

# **ARLINGTON HIGH SCHOOL COURSE DESCRIPTION CATALOG**

**Grade: 9  
2009-2010**

## **School Information**

Arlington High School is one of seven comprehensive High Schools operated under the jurisdiction of the Shelby County Board of Education. Arlington High School is the largest comprehensive public high school under a single roof in the state of Tennessee. The 350,000 square foot facility provides ample space to house a wide range of academic, athletic, fine arts, and service opportunities for each of our 1850 students. Beginning in the fall of 2006, AHS will serve students in grades 9-12. The comprehensive program at AHS emphasizes academic excellence while also preparing each student to become a productive citizen. Arlington offers a diverse academic curriculum including a wide variety of special interest courses and vocational training. Arlington High School is fully accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools.

## **Administration**

Jeffrey A. Cozzens, Ed.D. Principal  
Thomasena Stuckett, Vice Principal  
Chris Duncan, Assistant Principal  
Robert Downing, Assistant Principal  
Lisa Miller, Assistant Principal  
Carolyn Weirich, Assistant Principal

## **School Counseling Office**

T'Ann Dixon, 10<sup>th</sup> grade  
Ellen Douglas, 12<sup>th</sup> grade  
Lea Chisum, College & Career  
Gina Fletcher, 11<sup>th</sup> grade  
Cindy Sigmin, 9<sup>th</sup> grade

## **Mission Statement**

It is the mission of Arlington High School to provide educational opportunities that encourage each student to develop personal responsibility, respect for diversity, and an inquiring mind so that each student will become a productive citizen in a pluralistic society.

## **Statement of Beliefs**

We believe:

- All students can learn in a fair, supportive and challenging environment.
- That establishing and maintaining high expectations and a commitment to excellence are critical components to successful students.
- That the needs of our students should under-gird all school-based decision-making.
- Every student should be encouraged to mature intellectually, socially and emotionally.
- That providing a safe and supportive environment for students is essential to educational success.
- Students, as well as parents, administrators, teachers and the community are responsible for the students' education.
- Positive relationships and mutual respect among and between students and staff enhance the educational process.
- Each student is a valued individual with unique physical, social, emotional and intellectual needs.
- A student's education is enhanced by positive relationships, extra- curricular activities and a system of academic and emotional support.
- Student and staff excellence is promoted by recognizing excellence and achievement.

## Introduction

This catalog provides parents and students with a general description of courses available at Arlington High School. Availability of a class is determined by need as students register in the spring semester for the following year's courses. **Note: Courses may be deleted due to budgetary constraints, lack of student interest, or unavailability of qualified teachers.** Please use this book throughout the year for reference regarding graduation requirements, curriculum offerings and various policies.

## Course Selection

Course selection is a very important process. Please take the time to carefully consider the selection of these courses. After the course selection process is completed, course changes will not be permitted. Teacher recommendations are required for placement in all Honors classes. Please have your teacher sign on the line provided on the Course Selection Card.

## Course Add/Drop Policy

Course selection should be made with careful consideration. The following rules and deadlines shall apply regarding a student-initiated request to add or drop a sixth elective course. **Required courses cannot be dropped.** All student requests must be accompanied by a signed parental request. A request to drop an elective course does not constitute approval to drop that course. Final approval to add or drop will be granted by the school counselor or administrator under very specific circumstances. **All Drop and Add Requests must be submitted by July 24, 2009 by telephone or e-mail to the grade level counselor.** The Tennessee Board of Education regulations require that all students be enrolled in courses that will produce at least five (5) credits toward graduation each school year. Therefore, only a sixth subject course (elective course) can be considered for dropping or adding.

## Honors Courses

The faculty and staff of Arlington High School feel a student's academic success is directly related to correct placement in courses. Incorrect placement may result in poor performance and frustration for the student. As a result, Arlington High School requires that students receive recommendations for ALL Honors courses selected. If a particular course is not recommended by the student's teacher, the parents of that student should talk to a School Counselor to discuss the appropriate placement and/or other alternatives.

## **AHS Honor Code Contract**

I will uphold the characteristics of respect, truthfulness, and integrity as outlined in the Honor Code of Arlington High School.

### **Rationale**

1. The Department of Education reports that “Student Cheating is both rampant and on the rise.”
2. A finding of Arlington High School’s School Improvement Plan indicates that the students, faculty, parents and community consider high ethical and moral behavior in education to be essential.
3. Students, faculty, parents and the community believe that setting standards of integrity in all academic affairs is the responsibility of the local school.

### **Code of Honor**

Honorable conduct is expected of all students at all times. Honorable conduct includes the following:

- A) **Respect** for the person and property of others.
- B) **Truthfulness** defined as not knowing and misrepresenting the truth.
- C) **Integrity** defined as avoiding academic dishonesty.

## **Graduation Requirements**

### **Regular Diploma**

- Earn the required number of Credit: see Minimum Graduation Requirements (page 5)
- Have satisfactory records of attendance and conduct
- Special Education students may earn a regular diploma based upon the IEP team's recommendation by fulfilling the requirements of the IEP.

### **Honors Diploma**

- Earn the required number of Credit: see Minimum Graduation Requirements (see page 5)
- Have satisfactory records of attendance and conduct
- Score at or above all of the subject area readiness benchmarks on the ACT or equivalent score on the SAT.

## **Examinations**

End-Of-Course examinations will be given in English I, English II, English III, Algebra I, Geometry, Algebra II, U.S. History, Biology I, Chemistry, and Physics. The results of these examinations will be factored into the student’s grade at a percentage.

# MINIMUM GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

## Graduation Requirements

<u>Course</u>	<u>Credits</u>
English.....	4
Mathematics (Algebra I, II, Geometry and higher level)...	4
Science .....	3
United States History.....	1
World Geography or World History.....	1
Economics.....	1/2
United States Government.....	1/2
Physical Ed.....	1.5
Fine Arts.....	1
Foreign Language (same language).....	2
Focus Area.....	3
<b>Total.....</b>	<b>22</b>

**Students must take English and Mathematics each year in high school. Therefore, students taking Physical Science and/or Algebra I Honors in the 8<sup>th</sup> grade, must take an additional 4 units of mathematics and 3 units of science in high school.**

**For additional information, visit <http://tennessee.gov.sbe> and click on Tennessee Diploma Project.**

# **FOCUSED PLAN OF STUDY**

**(Each student must choose one plan of study)**

\*Science and Math

\*Liberal Arts

\*Career and Technical (CTE) – must choose specific area of interest

\*Fine Arts

\*Advanced Placement

\*Journalism

## **EXPLANATION OF FOCUSED PLAN OF STUDY**

**Science and Math:** Each student will take 4 math classes in high school even if they took Algebra I in the 8th grade. Each student will take 3 Science classes in high school even if they took Physical Science in 8th grade. To have Science and Math as a focus, a student would then choose a combination of 3 or more additional credits from the choices of AP Calculus, Calculus, Pre-Calculus Honors, Advanced Algebra and Trig, AP Statistics, AP Biology, AP Chemistry, AP Physics and Anatomy and Physiology.

**Liberal Arts:** Students will take 3 credits of Social Studies including World Geography or World History, U.S. History, Government and Economics. To have a liberal arts focus, a student would then choose 3 or more additional credits from classes such as Psychology, AP Psychology, Sociology, Facing History and Ourselves, AP Human Geography, AP Comparative Government, Contemporary Issues, Humanities Honors, Etymology and additional Foreign Language above the 2 units required for graduation.

**Career and Technical (CTE):** Students may earn 3 credits in one of the following tech areas:

Leisure Craft, Cosmetology, Family and Consumer Sciences, Health Science Education, Marketing, Business Information Technology and Criminal Justice.

**Fine Arts:** Fine Arts credits may be earned in Visual Arts, Performing Arts, or Theater Arts. If a student chooses Arts as a Program of Study, he or she must earn 3 credits in addition to the 1 credit that is required for every graduate.

**Advanced Placement:** Advanced Placement credits can be earned in AP Art, AP Biology, AP Chemistry, AP Calculus, AP Psychology, AP Statistics, AP Human Geography, AP Spanish, AP French, AP Comparative Government, AP European History and AP Physics. A total of 3 AP credits will satisfy the requirements for this Program of Study.

**Journalism: Journalism:** Journalism credits can be earned in Newspaper, Yearbook and Creative Writing. A total of 3 Journalism credits will satisfy the requirements for this Program of Study

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# ARLINGTON HIGH SCHOOL COURSE OFFERINGS

**Note: Courses may be deleted due to budgetary constraints, lack of student interest, or unavailability of qualified teachers.**

## **BUSINESS TECHNOLOGY**

### **BUSINESS PRINCIPLES**

**Credit: 0.5**

**Prerequisite: Keyboarding**

BUSINESS PRINCIPLES is a core course in which students are introduced to all aspects of business: the domestic and international economies, financial principles, management strategies, administrative and information systems, ethics, and organizational and professional leadership. Students will analyze the elements of the business environment and focus on attitudinal and problem-solving skills inherent to success.

### **COMPUTER LITERACY**

**Credit: 0.5**

**Prerequisite: Keyboarding**

COMPUTER LITERACY is an introductory level computer literacy course that includes components and proper use of the computer, a variety of software, as well as the ethical aspects of computer technology. Hands-on experience with database, word processing, spreadsheet, and power point programs will be required. Telecommunication, Internet access and web page design are introduced. **A flash drive and \$10.00 lab fee is accessed.**

### **KEYBOARDING**

**Credit: 0.5**

**Prerequisite: None**

KEYBOARDING involves basic skills in operating a computerized keyboard by using the touch system and other input technologies to produce mailable business and academic documents. Each student will prepare business and academic reports, etc. Mailability standards relate to keying, formatting, grammar, punctuation, capitalization, spelling, content, typography, and layout and design. Using special features of the software, the student will be able to format academic and business reports. **A flash drive and \$10.00 lab fee is accessed.**

## **KEYBOARDING/DOCUMENT FORMATTING**

**Credit: 0.5**

**Prerequisite: Keyboarding**

KEYBOARDING/DOCUMENT FORMATTING is a continuation of the Keyboarding course. Each student will prepare business and academic reports, etc. The student will demonstrate a combination of input skills (*advanced keyboarding, scanning, speech recognition, handwriting recognition, and the use of a mouse*) in the production of mailable business documents. Industry production standards are emphasized. Formatting, typography, and layout and design concepts are applied in document preparation of business letters, forms, invoices, manuscripts, and tabulated/columnar information. Proofreading and editing skills are applied. **A flash drive and \$10.00 lab fee is accessed.**

# **ENGLISH**

## **ENGLISH I**

**Credit: 1.0**

**Prerequisite: None**

ENGLISH I includes mastery and application of grammar skills in writing and speaking, vocabulary building, basic research skills, study skills and appreciation and interpretation of literature. Summer reading, additional outside reading and a research paper are required.

## **ENGLISH I HONORS**

**Credit: 1.0**

**Prerequisites: Teacher verification of a 93 or higher average in 8<sup>th</sup> grade English.**

**Completion of summer reading is required.**

ENGLISH I HONORS is for students who have maintained a 93 average in 8<sup>th</sup> grade English. This course includes mastery of grammar skills, critical approaches to literature, intensive composition and vocabulary study. Summer reading, additional outside reading and a research paper are required.

## **ENGLISH as a Second Language I**

**Credit: 1.0**

**Prerequisite: Determined by ESL Teacher Evaluation**

ENGLISH as a Second Language is designed for students with limited English proficiency, whose parents have permanently relocated to the United States. Great emphasis is placed on reading, listening, thinking, and oral and written communication. Instruction focuses on the development of skills in the area of grammar, literature, spelling, handwriting, creative writing, listening, and thinking.

# **FAMILY AND CONSUMER SCIENCE**

## **FAMILY AND CONSUMER SCIENCE**

**Credit: 1.0**

**Prerequisite: None**

FAMILY AND CONSUMER SCIENCE is designed to give students an introduction to methods to help them improve and manage their lives in the areas of personality development, communication skills, food and nutrition, family living, child development, housing and home management, consumer education, and clothing and textiles. Projects and activities help young men and women develop successful work habits that will be necessary in any field of employment. Participation fees are assessed. The integration of Family, Career, and Community Leaders of America (FCCLA) provides students with opportunities for leadership development, personal growth, and school/community involvement.

## FINE ARTS

### VISUAL ARTS

#### ART I (Introduction to Art)

**Credit: 1.0**

**Prerequisite: None**

Art I is an elective designed to help students understand the basics of art and design including: line, shape, value, texture, color, form, and space with corresponding projects and art history. This is a university path elective, which requires problem solving, utilizing thinking skills and analyzing artwork of the masters as well as peer work. **The student will purchase art supplies.**

### INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC

#### COLOR GUARD

**Credit: 1.0**

**Prerequisite: Teacher Recommendation and Audition**

COLOR GUARD functions as a part of the marching band. The students learn marching skills, basic rhythm patterns and beginning music theory. Also, students receive instruction in flag, saber, and rifle techniques. **Students are required to participate in summer band camp and after-school rehearsals. Participation fees are assessed.**

#### CONCERT BAND

**Credit: 1.0**

**Prerequisite: Permission from Middle School Band Director or Audition**

CONCERT BAND is a freshman performance class dealing with marching as well as concert music and including theory and music appreciation. The group performs at football games, parades, and various concert performances throughout the year. Marching Band and Concert Band competitions are included in the curriculum as well as solo and ensemble participation. Members of regional and ass-state groups are selected from this class. An audition is required for entry into this class. **Students are required to participate in summer band camp and after-school rehearsals. Participation fees are assessed.**

#### STRINGS

**Credit: 1.0**

**Prerequisite: Audition**

STRINGS is a performance class by audition only. It focuses on concert music and includes theory and music appreciation.

## VOCAL MUSIC

### CHORUS I

**Credit: 1.0**

**Prerequisite: Audition**

CHORUS I is a beginning level class for students who wish to develop their vocal technique. Basic theory, sight-reading, breathing and breath-support, resonance, and many other skills are developed. This class is for those students who do not wish to commit to after-school activities or expenses.

### CHORUS II

**Credit: 1.0**

**Prerequisite: Audition**

CHORUS II is a beginning level class for students who may be slightly more advanced in vocal skills than the student taking Chorus I and/or wish to take part in more after-school activities including concerts, choral festivals, etc. Some after-school practice is required. There is a \$50 chorus fee for this class, plus purchase of the performance clothing.

### CONCERT CHOIR

**Credit: 1.0**

**Prerequisite: Audition**

CONCERT CHOIR is an intermediate-to-advanced level class for students who wish to develop their vocal skills and compete in festivals, audition for all-region and all-state choir, and perform more often. More time is required for after-school practices and performances, audition, etc. than Chorus I and II. A \$100 fee is required, plus purchase of the performance clothing.

### CHORALE

**Credit: 1.0**

**Prerequisite: Audition**

CHORALE is an advanced level class for students who wish to develop their vocal skills and compete in festivals, audition for all-region and all-state choir, and perform at the highest level. More time is required for after-school practices and performances, auditions, etc, than in Chorus I, Chorus II, or Concert Choir. A \$100 fee is required plus purchase of the performance clothing.

## **THEATRE AND COMMUNICATION ARTS**

### **THEATRE ARTS I: INTRO TO COMMUNICATION**

**Credit: 1.0**

**Prerequisite: None**

INTRO TO COMMUNICATION STUDIES introduces the student to basic public speaking techniques, discussion, debates, communication theory, parliamentary procedures, oral interpretation and dramatic performance concepts. Both formal and casual speechmaking assignments are part of the course of study. Reading and critical thinking skills are also emphasized. **Students will be required to have binder for speeches and oral interpretation pieces.**

### **THEATRE ARTS I: INTRO TO COMMUNICATION HONORS**

**Credit: 1.0**

**Prerequisite: Teacher verification of 93 or higher average in previous English, Audition, and Instructor permission**

INTRO TO COMMUNICATION STUDIES HONORS requirements would be recommendation from a previous teacher, audition and/or instructor permission. In addition to the standard Introduction to Communication course requirements, this course would offer hands on communication requirements such as participation in debate, mock trial and forensics team work outside of the classroom. Opportunities to observe professional speakers in a variety of settings would also require hours outside of the classroom.

### **THEATRE ARTS II: INTRO TO THEATRE**

**Credit: 1.0**

**Prerequisite: None**

INTRO TO THEATRE offers the student a broad overview of the theatre world with particular attention paid to theatre history, theatre evaluation, and comparative media. This course also includes introductory approaches to improvisational acting techniques, acting styles, methodology, and scene study. As part of this course of study, students are required to critique live theatrical performances in the Memphis and surrounding areas. After-school and weekend hours devoted to the AHS Fine Arts Department are required.

### **THEATRE ARTS III: INTRO TO FILM & VIDEO**

**Credit: 1.0**

**Prerequisite: Audition**

INTRO TO FILM & VIDEO examines the areas of film and television production from historical, theoretical, and practical applications. The studies of film as literature and film evaluations are emphasized. Students receive hands-on instruction with film and video equipment. Written and oral critiques are required for each unit of film study. Co-curricular and after-school activities are a required part of evaluation. A \$45 class fee is required for supplies.

## FOREIGN LANGUAGE

### FRENCH

#### FRENCH I

**Credit: 1.0**

**Prerequisite: Teacher verification of 93 or higher in 8<sup>th</sup> grade English**

FRENCH I is designed to develop basic conversational skills in French with emphasis on listening and speaking. Vocabulary building, grammar, and pronunciation are emphasized. A study of basic French culture and history is included.

#### FRENCH I HONORS

**Credit: 1.0**

**Prerequisite: Teacher verification of 93 or higher in 8<sup>th</sup> grade English**

FRENCH I HONORS is for students with an above average aptitude in language acquisition. The course develops the skills of listening, speaking, reading, and writing in French. The culture and geography of France are also important components of study. Students are required to take the National French Exam (**fee required**).

### LATIN

#### LATIN I

**Credit: 1.0**

**Prerequisite: Teacher verification of 93 or higher in 8<sup>th</sup> grade English**

LATIN I is recommended for college-bound students, students planning careers in law or medicine, and those desiring a better understanding of English vocabulary, structure of grammar, and awareness of the Roman culture and its modern significance. As a basic grammar course, emphasis is placed on learning to translate.

#### LATIN I HONORS

**Credit: 1.0**

**Prerequisite: Teacher verification of 93 or higher in 8<sup>th</sup> grade English**

LATIN I HONORS is for students who have an above average aptitude in language. It is recommended for students planning careers in law or medicine and for those desiring a better understanding of English. Vocabulary, derivatives, and translations from Latin to English and English to Latin are emphasized. This course focuses on the Roman culture. Students are required to take the National Latin Exam (**fee required**).

## **SPANISH**

### **SPANISH I**

**Credit: 1.0**

**Prerequisite: Teacher verification of 93 or higher in 8<sup>th</sup> grade English**

SPANISH I concentrates on grammar, vocabulary, and pronunciation with emphasis on written and oral proficiency in Spanish. This course is designed to develop basic conversational skills in Spanish. A study of the cultures of Spanish-speaking countries is included.

### **SPANISH I HONORS**

**Credit: 1.0**

**Prerequisite: Teacher verification of 93 or higher in 8<sup>th</sup> grade English**

SPANISH I HONORS is designed for linguistically talented students. Grammatical structures and vocabulary are taught in a context which emphasizes communication skills in listening, speaking, reading, and writing Spanish. Students are required to purchase supplementary materials and take the National Spanish Exam (**fee required**).

# **MATHEMATICS**

## **ALGEBRA I**

**Credit: 1.0**

**Prerequisite: None**

ALGEBRA I is an introduction to the fundamental concepts of operations involving numbers and variables including polynomials, exponents, radicals, linear and quadratic equations. Concept building through connections, reasoning, and communication is emphasized. A scientific calculator is required.

## **ALGEBRA I HONORS**

**Credit: 1.0**

**Prerequisite: Teacher verification of 93 or higher in 8<sup>th</sup> grade Math**

ALGEBRA I HONORS is designed for students with an excellent, enriched, or accelerated 8th grade math background who want a more challenging approach to Algebra I. More emphasis will be placed on understanding and using the different sets of real numbers; on developing the concept of functions; on establishing connections between graphs, equations, and numerical patterns; and on solving a greater variety of problems.

## **UNIFIED GEOMETRY**

**Credit: 1.0**

**Prerequisite: Algebra I**

UNIFIED GEOMETRY is designed to develop an understanding of the basic structure of geometry, plane and solid, and of the critical and creative reasoning skills necessary for proficiency in problem solving. The content includes the basics of formal geometric proofs, the use of algebraic methods in solving problems in geometry, the properties of geometric figures and special applications, the area and volume formulas, and transformations. A scientific calculator is required.

## **GEOMETRY HONORS**

**Credit: 1.0**

**Prerequisite: Teacher verification of 93 or higher in Algebra I Honors**

GEOMETRY HONORS is a more challenging approach to geometry. More emphasis is placed on visualizing and performing transformations of figures, investigating solid figures, trigonometric relationships, connecting algebraic and geometric concepts, justifying conclusions and making logical arguments. Students enrolling in geometry honors in the ninth grade should plan to complete AP calculus. A scientific calculator is required.

# **PHYSICAL EDUCATION AND HEALTH**

## **LIFETIME WELLNESS**

**Credit: 1.0**

**Prerequisite: None**

WELLNESS is a required physical education course that combines the principles of physical education and health. The emphasis in this class is on total, lifetime fitness and positive lifestyle management.

# **SCIENCE**

## **PHYSICAL SCIENCE**

**Credit: 1.0**

**Prerequisite: None**

PHYSICAL SCIENCE is a laboratory-oriented course which provides a foundation for the physical sciences of chemistry and physics. Students work to improve their skills in the analysis, organization, and presentation of scientific data.

## **BIOLOGY**

**Credit: 1.0**

**Prerequisite: Completion of Physical Science in 8<sup>th</sup> grade and concurrently enrolled in Algebra I or higher math.**

BIOLOGY I consists of classroom and laboratory study of plant and animal life. Cytology, genetics, microbiology, plant structure and systems, invertebrate and vertebrate zoology, and ecology are studied in this Gateway course.

## **BIOLOGY I HONORS**

**Credit: 1.0**

**Prerequisite: Teacher verification of 93 or higher in Physical Science and concurrently enrolled in Algebra I or higher math.**

HONORS BIOLOGY I is designed to accentuate the thought processes and enhance the scientific competencies of each student. The course work is designed to utilize and magnify cognitive abilities by laboratory experiences that emphasize problem solving, information gathering, and decision-making. The course consists of an in-depth study of biological concepts. Assessment is based on objective and essay tests, oral presentations, student performance, and a portfolio.

## **SOCIAL STUDIES**

### **WORLD GEOGRAPHY**

**Credit: 1.0**

**Prerequisite: None**

WORLD GEOGRAPHY provides students the opportunity to explore the relationship between people and the land on which they live. This course includes the study of land formation, climate patterns, and the cultural, economic, and political characteristics of human populations.

### **WORLD GEOGRAPHY HONORS**

**Credit: 1.0**

**Prerequisite: Teacher verification of 93 or higher in 8<sup>th</sup> grade English**

WORLD GEOGRAPHY HONORS is designed for the student who wants to go beyond the general survey level of World Geography. This course requires outside readings and research projects, creating a challenging workload.

# **TRADE AND INDUSTRIAL EDUCATION**

## **CAREER MANAGEMENT SUCCESS**

**Credit: 1.0**

**Prerequisite: None**

CAREER MANAGEMENT SUCCESS is a core course for career clusters. The course provides students with tools for achieving success in their academic, work, and personal lives. All course content is presented in a real-world context, providing concrete opportunities for developing personal and career goals, effective communication skills, teamwork abilities, and successful work attitudes. Leisure Craft students must have this class to complete the core.