

**NORTH IOWA HIGH SCHOOL
COURSE DESCRIPTIONS**

**School Year
2024-2025**



North Iowa High School Graduation Requirements

N.I.H.S. uses a semester system for formal assessment of students. Credits toward graduation are earned based on formal semester grades earned. A course taken with a passing grade for one full year (2 semesters) equals 1 credit earned. A course taken with a passing grade for one semester equals 0.5 credit earned. All courses will earn equal amounts of credit as long as the course meets on a regularly scheduled basis and consistent instruction is provided and students assessed. It is at the discretion of the high school principal to determine the amount of credit given for certain courses.

Graduation Requirements

Students are required to earn 26 credits to graduate from N.I.H.S. and must meet the following requirements set by the Iowa Department of Education and the North Iowa Board of Education:

4.5 credits (years) English

- 9th Grade:
 - 9th grade English (1 credit) Required; This class will count toward the 4.5 required English credits for graduation. 1 credit.
 - Literacy 101/102. Elective English class 9th grade students.
- 10th Grade: 10th grade English (1 credit) Required
- 11th Grade: American Lit 1 (.5 credit) and Communications (.5 credit) are required. Recommendation to take another elective in English during junior year. British Literature or American Literature 2 must be taken as a Junior or a Senior.
- 12th Grade: Required to take American Literature II (.5 credit) or British Literature (.5 credit) as a Junior/Senior and will need another semester of English from the following list. (Will need 3 semesters of English during Senior year if they did not take 2 full semesters during Junior year with their speech)
 - Mass Media & Film (.5 credit)
 - Basic Composition (.5 credit)
 - Composition (.5 credit)
 - Creative Writing (.5 credit)

3.0 credits (years) Math (Required for graduation: 1.0 of Algebra 1 and 1.0 credit of Geometry)

- 9th grade: Algebra 1A or Algebra 1(1 credit)
- 10th grade: Algebra 1B or Geometry (1 credit)
- 11th /12th grade: Choose a minimum of one credit.
 - Geometry (1 credit), Algebra 2 (1 credit), Math Principles (1 credit), Trigonometry (0.5 credit) Pre-Calculus (1.0 credit), Probability/Statistics (.5 credit), or Calculus (.5 credit).

3.0 credits (years) Science.

- 9th grade: Physical Science (1 credit) Required.
- 10th grade: Biology (1 credit) Required
- 11th/12th Grade: Choose a minimum of one credit.
 - Chemistry (1 credit), Physics (1 credit), Environmental Science (1 credit), Conceptual Chemistry (1 credit), Advanced Biology (1 credit), or Anatomy/Physiology (1 credit).

3.0 credits (years) Social Sciences

- 9th /10th grade: Recommended: World Geography (1 credit)
- 11th grade: American History (1 credit) Required.
- 12th grade: Government (1 credit) Required.
- Other elective Social Sciences classes: Economics (.5 credit), Sociology (.5 credit), World History (1 credit), Recent US History (.5 credit), or World Affairs (.5 credit).

2.0 credits of Physical Education and .5 credit Health

- ½ credit per year PE-- Required.
- ½ credit Health during 9th grade year. Required.

1.0 credit fine arts (band, chorus, or art). Any combination of the following:

- Band (½ credit per semester)
- Chorus (½ credit per semester)
- Art (½ credit per semester)

0.5 credit of Personal Finance (Senior Year)

9.0 credits of elective.

All students are required to complete CPR before graduation.

No academic credit is given for driver's education or extra-curricular activities.

Honors Distinction for Graduation

Starting for the Class of 2025, students will have the opportunity to earn a distinction of Honors on his/her transcript. To earn this recognition, students must complete the above graduation requirements plus the following:

- Earn a total of 28 credits
 - No more than 4 of those credits may be earned using Edgenuity Online Courses
- Minimum of a 3.5 GPA

FINE ARTS

(1.0 credit required for graduation)

Visual Arts

Art 1

Course Number: 1
Grade Level: 9-12

Prerequisite: None
Semester: 1
Credit: 0.5

Course Description: This course is for students in grades 9-12. In this course, we will learn to work in all the major media of art. These include: drawing, sculpture, watercolor and acrylic painting, and pottery. You will learn techniques and how to create works of art using all available materials. Completion of this course will prepare you to take more advanced art courses.

Art 2

Course Number: 2
Grade Level: 9-12

Prerequisite: Art 1
Semesters: 1
Credit: 0.5

Course Description: In Art I students were introduced to the major media of art and learned the basics and achieved basic skill levels to be successful as an artist. In Art II the student will pick an area to specialize in and learn mastery of an area of art. By spending a whole semester learning the craft of art, the student will have the time and get experience to be successful as an artist. By successfully completing this course; the student will be prepared for more advanced art courses at North Iowa & also introductory college level art studio courses.

Pottery & Sculpture & MultiMedia

Course Number: 3
Grade Level: 10-12

Prerequisite: Art 1 & 2
Semesters: 1
Credit: 0.5

Course Description: This is an advanced-level art class at North Iowa High School. In this class, we will explore all aspects of three-dimensional art and other art forms. The students will construct sculptures using all available materials. We also will be working with pottery. The students will successfully learn how to throw on the wheel and hand-built pottery. Students will be actively engaged in all aspects of pottery; including preparation, firing, glazing, and glaze firing of the kiln. At the conclusion of this course, all students will be prepared to successfully complete college level pottery & sculpture studio classes.

Drawing/Painting

Course Number: 4
Grade Level: 10-12

Prerequisite: Art 1 & 2
Semesters: 1
Credit: 0.5

Course Description: This is an advanced level art class at North Iowa High School. In this class we will learn advanced level drawing and painting techniques. All available forms of drawing and painting will be used including: pencil, pastels, watercolor, and acrylic. At the conclusion of this course, all students will be prepared to successfully complete college level drawing, painting, and design studio classes

Art Portfolio 1 & 2

Course Number: 5
Grade Level: 11-12

Prerequisite: Art 1 &2, Pottery/Sculpture, Drawing/Painting
Semesters: 1
Credit: 0.5

Course Description: Art Portfolio I is a course designed for the highly motivated student/artist. This is a course for students who have completed other advanced art courses and wish to further develop their artistic abilities. In this course, the artist uses all available materials and creates works of art. Most assignments are chosen with direction from the teacher. Students must keep a sketchbook and create a list of their goals for the semester. This class will prepare the student for art careers and art courses at the college level. Prior permission from the teacher must be given to register for this course. Art Portfolio II is another version of this class for an extra semester of art credit at North Iowa High School. *Prior permission from the teacher must be given before registering for this course.*

College Prep Studio Art

Course Number:8
Grade Level: 12

Prerequisite: completion of all NIHS studio art courses
Semesters: 1 or 2
Credit: 0.5-1

Course Description:

This course is formatted to meet the college preparation needs of a student wanting to continue their artistic education at the post- secondary level. The student will choose the studio art media they wish to concentrate on. Examples include: drawing, painting, sculpture, & pottery. Students must maintain a sketch book, and consult with the instructor on all aspects of their artwork. Students will be expected to read and write about art, artists, and art history/appreciation. Through this coursework the student will be expected to challenge themselves to become proficient enough with their art that will be accepted into college level art courses and be successful doing their art at the post –secondary. *Prior permission from the teacher must be given before registering for this course.*

MUSIC

Band

Course Number: 11
Grade Levels: 9-12

Prerequisite: None
Semesters: 2
Credit: 1

Course Description: Band involves the learning and development of knowledge on various aspects of instrumental music including: good tone, symphonic blend, rhythm, and much more. Band is performance based, so outside school performances are a major part of the grade. Marching and concert bands are required of all band students. Those who desire extra instrumental opportunities can join/audition for All-State Auditions, Honor Bands, or participate

in solo and ensemble groups.

Chorus

Course Number: 12
Grade Level: 9-12

Prerequisite: None
Semesters: 2
Credit: 1

Course Description: Chorus involves learning the fundamentals of good singing, such as correct posture, breathing techniques, intonation and choral blend. Concert performances are a major aspect of the course. A large portion of class time is spent rehearsing 4-part (SATB) music. Extra opportunities are available for students who desire additional musical experiences such as , All-State Auditions, Choral Festival, the spring musical and Small Group Contest.

LANGUAGE ARTS

*(4.5 credits of English required for graduation)
(must take at least 0.5 English credits during Senior year)*

Literacy 101 *(1st semester)*

Course Number: 19
Grade Level: 9th grade and 10th grade

Prerequisite: None
Semesters: 1
Credits: 0.5

This one semester elective is designed to further a student’s knowledge of vocabulary skills, fluency or phonics, reading comprehension and writing strategies through passages, short stories, articles, and novels at the 9th grade level. Independent reading for 30 minutes each night is a requirement for this class.

Literacy 102 *(2nd semester)*

Course Number: 20
Grade Level: 9th grade and 10th Grade

Prerequisite: Literacy 101
Semesters: 1
Credits: 0.5

This one semester elective continues the skill work of Literacy 101 in vocabulary, comprehension, and inferencing. Independent studies are completed to focus on individual skills and needs. Independent reading for 30 minutes each night is a requirement for this class.

English 9 *(required both semesters for Freshmen)*

Course Number: 22
Grade Level: 9th grade

Prerequisite: None
Semesters: 2
Credits: 1

Course Description: A required course designed to investigate and respond to various genres of literature including short stories, plays including Romeo & Juliet, poetry, and essays. Oral presentations and an acting opportunity will center around the literature explored in class.

English 10 *(required both semesters for Sophomores)*

Course Number: 23
Grade Level: 10th grade

Prerequisite: Prefer Eng. 9
Semesters: 2
Credits: 1

Course Description: This two-semester course develops the English communication skills necessary for high school, college, and the world of work. The study of literature is highlighted, including the reading of *Night*, *A Night Divided*, and *Lord of the Flies*. With an emphasis on writing with evidence and responding to various texts and sources, this class also contains instruction in writing, including a review of grammar. Throughout the year there will be a heavy focus on the structure of an essay including the necessary elements like thesis statements, textual evidence and in-text citation, as well as introduction, body, and conclusion paragraphs. This is a required course.

Technical Writing

Course Number:
Grade Level: 9-12

Prerequisite: None
Semesters: 1
Credits: 0.5

Course Description: This one semester course students will focus on writing format and writing several different styles. Focusing on the writing basics of paragraphs, transition phrases and correct order of information.

American Literature (*required 1 semester for Juniors*)

Course Number: 31
Grade Level: 11

Prerequisite: English 9 & 10
Semesters: 1
Credits: 0.5

Course Description: This one semester required course will integrate the 6 trait reading and writing skills while studying our American culture and heritage. Students will link their American History knowledge with our American writers of the time. Writing assignments will emphasize the importance of using textual evidence in analyzing and evaluating literature. Arthur Miller's *The Crucible* will be included in our studies.

American Literature II

Course Number: 32
Grade Level: 12 grade only. Required.

Prerequisite: Eng 9&10, Am Lit
Semesters: 1
Credits: 0.5

Course Description: This semester course will continue the study of American culture and authors. Selections to be studied will include *Huck Finn*, *The Great Gatsby*, and a variety of classic short stories, personal narratives, film, and poetry. Various papers will be written analyzing features of literature. Students should take note that this course requires a great deal of reading and motivation.

British Literature

Course Number: 27
Grade Level: 11-12

Prerequisite: English 9 & 10
Semesters: 1
Credits: 0.5

Course Description: This one semester course will explore a variety of genres by moving through the various time periods in English literature: Old-English, Medieval, Renaissance, Romantic, Victorian, Modern, and Post-Modern. This course will emphasize reading standards including citing textual evidence, analyzing multiple interpretations of a work to evaluate how each version interprets the text, as well as determining the literal and figurative meanings of words. A semester project includes the completion of a classic novel by a British author.

Communications *(required 1 semester for Juniors)*

Course Number: 21

Grade Level: 11

Prerequisite: English 9 & 10

Semesters: 1

Credits: 0.5

Course Description: This one semester required course is designed to make students confident in a variety of speaking situations and expand their knowledge of the way each person communicates. The study of speech will explain communication, language, and the importance of these skills in life. It will also study the areas of public speaking with informative and persuasive speaking, and speaking to entertain. The use of proper outlining formats will be stressed. Emphasis will also be placed on dressing for success.

Mass Media & Film-

Course Number: 30

Grade Level: 11-12

Prerequisite: English 9 & 10

Semesters: 1

Credits: 0.5

Course Description: Mass Media & Film is designed to help students become more media literate. Students will build critical thinking, writing, and reading skills required in a media-rich and increasingly techno-centric world. The class will engage in critical analysis of various forms of media, deconstructing them with much the same literary skills they utilize when reading traditional printed text as well as examine media as a product of history and culture. Units may include film, television, internet, advertising, news media, radio, animation and comics, games, etc. Students will also produce media products of their own.

Basic Composition

Course Number: 25

Grade Level: 11-12

Prerequisite: English 9 & 10

Semesters: 1

Credits: 0.5

The ability to communicate effectively in writing is one of the most important skills for educational and career success. Basic Composition is meant to help students of all skill levels and experience to improve their writing in various formats, including narratives, researched essays, emails, letters, and much more. The primary goals of this course are: (a) to provide students with practical information about the essentials of writing that can be applied to both academic and professional contexts; and (b) to improve students' writing skills by providing frequent opportunities to brainstorm, plan, draft, edit, and revise. A broad spectrum of material is covered to prepare students for the workforce, including but not limited to emails, resumes, work reports and research.

Composition

Grade Level: 11-12

Course Number: 33

Prerequisite: English 9& 10

Semesters: 1

Credits: 0.5

Course Description: This course is intended to be a college preparatory writing course. It should be taken during the junior or senior year and is designed to prepare students for college level writing in an independent, conference-centered, workshop approach. The emphasis is on expository writing: compare/contrast, literary analysis, argumentative, and research. Students will be expected to use outside sources to defend their research, utilize proper methods for in-text citation to avoid plagiarism, and cite sources correctly using MLA. Students who take this class are expected to understand the basic principles of writing upon entering the classroom.

Creative Writing

Course Number: 29

Grade Level: 11-12

Prerequisite: English 9 & 10

Semesters: 1

Credits: 0.5

Course Description: In this semester course, students will have the opportunity to explore a variety of writing topics and formats, including descriptive writing, a character sketch, play, short story, & poetry. The memoir *Night* will be read in preparation for writing their own memoir. The course follows the steps of the writing process: pre-writing, composing, evaluating, revising, editing, and publishing. Students will be encouraged to use sensory imagery and literary techniques. Stories will contain plot, setting, characterization, conflict, and theme. Poetry will expose the students to a large variety of forms as well as free verse. Standard grammar, usage, and punctuation will be expected.

FOREIGN LANGUAGE

Spanish 1

Course Number: 35

Grade Level: 9-12

Prerequisite: None

Semesters: 2

Credit: 1.0

Course Description: During the first level of language study, students acquire the fundamental vocabulary and grammar skill to understand and speak the language. Topics are introduced which will enable students to talk and write about themselves and their world. Reading, writing, and conversation will center on everyday life situations, school, food, and will be enriched by study of diverse cultures.

Spanish 2

Course Number: 36

Grade Level: 10-12

Prerequisite: Spanish 1

Semesters: 2

Credit: 1.0

Course Description: Students continue building on the foundation of vocabulary, grammar structure, and cultural information from Spanish I, increasing the use and comprehension of Spanish. This will increase the students ability in speaking in present tense, while adding past tense. There will be a continued and increased focus on writing and listening used throughout the class.

Spanish 3

Course Number: 37

Grade Level: 11-12 (or by special placement)

Prerequisites: Spanish 2

Semesters: 2

Credit: 1.0

Course Description: A one-year course designed to expand the students' knowledge of Spanish vocabulary and grammar and to polish listening and speaking skills. This class will also look deeper into Spanish speaking countries' cultures and the news that surround them. There is emphasis on polishing previous skills and widening student capabilities with Spanish through reading/research and discussion/writing about Hispanic culture, history, and literature through research, writing, and discussion.

Spanish 4

Prerequisites: Spanish 3

Course Number: 38
Grade Level: 11-12 (or by special placement)

Semesters: 2
Credit: 1.0

Course Description: A one-year course designed for students serious about being proficient in Spanish. It will emphasize more on concentrated conversation about daily life and special scenarios. This class will have a focus on describing one's future and goals. This class will also have a continued emphasis on listening and speaking in Spanish.

MATHEMATICS

All students required to have one credit of Algebra and one credit of Geometry for graduation

The following options meet the requirements for the Algebra requirement

1. *Algebra 1A & Algebra 1B*
OR
2. *Algebra 1*

Algebra 1A

Course Number:
Grade Level: 9-12

Prerequisite: None
Semesters: 2
Credit: 1.0

Course Description: Algebra 1A is the first math course of the college sequence. The course consists of a basic study of the laws and properties of algebra related to simplifying algebraic and numerical expressions. Solving algebraic equations is done routinely, with an emphasis on problem-solving and showing work.

Algebra 1B

Course Number: 44
Grade Level: 9-12

Prerequisite: Algebra 1A
Semesters: 2
Credit: 1.0

Course Description: Algebra 1B is the second part of Algebra 1 math course of the college sequence. The course consists of a basic study of the laws and properties of algebra related to simplifying algebraic and numerical expressions. Solving algebraic equations and inequalities are done routinely, with an emphasis on problem-solving and showing work.

Algebra 1

Course Number: 44
Grade Level: 9-12

Prerequisite: None
Semesters: 2
Credit: 1.0

Course Description: Algebra 1 is the first math course of the college sequence. The course consists of a basic study of the laws and properties of algebra related to simplifying algebraic and

numerical expressions. Solving algebraic equations is done routinely, with an emphasis on problem-solving and showing work.

Geometry (*Required*)

Course Number: 46

Grade Level: 10-12

Prerequisite: Algebra I

Semesters: 2

Credit: 1.0

Course Description: Basic undefined terms, definitions, postulates, and theorems will be used as building blocks in a logical sequence to progressively develop geometric concepts. Emphasis will be placed on the role played by inductive and deductive reasoning in geometric proofs as well as logical reasoning. At appropriate intervals, three-dimensional analogies of plane geometry concepts will be incorporated. Algebra will be used as a tool to assist us in many problem-solving situations. In addition to learning geometric concepts, improving thinking skills is an important objective of this course.

Algebra 2

Course Number: 45

Grade Level: 11-12

Prerequisite: Algebra I and Geometry

Semesters: 2

Credit: 1.0

Course Description: This is a comprehensive review and expansion of Algebra I. It introduces topics beyond first year algebra, and refines skills needed for practical problem solving. Also, the course is intended to prepare students for the advanced math courses that follow. The use of graphing calculators and other appropriate technology are greatly expanded and utilized.

Math Principles

Course Number: 43

Grade Level: 11-12

Prerequisite: Algebra I & Geometry

Semesters: 2

Credit: 1.0

Course Description: The class will start with fundamentals of math necessary to be successful on the basics for the required standards and benchmarks for high school math. Those will include a good review of Algebra I to improve those skills. Then the class will expand to other math topics including Geometry, Statistics, and Graphing. This class will give introductions to the above topics. It is not designed to replace any other math offerings.

Pre-Calculus

Course Number: 48

Grade Level: 11-12

Prerequisite: Alg I & II, and Geometry

Semesters: 2

Credit: 1.0

Course Description: This course is aimed at students who want to expand their mathematics capabilities and to prepare those students for taking Calculus. A comprehensive review of algebra, geometry, and trigonometry will be covered, and various topics expanded on. More emphasis is put on the use of graphing calculators. During the last unit, students will learn and practice fundamental concepts of calculus such as limit, derivatives and integrals.

Trigonometry (*first semester*)

Prerequisite: Algebra I & II and Geometry

Course Number: 47
Grade Level: 11-12

Semesters: 1 (1st semester)
Credit: 0.5

Course Description:

This is a general course in trigonometry and its applications. Topics include functions, radians measure, trigonometric identities and graphs of trigonometric functions. It is intended for students who are going to continue his/her formal education in trade school, or two or four year colleges.

Probability & Statistics (*second semester*)

Course Number: 49
Grade Level: 11-12

Prerequisite: Algebra I & II & Geometry

Semesters: 1
Credit: 0.5

Course Description:

This is a general course in probability and statistics and their applications. Topics include data classification, data collection, measure of central tendency, measures of variation, basic concepts of probability and counting, conditional probability, probability distributions, and binomial distributions.

SCIENCE

(3.0 credits required for graduation. One credit of Physical Science and one credit of Biology required)

Physical Science (*required both semesters for Freshmen*)

Course Number: 51
Grade Level: 9

Prerequisite: None
Semesters: 2
Credits: 1.0

Course Description: Physical Science is a required course for all freshmen which reviews the study of matter and energy and their interaction in nature. Students will learn proper lab techniques and procedures while learning basic chemistry and physics concepts.

Biology (*required both semesters for Sophomores*)

Course Number: 52
Grade Level: 10

Prerequisite: Physical Science
Semesters: 2
Credits: 1.0

Course Description: Biology is a survey course which reviews many basic concepts of life and environmental science. We will attempt to acquaint students with basic life processes, including the structural and functional aspects of life, as well as look at various Earth processes and ask questions about human impact and sustainability.

Chemistry

Course Number: 57
Grade Level: 11-12

Prerequisites: Phys. Sci & 2 yrs Math
Semesters: 2
Credit: 1.0

Course Description: General Chemistry is an elective course which explores many concepts of chemistry and matter. Students enrolled in this class need to have taken and passed Physical Science, Biology, and Algebra 1. This class is recommended for students pursuing post-secondary education in a science related field. It is also recommended, but not required, that students have taken or be enrolled in Algebra II.

Physics

Math
Course Number: 58
Grade Level: 11-12

Prerequisites: Phys. Sci & 2 (+) yrs
Semesters: 2
Credit: 1.0

Course Description: This course is recommended for college bound students. Physics involves the study of the forces and laws of nature affecting matter, such as equilibrium, motion, momentum, and the relationships between matter and energy. It also includes examination of sound, light, and magnetic and electric phenomena.

Environmental Science (*offered 2024-25*)

Course Number: 56
Grade Level: 11-12

Prerequisite: Phys. Sci & Biology
Semesters: 2
Credit: 1.0

Course Description: Students in this course will study how humans interact with and affect the environment. Topics will include ecosystem, waste, water, air, atmosphere, energy, population growth, and environmental decision making.

Conceptual Chemistry (*offered 2025-2026*)

Course Number: 53
Grade Level: 10-12

Prerequisite: Physical Science
Semesters: 2
Credit: 1.0

Course Description: Conceptual Chemistry explains the basics of Chemistry and how it fits into everyday life. It explains the elements, and everyday compounds and how they interact with each other. This course involves lab work

Anatomy/Physiology

Course Number: 55
Grade Level: 11-12

Prerequisites: Physical Science & Biology
Semesters: 2
Credit: 1.0

Course Description: This course is designed for 11th graders or 12th graders who are college bound, particularly in the area of life science. It takes an in-depth look at the human body. Many systems

are discussed in the course, looking at the organs, functions and interaction of each. Students will also be dissection.

SOCIAL SCIENCES

(3.0 credits required)

(American History required junior year and Government required senior year)

World Geography

Course Number: 61

Grade Level: 9-12 (recommended for 9th or 10th grade)

Prerequisite: None

Semesters: 2

Credit: 1.0

Course Description: In this course, we examine the physical, economic, political, and social characteristics of the main cultural regions of the world. Global awareness, interdependence, respect for cultural differences, geography skills, and appreciation of other worlds are emphasized.

American History *(required for Juniors)*

Course Number: 66

Grade Level: 11

Prerequisite: None

Semesters: 2

Credits: 1.0

Course Description: In this course, we examine the political, economic, and social history of the United States from the late 1800s through the Civil Rights Movement. Democratic beliefs and values, problem-solving skills, and social and political skills are emphasized.

Government *(required for Seniors)*

Course Number: 67

Grade Level: 12

Prerequisite: None

Semesters: 2

Credits: 1.0

Course Description: This course is designed to develop knowledge and an awareness of our government and how we, as citizens, interact and work with our government on local, state and national levels.

World History *(offered 2024-25)*

Course Number: 62

Grade Level: 10-12

Prerequisite: World Geo. recommended

Semesters: 2

Credit: 1.0

Course Description: This course is designed to develop an awareness of the social, political, economic, and historical events and changes that have occurred over the course of modern times starting with the Renaissance and working through the 20th Century.

Sociology

Course Number: 63

Grade Level: 10-12

Prerequisite: None

Semesters: 1

Credit: 0.5

Course Description: In this course students examine our contact and interaction with people and try to gain a better understanding of ourselves and our relationships with others.

Economics

Course Number: 65
Grade Level: 10-12

Prerequisite: None
Semesters: 1
Credit: 0.5

Course Description: In this course we examine the basic principles of economics, the characteristics of the basic economic systems, the workings of the American economic system, and the responsibilities and importance of an educated consumer in our society.

World Affairs (offered 2025-26)

Course Number: 64
Grade Level: 10-12

Prerequisite: World Geo or World History
Semesters: 1
Credit: 0.5

Course Description: This course is designed to develop an awareness of the social, political, and historical events and changes that have occurred over the course of the student's lifetime in five specific regions of the world with an emphasis on current events as they happen in those parts of the world.

Recent U.S. History (offered 2025-26)

Course Number: 68
Grade Level: 10-12

Prerequisite: None
Semesters: 1
Credit: 0.5

Course Description: This course focuses on American history from the end of World War II to the present day, with an emphasis on domestic affairs. Students will examine social, cultural, political, and economic events and trends of this time period. Some of the topics we will cover include: the Cold War, Korean War, Civil Rights movements, Kennedy and King assassinations, Vietnam, Watergate, the oil embargo, end of the Cold War, Gulf War, Roaring 90s, September 11th, War on Terror, and the Iraqi/Afghani wars.

HEALTH/PHYSICAL EDUCATION

9-12 Physical Education (Required)

Course Number: 71
Grade Level: 9-12

Prerequisite: None
Semesters: 2
Credit: 1.0

Course Description: Physical education is a required year long course divided into four to six week units designed to provide students with fun and recreation. The lifetime contributions that physical education offers include the development of physical fitness, the acquisition of new skills, the creation of better mental and emotional health, the improvement of human relations, the development of desirable behavior patterns, and the better use of leisure time.

Health and Fitness

Course Number: 79
Grade Level: 10-12

Prerequisite: None
Semesters: 1
Credit: 0.5

Course Description: This is a unique physical education class that focuses entirely on cardiovascular physical fitness activities. The primary focus of this course will be using the machines in the wellness center combined with various workout videos and styles of workouts. This course will be offered during the school day. Lifetime fitness plans and the importance of a balanced diet will also be a focus. Keeping an exercise log/journal will be a requirement for this class.

Strength and Conditioning

Course Number: 70

Grade Level: 10-12

Prerequisite: None

Semesters: 1

Credit: 0.5

Students will develop an individualized lifting plan, which includes free weights, cardio, and core exercises. Students will then work on this plan, set goals, and work to meet goals during the year.

Health 1

Course Number: 73

Grade Level: 9th grade only. Required.

Prerequisite: None

Semesters: 1

Credit: 0.5

Course Description: This health class is designed to help students develop healthy habits and attitudes to last a lifetime. Students are motivated to become responsible for their own health as they learn the connection between establishing good health habits now and enjoying their lives in the future. It encourages students to take charge of their health by presenting a positive approach toward health issues, encouraging students through active participation, and helping students discover they can make changes in their lifestyles that will result in better health. **CPR is taught in this class and is a requirement for graduation.**

If a student misses CPR in this class or transfers in after their freshman year, the student must submit proof of CPR completion to the HS Office.

Health 2

Course Number: 73

Grade Level: 9th grade only. Required.

Prerequisite: None

Semesters: 1

Credit: 0.5

Course Description: This health class is designed to help students develop healthy habits and attitudes to last a lifetime. Students are motivated to become responsible for their own health as they learn the connection between establishing good health habits now and enjoying their lives in the future. It encourages students to take charge of their health by presenting a positive approach toward health issues, encouraging students through active participation, and helping students discover they can make changes in their lifestyles that will result in better health.

VOCATIONAL

FAMILY CONSUMER SCIENCES

Introduction to Family Consumer Sciences

Course Number: 81

Grade Level: 9-12

Prerequisite: None

Semesters: 2

Credit: 1.0

Course Description: Introduction to Family Consumer Sciences is designed to give students a broad background in all the areas of family consumer sciences.

Housing and Interior Design (offered 2025-26)

Course Number: 82

Grade Level: 10-12

Prerequisite: None

Semesters: 1

Credit: 0.5

Course Description: A thorough study of home styles, what to remember when buying or planning a home, the design principles, color schemes, selection of furniture, furniture styles, and window treatments, and getting the most for your money in all aspects of home design.

Clothing and Textiles (offered 2024-25)

Course Number: 83

Grade Level: 10-12

Prerequisite: None

Semesters: 1

Credit: 0.5

Course Description: This course covers the exciting and ever-changing field of clothing and textiles. It helps to prepare students for a career in fashion. It also improves their skills as a consumer of clothing. It is a non-construction clothing course. Students will study fashions of the past and important fashion designers.

Child Development

Course Number: 84

Grade Level: 11-12

Prerequisite: None

Semesters: 1 (1st semester)

Credits: 0.5

Course Description: A program that prepares individuals to understand a child's physical, mental, emotional, and social growth and development, as well as their care and guidance.

Child Development Careers

Course Number: 85

Grade Level: 11-12

Prerequisite: None

Semesters: 1 (2nd semester)

Credits: 0.5

Course Description: This course uses knowledge gained from Child Development. Students will set goals and work with pre-school, daycare centers, and elementary age children.

Marriage and Family (offered 2024-25)

Course Number: 86

Grade Level: 10-12

Prerequisite: None

Semesters: 1

Credits: 0.5

Course Description: This course is designed to teach the students the family life cycle starting with the newly married stage through the empty nest stage.

Nutrition

Course Number: 88
Grade Level: 11-12

Prerequisite: None
Semesters: 1
Credits: 0.5

Course Description: The topics covered include a thorough study of the food nutrients, meal planning, special diet needs during the life cycle, weight control, eating out, physical fitness, food buying, as well as food preparation.

BUSINESS

Introduction to Business

Course Number: 91
Grade Level: 9-12

Prerequisite: None
Semesters: 2
Credits: 0.5

Course Description: This course focuses on entrepreneurship. Students study the characteristics and skills of an entrepreneur, business ownership and making a business plan. A class venture is included as part of the curriculum.

Entrepreneurship (2024-25)

Course Number: 92
Grade Level: 11-12

Prerequisite: None
Semesters: 1
Credits: 0.5

Course Description: This course helps student's gain an understanding of the business/marketing principles necessary to start and operate a business. The primary focus of the course is to help students understand the process of analyzing a business opportunity, determining feasibility of an idea utilizing research, developing a plan to organize and promote the business and its products/services, and finally, to understand the capital required, the return on investment desired, and the potential for profit.

Business Law

Course Number: 95
Grade Level: 10-12

Credits: .5
Semester: 1
Prerequisite: None

Course Description: Business Law is a semester course that gives students a chance to look into the different laws that are enforced within businesses, either starting one or while working in business. There will be some focus on court cases that have previously been to trial to see how it changed the laws that are relevant to business operations, general legal, and social environment. The main focus will be on business ethics; role of contracts in business; and employment/employee obligations within a business.

Accounting 1 (2025-26)

Course Number: 93

Grade Level: 10-12

Prerequisite: None

Semesters: 1

Credits: 0.5

Course Description: The principles and practices of accounting are related to the daily lives of all of us. A study of accounting will help students understand how business functions in our everyday life and what business contributes to our society. Students are given hands-on experience with different business forms used in the business world of today. Students keep records for a service business and a merchandising business, manually and electronically (on the computer).

Accounting 2 (2025-2026)

Course Number: 94

Grade Level: 10-12

Prerequisite: Accounting I

Semesters: 1

Credits: 0.5

Course Description: This course is a continuation of Accounting I. In addition to keeping records for a service business and a merchandising business, students will keep records for a corporation, also. This course will be taught on an independent study basis with supervision from an instructor.

Personal Finance (*Required for Seniors*)

Course Number: 89

Grade Level: **12th grade only**

Prerequisite: None

Semesters: 1

Credits: 0.5

Course Description: Personal Finance is a required course for Seniors. The purpose of this course is to prepare students to understand economic activities and challenges of individuals and families, the role of lifestyle goals in education and career choices, procedures in a successful job search, financial forms used in independent living, and shopping options and practices for meeting consumer needs. The course also prepares students to understand consumer rights, responsibilities, and information; protect personal and family resources; and apply procedures for managing personal finances. Activities will include preparation of budgets, consumer skills, checking accounts, investment applications, comparison shopping, advertising research, and comparison of housing options.

AGRICULTURAL SCIENCE

Introduction to Agricultural Science(AFNR)

Course Number: 101

Grade Level: 9th grade preferred

Prerequisite: None

Semesters: 2

Credits: 1.0

Course Description: Intro to AFNR uses CASE(Curriculum for Agricultural Science Education) as it's core materials. This course covers Ag history and use, career exploration, FFA, SAE, communication, science applications, plants, animals, natural resources, mechanics and other topics. Labs, projects and activities will be used throughout this course to teach these basic concepts.

Agronomy (*college credit*)

Course Number: 102

Prerequisite: none

Semesters: 1

Grade Level: 11-12 only

Credits: 0.5

Course Description: **This course offers a college credit through NIACC (concurrent enrollment)** and will focus on plant anatomy and physiology, plant classification and identification, pest classification and identification, pesticides and pesticide application. Students have the opportunity to receive their Commercial Applicators license by taking this course.

Ag Business/Marketing

Course Number: 103

Grade Level: 11-12 preferred

Prerequisites: none

Semesters: 2

Credits: 1.0

Course Description: This course is an upper level course designed to provide students with the basic knowledge of running a business and marketing products. Topics covered will include record keeping systems, net worth and financial statements, budgets, taxes, Ag law, and commodity marketing along with other related topics. There will also be a unit on job skills such as cover letters, resumes etc and sales presentations.

Agricultural Mechanics

Course Number: 104

Grade Level: 9-12 (class size of 10 preferred)

Prerequisites: none

Semesters: 1

Credits: 0.5

Course Description: This course will cover electrical wiring procedures, small gas engines, plumbing, and other mechanical areas. This course will include lab work on small gas engines, wiring and plumbing activities and other shop work.

Ag Welding

Course Number: 120

Grades: 9-12

Prerequisites: none

Semesters: 1

Credits: .5

Course Description: Students will learn the safe use of hand tools, welders, and oxy-acetylene equipment used in metalworking. Time will be spent studying safety, hand tools, power tools, arc welding, MIG welding, plasma cutting, oxy-acetylene welding, cutting and brazing. There will be required lab exercises in each of these areas. The students will be required to complete one or more projects using the skills learned in the areas taught in this class. Students will be required to develop a plan, bill of materials and *purchase* the materials needed for their project. Class Size Limit

General Horticulture/Landscaping

Course Number: 110

Grade Levels: 9-12

Prerequisite: none

Semesters: 1

Credits: 0.5

Course Description: General course dealing with the identity of flowers, plants, trees, and shrubs. Plant propagation by seed, cuttings, layering, grafting, and division. Work with greenhouse bedding plants to train young men and women for careers or hobbies dealing with greenhouse plants, garden centers, golf courses, parks, or flower shops. This class will also cover landscaping and landscape principles.

Principles of Animal Science (CASE) 10 – 12

Course Number: 128

Grade Level: 10-12

Prerequisites: Intro AFNR

Semester: 1

Credits: 0.5

This course uses the CASE curriculum and is a fundamental level course where students explore the world of animal agriculture. Areas of study include: history, domestication, handling & behavior, anatomy, physiology, nutrition, reproduction, genetics, health, selection & marketing. Hands-on activities and labs will be used throughout this course to teach and learn the materials. Recommended for any student interested in animals or a possible career in the animal science area including veterinarians.

Animal Science (NIACC college credit)

Course Number: 107

Grade Level: 11-12

Prerequisites: none

Semesters: 1

Credits: 0.5

Course Description: This course is designed to provide students with a general overview of the livestock industry. It identifies the ways in which domestic animals serve the basic needs of humans for food, fiber, shelter, protection, fuel, and emotional well-being. Students will develop an understanding of and be able to apply the basic principles of animal selection, breeding, genetics, feeding, health, and husbandry practices. As a student, you will become familiar with the economic and social issues that confront the livestock industry. **This is a concurrent enrollment course through NIACC.**

Natural Resources

Course Number: 109

Grade Level: 9-12

Prerequisite: none

Semesters: 1

Credits: 0.5

Course Description: This course uses the CASE curriculum to cover natural resources. Areas of study include conservation, preservation, exploitation, soils, water, air, energy, plants, animals, ag stewardship, forestry, mining, urban sprawl, future policies. Projects, labs, activities will be used to teach these concepts.

Vet Science

Course Number: 123

Grade Level: 11-12

Prerequisite: Animal Science

Semesters: 1 semester

Credits: 0.5 credit

Course Description: This course provides an overview of basic practices and skills used in veterinary medicine. Students will learn livestock physiology & anatomy, veterinary terminology, office management skills, animal health & nutrition, career exploration and safety. Industry leadership and business applications/practices will also be included. Other topics may be covered as time permits. This course is for any student considering going into the field of Veterinary Science.

Ag/Business Work Elective – Principal & Guidance Counselor Approval

Course Number: 132

Grade Level: 12 only

Semesters: 1 or 2 semester

Credits: 0.5- 1 credits

Course Description: Work Elective is a semester course that could be taken both semesters of their senior year. This course provides students with an opportunity to experience job exploration and on the job

training while attending high school. On the job, the students perform tasks as specified by a work-site supervisor, answer to that work-site supervisor and are evaluated by the work-site supervisor and school instructor. Students will still be required to complete in-class coursework, along with 60 hours a semester of on the job training. Students will meet with their instructor weekly and submit time logs and descriptions of what they are learning. Students will need to have their place of work pre-approved by the principal, counselor, instructor, work-site supervisor, and parents before the start of the semester. Parents and students will be required to sign an agreement for the requirements of this course before beginning the semester.

INFORMATION SOLUTIONS (Computer Science)

Computer Science Discoveries:

Course Number: 97
Grade level: 9-12

Prerequisites: None
Semesters: 2 (Full Year Course)
Credits: 1

Course Description: Computer Science Discoveries (CS Discoveries) is an introductory computer science course that empowers students to create authentic artifacts and engage with computer science as a medium for creativity, communication, problem-solving, and fun.

Technology Essentials

Course Number: 96
Grade Level: 10-12

Prerequisite: None
Semesters: 2 (Can take one semester)
Credits: 0.5 per semester

Course Description: This curriculum focuses on learning computer security from the user viewpoint and focuses on topics a user would face on a day-to-day basis. The curriculum works to strengthen the weakest link in computer security, the user, by providing a concrete and applicable education about information technology. Students will relate the information they learn to real world situations through class based discussions, case studies, and classroom assignments. The high-level goals of the curriculum are to (1) expose students to the beauty of computer science through an engaging discovery process; (2) show how exploring computer science can be used to solve hard problems; and (3) cultivate problem solvers who are comfortable at tackling hard problems and who understand that computer science is a lifelong learning process.

Computer Science Principles:

Course Number: 99
Grade level: 9-12

Prerequisites: None
Semesters: 2 (Full Year Course)
Credits: 1

Description: The course introduces students to the foundational concepts of computer science and challenges them to explore how computing and technology can impact the world. The AP Program designed AP Computer Science Principles with the goal of creating leaders in computer science fields and attracting and engaging those who are traditionally underrepresented with essential computing tools and multidisciplinary opportunities.

Human Relations (*NIACC college credit*)

Course Number: 98
Grade Level: 11-12

Prerequisites: None
Semesters: 1
Credits: 0.5

Course Description: **This course offers concurrent enrollment through NIACC.** Human Relations is an introductory course offering a complete overview of human relations and responsibilities in a business environment. Content covered will include: Human Relations and You, Human Relations in Groups, Building Your Human Relation Skills, and Thriving in a Changing World

SPECIAL COURSE OFFERINGS

Work-Based Internship

Course Number:
Grade Level 11-12

Prerequisites: None
Semesters 1-2
Credits- 0.5-2.0 credits

Course Description: This course provides students an opportunity to gain professional and/or technical skills. The students will work under the supervision of the WBL Coordinator and Workplace Supervisor. The students will be placed with a community partner. This experience should align with the student's educational and professional goals. The course includes academic preparation, work-based learning internship, and academic follow-up.

Education2020 – Principal & Guidance Counselor Approval

Course Number: 163
Grade Level: 9-12

Semesters: 1 or 2
Credits: 0.5 or 1.0

Course Description: E2020 courses are online course options offered for credit recovery, scheduling conflicts, and/or electives not offered on the regular high school course schedule. E2020 classes hold the same weight as any other high school class and count on a student's GPA.

Teacher Assistant – Principal & School Counselor Approval

Course Number: 134
Grade Level: 12th only

Semesters: 1 or 2
Credits: 0.5

Course Description: Students will be assigned to a teacher to help them with basic duties and responsibilities in the classroom. Students may also work with students in that classroom setting. Students will be required to meet with their assigned teacher daily and fill out a time log and explanation of what they did and learned. Students and assigned teachers will have to go over the expectations together and sign the agreement before the start of the semester! Students must be planning/ Wanting to go into education to be a Teacher Assistant.

Talented and Gifted (TAG)

Qualify for program in Elementary or Middle School and with Principal & Guidance Counselor Approval
Grade Level: 9-12

Course Description: A one or two semester option. Students will work individually and in groups developing higher level thinking skills through many activities. Students will explore and investigate topics relevant to their growth into autonomous learners. Complex-level thinking skills and meta-cognition skills are emphasized.

Concurrent Enrollment (College Courses Through NIACC)

Prerequisites: Principal & School Counselor Approval

Course Number: undetermined

Semesters: 1 or 2 (either or both)

Grade Level: 11-12

Credits: as earned

General Course Description: Students will be exposed to the demands and expectations of post-secondary courses. Students will be able to expand their learning in areas of interest/giftedness. Such learning is intended to enrich and go above/beyond the traditional high school curriculum. Students will be taking these courses through online learning platforms and following NIACC's expectations. Concurrent Enrollment courses will be the start of the students College transcript and also be included in eligibility guidelines.

John V. Hanson Career Center (On-site in Forest City, IA)

Prerequisites: Principal and School Counselor Approval

Semesters: 1 or 2

Course Number: Undetermined

Credits: as earned

Grade Level: 11-12

The four academies are Advanced Manufacturing, Construction Trades, Information Technology, and Health Careers. Students will earn college credit by enrolling in NIACC classes at the Career Center. This comes at no cost to the student or their parents. Textbooks, tools, and equipment are also provided to the students. Students will attend the NIACC Campus in Forest City, IA for the first half of the day. Students are responsible for getting themselves to these classes each day and back to the North Iowa Campus for the remainder of their classes. Don't miss out on this exciting opportunity

Non-Discrimination Policy

It is the policy of the North Iowa Community School District not to illegally discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, religion, creed, age (for employment), marital status (for programs), sexual orientation, gender identity, and socioeconomic status (for programs) in its educational programs and its employment practices. There is a grievance procedure for processing complaints of discrimination. If you have questions or a grievance related to this policy, please contact the district's Equity Coordinator: Joann Kenny, North Iowa 6-12 Principal, 111 3rd Ave NW, Buffalo Center, Iowa, 641-562-2525, joann.kenny@northiowa.org

CTE NOTICE OF NONDISCRIMINATION

The North Iowa Community School District offers career and technical programs in the following service areas:

- Agricultural Education
- Business Education
- Family and Consumer Sciences Education
- Information Solutions

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