

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.

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

In this class students write original poems and workshop them with peers 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 11th or 12th graders may earn college credit.**

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

In this class students write original stories and workshop them with peers while exploring the building blocks of fiction writing--plot, character, and narration. Class includes some craft lecture, but focuses primarily on discussion of contemporary fiction writers and student work. A final portfolio of revised fiction is required. Only 11th or 12th graders may earn college credit, though all students can earn high school credit.

AP LITERATURE AND COMPOSITION

This course is intended for motivated, mature students with a genuine interest in literature and writing. A college-credit class with college-level reading, the course emphasizes the skills of critical reading and writing. There is an every-other-day lab period associated with this course intended to prepare students to take two college-credit tests in the spring: the AP Examination in Literature and Composition, and the AP Examination in Language and Composition.

Social Studies Electives

GLOBAL HISTORY AND GEOGRAPHY 10 AP

This course curriculum parallels the Regents course, but adds intensive levels of reading and critical writing. Similar to an upper level college course, this course requires extensive outside work, with classroom time for discussion and debate. Students must take an AP exam in May and complete a Regents exam in June.

UNITED STATES HISTORY AND GOVERNMENT 11 AP

This course curriculum parallels the Regents course, but adds intensive levels of reading and critical writing. Similar to an upper level college course, this course requires extensive outside work, with classroom time for discussion and debate. Students must take an AP exam in May and complete a Regents exam in June.

AP ECONOMICS / GOVERNMENT (PIG) HONORS

This full year course is the honors level of the Government class, followed by AP Economics. Topics in the fall include a study of the American government and the role that citizens play, including voting and elections, policymaking, and the federal bureaucracy. Spring economics topics include supply and demand, economic indicators, and monetary and fiscal policy. The AP portion of this course requires a strong understanding of basic math concepts. All enrolled students will take the AP exam in May. Students **MUST** take both of these courses together – they may not be split out. Also, once enrolled, students may **NOT SWITCH** to the Regents level of the class.

SENIOR SEMINAR: Life After High School

This course aims to better prepare students for life after high school, specifically focusing on skills and knowledge that may not have been gained throughout the course of their formal education. Geared towards upperclassmen, this course will draw upon the wisdom of faculty and community members to help students anticipate and respond to the challenges of the “real world”, such as personal finances, informed citizenship, college and career prep, interpersonal skills, and more. Upon successful completion of this course, students will find themselves more confident and better informed as they take their next steps into higher education, the military, or the workforce.

TRIAL PRACTICES (grades 9 – 12) (1/2 year)

This basic Trial Practices course will teach students how to conduct a simple trial, from opening statements, direct, cross examination questions, roles of witnesses, objections to closing arguments. Through a combination of lectures and simulations, students learn fundamental trial concepts and techniques.

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 the stories behind the music. This is a one semester course and is open to all high school students who want to ROCK!

1/2026

Math/Technology Electives

MATH 12/PRECALCULUS

Elective class for Juniors or Seniors that have completed Algebra, Geometry, and Algebra II. This is a non-Regents course designed to review all 3 of the common core math courses and prepare students for college level Calculus. Topics covered include: algebra, trigonometry, logarithms, conic sections, matrices, and limits.

CALCULUS – 4 credits awarded through TC3

This is a 4 credit hour, college calculus taught in conjunction with Tompkins Cortland Community College. It is the culminating course for accelerated math students. This rigorous college calculus course focuses on derivative and integral functions. Specific topics include limits and continuity, derivative and anti-derivative, and definite integral. Students solve problems dealing with rates, areas, volumes, and surfaces of revolution: arc length, work, fluid pressure; velocity and acceleration; and exponential growth and decay.

STATISTICS - 3 credits awarded through OCC

How is math used to make decisions in the real world? Students investigate methods to collect, organize, and calculate with data. They then learn how to use their calculations to make decisions and predictions. This course (open to juniors and seniors) meets the third year math course requirement for graduation. Topics include random sampling, graphical displays of data, measures of central tendency and dispersion, normal distributions, standard scores, confidence intervals, hypothesis testing, student T distribution, two-way tables, correlation and regression. Students who have completed Algebra 1, Geometry, and Algebra 2 may elect to earn 3 college credits through Onondaga Community College.

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.

WOODWORKING 1 – 3 (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.

Science Electives

ADVANCED PLACEMENT BIOLOGY (AP) (prerequisite – Regents Biology and Chemistry)

This is one of the culminating science courses for accelerated students and is the equivalent of a college introductory course taken by first-year Biology majors. The course is rigorous, with an extensive and in-depth reading component, and advanced level lab work. Students are required to take the AP exam in May, which may result in college credit.

ADVANCED PLACEMENT CHEMISTRY (AP) (prerequisite – Regents Chemistry and Algebra II)

This is one of the culminating science courses for accelerated students and is the equivalent of a college introductory course taken by first-year science majors. The problem solving techniques and lab work are rigorous. Students must take the AP exam in May, which may result in college credit.

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 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 impacts on the development of social and historical patterns. A required research project and paper is included in the course.

SUNY ESF - Independent Research Apprenticeship

Prerequisites: Successful completion of Global Environment (EFB 120) and permission of the instructor..

This course may be taken in the senior year if ESF/Global Environment was successfully passed as a junior. The course involves one or more research projects, with an emphasis on finding experts in the fields of study. The course is both challenging, and excellent preparation for students interested in pursuing research at the college level. Requires Global Environment as a prerequisite, along with permission of the instructor. Listed by SUNY/ESF as: ESF 298 - Research Apprenticeship (3 credits).

Foreign Language Electives

COLLEGE SPANISH 201

College Spanish 201 is designed to mirror an intermediate-level college Spanish course. Students will be introduced to many advanced grammar topics as well as begin to read and analyze authentic pieces of Hispanic literature. There is a continued focus on acquiring greater Spanish communication skills and a deepening understanding of other cultures as they relate to our own. Most classroom communication is done in Spanish. Students who pay the fee for this course will earn three college credits from SUNY Oswego upon successful completion of the course.

COLLEGE SPANISH 202

College Spanish 202 is a continuation of the College Spanish 201 course. Students will learn and reinforce advanced grammar topics as well as read and analyze authentic pieces of Hispanic literature. There is a continued focus on acquiring greater Spanish communication skills and a deepening understanding of other cultures as they relate to our own. Most classroom communication is done in Spanish. Students who pay the fee for this course will earn three college credits from SUNY Oswego upon successful completion of the course.

Health/Psychology Electives

(All half year, unless otherwise noted)

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 developmental psychology, personality, intelligence, memory, and behavioral phenomenon.

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, schizophrenia, and dissociative identity disorder. Course includes discussions and case studies of symptoms and real life application of treatments associated with many abnormal psychological phenomena.

Business Electives

ACCOUNTING 101 (grades 11-12) - Full Year 1 credit – College Credit TC3 (4 College Credits)

This introductory course covers the basics of accounting, focusing on the classification and recording of business transactions. Students will also learn to prepare and evaluate financial statements while applying Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP). The course incorporates computer technology to enhance the learning process, providing practical skills for future accounting endeavors. Meets requirement for CTE Business Pathway.

ACCOUNTING 102 (grade 12) - Full Year 1 credit – College Credit TC3 (4 College Credits)

Building on the foundation of ACCT 101, this course delves deeper into the application of accounting principles in partnerships and corporations. Topics include accounting for the formation and operation of business organizations, as well as cost and managerial accounting. Meets requirement for CTE Business Pathway. Prerequisite: ACCT 101

BUSINESS MATH (grades 11-12) – Full Year, 1 Credit

This course satisfies the third-year mathematics graduation requirement and prepares students for college-level math courses. Emphasis is placed on real-world applications, including managing personal finances, understanding loans and interest, budgeting, and other practical business math Concepts. Meets requirement for CTE Business Pathway.

PERSONAL MONEY MANAGEMENT (grades 11-12) – Half Year – College Credit TC3 (3 College Credits)

This course equips students with the knowledge and tools needed to make informed financial decisions now and in the future. Topics covered include budgeting, savings and investments, credit and debit card use, income tax preparation, insurance, and planning for significant purchases like cars and homes. Meets requirement for CTE Business Pathway.

FOUNDATIONS OF BUSINESS (grades 9-12) – Half Year

This course introduces students to key concepts in business, marketing, and finance. By studying the foundations of commerce and the economy, students will gain essential life skills, understand how businesses operate, and explore various career opportunities in the business world. Necessary for CTE Business Pathway.

SPORTS AND ENTERTAINMENT MARKETING (grades 9-12) – Half Year

For students interested in a career in sports or entertainment, this course covers basic marketing principles and their application in these industries. Topics include the history of sports and entertainment, business risks, legal issues, the sports consumer, and how marketing strategies like branding, licensing, and advertising impact the industry. Meets requirement for CTE Business Pathway.

FUNDAMENTALS OF INVESTING (grades 10-12) – Half Year (prerequisite – successful completion of prior Business class)

This course introduces students to investing principles, focusing on securities and portfolios. Students will explore risk and return, develop investment strategies, and apply these concepts through a stock market game. The course provides a practical framework for managing investments to achieve financial goals. Meets requirement for CTE Business Pathway.

CAREER AND FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT (grades 11-12)- Half Year

This course equips students with the skills and knowledge necessary to make informed career and financial decisions. Topics include career planning, job applications, interview techniques; resume writing, goal setting, and personal money management, including budgeting, credit, and basic investing. Necessary for CTE Business Pathway.

ENTREPRENEURSHIP (grades 10-12) – Half Year (prerequisite – prior Business class)

Students will explore the fundamentals of owning and operating a business, including investment, marketing, production, and cost/profit analysis. Key activities include developing a business plan, participating in business simulations, and possibly launching an in-school business or gaining hands-on experience through a cooperative work experience. Meets requirement for CTE Business Pathway.

COMPUTER APPLICATIONS FOR BUSINESS (Microsoft Word, Excel, and PowerPoint) (grades 9-12) (full year)

Course Overview:

- o A 40-week course focusing on Microsoft Word, Excel, and PowerPoint.
- o Provides hands-on training with real-world applications.
- o Structured in 3 modules, each focusing on one application.
- o Final project integrating all three programs for a comprehensive learning experience.

Course Objectives

- o Microsoft Word: Document creation, formatting, collaboration tools, and advanced features.
- o Microsoft Excel: Data organization, analysis, and visualization through charts, formulas, and PivotTables.
- o Microsoft PowerPoint: Presentation design, multimedia integration, and effective communication through slides.

Agriculture Electives

Animal Science (½ year)

In Animal Science, students can expect to learn introductory topics to veterinary science and cover the basics of animal care. Topics covered include disease, parasites, feeding, shelter, and general animal care. Students' experiences will involve the study of animal anatomy, physiology, behavior, nutrition, reproduction, health, selection, marketing and general animal care. The skills gained from this class can help all students, from pet owners to students looking to pursue a career in animal science or the pre-veterinary field.

Agriculture Mechanics (1/2 year)

This laboratory course is designed to provide students with introductory level experiences in selected major areas of welding and small engines. This class is designed for students interested in learning more about the ag mechanical field; emphasizing hands-on learning through a series of projects including SMAW and GMAW welding and small engine disassembly and reassembly.

Food Science (full year)

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. Students will investigate areas of food science including food safety, food chemistry, food processing, food product development, and marketing. This course is eligible as a dual credit college course.

Art/Music Electives

(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.

DIGITAL PHOTOGRAPHY (10-12) (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.

MUSIC THEORY

Recommended for students pursuing a college major in Music, taken by students who are concurrently enrolled in band and/or chorus.

THEATER IN ACTION

Explore different aspects of the theater arts! Learn acting techniques like stage movement, pantomime, voice, diction, and stage combat. Develop improvisational and acting skills for in-class performance and video projects. Work with visiting guest artists in directing and technical theater. Study the history and vocabulary of theater as well as works by major playwrights. Attend theater productions and tour a local theater. Practice ways to overcome stage fright, build self-confidence, and increase your oral interpretive skills.

All work will be done in class. Designed as a full year course, students can arrange to take this for a ½-year credit.

THE BANDS – 6th, 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 – 6th, 7-8, and HS Chorus

Through performing a wide range of music (including show tunes, folk, classical, pop, and music from around the world) singers develop their abilities to work as a team and become expressive musicians. Students perform four concerts a year, attend local musical productions, and participate in choral festivals. Weekly, rotational lessons are required for high school students.