

# Somers High School Course Selection Guide 2019-2020

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Mr. Gary M. Cotzin  
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## Accreditation and Memberships

Somers High School is fully accredited by the New England Association of Schools and Colleges and by the Connecticut State Department of Education. The school maintains a chapter of the National Honor Society, which is sponsored by the National Association of Secondary School Principals. Somers High School is a member of the Connecticut Association of Secondary Schools, the Connecticut Interscholastic Athletic Conference, the North Central Connecticut Conference, and the New England Association of College Admission Counselors.

# Faculty Listing

## Administration

Mr. Gary Cotzin BA, MS, CAGS, CTE-EL  
Mrs. Cheryl Gustafson BA, MAT, CAGS

## Art

Mrs. Sarah Burda BFA, MALS  
Ms. Mary Curran BFA, MEd  
Mr. Kyle Kipfer BFA

## Business

Mr. Michael Mayo BS  
Mr. Daniel Clement BSBA, MBA

## Technology Services Director

Mr. Rob Wilson BA, MBA

## Counseling & Career Services

Ms. Meg Duffy BS, MBA, CDF, CWE  
Mrs. Kelly Giannuzzi BA, MA  
Mrs. Lisa Grenier BA, MA  
Ms. Karen Regan BS, MS, 6<sup>th</sup> Year

## English

Ms. Denise Collins BA, MA  
Mrs. Heather Connors BA, MA  
Mr. Pasquale DeMatteo BS, MS, MAT  
Ms. Mindy Lajeunesse BA, MAT  
Mrs. Alicia Simoes BA, MS  
Mr. Andrew Slater BA  
Mr. Erik Serrell-Dube BA, MA

## Food Service

Ms. Lynn Tracy BS, MA

## Library/Media

Ms. Tenley Stoltz BS, MS, MLS

## Mathematics

Ms. Laura Allen BS  
Mrs. Mary Baldyga BA  
Mrs. Carla Castro BS, MA  
Ms. Jenna Collins BA, MA  
Mr. Gregory Jackson BS, MBA  
Ms. Sarah McNamee BSBA, MS  
Mr. Stanley Targonski BA, BS, MEd

## Music

Mrs. Marika Kraus BM, MM  
Ms. Jessica Wolf BM

## Nurse

Mrs. Monica Willemain RN

## Physical Education/Health

Mrs. Tammy Gowash BS, MS  
Mr. Rob Hanover BA

## Science

Mrs. Susan Cormier BS, MEd  
TBD  
Mrs. Michelle Kelleher BS, BA, MEd  
Ms. Karen Legg BS, MS  
Mrs. Erin Maynard BA, MA  
Mrs. Mary Neyssen AS, BS, MS

## Social Studies

Mrs. Kristen Angelica BA, MAT, CAGS  
Mr. Andrew Drummey BA, MAT  
Mr. Marc Dzicek BA, MS  
Mr. Philip Goduti BA, MA  
Mr. Matthew Macaluso BA, MEd

## Social Workers/Psychologist

Mrs. Suzy Williams LCSW  
Dr. Michael Wald EdD

## Special Education

Mr. Michael Byrnes BS, MA  
Mrs. Kate Croteau BA, MEd  
Mrs. Donna Delany BS, MS  
Ms. Laura DiScipio BS, MEd  
Mrs. Laurie Somma BS, MS  
Mrs. Sharon Yarrow BA, MA, CDF

## Technology Education

Mr. Nicholas Kosloski BS, MS  
Mr. Michael Niziolek BS, MS  
Mr. Roy Slater BS, MS

## Tutors

Ms. Caroline Gamble BS, BA  
Ms. Christine Kelly BA, MEd

## World Languages

Mrs. Ines Dunn BA, MS  
Mr. Chris Mangini BA, BS, MA  
Ms. Jen Meyers BA  
Mr. Carlos Mezger BA, MA

# Chapter 1 - General Information

## Introduction

The Course Selection Guide is a comprehensive review of academic offerings and related information for all students. Our purpose is to provide students and their parents with a review of academic offerings at Somers High School. All parts of this book are important. The Table of Contents will give you a quick reference to specific areas of interest and where they are located. Should you or your parents have any questions, we hope you will discuss them with a member of the Counseling and Career Center, specific academic departments and/or the administration.

## Somers Vision Statement

The vision of the Somers Public Schools is that we be challenged to excellence, creative expression, and the development of concern for the quality of life for all. The vision embraces a culture and an environment that promotes life-long learning, develops self worth, supports uniqueness and diversity, values independence and interdependence, inspires community and parental involvement, and empowers individuals to make choices that leads to lives filled with dignity, respect, happiness, and opportunity.

## MISSION STATEMENT

Everyone at Somers High School will work to foster a learning community characterized by academic excellence, intellectual curiosity, creative expression, responsible citizenship, personal growth, and respect for all.

### Our shared core values and beliefs "The Spartan Code"

At Somers High School, we believe that:

#### Respect Matters

*We appreciate the unique qualities of others, seek to understand different perspectives, and display consideration for all.*

#### Responsibility Matters

*We understand and accept the impact and consequences of personal actions and decisions. We take ownership of our learning.*

#### Integrity Matters

*We meet high ethical and academic standards; we practice honesty and sincerity in relationships and actions. We do the right thing in and out of the classroom.*

#### Kindness Matters

*We demonstrate compassion, concern, and empathy by actively helping others.*

## **Somers High School 21st Century Learning Expectations**

### **Reading**

*Demonstrate the ability to think critically by reading challenging material and effectively communicating its meaning and usage.*

### **Communication**

*Demonstrate the skills necessary to effectively communicate through writing and/or speaking.*

### **Problem Solving**

*Demonstrate critical thinking in problem solving and reasoning in order to analyze, solve problems, and clearly communicate the solution.*

### **Technology**

*Demonstrate appropriate use of technology to support communication, collaboration, creativity, and critical thinking.*

### **Creative Expression**

*Create, perform, and respond to the arts with understanding and recognize the role of the arts in expressing and communicating the human experience.*

## **School-Wide Learning Expectations**

As students prepare to meet the challenges of tomorrow, Somers High School is committed to empowering them with 21st Century Learning skills necessary to succeed in this endeavor. These skills focus on creativity, critical thinking, communication and collaboration and prepare students for the future to help them tackle new problems that they will face as the world evolves with new technologies and challenges. Somers High School consciously employs a formal process, based on school-wide rubrics, to assess whole-school and individual student progress in achieving the school's 21st century learning expectations, which include "Reading, Communication, Problem Solving, Technology and Creative Expression." These expectations have been developed and adopted by the Somers High School faculty.

Each department is responsible for at least one of the school-wide expectations that best correlates to their curriculum and content area. Every marking term teachers use school-wide rubrics, that have been developed by the faculty, to assess student's proficiency in these expectations and reports student achievement data via PowerSchool. The faculty uses this data to inform its curriculum and continue to implement changes that benefit students. The individual disciplines have taken responsibility for the following 21st Century Learning Expectations:

- Reading -Social Studies
- Communication- English and World Languages
- Problem Solving – Math and Science
- Technology – Business and Tech Ed
- Creative Expression – PE/Health, Music, Food Services and Art

## Course Selection Counseling

Students and parents should participate in the course selection process together through the online portal. For core courses that require a recommendation and/or prerequisite, teachers will input the recommended course(s) into the online portal prior to student course requests. The online portal will be open for a limited time and students MUST input their selections during that time. Students are encouraged to talk with their school counselor and teachers before inputting their course selection into the online system. Careful course selection and computer input are critical to the scheduling process so that students are registered for the correct courses for graduation and post-secondary goals.

Typically, the timeline is as follows:

1. Teachers input core course recommendations based on prerequisites and course requirements.
2. Scheduling materials are distributed to students in grades 8 - 11. The Course Selection Guide is available on the Somers High School website for more detailed course descriptions.
3. Parents and students discuss the appropriate course selections. Counselors and teachers are available to address questions.
4. Students, along with their parents, input their course selections into the online portal.
5. Administration develops the master schedule based on requests and staffing. Not all courses in the Course Selection Guide are offered annually.
6. Students are scheduled with priority given to the core courses followed by electives and alternates.
7. Final schedules are given out on the first day of school. Students can make an appointment with their school counselor to address scheduling concerns based on the Schedule Adjustment Policy below.

## Schedule Adjustment Policy

For the first 3 days of the new school year, schedule adjustments will only be made for courses in which students were inappropriately placed. The fourth through the sixth school day is the open add/drop period. Written parental permission is required for all academic graduation requirements and world language prior to any schedule change. At the start of second semester, no course changes will be made for the first 3 days of classes. The fourth through the sixth day of second semester will be the open add/drop period. Changes made within these add/drop periods will carry no penalty on official academic records. Changes made after the add/drop period will carry a designation of WD, WDP, or WDF on official academic records depending on circumstances of the withdrawal. A WDF will be considered a failing grade in the calculation of GPA, admission to the National Honor Society, academic eligibility, and in determining "good student" status for car insurance discounts.

It is recognized that occasionally because of illness or injury, a student may have to withdraw from a course after the sixth school day. In this situation, the term medically withdrawn (MED) will be used.

## College Career Pathways

College Career Pathways (CCP) is a formal articulation agreement between Asnuntuck Community College and Somers High School. Students have the opportunity to earn credit from both the high school and Asnuntuck Community College while attending Somers High School. (For further details see the Technology Education section).

Students who plan to enroll in CCP programs need to adhere to the following procedures:

1. Complete a College Career Pathways application and an ACC enrollment application.
2. Submit completed forms to College Career Pathways Coordinator, Mr. Niziolek before deadline date.

## Partnership

Qualified juniors and seniors from Somers High School can enroll in accredited courses at Asnuntuck Community College free of tuition and fees. Students must have an 80 grade average or higher and complete an application form. Courses are on a space available basis. Completing the course gives the student a 0.5 credit at Somers High School and college credit as well. An informational meeting will occur in the CCC. Application and registration materials will be distributed to interested students and returned to the CCC according to A.C.C. deadlines.

## Virtual High School (VHS)

Somers students may elect to take a course on-line during their junior and senior years. A wide variety of elective courses are available for juniors and seniors for 0.5 credit each semester. Students complete the course requirements on-line at home and at school. Students must fill out a VHS contract prior to enrollment. These classes do not usually follow the same grade timeline of the high school so students and parents are expected to monitor progress.

## UCONN Early College Experience (ECE) Program

### What is UCONN Early College Experience?

UCONN Early College Experience (ECE) is a concurrent enrollment program that allows motivated high school students to take UCONN courses at their high schools for both high school and college credit. Every course taken through UCONN ECE is equivalent to the same course at the University of Connecticut. Students benefit by taking college courses in a warm setting that is both familiar and conducive to learning.

High school instructors who have been certified through the University of Connecticut serve as adjunct faculty members and teach UCONN ECE courses.

### Course Recognition

The majority of students who have taken University of Connecticut courses through UCONN Early College Experience have successfully transferred their UCONN credits to the college/universities of their choice. UCONN ECE students are considered non-degree students at the University of Connecticut and have an official University transcript indicating their coursework. Students do not need to attend the University of Connecticut to have their courses recognized. While the University of Connecticut cannot guarantee course recognition on behalf of another University, it strives to make the transfer of credits from one institution to another as simple as possible.

Students must receive a final grade of C or above in any UCONN ECE course to receive course credit. Any final grade below a C will automatically transfer to an audit on a student's UCONN transcript. Students do not receive credit at UCONN for audited courses, but will still receive a grade and credit from Somers High School.

### **2018-2019: AP UCONN ECE English, AP UCONN ECE US History, and AP UCONN ECE Biology.**

A separate application form must be filled out and submitted on-line. For further details, consult with Ms. Duffy, the ECE Coordinator, or your ECE teacher.

## Section 504

Students must meet the criteria established under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act. Students having any physical or mental impairment that **substantially limits one or more major life activities** (including learning) may receive services under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act. The determination of what services are needed is made by a group of persons knowledgeable about the student. The system reviews the nature of the disability and the documentation provided by evaluations. This information is used to determine to what degree the disability affects the student's education, whether accommodations are needed, and if so, the nature of such services. The decision about 504 eligibility and services are documented in the student's file and reviewed annually for eligible students.

## Independent Study

An independent study course should be student initiated with a teacher's voluntary supervision and approval. Independent study should be for courses listed in the Course Selection Guide with existing curriculum. A form must be completed by student and teacher and can be obtained from the school counselors. The information is to include a time line, due dates, and assessments, as well as required signatures. Standards for grading should meet course expectations. Failure to meet established criteria will result in no credit and an F or WDF on the student's transcript.

## Grading Policy

Grade Point Average (GPA) is calculated using a 100 point weighted scale. This weighted GPA is also used to determine class rank and honor roll status. For each course taken, the student's actual course numerical average will appear on the official transcript. The cumulative weighted grade average and class rank will also be recorded.

Academic and College Preparatory courses will carry a 1.0 weighted factor. Honors level courses will carry a 1.1 weighted factor. AP and AP/ECE level courses will carry a 1.2 weighted factor. The students numerical average on the 100 point scale will be multiplied by the designated weighted factor in determining weighted grade point average.

## Graduation Requirements:

### Credit Distribution Requirement (Class of 2019, 2020, and 2021)

Subject Area	Credits	Description
English	4	
Social Studies	3	1 each in World Cultures, US History/Civics 1 and II or AP/UCONN ECE US History
Science	3	1 each in Freshman Integrated Science, Biology, Electives
Math	3	
Physical Education	1	.5 in grade 9 & .5 in grade 10
Health	.5	.25 credit in grades 11 & 12 and part of PE in grades 9 & 10
Fine Arts	.5	Art or Music
Practical Arts	.5	Practical Arts includes, Food Service, Business, and Technology. (Computer Literacy Requirement also needs to be satisfied. See Course Selection Guide for details)
Electives	6.5	Business, Tech Ed, Family and Consumer Sciences, World Languages: French or Spanish, Arts, etc.
Carnegie Units Total	22	

**Credit Distribution Requirement (Beginning with the class of 2022)**

Subject Area	Credits	Description
English	4	
Social Studies	3	1 each in World Cultures, US History/Civics 1 and II or AP/UCONN ECE US History
Science	3	1 each in Freshman Integrated Science, Biology, Electives
Math	4	
Physical Education	1	.5 in grade 9 & .5 in grade 10
Health	.5	.25 credit in grades 11 & 12 and part of PE in grades 9 & 10
Fine Arts	.5	Art or Music
Practical Arts	.5	Practical Arts includes, Food Service, Business, and Technology. (Computer Literacy Requirement also needs to be satisfied. See Course Selection Guide for details)
Electives	6.5	Business, Tech Ed, Family and Consumer Sciences, World Languages: French or Spanish, Arts, etc.
Carnegie Units Total	23	

**Credit Distribution Requirement (Beginning with the class of 2023)**

Subject Area	Credits	Description
English	4	
Social Studies	3	1 each in World History, US History/Civics 1 and II or AP/UCONN ECE US History
Science	3	1 each in Integrated Science, Biology, Electives
Math	4	
Physical Education	1	.5 in grade 9 & .5 in grade 10
Health	.5	.25 credit in grades 11 & 12 and part of PE in grades 9 & 10
Fine Arts	.5	Art or Music
Practical Arts	.5	Practical Arts includes, Food Service, Business, and Technology. Computer Literacy requirement also needs to be satisfied see Course Selection Guide for appropriate course.
Electives	7.5	Business, Tech Ed, Family and Consumer Sciences, World Languages, social sciences, arts, etc...
Carnegie Units Total	24	

COURSE LEVELS				
	ACADEMIC (1.0)	COLLEGE PREP (CP) (1.0)	HONORS (1.1)	AP (1.2)
ENGLISH	329: English 11 (11) 333: English 12 (12) 335: Literacy Skills (9-12)	322: College English 9 (9) 325: College English 10 (10) 328: College English 11 (11) 332: College English 12 (12) 341: Creative Writing (11-12) 342: Fantasy (11-12)	321: Honors English 9 (9) 324: Honors English 10 (10) 327: Honors English 11 (11) 338: Honors Speech and Debate (11-12)	331: AP UCONN/ECE English 12 (12)
MATHEMATICS	431: Consumer Math (11-12) 477: Mathematics Skills [Does not satisfy math graduation requirements.] 438: Pre-Algebra (9-10)	425: Algebra 1 (9-12) 426: Geometry (9-12) 428: Algebra 2 (10-12) 414: Precalculus (11-12) 412: Probability and Statistics (11-12)	427: Honors Geometry (9-10) 429: Honors Algebra 2 (10-11) 416: Honors Precalculus (11-12) 415: Honors Calculus (12)	456: AP Calculus (12) 475: AP Statistics (11-12)
SCIENCE	611: Botany (11-12) 632: Zoology: Exploring the Animal Kingdom (11-12) 616: Survey in Forensics (11-12)	600: Integrated Science (9) 623: Biology (10-12) 612: Marine Science (11-12) 608: Anatomy and Physiology (11-12) 627: Chemistry (11-12) 607: Microbiology: Exploring the Microscopic World (11-12) 614: Science and Law (11-12)	630: Honors Physics (11-12) 628: Honors Chemistry (10-12) 631: Honors Biology (10)	629: AP Chemistry (11-12) 626: AP UCONN/ECE Biology (11-12)
SOCIAL STUDIES	704: Current Affairs (10-12)	702: World History (9) 720: US History/Civics I (10) 721: US History/Civics II (11) 716: Introduction to Psychology (11-12) 717: Introduction to Philosophy (11-12) 718: Introduction to Sociology (11-12) 705: World Between the Wars (10-12) 707: Ancient History (10-12) 708: Medieval History (10-12) 719: Principles of Law (11-12) 728: Investigative and Trial Techniques (11-12) 714: Government and Politics (11-12)		712: AP UCONN/ECE US History (11)
WORLD LANGUAGE	401: Intro to French (9-12) 403: Intro to Spanish (9-12) 369: French 1 (9-12) 394: Spanish 1 (9-12)	363: French 2 (9-12) 365: French 3 (9-12) 367: French 4 (9-12) 355: Spanish 2 (9-12) 357: Spanish 3 (9-12) 359: Spanish 4 (9-12)	362: Honors French 2 (9-12) 364: Honors French 3 (10-12) 366: Honors French 4 (11-12) 368: Honors French 5 (12) 354: Honors Spanish 2 (9-12) 356: Honors Spanish 3 (10-12) 358: Honors Spanish 4 (11-12) 389: Honors Spanish 5 (12)	

	<b>ACADEMIC (1.0)</b>	<b>COLLEGE PREP (CP) (1.0)</b>	<b>HONORS (1.1)</b>	<b>AP (1.2)</b>
<b>ART</b>	101: Introduction to Art and Design 111: Computer Art 110: Computer Animation 114: Printmaking 140: Ceramics I 144: Sculpture I 142: Drawing and Painting I	143: Drawing and Painting II 145: Sculpture II 141: Ceramics II	134: Honors Art 116: Honors Portfolio	148: AP Studio Art
<b>BUSINESS</b>		221: Introduction to Business 203: Computer Applications 1: Personal Finance 204: Computer Applications 2: Integrated 226: Accounting I 227: Accounting II 232: Business Law I 233: Business Law II 210: Entrepreneurship 211: Marketing 933: SHS Yearbook Team	207: Honors Effective Leadership Independent Study	
<b>CAREER CONNECTIONS</b>		882: Career Exploration Independent Study		
<b>FOOD SERVICE</b>	989: Food Service and Management I	994: Food Service and Management II		
<b>HEALTH</b>	513: 11/12 Health			
<b>MUSIC</b>		150: Band 151: Chorus 159: Music in Society 152: Fundamental of Music/Theory	164: Honors Chorus 166: Honors Choir 169: Honors Band	
<b>PHYSICAL EDUCATION</b>	506: 9/10 PE/Health Individual 502: 9/10 PE/Health Team 503: 11/12 PE Elect			
<b>SPECIAL EDUCATION</b>	511: Healthy Living 860: Resource Study Skills 870: Work Education Seminar			
<b>TECHNOLOGY INNOVATION DESIGN &amp; ENGINEERING</b>	940: World of Technology 907: Manufacturing - Woodworking 908: Manufacturing - Metalworking 945: Digital Photography 913: Welding	909: Advanced Manufacturing 953: Architectural Design 954: Graphic Design I – Print Media Design 955: Graphic Design II – Web Design 911: Scientific Principles of Technology 947: Robotics 957: Technology Seminar	912: Honors Research and Development (Pre-Engineering) 919: Honors Graphic Design III - Interactive 948: Honors CNC Machining 949: Honors Engineering Graphics I 932: Honors Engineering Graphics II	

## Chapter 2 - Course Offerings and Special Programs

### Art

Viewing and producing visual art objects allows students to understand the art of many cultures and to become more competent in this expressive non-verbal language. The high school art program is designed to provide introductory courses in the visual arts. Advanced studio courses are available for those who wish to continue their art education.

A passing grade in a one-half year course in the fine arts, in art or music, is required for graduation.

101	Introduction to Art and Design	141	Ceramics II
110	Computer Animation	142	Drawing and Painting I
111	Computer Art	143	Drawing and Painting II
114	Printmaking	144	Sculpture I
116	Honors Portfolio	145	Sculpture II
134	Honors Art	148	Advanced Placement (AP) Studio Art
140	Ceramics I		

### 101 Introduction to Art and Design

Grades 9-12                      1 Semester                      .5 Credit

**Prerequisite:** None

**Description:** Introduction to Art and Design is a comprehensive course, which allows students to explore the basic materials and techniques used in drawing, painting, sculpture and crafts. This course is a prerequisite for more advanced drawing and painting courses, Ceramics I, Sculpture I, Computer Animation and Computer Art.

### 140 Ceramics I

Grades 9-12                      1 Semester                      .5 Credit

**Prerequisite:** Successful completion of Intro to Art & Design

**Description:** The focus of Ceramics I is to construct functional and sculptural objects using traditional and contemporary clay techniques and materials. Students will use pinch, coil, slab, and various molding and glazing methods to hand build and decorate their projects. Emphasis is placed on creativity, craftsmanship, and the understanding of clay work as an important piece of art history as well as our modern culture.

### 141 Ceramics II

Grades 10-12                      1 Semester                      .5 Credit

**Prerequisite:** Successful completion of Ceramics I.

**Description:** Students in Ceramics II will continue to utilize their hand building skills to create more advanced functional and sculptural clay works. More emphasis will be placed on exploring design and conceptual ideas and glazing/decorating techniques will be expanded upon. Students will receive an introduction to the potter's wheel and will work toward an independent project.

## 142 Drawing and Painting I

Grades 9-12                      1 Semester                      .5 Credit

**Prerequisite:** Successful completion of Intro to Art and Design.

**Description:** The focus of Drawing and Painting I is on development of drawing and painting techniques and skills. Students use a variety of media such as pencils, charcoal, pen and ink, acrylics and watercolors, etc., using both traditional and non-traditional subject matter.

## 143 Drawing and Painting II

Grades 10-12                      1 Semester                      .5 Credit

**Prerequisite:** Successful completion of Drawing and Painting I.

**Description:** Students will continue their study of drawing and painting materials and techniques while they learn about modern and contemporary art inspired by the themes and styles used in the major movements in modern painting.

## 116 Honors Portfolio

Grades 11-12                      1 Semester                      .5 Credit

**Prerequisite:** Successful completion of Drawing and Painting II and recommendation from an art teacher.

**Description:** Serious art students will develop a collection of high quality work using advanced drawing and painting techniques. This class can be taken both junior and senior year (for students needing a portfolio for applications to a college art program).

## 144 Sculpture I

Grades 9-12                      1 Semester                      .5 Credit

**Prerequisite:** Successful completion of Intro to Art and Design.

**Description:** The focus of Sculpture 1 is to create 3-D works of art using a variety of materials while utilizing the elements and principles of design. Students will study both traditional and contemporary artists and methods while working with materials that range from paper to clay, plaster to wire. This is a good introductory course for creative students who love to build things.

## 145 Sculpture II

Grades 10-12                      1 Semester                      .5 Credit

**Prerequisite:** Successful completion of Sculpture I.

**Description:** Students in Sculpture II will continue their study of 3-D design concepts while working on more advanced projects. Traditional and contemporary techniques will be expanded upon as will the list of sculptors being studied. Craftsmanship and concept will be emphasized and the students will work toward a final independent project.

## 110 Computer Animation

Grades 10-12                      1 Semester                      .5 Credit

**Prerequisite:** Successful completion of Introduction to Art and Design and Computer Art.

**Description:** Students will review the basics of Adobe Photoshop and Illustrator, as well as learn Adobe Animate, to create short animations and films. Students will learn about the composition and framing of animations, as well as storyboarding and sound editing to create professional animations.

## 111 Computer Art

Grades 10-12                      1 Semester                      .5 Credit

**Prerequisite:** Successful completion of Introduction to Art and Design.

**Description:** Students will learn to use Adobe Photoshop and Illustrator to create digital art on the computer. Digital art may be applied to a variety of fields of study. Students will work with found and original imagery to create digital paintings and collages, as well as build on drawing and design skills learned in Introduction to Art.

## 114 Printmaking

Grades 9-12                      1 Semester                      .5 Credit

**Prerequisite:** Successful completion of Intro to Art and Design

**Description:** This class will focus on the art of producing multiple art works from original imagery using a variety of techniques and materials. Both reductive (i.e., linoleum/wood block) and additive (i.e., collagraph) methods will be used in both color and black and white. Focus will be on personal expression along with consistent technique and manipulation of materials.

## 134 Honors Art

Grade 12                      Full Year                      1 Credit

**Prerequisite:** Four classes of high school art, including Drawing and Painting I and II, and the recommendation of an Art teacher.

**Description:** Students in Honors will produce projects that demonstrate a high level of thinking, craftsmanship, personal expression and superior quality design. Honors art students will participate in the annual Honors Art Show. This exhibit is independently judged by a professional artist who selects the winner of the Honors Art Medal for Artistic Excellence.

## 148 Advanced Placement (AP) Studio Art

Grade 12                      Full Year                      1 Credit

**Prerequisite:** Four classes of high school art and a portfolio review and subsequent recommendation by the AP Art teacher.

**Description:** This course is for serious art students interested in a rigorous and focused study in art. Students will develop a quality portfolio that demonstrates mastery in concept, composition and execution of drawing, 2D design or 3D design. Students will submit images and writing to document an inquiry-guided investigation within 15 pieces of work and submit 5 physical works with written responses demonstrating a skillful synthesis of materials, processes and ideas. Students will submit this portfolio (exam) to the College Board for possible college credit. Students will also participate in the Annual

Honors/AP Art Show.

**Enrollment in AP courses requires that the student take the AP exam (AP portfolio submission).**

**The AP level added weight will be granted to students who successfully complete the required course work and who take the related AP exam. No AP designated weight will be granted to a student who does not take the related AP exam or who violates a College Board Exam Policy (i.e.: use of cell phone, etc). All students taking an AP course must also take the course final or an alternate assignment (subject specific) unless they maintain an 87 average with teacher permission to exempt.**

## Business

Because of changes in the workplace and society, the importance of business education increases for all students. Students need to develop the necessary skills, attitudes, habits and knowledge in business in order to succeed in tomorrow's workforce. The courses offered in this curriculum are designed to improve students' skills in the areas of critical thinking, decision-making, interpersonal relations, problem-solving communicating by way of technology, and leadership. These courses help prepare students who enter the work force immediately following high school graduation, as well as those continuing on to higher education.

A passing grade in a one-half year course in the **practical arts is required** for graduation. Selected course work completed in business will meet this requirement.

By taking Computer Applications I, students will meet the .5 credit **graduation requirement in computer literacy**.

203	Computer Applications I - Personal Finance	226	Accounting I
204	Computer Applications II - Integrated	227	Accounting II
207	Honors Effective Leadership Independent Study	232	Business Law I
210	Entrepreneurship	233	Business Law II
211	Marketing	933	SHS Yearbook Team
221	Introduction to Business		

### 221 Introduction to Business

Grades 9-10

Full Year

1 Credit

**Prerequisite:** None

**Description:** Topics covered in this course include economic systems, forms of business ownership, organizational structure, labor-management relations, taxation, career planning and development, consumer economics, technology, banking, credit, insurance, personal finance, social responsibility, government regulation, international trade, entrepreneurship and small business management, human resource management, operations management, and marketing.

## 203 Computer Applications I - Personal Finance

Grades 9-12                      1 Semester                      .5 Credit

**Prerequisite:** None

**Description:** In this self-paced course, students will utilize Microsoft Word, Excel, and PowerPoint for purposes of managing their personal finances. Topics include career profitability research; crafting business letters, mail merging, gross vs. net income, personal budgeting and net worth, loan evaluation, credit card debt, insurance basics, savings and checking accounts, compound interest, and managing investment portfolios. Students also engage in a course-long stock market simulation.

**\*Meets computer literacy course credit requirement.**

## 204 Computer Applications II - Integrated

Grades 9-12                      1 Semester                      .5 Credit

**Prerequisite:** C- or higher in Computer Applications I: Personal Finance

**Description:** In this self-paced course, students develop advanced skills in Microsoft Office Word, Excel, and PowerPoint. Emphasis is placed on creating spreadsheets and documents to support a small business. Major topics include creating business cards, contact databases, mail merging, digital forms, SmartArt, print advertisements, expense trend analysis Pivot Tables/advanced data analysis, invoice templates, advanced formulas, and macro development. **This course earns college credit through College Career Pathways.**

## 226 Accounting I

Grades 10-12                      Full Year                      1 Credit

**Prerequisite:** None.

**Description:** Topics covered in this course include accounting careers, transaction analysis, journalizing, posting, financial statement preparation, use of special journals, bank reconciliations, payroll preparation, uncollectible accounts receivable, and accounting for plant assets.

## 227 Accounting II

Grades 11-12                      Full Year                      1 Credit

**Prerequisite:** Successful completion of Accounting I.

**Description:** This course expands upon the concepts presented in Accounting 1. Additional topics covered include accounting for notes, inventories, depreciation, long-term liabilities, financial statement interpretation, cash flow analysis, accounting for partnerships and corporations, budgeting and control, financial reporting for not-for-profit organizations, departmental accounting, branch accounting, and cost accounting.

## 210 Entrepreneurship

Grades 11-12                      1 Semester                      .5 Credit

**Prerequisite:** None

**Description:** This course is designed to take the student on a step-by-step journey through the entire process of owning his/her business. The student will select a product or service to sell, determine who his/her customers are, learn how to market the business, obtain financing, manage employees, and more. Special emphasis will be placed on preparing and presenting a business plan.

## 211 Marketing

Grades 11-12                      1 Semester                      .5 Credit

**Prerequisite:** None

**Description:** Topics covered in this course include the marketing mix, corporate social responsibility, promotional concepts and strategies, advertising, and product planning. A special emphasis will be placed on preparing and presenting an advertising campaign.

## 232 Business Law I

Grades 11-12                      1 Semester                      .5 Credit

**Prerequisite:** None

**Description:** Topics covered in this course include the origins of our legal system, business ethics, our court system, business-related crimes, torts, and contracts. Videos and real life case analysis are an integral part of this course

## 233 Business Law II

Grades 11-12                      1 Semester                      .5 Credit

**Prerequisite:** Successful completion of Business Law I

**Description:** Topics covered in this course include law as it relates to property, bailments, real property, realty, insurance, discrimination, workers compensation, labor unions, employment contracts, and forms of business organization.

## 207 Honors Effective Leadership Independent Study

Grades 11-12                      Fall Semester (Online)                      .5 Credit

**Prerequisite:** Strong reading/writing skills, extracurricular participation, summer reading

**To Enroll:** Candidates must see Mr. Clement directly, prior to course signups

**Description:** This supplemental online course does not require a scheduled period. Effective leadership and participation in teams is a critical 21<sup>st</sup> century skill, found valuable by employers and organizations of all sizes. Students in the *intensive* course will learn and demonstrate skills consistent with business theories supportive to effective leadership. This is a rigorous course requiring students to dedicate a great deal of time and effort. Students will develop leadership skills through case study analysis, in-depth readings, as well as one-on-one coaching from their instructor. Students will be mentored on how to become an effective leader within their on/off-campus extracurricular activities.

## 933 SHS Yearbook Team

Grades 10-12                      Full Year                      .75 Credit

**Prerequisites:** Must complete application prior to course signups

**To Enroll:** Candidates must see Mr. Clement directly, prior to course signups

**Description:** This course is an independent study made up of a team of driven students with the common goal of crafting a yearbook better than the last! Students must be highly motivated, team players. Top candidates demonstrate strengths in Photoshop, InDesign, photography, videography, business, or journalism. Positions are filled for each category.

## English

The English program is committed to developing students' knowledge of language so that they may communicate effectively in order to pursue their goals and lead fuller and more rewarding lives. Through self-involvement and self-expression, students will gain knowledge of the background of the English language, improve their speaking and listening skills, develop a proficiency in written composition, and acquire the critical faculties necessary for an understanding and appreciation of literature. We value summer reading as an integral component of our language arts program. Summer reading choices support thematic connections throughout our introductory units in all English classes.

Students must pass English 9, English 10, English 11 and English 12 (4 courses) to meet the graduation requirement.

321	Honors English 9	331	AP/ECE English 12
322	CP English 9	332	CP English 12
324	Honors English 10	333	English 12
325	CP English 10	338	Honors Speech & Debate
327	Honors English 11	341	Creative Writing Poetry
328	CP English 11	342	Fantasy
329	English 11	335	Literacy Skills

### 321 Honors English 9

Grade 9

Full Year

1 Credit

**Prerequisites:** Results of standardized tests, grade average in English, and teacher recommendation.

**Description:** The core of this course is the study of thematic units. From these units come analytical studies of short stories, poetry, drama, and the novel. Major works studied include *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*, *The Alchemist*, *The Odyssey*, *Romeo and Juliet*, *To Kill a Mockingbird*, *The Life of Pi*, and *Animal Farm* along with three summer reading selections: *Into Thin Air*, *Julius Caesar* and a choice book. This is a writing-intensive course requiring several major formal papers. Students will develop effective group work skills through projects and be expected to work autonomously.

### 322 CP English 9

Grade 9

Full Year

1 Credit

**Prerequisite:** None

**Description:** This course studies the various literary genres: the short story, the novel, drama, and poetry. In the first semester persuasive, descriptive, and narrative writing are emphasized. Students are also given continued practice in analyzing literature and responding to it in writing. The literature portion of the first semester includes an in-depth study of various short stories. Major required readings throughout the year include *Animal Farm*, *Romeo and Juliet*, *To Kill A Mockingbird* and at least two summer reading selections. Compositions related to the literature studies are required. Speaking and listening skills are studied.

**324 Honors English 10**

Grade 10 Full Year 1 Credit

**Prerequisites:** Results of standardized tests, B- or better in Honors English 9, examination of student writing portfolio, and teacher recommendation.

**Description:** This course integrates vocabulary study, language study, writing development, and literature study. The critical essay is the writing focus of this course. *The Scarlet Letter, Brave New World, Night, Lord of the Flies, A Raisin in the Sun, A Tale of Two Cities* and *The Merchant of Venice* are a few of the major literary works studied. At the end of the year, American authors such as Hughes, Hawthorne, Emerson, Thoreau, Dickinson and Williams are studied.

**325 CP English 10**

Grade 10 Full Year 1 Credit

**Prerequisites:** Successful completion of grade 9 English and teacher recommendation.

**Description:** This course incorporates speech, language study, vocabulary study, writing development, and literature study. Students continue developing literature-analysis-essay skills throughout the course.. *Twelfth Night* is the Shakespeare selection for College Prep sophomores. Works also studied include but are not limited to *Native American Literature, Fahrenheit 451, Lord of the Flies and Raisin in the Sun.*

**327 Honors English 11**

Grade 11 Full Year 1 Credit

**Prerequisites:** Results of standardized tests, B- or better in Honors English 10, examination of student writing portfolio, and teacher recommendation.

**Description:** Language history, vocabulary development, and literary analysis are components of this course. The students will continue to develop advanced writing skills as they cover literature analysis, persuasive and research essays. Some literary works for this course include but are not limited to *Beowulf, The Canterbury Tales, Macbeth, Angela's Ashes, Pride and Prejudice, Frankenstein and The Great Gatsby.*

**328 CP English 11**

Grade 11 Full Year 1 Credit

**Prerequisites:** Successful completion of grade 10 English and teacher recommendation.

**Description:** This class strengthens inferential reading skills and vocabulary usage while improving the mechanical and organizational aspects of student writing. Some of the pieces of literature read in this course include *Beowulf, The Canterbury Tales, Macbeth, Frankenstein, The Great Gatsby* and *Animal Farm*. A research paper is a requirement of this course.

**329 English 11**

Grade 11 Full Year 1 Credit

**Prerequisites:** Successful completion of grade 10 English and teacher recommendation.

**Description:** This course will provide students with a challenging curriculum. Topics covered will include summer reading, essay writing, a research project on career exploration, vocabulary development, and literary analysis. Literature studied will include such works as *Whale Talk, Macbeth, House on Mango Street and Into the Wild.*

### 331 AP UCONN ECE English 12

Grade 12

Full Year

1 Credit

**Prerequisites:** Results of standardized tests, B- or better in Honors English 11 and teacher recommendation.

**Description:** This course consists of poetry, short story, and drama readings from a college-level anthology, as well as the study of such works as *Othello*, *Things Fall Apart*, *Hamlet*, *Oedipus Rex*, *Antigone*, *Kite Runner*, *Invisible Man*, *The Awakening*, *Ethan Frome*, *Death of a Salesman*, *Heart of Darkness*, *Fences*, *Chronicles of a Death Foretold*, *The Secret Sharer* and *Rosencrantz and Guildenstern Are Dead and Their Eyes Were Watching God*. The class is conducted as a seminar with a great deal of student discussion and follow-up essay assignments. The work in this class is used as a preparation for the student's taking the Advanced Placement Exam in May. A research paper is also a requirement of this course.

In AP English the students have the opportunity to earn UCONN college credit during their AP English Course. These credits can be used in all CT State Universities and many out-of-state universities. AP English students may enroll in the full year course **ENGL 1011: Seminar in Writing through Literature** for 4 college credits. These students will be required to self-assess their progress in their writing (at least 25-30 pages) during the year in a final portfolio reflection. The student will be required to receive a grade of C or better in order to get ECE credit for the course.

**Enrollment in AP courses requires that the student take the AP exam.**

**The AP level added weight will be granted to students who successfully complete the required course work and who take the related AP exam. No AP designated weight will be granted to a student who does not take the related AP exam or who violates a College Board Exam Policy (i.e.: use of cell phone, etc). All students taking an AP course must also take the course final or an alternate assignment (subject specific) unless they maintain an 87 average with teacher permission to exempt.**

### 332 CP English 12

Grade 12

Full Year

1 Credit

**Prerequisites:** Successful completion of grade 11 English and teacher recommendation.

**Description:** This course focuses on world literature using a college-level anthology as the text for the study of short stories, poetry, and drama. Major works studied include *Hamlet*, *A Thousand Splendid Suns*, *Oedipus*, *Death of a Salesman* and *Things Fall Apart*. Improvement of writing goals is a key objective of this course. In addition, students do a minimum of two oral presentations. A formal research paper is a requirement of this course.

### 333 English 12

Grade 12

Full Year

1 Credit

**Prerequisites:** Successful completion of grade 11 English and teacher recommendation.

**Description:** This course incorporates vocabulary study, writing critical essays, and literature study. There is a strong emphasis on the research process. Students will complete an 8-10 page research paper. Literature studied will include *There are No Children Here*, *Othello*, *One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest*, and *Extreme Ownership* OR *13 Reason Why*. Other units include a **Moral and Ethical Dilemmas Unit** and short story selections.

### 338 Honors Speech & Debate

Grades 11-12

1 Semester

.5 Credit

**Prerequisites:** Successful completion of grades 9 and 10 English courses.

**Description:** Students will be active participants as they plan and execute a variety of oral presentations. In doing so, they will consider both the purpose of their presentation as well as the audience for whom it is intended. In conjunction, fundamental techniques of effective oral presentation will be covered (both verbal and non-verbal), and students will be evaluated both on the substance and on the techniques employed in each presentation. Both peer evaluations and self-evaluation of the speeches are utilized for improvement purposes.

### 341 Creative Writing

Grades 11-12

1 Semester

.5 Credit

**Prerequisites:** Successful completion of grades 9 and 10 English courses.

**Description:** This course will run as a creative writing seminar and will provide a forum for students to share their fiction and poetry with classmates. Throughout the semester, students will study and practice a variety of writing techniques and submit new and revised material culminating in the creation of a creative writing portfolio.

### 342 Fantasy

Grades 11-12

1 Semester

.5 Credit

**Prerequisites:** Successful completion of grades 9 and 10 English courses.

**Description:** This course will provide students with the opportunity to read, analyze, and write fantasy literature. Featured selections will include J. R. Tolkien's, *The Lord of the Rings*. Students will also have the opportunity to choose their own selections for further study.

### 335 Literacy Skills

Grades 9-12

1 Semester

.25 Credit

**Prerequisites:** Teacher or counselor recommendation.

**Description:** This course will address the need for improved reading and writing skills for students who have been identified by teachers to need additional support for their English and History classes. Students will be placed in this course via teacher or counselor recommendation and remain until supports are complete. This will be a data-based intervention and support for students using grades, teacher observations, and standardized testing to determine need. Skill-building assessments will include NEWSELA, Odysseyware, writing prompts, fiction and non-fiction reading.

## Food Service Management

This occupational food service program provides an environment through which students can develop culinary skills within the food service arena. Hands-on activities encourage students to develop life-long employable skills within the food service industry. Organization, time management, food production and preparation are also explored.

A passing grade in a one-half year course in the practical arts is required for graduation. Selected course work completed in Food Service Management, business or technology education areas will meet this requirement.

989 FSM I

994 FSM II

### 989 Food Service and Management I

Grades 11-12

Full Year

1 Credit

**Prerequisites:** Students should be aware that they must provide a uniform and other in-class supplies.

**Description:** The program is designed for students who are interested in the preparation of food and the exploration of the hospitality industry. Students investigate and apply the principles and methods used in quantity food production. Students may be required to participate in the evening restaurant portion of the course and other banquet-type functions.

### 994 Food Service and Management II

Grade 12

Full Year

2 Credits

**Prerequisites:** Permission of Instructor and successful completion of FSM1 with a "B-" average or better.

**Description:** This program is a continuation of Food Service and Management 1. Students investigate restaurant management as it applies to purchasing, receiving, storage, inventory controls, and food cost. Upon completion, students are qualified for entry-level positions in the food service industry. Students may be required to participate in the evening restaurant portion of the course and other banquet-type functions.

## Health

The health education program is designed as a sequential four-year program that will provide students with the information necessary to make important decisions concerning their young adult lives. Courses contain information about a variety of topics including substance abuse prevention, basic nutrition, HIV/AIDS, Health and Active Life, human growth and development, first aid, safety and accident prevention, disease prevention and control, goal setting and decision making, mental and emotional health, online safety, suicide prevention and family life. Upon graduation, students should be equipped with the skills necessary to make informed decisions regarding their own lives and the welfare of the community in which they live.

Health is offered as a quarter-year course and must be taken each year. The students must pass Health to graduate from Somers High School. Health 1 and 2 have been incorporated into the Physical Education I classes. Health III and IV will meet as separate classes. Health II & III will be offered on odd years and I and IV on even years.

513 Health III & IV (11/12)

### 513 Health III

Grade 11-12

1 Quarter

.25 Credit

**Prerequisite:** None

**Description:** The range of topics that the student will examine includes cardiopulmonary resuscitation, stress, depression, suicide, substance abuse, responsibilities of social and sexual relationships, STDs, family life, and current issues regarding individual health.

### 513 Health IV

Grade 11-12

1 Quarter

.25 Credit

**Prerequisite:** None

**Description:** The range of topics that the student will examine includes fetal growth and development, sexually transmitted diseases, AIDS, substance abuse prevention and relationships.

## Mathematics

The mathematics curriculum is designed to give students the opportunity to study specific topics in the mathematics field. Students are encouraged to take four years of mathematics including a course during their senior year. The prerequisite stated in each course description is a minimum requirement for admittance to that course. A passing grade in three courses in mathematics is required for graduation.

Calculators – Students are required to own a TI-83+ or 84 graphing calculator for personal use at school and at home. If enrolled in Honors Algebra 2, Precalculus, Honors Precalculus, Probability and Statistics, Honors Calculus, AP Calculus, or AP Statistics. These calculators are also strongly recommended for all other courses. Students with concerns may talk to their teachers when school begins.

477 Mathematics Skills	428 Algebra 2
412 Probability and Statistics	429 Honors Algebra 2
415 Honors Calculus	456 AP Calculus
431 Consumer Math	475 AP Statistics
425 Algebra 1	414 Precalculus
426 Geometry	416 Honors Precalculus
427 Honors Geometry	438 Pre-Algebra

### 477 Mathematics Skills (Does not satisfy math graduation requirements)

Grades 9-12                      1 Semester                      .25 Credit

**Prerequisite:** Teacher or counselor recommendation.

**Description:** This course will address the need for improved mathematics skills for students who have been identified by teachers to need additional support. Students will be placed in this course via teacher or counselor recommendation and remain until supports are complete. This will be a data-based intervention and support for students using grades, teacher observations, and standardized testing to determine need.

### 438 Pre-Algebra

Grade 9-10                      Full Year                      1 credit

**Prerequisite:** Teacher recommendation required.

**Description:** This course is an introduction to basic algebraic concepts and a review of arithmetic skills. This course emphasizes concepts that are essential to be successful in Algebra 1. Topics include: algebraic expressions and integers, one- and two-step equations and inequalities, exponents, operations with decimals, fractions, percents, and linear functions

### 425 Algebra 1

Grades 9-12                      Full Year                      1 Credit

**Prerequisite:** Teacher recommendation.

**Description:** This course will deal with topics which include: patterns; linear equations and inequalities; functions; linear functions; scatterplots and trend lines; systems of linear equations; an introduction to exponential functions; and quadratic functions and equations. Applications of these topics will be covered throughout the course. Graphing calculators will be introduced as a tool for discovery and verification.

### 426 Geometry

Grades 9-12                      Full Year                      1 Credit

**Prerequisite:** Successful completion of Algebra 1.

**Description:** This course will cover geometric concepts and processes with an emphasis on reasoning and problem-solving skills. Topics include: transformations in the coordinate plane; congruence, proof, and constructions; polygons; similarity, proof, and trigonometry; circles; extension to three-dimensions; and applications of probability.

### 427 Honors Geometry

Grades 9-10                      Full Year                      1 Credit

**Prerequisites:** B+ or better in Algebra I and teacher recommendation.

**Description:** This course provides a more intense presentation of the topics outlined in the Geometry course. An in-depth understanding of proof and logic is developed.

**428 Algebra 2**

Grades 10-12

Full Year

1 Credit

**Prerequisites:** Successful completion of Algebra 1 and Geometry.

**Description:** This course builds upon concepts covered in Algebra 1. Topics include: functions and inverse functions; polynomial functions; rational expressions and functions; exponential and logarithmic functions; and inferential statistics. Applications of these topics will be covered throughout the course. Graphing calculators will be used as a tool for discovery and verification.

**429 Honors Algebra 2**

Grades 10-11

Full Year

1 Credit

**Prerequisites:** B+ or better in Algebra 1 and B or better in Honors Geometry or A- or better in Geometry. **TI-83+/TI-84 required.**

**Description:** This course provides a more intense presentation of the topics outlined in the Algebra 2 course. Graphing calculators will be used for discovery, concept verification and problem solving.

**431 Consumer Math**

Grades 11-12

Full Year

1 Credit

**Prerequisite:** Current math teacher recommendation required.

**Description:** This course is intended to prepare high school students for many of the real-life applications of mathematics. Topics include earnings, checking and savings accounts, credit, credit cards, life insurance, investments, income tax, car purchase and ownership, housing and budgets. Algebraic skills will be reviewed and reinforced throughout the course.

**414 Precalculus**

Grades 11-12

Full Year

1 Credit

**Prerequisite:** Successful completion of Algebra 2. **TI-83+/TI-84 required.**

**Description:** This course covers advanced mathematical topics, which include: systems of equations, power, polynomial, rational, exponential, logarithmic and trigonometric functions; trigonometric identities and equations. Applications of these topics will be covered throughout the course. Graphing calculators will be used extensively. **This course does not meet the prerequisite for AP Calculus.**

**416 Honors Precalculus**

Grades 11-12

Full Year

1 Credit

**Prerequisite:** A- or better in Algebra 2 and teacher recommendation, or a B or better in Honors Algebra 2 and teacher recommendation. **TI-83+/TI-84 required.**

**Description:** This course provides a more intense presentation of the topics outlined in the Precalculus course. Additional topics will include: polar coordinates and complex numbers; sequences and series: and limits and derivatives.

## 412 Probability and Statistics

Grades 11-12

Full Year

1 Credit

**Prerequisite:** Successful completion of Algebra 2. **TI-83+/TI-84 required.**

**Description:** This course is designed to cover topics commonly found in a college introductory statistics and probability course. The focus of this course includes collection and analysis of data, an in-depth study of probability, and hypothesis testing. Graphs, frequency tables and types of distributions, including the normal curve, will be covered. Probability topics include concepts of probability, random variables, and binomial probability situations. Testing of hypotheses involve a study of various sampling distributions. This course does not prepare students for the AP exam. Graphing calculators will be extensively used for discovery, concept verification, and problem solving.

## 415 Honors Calculus

Grade 12

Full Year

1 Credit

**Prerequisites:** C- or better in Precalculus or successful completion of Honors Precalculus. **TI-83+/TI-84 required.**

**Description:** This course includes limits, derivatives, integration, and applications in science and economics. Technological applications will be included throughout the course. This course does not prepare students for the AP exam. A graphing calculator will be used extensively in this course.

## 456 AP Calculus

Grade 12

Full Year

1.2 Credits

**Prerequisites:** B+ or better in Honors Precalculus and teacher recommendation. **TI-83+/TI-84 required.**

**Description:** This course includes work with limits, derivatives, integrals and their applications in science and economics. Technological applications are included throughout the course. Also included in the course will be practice exam questions covering all topics included in the AP Calculus Exam that will be given by the College Board in May.

**Enrollment in AP courses requires that the student take the AP exam.**

**The AP level added weight will be granted to students who successfully complete the required course work and who take the related AP exam. No AP designated weight will be granted to a student who does not take the related AP exam or who violates a College Board Exam Policy (i.e.: use of cell phone, etc). All students taking an AP course must also take the course final or an alternate assignment (subject specific) unless they maintain an 87 average with teacher permission to exempt.**

## 475 AP Statistics

Grades 11-12

Full Year

1.2 Credits

**Prerequisites:** A- or better in Algebra 2 with teacher recommendation or B in Honors Algebra 2 with teacher recommendation or A- or better in Precalculus with teacher recommendation. **TI-83+/TI-84 required.**

**Description:** This course will introduce students to the major concepts and tools for collecting, analyzing, and drawing conclusions from data. Students are exposed to four broad conceptual themes: 1. Exploring Data: Observing patterns and departures from patterns. 2. Planning a study: Deciding what and how to

measure. 3. Anticipating Patterns: Producing models using probability theory and simulation. 4. Statistical Inference and Confirming Models.

**Enrollment in AP courses requires that the student take the AP exam.**

**The AP level added weight will be granted to students who successfully complete the required course work and who take the related AP exam. No AP designated weight will be granted to a student who does not take the related AP exam or who violates a College Board Exam Policy (i.e.: use of cell phone, etc). All students taking an AP course must also take the course final or an alternate assignment (subject specific) unless they maintain an 87 average with teacher permission to exempt.**

## Music

The music program is designed to provide interested students with opportunities to develop their talents through active participation in both vocal and instrumental performing groups. Each performing group offers students an opportunity to study the compositional elements and structure of music.

A passing grade in one-half year course in the fine arts, which may include courses in music or art, is required for graduation.

150	Band	164	Honors Chorus
151	Chorus	166	Honors Choir
152	Music Theory I	169	Honors Band
159	Music in Society		

### 150 Band

Grades 9-12

Full Year

1 Credit

**Prerequisites:** Prior instrumental instruction and teacher recommendation. Audition process required. Size of group based on instrumental needs and balance.

**Description:** Students study and perform music of different styles including Pop, Classical, Broadway and Modern. Students will participate in a band ensemble and express themselves musically in a variety of different settings, including marching band. The intention of the course is to encourage the growth of every individual student in a team environment. The band meets on a daily basis and performs several concerts/parades throughout the year.

### 151 Chorus

Grades 9-12

Full Year

1 Credit

**Prerequisites:** None.

**Description:** Students study and perform music of different styles including Pop, Classical, Broadway and Modern in a variety of different concerts throughout the year. Students will learn about healthy singing, musical form and style with varying degrees of voicing and difficulty. The intention of the course is to encourage the growth of every individual student in a team environment.

## 152 Fundamentals of Music/Theory

Grades 9-12                      1 Semester                      .5 Credit

**Prerequisites:** Prior instrumental/vocal instruction and teacher recommendation.

**Description:** This course includes the study of basic notation, harmonic theory, ear training, transposition and composition. It will enhance a student's knowledge and appreciation for music through the study of how music is created. This course is required for students intending to pursue music as a career.

## 159 Music in Society

Grades 9-12                      1 Semester                      .5 Credit

**Prerequisites:** None

**Description:** 'Music in Society' is a class that will present and study music as both the mirror of, and the catalyst for social events throughout history. A wide variety of topics will be explored, chosen from suggestions made by class members. Examples of possible study questions might be:

- Did the protest music of the 60's and 70's accurately reflect the social climate of America in that era; and if so, who's America?
- What does the "music of a generation" really say about the lifestyles and ideas of that generation?
- Where did the idea of "musicians as stars and icons" come from?
- Who should have the right to duplicate and distribute music (copyright) and what are the issues that musicians now face in the light of technology which allows everyone in the world instantaneous access to anyone's musical contributions?

Materials used will be taken from current periodic literature, Internet sources, and selections from texts, which address the issues selected for discussion. Students will research topics, write short opinion papers, debate/discuss issues, and listen to a wide variety of music in class and for homework. Projects will involve presenting and analyzing works of individual choosing. (NO music with parental advisory labels will be permitted).

## 164 Honors Chorus

Grades 10-12                      Full Year                      1 credit

**Prerequisites:** Prior choral instruction and teacher recommendation. Audition/application process required. Must have successfully completed **151 Chorus** with a passing grade.

**Description:** Students in Honors Chorus perform above and beyond the requirements of **151 Chorus**. In addition to the performance opportunities and academic assignments in **151 Chorus**, the students in the Honors Chorus independently develop areas of performance, academics and extended learning activities to participate in based on their personal strengths and interests. This is a great course for students who are passionate about singing and learning about music.

## 166 Honors Choir

Grades 9-12                      Full Year                      1 Credit

**Prerequisites:** Prior choral instruction and teacher recommendation. Audition/application process required.

**Description:** Students in Honors Choir perform above and beyond the requirements of **151 Chorus**. In addition to the performance opportunities and academic assignments in **151 Chorus**, the students in the Honors Chorus have additional performance opportunities and independently develop areas of performance, academics and extended learning activities to participate in based on their personal strengths and interests. This is a great course for students who are looking to be musically challenged and who are passionate about performing.

## 169 Honors Band

Grades 10-12

Full Year

1 credit

**Prerequisites:** Prior instrumental instruction and teacher recommendation. Audition/application process required. Must have successfully completed **150 Band** with a passing grade.

**Description:** Students in Honors Band perform above and beyond the requirements of **150 Band**. In addition to the performance opportunities and academic assignments in **150 Band**, the students in the Honors Band independently develop areas of performance, academics and extended learning activities to participate in based on their personal strengths and interests. This is a great course for students who are looking to be musically challenged and are passionate about playing an instrument.

## Physical Education

In the physical education program, each student will develop fitness, coordination, basic motor movement skills, sport skills, knowledge of the rules and basic strategy of each sport/activity, and acceptable social behavior.

Passing grades in two Physical Education courses are required for graduation, which includes Physical Education in Grades 9 and 10.

Physical Education II is offered in 11th and 12th grade as an elective.

Health classes for grades 9 and 10 are incorporated into the Physical Education I class.

**Students must select either 506 or 502 in grades 9 and 10.**

502 Physical Education I Team and Individual Games- required

503 Physical Education II - elective

506 Physical Education I Lifetime Games/Activities- required

## 502 Physical Education: Team & Individual Games

Grades 9-10

1 Semester

.5 Credit

**Prerequisite:** None

**Description:** Students **must** choose either 506 or 502 in grades 9-10.

Primary emphasis will be on fitness development through team and individual games. Both lifetime games and activities are included. Students will participate in activities such as football, basketball, badminton, tennis, handball, ultimate frisbee, disc golf, pickleball, volleyball, resistance training, softball, soccer, archery, speedball and new games.

### 503 Physical Education II - (Elective)

Grades 11-12                      1 Semester                      .5 Credit

**Prerequisite:** Successful completion of one credit in P.E.

**Description:** Students will develop fitness through the following lifetime sports: archery, new games, soccer, softball, tennis, frisbee, volleyball, weight training, physical fitness, racquetball, badminton, basketball, football and pickleball. (Course demands a high amount of student participation.)

### 506 Physical Education: Lifetime Games/Activities

Grades 9-10                      1 Semester                      .5 Credit

**Prerequisite:** None

**Description:** Students **must** choose either 506 or 502 in grades 9-10.

Primary emphasis will be on fitness development through lifetime sports/activities. Students will participate in a variety of activities such as walking for fitness, yard games, new games, badminton, tennis, archery, pickleball, resistance training, outdoor activities, golf, track and field, disc golf and fitness.

## Career Connections

Career exploration programs, offered through The Counseling and Career Center (CCC), are designed to connect classroom learning and real world experiences. Computerized career assessments, job shadowing, career field trips and guest speaker forums are offered to help students explore career possibilities and determine post-secondary options. This initiative is organized as a partnership through which employers, educators, students, parents and the community work together to help youth prepare for their futures. Students should make an appointment with Ms. Duffy, Career Specialist in the Counseling and Career Center (CCC) to discuss options and opportunities.

882 Career Exploration Independent Study
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### 882 Career Exploration Independent Study

Grades 11-12                      1 Semester                      .25 Credit

**Prerequisites:** A written proposal, permission of the Career Specialist and School Counselor and a 70 average.

**Description:** This independent study is designed for motivated students interested in investigating a career of their choice in depth to help determine their college and career options. Workplace learning opportunities including job shadowing and one-on-one informational interviews will be included in the independent study and will be supplemented by college and career research using online tools and databases, and career assessments. A detailed career portfolio and/or oral presentation will be used as final assessment tools. Upon completion of all requirements a P/F grade will be assigned.

## Science

The goals of science instruction at Somers High School are to enable students to understand and apply the scientific method of inquiry, to acquire knowledge of scientific facts and concepts, to become scientifically literate and to derive knowledge from “hands on” activities.

A passing grade in 3 credits of science is required for graduation, including Freshman Integrated Science in grade 9, and Biology in grade 10.

600	Integrated Science	627	Chemistry
608	Anatomy and Physiology	628	Honors Chemistry
611	Botany	629	AP Chemistry
612	Marine Science	630	Honors Physics
614	Science and Law	607	Microbiology: Exploring the Microscopic World
616	Survey in Forensics	632	Zoology: Exploring the Animal Kingdom
623	Biology		
631	Honors Biology		
626	AP UCONN ECE Biology		

### 600 Integrated Science

Grade 9                      Full Year                      1 Credit

**Prerequisite:** None

**Description:** This course is designed to introduce students to the basics of chemical structures and properties, physical science and energy in the Earth’s system. The course is in the process of being aligned with the Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS).

### 623 Biology

Grades 10-12              Full Year                      1 Credit

**Prerequisite:** Successful completion of Integrated Science.

**Description:** This course will introduce the students to the basics of Biology. Students will learn to use problem-solving skills and to think critically. The course is in the process of being aligned with the Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS). Topics will include structure and function of cells, population dynamics, DNA and genetics, evolution/biodiversity, as well as, environmental issues. Students will use knowledge gained in the classroom to make informed decisions regarding community issues and make real-world connections.

### 631 Honors Biology

Grade 10                      Full Year                      1 Credit

**Prerequisite:** B+ or higher in Integrated Science freshman year and science teacher recommendation.

**Description:** Honors Biology covers topics typically covered in a high school biology course and is designed to be more in depth and detailed to prepare students for taking the AP/ECE UCONN Biology their junior or senior year and will provide an opportunity to students who wish to experience an honors level Biology course. In addition, activities that support independent practice and self-motivation will be embedded into the course. There is a focus on independent learning, working at a faster pace and

rigorous course work. Students study the structures, functions, and processes of living organisms and their interactions with the environment. Major themes include cell structure, cell communication and specialization, energy and chemistry of life, genetics and evolution, diversity of life, plant systems, and ecology.

## 608 Anatomy and Physiology

Grade 11-12

1 Semester

.5 Credit

**Prerequisites:** B or better in Biology, teacher recommendation, and high self-motivation.

**Description:** This is a fast paced ½ year course involving in depth lectures and laboratory studies in human anatomy and physiology. The following systems will be studied: digestive, circulatory, respiratory, urinary, muscular, and the nervous system. Mammalian dissection is a part of the course, however accommodations can be made for the faint of heart.

## 626 AP UCONN/ECE Biology

Grades 11-12

Full Year

1.2 Credits

**Prerequisite:** B+ or better in Honors Biology and Honors Chemistry, and teacher recommendation.

**Description:** This is a college freshman biology course. Successful completion of the national Advanced Placement Examination may result in advanced standing or credit in college biology, evolutionary and ecological biology. Only students who are prepared to assume responsibility for studying at a college level may elect this course. In AP Biology course the students have the opportunity to earn UCONN college credit during their AP Biology Course. These credits can be used in all CT State Universities and many out-of-state universities. During the AP Biology year, the students may enroll in **BIO 1108: Principles of Biology II** during the fall and **Bio 1107: Principles of Biology I** in the spring. These are the actual freshman biology courses that incoming UCONN students take. The students will be required to take the final for each course, which is established and written by the Biology department at UCONN. The student will be required to receive a grade of C in order to get credit for the course.

**Enrollment in AP courses requires that the student take the AP exam.**

**The AP level added weight will be granted to students who successfully complete the required course work and who take the related AP exam. No AP designated weight will be granted to a student who does not take the related AP exam or who violates a College Board Exam Policy (i.e.: use of cell phone, etc). All students taking an AP course must also take the course final or an alternate assignment (subject specific) unless they maintain an 87 average with teacher permission to exempt.**

## 627 Chemistry

Grades 11-12

Full Year

1 Credit

**Prerequisites:** C- or better in Biology is required and teacher recommendation.

**Description:** Chemistry is designed to be a non-intimidating chemistry course designated for the college bound student who will not be pursuing a science related field. Chemistry covers the traditional aspects of chemistry while demonstrating chemistry's role in society and applying it to real-world issues. This course is heavily lab based in order to help reinforce the concepts. An understanding of basic algebra is very useful for this course. The major units are based on the state standards and include atomic structure, bonding, reactions, solutions, organic and nuclear chemistry.

**628 Honors Chemistry**

Grades 10-12

Full Year

1 Credit

**Prerequisites:** B+ or better in Biology and Algebra 1 and teacher recommendation. **Freshman** may be recommended by their Integrated Science teacher to take both Biology/Honors Biology and Honors Chemistry during their sophomore year.

**Description:** This course is designed for students planning to continue their education in the sciences, engineering, or associated medical fields. The course will cover, in depth, topics of atomic structure, chemical bonding and reactions, solubility and solution concentration, acid-base theories and reactions, reaction dynamics; and topics in basic organic and nuclear chemistry. The student is expected to be able to set up and solve proportions, work with exponential notation, and handle common logarithms. Laboratory experiences will be provided to develop skills and to complement course topics.

**629 AP Chemistry**

Grades 11-12

Full Year

1.2 Credits

**Prerequisites:** B+ or better in Honors Chemistry and Algebra 2 or a C- or better in Honors Algebra 2, and a Chemistry teacher recommendation.

**Description:** This is a college freshman chemistry course. The course is designed for students planning on majoring in science related fields. Emphasis will be placed on sophisticated problem solving, theory and laboratory work. The class final will be comprehensive and cover material learned throughout the year.

**Enrollment in AP courses requires that the student take the AP exam.**

The AP level added weight will be granted to students who successfully complete the required course work and who take the related AP exam. **No AP designated weight will be granted to a student who does not take the related AP exam or who violates a College Board Exam Policy (i.e.: use of cell phone, etc).** All students taking an AP course must also take the course final or an alternate assignment (subject specific) unless they maintain an 87 average with teacher permission to exempt.

**630 Honors Physics**

Grades 11-12

Full Year

1.2 Credits

**Prerequisites:** B- in Honors/Biology and/or Honors/Chemistry (can be concurrent); and completion of Honors/Algebra II with a B-, and teacher recommendation.

**Description:** Physics is concerned with the study of matter, energy, forces, and their interaction in the world and universe around us. Topics in this course include the concepts of classical mechanics and the wave phenomena of light, sounds, and electricity. A strong emphasis is placed on problem solving and laboratory work. Concepts will be connected to real world applications whenever possible.

**611 Botany**

Grades 11-12

1 Semester

.5 Credit

**Prerequisite:** Successful completion Biology is required.

**Description:** Botany is a study of plant biology. The purpose of this half-year course is to expose students to the ecological importance of plants in our environments. Topics will include human uses of plants, plant classification and anatomy and physiology of plants. Laboratories and in-class activities are

performed to support general lecture material in order to gain a clearer understanding of the importance of plants in our lives.

## 612 Marine Science

Grades 11-12                      1 Semester                      .5 Credit

**Prerequisites:** Successful completion of Biology is required.

**Description:** Marine Science is a study of the biotic and abiotic environments of the ocean.

The purpose of this half-year course is to expose students to the habitats of the ocean. Topics will include marine ecosystems, properties of water, waves and currents, and a survey of animal and plant life of the ocean as well as the interrelationship of the species within a marine community. This is a hands-on course with many problem-solving activities. Marine Science is an interdisciplinary course with an emphasis on Math and writing.

## 614 Science and Law

Grades 11-12                      1 Semester                      .5 Credit

**Prerequisites:** Successful completion of Biology is required.

**Description:** Science and Law is a one-semester course that will examine the legal implications of specific advances, current issues, historical cases in science, bioethics, health law, and case studies. Also will introduce advances in genetic engineering and cloning present new laws specific to the health field and to the area of property law. Attention will be given to the fast advancing science as it is shaping the current law. This course is an interdisciplinary course, which includes hands-on activities and independent research projects.

## 616 Survey in Forensics

Grades 11-12                      1 Semester                      .5 Credit

**Prerequisites:** Successful completion of Biology is required.

**Description:** Forensics is an interdisciplinary course with an emphasis on advanced math and law. This survey course explores several topics within the field of forensic science, including, but not limited to, blood spatter analysis, DNA, anthropology, fingerprinting, trace evidence and crime science processing.

## 607 Microbiology: Exploring the Microscopic World

Grades 11-12                      1 Semester                      .5 Credit

**Prerequisites:** Successful completion of Biology

**Description:** This course covers principles of microbiology and is designed for students who want to expand their knowledge of the microscopic world. Topics include: the structure and function of bacteria, viruses, and fungi; the diseases caused by these microorganisms and their treatments; and the identification and control of these pathogens. Many labs will be done that will expand and reinforce major topics and teach sterile technique in the lab.

## 632 Zoology: Exploring the Animal Kingdom

Grades 11-12

1 Semester

.5 Credit

**Prerequisites:** Successful completion of Biology

**Description:** In this course, the students will examine the animal kingdom, from invertebrates to vertebrates, through the evolution of the species along the phylogenetic tree. Taxonomy and animal interactions with each other and their environment will be studied.

## Social Studies

Each student is a part of American society with certain rights and responsibilities. In order to exercise these rights and responsibilities, it is important that each student has an understanding of the functioning of society and to be equipped with the societal skills necessary to cope with life. To this end, students are encouraged to take a social studies course each semester of their high school careers.

A passing grade in specific social studies courses is required for graduation. The required courses include World History (offered in grade 9 only) and the two United States History courses (offered in grades 10 and 11).

702 World History	716 Introduction to Psychology
704 Current Affairs	717 Introduction to Philosophy
705 World Between the Wars	718 Introduction to Sociology
707 Ancient History	719 Principles of Law
708 Medieval History	720 US History/Civics I
712 AP UCONN/ECE US History	721 US History/Civics 2
714 Government and Politics	728 Investigative and Trial Techniques

## 702 World History

Grade 9

Full Year

1 Credit

**Prerequisite:** None

**Description:** In this course students will study the themes of revolution, nationalism, and imperialism. Students go on to study World War I, the rise of dictators and World War II. They may also consider the new challenges the world faces in the twenty-first century. Students will practice analytical and critical thinking skills and utilize innovative technology in an effort to better understand the world at large.

## 704 Current Affairs

Grades 10-12

1 Semester

.5 Credit

**Prerequisite:** None

**Description:** In this course students will study world and domestic affairs as they happen. Students will discuss the interaction between nations, events within nations, including the United States, and their significance, both immediate and long term.

## 705 World Between the Wars: Warfare in the 20<sup>th</sup> Century

Grades 10-12                      1 Semester                      .5 Credit

**Prerequisite:** None

**Description:** This course examines the origins and development of the First World War, the rise of the dictators in the 1920's and 1930's, as well as the origins and development of the Second World War. Special attention will be given to the political, economic and military aspects of this very volatile period of time. We will study the use of propaganda in times of conflict, as well as the role of new technologies in warfare.

## 707 Ancient History

Grades 10-12                      1 Semester                      .5 Credit

**Prerequisite:** None

**Description:** This study of humankind, its development, and the societies that it has created provides an understanding of world developments of the past and the present. The societies that will be studied existed from the early cave dwellers to the end of the Roman Empire and include Egypt, Greece, Rome and China, with our focus centering on the western civilizations.

## 708 Medieval History

Grades 10-12                      1 Semester                      .5 Credit

**Prerequisite:** None

**Description:** This course traces the historical development of humanity, with an emphasis on Europe, from the fall of the Roman Empire to the development of a feudal society and the emergence of the revolutionary spirit of which our struggle for independence was a part. Emphasis will be placed on the historical perspective.

## 720 United States History/Civics I

Grade 10                              Full Year                              1 Credit

**Prerequisite:** Successful completion of World History.

**Description:** This course is divided into two distinct parts: civics and 19th century United States history. During the first semester, students will study the foundational principles of the Constitution and the structure of our national, state and local governments. They will also examine the citizen's role in government, including our rights and responsibilities. During the second semester, students will study the expansion and growth of technology and industry and its effects on American society. Students will continue to evaluate the role of government as it changed during the Progressive Era and was challenged by involvement in international affairs of the twentieth century. Emphasis will be given to the development of critical thinking skills through analysis of primary sources, writing argumentative essays and preparing oral arguments.

## 721 United States History/Civics II

Grade 11                              Full Year                              1 Credit

**Prerequisites:** Successful completion of U.S. History/Civics I.

**Description:** This course explores the historical development of the United States from 1920 to the present. The students will examine the movements and events, which have shaped the United States as it has developed into a world leader. This course will demonstrate how politics, economics and war have shaped the United States after World War 1. Students are required to attend two meetings of local government during the school year.

## 712 AP UCONN/ECE US History

Grade 11

Full Year

1 Credit

**Prerequisites:** B+ or better in World History and Civics in addition to a B or better on the 10<sup>th</sup> grade Civics essay. If the student did not earn a B or better on the Civics essay, they must complete and pass a document based question assessment in order to be eligible for consideration for AP US History.

**Description:** This course will be an intensive study of our nation's history. The students will explore the historical development of the United States from 1606 to the present. During their study, they will examine the ideals, movements and events that shaped the United States as it developed into a world leader and maintained that role to the present. Considerable emphasis will be placed on the role of the United States in the world.

The AP United States history course also has a component where students can earn up to six credits at the University of Connecticut. If students choose, they can enroll in the Early College Experience (ECE) program at UCONN. Through that program they will earn credit in two classes: HIST 1501 and HIST 1502. As long as students maintain a "C" or better they will earn a transcript from UCONN for up to six credits (three credits each semester). That transcript is transferable to other universities and colleges throughout the country.

**Enrollment in AP courses requires that the student take the AP exam.**

**The AP level added weight will be granted to students who successfully complete the required course work and who take the related AP exam. No AP designated weight will be granted to a student who does not take the related AP exam or who violates a College Board Exam Policy (i.e.: use of cell phone, etc) All students taking an AP course must also take the course final or an alternate assignment (subject specific) unless they maintain an 87 average with teacher permission to exempt.**

## 714 Government and Politics

Grades 11-12

1 Semester

.5 Credit

**Prerequisites:** None

**Description:** Emphasizing responsibilities as well as rights, this course examines the functional aspects of citizenship, our roles as effective political beings, the nature and functions of our governments, federal, state, and local, the problems and privileges of citizenship and the fundamentals of the Constitution. Also this course focuses time on current affairs as this relates to civic/government.

## 716 Introduction to Psychology

Grades 11-12

1 Semester

.5 Credit

**Prerequisite:** None

**Description:** This course will introduce students to the basic structure of the science of psychology.

Students will examine human development, from birth to maturity, and human behavior both normal and abnormal. Topics to be covered include: sensation, perception, learning, motivation and emotion, sleep and dreams, personality and adjustment, intelligence and aptitude.

## **717 Introduction to Philosophy**

Grades 11-12                      1 Semester                      .5 Credit

**Prerequisite:** None

**Description:** This course seeks to help students develop a conceptual framework and vocabulary for discussing important intellectual and social issues. Philosophy can assist us in understanding that claims to absolute knowledge are not to be taken at face value, and it can guide us through the perplexing issues raised by public policy debates.

Lastly, philosophy can assist in forming thinking when people are misled by specious arguments and faulty reasoning. Its application applies to all areas of our life and therefore developing philosophical thinking is crucial to our own self-development as independent thinkers.

## **718 Introduction to Sociology**

Grades 11-12                      1 Semester                      .5 Credit

**Prerequisite:** None

**Description:** This introductory course guides the study of human behavior in society through the understanding of five key concepts: social structure, social action, functional integration, power and culture. Students will use these terms to deconstruct and understand today's social issues. Some topics may include comparative cultures, social behavior/interaction, and socialization of gender, race or ethnicity.

## **719 Principles of Law**

Grades 11-12                      1 Semester                      .5 Credit

**Prerequisite:** None

**Description:** This survey of law covers constitutional, criminal and civil law. Basic legal concepts and the principles on which the American legal system is built will be treated in depth. The topics span from the foundational theory of our legal system to contemporary constitutional law.

## **728 Investigative and Trial Techniques**

Grades 11-12                      1 Semester                      .5 Credit

**Prerequisite:** None

**Description:** This course will be based on the enduring understanding that effective litigation and trial law requires a well-rounded background in a variety of legal disciplines as well as practical and theoretical understandings. This course will provide students with a well-rounded background in a variety of legal disciplines, with opportunities for interdisciplinary study and concentration in particular areas of interest. In addition to knowing the law, however, an effective litigator must develop skills in the areas of factual analysis, written and oral argument, and effective communication, as well as a sense of drama and artistry. Each foundational area of instruction will culminate in a mock trial based on the above subject matter

## Special Education

To receive special education services, students must meet the criteria defined by Federal Law PL 94-142, the Education for All Handicapped Children Act and PL108-446, The Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act of 2004 (IDEA). Students are identified under the following categories: intellectual disability, hearing impairment, speech or language impairment, visual impairment, emotional disturbance, orthopedic impairment, other health impairment, specific learning disability, deaf-blindness, multiple disabilities, autism, traumatic brain injury, or developmental delay (ages 3-5). Those students receiving special education services at the high school are determined eligible for services until receipt of a high school diploma or until the age of 21, as determined by the Planning and Placement Team (PPT).

Through the Planning and Placement Team process an Individualized Education Plan (IEP) is developed for eligible students. Parents and students needing further information on special education opportunities may speak to their school counselor or to the special education district office/staff.

### 511 Healthy Living

Grades 11-12

Full Year

1 Credit

**Prerequisite:** Recommendation of Teacher

**Description:** This course is designed to provide students with an understanding of many aspects of leading a healthy life. The content of the course will cover the areas of personal living skills, home living, community living and self-awareness. Each of these areas will be explored in depth and include a variety of current topics related to leading a healthy life. Students will participate in class discussions, projects and research opportunities.

### 860 Resource Study Skills

Grade 9

1 Semester

.5 Credit

**Prerequisite:** PPT Recommendation

**Description:** This course is designed for students to practice and improve the skills of goal setting, organization, time management, listening, note taking, test taking, memory and self-advocacy. In addition to improving study skills and increasing academic success, this course encourages students to apply these skills in order to become independent learners. Many of the transferable skills related to employment as well as to school include an awareness of personal interests and abilities and the importance of communication skills.

### 870 Work Education Seminar

Grades 11-12

Full Year

1 Credit

**Prerequisite:** Recommendation of Teacher

**Description:** This course is designed to provide students with an understanding of the world of work and assist them with the transition from High School to post-school employment, education, community participation, and independent living. The content of the course will include activities for the students to identify their interests and match them to a variety of career options or career clusters. Careers will be explored through research as well as work experience opportunities. Also included in the course will be the opportunity for students to develop the skill and knowledge necessary for locating, applying, and interviewing for jobs to secure employment in the community. The course will include critical information regarding accessing adult service providers, such as; DDS, BRS, and disability services at the college level. Another piece to the course will be the opportunity for students to develop strong self-advocacy

skills by increasing their knowledge of their own disability, strengths, and weaknesses. Other areas of concentration included in this course are; relating to others, money management, consumerism, housing, food choices and preparation, clothing, and health care.

## Technology Innovation Design & Engineering

The Technology Innovation Design & Engineering (TIDE) department offers an activity-oriented program that provides insight, understanding and application of 21<sup>st</sup> Century technological concepts, processes and systems. The curriculum is divided into three areas of concentration: Visual and Multimedia Design, Production/Applied Engineering and Engineering Design. These pathways assist students in selecting sequential courses within their focus or interest. For strong technological literacy and cross-curricular connections, students should explore multiple areas of each strand within the TIDE program.

### TIDE Strands

#### Visual and Multimedia Design

Graphic Design I – Print Media Design  
 Graphic Design II – Web Design  
 Honors Graphic Design III – Interactive Design  
 Digital Photography

#### Production/Applied Engineering

World of Technology  
 Manufacturing - Woodworking  
 Manufacturing – Metalworking  
 Advanced Manufacturing  
 Welding  
 Honors CNC Machining

#### Engineering Design

Honors Engineering Graphics I  
 Honors Engineering Graphics II  
 Architectural Design  
 Scientific Principles of Technology  
 Robotics

#### Capstone Opportunities

Honors Research and Development  
 Technology Seminar

A passing grade in one half-year course in the practical arts is required for graduation. Selected course work completed in the TIDE, Business or Vocational Foods areas will meet this requirement. In order to meet the computer literacy requirement for graduation, students must complete a course that uses computers. A number of TIDE courses will meet this requirement, including Honors Engineering Graphics I, Graphic Design I, or Architectural Design.

907	Manufacturing – Woodworking	957	Technology Seminar
908	Manufacturing – Metalworking	949	Honors Engineering Graphics I
909	Advanced Manufacturing	945	Digital Photography
911	Scientific Prin. of Technology	947	Robotics
912	Honors Research & Development	948	Honors CNC Machining
913	Welding	953	Architectural Design
940	World of Technology	954	Graphic Design I - Print Media Design
932	Honors Engineering Graphics II	955	Graphic Design II – Web Design
		919	Honors Graphic Design III – Interactive

## 940 World of Technology

Grades 9-10                      1 Semester                      .5 Credit

**Prerequisite:** None

**Description:** This course provides an understanding of technology as a process. Students will explore the areas of communication, power/energy/transportation, manufacturing, construction and biotechnology. Activities will be introduced to provide understanding of; research, design, critical thinking, problem solving, data collection, experimentation, computer applications, impact and projection studies, and engineering design.

## 949 Honors Engineering Graphics I

Grades 9-12                      1 Semester                      .5 Credit

**Prerequisite:** None

**Description:** Students will be introduced to the concept of engineering design through Solidworks software. This course will introduce students to the world of modeling in three-dimensional space and output of two-dimensional orthographic projections. Students will appreciate the digital world of computer-aided drafting and design and its application and role in the engineering world.

## 932 Honors Engineering Graphics II

Grades 10-12                      1 Semester                      .5 Credit

**Prerequisite:** Successful completion of Engineering Graphics I with Solidworks with a C- or better.

**Description:** Students will further their knowledge in Solid Modeling with a focus on material analysis, non-destructive virtual testing, engineering design and engineering journals. Students in this course will also prepare for, and take an industrial certification test in Solidworks to become a Certified Solidworks Associate.

## 948 Honors CNC Machining

Grades 10-12                      1 Semester                      .5 Credit

**Prerequisite:** Completion of Engineering Graphics 1 with a C- or better.

**Description:** This course is designed to offer students a focused, in-depth experience in the field of CNC (computer numeric control) machining. Through project based learning, students will utilize MasterCam CADD/Cam software and G-Code to design products using a variety of materials. Students will learn about safer operation and setup of CNC machines within the SHS TIDE facility.

## 953 Architectural Design

Grades 10-12                      1 Semester                      .5 Credit

**Prerequisite:** None

**Description:** Students will use engineering design principles in the development of a detailed set of plans for a residential structure. Through construction principles and the operation of Chief Architect software, students will develop a complete set of construction plans including cost analysis and develop a scale model of their design. Exploration in materials/construction techniques will provide structural understanding/appreciation throughout the process.

## 954 Graphic Design I – Print Media Design

Grades 9-12                      1 Semester                      .5 Credit

**Prerequisite:** None

**Description:** Students will investigate the Graphic Design area concentrating on information generation and transfer via graphic and electronic media. Students will apply techniques in image manipulation, layout and illustrations for the Print Media field. The students will develop understanding of these concepts through activities using Adobe's CC master design suite.

## 955 Graphic Design II – Web Design

Grades 10-12                      1 Semester                      .5 Credit

**Prerequisite:** Successful completion of Graphic Design I with a C- or better.

**Description:** This course will expand the students' knowledge within the digital communication field. Students will develop skills in web structure and development along with preparation of media for the web. Through the Adobe's CC Design Suite, students will further their knowledge of graphic design to develop and manage their own web space.

## 919 Honors Graphic Design III – Interactive Media

Grades 10-12                      1 Semester                      .5 Credit

**Prerequisite:** Successful completion of Graphic Design I & II with a C- or better.

**Description:** This course will expand the student's knowledge within the digital communication field. Multi-media production integrated with interface design forms the backbone of this class. Students will participate in individual and group assignments focused on multimedia project planning and management, multi-media generation, video/audio/animation editing techniques, and program design.

## 907 Manufacturing - Woodworking

Grades 10-12                      1 Semester                      .5 Credit

**Prerequisite:** Students will be charged for materials used in their personal projects.

**Description:** Students will explore how information, tools and machines are used to create usable products from raw materials. Students will learn about safety practices and the safer operation of tools and machines used in the woodworking environment. Various woodworking techniques, project planning, material calculations and joinery methods will be taught through tangible woodworking projects.

## 908 Manufacturing - Metalworking

Grades 10-12                      1 Semester                      .5 Credit

**Prerequisite:** None

**Description:** This class will explore how products are manufactured from common industrial metals. Students will learn about safety practices and the safer operation of tools and machines used in the fabrication of metal parts. Projects and other hands-on activities will teach students about modern manufacturing topics including: Computer-aided drafting and design, machining (manual and CNC), casting, welding, sheet metal work, and forming.

**909 Advanced Manufacturing**

Grades 10-12

1 Semester

.5 Credit

**Prerequisite:** Successful completion of Manufacturing – Woodworking.

**Description:** This course will expand upon the knowledge and skill that students develop in Manufacturing Woodworking. Students will develop and produce their own individual project designs. In addition to personal projects, students will engage in group manufacturing activities that focus on mass production. Topics of this class include: Safety instruction of the manufacturing tools and machines within the TIDE facility, tool and machine use, product design and development, production strategies and CNC.

**911 Scientific Principles of Technology**

Grades 11-12

Full Year

1 Credit (.5 Science)

**Prerequisite:** Algebra or above, may be taken concurrently with permission of instructor.

**Description:** An innovative applied physics course, which connects the technological world with its foundations in science. Hands-on lab activities, video presentations, demonstrations and discussions will provide understanding of the principles of fluid, mechanical, electrical, and thermal systems with respect to technological applications.

**912 Honors Research and Development (Pre-Engineering)**

Grade 12

Full Year

1 Credit

**Prerequisite:** Students must have the **instructor's permission to join the class.**

**Description:** Members of this class will explore recent developments in manufacturing construction, communication and transportation. The team will select an area of concentration on which they will focus their research. The team will narrow their attention to some human problem in this area (such as, but not limited to, alternative energy, solar and electric cars, habitats, consumer products or communication enhancers) that needs resolution. The team will complete a working prototype/final project of their design.

**913 Welding**

Grades 11-12

1 Quarter

.25 Credit

**Prerequisite:** None.

**Description:** Students will explore modern welding and cutting processes including: Arc (stick welding), MIG, TIG, Plasma, and Gas. Safer operation of tools and machines related to welding will be taught. Students will apply this knowledge to a variety of hands-on activities and projects.

**945 Digital Photography**

Grades 11-12

1 Quarter

.25 Credit

**Prerequisite:** None

**Description:** This course will cover the basic operation of a digital S.L.R. camera, how the camera is used for taking different style photographs, visual design principles and digital photo treatments. Blue/green screen techniques, lighting concepts and Photoshop will provide the foundation for knowledge within this digital environment.

**947 Robotics**

Grades 9-12

1 Semester

.5 Credit

**Prerequisite:** None

**Description:** This S.T.E.M. (science, technology, engineering and mathematics) course emphasizes problem solving, teamwork, programming and basic robotic understanding. Students will participate using a variety of 21st century skills including building simple robots, programming in “Basic C” language, autonomous controls and the application of mathematical and scientific principles. Through challenging design briefs, students will create robots to perform specific tasks. Students will also have experience programming a humanoid robot.

**957 Technology Seminar (Independent Study)**

Grade 12

Depending on Credit

.25, .5, .75, or 1 Credit

**Prerequisite:** Teacher Permission only. **Students will be charged for materials if their project is of a personal nature that will be taken home at the end of the activity.**

**Description:** This opportunity is for the student who has fulfilled all the classes offered within the Visual/Film Media strand, Production/Applied Engineering strand, or Engineering Design strand, and is seeking to further their experience within their concentration. The student will be held accountable for the knowledge of all course curriculums within that strand and will be challenged to enhance and use that knowledge at a higher level through a real life project. The student will meet with the teachers of the Technology Education program prior to the student’s participation to discuss, select the framework for the project (this could be project based or exist as a teacher’s aid if deemed appropriate), and to identify the assessment criteria that the student will be held accountable for at the end of the experience.

**College Career Pathways****Articulated Courses and Clusters - Credit for College**

College Career Pathways is a formal articulation agreement between Asnuntuck Community College and Somers High School. When enrolled in articulated courses, students will take the course at the high school and then have the opportunity to earn credit from both Somers High School and Asnuntuck Community College. The students are required to fill out an ACC application as well as a CCP application and submit both before the deadline date. Whatever grade a student earns at Somers High School will then be on their transcript for the corresponding course at ACC. Articulated courses are offered through the Business and Math departments. Applications are available from the CCP Coordinator, Mr. Niziolek.

**SHS Course****Articulated ACC Course Credits****Core Courses – Math**

Honors Algebra II

MAT: 137 - Intermediate Algebra

3

## Business and Finance

Computer Applications/1 & 2 Integrated

CSC: 101 - Introduction to Computers 3

**Notes:** There is an add/drop period for students who enroll in the program and then later decide that they do not wish to participate. If the student drops the dual enrollment before the deadline they will not have anything listed on their ACC transcript. Dropping after the deadline will result in a Withdraw on their transcript.

\*\*Students must take the Accuplacer test at ACC and receive a 55 or higher to be eligible.

\*\*Students will be required to take a cumulative ACC final exam in addition to the SHS final.

### Students who plan to enroll in College Career Pathways programs need to adhere to the following procedures:

1. Meet with your counselor and your College Career Pathways Coordinator, Mr. Niziolek.
2. Complete a College Career Pathways application and an ACC enrollment application.
3. Submit completed forms to the College Career Pathways Coordinator before deadline date.

## World Language

The primary goal of the world language program is to provide students with the skills to communicate in at least one language other than English, and increase their understanding of other cultures. Students will expand their knowledge of other disciplines through their study of language and culture, and participate in multilingual communities. A multimedia approach is used in the acquisition, demonstration and assessment of World Language skills.

Although the completion of world language courses are not required for high school graduation, most colleges and universities suggest the completion of a minimum of two years of world language study for admission. (Three years are strongly recommended.)

403 Intro to Spanish  
 394 Spanish 1  
 354 Spanish 2 Honors  
 355 Spanish 2  
 356 Spanish 3 Honors  
 357 Spanish 3  
 358 Spanish 4 Honors  
 359 Spanish 4  
 389 Spanish 5 Honors

401 Intro to French  
 369 French 1  
 362 French 2 Honors  
 363 French 2  
 364 French 3 Honors  
 365 French 3  
 366 French 4 Honors  
 367 French 4  
 368 French 5 Honors

**401 Intro to French**

Grades 9-12                      Full Year                      1 Credit

**Prerequisite:** None

**Description:** This course is for students with no prior French language experience. Upon successful completion of this course with a C-, students may go to French 1.

**369 French 1**

Grades 9-12                      Full Year                      1 Credit

**Prerequisite:** C- in Intro to French

**Description:** Students are expected to learn basic communication skills based on grammar and vocabulary. These skills are enhanced by oral and written exercises, directed classroom conversation and dialogues, short original dialogues, short original compositions and selected readings. All activities are planned with the objective of learning about the many cultures of Francophone countries through authentic sources to build both oral and written proficiency. The pace of this course allows students the opportunity to practice and improve their skills.

**362 Honors French 2**

Grades 9-12                      Full Year                      1 Credit

**Prerequisite:** B+ in French 1

**Description:** The students expand their knowledge of basic grammatical structures and vocabulary, increasing proficiency in listening, speaking, reading and writing French in order to communicate in a wide range of situations. They will use authentic materials featuring native speakers and cultural topics of the francophone world. Students will prepare presentations and read challenging selections with emphasis on grammar.

**363 French 2**

Grades 9-12                      Full Year                      1 Credit

**Prerequisite:** C- in French 1

**Description:** Students expand their knowledge of basic grammatical structures and vocabulary, increasing proficiency in listening, speaking, reading and writing French in order to communicate in a wide range of situations. They will use authentic materials featuring native speakers and cultural topics of the francophone world. Students in this course will continue to build the language foundation acquired in beginning levels. The pace of this class allows students the opportunity to practice and improve their skills.

**364 Honors French 3**

Grades 10-12                      Full Year                      1 Credit

**Prerequisite:** B+ in French 2 Honors.

**Description:** The focus is on productive language skills as students review and increase knowledge of French grammar and vocabulary. There is emphasis on oral and written exercises, original dialogues, composition, selected readings, and discussions. Cultural components are introduced through authentic

materials including newspapers, magazines, videos, and television. Students will prepare presentations and read challenging selections with more emphasis on grammar.

### 365 French 3

Grades 10-12 Full Year 1 Credit

**Prerequisite:** C- in French 2 or French 2 Honors

**Description:** The focus is on productive language skills as students review and increase knowledge of French grammar and vocabulary. There is emphasis on oral and written exercises, original dialogues, composition, selected readings, and discussions. Cultural components are introduced through authentic materials including newspapers, magazines, videos, and television. Students in this course will continue to build the language foundation acquired in French 2. The pace of this course allows students the opportunity to practice and improve their skills.

### 366 Honors French 4

Grades 11-12 Full Year 1 Credit

**Prerequisite:** B+ in French 3 Honors.

**Description:** Students review and expand grammar and vocabulary. Reading selections and other course material enhance cultural understanding. There is an emphasis on oral expression and writing using advanced French grammar. Students will prepare presentations and read challenging selections with more emphasis on grammar.

### 367 French 4

Grades 11-12 Full Year 1 Credit

**Prerequisite:** C- in French 3 or French 3 Honors.

**Description:** Students review and expand grammar and vocabulary. Reading selections and other course material enhance cultural understanding. There is an emphasis on oral expression and writing using correct French grammar. Students in this course will continue to build the language foundation acquired in French 3. The pace allows students the opportunity to practice and improve their skills.

### 368 Honors French 5

Grade 12 Full Year 1 Credit

**Prerequisite:** B+ in French 4 Honors.

**Description:** This course places a major emphasis on complete communication in French. Students refine their oral, listening, and writing skills using advanced grammar, selections written for native speakers, presentations and short novels.

### 403 Intro to Spanish

Grades 9-12 Full Year 1 Credit

**Prerequisite:** None

**Description:** This course is for students with no prior Spanish language experience. Upon successful completion of this course with a C-, students may go to Spanish 1.

**394 Spanish 1**

Grades 9-12

Full Year

1 Credit

**Prerequisite:** C- in Intro to Spanish.

**Description:** Students are expected to learn basic communication skills based on grammar and vocabulary. These skills are enhanced by oral and written exercises, directed classroom conversation and dialogues, short original dialogues, short original compositions and selected readings. All activities are planned with the objective of learning about the many cultures of Hispanic countries through authentic sources to build both oral and written proficiency. The pace of this course allows students the opportunity to practice and improve their skills.

**354 Honors Spanish 2**

Grades 9-12

Full Year

1 Credit

**Prerequisite:** B+ in Spanish 1

**Description:** Students expand their knowledge of basic grammatical structures and vocabulary increasing proficiency in listening, speaking, reading, and writing Spanish in order to communicate in a wide range of situations. They will use authentic materials featuring native speakers and Hispanic cultural topics. Students will prepare presentations and read challenging selections with emphasis on grammar.

**355 Spanish 2**

Grades 9-12

Full Year

1 Credit

**Prerequisite:** C- in Spanish 1

**Description:** Students expand their knowledge of basic grammatical structures and vocabulary increasing proficiency in listening, speaking, reading, and writing Spanish in order to communicate in a wide range of situations. They will use authentic materials featuring native speakers and Hispanic cultural topics. Students in this course will continue to build the language foundation acquired in beginning levels. The pace of this course allows students the opportunity to practice and improve their skills.

**356 Honors Spanish 3**

Grades 10-12

Full Year

1 Credit

**Prerequisite:** B+ in Spanish 2 Honors.

**Description:** The focus is on productive language skills as students review and increase knowledge of Spanish grammar and vocabulary. There is emphasis on oral and written exercises, original dialogues, composition, selected readings and discussions. Cultural components are introduced through authentic materials including newspapers, magazines, videos, and television. Spanish 3 Honors students will prepare presentations and read challenging selections with emphasis on grammar.

**357 Spanish 3**

Grades 10-12

Full Year

1 Credit

**Prerequisite:** C- in Spanish 2 or Spanish 2 Honors

**Description:** The focus is on productive language skills as students review and increase knowledge of Spanish grammar and vocabulary. There is emphasis on basic oral and written proficiency. Cultural

components are introduced through authentic materials including newspapers, magazines, videos, and television. Students in this course will continue to build the language foundation acquired in Spanish 2 course. The pace of this course allows students the opportunity to practice and improve their skills.

### **358 Honors Spanish 4**

Grades 11-12

Full Year

1 Credit

**Prerequisite:** B+ in Spanish 3 Honors.

**Description:** Students review and expand grammar and vocabulary through reading selections and other course material designed to enhance cultural understanding. There is an emphasis on oral expression and writing using advanced Spanish grammar. Students will prepare presentations and read challenging selections with emphasis on grammar.

### **359 Spanish 4**

Grades 11-12

Full Year

1 Credit

**Prerequisite:** C- in Spanish 3 or Spanish 3 Honors

**Description:** Students review and expand grammar and vocabulary. Reading selections and other course material are used to enhance cultural understanding. There is an emphasis on oral expression and writing using correct Spanish grammar. Students in this course will continue to build the language foundation acquired in Spanish 3 course. The pace of this course allows students the opportunity to practice and improve their skills.

### **389 Honors Spanish 5**

Grade 12

Full Year

1 Credit

**Prerequisite:** B+ in Spanish 4 Honors.

**Description:** This course places a major emphasis on complete communication in Spanish. Students refine their oral, listening and writing skills using advanced grammar, selections written for native speakers, presentations and short novels.

## **Notice of Non-Discrimination**

The Somers Public Schools is committed to equal opportunity for all students, applicants and employees. The district does not discriminate in any employment practice, education program, or educational activity on the basis of race, color, religious creed, sex, age, national origin, ancestry, marital status, sexual orientation, disability (including, but not limited to, mental retardation, past or present history of mental disability, physical disability or learning disability), genetic information, gender identity or any other basis prohibited by Connecticut state and/or federal nondiscrimination laws.

Inquiries regarding the District's nondiscrimination policies should be directed to Dr. Irene Zytka, Title IX Coordinator, 1 Vision Boulevard, Somers, CT 06071, (860) 749-2270 x 2039 or Dr. Denise Messina, Section 504 Coordinator, 1 Vision Boulevard, Somers, CT 06071 (860) 749-2270 x 2052.

## **Public School Choice Options**

The Connecticut State Board of Education, through its Position Statement on Public School Choice, adopted 10/6/99, challenges each school district to ensure "the highest possible achievement level for every Connecticut student in a creative and flexible environment that values each student's unique abilities, talents, interests, learning styles and backgrounds."

Connecticut General Statute 10-220d, Student Recruitment by Regional and Inter-district Specialized Schools and Programs, and Regulations of the State Board of Education - Section 10-65-5 - Informing Students, specifically directs districts to provide full access in the presentation and recruitment of students through rigorous educational experiences within and across school districts.