

***ATHOL-ROYALSTON REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
MISSION STATEMENT AND SYSTEM GOALS***

MISSION STATEMENT:

The Athol-Royalston Regional School District is committed to providing all children with the opportunity to reach their full individual potential and to become productive members of their communities. We will try to provide our students with the confidence to question their world and the ability to seek answers and make changes.

In partnership with parents, teachers, students and the community, the school system will promote social and academic excellence by stressing cooperation, communication, and collaboration.

GOALS:

1. All schools will strive to become focal points of their neighborhoods and communities.
2. All schools will provide a safe and healthy environment.
3. All schools will work with parents to develop an environment in which self-respect and respect for all members of the community are the central values.
4. Administrators will promote cooperation, communication and collaboration among staff and students.
5. The Regional School District and all schools will promote high expectations for all students.
6. All schools will provide all their students with challenging learning opportunities.
7. The school community will provide maximum opportunities for academic excellence in all areas of the curriculum, by:
 - a. providing the skills necessary to read with fluency, understanding, and an appreciation of literature;
 - b. providing daily opportunities for students to develop skill in writing and speaking;
 - c. ensuring competency in computing and understanding math concepts;
 - d. fostering the natural curiosity of their students and providing them with the opportunity to perform as scientists;
 - e. creating an awareness of global similarities and a tolerance for differences;
 - f. encouraging participation in the appreciation for music and the creative arts;
 - g. fostering an understanding of democratic values and American and world history;
 - h. integrating technological resources.
8. All schools will strive to equip students with the skills and attitudes necessary to enjoy healthy active lives.
9. All schools will encourage their students to make positive contributions to their community.
10. All schools will provide a variety of opportunities for all parents to become partners in the children's educational programs.
11. The Regional School District is committed to providing a program of professional development and assessment which promotes effective teaching strategies while honoring continuous self-improvement.
12. The Regional School District is committed to making a vigorous effort to educate the community about the needs of the schools, in order to ensure the availability of adequate funding to meet these goals.

ATHOL HIGH SCHOOL MISSION STATEMENT

We at Athol High School believe that our students can graduate with the tools necessary to lead meaningful, productive lives. In our school community, we endeavor to promote creativity and critical thinking, as well as to foster tolerance, self-confidence, and integrity in each individual. We encourage students to follow laws and work together to become productive members of society. Our goal is to educate our students to develop the skills necessary to continue to learn throughout life, and to adapt to the demands of the future.

ATHOL HIGH SCHOOL LEARNING EXPECTATIONS

Academic

1. Speak and write using standard English
2. Read and listen effectively
3. Employ critical thinking skills to solve problems
4. Use a variety of resources and technologies to acquire, evaluate, apply, and communicate information
5. Recognize responsibilities needed for well-being

Civic

1. Understand the rights and responsibilities of the individual in society
2. Work independently and collaboratively

Social

1. Understand and appreciate culture and diversity

***ATHOL HIGH SCHOOL
ATHOL-ROYALSTON REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
2363 MAIN STREET
ATHOL, MA 01331***

ATHOL-ROYALSTON REGIONAL DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION

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ATHOL HIGH SCHOOL DEPARTMENT HEADS

Thomas Telicki, English
Dominic Miranda, Math
Jeff Weston, Science
Christine Miranda, Social Studies
Melissa Perez, Special Education
Christopher Sullivan, Physical Education/Health
Kevin Nelson, Business/Technology
Edward Davidson, World Languages

GRADUATION COURSE AND CREDIT REQUIREMENTS

All students need to earn a minimum of 27 credits in order to graduate. Amongst these credits must be the required courses listed below. While all students, including seniors, are expected to pass all of their classes, **seniors may only fail one class per semester in order to graduate**, past record notwithstanding and regardless of the credit value of the course.

Freshmen and sophomores should work their way through the following courses by the time they have to take the MCAS test sophomore year:

- Algebra I and Geometry or the equivalent - Algebra IA and Algebra IB and Informal Geometry
- MCAS Prep Math for eligible students** - for students taking Algebra IA, IB, and Informal Geometry
- English 9, English 10 and English 10 II (or Honors)
- Integrated Science
- Biology or Biology Honors

- Arts1 credit - courses from Visual Arts, Journalism, Creative Writing, Band, Stage Band, Chorus, Madrigal, Intro Music, Music Theory

- English*.....4 credits: - to include
 - *All 10th graders must take both sections of English 9 or English 9 Honors
 - English 10. *All students must take all four levels of English (9, 10, 11, 12) to satisfy graduation requirements. English 10 or English 10 Honors
 - English 10 II or English 10 II Honors
 - English 11, English 11 Honors
 - English 12, English 12 Honors or Advanced Placement English

- Math4 credits Applications of Math in the Real World #566 will no longer satisfy a math graduation requirement

- Science4 credits Environmental Studies #431 will no longer satisfy a science graduation requirement

- Social Studies4 credits: - to include
 - For the Class of 2010:**
 - United States History I or
 - United States History I Honors
 - United States History II or
 - United States History II Honors or
 - Advanced Placement United States History
 - For the Class of 2011 and beyond:**
 - World History (1800-2000) or
 - World History (1800-2000) Honors
 - United States History I or
 - United States History I Honors
 - United States History II or
 - United States History II Honors or
 - Advanced Placement United States History

- Business/Technology1 credit

- P.E./Health.....3 credits – 1 combined credit each grade 9, 10, 11

GENERAL INFORMATION

- Students in their senior year may only fail one course per semester even if they have had no previous failures.
- Courses valued at more than one credit will not excuse a student from taking a full four-course load per semester.
- Sports eligibility: a student must pass three out of four credits at report card time to be eligible for participation in a sport. Fall sports eligibility: a student must have passed a total of six credits throughout the previous year of which a minimum of 3 credits were earned during the second semester to participate in a sport.
- Report cards will be distributed twice a semester once at the half way point and once at the conclusion.
- Progress reports will be distributed twice a semester; once at the half way point of the first quarter and once at the half way point of the second quarter.
- Any student not meeting minimum graduation requirements will have an individualized graduation plan developed by the student and guidance, subject to administrative approval. Moving up in homeroom grade is automatic unless you have failed so many courses that you cannot graduate with your class. In order to move to a 10th grade homeroom, students in the 9th grade must have 5 credits and have passed English 9 and the equivalent of Algebra I; minimum of 11.0 credits to move to 11th; minimum of 19.0 credits to move to 12th.
- Passage of the MCAS test is required for graduation for all students in addition to AHS requirements.

COLLEGE REQUIREMENTS

The admissions standards for UMass and the State Colleges, emphasize a strong academic high school background so that students enter college ready to learn. These standards are minimums; each campus may choose to consider additional factors in its admissions decisions. Further, the standards do not apply to the state's community colleges, which admit any high school graduate.

Freshmen Applicants

If you plan to enter UMass or a State College as a freshman, you will need to:

- 1) take 16 college preparatory high school courses,
- 2) earn at least a "B-minus" to "B" grade point average in your college preparatory courses, and
- 3) take the SAT I or ACT test.

Academic Course Requirement

Sixteen college preparatory courses (each course is equivalent to a year-long high school class) are required:

English 4 courses

Mathematics 3 courses (Algebra I & II and Geometry or Trigonometry, or comparable coursework)

Sciences 3 courses (including 2 courses considered college lab courses)

Social Sciences 2 courses (including 1 course of U.S. History) (this requirement does not meet A.H.S. U.S. History requirement)

Foreign Languages 2 courses (in a single language)

Electives 2 courses (from the above subjects or from the Arts & Humanities or Computer Sciences)

Minimum Grade Point Average in Required Courses

The grades you earn in college preparatory courses will be averaged into a grade point average (GPA). In calculating your GPA, you will receive extra credit for accelerated courses from the college (for example, honors or Advanced Placement courses).

Highly selective or more competitive colleges will be looking for more than minimum state standards such as four math, four science, (especially for math, engineering, or science related majors), three social studies and three foreign language courses.

GUIDANCE

In this section of the Program of Studies, several guidance issues will be presented in order to help students and parents decide on appropriate high school course selections and future planning activities for educational, career or military life after high school. This is a guideline only. It is every student's responsibility to discuss courses and activities with teachers, counselors and parents.

COURSE SELECTION

GRADE 8, 9, 10, 11

- It is important that subject selection include courses that meet Chapter 766 individual education plan accommodations, MCAS test expectations, graduation requirements and courses for future planning.
- The Massachusetts State College requirements for entrance are a good recipe to follow for college preparation.
- Students should discuss an appropriate level of challenge with teachers of sequential courses such as math and world languages.
- Students should discuss honors and Advanced Placement courses with subject area teachers to plan for necessary prerequisites and appropriate selection.
- During the course selection process, students should obtain teacher and parental signatures on course selection.
- Students should also discuss with coaches and club advisors eligibility requirements and membership standards.
- Students should know that extracurricular activities at school or within the community are an important part of student life.
- Students should pay attention to the student bulletin announcements in homeroom for important opportunities for student involvement.

COLLEGE AND VOCATIONAL TECHNICAL SCHOOL PLANNING CALENDAR

Whereas most of this information concerns a guideline for college entrance preparation, much of the same philosophy applies to entrance to vocational/technical schools as well.

GRADE 10

- Students must select challenging courses in high school to meet college standards. The Massachusetts State College entrance requirements are a good recipe to follow for college entrance.
- **OPTIONAL:** Sophomores may take the Preliminary Scholastic Assessment Test (PSAT) given in October of each year. This test is a practice test for the college entrance exam, the Scholastic Assessment Test (SAT I). The scores from the PSAT, when taken as a junior, are used by the National Merit Scholars to determine eligibility for the National Merit Scholarship but scores from the sophomore year are NOT admissible as NMSQT scores. Students must pay for this test.
- Students should attend College Fairs as posted.
- February and April school vacations are good times to visit colleges or vocational/technical schools as the opportunity for classroom and dormitory visitations are available and students are still on campus.
- **Throughout the year,** students should sign up for guidance appointments to discuss future plans and areas of concern.
- Students should utilize the internet to explore educational, career, military and scholarship information. The A.H.S. library computer lab is open after school for student use.
- Students should check the bulletin board outside the guidance office for general information and certain summer opportunities for sophomores.
- Students should keep an open mind about future opportunities - don't eliminate any possibilities at this time.

FALL

GRADE 11:

- Students should register through the guidance office for the PSAT which is given in October each year. ONLY junior scores from the PSAT will be admissible for NMSQT eligibility. Therefore, students who took this as a sophomore should repeat the test as a junior. Students must pay for this test.
- Throughout the year, students should check the bulletin boards outside the guidance office for college fair dates, college open house programs, visitation opportunities, testing dates, scholarships, military programs and summer workshops and courses.
- Throughout the year, students should sign up for guidance appointments to discuss future plans and areas of concern.
- With special permission from teachers and guidance counselors, juniors may sign up to meet with college and military recruiters.
- Students should discuss with the appropriate counselor shadowing and internship possibilities.
- Throughout the year, students should pay attention to the student bulletin announcements in homeroom that will specify important dates and programs for juniors such as Boys State and Girls State.
- Students should check out the registration process and dates for the SAT I, SAT II, and ACT (American College Test) for the whole year. Students cannot take the SAT I and SAT II on the same day, so students need to plan accordingly. All registration materials are located in the guidance office, but registration may be accomplished on-line as well. Students must pay for any of these tests.
- Throughout the year, students may check in the guidance office for part-time jobs.

WINTER

- When PSAT scores are returned, students should review results for strengths and weaknesses. Students should inquire about local SAT preparation courses. Also, students should utilize the college board web site for test preparation (www.collegeboard.com).
- Students should check personal transcript for all high school graduation requirements and courses for future planning. Prepare to take challenging 12th grade courses in the subject selection process.
- Students should write to colleges and vocational/technical school for catalogs and information. Students should pick up military brochures available outside the guidance office. Students interested in the military should meet with recruiters to learn about enlistment programs.
- Students should register for SAT I, SAT II or ACT for spring testing (if student did not already take a test in the fall or winter).
- Students should register with a military recruiter to take the Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery (ASVAB) to prepare for military entrance.

SPRING

- Students should sign up to participate in the annual Job Fair to interview for summer employment or participate in career workshops.
- Students should finalize schedule for senior year.
- Students should continue research for future planning.
- Students in Advanced Placement courses must take the subject exams. Students must pay for the tests.

FALL

GRADE 12:

- Students should register for a fall date (and possibly a winter date, as well) to take the SAT I, SAT II or ACT test.
- Throughout the year, the Student Bulletin contains many announcements about deadlines, scholarships, recruiters and programs that apply to seniors only.
- Seniors will attend a Future Planning seminar during a school day held in the A.H.S. cafeteria. The entire college application process with necessary forms and procedures will be reviewed. Students will receive their own packet of forms and notes for reference. Students interested in the military or a career after graduation will also receive relevant materials at separate meetings. Parents are invited to attend the morning session with the seniors or attend the evening presentation of Future Planning on that same day.
- Students must follow the extensive application process as described in the student packets.
- Throughout the year, students should sign up for guidance appointments to discuss future plans and areas of concern.
- Students must obtain applications from colleges and follow directions and meet deadlines.
- Any senior intending to apply for the early decision program at a college must notify guidance and meet appropriate deadlines.
- Students should sign up to meet with college and military recruiters.
- Throughout the year, students should check the bulletin boards outside the guidance office for college fair dates, college open house programs, visitation opportunities, testing dates, scholarships, military information and job opportunities.
- Students should request transcripts and letters of recommendation as outlined in application packet.
- Students must request other necessary documents to be included in application package such as a copy of a student's Chapter 766 education plan, a discipline report from high school (many colleges require this discipline information) and a health record.

WINTER

- Students should meet all deadlines. Students should give guidance counselors and faculty (and community members) ample time to write letters of recommendations and complete forms - two weeks, at least.
- Students and parents should attend the Financial Aid Night where the federal and local scholarship process will be discussed. The federal aid form (FAFSA) will be distributed at this meeting.
- Throughout the winter and spring, students will follow the calendar, directions and deadline for local scholarship applications.
- Throughout the winter and spring, students must notify guidance of their acceptances to schools or military programs.

SPRING

- Students should sign up to participate in the annual Job Fair to be interviewed for summer employment or participate in career workshops.
- Students in Advanced Placement courses must take the subject exams. Students must pay for the tests.
- Students must maintain good grades as all college acceptances, scholarship offers, and military enlistments are conditional on continued good progress and appropriate behavior.

995 SCHOOL TO CAREER INTERNSHIP

CREDIT TO BE DETERMINED, GRADE 10, 11, 12

The School to Career internship at Athol High School will promote exploration and skill building in the areas of self awareness, future planning, career development, and personal responsibility through a contracted internship placement within area communities. The experience is designed to enhance and demonstrate the relevancy of the student's academic world to the world of work and to establish a foundation for enabling students to make good decisions about career choices.

THE A.H.S. SCHOOL TO CAREER INTERNSHIP PLACEMENT PROCESS

The School to Career program places students with area businesses and agencies for work study internships that earn students Athol High School academic credit. Students will participate in internship preparatory sessions in the fall semester with the expectation of a spring semester placement. The following process will be followed for suitable placement.

Student Sign-Up: Interested sophomores, juniors and seniors need to make an appointment with their guidance counselor or the internship counselor to discuss possible internship placement.

Basic Interview: The student will meet with the internship counselor to discuss and clarify the student's understanding of the requirements, the benefits, and the student's goals for participation in the internship program.

Schedule Availability: The student's guidance counselor will check the student's schedule to coordinate necessary courses to meet graduation requirements with potential schedule openings for an internship.

Preparatory Session I: The student will meet with the internship counselor and engage in learning about general internship requirements and expectations.

Preparatory Session II: Based on goals information from the basic interview, the student and the internship counselor will discuss a specific internship site and the set up of a site shadowing experience.

Shadow Experience: The student will meet with the work supervisor on site and observe the operation of work for a day or other specified period of time.

Evaluation Process: The student will meet with the internship counselor and work site supervisor to evaluate the shadowing experience, the appropriateness of the site internship and the interest of the student and site supervisor to continue towards placement in the internship program.

Contract: Upon agreement, the student, the student's parents, the internship counselor and site supervisor will sign a contract which details the job description and requirements for the internship. The credit for the internship will be determined by the guidance department and will be based on the school's academic credit standards.

Due to many factors such as limited internship sites in the community, the inability to fit an internship into a student's schedule, or inappropriate site matches, not all students who request an internship are guaranteed a placement.

In the event that an internship does not get scheduled for a student on the first application, the student may repeat the placement process for another site.

All students who participate in the placement process will have gained experience in utilizing career planning skills that will be beneficial for future job, college or military interviews and productive career decision-making.

COURSES OFFERED FOR THE 2009-2010 SCHOOL YEAR

***denotes college prep course**

L denotes lab science

ENGLISH

- 011 ENGLISH 9 *
- 012 ENGLISH 9 HONORS *
- 021 ENGLISH 10 *
- 022 ENGLISH 10 HONORS *
- 024 ENGLISH 10 II *
- 025 ENGLISH 10 II HONORS *
- 031 ENGLISH 11*
- 033 ENGLISH 11 HONORS *
- 041 ENGLISH 12 *
- 042 ENGLISH 12 HONORS*
- 043 ADVANCED PLACEMENT ENGLISH *
- 051 JOURNALISM
- 056 CREATIVE WRITING*

WORLD LANGUAGES

- 111 FRENCH I *
- 112 FRENCH II *
- 113 FRENCH III *
- 114 FRENCH IV *
- 125 FRENCH V *
- 115 SPANISH I *
- 116 SPANISH II *
- 117 SPANISH III *
- 118 SPANISH IV *
- 119 SPANISH V *
- 120 LATIN I *
- 121 LATIN II *
- 122 LATIN III *
- 124 LATIN IV *
- 127 LATIN V*
- 130 INVITATION TO WORLD LANGUAGES

MATHEMATICS

- 250 MATH MCAS PREP
- 214 ALGEBRA IA *
- 215 ALGEBRA IB *
- 216 ALGEBRA I *
- 217 INFORMAL GEOMETRY *
- 218 GEOMETRY *
- 219 GEOMETRY HONORS *
- 220 ALGEBRA IIA *
- 213 ALGEBRA II B*
- 221 ALGEBRA II *
- 222 ALGEBRA II HONORS *
- 223 ADVANCED TOPICS IN MATH *
- 224 PRE-CALCULUS *
- 227 AP CALCULUS *
- 228 INTRODUCTORY STATISTICS *
- 229 AP STATISTICS *

SCIENCE

- 307 ROCKS/LAND/TIME
- 310 INTEGRATED SCIENCE *L
- 311 BIOLOGY *L
- 313 BIOLOGY HONORS *L
- 314 ANATOMY & PHYSIOLOGY *L
- 315 INTRODUCTION TO CHEMISTRY
- 316 COLLEGE CHEMISTRY *L
- 319 COLLEGE PHYSICS *L
- 320 ADVANCED PLACEMENT: CHEMISTRY *L
- 323 ADVANCED PLACEMENT: BIOLOGY *L
- 330 INTRO TO PHYSICS
- 331 ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE *L
- 332 BIOTECHNOLOGY *L
- 333 ELECTRONICS *L

SOCIAL STUDIES

- 411 WORLD HISTORY (1800-2000) *
- 405 WORLD HISTORY (1800-2000) HONORS *
- 452 UNITED STATES HISTORY I*
- 454 UNITED STATES HISTORY I HONORS *
- 453 UNITED STATES HISTORY II*
- 455 UNITED STATES HISTORY II HONORS *
- 472 ADVANCED PLACEMENT U.S. HISTORY *
- 430 AMERICAN GOVERNMENT*
- 419 AMERICAN GOVERNMENT HONORS*
- 440 ADVANCED PLACEMENT PSYCHOLOGY *
- 424 PSYCHOLOGY *
- 431 ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES *
- 427 YOUTH AND LAW
- 473 HISTORY OF CURRENT ISSUES
- 426 SOCIOLOGY
- 474 GLOBAL ECONOMICS

BUSINESS

- 502 PERSONAL & BUSINESS FINANCE
- 503 ENTREPRENEURSHIP/BUSINESS MANAGEMENT
- 514 ACCOUNTING I *
- 515 ACCOUNTING II *
- 565 MARKETING
- 566 APPLICATIONS OF MATHEMATICS IN THE REAL WORLD
- 567 OFFICE PRODUCTIVITY APPLICATIONS

COMPUTER SCIENCE/BUSINESS

- 655 INTRODUCTION TO PROGRAMMING *
- 656 INTRODUCTION TO WEB DESIGN & HTML
- 657 ADVANCED WEB DESIGN, HTML, AND SCRIPTING *
- 658 DATABASE DESIGN & PROGRAMMING *
- 632 COMPUTER AIDED DRAFTING*

VISUAL ARTS

- 720 VISUAL ARTS FOUNDATION
- 722 PRINTMAKING*
- 724 CERAMICS/RELIEF *
- 725 SCULPTURE *
- 721 DRAWING *
- 726 THE HUMAN FORM *
- 727 PAINTING *
- 732 DIGITAL MIXED MEDIA

MUSIC

- 713 CONCERT BAND
- 714 JAZZ BAND
- 716 CONCERT CHOIR
- 717 MUSIC THEORY
- 730 MADRIGAL/SHOW CHOIR
- 749 INTRO TO MUSIC

PHYSICAL EDUCATION & HEALTH

- 928 HEALTH 9
- 929 HEALTH 10
- 933 HEALTH 11
- 950 Physical Education 9
- 951 Physical Education 10
- 952 Physical Education 11
- 953 Physical Education 10 Full year with band or choir
- 954 Physical Education 11 Full year with band or choir

GUIDANCE

- 995 SCHOOL TO CAREER INTERNSHIP

***DENOTES COLLEGE PREP COURSE**

L DENOTES COLLEGE LAB SCIENCE

Virtual Classroom by permission of the administration
Independent Studies by permission of the administration

ENGLISH

Students must take one required English course each year and pass that course before taking the next level course; exceptions must have the approval of the administration. Sophomores must take both English 10 and English 10 II. In addition to required courses, students may choose elective English courses each year. The following English courses are required:

English 9 or English 9 Honors
English 10 or English 10 Honors
English 10 II or English 10 II Honors
English 11 or English 11 Honors
English 12, English 12 Honors, or Advanced Placement English

011 ENGLISH 9 *

1 CREDIT, GRADE 9

Prerequisite: None

This course emphasizes the development of reading, writing, viewing, speaking, and listening skills. It also includes instruction in research and study skills. Students read from various literary genres (novels, short stories, poetry, non-fiction and drama), complete frequent writing exercises, use reference sources, and produce periodic oral presentations. Students must also maintain a journal and a writing portfolio.

012 ENGLISH 9 HONORS *

1.2 CREDITS, GRADE 9

Prerequisite: 8th Grade Teacher Recommendation
MANDATORY SUMMER ASSIGNMENT

This course emphasizes the development of reading, writing, viewing, speaking, and listening skills. It also includes instruction in research and study skills. Students read from various literary genres (novels, short stories, poetry, non-fiction and drama), complete frequent writing exercises, use reference sources, and produce periodic oral presentations. Students must also maintain a journal and a writing portfolio. In addition, the student is responsible for completing summer reading and writing assignments prior to the start of classes.

021 ENGLISH 10 *

1 CREDIT, GRADE 10

Prerequisite: English 9

This course focuses on the continued development of the student's reading and writing skills and provides a thematic approach to the study of literature. Students will be expected to write compositions, write book reviews and literary analyses, and continue to develop viewing, speaking, listening and vocabulary skills. Readings will include mythology, the Bible, a Shakespearean play, and a variety of poetry, drama, novels, and essays. A writing portfolio will be maintained. Students will research and write a persuasive essay, a grade 10 curriculum benchmark.

022 ENGLISH 10 HONORS *

1.2 CREDITS, GRADE 10

Prerequisite: English 9 and Teacher Recommendation
MANDATORY SUMMER ASSIGNMENT

This course focuses on the continued development of the student's reading and writing skills and provides a thematic approach to the study of literature. Students will be expected to write compositions, write book reviews and literary analyses, and continue to develop viewing, speaking, listening and vocabulary skills. Readings will include mythology, the Bible, a Shakespearean play, and a variety of poetry, drama, novels, and essays. A writing portfolio will be maintained. In addition, the student is responsible for summer reading and writing assignments prior to the start of classes. Students will research and write a persuasive essay, a grade 10 curriculum benchmark.

024 ENGLISH 10 II *

1 CREDIT, GRADE 10

Prerequisite: English 10

This course, an extension of English 10, will help students reinforce skills that were addressed in the fall semester. Prior to the English MCAS exam, the main focus of the course will be the application of learned skills toward the taking of the exam. Students will learn test-taking strategies for multiple-choice questions and will regularly practice open response writing. After the MCAS is administered, students will continue their study of literature and writing.

025 ENGLISH 10 II HONORS ***1 CREDIT, GRADE 10****Prerequisite: English 10 Honors**

This course, an extension of English 10, will help students reinforce skills that were addressed in the fall semester. Prior to the English MCAS exam, the main focus of the course will be the application of learned skills toward the taking of the exam. Students will learn test-taking strategies for multiple-choice questions and will regularly practice open response writing. After the MCAS is administered, students will continue their study of literature and writing.

031 ENGLISH 11 ***1 CREDIT, GRADE 11****Prerequisite: English 10**

This course will continue to build on reading, viewing, speaking, listening and writing skills learned in previous courses, with a particular emphasis on writing. All aspects of writing a research paper will be thoroughly explored, culminating in the production of a fully documented research paper. American literature will provide the basis for most reading and writing assignments. Students will be expected to use higher order thinking skills and demonstrate logical development of ideas. A writing portfolio will be maintained.

033 ENGLISH 11 HONORS ***1.2 CREDIT, GRADE 11****Prerequisite: English 10 and Teacher Recommendation****MANDATORY SUMMER ASSIGNMENT**

This course will continue to build on reading, viewing, speaking, listening and writing skills learned in previous courses, with a particular emphasis on writing. All aspects of writing a research paper will be thoroughly explored, culminating in the production of a fully documented research paper. American literature will provide the basis for most reading and writing assignments. Students will be expected to use higher order thinking skills and demonstrate logical development of ideas. A writing portfolio will be maintained. In addition, the student is responsible for summer reading and writing assignments prior to the start of classes.

041 ENGLISH 12 ***1 CREDIT****Prerequisite: English 11**

This course is designed to reinforce and refine English language arts skills already learned in English 11. Writing will include autobiographical essays, critical reactions for a variety of purposes, creative writings and research-based project. Quality in terms of content, organization, and mechanics will be expected. Vocabulary development and speaking skills will be addressed. World literature will provide the basis for reading selections. Readings will be discussed with the purpose of encouraging students to reach more sophisticated critical judgments. A writing portfolio will be maintained.

042 ENGLISH 12 HONORS ***1.2 CREDITS****Prerequisite: English 11 and Teacher Recommendation****MANDATORY SUMMER ASSIGNMENT**

This course is designed to reinforce and refine English language arts skills already learned in English 11. Writing will include autobiographical essays, critical reactions for a variety of purposes, creative writings and research-based project. Quality in terms of content, organization, and mechanics will be expected. Vocabulary development and speaking skills will be addressed. World literature will provide the basis for reading selections. Readings will be discussed with the purpose of encouraging students to reach more sophisticated critical judgments. A writing portfolio will be maintained. In addition, the student is responsible for summer reading and writing assignments prior to the start of classes.

043 ADVANCED PLACEMENT ENGLISH ***2.2 CREDITS****Prerequisite: Teacher Recommendation****Course runs for the full school year****MANDATORY SUMMER ASSIGNMENT**

This full year course is designed to provide students with a college-level learning experience. Students will intensely study literary classics, both individually and as a group, as well as learn methods of literary analysis and compositional approaches. A research paper based on a literature-related topic is required. Students will also prepare for the nationally competitive AP exam which is administered in the spring. The taking of the AP exam and completion of a summer reading/writing component to the course is required.

051 JOURNALISM**1 CREDIT, GRADES 10, 11, 12****Prerequisite: None**

The work of this course will be to write, edit and lay out copy for publication of the school newspaper, the senior yearbook, the school literary magazine, and the parent newsletter. Students will learn to write in various journalistic formats (news writing, editorial writing, sports writing, etc.), will study aspects of the media, and will learn about ethical and legal standards of publishing. Computer skills will be applied in the production of student publications. The sale of advertisements for the yearbook is required of all students. Students may take this course more than once with journalism instructor permission only.

056 CREATIVE WRITING ***1 CREDIT****Prerequisite: None**

This course will involve the study and analysis of personal narrative, memoir, poetry, short story and drama genres. After the reading and analysis of each form, students will compose original pieces which will be performed or published for the class. Students are expected to offer substantial editorial support for one another.

WORLD LANGUAGES

It is strongly recommended that students planning to take Level I and Level II of any one world language elect to take those levels in consecutive semesters. For example: Level I in September and Level II in January or Level I in January and Level II the following September.

111 FRENCH I ***1 CREDIT****Prerequisite: None**

Basics of French vocabulary and expression are introduced through storytelling, and supported with the French I textbook. The present tense is emphasized. Basic vocabulary is studied. Students are introduced to the Francophone world. We read at least one book in the language.

112 FRENCH II ***1 CREDIT****Prerequisite: French I**

Exploration of the Francophone world continues. Comprehension of the French language is increased through storytelling, which requires listening, speaking, reading, and writing. Students learn the past tense, pronouns, and vocabulary. We read at least two books in the language.

113 FRENCH III ***1 CREDIT****Prerequisite: French II**

Building on French I and French II, French III continues with storytelling, verb tenses, pronouns, and vocabulary. There is increased emphasis on communication. We read books, and study films in the language.

114 FRENCH IV * **1 CREDIT**

Prerequisite: French III

This course provides an opportunity to work on their fluency, proper usage, and comprehension in speaking and writing French. We read books, study films, and learn from projects.

125 FRENCH V * **1 CREDIT**

Prerequisite: French IV

This course will explore the cultures of the French speaking world with emphasis on proficiency in speaking, reading and writing. The student will need a solid foundation in the basics of the language.

115 SPANISH I * **1 CREDIT**

Prerequisite: None

Students will be introduced to the culture that is called the Hispanic world. Emphasis will be placed on achieving significant progress in the four major areas of language acquisition; reading, writing, listening, and speaking. Students will master basic communication techniques on the beginning level of the language, with the goal of continuing their studies to the highest level offered.

116 SPANISH II * **1 CREDIT**

Prerequisite: Spanish I

Students will strengthen communication skills through more complex exercises in listening comprehension and oral expression. Writing exercises, cultural readings, and grammar study will be constant throughout this course.

117 SPANISH III * **1 CREDIT**

Prerequisite: Spanish II

This course will offer opportunities to utilize the language in both practical and creative manners in both oral and written exercises. Listening comprehension and cultural readings are integral parts of study for the student. Study of more advanced grammar must also be included to complete this course of language study.

118 SPANISH IV * **1 CREDIT**

Prerequisite: Spanish III

This course will continue and conclude the study of Spanish grammar begun in level III. Upon completion of this class, the student will have a working knowledge of all verb tenses (including the subjunctive) and major grammatical structures.

119 SPANISH V * **1 CREDIT**

Prerequisite: Spanish IV

This course focuses on the Hispanic immigrant experience in the United States, specifically the Chicano cultures. Materials studied include historical texts, poems, essays, short stories, plays, art, music and films. Critical thinking and class participation in Spanish are stressed.

120 LATIN I * **1 CREDIT**

Prerequisite: None

Emphasis will be on the comprehension of the Latin language through practice in reading. At the same time, through the readings, the student will acquire an understanding of the social and political history of the Romans, especially during the first century A.D.

121 LATIN II * **1 CREDIT**

Prerequisite: Latin I

This course continues the study of Latin through an ongoing story line in a Romano-British setting. Included as an integral part of the course is a better understanding of English word origins, legal terms and scientific vocabulary.

122 LATIN III *
Prerequisite: Latin II

1 CREDIT

Having acquired the necessary reading skills through completion of Latin I and II, students will be challenged by more complex readings in the Latin text series. Emphasis will be on classical authors in their original texts. The study of English vocabulary through Latin and Greek roots continues, as well as the ongoing investigation of the Romanization process.

124 LATIN IV *
Prerequisite: Latin III

1 CREDIT

Students will conclude their studies of the Romano-British setting of ancient times. Focus of the course is on the religious beliefs of the Celts and Romans, as well as a study of the Roman army. The eternal city of Rome is the final destination of our study tour.

127 LATIN V *
Prerequisite: Latin IV

1 CREDIT

The works of the poets Catullus, Vergil, Horace, Ovid, and Martial will be the centerpiece of our study in this course. Poetry will be studied in both original and translated forms, as well as the historical perspectives they provide.

130 INVITATION TO LANGUAGES
Prerequisite: None

1 CREDIT

This course is designed to offer students an opportunity to explore several different languages to help decide what course of future language study they will pursue in greater depth, for example, in French I. Languages studied will include French, Spanish, and Latin, with the possibility for others. Students with no previous world language experience would be good candidates for this opportunity.

MATHEMATICS

250 MATH MCAS PREP
Second Semester only

1 CREDIT, GRADE 10

This course is only for second semester tenth graders who have passed Algebra IA, Algebra IB and taken Informal Geometry. The major focus of the course will be on learning test-taking strategies for the MCAS exam using multiple-choice, short answer and open response questions. The course will be aligned with the Massachusetts Mathematics Frameworks and will concentrate on the learning standards for the upcoming math section of the MCAS exam. The strands being covered are:

1. Number sense and operations
2. Patterns, relations, and algebra
3. Geometry
4. Measurement
5. Data analysis, statistics, and probability

214 ALGEBRA IA *
Prerequisite: None
Recommended prior to MCAS

1 CREDIT

This course is the first semester of a two-semester program that studies Introductory Algebra. Topics include operations with signed numbers, properties of numbers, and operations with polynomials. For college admission purposes, Algebra IA and Algebra IB together constitute one unit.

215 ALGEBRA IB ***1 CREDIT****Prerequisite: Algebra IA****Recommended prior to MCAS**

This course is the second semester of a two-semester program that studies Introductory Algebra. Topics include operations with real numbers, first degree equations and inequalities, quadratic functions, factoring, graphing, solving word problems, exponents and systems of equations. For college admission purposes, Introductory Algebra IA and Algebra IB together constitute one unit.

216 ALGEBRA I ***1 CREDIT****Prerequisite: None****Recommended prior to MCAS**

This is a first course in Algebra for college-bound students. Topics include identifying and using number patterns, operations with real numbers, properties of numbers, order of operations, first-degree equations and inequalities, linear and quadratic functions, factoring, graphing, solving word problems, exponents, probability and statistics, systems of equations and polynomials.

217 INFORMAL GEOMETRY ***1 CREDIT****Prerequisite: Algebra I or Algebra IB****Recommended prior to MCAS**

This course addresses the basic structure of Geometry through a more informal approach. It is designed for students who have successfully completed Algebra IB or those students having had difficulties with Algebra I, who need more time to develop geometric concepts and applications. Topics include points, lines, angles, introducing proof, triangles, using congruent triangles, polygons, areas, ratios and proportions, similar polygons, circles, areas and volumes of solids, right triangles, and coordinate geometry. This course is not as rigorous and demanding as Geometry or Geometry Honors.

218 GEOMETRY ***1 CREDIT****Prerequisite: Algebra I or Algebra IB****Recommended prior to MCAS**

This course is designed to help the student have a better understanding of the nature of mathematical systems and an appreciation of the basic structure of geometry. The fundamental properties of plane, analytic and solid geometry are introduced. It will develop powers of spatial visualization. Emphasis is placed on definitions, basic postulates and theorems and the use of deductive reasoning. Algebra is used as a tool to help understand and develop geometric concepts. Students will also be introduced to such topics as coordinate geometry, trigonometry and transformations.

219 GEOMETRY HONORS ***1 CREDIT****Prerequisite: Algebra I and Teacher Recommendation****Recommended prior to MCAS**

This accelerated course in Geometry is designed to help the student have a better understanding of the nature of mathematical systems and an appreciation of the basic structure of Geometry. Fundamental and advanced properties of plane, analytic and solid geometry are introduced. It will develop powers of spatial visualization. Strong emphasis is placed on definitions, basic postulates and theorems and the use of deductive reasoning. Algebra is used as a tool to help understand and develop geometric concepts. Students will also be introduced to such topics as coordinated geometry, trigonometry and transformations.

220 ALGEBRA IIA ***1 CREDIT****Prerequisite: Informal Geometry or Geometry**

This course is the first semester of a two-semester program that studies Algebra II. It is intended for the student who has had a difficult time with algebra. It is a moderately paced second year algebra course designed to build upon the concepts learned in Algebra I or Algebra IB. Topics include concepts of elementary Algebra, introduction to graphs and functions, linear functions, equations, inequalities, and systems of linear equations and inequalities. For college admission purposes, Algebra IIA and Algebra IIB together constitute one unit.

213 ALGEBRA IIB ***1 CREDIT****Prerequisite: Algebra IIA**

This course is the second semester of a two-semester program that studies Algebra II. It is a moderately paced second year algebra course designed to build upon the concepts learned in Algebra I or Algebra IB. Topics include radicals, complex numbers, quadratic functions, equations, inequalities, rational expressions, functions, relations, radical functions, and exponential and logarithmic functions. For college admission purposes, Algebra IIA and Algebra IIB together constitute one unit.

221 ALGEBRA II ***1 CREDIT****Prerequisite: Geometry or Teacher Recommendation**

This is a second course in Algebra for college-bound students. It is designed to build upon the concepts learned in Algebra I and to help students understand Algebra as a study of the real and complex number systems. Furthermore, the concept of functions as they relate to mathematics is a main theme for the study of Algebra and a clear understanding of the concepts is a primary goal. Topics include matrices, probability and statistics, linear, quadratic, logarithmic and trigonometric functions, as well as the introduction of conic sections and sequences and series. The TI-83 or TI-84 graphing calculator will be used extensively in this course and the school does not provide a calculator for each student.

222 ALGEBRA II HONORS ***1 CREDIT****Prerequisite: Geometry and Teacher Recommendation**

This course is taught at an accelerated pace and is intended for the college-bound student with a solid background in Algebra I. The topics covered in this course will include systems of numbers, matrices, probability and statistics, polynomial and rational expressions, linear equations and inequalities, coordinate geometry, relations and functions, quadratic functions, systems of sentences, real exponents, logarithmic functions, conic sections, sequences and series, and trigonometric functions. The TI-83 or TI-84 graphing calculator will be used extensively in this course and the school does not provide a calculator for each student.

223 ADVANCED TOPICS IN MATH ***1 CREDIT****Prerequisite: Algebra II or Algebra IIB**

This course is designed to introduce students to the various branches of mathematics in which they may proceed as well as strengthen their understanding of the basic structure of mathematics. Included are topics in statistics, probability, linear and quadratic equations, trigonometry, and sequences and series. The TI-83 graphing calculator will be used extensively in this course and the school does not provide a calculator for each student.

224 PRE-CALCULUS ***1 CREDIT****Prerequisite: Algebra II**

This is an advanced course in pre-calculus for college-bound students with a strong interest and ability in mathematics. The topics covered in the course will include numbers systems, functions, trigonometry, sequences, series, limits, algebraic functions, exponential and logarithmic functions, vectors, systems of linear equations, conic sections and an introduction to calculus. The TI-83, TI-84, or TI-89 graphing calculator will be used extensively in this course and the school does not provide a calculator for each student.

227 AP CALCULUS ***2 CREDITS****Prerequisite: Pre-Calculus and Teacher Recommendation****Course runs full school year**

This advanced course is designed for the college-bound student with a strong interest and ability in mathematics who is going to take the AP Calculus exam. The focus of the course will be on the topics of limits, derivatives and integration. The TI-89 graphing calculator will be used extensively in this course and the school does not provide a calculator for each student.

Note: This is a two credit course which runs all four terms. No final exam is given for the course, however, all students are required to take the Advanced Placement Calculus exam in May.

228 INTRODUCTORY STATISTICS ***1 CREDIT****Prerequisite: Algebra II or Algebra IIB**

This introductory course is designed for the college-bound student with a strong interest in probability and statistics. Topics covered in the course include the normal distribution, scatterplots, correlation, least-squares regression, designing experiments, probability, control charts, binomial distributions, test of significance, and confidence intervals. The TI-83 or TI-84 graphing calculator will be used extensively in this course and the school does not provide a calculator for each student.

229 AP STATISTICS ***2 CREDITS****Prerequisite: Algebra II and Teacher Recommendation****This course runs full school year**

This advanced course is designed for the college-bound student with a strong interest in probability and statistics. Topics covered in the course include the normal distribution, scatterplots, correlation, samples and experiments, probability, binomial and geometric distributions, test of significance, confidence intervals, Chi-square, and analysis of variance. Students who enroll in this course are required to take the AP Statistics Exam. The TI-83 or TI-84 graphing calculator will be used extensively in this course and the school does not provide a calculator for each student.

Note: This is a two credit course which runs all four terms. No final exam is given for the course, however, all students are required to take the Advanced Placement Statistics exam in May.

SCIENCE

Important information that you need to know when planning for your science classes:

- 1) You are required to earn four science credits in order to graduate from Athol High School.**
- 2) Integrated Science is required as a freshman.**
- 3) All sophomores must take Biology, or Biology Honors.** Biology and Biology Honors are standard college level preparatory classes. Students must now pass the Biology section of the MCAS exam to graduate.
- 4) If you are a serious college bound science student you need to make sure that you take Integrated Science, Biology, Chemistry and Physics before you graduate.** Many students do not realize that standard college level Biology, Chemistry and Physics are all necessary if you plan on entering any of the health, technical or engineering fields.
- 5) If you are a very serious science student who wants to be challenged with Advanced Placement classes, then you may want to consider the following:** 1) Honors Biology and Chemistry in your sophomore year 2) AP Biology or AP Chemistry and Physics in your junior year unless you plan on taking Physics in your senior year 3) AP Biology or AP Chemistry and Physics in your senior year. Note that standard college level Physics is usually given one term every year and that AP Biology and AP Chemistry are given in alternate years. AP Chemistry is given during the 2009/2010 school year with AP Biology given during the 2010/2011 school year.

307 ROCKS/LAND/TIME**1 CREDIT****Prerequisite: Integrated Science and any Biology class****(May be taken concurrently with any Biology class.)**

This elective course is an introduction to earth science concepts. Laboratory activities are included to supplement the content taught, however, the course is not a standard college level preparatory class. This course explores the dynamic forces that are constantly changing our earth. Students who have a general interest in geology, earth history, mineralogy, weather, astronomy and physics would enjoy this course.

310 INTEGRATED SCIENCE *L**1 CREDIT****Prerequisite: None**

This course is intended to integrate the domains of science taught in the K-12 curriculum. This standard college level preparatory class will build upon knowledge previously taught at the middle school level and is intended for freshman or beginning level students. This course is the first of two recommended before students take the biology MCAS test. Topics of study will include chemistry, physical science and biology. This course will use the inquiry method of study and will strongly rely on “hands-on” laboratory activities.

311 BIOLOGY *L**1 CREDIT****Prerequisites: Integrated Science. Must be at least a sophomore to take this class.**

All students are required to pass the MCAS exam in biology in order to receive a high school diploma. This standard college level preparatory course is specifically designed to help you pass the biology exam. The course will rely heavily on laboratory exercises. This course will follow the learning standards set up by the Massachusetts Department of Education. Topics include: 1) The chemistry of life 2) Structure and function of cells 3) Genetics 4) Human anatomy and physiology 5) Evolution and biodiversity 6) Ecology and 7) Experimental design.

313 BIOLOGY HONORS *L**1.2 CREDIT****Prerequisites: Integrated Science**

All students are required to pass the MCAS exam in Biology in order to receive a high school diploma. This vigorous honors college level preparatory course is for the student who is conscientious and willing to devote a significant amount of extra time outside of the classroom. This challenging class will also help you pass the biology MCAS exam. The course will rely heavily on very demanding laboratory exercises. Honors Biology will follow the learning standards set up by the Massachusetts Department of Education. Topics include: 1) The chemistry of life 2) Structure and function of cells 3) Genetics 4) Human anatomy and physiology 5) Evolution and biodiversity 6) Ecology and 7) Experimental design.

314 ANATOMY AND PHYSIOLOGY *L**1 CREDIT****Prerequisites: Biology, Algebra II and College Chemistry****May be taken concurrently with Chemistry and Algebra II with permission.**

A challenging college level preparatory course that focuses on the study of the systems of the human body. Topics included will be the relationship between the structure and function of the cell, tissues, organs and organ systems. The course will offer laboratory experiences including a fetal pig dissection. It is required that students who are interested should have a strong background in biology and college chemistry.

315 INTRODUCTION TO CHEMISTRY**1 CREDIT****Prerequisites: Biology and Algebra IB**

This elective course serves as an introduction to basic chemical principles. Hands-on laboratory experiences are included to demonstrate important concepts. Topics include: matter, atomic structure, the periodic table, types of bonding, chemical formulas and types of reactions. Introduction to Chemistry is not a standard college level preparatory class.

316 COLLEGE CHEMISTRY *L**1 CREDIT****Prerequisites: Algebra I and Algebra II****May take Algebra II during the same semester.**

This college level preparatory class covers the structure and interaction of matter. Atomic theory, stoichiometry, phase change, gas laws, chemical kinetics, acid-base and oxidation reactions will be covered. This lab course will utilize laboratory exercises to support, augment and emphasize course topics. A comfortable working knowledge of basic algebra is necessary for problem solving.

319 COLLEGE PHYSICS *L**1 CREDIT****Prerequisites: Algebra II and Pre-Calculus****Note: May be taken concurrently with Pre-Calculus.**

This challenging college level preparatory class is designed for students that are college bound. The course deals with the relationships between matter, energy, force and motion. Newtonian mechanics, vector analysis, hydrodynamics, thermal properties of matter, kinetic theory, oscillatory and wave motion and thermodynamics will be considered in depth with mathematical manipulation of concepts and problem solving a primary focus. Laboratory exercises will be an integral part of this course.

320 ADVANCED PLACEMENT: CHEMISTRY *L**2.2 CREDITS****Prerequisites: Algebra II and Chemistry****Signatures of the Advanced Placement Chemistry teacher and the department head are required to take this class.****Note: Offered every other year. It will be offered during the 2009/2010 school year.**

AP Chemistry is a full year laboratory course designed to be identical to a first year freshman course in college. AP Chemistry is a demanding in-depth continuation of the standard college level preparatory chemistry class. Topics covered in the course will include: stoichiometry, oxidation-reduction reactions, thermochemistry, chemical bonds, gas laws, acid-base reactions, kinetics, equilibrium reactions, electrochemistry and organic chemistry. Students will be expected to take the AP exam given by the College Board in May of 2010. The exam, if successfully passed, can be used for college credit.

323 ADVANCED PLACEMENT: BIOLOGY *L**2 CREDITS****Prerequisites: Biology or Honors Biology and Chemistry****Signatures of the Advanced Placement teacher and the department head are required to take this class.****Note: Offered every other year. It will be offered during the 2010/2011 school year.****May be taken concurrently with Chemistry (with permission) if Chemistry is taken during the first semester of AP Biology.**

AP Biology is a full year laboratory course designed to be identical to a first year freshman course in college. AP biology is a demanding in-depth continuation of the standard college level preparatory biology and chemistry classes. Topics covered in the course will include: chemistry of life, cells, cellular energetics, heredity, molecular genetics, evolutionary biology, diversity of organisms, structure and function of plants and animals and ecology. Students will be expected to take the AP exam given by the College Board in May of 2011. The exam, if successfully passed can be used for college credit.

330 INTRO TO PHYSICS**1 CREDIT****Prerequisite: Algebra I or Informal Geometry**

You can't enjoy a game unless you know its rules, whether it is baseball, football or soccer. Likewise, you can't fully appreciate your surroundings until you understand the rules of nature. By studying the concepts covered in Intro to Physics, you will have a much better understanding of how the world works. Physics is about the rules of nature. Because physics is the basic science – the foundation of biology, chemistry and all of the disciplines of science- it should be part of all students' education. Unfortunately, fear of mathematics keeps many students from taking a course in physics. This course seeks to introduce the concepts of physics without the use of complicated mathematics. Using laboratory work, projects and activities, students who take this class will discover the rules of nature's game for themselves. This course is not a standard college level preparatory class.

331 ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE *L**1 CREDIT****Prerequisite: Biology**

An interdisciplinary college level course that focuses on natural and man-made environmental issues. We will design and conduct scientific studies to increase our understanding and appreciation of our natural environment. Hands-on laboratory experiences with computer-assisted probes will help us to gather information, evaluate risks and examine alternative solutions to the environmental problems that we face.

332 BIOTECHNOLOGY *L**1 CREDIT****Prerequisite: Biology and College Chemistry
(May be taken concurrently with College Chemistry)**

Current medical, environmental and forensic studies as well as prescription drug development often require the analysis of DNA and proteins. This college level, hands-on course was designed to introduce students to the tools, equipment and careers that depend upon molecular research. Topics of study in this laboratory course will include cell biology, molecular biology, immunology and the ethical issues arising from biotechnology.

333 ELECTRONICS *L**1 CREDIT****Prerequisite: Algebra I or Algebra IA and Algebra IB**

The electronics industry provides jobs in such areas as consumer electronics, computer repair, automotive systems, medical equipment, military electronics and fire/security systems to name a few. A key employee of any company is the electronic technician, with the responsibility of repairing and maintaining electronic systems and equipment. In this hands-on college level preparatory class, you will study the function of electronic components and their application to electronic systems. This laboratory class could lead to a career as an electrician, the study of electronics in the military service or further study, leading to an Associate of Science Degree in Electronic Technology or a degree in Electrical Engineering. Topics will include conductors, insulators, electron theory, magnetism, series and parallel circuits, electrical generation and electrical safety.

SOCIAL STUDIES**Important information that you need to know when planning your course of study in Social Studies.**

You are required to take **four** credits in Social Studies beginning with World History freshman year and then taking U.S. History I sophomore year and U.S. History II sophomore or junior year. We encourage you to take one of the many electives senior year or concurrently with any of the required classes.

World History (1800-2000) is a required freshman course. World History Honors add research and writing projects.

U.S. History I is required sophomore year with the Honors section emphasizing research and writing projects.

U.S. History II is required sophomore or junior year with the **Honors** sections emphasizing research and writing projects.

Serious students who plan on taking **Advanced Placement** courses while at AHS, should take AP UNITED STATES HISTORY their sophomore or junior year. Passing the AP UNITED STATES HISTORY test may result in college credit.

Advanced Placement Psychology is also open to sophomores, juniors, or seniors who want to challenge themselves with college level Psychology. Passing the AP test in Psychology may result in college credit.

Electives open to all students are **American Government, Psychology, Sociology, History of Current Issues, Youth and Law, Environmental Studies, Global Economics** and may be taken senior year or anytime.

411 WORLD HISTORY (1800-2000) ***1 CREDIT, GRADE 9****Prerequisite: None**

World History is a freshman course covering Europe, the Middle East, Africa, Asia, and Central America. Students will study the period of colonialism, economics, politics, social and cultural issues up through the modern times. Students will study the geography, cultures, political systems of each area of the world.

405 WORLD HISTORY (1800-2000) HONORS ***1 CREDIT, GRADE 9****Prerequisite: Teacher Recommendations**

World History is a freshman course covering democracy, reform, nationalism, imperialism, and wars throughout the world. Emphasis will be placed on understanding diversity among cultures, problems of globalization, terrorism, and diplomacy. Students will be given projects in writing and research, politics, and social cultural issues.

452 UNITED STATES HISTORY I ***1 CREDIT, GRADE 10,11**

United States History I is a chronological study of American History from 1775 to 1876. This will include the American Revolution, creating the Constitution, and the Civil War and Reconstruction. Several short papers will be required. This is a required course for graduation.

454 UNITED STATES HISTORY I HONORS ***1 CREDIT, GRADE 10, 11****Prerequisite: Teacher Recommendation**

United States History I Honors is a chronological study of American History from 1775 to 1876. This will include the American Revolution, The Constitution, Nationalism, Sectionalism, and Civil War and Reconstruction. Several papers and presentations will be required. Analysis of primary source documents and novels are part of the course. This is a required course for graduation.

453 UNITED STATES HISTORY II ***1 CREDIT, GRADE 10,11**

United States History II is a chronological study of American History from 1877 to the present. This will include political, economic and social issues from Post Reconstruction to today. Several short papers will be required. This is a required course for graduation.

455 UNITED STATES HISTORY II HONORS***1 CREDIT****Prerequisite: Grade 10 & 11**

United States History II Honors is a chronological study of American History from 1877 to the present. This will include political, economic and social issues from Post Reconstruction to today. Several papers will be required. Analysis of primary course documents and novels are part of the course. This is a required course for graduation.

472 ADVANCED PLACEMENT U.S. HISTORY ***2.2 CREDITS****Prerequisite: World History Honors and Department Chair Recommendation
Recommended for Sophomores, Juniors, Seniors**

For History Lovers and Students Who Like to Challenge Themselves. **AP United States History** is a full year college course open to grades 10, 11 or 12. Sharpen your thinking and writing skills and prepare yourself for college while studying fascinating historical people, places, events, inventions, conspiracies, scandals, wars, and market crashes. Preparation for taking the **AP United States History exam**, writing DBQ essays and writing FRQ essay are emphasized. Also encouraged are debates, simulations, powerpoints, and book and film review.

430 AMERICAN GOVERNMENT ***1 CREDIT****Prerequisite: U.S. History I and II**

American Government is a course designed to enable students to learn how to actively participate in the American political system and to make intelligent decisions when presented with alternatives. Current political issues will be addressed as well as the structure of American government itself. Voter registration will be offered as part of this course. In addition, student attendance of at least one municipal meeting and a written summary are required.

419 AMERICAN GOVERNMENT HONORS***1 CREDIT****Prerequisite: U.S. History I and II Honors**

Honors American Government is a course designed to enable students to learn how to actively participate in the American political system and to make intelligent decisions when presented with alternatives. Current political issues will be addressed as well as the structure of American government itself. Voter registration will be offered as part of this course. In addition, student attendance of at least one municipal meeting and a written summary are required. Special attention will be given to analysis of primary source documents.

440 ADVANCED PLACEMENT PSYCHOLOGY ***2 CREDITS****Prerequisite: Department Chair Recommendation****Course runs two semesters**

The purpose of the Advanced Placement course in Psychology is to introduce students to the systematic and scientific study of the behavior and mental processes of human beings and animals. Students are exposed to the psychological facts, principles, and phenomena associated with each of the major subfields within psychology. They also learn about the methods psychologists use in their science and practice. This is a college level course and several papers and projects are assigned along with practice tests to prepare the student for the Advanced Placement exam which takes place in May. Students will be expected to take this exam.

424 PSYCHOLOGY ***1 CREDIT****Prerequisite: None****Recommended 10, 11, 12 Grades**

This is an introductory course in psychology, the study of human behavior. Topics covered include personality, motivation, learning, intelligence, and human development. This course is geared toward students considering careers in Health, Education, Nursing, and Criminal Justice. Guest speakers, experiments, videos and projects supplement the course.

431 ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES***1 CREDIT****Prerequisite: None****Recommended 10, 11, 12 Grades**

This course will focus students' attention on their interaction of science, technology, and society. Students will be afforded the opportunity to learn firsthand about their local environment from a historical, cultural and socioeconomic perspective. More and more decisions that citizens make as they govern themselves involve science and technology. Field trips will offer students to a wide variety of environmental issues with the community and surrounding townships. In addition, the course will feature several guest speakers who will provide students with an awareness of current occupational opportunities in the environmental field individual term projects also play a vital role in each students' learning activities. Students will analyze the issues, gather information, make decisions, and take certain actions for solving the problems that arise in an age of rapid scientific development and technology advancement.

427 YOUTH AND LAW**1 CREDIT****Prerequisite: None****Recommended 10, 11, 12 Grade**

The course is intended to familiarize a student with the components necessary for a career in criminal justice. Many concepts and practices related to law enforcement, the courts, and corrections will be addressed. It will be necessary for the student to complete simple legal documents and applications. Presenters to the class who are experts in the field include police officers, forensics officers, judges, and corrections officers.

473 HISTORY OF CURRENT ISSUES**1 CREDIT****Prerequisite: None****Recommended 10, 11, 12 Grade**

This course will be a melding of World History and current issues. Students will be provided with the historical background behind issues facing today's world, fostering an appreciation for the study of history and its role in understanding our own world. Topics will include terrorism (including the subtopics of the religious issues in Ireland and the Israeli-Palestinian situation in the Middle East), the effects of imperialism and colonization on the modern world, natural resources and politics, and dictatorships.

426 SOCIOLOGY**1 CREDIT****Prerequisite: None****Recommended 10, 11, 12 Grade****Offered on alternate years, next available in 2010**

Sociology is the study of group behavior. Contemporary social topics will be addressed such as: marriage, family, poverty, religion, education, demography, alienation and crime.

474 GLOBAL ECONOMICS**1 CREDIT****Prerequisite: None****Recommended Grades 10, 11 or 12**

Want to know why your lives have changed since the Stock Market crashed in 2008? The Social Studies department is offering a brand new course in **Global Economics**. By studying Economics, students will gain crucial information that will help them navigate through the world of taxes, investments, and annuities. This course will help students develop real life skills they need to succeed: to be able to think and choose responsibly as consumers, savers, investors, citizens, members of the workforce, and effective participants in our global economy. You don't want to get caught in Bernie Madoff's Ponzi scheme. If you don't know what this is, this course will teach you. Students will examine the allocation of scarce resources and the economic reasoning used by government agencies and by people as consumers, producers, savers, investors, workers, and voters. Key elements include the study of scarcity, supply and demand, market structures, the role of government, national income determination, money and the role of financial institutions, economic stabilization and trade. Don't graduate being in the dark about how to handle your hard earned money. Economics is a required course in many college curriculums. Be one step ahead by taking **Global Economics** while you are still in high school.

BUSINESS**502 PERSONAL AND BUSINESS FINANCE****1 CREDIT****Prerequisite: None**

This course will involve an in-depth exploration of the world of finance and the finance industry. Students will gain practical knowledge on topics such as the stock market, investments, wise credit use, insurance choices, and risk assessment that will help them make wise financial decisions as they get ready to move beyond high school. They will learn how decisions regarding these topics can affect them personally as well as the global economy. Students will utilize computers on a regular basis throughout the course in ways, including but not limited to, tracking the stock market, reading about current economic issues, researching for projects, and creating presentations on their findings. Students will also get a brief look at several careers that are associated with the finance industry and their growth potential.

503 ENTREPRENEURSHIP/BUSINESS MANAGEMENT**1 CREDIT****Prerequisite: None**

Students will learn the importance of their role as a consumer, worker, and citizen in the United States and the global economy. Topics that will be explored include economics, marketing, entrepreneurship, small business management, human resources, leadership, business organization, and different aspects of management. Students will also gain basic skills needed to manage their personal finances and to seek employment. Through lecture, group discussion, critical thinking and research projects, students will develop skills that will help them in the business world. Through the use of business simulation, software students will get to create their own business plan and learn how to manage and run their own place of business. Technology is an important part of the business world and in addition to using simulation software, students will use computers on a regular basis to do research, complete assignments, and prepare presentations. This includes the use of Microsoft Office.

514 ACCOUNTING I***1 CREDIT****Limit to 23 students****Prerequisite: Algebra I or Algebra IA and IB**

Does your future include a degree in business, finance, marketing, management, or even cosmetology? Would you like to own your own business some day? If you answer yes to any of these questions, an accounting course will likely be required and necessary. This course covers activities related to the accounting cycle of a proprietorship, partnership, and corporation. Students will prepare balance sheets, record journal entries, post to ledgers, and perform other accounting procedures that will serve as a background for employment in office jobs and preparation for studying accounting in college. Toward the end of the semester, students will be introduced to an automated accounting system to perform accounting procedures.

515 ACCOUNTING II***1 CREDIT****Limit to 23 students****Prerequisite: Accounting I and Office Productivity Applications**

Students will advance through the corporate accounting cycle. Computerized accounting problems will expand on topics learned in Accounting I while adding new topics about management accounting, cost accounting, not-for-profit accounting, and financial analysis. The automated accounting system will be used for much of this course. This is excellent background and preparation for college courses in business and accounting. **Tech Prep** qualification will exempt students from introductory courses at select colleges (Mt. **Wachusett Community College is one such college**).

565 MARKETING**1 CREDIT****Prerequisite: English 9 and 10****Limited to 20 students**

Apply marketing concepts to current trends in the “real world.” Learn the basics of Economics, the functions of Selling, Promoting, Distribution, Risk Management, Pricing, Purchasing, Information Management, Planning, Finance, and Inventory Management.

566 APPLICATIONS OF MATHEMATICS IN THE REAL WORLD**1 CREDIT****Prerequisite: Algebra IA, Algebra IB, Informal Geometry, passing MCAS math exam**

This semester course is only for students who have passed the math section of the MCAS exam and have successfully completed Algebra IA, Algebra IB, and Informal Geometry. The focus of the course will be on teaching students how to be educated consumers in the areas of personal budgets, management of debt, investing and taxes. Students will also be introduced to other aspects of math in every day life such as cooking, car maintenance, home utilities, and home improvements. This course is not intended for students who are college bound.

567 OFFICE PRODUCTIVITY APPLICATIONS**1 CREDIT****Prerequisite: None**

Students will learn about major tools for producing business documentation and managing data in an office setting. Microsoft Office and Open/Office applications will be used to create professional documents, spreadsheets, presentations, and simple databases. Similarly, cloud-based productivity applications such as Google Docs and Zoho will be used to explore new collaboration models. Students will end the course by working in small groups to create and pitch a business plan. This course has no prerequisites and is recommended for freshmen and sophomores.

COMPUTER SCIENCE/BUSINESS**655 INTRODUCTION TO PROGRAMMING *****1 CREDIT****Prerequisite: Algebra II and permission of instructor or math department chair**

This survey course of computer programming concepts, languages, and tools will cover Integrated Development Environments, compiling/executing code, algorithms, basic scripting, LOGO, Python, Perl, C++, and Java. It will culminate in a significant programming project completed in the language of the student's choice. This course is appropriate for students who plan to enter computer science, engineering, mathematics, or scientific fields.

656 INTRODUCTION TO WEB DESIGN AND HTML**1 CREDIT****Prerequisite: None**

This introductory level course is appropriate for any students who would like to be able to create a website and have a solid understanding of the way the World Wide Web functions. The course will teach students the basics of HTML, as well as WYSIWYG tools for creating and managing web sites. The course will also cover social networking tools and other Web 2.0 technologies for creating online content. Finally, design principles for a variety of audiences will be covered. A final website project will complete the class.

657 ADVANCED WEB DESIGN, HTML, AND SCRIPTING ***1 CREDIT****Prerequisite: Introduction to Web Design and HTML**

This course should be taken by students who already have experience with HTML or have taken the Introduction to Web Design course. Students will look at a broader range of HTML tags and develop pages with XML. Students will also use Cascading Style Sheets, Javascript, and PHP to create dynamic, useful websites. Students will also learn to interact with data stores to collect and display data.

658 DATABASE DESIGN AND PROGRAMMING ***1 CREDIT****Prerequisite: Concurrent with Advanced Web Design, HTML and Scripting**

This course provides an introduction to database technologies and their uses in business and industry. Students will learn about relational database design principles and contrast these with object-oriented databases. Database development tools including Access and OpenOffice Base will be used to create data stores and applications. As the course progresses, students will learn Structured Query Language (SQL) and will be able to apply queries to interactive, data-driven web applications. This course should be taken concurrently with or after Advanced Web Design.

632 COMPUTER AIDED DRAFTING (CAD) ***1 CREDIT****Prerequisite: None**

This is an introduction to the computer program Autocad. The course is computer intensive utilizing Autocad software on independent P.C. workstations. Students will progress through a series of multiview drawing which increase in difficulty. Students will learn how to use the various drafting tools to create working drawings of various objects. The course is self-paced, leading to complex 3-D drawings.

VISUAL ARTS

All studies require the skillful use of materials, processes and techniques, and organizing the elements and principles of design with thoughts, ideas or concepts in creating visual expression.

720 VISUAL ARTS FOUNDATIONS

1 CREDIT

Prerequisite: None

This introductory course provides students with an opportunity to apply basic skills and concepts learned to both two-dimensional and three-dimensional assignments. Discipline areas covered include, but are not limited to: drawing, painting, printmaking, silk screening, ceramics and sculpture.

722 PRINTMAKING

1 CREDIT

Prerequisite: Visual Arts Foundations

This course focuses on a more in-depth study of the art of printmaking. The history of printmaking as well as various printmaking techniques will be studied.

724 CERAMICS/RELIEF*

1 CREDIT

Prerequisite: Visual Arts Foundations

In the area of ceramics, students will utilize various techniques, i.e.: pinch, slab and coil techniques, in clay construction. A concentration on surface decoration, i.e.: textural, under glaze, wax resist, stamp effects and scaffito relief, will be explored. In the area of relief, students will explore raising areas from flat surfaces using various mediums to create pieces of art. These two topics will be studied separately as well as together producing projects demonstrating the knowledge and understanding of said topics both separately as well as combined.

725 SCULPTURE *

1 CREDIT

Prerequisite: Visual Arts Foundations

This course teaches students how to convey ideas and images in a three-dimensional form using various mediums, i.e.: clay, paper and found objects. Sculptural history will also be explored through research and discussions/lectures.

721 DRAWING *

1 CREDIT

Prerequisite: Visual Arts Foundations

In this course, pencil, charcoal, pastels, pen and ink, scratchboard, relief and multi-media combinations will be used to explore all aspects of drawing. The history of drawing will also be explored through research and discussions to create a solid drawing foundation.

726 THE HUMAN FORM *

1 CREDIT

Prerequisite: Drawing

In this course, working with proportions and ideas to form both two-dimensional renderings and three-dimensional forms will be explored. Students will work with drawing the human form realistically, symbolically, and in abstraction. Portraits, cartoons, masks and sculptures are among the works that will incorporate the visual components of the human form.

727 PAINTING *

1 CREDIT

Prerequisite: Visual Arts Foundations

This course focuses on building an awareness of identifying and working with special depth, composition and intent. A background from a historical perspective will be the basis for oil painting along with more detailed observations in relation values, intensities and edges. Acrylics, watercolors and calligraphy will also be studied and explored. Painting exercises lead to working from life moving into individual interests.

732 DIGITAL MIXED MEDIA**1 CREDIT****Prerequisite: Visual Arts Foundations****Students will be required to have a digital camera and portable jump drive.**

This course will explore incorporating computers and digital media into artwork. Students will explore digital photography, short film, digital painting, image manipulation, graphic design and scanning in conjunction with creating pieces of artwork as well as public displays.

MUSIC**713 CONCERT BAND****1.2 CREDITS****Prerequisite: Grade 8 band or recommendation of high school music director****Course is yearlong meeting on alternate days with P.E./Health or Jazz Band**

Students will participate in a variety of concert and marching band performances throughout the year. Attendance is required at all home football games, parades, concerts, and a limited number of after school rehearsals. Students will be encouraged to participate in local, district, and state-wide music festivals and competitions. Any student having no prior experience playing a band instrument, but who desires to enroll in the course, should contact the band director before enrolling.

714 JAZZ BAND**1 CREDIT****Prerequisite: Concert Band****This course is a yearlong course meeting on alternate days with Concert Band**

Students will study and perform classic and contemporary jazz music and are required to perform in three concerts and various co-curricular programs throughout the year. All members must be enrolled in Concert Band.

716 CONCERT CHOIR**1 CREDIT****Prerequisite: Grade 8 Choir or recommended by high school music director****Course is yearlong meeting on alternate days with P.E./Health or Madrigal/Show Choir**

This course is designed for students who have a desire to sing and study the fundamentals of choral music, including: posture, breathing, tone production, diction, music reading, and solfege. Chorus members will perform both traditional and contemporary choral music in three required school concerts and other school related functions.

717 MUSIC THEORY**THROUGH THE MEDIUM OF ROCK & ROLL****1 CREDIT****Prerequisite: None**

This general music course is an introduction to music and musicianship for students who have the desire to learn about the elements of music. Topics include musical notation, melody, harmony, rhythm, composition, music listening and analysis, ear training, music literature, and music history.

730 MADRIGAL/SHOW CHOIR**1 CREDIT****Prerequisite: Concert Choir****This course is a yearlong course meeting on alternate days with Concert Choir**

Students will study and perform madrigals of the 16th century, as well as other forms of traditional vocal music. Students will also prepare music from the jazz and Broadway idioms in preparation for the Spring and Pops Concert performances. Members are required to perform in three concerts annually, and various co-curricular programs throughout the year. All members must be enrolled in Concert Choir.

749 INTRO TO MUSIC**1 CREDIT****Prerequisite: None****Students must provide their own guitar**

In the first term of this class, students will learn how to use various audio equipment, write and record a radio commercial, learn the history of Rock and Roll, research a musician, learn about the four instrument families, and watch various musicals. In the second term, students will be introduced to the guitar. This portion is designed for beginners and will focus on developing guitar performance skills through reading music, playing, music listening, and daily practice. Each student must supply his/her own guitar.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION & HEALTH**928 HEALTH 9****.3 CREDIT, GRADE 9**

This course will promote healthy behaviors. Some of the topics to be studied are: consumer health, mental illness/suicide, stress management, environmental health, nutrition, stages of the life cycle, and substance abuse. The teacher and DARE officer will present the High School DARE Program. Relationship violence and sexually transmitted infections will also be discussed.

929 HEALTH 10**.3 CREDIT, GRADE 10**

This class will focus on current events that sophomores at Athol High School deal with on a daily basis. Students will be taught body systems in preparation for the Biology MCAS test and the TAB Program will also be presented. Other topics include substance abuse updates, mental health issues and relationship responsibilities.

933 HEALTH 11**.3 CREDIT, GRADE 11**

This course offers standard first aid and CPR. It will identify ways to prevent injury and/or illness, recognize emergencies, follow action steps in an emergency and provide care for the injured until professional medical help arrives. Red Cross certification will be available to all students. Special focus will also be placed on cardiovascular, communicable and chronic diseases. Health careers will also be discussed.

950 PHYSICAL EDUCATION 9**.7 CREDIT, GRADE 9**

This course will stress wellness and exercise. The course will offer co-educational skill development, strategy implementation, as well as rules and regulations in a wide range of sports and activities. Lifetime and carryover activities will also be offered and stressed. An appreciation of the components of fitness will also be stressed. The Presidents Challenge Fitness Test will be administered and all students will develop a personal fitness card. Project Adventure will also be offered on an elective basis.

951 PHYSICAL EDUCATION 10**.7 CREDIT, GRADE 10**

This course will also stress wellness and exercise. The students will be exposed to muscular strength, muscular endurance, cardiovascular endurance, flexibility and how these components of fitness relate to their overall well-being. Project Adventure will be guaranteed to all interested students. Fitness testing and lifelong wellness activities will be stressed.

952 PHYSICAL EDUCATION 11**.7 CREDIT**

This course offers electives in team and individual sports. Lifetime and carryover activities will be offered. An emphasis will be placed on exercise and fitness and how it effects individual well-being. An advanced Project Adventure course may also be elected. The President's Challenge Fitness Test will be administered to all students.

953 PHYSICAL EDUCATION 10**.7 CREDIT, GRADE 10****Full year with band or choir**

954 PHYSICAL EDUCATION 11
Full year with band or choir

.7 CREDIT, GRADE 11

SPECIAL EDUCATION

10 WORKSHOP/VOCATIONAL TRAINING

1 CREDIT

Prerequisite: Individualized Educational Program

This is a prevocational training program to provide students with special needs a means to begin the transition from school to work. The main component of this course is instruction on work ethic, understanding the classifieds, preparation of job application forms, interviewing skills, appropriate dress and hygiene, money management, and budgeting.

90 TUTORING/STUDY SKILLS

1 CREDIT

Prerequisite: Individualized Educational Program
Semester I

Tutoring is a supervised, guided study period for students. The tutorial period will be split with the study skills course which teaches study strategies and organizational skills within the context of the student's classes. Students are responsible for bringing their assigned work to their tutor for assistance and reinforcement as needed. Access to necessary tools is available, i.e., computers, spell check, calculators, etcetera. Monitoring of progress is provided by tutors and teachers.

98 TUTORING/STUDY SKILLS

1 CREDIT

Prerequisite: Individualized Educational Program
Semester II

Tutoring is a supervised, guided study period for students. The tutorial period will be split with the study skills course which teaches study strategies and organizational skills within the context of the student's classes. Students are responsible for bringing their assigned work to their tutor for assistance and reinforcement as needed. Access to necessary tools is available, i.e., computers, spell check, calculators, etcetera. Monitoring of progress is provided by tutors and teachers.

91 LEARNING CENTER MATH

1 CREDIT

Prerequisite: Individualized Educational Program

A study of basic and consumer math skills will be the focus of this course. Topics include review of basic computational skills, use of a calculator, percentages, measurement, estimation skills, banking, and Pre-Algebra skills.

92 LEARNING CENTER ENGLISH

1 CREDIT

Prerequisite: Individualized Educational Program

A study of basic language skills used in daily life will be the main context of this course. Completing application forms, job search techniques, employment skills, using reference books, letter writing skills, and use of technology for writing.

94 LEARNING CENTER SOCIAL STUDIES

1 CREDIT

Prerequisite: Individualized Educational Program

This course will cover various systems of government as well as the United States governmental system. Topics will also include a study of United States History. This is designed to meet graduation requirements of both government and history.

95 VOCATIONAL WORK STUDY**1 CREDIT****Prerequisite: Individualized Education Program**

This is a vocational training experiential learning program in which students participate in a modified school program with a work component. Students will be individually placed in supervised job settings both within the Athol-Royalston Regional School District as well as in the Athol and surrounding communities. Students learn appropriate work skills and employment expectations while working in a supervised environment with a job coach, as needed.

96 LEARNING CENTER SCIENCE**1 CREDIT****Prerequisite: Individualized Educational Program**

This course will offer topics in physical science as well as the biological sciences. There will be some lab work required. This course will meet graduation requirements for physical and biological sciences.

97 FUNCTIONAL LIVING**1 CREDIT****Prerequisite: Individualized Educational Program**

A study of basic skills needed for everyday living situations will be the focus of this course. Some of the topics include time management, personal hygiene, health and nutrition, money, problem solving, budgeting, community safety, and use of telephone and computer skills. Students will participate in the planning of meals, grocery shopping, serving, and clean up. Students also participate in the management and daily operations of the school store.

81 FUNDAMENTALS OF ENGLISH I**1 CREDIT, GRADE 9****Prerequisite: Individualized Education Program**

This course will study a variety of genres including the short story, poetry, non-fiction, the novella and plays, writing mechanics, a study of grammatical rules and descriptive writing will also be examined. This course is designed to follow the existing English frameworks curriculum with modifications to meet Individual Educational Program.

75 FUNDAMENTALS OF BIOLOGY**1 CREDIT****Prerequisite: Individualized Education Program**

This course will examine the biological makeup of plants, animals, and microorganisms. It will include environmental issues that affect our society today. Laboratory activities and various “hands-on” activities will be required. This course is designed to follow the existing science curriculum requirements with modifications to meet the Individual Education Program.

**ATHOL HIGH SCHOOL
PROCEDURES FOR HANDLING
INDEPENDENT STUDY REQUESTS**

1. The student's request will first be routed to the department chairman.
2. The department chairman will make an initial determination as to whether or not there is an available instructor who is competent to supervise the student in the particular area of study the student has requested.
3. If such an instructor is available, the student and the instructor will then plan a course of study that will be submitted to the department chairman for approval before the work can actually begin. This will specifically outline course objectives, course requirements, length of course, etcetera.
4. Transcripts will reflect this type of program by listing the field of study after the words "Independent Study." Example: Independent Study - American literature.
5. The mark for the course will be expressed in terms of "pass," "fail," or "honors."
6. Only junior and other senior students who have demonstrated sufficient motivation will be allowed to undertake independent study programs.

VIRTUAL CLASSROOM INFORMATION

The Athol-Royalston Regional School Committee, the school superintendent and the Athol High School administration have entered an agreement with VIRTUAL HIGH SCHOOL to offer online courses for our students.

"VIRTUAL HIGH SCHOOL (VHS) is a non-profit organization that collaborates with schools to offer online, content-rich, credit bearing high school courses to students across the country and around the world".

Each semester Athol High School will have a limited number of district paid slots for student's use. Courses will be taken during school time as part of a student's schedule in the school library monitored by the school librarian, Sharon Euvrard. Each course is taught by a certified teacher contracted with VHS. The grading of the course will be done by the VHS teacher. In accordance with our credit schedule, one credit will be awarded for the successful completion of the course. The numeric grade will be averaged into the student's grade point average and the course will have an honors designation for ranking, unless it is an Advanced Placement course which then will have the AP designation.

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

- Student must be a junior or senior
- Student must have serious commitment to complete the course
- Student cannot take courses already offered at Athol High School
- Student must have grade point average of 80 or better
- Student cannot be in violation of the school's attendance policy and must have a good conduct record
- The principal, the department chairperson of the requested course area, the guidance chairperson and parent(s) must approve the student's participation.
- The principal has the discretionary authority to recommend a student or conditions of participation that do not meet the above criteria

PARTICIPATION REQUIREMENTS

- Student must follow all Athol High School and VHS rules concerning course work, timely assignments, the no cheating rule and daily attendance
- All copy right laws and policies must be followed at all times
- Student must use assigned VHS course period for VHS work only
- Student must follow Athol High School Internet Policy

A sample of course offerings would be Art History, Mandarin Chinese, Calculus for Business, Zoology, Criminology. See your guidance counselor for more information on courses.