Students will be allowed to choose projects based on individual interest, and will learn how to create and design websites. The course will include the steps involved from preparation through completion of the website design. Students will be introduced to coding using XHTML and web design using a computer application WIX.

## WEB DESIGN II (Prerequisite Web Design I)

This course will focus on web design through coding using XHTML. The class will cover the basics that web designers need to develop their skills including:

- Introductory Internet and World Wide Web concepts
- Creating web pages using XHTML
- Page layout using Cascading Style Sheets
- Web design best practices

## FOUNDATIONS OF BUSINESS

This is an introductory course designed to provide an overview of the impact of business on society. The course is intended to aid the student in obtaining a clear understanding of the way in which contemporary business functions through the interrelationships of marketing, management, and finance.

## CAREER AND FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT (grades 11-12)

This real-world course offers the skills and knowledge necessary to make sound career and financial decisions.

Areas of study include:

- Matching individual personal skills and qualities for successful career choices
- Decision making and goal setting
- Applying for and interviewing for a job
- Resume and cover letter writing
- Personal money management, including budgeting, checking accounts, savings, credit and basic investing

## ACCOUNTING (grades 11-12)

Full Year 1 credit

This course includes a study of 1) the classification and recording of original business transactions, 2) the preparation and evaluation of financial statements and, 3) the application of generally accepted accounting principles. The course will incorporate appropriate computer technology in the instruction process.

## BASIC COMPUTER PROGRAMMING

This course will teach basic programming and computational concepts to students with little or no previous coding experience. Students will develop confidence in their ability to apply programming techniques to problems in a broad range of fields. The class uses multiple programming languages including but not limited to Python, Javascript, and C++.

### COMPUTER GAME DESIGN

Do you like to play videogames? Learn the basics of videogame development by using an easy-to-learn computer programming language. This is an introductory course in Computer Science where students will:

- Learn to design and code their own games
- Learn computer programming concepts and techniques
- Develop troubleshooting skills
- Learning debugging skills by testing the games other students have written

### ENTREPRENEURSHIP (grades 11-12) (prerequisite – prior Business class)

Students will learn the fundamental concepts involved in owning and operating a business, including all facets of investments, marketing, production, and cost / profit analysis. Students will:

- Analyze themselves in relation to an entrepreneurial career
- Develop a business plan
- Conduct an in-school business, or
- Participate in an appropriate cooperative work experience

### SPORTS AND ENTERTAINMENT MARKETING

Did you ever want to pursue a career in sports or entertainment? In this class, students will learn:

- Marketing and Sports & Entertainment introduces basic principles of marketing and economics. Discussions of the history of sports and entertainment as well as legal issues and business risks are included.
- Sports Marketing focuses on the sports industry, its history, the categories of sports , the sports consumer, and sports that generate goods and services; their impact on the economy.
- Marketing Mix examines every aspect of the marketing mix, from the variety of sports products and the outlets for distribution to pricing considerations and promotional strategies, including branding, licensing and advertising.

### PERSONAL MONEY MANAGEMENT (grades 10-12)

This course is designed to provide the information and tools needed to make smart financial choices now and for the future. Personal management of cash and ethics, are covered along with these topics:

- Savings and investment
- Credit and debit card use
- Budgets
- Income tax preparation
- Buying insurance
- Planning for large purchases such as automobiles and houses

### BUSINESS 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.

# **AGRICULTURE ELECTIVES**

*(All are half year, half credit, unless otherwise noted)*

## FOOD SCIENCE

Through hands on experiments and personal knowledge, students will use creativity and a scientific approach to the study of the food industry. Students will gain a better understanding in the areas of food sources, product testing and development, food preparation and preservation, and careers related to the food industry.

## AFNR – AGRICULTURE, FOOD AND NATURAL RESOURCES

This introductory level agriculture class allows students to explore careers in the areas of agriculture, plants, animals, the food industry and natural resources. The course consists of hands on activities, projects, and problem solving.

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