Pleasantville High School Course Directory 2020-2021

Excellence in Education

A RECOGNIZED SCHOOL OF EXCELLENCE
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
BLUE RIBBON SCHOOLS PROGRAM
PLEASANTVILLE HIGH SCHOOL
60 Romer Avenue, Pleasantville, New York 10570
www.pleasantvilleschools.com

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2020-2021

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Please consult Pleasantville Website: www.pleasantvilleschools.com for information regarding graduation and diploma requirement.

**SAT Subject Test Preparation and Registration**

The College Board has a score choice policy. The policy provides students the opportunity to select which scores they will send to colleges by test date for the SAT and by individual test for the SAT subject tests. It will not cost more to send one, multiple or all test scores.

A few tips to help students and parents decide what tests should be taken:

1. Students enrolled in either honors or advanced placement classes are provided additional instruction to prepare for SAT Subject tests available through the College Board.
2. Students who have a natural aptitude, ability and interest in a particular subject area encouraged to consider taking an SAT Subject test.
3. In order to ensure that a student understands the type of preparation required to be successful on such an exam, a review booklet should be obtained to familiarize the student with the content, format and level of difficulty that will be found in the exam.
4. The College Board has created more than twenty SAT Subject exams. Students should be aware that not every college seeks SAT Subject scores as part of the admissions requirements. Some colleges require three exams, while others ask for special exams for specific programs of study. A review of possible college/program choices should be discussed with the student’s school counselor to ensure appropriate tests are taken.
5. The School Counseling Department places no emphasis on the number of SAT Subject exams each student should take. This is a personal decision based upon college choice and student ability.
6. Please note the ACT exam, which some students opt to take in place of the SAT reasoning test, can also serve in lieu of the individual SAT Subject exams.

**Honors Entry Criteria**

Students are eligible for entry into an Honors level course for the following year providing their current Year End Average is 90 or better in the same core area and/or they obtain a faculty recommendation. Members of the faculty are available to meet with students who are interested in pursuing Honors level and may not have the 90 average.

Students not enrolled in Honors level courses at the onset of the school year may explore a level change after first quarter with their current teacher. Please note this may impact a schedule change based on the current year’s Master Schedule.
Valedictorian and Salutatorian
Upon conclusion of the first semester of senior year, the averages of seniors are calculated for the purpose of determining Valedictorian and Salutatorian. The averages are determined using a weighted average. The weight is applied as follows:
• All full credit courses that are not honors level or Advanced Placement level carry a weight of 1.0
• All half credit courses (with the exception of Physical Education) carry a weight of .50
• All full credit honors courses carry a weight of 1.05
• All full credit Advanced Placement courses carry a weight of 1.1

Transfer Students and GPA
Any student transferring from another district, state or country will have their courses added to the Pleasantville High School transcript with a “P/F” indicating pass or fail for transfer credit; this includes summer school courses. The school where the course was completed will be noted on the transcript for the year in which the credits were earned from that institution. The GPA listed on the transcript only includes all courses taken at Pleasantville.

Advanced Placement Courses
As of the school year 2006-2007 the district moved to an Open Enrollment policy for Advanced Placement courses. As such, students who are eager to challenge themselves and enroll in courses that will be intellectually stimulating and rigorous in demand, have the option of taking courses at this level. It is important to note however, that these courses are taught on the college level; and therefore, have greater expectations than Regents or honors level courses. Students should discuss the demands with their counselor before enrolling and carefully consider the number of Advanced Placement courses they choose to enroll in. Students are given the opportunity to withdraw from an AP course without a penalty if they drop the course no later than the tenth week. If a student withdraws from an AP course after the tenth week of the first semester, he/she receives a drop fail with a 50 for the course. Also, please note that any student enrolled in an Advanced Placement course must register for and take the College Board AP exam. If this requirement is not met, the AP designation will be removed from the student’s transcript.

Please Note: 8th Grade accelerated courses will appear on the transcript but are not given an honors weight. They are, however, included in the cumulative GPA calculation.

Add/Drop Policy for Scheduling and Minimum Credit Policy
A student may add classes to his/her schedule up to the end of the third week of each semester. Additionally, students are given the opportunity to withdraw from a class without a penalty if they drop the course by the end of the fifth week of each semester. All seniors are required to maintain a minimum of 5 credits annually. All students in grades 9-11 are required to maintain a minimum of 6 credits

Level Changes
If a student is making a level change, they are permitted to make changes up to the second week in December, or immediately following mid-term exams. In terms of grading, when a level change is made student's grades in their new course are averaged using a revised calculation which adds 10% on to each quarter and midterm exam. If a student makes a level change before the end of the first quarter, the teacher(s) will meet with the Department Chairperson to determine how the prior tests and assessments will be weighed in the calculation of the first quarter grade

Transcript Information
Effective with the graduation class of 2013, all senior year transcripts submitted to colleges and scholarship agencies will include a final cumulative unweighted and weighted grade point average. The weighted average is calculated using the same applied weights for Valedictorian and Salutatorian recognition. Physical Education courses, while given credit and grade on transcript, are not calculated in the overall grade point average.
English

All Pleasantville students are required to take English each year they are in attendance, with a minimum of four years of English required for graduation. All students must pass the Common Core English Regents Examination given in junior year. The English Department seeks to develop in students an understanding and appreciation of literature, a mature and complete vocabulary, and a full range of written and verbal communication skills. To achieve these goals, all English classes provide students with opportunities to read, write, speak, and listen critically. An honors section on each grade level provides an opportunity for exceptional students to study more challenging material while Writing Workshop provides instructional support for those students who need more assistance in developing their reading and writing skills. Curriculum, of course, varies at each level and reading assignments are adapted to students’ needs.

English 9

1 Credit

English 9 focuses on the study of the major genres in literature through an exploration of classical and modern world literature. It grounds students in an understanding of the literature of the ancient world and exposes them to a variety of modern texts. Students read The Odyssey, Of Mice and Men, Romeo and Juliet, Safe at Second, The Old Man and the Sea, and The Pearl. In addition, honors students read The Grapes of Wrath and Frankenstein. They are encouraged to do independent reading throughout the year. Nonfiction sources are also used in class throughout the year in accordance with the New York State Core Curriculum Learning Standards and the Comprehensive English Regents Examination. Students model the forms of writing that they read throughout the year and focus on the skills necessary for outlining and writing the five-paragraph essay. Ongoing instruction and practice of vocabulary and grammatical usage are essential to the course.

English 10

1 Credit

English 10 explores the themes of the adolescent in search of identity, the problems of authority, and the rights of the individual in society through a selection of major literary works including To Kill A Mockingbird, Catcher In The Rye, The House on Mango Street, Lord of the Flies, The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time, Othello, A Streetcar Named Desire, and I Know Why The Caged Bird Sings. The study of Shakespeare continues with Julius Caesar or Much Ado About Nothing. Students analyze poetry, plays, novels, informational texts, and short stories as they examine literary elements, develop critical thinking, and close-reading skills. Students write analytical essays and creative pieces. All sophomores are introduced to the process of writing of a major research paper. Through the writing process, students learn the more sophisticated elements of style and sentence structure. Students also study vocabulary to enhance their writing. Class participation is an important component of English 10 and 10 Honors. The course prepares students for the Regents, the PSAT, SAT, and ACT. The Tenth Grade honors class works at an accelerated pace. Additional books may include Jane Eyre and A Separate Peace. Students write literature-based essays and demonstrate original thought and a thorough examination of the text. Honor students should be self-motivated.

English 11

1 Credit

English 11 emphasizes American literature and such works as Ethan Frome, The Crucible, Black Boy, Gentle Hands, Fahrenheit 451, The Great Gatsby and Zeitoun. The study of Shakespeare continues with Macbeth or The Tempest. Written work emphasizes the expository, persuasive, comparison and contrast essays and creative responses. Vocabulary, spelling, and grammar usage is stressed as students prepare for the SAT and ACT. All students take the Comprehensive English Regents Examination in June.
Advanced Placement Language and Composition

1 Credit

Advanced Placement Language and Composition is a course for highly motivated and serious students of English. The goal of this course is to fully engage students in becoming skilled critical readers of prose written in a variety of periods and rhetorical contexts. The combination of their reading and writing should make students knowledgeable of the interactions among a writer’s purpose, structure, and audience, and ranges from personal experiences to public policies, from imaginative literature to popular culture. Additionally, students will be reading from a broad range and quality, along with the study of several genres of literature. Written work is specifically designed to enhance the necessary skills students will need for the Common Core New York State Regents Exam and the AP Exam. In accordance with the standards of the Regents exam, students will read, write, listen, and speak for information and understanding, for literary response and expression, for critical analysis and evaluation, and for social interaction. Students will also continue to enhance their vocabulary skills to best prepare for the SAT, the ACT, and to become articulate adults. All students who elect to take the Advanced Placement English Language and Composition Course must sit for the exam in May.

English 12

1 Credit

English 12 is a journey of exploration and self-discovery through the study of various texts and films linked thematically. The course offers both a review of writing skills such as the research paper and critical essay writing, as well as creative opportunities like the memoir and fiction/poetry assignments. New challenges establish an intellectual rigor that will prepare the students for the demands of college. Classic literature, whether old (Hamlet and Death of a Salesman) or new (The Things They Carried and The Color Purple) reinforce the critical sensibilities developed over the students’ high school career. Students explore the struggle of the individual to build identity in relation to self, family and society in order to emerge from childhood into adulthood. Several lessons during the first quarter are devoted to the college essay writing process.

Advanced Placement Literature and Composition

1 Credit

This course offers students the opportunity to gain college English credit during their senior year. Readings and discussions focus on the critical analysis of literature with the goal of producing clear, coherent and effective expository essays. Thematic units such as Love and Marriage, The Tragic Hero, Journeys, That’s Absurd, and Poetic Voices may encompass titles such as Pride and Prejudice, Tess of the D’Urbervilles, The Handmaid’s Tale, A Doll’s House, The Canterbury Tales, Oedipus, Hamlet, The Bell Jar, Death of a Salesman, Heart of Darkness, and Waiting for Godot. All students must take the AP Literature and Composition exam in May.

ELECTIVES:

Creative Writing

1/2 Credit

Designed for students who enjoy writing personal narratives, journals, poems, short stories, one-act plays, and songs, this course enables participants to develop a keener use of their senses, stretch their imagination, utilize language, and develop individual writing styles. Oral sharing of writing and peer evaluation are essential ingredients of this course.
Creative Writing II
1/2 Credit
Students who have successfully completed Creative Writing are eligible to continue the adventure of crafting stories, poems, dramatic scripts, memoirs, song-writing, and other literary forms in Creative Writing II. This course involves keeping a writer’s journal, participating in regular peer review sessions, and engaging in a variety of writing assignments, including the writing and production of a one-act play or video.

Science Fiction: Literature and Film
1/2 Credit
Science Fiction combines a study of the history and evolutions of the literature and film of this popular genre with the elements and skills studied in English classes: characterization, setting, theme, plot, and conflict. While focusing on the treatment of contemporary issues such as crime, overpopulation, the environment, and space exploration, various science fiction novels, short stories and non-fiction from the “classic” writers to the newest voices will be explored. Reading and films include The Time Machine, Do Androids Dream of Electric Sheep?, The Day of the Triffids, 2001: A Space Odyssey, and The Invasion of the Body Snatchers. Special projects include an author’s report, Orson Welles’s War of the Worlds, and the relation of science fiction concepts to today’s society.

Writing Workshop
This workshop provides practice for a variety of essay assignments in English/social studies classes, including, but not limited to, persuasive, narrative, thematic, and DBQ. The Writing Workshop component of the course reinforces the fundamentals of good writing: sentence structure and placement, grammar, mechanics, and usage. The SAT component addresses the question types that appear on the SAT, includes extensive vocabulary preparation, and provides essay practice for the on-demand prompt-driven essay. Writing Workshop I is for 9th and 10th grade students; Writing Workshop II is for 11th and 12th grade students.

Sports and Literature
1/2 Credit
This new offering will focus on the literary side of one of America’s major passions, sports and recreation. It’s no coincidence that our greatest writers, from Roger Angell to Bernard Malamud to Stephen King to Maxine Kumin have written with drama and humor about every sport from baseball to table tennis. Readings will include The Natural, Friday Night Lights, and a series of short stories, essays, articles and poetry.

Women and Literature
1/2 Credit
Students will read a variety of works. Poetry, novels, memoirs, and short stories will be read, written, and analyzed.

Journalism
1/2 - 1 Credit Option
This course will combine a historical/cultural look at the history of journalism with hands-on writing, editing, and producing experience. First Amendment issues and the question of journalistic “objectivity” will be addressed. News, feature, sports and entertainment writing will provide valuable communication skills. The differences in print, radio, and television, and Internet production will result in students working in each of these fields. Speakers from local media will enhance the lessons.
Social Studies

All Pleasantville students are required to take social studies each year they are in attendance, with a minimum of four years of social studies required for graduation. The social studies program seeks to develop in students an appreciation of their own cultural heritage and an understanding of the cultures, lives and histories of people throughout the world. Regents, Honors, AP, Collaborative, and Modified classes are offered, with placement determined by student ability and performance.

Global History and Geography 9R

1 Credit

Global History 9R presents a chronological narrative of global history from the earliest civilizations to the 18th century. The course traces the development of civilizations in different parts of the world. Among the topics explored are political and economic development, the influence of geography on culture, world religions, science and technology and the effect of contact between the cultures and the arts.

World History 9 Honors

1 Credit

World History 9 Honors is designed to help students develop a greater understanding of the evolution of global processes and contacts as well as interactions among different types of human society. The course advances this understanding through a combination of factual knowledge and appropriate analytical skills. World History 9 Honors covers events from 8000 C.E. to 1750 C.E. This course is designed to prepare students for AP instruction and is aligned with the AP World History course instruction.

Global History and Geography 10R

1 Credit

Global History and Geography 10 is taught in chronological order covering the areas of Europe, Africa, Asia, the Middle East and Latin America. Global 10 topics range from the Age of Absolutism until modern day and culminates in a Regents exam in June. Students will study and evaluate the impact of enduring issues in politics, economics, religion, society, geography, inventions and art on various cultures.

Advanced Placement World History

1 Credit

The AP World History course studies global contacts, connections and processes from 1750 C.E. to the present. Students will become proficient in applying historical thinking skills to analyze, evaluate and write about the information presented. Students take the AP World History Exam in May and the Global Regents Exam in June.

United States History and Government 11R

1 Credit

Regents United States History and Government 11, focusing on United States history from the colonial period to the present, incorporates major social, political, economic issues and demographic trends that shape today’s America. The course follows the chronological approach to US History starting with the colonial era and ending with contemporary events. The US Constitution is a vital document that will be studied in depth during the first quarter and throughout the remainder of the year, whenever constitutional issues arise. All students enrolled in this course are required to take the United States History and Government Regents Exam in June of junior year.
Advanced Placement US History  
*1 Credit*

Advanced Placement United States History provides the outstanding eleventh grade social studies student with an opportunity to gain college credit. The aim of this course is to broaden students’ knowledge of the principle themes and issues in United States History from colonial times to the present day. The course follows a similar but more detailed chronological approach used in the Regents United States History and Government course. Extensive reading, analysis of various sources and projects are utilized throughout the course. Students must become proficient in analyzing and using primary and secondary sources in their writing and research. All students must take the Advanced Placement United States History Exam in May, as well as the United States History and Government Regents Exam in June.

Social Studies 12: Economics, the Enterprise System, and Finance  
*1/2 Credit*

This is half of a one credit required Senior social studies course. It is intended to be used to meet the curriculum mandate of the Board of Regents that requires a half-unit course of study in Economics. The core curriculum includes references to the National Voluntary Standards for Teaching Economics (e.g.: Entrepreneurs are people who take the risks of organizing productive resources to make goods and services) and to the Jump Start Coalition Personal Financial Management Guidelines (e.g.: Compare the advantages and disadvantages of spending now and spending later). Additionally, the design and development of this core curriculum represents a unique partnership among leaders of business and finance, economists and the Federal Reserve Bank of New York.

Social Studies 12: Participation in Government  
*1/2 Credit*

This is half of the one credit required senior social studies course. It emphasizes the interaction between citizens and government at all levels: local, state and federal. Key civic values and analytical concepts are developed and reinforced so that all students are prepared for effective participation in the democratic process. The course also focuses on current events as they affect the political decision making process. All seniors are given the opportunity to register to vote.

Economics/AP US Government and Politics  
*1 Credit*

This course includes both the study of general concepts used to interpret U.S. politics and the analysis of specific examples. It also requires familiarity with various institutions, groups, beliefs and ideas that constitute U.S. politics. Students will become acquainted with the variety of theoretical perspectives and explanations for various behaviors and outcomes. The following topics are covered: Constitutional/underpinnings of United States Government, Political Beliefs and Behaviors, Political Parties and Mass Media, Institution of National Government, Public Policy, and Civil Rights and Civil Liberties. The Economics portion of the course will be woven into the curriculum at the appropriate times. After the required AP Exam in May, the remaining weeks will be devoted to the study of Economics.
ELECTIVES

AP Psychology

1 Credit

The AP Psychology course is designed to introduce students to the systematic and scientific study of the behavior and mental processes of human beings and other animals. Students are exposed to the psychological facts, principles, and phenomena associated with each of the major subfields within psychology. They also learn about methods psychologists use in their science and practice. All students enrolled in this course must take the AP Psychology exam in May. Recommended for juniors and seniors.

Advanced Placement

European History 11/12

1 Credit

The aim of the course is to build on the students’ knowledge of the principal themes of modern European history and to create an expanded awareness of the consequences of European contacts with other areas of the world. Chronologically, the course begins with the Renaissance and ends with contemporary Europe. The course focuses on the reading of both primary and secondary source materials. All students must take the A.P. European History Exam in May.

American Military History

1/2 Credit

This course encompasses the USA’s military strategies, weapons, leadership, troop numbers and movements, and use of technology from World War I up to the present day. Students will be exposed to diplomacy, alliances and foreign policy issues, as well as the economic and social consequences of war. Critical viewing of war films and documentary footage are incorporated into the course of study. A unit on the War on Terror is included. This course may be used to meet the curriculum mandate of the Board of Regents that requires a half unit course of study in Participation in Government.

Innovation & Entrepreneurship in the 21st Century

1/2 Credit

This course offers a platform for students to explore the entrepreneurial process in the 21st Century. Students will engage in both project based learning and case study analyses to become exposed to the strategies and challenges involved with entrepreneurship. Students will examine entrepreneurship as an avenue for business growth, innovation, and social change. This course may be used to meet the curriculum mandate of the Board of Regents requiring a half unit course of Economics.

Sociology

1/2 Credit

This course, which views man as a member of society, emphasizes such topics as social process, social structure, socialization, primary and secondary groups, class and caste, satisfaction and social mobility. This course is recommended for freshmen through seniors.

World Affairs - Discussion and Analysis

1/2 Credit

This course will allow students to explore global and domestic current event issues that impact society. The course will allow students to research, investigate, and inquire about such issues in a safe space while encouraging positive thought provoking discussion. Students will discuss and discover the ethics and laws behind such issues and their place in the growing interdependent world. Additionally, students will learn tools on how to become an agent of change as a global citizen and actively participate in their community. This course may be used to meet the curriculum mandate of the Board of Regents that requires a half unit course of study in Participation in Government.
Humanities Research

1 Credit

The Humanities Research Course provides students with the opportunity to pursue topics throughout the humanities which interest them. Research, conferencing, writing and presentation skills are emphasized in the first and second years. HR I & II students will work through different modules with the direction of the teacher. The modules may change yearly and with the interest of the students. Some examples might be Mythology, Middle-Eastern Culture, Art of the Renaissance, the Basque Movement in Spain, Film of the Depression Era, The Beat Movement in Literature, the Influence of Aircraft on Modern Warfare, WPA Theatre, and more. While students explore topics that interest them, the teachers will assist them in developing research and inquiry skills. Modules will include regular sessions in which students share their research with each other and make final presentations in various formats. The third year (HR III) will be more student-focused. Students will decide on longer-range exploratory topics, sharing their research regularly with the teacher and class. When possible, students will be encouraged to meet/interview/work with professionals in the field. HRIII students are expected to present and defend their research to a panel of social studies teachers.

Debate

1/2 Credit

Students will become familiar with the various forms of debate, i.e. Congressional, Lincoln Douglas, Public Policy and Public Forum, as well as the appropriate formats, persuasive speaking styles and body language needed for successful interaction. Team, partner and individual student debates will be held in class. Additionally, students will learn to research and write legislation. Students have the option of joining the Speech and Debate Team and entering local, state and national competitions. Recommended for Freshman through Senior grades.

Justice in Society - Criminal Law

1/2 Credit

The objective of this course is to have students achieve a basic understanding of how our criminal justice system works. The course explores the law as it affects the following people: victim, defendant, police officer, juror, prosecutor, defense counsel and judge. Applications of laws as they affect the individual are included in the course of study. Activities include mock trials, case studies, guest speakers, and field trips to courthouses and correctional facilities. Recommended for sophomores, juniors and seniors.
2020-2021 Mathematics Course Sequences

Please note: The flow chart illustrates only the more traditional pathways. Many more options are available depending on student interest, course work, etc. The electives are very popular offerings and often taken concurrently with other math courses.

*Early College Experience (ECE): SUNY accredited courses available through our partnership with Westchester Community College.
Mathematics

The Mathematics Department offers a full range of courses to challenge students at all levels of ability. Students planning to attend college are urged to take at least four years of mathematics. Those who plan to pursue a science or engineering program should take four or five years of mathematics. All students are required to take three years of high school mathematics. A grade of at least 65 on the Regents exam is required in order to earn a Regents credit. A graphing calculator will be used in all math classes.

Algebra IA

1 Credit

This course is the first year of a two-year study of Algebra I. This course will provide students with a variety of ways to acquire and develop mathematical reasoning ability for problem solving. Topics will include: the real number system, algebraic expressions, equations and inequalities, operations with polynomials, factoring and quadratics, rational expressions and equations, coordinate plane and graphical analysis. It culminates in a local exam. Upon successful completion of this course, students will take Algebra IB. Students will take the CC Algebra I Regents Exam at the conclusion of Algebra IB.

Algebra IB

1 Credit

This course is a continuation of Algebra IA and it completes the Algebra I curriculum. Major topics include factoring polynomials, solving quadratics and polynomial equations, quadratic functions, radical functions and data analysis. This course culminates in the CC Algebra I Regents Examination.

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Algebra IA.

Algebra I

1 Credit

This is a Common Core Regents level math course. It will provide students with a variety of ways to acquire and develop mathematical reasoning ability for problem solving. Topics will include: the real number system, algebraic expressions, equations and inequalities, operations with polynomials, factoring and quadratics, equations, coordinate plane and graphical analysis, systems of equations and inequalities, exponential equations and their graphs, and statistics. It culminates in the CC Algebra I Regents Exam.

Geometry Topics

1 Credit

This is the third year of mathematics for students who take Algebra I over two years. Topics include logical reasoning, congruence of line segments, angles, and triangles, transformations and the coordinate plane, slopes and equations of lines, parallel lines, quadrilaterals, geometry of three dimensions, ratio, proportion, and similarity and loci. This course culminates in a final project.

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Algebra IA and Algebra IB.

Geometry and Geometry Honors

1 Credit

This is the second of three rigorous math courses. Formal geometric proof is woven throughout the course. The focus will also be on developing formal reasoning and using critical thinking skills. Topics will include two and three dimensional geometric relationships and properties as well as trigonometry, constructions, circles, transformational geometry and coordinate geometry. The Honors Geometry course provides additional challenges which enrich and extend the NYS curriculum. Both courses culminate in a local final examination.

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Algebra I.
Algebra 2 & Trigonometry (and Honors)

1 Credit
This is the third of three rigorous math courses. It covers topics in polynomial, rational and radical relationships, complex numbers, trigonometric functions (including reciprocal functions, modeling periodic phenomena with trigonometric graphs and proving identities), exponential and logarithmic functions, and statistics (inferences and conclusions from data). The Honors course provides additional challenges which enrich and extend the curriculum. Both courses culminate in a local final Examination.

Algebra 2

1 Credit
This course is a one-year study of topics in Algebra 2. The course covers topics in polynomial, rational and radical relationships, complex numbers, exponential and logarithmic functions, and sequences and series. This course also includes a unit focusing on SAT review. The course culminates in a local final examination.

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Geometry.

Trigonometry

1 Credit
This course is a one-year study of trigonometry. The course covers topics in trigonometry including functions, graphs, Law of Cosines, Law of Sines, forces and applications, equations and identities. Students will also study probability and the binomial theorem as well as statistics. This course culminates in a local final examination.

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Algebra 2.

College Algebra

1 Credit *ECE Course
This course introduces students to many of the topics studied in a traditional precalculus course. Topics will include functions and their graphs (polynomial, rational, exponential, logarithmic, and $e$) as well as polar coordinates, conics, matrices, inequalities, sequences (arithmetic and geometric) and some topics from statistics such as the normal distribution and regression.

Calculus

1 Credit
This course is designed to expose students to all topics seen in a one-semester college calculus course. Topics include functions and graphs, limits and continuity, derivatives and their applications, integrals and their applications. The course focus will be on algebraic functions. The graphics calculator will be used throughout the course.

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Precalculus.

PreCalculus

1 Credit *ECE Course
This is a rigorous course covering many topics in mathematics, some of which are necessary for successful completion of AP Calculus. Topics include functions and their graphs, polynomial and rational functions, exponential and logarithmic functions, $e$, trigonometry, sequences and series, polar coordinates, conics, parametric equations and limits.

It is recommended that students who wish to enroll in Precalculus and AP Statistics concurrently meet the following criteria:
• A final average of at least 90% in Alg2/Trig
• Teacher Recommendation

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Alg2/Trig

Accelerated PreCalculus/Calculus

1 Credit
This is a rigorous course designed for students who anticipate enrolling in AP Calculus BC the following year. This course consists of one semester of PreCalculus and one semester of Calculus. PreCalculus topics include functions and their graphs, polynomial and rational functions, exponential and logarithmic functions, $e$, trigonometry, sequences and series, polar
coordinates, conics, and parametric equations. Calculus topics include limits, derivatives and applications of differentiation. Weighting is the same as an Honors course.

**Prerequisite:** Final year average of 85 or higher in Algebra2/Trigonometry Honors and/or Teacher Recommendation and/or Permission from the Math Department Chair.

### Advanced Placement Calculus AB

**1 Credit**

*ECE Course*

This is a college-level course in calculus. Topics include functions and graphs, limits and continuity, derivatives and their applications, integrals and their applications. The graphics calculator will be used throughout the course and it is required for the AP exam. Because of its rigorous nature and level of difficulty, this course is intended for only the strongest math students.

**Prerequisite:** Precalculus or permission from the department chair. It is strongly recommended that a student have a final average of 80% in Precalculus.

### Advanced Placement Calculus BC

**1 Credit**

This is a college-level course in calculus. Topics include functions and graphs, limits and continuity, derivatives and their applications, integrals and their applications. The content extends beyond the Calculus AB content to include different types of equations (parametric, polar) and introduces the topic of sequences and series. The graphics calculator will be used throughout the course and it is required for the AP exam. Because of the rigorous nature and level of difficulty, this course is intended for only the strongest math students.

**Prerequisite:** Accelerated Precalculus/Calculus or permission from the department chair

### Advanced Placement Statistics

**1 Credit**

*ECE Course*

This course introduces students to the major concepts and tools for collecting, analyzing and drawing conclusions from data. Four broad themes are stressed:

1. Exploring data: observing data and departures in a pattern.
2. Planning a study: deciding what to measure and how to measure it.
3. Anticipating patterns: producing models using probability and simulations.

The TI 83 or 84 Graphing Calculator will be used throughout the course and it is required for the AP exam. Students are expected to be able to express their ideas in writing.

*Although enrollment to AP courses is open it is strongly recommended that you have the following:*

• A final average of at least 85% in Algebra2/Trigonometry.

### Math Workshop

This is a lab/support, no credit course which meets three times per six-day cycle. The workshop is designed to provide additional instruction, strategies and intervention for students who need to strengthen math skills.

*ECE (Early College Experience) Courses:* Our high school has formed an academic partnership with Westchester Community College which enables high school students the option of dual enrollment in high school and college level classes in order to earn college credit during their final year(s) of high school. ECE students are charged a reduced tuition fee (per credit) which is sent directly to WCC. All classes take place in the high school during the students’ regular school day. Students who complete all required coursework will receive a grade which is recorded on an official Westchester Community College transcript, which can then be forwarded to the student’s college for transfer credit evaluation.
**Computer Science Offerings**

It is recommended that students take the following sequence in computer science:
1) One or both of the 1-Semester courses:
   - Python Programming and/or Web Design.
2) Intro to Computer Science & Statistics.
3) AP Computer Science.

**Python Programming**

1/2 Credit

Python Programming is a one-semester introductory course to computer programming using Python. Python is a dynamic programming language popular for web development and data science. The Python Programming course will provide students with the basic foundations of programming concepts including data types, control flow, modules, loops, and functions. No prior programming experience is necessary. The course will culminate in a final project in which students will use Python language to implement algorithms in solving real-world problems.

**Web Design**

1/2 Credit

The Web Design course is a project-based course that teaches students how to build their own web pages using HTML and CSS programming languages. By the conclusion of the course, students will be able to explain how web pages are developed and viewed on the Internet. Students will learn the foundations of user interface design and rapid prototyping. Students will use Bootstrap, a CSS framework, to develop professional mobile responsive websites. No prior programming experience is necessary. The course will culminate in a final project in which students will design their own multi-page websites.

**Intro to Computer Science and Statistics**

1 Credit

The course is designed for students who have an interest in studying aspects of computer science and statistics. The computer science portion of this course introduces students to creative components of programming, using abstractions and algorithms, and understandings of the Internet and cybersecurity. The other part of this course, statistics, introduces students to four broad themes: exploratory data analysis, planning studies, anticipating patterns, and statistical inference. The course culminates in a final project.

**Advanced Placement Computer Science**

1 Credit

The goals of this course are comparable to those of a first year course offered by college or university computer science departments. An extensive coverage of all major aspects of an object oriented programming language will be offered. Topics include iteration, program flow, functions, recursion, arrays, structs, files, advanced algorithms, and data structures. This course is recommended for strong mathematics students currently enrolled in Regents Geometry, CC Algebra II, Precalculus, AP Calculus or AP Statistics, as well as any student interested in the field of Computer Science. No prior computer programming experience is needed.
Science

The Science Department in Pleasantville High School seeks to provide students with a solid background in a variety of scientific domains. Laboratory work is considered an integral part of all courses in the science program. A minimum of 1200 minutes of laboratory experiences, accompanied by satisfactory written reports, is required for all students enrolled in science courses which terminate with a Regents examination.

Earth Science
1 Credit
This science course focuses on all aspects of the earth: the geophysical sciences including earth materials, the processes that shape the earth including the study of meteorology, geologic history, and astronomy. Development of these topics is through student investigation as well as the collection and interpretation of data. Emphasis is placed on analysis, interpretation and application of the concepts learned. The course culminates in a Regents exam. 

Biology
1 Credit
Biology will concentrate on biological concepts, outlined by New York State, in the Living Environment Regents curriculum and emphasis is on reinforcing skills. The laboratory experience is an integral part of this course where students are given an opportunity to do microscope work, chromatography, nutrition tests, genetic experiments, osmosis and diffusion, and dissections. This course culminates with the Living Environment Regents in June. 

Honors Biology
1 Credit
The study of life in both human and non-human organisms. Biology focuses on a variety of areas, including the cell, biochemistry, animal and plant physiology, modern genetics and evolution, and ecology. The laboratory experience is an integral part of the course where students are given an opportunity to do microscope work, chromatography, nutrition tests, genetic experiments, osmosis and diffusion, transport, morphology, and physiology and dissections. The course culminates with the Regents exam in June. Additionally, students are being prepared for and encouraged to take the SAT Subject Exam in Biology.

Honors Chemistry
1 Credit
Chemistry is the study of matter, its structure, properties, and composition, and the changes that matter undergoes. The laboratory experience, in chemistry, is an integral part of the course where students are given an opportunity to use the scientific method for hands-on experimentation to reinforce and illustrate the concepts discussed in class. This course culminates with a Regents exam in June. Additionally, students are being prepared for and encouraged to take the SAT Subject Exam in Chemistry.

Chemistry
1 Credit
The study of chemistry is concerned with the structure and composition of the materials in the universe and with the changes and energy relationships occurring in these materials. Principles and theories of chemistry are emphasized, and laboratory work is a vital component of the chemistry program. This course culminates in a Regents examination.

Recommended successful completion of Algebra I & Geometry. Recommended Corequisite: Algebra 2/ Trigonometry
Physics

I Credit
Physics is the study of matter and energy and their relationships. It is basic to all other sciences. This course follows the NYS Physics curriculum and laboratory work is a vital component of the physics program. This course culminates with a final exam. 

Recommended Corequisite: Trigonometry/Pre-calculus/Calculus Algebra 2/Trig, College Algebra

Honors Physics

I Credit
Physics is the study of matter and energy and their relationships. It is basic to all other sciences. In this course, principles and theories of physics are emphasized as well as laboratory work, which is a vital component of the physics program. The general topics covered are Newtonian Mechanics, work and energy, electricity and magnetism, waves and optics, modern physics, and nuclear physics. This course culminates with a final exam in June. Additionally, students are being prepared for and encouraged to take the SAT Subject exam.

Recommended Corequisite: Algebra 2/Trigonometry

Science Electives:

Introduction to Engineering Systems Through Applied Technology and Design

1/2 Credit
This half-year course provides students with an overview of engineering based on ‘hands-on’ experiences through student-centered engineering design projects, which include: 1) a team-based design project, 2) a survey of engineering disciplines, and 3) an introduction to computer tools and lab techniques.

The goals of the course are:
• Students will learn engineering design process and how it can be used to solve real world problems.
• Students will learn about the engineering profession with emphasis on current issues and challenges it is facing during the 21st century.
• Students will use computers to aid in engineering design projects.
• Students will develop and apply creativity, independent thinking and the ability to overcome unexpected problems.
• Students will develop hands-on experience with product fabrication and construction.
• Students will develop oral and written communication skills needed in engineering and design.

Introduction to Robotic Engineering

1/2 Credit
This half-year course provides students with an overview of robotic engineering based on ‘hands-on’ experiences through student-centered engineering design projects utilizing the Vex Robotic Systems including AutoDesk inventor Design Software. The goals of this course are:
• Students will learn engineering design process and how it can be used to solve real world problems using Vex Robotics.
• Students will use computers to aid in engineering design projects.
• Students will develop and apply creativity, independent thinking and the ability to overcome unexpected problems.
• Students will develop hands-on experience with product fabrication and construction.
• Students will develop oral and written communication skills needed in engineering and design.
Science and Technology of Human Body Systems - Anatomy and Physiology  
**1/2 Credit**

This half year course is designed to prepare students for careers in the health and medical fields with a focus on the science and technology of human body systems by in-depth study of anatomy and physiology. It will introduce the student to the structure and function of the various systems of the human body. There is a high demand for visual learning through anatomical drawings, graphics and hands-on-experience. The lab component will allow students hands-on-experience not encountered in other science courses offered.  

**Prerequisite:** Biology

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Animal Behavior  
**1/2 Credit**

Behavior is one of the most important and interesting aspects of animal biology. This course is designed to prepare students for careers in the psychology, health and medical fields with focuses on both intra and inter species behavioral patterns. Animal behavior is the scientific study of mechanistic and evolutionary causes of animal behavior, including communications, foraging and anti-predator behavior, spatial behavior, mating behavior, parental care, and social behaviors. Behaviors permit flexibility that allows animals to respond rapidly to environment changes. Threatened and endangered species will also be examined.

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Marine Science and Technology  
**1/2 Credit**

The course will center on marine ecosystems (tanks in classroom) and the maintenance of those ecosystems. Topics will include ecology (symbiosis), biology, sustainability (homeostasis), basic chemistry, and multimedia technology (filters, Vernier, Excel, online blogging, video/photo...). Students will go on a field trip at the beginning of this course to collect and research marine life that will be brought back to the classroom for the tanks. There will be an introductory unit on oceanography - how water sustains life, and its importance to the ecosystem. Students will do independent marine animal research projects, which will be presented to the class. Students use a journal to document daily observations, research findings, etc. Students will also collaborate with BRS first grade student starting an interdisciplinary marine science unit this fall.

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Conceptual Physics I  
**1/2 Credit - No Prerequisites**

A non-regents class that will give the student a broad base in major topics in physics such as kinematics, forces, work and energy. Experiments and class activities are an integral part of this course. Students are called upon to participate in experiences as an activity, not as spectators. Along with learning the fundamental principles and process of the physical world, students will be introduced to the aspects of design and engineering. The focus is on doing physics, discussing and demonstrating your understanding of physics. This is done with and without a structured application of formulas to describe phenomena.

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Conceptual Physics II  
**1/2 Credit - No Prerequisites**

A non-regents course that will give students a broad base in specific physics topics including electricity, magnetism, waves, and modern physics. Experiments and research will be an integral part of this course. Students will participate in experiments and research fundamental concepts of the physical world. Students will be introduced to aspects of design and engineering and the process of conducting scientific research. The focus is on doing physics, discussing and demonstrating your understanding of physics. This is done with and without a structured application of formulas to describe phenomena.
Chemistry in Community
1 Credit
A non-Regents course that takes a less mathematical approach to topics such as atomic structure, chemical bonding, chemical reactions, kinetics, nuclear chemistry and organic chemistry. Laboratory experiments, which are an integral part of this course and serve to explain these concepts, are scheduled during class periods. This course culminates in a school final examination.

Recommended successful completion of two 1-credit science courses and one 1-credit mathematics course.

Criminalistics
1/2 Credit
Criminalistics is the study of the biological, chemical, geological, and physical techniques that are used to evaluate physical evidence collected from a crime scene. In this one semester elective, the applications of scientific principles used by forensic scientists in order to reconstruct the events involved in a crime will be explored.

Recommended successful completion of two previous 1-credit science courses, one of which is Biology.

Introduction to Astronomy
1/2 Credit
This one semester elective is an introduction to the field of astronomy. We will take a look at our modern understanding of the universe, including the formation of our solar system and galaxy and the Earth's significance in the cosmos. Course content includes formation of the universe, history of astronomical discoveries, changing perspectives on the universe over time, forces of energy, motion, gravity, development of stars, galaxies, planets, development of technology to study the cosmos, and discussion of challenges to life elsewhere in the universe and/or interstellar travel and discovery.

Science Research
1 Credit/year
The Science Research course enables students to practice original scientific research in an independent manner. This three-year program affords student the opportunity to participate in the community of scientific research and scholarship as part of their high school experience. This course encourages students to work in conjunction with research scientists and professionals within their field of research. Students may do independent research in mathematics, life sciences, physical sciences, psychology or the social sciences. Students are required to use online research and maintain a portfolio of the research. Assessment is accomplished by alternate means. All students are encouraged to enter local, regional, national and international scientific competitions. This program allows students to obtain as many as 12 college credits and three Regents credits. This course cannot be taken as an independent study at any time during the three-year sequence.

Advanced Placement Sciences:

Advanced Placement Chemistry
1 Credit
This course is the equivalent of a college introductory course in chemistry. Topics covered are extensions of concepts in basic chemistry: thermochemistry, gas laws, electronic structure of atoms, covalent and ionic bonding, liquids and solids, solutions, kinetics, equilibrium, acids and bases, redox reactions, and chemical reaction writing. The laboratory component of this course requires thorough explanations and analysis of reactions in a scientific report format. Spectrophotometers, pH meters and other advanced instrumentation will be used.

Recommended successful completion of Chemistry. Recommended Corequisite: Precalculus
Science Laboratory Policy

Students enrolled in a Regents science course must have all written laboratory reports submitted and up-to-date no less that one week prior to the end of each quarter. This allows time for teachers to review, grade, and return the lab reports before the marks are submitted. A student who does not meet this obligation will receive a quarterly grade of “Incomplete.” Incomplete work must be submitted no later than 5 school days after the conclusion of the marking period in which it was due. After that time the student loses the right to make up the labs and his grade for that quarter will be converted to a failure. In addition, students whose laboratory reports are late will receive a reduced grade for those reports which are not submitted when due.

Because it is unreasonable to expect science teachers to reassemble stored apparatus for experiments which are more than two weeks overdue, students who miss a lab due to illness should, upon returning to school, immediately arrange a make-up session with the science instructor. At the end of the first semester, any student seriously deficient in written lab reports shall have his records subject to administrative review and may, after consultation between the teacher and the principal, be removed from the course with an indication of No Credit.

All students must meet the laboratory requirements as stated in the Part 100 Regulation mandated by the NYS Board of Regents. A minimum of 1200 minutes of laboratory experiences, with satisfactorily written evidence of work, is required. Therefore, all written lab reports must be up-to-date, neatly assembled, and submitted to the individual science instructor no later than the specified June deadline in order for a student to be eligible to sit for his/her science Regents.

Advanced Placement Biology

1 Credit

The goals of the advanced placement Biology course are comparable to those of a first year college or university program. Major topics include molecular, cellular, organismal and populational biology. Laboratory work is increasingly more sophisticated and involves complex experiments and dissections. Recommended successful completion of Regents Biology and Regents Chemistry

Advanced Placement

Physics 1 & 2

1 Credit

The AP Physics 1 & 2 course provides a systematic introduction to the main principles of physics and emphasizes the development of problem-solving ability. The course seeks to be representative of topics covered in similar college courses. The general topics covered are Newtonian mechanics, kinetic theory and thermodynamics, electricity and magnetism, waves and optics, and modern physics. Knowledge of algebra and trigonometry is required for this course; the basic ideas of calculus may be introduced in connection with physical concepts. The major goals of this course are an understanding of the basic principles involved and the ability to apply these principles in the solution of problems. This course will culminate with 2 AP exams. Recommended successful completion of Algebra 2/Trigonometry. Recommended corequisite: Precalculus

Advanced Placement

Environmental Science

1 Credit

AP Environmental Science is interdisciplinary, integrating a variety of themes from earth science, biology and chemistry as well as sociology and political science. The goal of this course is to provide students with the science principles, concepts and methodologies required to understand the interrelationships of the natural world, to identify and analyze environmental problems both natural and man-made, to evaluate the relative risks associated with these problems, and to examine alternative solutions for resolving and/or preventing them. Experiences both in the laboratory and field will provide students with the opportunity to explore concepts introduced in the classroom. Prerequisites: Recommended successful completion of 2 years of science (preferably Regents biology and Regents chemistry) and 1 year of algebra. Optional is 1 year of earth science.
World Languages

The goal of the Pleasantville High School world language program is to enable each student to develop his/her full potential in the four skills associated with world language learning: listening, speaking, reading and writing with an emphasis on culture. In addition to developing abilities in the four skills, students will learn to appreciate the history, economics, achievements and customs of the societies in which French, Spanish, or Italian is the mother tongue.

Humanities Research

1 Credit
(See course description on page 10 with English electives.)

Intro to French I

1 Credit
This course will introduce the student to the sound and spelling system of the French language. Topics of conversation will include day, date, time, months, seasons, activities, clothing, food and basic concepts of grammar encompassing the noun group and the verb group in present and past tenses. (This course is only recommended for seniors).

French II

1 Credit
French II is a course in which students review the vocabulary and grammatical structures studied in French I, expand their vocabulary and learn the more sophisticated grammatical structures and idiomatic expressions. They learn to use the passe compose and the imperfect tenses, and are introduced to composition writing.

Prerequisite: Successful completion of French I

French IIH

1 Credit
French II honors follows the French II curriculum with an added communicative approach. Focus will be on more authentic French Literature. The course culminates with an in-class exam and the F.L.A.C.S. exam.

Prerequisite: Successful completion of French II Honors with an 88% or higher

French III

1 Credit
Students are required to take the F.L.A.C.S. examination at the completion of the course. Having successfully laid the foundations of listening, speaking, reading and writing French in levels I and II, French III will bring the student to the comprehensive level of achievement while studying the finer points of grammar and idiomatic expressions, greatly expanding vocabulary, engaging in longer conversations, writing letters and compositions, and reading authentic pieces of French composition.

Prerequisite: Successful completion of French II

French IIIH

1 Credit
Students will follow course description for French III, with an enhancement of their language ability. Focus will be on more authentic French Literature. The course culminates with an in-class exam and the F.L.A.C.S. exam.

Prerequisite: Successful completion of French II Honors with an 88% or higher

French IV-V

1 Credit
Having successfully completed the F.L.A.C.S. exam in French III, exceptional students are encouraged to go to French IV-V. This course is designed to refine the listening, speaking, reading and writing of French. Students will continue to expand vocabulary, practice more lengthy conversations, write with greater idiomatic correctness in various styles, read authentic French literature and be introduced to the music and art of the French masters. A final project will be assigned for each quarter.

Prerequisite: Successful completion of French III, French IIH and teacher recommendation.

French -Advanced Placement

1 Credit
Students prepare for the Advanced Placement exam in French Language and culture. Students will sharpen their conversational and writing skills through intensive review and practice as well as quarterly projects. Students will watch and listen to media presented entirely in French and class will be conducted in French.
Spanish I
1 Credit
Spanish I is an introduction to the vocabulary and grammatical structure of the language. The students learn the complete present tense. By the end of the year the students will be able to discuss: personal identification, clothing, parts of the body, their daily schedules, colors, time, dates and members of the family. Also included is an introduction of the countries where Spanish is spoken and the many facets of life in these countries.

Spanish II
1 Credit
Vocabulary is constantly reinforced and expanded. Students learn the preterit and imperfect tenses, reflexive verbs and direct and indirect object pronouns. Students are given the opportunity to speak in the target language and are required to give oral presentations.

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Spanish I

Spanish IIH
1 Credit
Spanish II honors follows the Spanish II curriculum with an added communicative approach. Students will also be required to read fables and a contemporary short story.

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Spanish I with a 90% average and teacher’s recommendation.

Spanish III
1 Credit
At the completion of the third year, the students take the F.L.A.C.S. exam. The F.L.A.C.S. exam tests the student’s skills in speaking, listening comprehension, reading and writing. There is a review of the tenses and vocabulary learned in Spanish I and II, plus the future, conditional and all the perfect tenses are taught. The basic elements of the subjunctive may be introduced. The students are required to give presentations in the form of skits and commercials. Other methods used to reinforce the structures and vocabulary are learned by reading short stories and writing paragraphs.

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Spanish II.

Spanish IIIH
1 Credit
Students review tenses and vocabulary learned in Spanish 2H and are introduced to new tenses including a number of perfect tenses. Students then continue with the Spanish 4 curriculum in order to enhance their language ability. Throughout the school year students will focus on authentic literature. The course culminates with an in class exam and the F.L.A.C.S. exam.

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Spanish III with an 88% or higher.

Spanish IV
1 Credit
Spanish IV further enhances the student’s ability to communicate in Spanish as well as appreciate the culture of countries where Spanish is spoken. Many tenses previously learned are reviewed and students acquire a wider range of vocabulary. Every quarter a different cultural aspect will be emphasized. Students are required to write reports, essays and do projects.

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Spanish III and teacher’s recommendation.

Spanish V
1 Credit
Spanish V is a continuation of Spanish IV and/or Spanish III H. In this course the same curriculum is followed as in the AP Spanish class. However the material is given at a slower pace and difficulty level is not the same. A final project is assigned in the 4th quarter. Several projects are also assigned during the year.

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Spanish III Honors or Spanish IV.

Spanish-Advanced Placement
1 Credit
AP Spanish is offered to students who have completed the fourth year course. The program offers students the opportunity to complete studies in Spanish comparable in difficulty and content to a level 3 College Spanish Course. Once the class has begun, the students must express themselves in Spanish only. All previ-
ously learned tenses are reviewed and there is a much more in-depth study of the present and imperfect subjunctive tenses. A great deal of reading is done in and out of class. There are several projects assigned during the year. An in-depth analysis is done on a contemporary novel in and out of class.

**Intro to Italian I**  
*1 Credit*  
Students learn basic vocabulary, grammatical structures, and the pronunciation of the Italian language. They will learn to use the present and the past tenses. In addition, they will learn about Italian culture and the influence on the English language. *This course is only recommended for seniors.*

**Italian II**  
*1 Credit*  
Students will begin an in-depth study of vocabulary, present tense and past tense (passato prossimo) and imperfetto. Students are required to speak in the target language and give oral presentations.  
*Prerequisite: Successful completion of Italian I.*

**Italian IIH**  
*1 Credit*  
Italian II Honors follows the Italian II curriculum with an added communicative approach. Students will also be required to read short stories.  
*Prerequisite: Successful completion of Italian I with a 90% and teacher recommendation.*

**Italian III**  
*1 Credit*  
Students are required to take the F.L.A.C.S. examination at the completion of the course. The exam tests the students’ skills in listening, speaking, reading and writing. An extensive review of Italian I and Italian II will be done before bringing the student to the comprehensive level of achievement, while studying future, imperfect vs. past tense, and reflexive verbs. Methods used reinforce the structures and vocabulary by reading short stories and writing paragraphs.  
*Prerequisite: Successful completion of Italian II.*

**Italian III H**  
*1 Credit*  
Students will follow the course description for Italian III with some Italian IV curriculum in order to enhance their language ability. Throughout the school year students will focus on authentic literature. The course culminates with an in class exam and the F.L.A.C.S. exam.  
*Prerequisite: Successful completion of Italian IIIH.*

**Italian IV/V**  
*1 Credit*  
Italian IV further enhances the ability to communicate in Italian as well as appreciate the culture. Many tenses previously learned are reviewed and students acquire a wide range of vocabulary skills. Students will read Italian newspapers and literature. Students are required to write reports, essays and do projects.  
*Prerequisite: Successful completion of Italian III/IIIH and teacher’s recommendation.*

**College Level Italian**  
*1 Credit*  
This course will provide students the opportunity to earn college-level credit through an agreement with an accredited university and the Pleasantville School District. All students will be required to pay a fee for the university to enroll in this course.  
*Prerequisite: Successful completion of Italian IV/V to be eligible for enrollment.*

**Conversational French, Spanish, or Italian**  
*1/2 Credit*  
This course will be given entirely in the target language. Students will have the opportunity to put into practice the language skills learned through level four. The course will implement the use of the target language in professional settings outside of the classroom. Students will expand conversational topics through journal writings.  
*Prerequisite: Successful completion of Level IV or V.*
Art

Studio Art I & II
1/2 Credit
Open to all students. Studio Art is a foundation course where students of any ability will have the opportunity to explore and experiment with varied and evolving art concepts, materials, methods, techniques, and styles. In this hands-on class infused with technology, students will have the opportunity to creatively investigate various media such as drawing, painting, printmaking, ceramics, computer graphics, photography, and more with an emphasis on developing their own personal expression. Art through the ages will be taught with sensitivity to social and cultural diversity.

Accelerated Studio Art
1 Credit
Upon the recommendation of the 8th grade art teacher, this is a freshman only course designed for those ninth graders who have a serious interest in the visual arts. This course is similar to Studio Art I & II, however, students will be offered a more comprehensive and in depth curriculum covering a broad range of art experiences. A field trip will be planned to a cultural institution and/or event to enhance the curriculum.

Advanced Studio I
1/2 Credit
Advanced Studio II
1/2 Credit
During the first semester, students pursue advanced levels in a variety of studio experiences that result in art works suitable for college interviews and admissions processes. The second semester is devoted to a concentration. Concentrations may include drawing, painting, ceramics, sculpture, printmaking, photography, and computer art. It is recommended for the following students:

- Open to Juniors and Seniors
- Students preparing to take AP Studio Art
- Students seeking a three-year sequence in art
- Students who want to create an art portfolio for college.

Ceramics/Sculpture I
1/2 Credit
Open to all students. Students explore and experiment with clay in hand-building techniques to create functional and sculptural pieces inspired by cultural and personal connections. The hands-on studio experience also includes the introduction of clay techniques, the proper use and care of tools, kiln firing, and glazing methods. Students will be required to critique and reflect on their artwork.

Advanced Ceramics
1/2 Credit
Building on what students have learned in Ceramics I, they may wish to build larger sculptural forms and be introduced to the pottery wheel. Influenced by ancient pottery, cultural dimensions will be explored and incorporated into students’ own artwork through the use of research and class discussion. Serious students may wish to continue with Advanced Ceramics II or AP Studio Art 3D Design.
Prerequisite: Ceramics/Sculpture I

Drawing
1/2 Credit
This course is designed to help students develop basic and intermediate drawing skills by experimenting with a variety of drawing media such as pencil, charcoal, ink, pastels, and marker. The course will cover various drawing techniques which include contour line drawing, shading, blending, cross-hatching, and one and two point perspective. Using examples of drawings throughout the history of art, students will develop an appreciation for artists who have dedicated themselves to seeing, interpreting, experimenting, and communicating through this visual media.
Painting
1/2 Credit
This course is designed to help foster creativity and self-expression through the development of basic and intermediate painting skills. Lessons will cover a variety of acrylic painting techniques such as stippling, glazing, impasto, and dry brush. Assignments will include still-life, portrait, and landscape. We will look at examples of paintings across various cultures and learn from artists who have used this medium to make personal artistic statements.

Digital Photography I
1/2 Credit
This course is for the beginning photographer in the study of photography as an art form using Adobe Photoshop. Students will be introduced to the digital single lens reflex (DSLR) camera with all its options to take artistically enhanced and designed photos. Portraiture, documentary photography, and photojournalism will be introduced through the works of well-known photographers. Students will learn to work with Photoshop tools to make selections, copy and paste, use filters, work in adjustment layers, and lots more that include applying skills learned with personal creative solutions. Students are encouraged to use their own cameras. A limited number of cameras are available each semester for loan on a first come basis and a signed contract. All students must have an eight gigabyte or more USB device for handing in work to be evaluated.

Smartphone Photography
1/2 Credit
Students will learn to use the photographic aspects of their smartphones, either Android or iPhone, to create visually interesting photos that document, tell a story, and more. Image quality, editing, saving images to a computer and a USB, downloading apps, and using Photoshop to adjust images will be introduced. Projects will be assigned, and the works of established photographers who use smartphone images will also be examined. A portfolio of the best images will be created for the following: sharing through critique and the yearly PHS Student Art Show. Homework involves taking many photos and discovering and sharing different photo applications. Students are responsible for maintaining a working smartphone, having the USB cable the phone came with to download photos, and an 8 gigabyte or more USB drive to hand in work for evaluation.

Computer Graphics I
1/2 Credit
This course is designed to introduce basic and intermediate computer graphic design and communication skills. The students will learn the fundamentals of various software programs such as: Illustrator, Photoshop, Power Point and Painter. Using basic software skills initially learned in smaller assignments, projects include type and fonts, illustrative lettering, logos, graphic symbols, posters, flyers, magazine cover, and various other assignments.

Digital Photography II
1/2 Credit
Those students who elect to continue Digital Photography at more advanced levels will refine their DSLR camera skills and knowledge of Photoshop in the creative expression of ideas that show thoughtful problem solving in regard to lighting, staging, storytelling, and documenting. In depth exploration and reflection on the works of famous photographers is required.

Prerequisite: Digital Photography I

Computer Graphics II
1/2 Credit
There is a continuation of honing skills in the various software programs. Projects include package design, book illustration, advertising, comic strips, and projects that reflect student interests that are appropriately challenging. Creative solutions within the context of a given problem are emphasized.

Prerequisite: Computer Graphics I
Advanced Placement Art Studio
1 Credit
This program is a college-level course intended for highly motivated seniors committed to serious study in art. Students are expected to develop a portfolio which demonstrates ability to deal with the fundamental concerns of the visual arts: QUALITY, a sense of excellence; CONCENTRATION, a commitment to a mode of work and thinking; BREADTH, a variety of experiences in the formal, technical and expressive means available to an artist. Students will have to choose between three portfolios: Drawing, 2-D Design or 3-D Design.

**Prerequisite: One full credit in art.**

Character, Costume, and Fashion Design I & II
1/2 Credit
The entertainment industry relies on artists to create "the look" of a character, which includes everything from the physical appearance of an animated villain to the clothing worn by actors on stage and in film. Students will learn how to illustrate the typical human form, the exaggerated fashion figure, and any other body variation they can imagine. Students can design everything from fashion lines to video game characters. Clothing, hair, accessories, and environments will all be created in various media including design marker, pen and ink, and watercolor.

Animation
1/2 Credit
Learn the art of 2-D animation. Projects will include: flipbooks, claymation, and vector based computer animation. All you need are basic computer skills, imagination and patience to be able to create unique short animated films.

Film Making
1/2 Credit
Students will be taken through a history of visual storytelling from comic strips to film, and create various forms of sequential and time-based art. Students will learn about story structure, types of shots and camera movements and the different roles needed on a film shoot. Students will analyze existing feature films, television, and shorts, and will work independently and collaboratively to storyboard, shoot, and edit their own films.

Printmaking
1/2 Credit
Students will have the opportunity to express themselves in the creative method of printmaking. Techniques we will explore will be: relief printing, etching, silk screening, collaging and monotype. The projects will incorporate designing on a computer and freehand drawing.

Digital Art/Drawing
1/2 Credit
This course is designed for drawing and illustration enthusiasts who would like to learn how to draw digitally using a tablet and the Auto Desk Sketchbook software. Projects will include observational drawing, drawing and design from imagination and online challenges, such as inktober. Students will draw on their school-issued Dell laptops, or one will be provided for them along with a stylus pen. No prerequisite is required.
Music

AP Music Theory

1 Credit

AP Music Theory is a college-level course that is the equivalent of a freshman college class for music majors. It is constructed for well qualified music students. There is a brief review of music fundamentals followed by intense application of musicianship skills including melodic and harmonic dictation, part-writing, sight-singing, visual analysis and form analysis.

Prerequisite: ability to read and write music notation, performance ability in voice or an instrument, Theory I and II or permission of the instructor.

Music Theory I

1/2 Credit

A beginning course in the fundamentals of music notation and theory, designed to develop basic music literacy, i.e., reading and writing music. Course of study includes music theory, notation, melody, harmony, rhythm and musical terminology. Also included are clefs and staves, notes, intervals, scales, modes, chords and key signatures. Students do analyze and compose music as part of class work. Students also develop their ability to read music notation, simplify its complexities and understand the basic structures in our traditional music.

Music Theory II

1/2 Credit

An intermediate course in the fundamentals of music notation and theory, designed to develop basic music literacy, i.e., reading and writing music. Course consists of a study of music theory, notation, melody, harmony, rhythm, and musical terminology. It includes clefs and staff, notes, intervals, scales, modes, chords, keys and signatures. Develop the ability to read music notation, simplify its complexities, and understand the basic structures in our traditional music. Music Theory II is a continuation of the skills developed in Music Theory I, with more in depth analysis, ear training, and rhythmic and harmonic dictation.

Concert Band

The High School Band program is open to all interested members in grades 9-12. Prior experience playing is preferred. The class meets daily with several performances each year including obligations to fall semester pep band and a spring parade. Group lessons are offered during the school day on a weekly basis. Band literature includes a variety of popular and classical genres. Some outside practice is expected. Music goals include reading various meters, keys and advancing technical skills. This class may be taken for half-credit with either an alternating class schedule or for half a year.

Jazz-Rock Ensemble

This is a selective band ensemble open through audition for accelerated musicians in grades 9-12. The band performs at an advanced level and admission consideration is given to a balanced instrumentation. Preference will be given to students scheduling the class for full credit. Focus on improvisation skills and jazz music of different styles and genres. Expectations include weekly lessons within the school day, out of school individual practice, 3-4 concerts a year and playing as a pep band for a few athletic events.

Orchestra

1 Credit

Orchestra is primarily an ensemble of string students who work together to develop instrumental and group ensemble skills. The ensemble meets daily in large ensemble or smaller sectional and chamber music groups. Students strive to acquire a basic level of proficiency on their instruments through regular individual practice to fully participate in the orchestra. The orchestra enjoys performing a wide variety of musical styles and composers at the annual Orchestra Pops Concert, Winter Concert, String Festival, and Spring Concert, as well as participating in other performing and concert-going opportunities.
Concert Chorus

1 Credit

Concert Chorus is a performance-based class in which students sing a variety of styles in choral arrangements. Rehearsing daily, students learn to sight read, sing in parts, and develop the skills for beautiful ensemble singing. Small group sectional lessons are scheduled once a week. The Chorus performs in three school concerts: the Winter Concert (December), an April Concert and the Spring Concert (May or June). Students in Chorus may audition for two extra-curricular choral groups: Razor’s Edge (all male) and Camerata (all female), which offer the more accomplished vocalists the opportunity for small ensemble experience.

Theatre 1, 2, 3, and 4

1 Credit

Students may elect to study Theatre for one or more years. It is an exploratory course which includes an overview of the many facets of theatre. Emphasis is placed upon acting skills, stage voice, and improvisation. Theatre history, musical theatre history, playwriting and technical theatre are some of the topics studied in the course. An improv night of theatre spoofs is held in the fall and a monologue/ scenes performance is held in the spring. Audition preparation, monologues and scene work are included in the course. Students who take Theatre 2, 3 and 4 are given advanced skill projects and directing opportunities. Students may elect to take the course for half credit, meeting on alternate days or half year. This course meets the 1 credit requirement for Art/Music for graduation.

Digital Music

1/2 Credit

This course provides a hands-on approach to the fundamentals of working with digital audio applications, such as GarageBand and iMovie. An overview of basic digital recording and sampling will be covered, as well as techniques for recording, sampling, editing, and storing sound. Audio and video projects will be developed throughout the course, including soundtrack development, sound design, and voice-over for video.

Other Electives:

Video Production I & II

1/2 Credit

Limited enrollment.

This course provides students with an overview of video production in relation to cinema and television. It provides students with a brief history of cinema and television and exposes students to the varied technologies available in video production. Students have the opportunity to learn scriptwriting, storyboarding, cinematography, production scheduling, and non-linear editing techniques. A final project is expected and may be broadcast on television. *TV II must be completed within one year of TV-Video Production I.

Video Production Internship

1 Credit

Internship available based on video production teacher recommendation. Open to four students per year only. Entry into course requires interview with instructor.

This course reinforces and builds upon what was learned in the video production classes. It uses digital editing, special effects, DVD authoring, cinematography, lighting, audio and directing/producing skills emphasizing completion of professional looking productions. Student is responsible for the production of The Daily Panther. It is expected that each student devote a minimum of 7.5 hours per week in the studio and recording various after school events.

Prerequisite: Video Production I & II

Note: Music Theory I/II and AP Music Theory are offered on an alternate year schedule. AP Music Theory will NOT be offered for the 2019-2020 school years.
Health & Physical Education

Health
1/2 Credit
This is a required course that is designed to increase awareness on a wide variety of topics including psychological health, drugs and society, nutrition, weight management, cancer, sexually transmitted diseases, and contraception. Students will be involved in projects that encourage critical thinking and decision making. This course culminates in a school final project.

Weight Training
1/2 Credit
This course is designed to introduce students to the many benefits of weight training and guide them through the process of creating personalized weight training programs. Students will examine the benefits of exercise, learn basic muscle physiology, identify major muscle groups, and put together a basic weight training program stressing safety and proper technique. The course includes a variety of exercises that focus on muscular strength and muscular endurance exercises. The course stresses personal safety and the teaching of proper technique in the weight room. The course will provide an additional choice for students looking to participate in a physical education class that is non sports-skilled related. With its addition, we move towards a more balanced, yet challenging PE program, one in which our students can expand their knowledge and interest in health and fitness.

Physical Education
1/2 Credit
All students are required to be enrolled and participate in physical education each semester in which they are in attendance in a New York State public high school. In Pleasantville High School, students are assigned to physical education on alternating days and graded on a numerical system. The program is designed to increase students’ knowledge and skill level in team sports, lifetime activities, co-educational games and physical fitness. There is no “opt out” program.

Fit for Life
1/2 Credit
This is a personal fitness class that will focus on developing a personal fitness plan and participation in:
• Strength - weight and dyna bands training
• Flexibility - yoga and pilates programs
• Endurance - walking and aerobic activities
The use of pedometers and the internet to develop an individual fitness plan and nutritional analysis will be utilized. Discussion on the latest fitness trends, activities and products should lead the student to become an educated consumer and life time participant in a fit lifestyle. Fit for Life textbook will be used as well as personal fitness assessments. There will be a teacher evaluation after first quarter for continued enrollment. This course can be taken in lieu of regular Physical Education.
BOCES
(CENTER FOR CAREER SERVICES)

Pleasantville High School students who wish to gain training in a variety of occupational programs may attend classes at the Southern Westchester Board of Cooperative Educational Services (BOCES). Students must have completed a minimum of 11 PHS credits to be eligible for this program.

The Cooperative Education program is available to high school students who spend one-half day in their local high school and the other half day at the BOCES Mid-Westchester Center in Valhalla. In addition to instruction provided by the professional teaching staff, job placement and admissions counseling services are included.

Each occupational program provides a major sequence. Students attend from 12 Noon to 2:40 PM and transportation is provided.

The School Counseling Department can supply students with complete information about occupational education programs and arrange visits to BOCES so that the prospective applicants have a first-hand opportunity to witness classes in session.
Special Programs

MODIFIED PROGRAM
The Modified Program offers courses in the required academic subjects which parallel the main-stream curriculum but provide delivery in such a way as to meet the needs of the individual students. Students are placed in the program for one or more classes by the Committee on Special Education and are mainstreamed for all electives.

The following math course offerings are available to special education students in their IEP.

Personal Finance 1 Credit
This course will teach students fundamental economic principles and the basics of managing their money. It will help them understand the world of finance as they learn about financial planning, creating a budget, filling out tax forms, opening bank accounts, saving money and credit cards.

Core Math 1 Credit
This course emphasizes an understanding of the operations of arithmetic and the development of mathematical reasoning with special attention on critical thinking and problem solving. Topics will include inductive and deductive reasoning, estimation, sets, logic, numerical systems, operations with real numbers, geometry, probability, and statistics. It will prepare students for the educational challenges of today and the future.

INTEGRATED / CO-TAUGHT CLASSES
A collaborative class is a mainstream class taught by a general education teacher and a special education teacher. All special education teachers are dual certified, meaning that they hold certifications in special education and in the content area in which they are teaching. The collaborative classes are heterogeneous in that they are comprised of the full range of student learners. The curriculum in collaborative classes mirrors the curriculum taught in non-collaborative classes in scope and sequence, culminating in all students taking the New York State Regents Examinations. The presence of a special education teacher allows for students’ individual needs to be addressed within the context of a mainstream classroom. Collaborative classes are available in English, Social Studies, Science and Spanish. A stretch class, taught by a dual certified special education/mathematics teacher, is available in mathematics.

EXTENDED LEARNING
The 9-12 Extended Learning Program exists to ensure that students are provided opportunities to extend their learning through differentiated instruction, mentorship, internship, and when appropriate, co-curricular activities. The student, school counselor, teacher, parent and curriculum coordinator work together to develop a plan which addresses the particular educational need of the child.

ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE
Individual and small group instruction is offered to all students who exhibit limited proficiency in the English language. The length of instructional time and the number of weekly sessions vary, based on the students’ ability to absorb and utilize the language and demonstrate increased competence and facility in English.
SENIOR INTERNSHIP OPTIONS

OPTION A Senior Internship Program

Prerequisites:
- A minimum of 15 required credits prior to entering senior year
- A candidate for graduation in June
- Students must be in good standing.

This course provides real-life experience beyond the classroom. Allowing students to be active contributors to the community, this course develops students’ self-direction, self-reliance and self-confidence. It reinforces productive work habits that build character, leadership, service and time management skills. The program provides two options:
- an internship program in an area of personal/professional interest
- a focused community service project in one field of particular interest

Course Requirements: It is expected that each student devote a minimum of 7.5 hours per week at their internship site. A journal which serves as a professional reflection of the student’s experience and learning is to be completed with a minimum of two (2) entries/week. The entries may include observations, recommendations, critiques, explanations, evaluations and references. Students must obtain an evaluation form from the internship coordinator which will be completed by the employer/supervisor each quarter. On site visits will be made by the internship coordinator each quarter with employer/supervisor. Students are required to complete and submit a daily work log, attend group meetings on a bi-weekly basis and complete an oral presentation at the end of each semester. Commitment for at least one semester is expected.

OPTION B Senior Internship Program

The program serves as an opportunity for seniors to gain real life work experiences by interning in various businesses in the NYC metro area. Students, along with teacher mentors, would find and select appropriate job sites based on interest and/or future fields of study. Throughout the internship experience, interns will meet with mentors, complete journals, and be evaluated by their employers. At the conclusion of the Senior Internship Program, each intern will make an oral presentation at Pleasantville High School.

The internship experience will take place during the last five weeks of school (after AP exams) and students will spend approximately 25 hours per week working at their intern locations. Intern students will not attend classes at PHS during the intern experience. Please note that interns will not receive monetary compensation during the internship experience.
NOTES