PREPARE FOR POSSIBILITY

Dance, Vocal and Instrumental Music, Traditional and Digital Visual Art, Creative Writing, and Acting are a part of every student's schedule – ART EVERY DAY. Our extensive arts program is integrated into our solid academic curriculum. The Arts Academy in the Woods is chartered by the Macomb Intermediate School District's Board of Education

Arts Academy in the Woods Curriculum Guide

Arts Academy in the Woods

PREPARE FOR POSSIBILITY.

2026-2027

Arts Academy in the Woods High School
32101 Caroline Fraser, MI 48026 I 586 294 0391 ArtsAcad.net

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GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

Students graduating from the Arts Academy in the Woods will have completed a well-rounded and rigorous study of both core academic and artistic coursework. A primary goal of the Academy is to integrate the arts across the curriculum providing students with many opportunities to make connections between the different disciplines and experience the richness of creative expression throughout their high school career.

Students take the equivalent of seven full courses each semester. The student's parents, counselor, and administrator must approve any exceptions such as dual enrollment, work study, etc.

The chart below gives a breakdown of specific requirements. Students must earn a total of 26.5 credits for graduation. All students will adhere to the Michigan Merit Curriculum as part of their graduation requirements.

Graduation Requirements

SUBJECT AREA	***CREDITS***	**SUBJECT AREA**	***CREDITS***
ART		***MATHEMATICS***	
Art Major	6	Algebra I	1
Senior Project	0.5	Geometry	1
Electives	3	Algebra II	1
		Senior Math	0.5
ENGLISH		Personal Finance	0.5
English 9	1	***SCIENCE***	
English 10	1	Biology	1
English 11	1	Chemistry or Physics	1
English 12	1	Science Elective	1
WORLD LANGUAGE		***SOCIAL STUDIES***	
Must be the same language at the high school level	2	American History	1
HEALTH/PE		Civics	0.5
Health & Wellness	1	Economics	0.5

		World History	1

COMMUNITY SERVICE

The counselor will include community service hours on the student's transcript. Community service should be considered an integral part of the Academy experience; but it is not a graduation requirement. Community service hours may be handed in to the counselor on a note signed by the person who supervised the service.

Advisory

GRADE LEVEL: 9-12
CREDITS: 0.25 credit per semester
DESCRIPTION: Each Advisory is composed of 15-20 students organized by grade level. Each small advisory group will work and grow together, and the advisor will strive to create an atmosphere of mutual trust where students can feel safe to discuss a wide range of academic and personal matters in a supportive setting. The content of the Advisory curriculum will be grade-specific and focused on building community, ensuring that students are engaged in experiences meaningful to their academic and personal development. Potential curricular topics include: life-readiness and bullying prevention, succeeding in high school, SAT testing strategies, preparation for college or post-high school life. Advisory is graded pass/fail.

ARTS DEPARTMENTS

The Academy's curriculum is in compliance with the guidelines for the Standards, Benchmarks, and Grade Level Content Expectations for Visual Arts, Music, Dance, and Theater created by the Michigan Department of Education.

Most art courses are year-long (2 semesters) courses. Completion of a level does not automatically determine progression to the next level. All students are required to audition for arts classes.

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Many art courses have materials requirements. It is suggested that students do not purchase specific materials until schedules are finalized. If your student is unable to obtain these materials, the school administration may be able to accommodate your needs. Please see an administrator if you would like to make arrangements.

STUDIO COURSES

GRADE LEVEL: 11-12
CREDITS: 0.5 credit per semester
PREREQUISITE: Permission of Instructor. Studio courses are open to juniors and seniors within the major only.
DESCRIPTION: A studio course gives students an opportunity to use learning from previous art courses, to explore and express their individual creative vision. Skill building continues, but the emphasis is to develop a greater level of maturity and sophistication in their work. Students taking this class must have a high level of self-motivation and be dedicated to their work. Students are expected to work on six to eight portfolio pieces each semester. Students are expected to model appropriate artistic practices and mentor less experienced artists. These courses are for serious art students only. (Note: Studio classes will likely not be a separate class/section. Students signing up for this class will typically be "embedded" in another section within their Art.)

SENIOR PROJECT

GRADE LEVEL: 12
CREDITS: 0.5 credit per semester
PREREQUISITE: Instructor approval
DESCRIPTION: Senior Project is a one semester class. This course is designed as the culmination of a student's efforts from their four years of study in the Arts Academy in the Woods art programs. This course is required for graduation for students at the Academy. The content of what will be studied is determined by the student and facilitated by the teacher and will involve the student's art major as the basis of the course.

All seniors are required to provide a project, reflective essay and a portfolio in their art major.

Projects are to be determined by the artist and the instructor, but past projects have consisted of the following: senior recital, original composition, research paper, presentation for children, presentation collaboration with dancers, singers, artists, etc. Projects can be collaboration with another student in the same or different art discipline, for example, a flutist may wish to prepare a joint recital with a dancer or actor from the Academy.

Detailed instructions for the reflective essay will be provided by each instructor. The finished portfolio will be suitable for applying to a college or university art program and may include print, digital, audio, or video work.

Dance Department

Our curriculum model reflects the Academy's desire to provide dance instruction aligned with what students will experience at the college level. A college dance program focuses on technique, performance and choreography (dance making).

This model includes the following courses: Dance Survey, Technique I, Technique II, Tap, Repertoire I, Repertoire II, Company, Choreographic Principles, and Senior Portfolio & Project. Dance majors will likely be enrolled in several sections of technique and/or repertoire at various levels.

The Academy's tiered dance curriculum is designed to allow a novice dancer to explore their body's ability to move while allowing the trained dancer to refine and prepare for the expectations and experiences at the college and professional levels.

Our Dance courses and instructors include a heavy focus on Ballet, Modern, and Jazz technique and styles, as well as, healthy stretching and conditioning habits, improvisation, artistic voice and the choreographic process. Our Dance community members can network, take master classes, and learn choreography from guest choreographers and local colleges and universities.

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Our Dance curriculum is built around a non-competitive environment that provides the opportunity to network and build a future in dance beyond a recreational or competitive dance studio, to cultivate the skills to teach dance, to become more comfortable with collaboration and the choreographic process, and to develop one's own artistic voice.

DANCE SURVEY

GRADE LEVEL: 9 - 12
CREDITS: 0.5 credit per semester
PREREQUISITE: none
DESCRIPTION: This course is offered to students with minimal or no prior dance experience or to non-dance majors seeking a movement class. In this class students will have the opportunity to develop kinesthetic awareness, ideal individual body alignment, physical strength, flexibility, endurance, and care of the body while exploring various dance genres (modern, jazz, ballet, tap and folkloric/world dance). Beyond developing a basic understanding of techniques and styles, students will participate in improvisation and dance making exercises. This class will focus on technical principles appropriate to class level. Further studies will include information on dance history and terminology; music/rhythm and dance relationships; careers in dance; as well as nutrition and self-care. After completion of this course and earning recommendation from the teacher, students may proceed to Technique I, Repertoire I, and Dance Electives.

TECHNIQUE I

GRADE LEVEL: 9 - 12
CREDITS: 0.5 credit for each semester
PREREQUISITE: Instructor approval
DESCRIPTION: This course is available for dance majors who have a basic dance foundation from Dance Survey or instructor approved audition/training. This course will focus on classical ballet, modern, and jazz techniques. Students will continue to develop kinesthetic awareness, individual body alignment, physical strength, flexibility, endurance and care of the body. Dancers will participate in minimal improvisation, dance making and student led exercises to show understanding of each classical

technique. With recommendation from the teacher, students may proceed to Technique II and/or Repertoire II.

TECHNIQUE II

GRADE LEVEL: 9 - 12
CREDITS: 0.5 credit for each semester
PREREQUISITE: Instructor approval
DESCRIPTION: This course is available for dance majors who have completed Technique I and/or have been referred by their instructor. This course will focus on classical ballet, modern, and jazz techniques. Students will continue to develop and work towards maximum kinesthetic awareness, individual body alignment, physical strength, flexibility, endurance and care of the body. Dancers will participate in improvisation, dance making and student led exercises to show understanding of each classical technique.

REPERTOIRE I

GRADE LEVEL: 9 - 12
CREDITS: 0.5 credit for each semester
PREREQUISITE: Instructor approval
DESCRIPTION: This course is available for dance majors who have a basic dance foundation from Dance Survey or instructor approved audition/training. This class will often be taken in conjunction with Technique I. As a performance course, students will focus on style, artistry, efficiency of movement, recall and learning choreography within the genres of ballet, modern, contemporary and jazz for seasonal concert opportunities. With recommendation from the teacher, students may proceed to Repertoire II.

REPERTOIRE II

GRADE LEVEL: 9 - 12
CREDITS: 0.5 credit for each semester
PREREQUISITE: Instructor approval
DESCRIPTION: This course is available for dance majors who have completed Repertoire I and/or have been referred by their instructor. This class will often be taken in conjunction with Technique II. As a performance course, students will focus on style,

artistry, efficiency of movement recall, and learning choreography within the genres of ballet, modern, contemporary and jazz for seasonal concert opportunities. With recommendation from the teacher, students may proceed to Company.

ARTS ACADEMY DANCE COMPANY

GRADE LEVEL: 9 - 12
CREDITS: 0.5 credit for each semester
PREREQUISITE: Instructor approval
DESCRIPTION: This course is available for the dedicated dance major who demonstrates advanced technical and artistic skills. As a performance course, students will focus on style, artistry, efficiency of movement recall, and learning choreography within the genres of ballet, modern, contemporary and jazz for seasonal concert opportunities. In addition students will have the opportunity to set student choreography as a solo, duet/trio, small or whole ensemble. Students will be active in fundraising and production processes. Company members will participate in community outreach activities and participate in schoolwide performances such as Noel Night, Evening of the Arts, Oakland Dance Festival, Michigan Youth Arts Festival, etc.

DANCE MOVEMENT LAB

GRADE LEVEL: 12
CREDITS: 0.5 credit for each semester
PREREQUISITE: Instructor approval
DESCRIPTION: This course is available for both dance and non-dance majors who are interested in exploring and refining their own movement choices. This course introduces students to the art of making and structuring movement. Students will study the basic elements of dance- Space, Time, Energy, Form, Body, Force, Movement Quality, and the "sub-elements" of each as they apply to choreography. Technique is not emphasized in this course. Students will view dances choreographed by various artists, participating in class discussions and completing written reflective assignments of these works. Students will participate in experimental/lab projects that will include informal showings throughout the course. Students will read articles, discourse, and critiques of choreography.

This course is beneficial to dance majors with more experience in dance making prior to completing their senior project or in preparation for a career in choreographing or teaching dance. This course can benefit the non-dance major as a new medium for exploration, expression and a means to make connections and integrate other art forms.

DANCE ELECTIVE TAP

GRADE LEVEL: 9 -12
CREDITS: 0.5 credit for each semester
PREREQUISITE: Instructor approval
DESCRIPTION: This class is available for dance and non-dance majors who have taken the dance survey course and/or have been referred by the instructor. In this course students will learn movement vocabulary and terminology appropriate for their tap level. Students will learn to isolate the ankle, knee and hip joints to execute movement efficiently. There will be an emphasis on clarity of sound, shading, and dynamics of sounds and pick up of rhythm sequences and syncopations. This course will also touch upon tap dance history, as well as important choreographers and performers in the industry.

ESSENTIAL MOVEMENT & FITNESS

GRADE LEVEL: 9 -12
CREDITS: 0.5 credit for each semester
PREREQUISITE: Instructor approval
DESCRIPTION: This course is available for dance majors and non-dance majors who are interested in physical and mental fitness through movement. This class fuses Pilates, Yoga, Functional Conditioning & Training methods to build mind-body connection, breath, balance, coordination, strength, flexibility, agility, endurance and activation of superficial and deep muscles to support healthy everyday living. Most exercises will be high energy but low impact avoiding putting major stress on joints. Small props/equipment such as light weights, resistance bands, yoga balls and yoga blocks may be used but we will focus heavily on using our own body weight and resistance. No experience is necessary.

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Instrumental Music Department

As a member of the Academy's instrumental music program, our musicians will have opportunities to learn about guitar, piano, and traditional instruments. Ur musicians develop a theoretical and practical understanding of how music works. Students are introduced to different kinds of musical notation, melodic systems, harmonies, meters, and rhythmic techniques with the goal of attaining excellence in the performance and creation of music. Our bands and musicians perform at many local community engagements and our musicians learn contemporary and traditional music. We strive to ensure that all our musicians have opportunities to maximize their potential in the highly competitive music industry.

EXPLORATION IN AUDIO PRODUCTION

GRADE LEVEL: 9-12
CREDITS: 0.5 credit per semester
PREREQUISITE: None
DESCRIPTION: This Audio Production course is open to musicians and other creative individuals who are interested in the exploration of audio production and techniques. In this class, students will use digital audio workstations as well as live performances to capture, create, and manipulate media. This course will cover contemporary techniques and technology while producing exercises using live audio, pre-recorded tracks, MIDI beats and effects. While combining creative and practical aspects of sound and music, this program prepares you to enter post-secondary audio engineering opportunities.

BEGINNING GUITAR

GRADE LEVEL: 9-12
CREDITS: 0.5 credit per semester
PREREQUISITE: None
DESCRIPTION: This course offers the beginner an environment that allows the exploration of fundamentals of playing guitar. The class provides an introduction to the basic chords, scales and reading music. Students analyze and critique their sound and performances regularly. Daily practiced routines focus on physical technique and sight reading while developing an understanding of music theory.

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INTERMEDIATE GUITAR

GRADE LEVEL: 9-12
CREDITS: 0.5 credit per semester
PREREQUISITE: Placement by audition or teacher recommendation.
DESCRIPTION: This course allows students to gain a strong sense of reading, composing and performing. There is an emphasis on ensemble practice and performance. Students expand their knowledge base in theory, notation, and practice techniques in a variety of styles.

ADVANCED GUITAR

GRADE LEVEL: 11-12
CREDITS: 0.5 credit per semester
PREREQUISITE: Placement by audition or teacher recommendation.
DESCRIPTION: Advanced guitar emphasizes preparation for senior projects. Advancing students expand their knowledge base in theory, notation and practice techniques in a variety of musical styles. College bound music students have the opportunity to prepare for scholarship and acceptance auditions for universities and conservatories.
MATERIALS REQUIREMENT: It is required that you provide or have access to an acoustic or an electric guitar. If you are a bass player, you need to provide an acoustic or electric bass. If you need to purchase one or the other, it is recommended that you purchase an acoustic because it will be much easier to hear during class time.

BEGINNING PIANO

GRADE LEVEL: 9-12
CREDITS: 0.5 credit per semester
PREREQUISITE: Placement by audition.
DESCRIPTION: Beginning piano is a course designed for students who have little to no prior experience on piano. Students without any experience in reading standard music notation will be welcome. This course will build solid foundations for beginning musicians in: basic keyboarding skills, reading music, beginning music theory and overall musicianship.

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INTERMEDIATE/ADVANCED PIANO

GRADE LEVEL: 9-12
CREDITS: 0.5 credit per semester
PREREQUISITE: Placement by audition.
DESCRIPTION: Intermediate/Advanced Piano is a course designed for student with prior experience in basic keyboarding and the ability to read standard music notation. Musicians that are unable to read music will not be able to be placed in this course without auditioning for the instructor. Throughout this course musicians will further their understanding of: keyboarding technique, piano repertoire, composition, arrangements, and overall musicianship.

INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC SURVEY

GRADE LEVEL: 9-12
CREDITS: 0.5 credit per semester
PREREQUISITE: Placement by audition.
DESCRIPTION: Instrumental Music Survey is intended for students with little or no background in music who would like to develop a theoretical and practical understanding of how music works. Students will be introduced to different kinds of musical notation, melodic systems, harmonies, meters, and rhythmic techniques with the goal of attaining basic competence in the performance and creation of music. The music we analyze and perform will be drawn from a variety of musical traditions. This course serves as a prerequisite for many other Instrumental Music Department offerings.

CONCERT BAND

GRADE LEVEL: 9-12
CREDITS: 0.5 credit per semester
PREREQUISITE: Placement by audition.
DESCRIPTION: This intermediate course covers the study and performance of concert band music. It is open to students who read music and perform on a concert band instrument (piccolo, flute, clarinet, double reed, saxophone, trumpet, French horn, trombone, euphonium, baritone, tuba, string bass or percussion). If you have no prior experience with the listed instruments you will need to audition with the instructor.

MATERIALS REQUIREMENT: It is required that you provide your own brass or woodwind instrument for this course.

JAZZ BAND

GRADE LEVEL: 9-12
CREDITS: 0.5 credit per semester
PREREQUISITE: Placement by audition.
DESCRIPTION: This advanced group of experienced musicians will explore various styles of jazz. Special emphasis will be placed on scales, chords, blues progressions and other music theory as related to composition and improvisation. This group will focus on developing improvisation skills and ensemble playing.
MATERIALS REQUIREMENT: It is required that you provide your own brass or woodwind instrument for this course.

Vocal Music Department

The Arts Academy's singers participate in multiple levels of learning in our Vocal Music Department. Our choirs are excellent ways to learn about all aspects of musicianship, from reading music to developing your singing voice. Our choirs perform at many different venues and events around Michigan. We are an active member of our MSVMA district and have competed in many of their events including Solo and Ensemble, and Choral Festival. We have several different levels in our choir department, so no matter what your experience is, we can find a place that will work for you!

VOCAL MUSIC SURVEY

GRADE LEVEL: 9-12
CREDITS: 0.5 credit per semester
PREREQUISITE: None
DESCRIPTION: This course offers beginning choir students an exploration into the fundamentals of being in a high school choir. Students will focus on basic music theory such as note and symbol recognition as well as sight reading music. Students work daily on music preparation for performances throughout the year. Prior singing experience is not required.

MATERIALS REQUIREMENT: Students are asked to provide approximately $40 for performance uniform.

CHORALE CHOIR

GRADE LEVEL: 9-12
CREDITS: 0.5 credit per semester
PREREQUISITE: Placement by audition or teacher recommendation.
DESCRIPTION: This course offers an exploration into the intermediate fundamentals of being in a high school choir. Students will review basic music theory while building to new levels of lessons such as minor keys and accidentals. Students work daily on music preparation for performances throughout the year. Prior singing experience is required.
MATERIALS REQUIREMENT: Students are asked to provide approximately $40 for performance uniform.

CONCERT CHOIR

GRADE LEVEL: 9-12
CREDITS: 0.5 credit per semester
PREREQUISITE: Vocal Music Survey or Chorale Choir; Placement by audition.
DESCRIPTION: In this choir, students should be proficient in basic music theory, music reading and writing, and sight reading. Students should also be able to demonstrate proper vocal techniques. This class will offer advanced choral literature with increased parts and harmonies. The focus will be on gaining vocal skills and being able to perform as a group. Students will work to achieve and maintain a high level of musicianship, leadership, responsibility, and respectable character. Students work daily on their class music in preparation for performances throughout the year. During the school year the group will perform outside of school at civic, cultural, and educational activities. Students analyze and critique their sound and performances regularly.
MATERIALS REQUIREMENT: Students are asked to provide approximately $40 for performance uniform.

MADRIGALS CHOIR

GRADE LEVEL: 10-12

CREDITS: 0.5 credit per semester
PREREQUISITE: Vocal Music Survey, Chorale, or Concert Choir; Placement by audition.
DESCRIPTION: This choir is a SSAA ensemble (Soprano 1, Soprano 2, Alto 1, and Alto 2). In this choir, students should be proficient in basic music theory, music reading and writing, and sight reading. Students should also be able to demonstrate proper vocal techniques, coordination, and stage presence. This class will offer advanced SSAA choral literature with increased parts and harmonies, incorporating staging and movement. Students will work to achieve and maintain a high level of musicianship, leadership, responsibility, and respectable character. Students work daily on their class music in preparation for performances throughout the year. During the school year the group will perform outside of school at civic, cultural, and educational activities. Students analyze and critique their sound and performances regularly.
MATERIALS REQUIREMENT: Students are asked to provide approximately $40 for performance uniform.

Acting Department

Actors in the Acting Department experience a safe and healthy environment where we will all help each other become better actors no matter your level of experience. All students are welcome to join our Intro to Acting course and anyone can move up as long as they're willing to work hard.

The comradery developed will help you in many different ways. We create a close-knit community that will help with stage fright and shyness. We will work together so often that artists will get a lot of practice with teamwork and become a better part of any troupe. We will help you prepare for real-world auditions and work with you to help find the right path for your future acting career. Most of all, we will help you become a better actor by giving you a deeper understanding of Social Studies and Literature through our primary arts integrated mission.

TECHNICAL THEATRE

GRADE LEVEL: 9-12
CREDITS: 0.5 credit per semester Grade Level: 9–12

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Description: Technical Theatre is an introductory course that offers students a hands-on, behind-the-scenes look at theatrical production. This course explores the major design and technical aspects of theatre, including scenery, props, costumes, lighting, sound, makeup, and stage management. Students will gain practical experience by assisting in school productions and assemblies, both during and outside of school hours.

INTRODUCTION TO ACTING

GRADE LEVEL: 9-12
CREDITS: 0.5 credit per semester
PREREQUISITE: No experience required
DESCRIPTION: This course will focus on character understanding through literary and historical contexts; understanding the vocabulary of the stage; learning to perform and make choices on stage; and understanding how acting can enhance the understanding of literature and U.S History. Students will work on essays, improvisation, monologues, dialogues, poetry performances, and the creation of commercials/PSAs. Students will have opportunities to perform at assemblies and community functions. Students will leave this class with a better understanding of how acting enhances literary and historical understanding, and be comfortable with the vocabulary and physical aspects of the stage.

INTERMEDIATE ACTING A/B

GRADE LEVEL: 10-12
CREDITS: 0.5 credit per semester
PREREQUISITE: At least one semester of Intro to Acting or by Audition
DESCRIPTION: This course will focus on character understanding through literary, governmental, and economic contexts; understanding the vocabulary of the stage; learning to perform and make choices on stage; and understanding how acting can enhance the understanding of literature, civics, and economics. Students will work on formal critiques, improvisation, stage management, performing "beats" from plays at assemblies, stage combat, makeup, and stage blocking. Beats will be performed at almost every assembly. Students will have the opportunity to perform for middle schools and at Evening of the Arts. Students will leave this class with a better understanding of how acting enhances literary, governmental, and economic understanding, and be comfortable with the vocabulary, physical aspects, and management of the stage.

ADVANCED ACTING

GRADE LEVEL: 11-12
CREDITS: 0.5 credit per semester
PREREQUISITE: At least one semester of Intermediate Acting or by Audition
DESCRIPTION: This course will focus on character understanding through literary, and international historic contexts; understanding the vocabulary of the stage; learning to perform and make choices on stage; learning to put on a full production; and understanding how acting can enhance the understanding of literature and world history. Students will work on formal critiques, improvisation, stage management, and performing full productions of plays. One play will be performed each semester. Students will choose from plays that are thematically similar to the main texts read in 11th and 12 grade English, as well as plays that are contextually important to world history. Students will leave this class with a better understanding of how acting enhances literature and world history, and be comfortable with everything involved in putting on a full production.

MUSICAL THEATER

GRADE LEVEL: 9-12
CREDITS: 0.5 credit per semester
PREREQUISITE: At least one year of Acting, Choir, or Dance or by Audition
DESCRIPTION: This course will focus on acting, singing, and dancing to provide a comprehensive exploration of musical theater. Students will gain a deeper understanding of musical theatre's rich history and diverse styles, from Broadway hits to off-Broadway gems. Students will have multiple opportunities to perform and develop their skills on and off the stage. By the end of the course, students will have honed their skills, built confidence, and experienced the job of bringing stories to life through music and movement.

Digital Arts Department

The Digital Arts curriculum at the Academy truly fosters the innovative spirit by pairing creativity with the extensive reach of modern capability. By engaging students through the analytical and constructive processes of Art & Art History, while offering hands-on

interactivity with modern tools, students utilize their creative and cognitive abilities to develop the skills to provide the current solutions that will create a brighter future.

In a Digital Arts classroom, artists are presented with creative challenges which present various opportunities for students to engage through discussion & independent learning to develop thinking strategies, empowerment of identity & self-expression, and gain imperative technological skills which contribute to their success as an artist in the modern age

DIGITAL ART SURVEY

GRADE LEVEL: 9-12
CREDITS: 0.5 credit per semester
PREREQUISITE: None
DESCRIPTION: This course is an introduction to digital art and image manipulation. Students will explore the history of digital art forms and utilize digital devices and the Adobe Creative Cloud to create their own original works that can be utilized for print or the web. Through this process they will gain essential exposure to modern computer/technology tools, learning the foundations of file management and computer systems & software, while develop thinking strategies to create original works grounded in multiple digital mediums and formats This process will include studies in Graphic Design, Digital Photography, Digital Painting/Illlustration, Film/Animation, 3D Design & Motion/Web Graphics — studies include programs such as: Adobe Photoshop, Adobe Illustrator, After Effects, Adobe Premiere, Adobe InDesign, & Adobe Animate

PHOTOGRAPHY

GRADE LEVEL: 9-12
CREDITS: 0.5 credit per semester
PREREQUISITE: None
DESCRIPTION: This course introduces the history of photography, its progression and its influence into the modern age. Students will explore many skills and tools including traditional and digital photography techniques & theory, professional digital photo editing/compositing techniques, series development, lighting, studio & setting strategies, and creating special effects. Students will engage deeply with tools such as Adobe Photoshop, Adobe Lightroom and personal devices to create a collection of

original high quality images and building a strong personal portfolio portraying original thematic development, high levels of professional editing skill and quality of photo presentation.
MATERIALS REQUIREMENT: Cell phone with Photo Capability or Digital Camera (DSLR Camera with Tripod is Recommended)

ILLUSTRATION AND GRAPHIC DESIGN

GRADE LEVEL: 9-12
CREDITS: 0.5 credit per semester
PREREQUISITE: Digital Art Survey or Permission of Instructor.
DESCRIPTION: This is an intermediate level class which students will gain in-depth knowledge of digital rendering techniques and strategies by creating solutions to real world projects and challenges. Students will be utilizing design thinking & ideation processes to develop original concepts as they explore visual culture, design theory, brand/character development, multi-media communications, product design, digital drawing, public art & architecture. This course further develops a focus on the understanding of multiple file types and digital rendering applications & skills as students gain experience working with raster images, vector design, digital drawing, 3-D Modeling, motion graphics & animation.
MATERIALS REQUIREMENT: Cell Phone with Photo Capability

FILM AND ANIMATION

GRADE LEVEL: 9-12
CREDITS: 0.5 credit per semester
PREREQUISITE: Digital Survey or Permission of Instructor
DESCRIPTION: In this course, students will study the history of film and animation to develop an understanding of a wide variety of media production tools and approaches. Students will also be engaged with a hands on experience with character/plot development, film analysis, studio strategies, camera techniques, video editing, audio engineering, 2D & 3D animation, and special effects. During this process students will be exposed to traditional & modern film/animation techniques & theory, commercial advertisements, original character design, storyboarding, stop-motion photography (puppetry & clay-mation), green-screen/digital effects, frame by frame & flash animation, and the building/organizing of digital resources. Students will be

exposed to the use of video cameras, studio lighting, audio/video interfaces/capture devices, drawing tablets, & multimedia software such as: Adobe Premiere, After-Effects, Adobe Animate, Adobe Audition & Photoshop to create their own original & unique video/animations. Students will have a great experience gaining the essential skills necessary to create original & unique video/animations.
MATERIALS REQUIREMENT: Cell Phone with Video Capability or Video Camera

DIGITAL PAINTING

GRADE LEVEL: 9-12
CREDITS: 0.5 credit per semester
PREREQUISITE: Digital Survey or Permission of Instructor
DESCRIPTION: This digital painting course is designed for artists ready to deepen their control over advanced digital drawing and brush tools while developing a stronger personal painting style. Through focused study of composition, lighting, color theory, custom brush settings, visual storytelling, and master artist techniques, students will learn how to make more intentional creative choices and bring greater depth, mood, and impact to their work.

AUDIO PRODUCTION

GRADE LEVEL: 9-12
CREDITS: 0.5 credit per semester
PREREQUISITE: Digital Survey or Permission of Instructor
DESCRIPTION: Explore the fundamentals of audio production through hands-on work. Learn song composition, MIDI sequencing, and digital audio workstations (DAWs). Record and edit sound using microphones and recording devices and develop skills in mixing and sound design. Gain experience with live sound and streaming while building music appreciation through listening and analysis. Create original audio projects from concept to final production.

YEARBOOK

GRADE LEVEL: 9-12
CREDITS: 0.5 credit per semester
PREREQUISITE: Ambition to Create a Memorable School Yearbook

DESCRIPTION: Students who are motivated to create a high quality yearbook are strongly encouraged to sign up. Students will work closely throughout the year as a group to develop the theme, layouts, and design of our school yearbook. Students with knowledge or experience in writing, graphic design, and the arts are encouraged to enroll and will make a great addition to our team but no prior knowledge/experience is required. Students will be gaining experience and utilizing online publishing programs, as well as learning techniques utilizing Adobe products like Photoshop or Illustrator to create a high quality school yearbook publication that documents the events of the school year and life at AAW (student life, special events, department recognition, award recognition, assemblies, clubs, art showcases and performances, etc.). Students will also be developing skills in photography, journalism, time-management strategies, graphic design collaboration/team production processes and deadline management. Students will be required to attend assigned events, have organizational skills, participate in collaborative team meetings and meet required deadlines.
MATERIALS REQUIREMENT: Digital camera is suggested, but is not required. Work will be required outside of the classroom.

Visual Arts Department

The Visual Arts Department classes focus on encouraging students to think and behave like independent artists while also grounding students in the conventions of their chosen medium.
Our visual art students are taught how to properly and safely use all art mediums and materials through teacher demos, hands-on experimentation, and one-on-one guidance based on their own artistic goals. In the classroom we encourage students to make the most of their own choices with materials, process, and interpretation. We embrace our students' unique, personal vision because the freedom to express also encourages planning, problem-solving, and the production of new ideas.

VISUAL ARTS SURVEY

GRADE LEVEL: 9-12
CREDITS: 0.5 credit per semester
PREREQUISITE: None

DESCRIPTION: Students will develop a range of two-dimensional and three-dimensional art skills; emphasis will be placed on realistic drawing and painting, as well as ceramics and sculpture, with metal jewelry being added for upper level students. Students will also be encouraged to find creative solutions for a wide range of different types of projects.

DRAWING

GRADE LEVEL: 9-12
CREDITS: 0.5 credit per semester
PREREQUISITE: Visual Art Survey or approval of instructor.
DESCRIPTION: Students will develop a range of two-dimensional art skills related to realistic drawing. Students will also be encouraged to find creative solutions for a wide range of different types of projects. Upper level classes will increasingly be focused on students learning to look at their art in a more analytical and critical manner. Advanced students will be expected to be responsible for generating a significant amount of work based on their own interests and creative vision.
Materials will include pencil, pen & ink, colored pencil, oil pastel, watercolor, and tempera paint (Beginning); also acrylic paint and printmaking. Art History lessons will be included, and will be frequently integrated into class projects.

PAINTING

GRADE LEVEL: 9-12
CREDITS: 0.5 credit per semester
PREREQUISITE: Visual Art Survey or approval of instructor.
DESCRIPTION: Students will develop a range of two-dimensional art skills related to realistic painting. Students will also be encouraged to find creative solutions for a wide range of different types of projects. Upper level classes will increasingly be focused on students learning to look at their art in a more analytical and critical manner. Advanced students will be expected to be responsible for generating a significant amount of work based on their own interests and creative vision.
Materials will include oil pastel, watercolor, tempera paint, as well as acrylic paint and printmaking. Art History lessons will be included, and will be frequently integrated into class projects.

PREPARE FOR POSSIBILITY

Dance, Vocal and Instrumental Music, Traditional and Digital Visual Art, Creative Writing, and Acting are a part of every student's schedule – ART EVERY DAY. Our extensive arts program is integrated into our solid academic curriculum. The Arts Academy in the Woods is chartered by the Macomb Intermediate School District's Board of Education

CERAMICS

GRADE LEVEL: 9-12
CREDITS: 0.5 credit per semester
PREREQUISITE: Visual Art Survey or approval of instructor.
DESCRIPTION: Students will develop a range of three-dimensional art skills related to ceramics. Students will also be encouraged to find creative solutions for a wide range of different types of projects. Upper level classes will increasingly be focused on students learning to look at their art in a more analytical and critical manner. Advanced students will be expected to be responsible for generating a significant amount of work based on their own interests and creative vision.
Materials will include clay and paper-mâché.. Assemblage and installation art will also be included for upper level classes. Art History lessons will be included, and will be frequently integrated into class projects.

SCULPTURE

GRADE LEVEL: 9-12
CREDITS: 0.5 credit per semester
PREREQUISITE: Visual Art Survey or approval of instructor.
DESCRIPTION: Students will develop a range of three-dimensional art skills related to sculpture, with metal jewelry being added for upper level students. Students will also be encouraged to find creative solutions for a wide range of different types of projects. Upper level classes will increasingly be focused on students learning to look at their art in a more analytical and critical manner. Advanced students will be expected to be responsible for generating a significant amount of work based on their own interests and creative vision.
Materials will include clay, paper-mâché, wood, fabric, metal, and "found" objects. Assemblage and installation art will also be included for upper level classes. Art History lessons will be included, and will be frequently integrated into class projects.

MIXED MEDIA

GRADE LEVEL: 10-12
CREDITS: 0.5 credit per semester

PREREQUISITE: Visual Art Survey or approval of instructor.
DESCRIPTION: A mixed media class focuses on creating art by combining multiple materials and techniques. Students experiment with drawing, painting, collage, and found objects while developing creative thinking, personal expression, and strong craftsmanship through hands-on projects and critique. Projects include identity collage, altered books and boxes, mixed-media portraits, assemblages, texture studies, symbolic self-portraits, cardboard and upcycled sculptures.

TEXTILES

GRADE LEVEL: 10-12
CREDITS: 0.5 credit per semester
PREREQUISITE: Visual Art Survey or approval of instructor.
DESCRIPTION: A textiles class explores art and design through fiber-based materials and techniques. Students learn weaving, stitching, surface design, and fabric manipulation while developing creativity, craftsmanship, and personal expression through hands-on projects and critique. Projects include woven wall hangings, hand-stitched embroidery pieces, fabric collage, dying and surface design, soft sculptures, upcycled textile projects, and stampings.

Creative Writing

Authors, poets, and writers in the Creative Writing Department at the Arts Academy are part of a community of talented writers that strive to help each other achieve their best. In the Creative Writing classroom you will find students working in every style of fiction, nonfiction, poetry, screenwriting and comics.

Writers frequently workshop their pieces with peers and give feedback. Our online literary magazine, annually published print anthology, and students make and trade zines and chapbooks provide multiple opportunities to showcase your work. Student written and produced plays are performed by Arts Academy actors and award winning short films have been screened at multiple film festivals. Performance poets have opportunities to read on our class stage, make video poems for our YouTube channel, perform at assemblies, and compete in our school-wide, local, national, and international poetry slams. Our slam poetry team won Louder Than a Bomb in 2018, performed on Michigan Radio and was invited to Brave New Voices in 2019.

Most importantly, all our writers become more effective communicators, develop skills in literary analysis, creative thought and in written and oral communication. We meet these objectives with a focus on craft, process, collaboration, performance and organizing experiences.

CREATIVE WRITING SURVEY

GRADE LEVEL: 9- 12
CREDITS: 0.5 credit per semester
PREREQUISITE: None
DESCRIPTION: Creative Writing Survey is an introductory course where students explore multiple genres of writing. Story structure, poetry forms, and writing technique are explicitly taught and practiced through each genre unit. Creative writers start the year with a poetry workshop and later are able to employ poetic devices and technique in their fiction writing. The course also covers creative nonfiction, including memoir and journalism. Creative writers have many opportunities to learn from their peers and share, publish, and perform their works.

INTERMEDIATE CREATIVE WRITING WORKSHOP I

GRADE LEVEL: 10-12
CREDITS: 0.5 credit per semester
PREREQUISITE: Permission of Instructor
DESCRIPTION: In the intermediate level of Creative Writing students will continue the development of writing techniques in multiple genres. Students will participate in frequent workshops where writers read and analyze each other's work. Throughout the course there is a focus on revision strategies. Intermediate students will also take on the role of editor of various student publications and give editorial feedback to beginning students.

ADVANCED CREATIVE WRITING WORKSHOP

GRADE LEVEL: 10-12
CREDITS: .5 credit
PREREQUISITE: Permission of Instructor

DESCRIPTION: In the advance level of the program writers are given significantly more autonomy with the goal of fostering independent writers with original styles. Advanced students work cooperatively and collaboratively in structured workshop groups. Students participate in writing workshops, sharing texts they have been inspired by and give thoughtful feedback on other student works. Students are encouraged to seek publishing opportunities and to curate and edit student publications, acting as editors of our program blog and print anthology. They are also given opportunities to organize events such as our Slam in the Woods poetry slams and special assemblies.

ACADEMIC DEPARTMENTS

The academic curriculum that is followed at the Academy is in accordance with the guidelines of Michigan's Content Standards or the Common Core State Standards. These standards are a set of learning expectations developed by parents, educators, business leaders and university professors to assist schools in the development of local district curricula. These standards and more detailed learning objectives called benchmarks are contained within the Michigan Curriculum Framework.

English Department

We create, cultivate, motivate, and inspire English language arts learners who practice and appreciate personal, social, occupational and civic literacy. Courses include English 9, English 10, English 11, and English 12.

ENGLISH 9 – INTRODUCTION TO LITERATURE AND COMPOSITION

GRADE LEVEL: 9
CREDITS: 0.5 credit per semester
PREREQUISITE: None
DESCRIPTION: The goal for English Grade 9 is to build a solid foundation of knowledge, skills, and strategies that will be refined, applied, and extended as students engage in more complex ideas, texts, and tasks. In English Language 9, students will be introduced to the various genres of classic and contemporary narrative and informational texts that will be read and analyzed throughout high school. Ninth graders will connect with and respond to texts by analyzing relationships within and across families, communities, societies, governments, and economies. Through the lens of Interrelationships and Self-

Reliance, they will consider how they build relationships, how their relationships impact others, and their responsibility to society.

ENGLISH 10 – WORLD LITERATURE AND COMPOSITION

GRADE LEVEL: 10
CREDITS: 0.5 credit per semester
PREREQUISITE: Successful completion of English 9
DESCRIPTION: The goal for English 10 is to continue to build a solid foundation of knowledge, skills, and strategies that will be refined, applied, and extended as students engage in more complex ideas, texts, and tasks. In English 10, students will add to the list of various genres of classic and contemporary narrative and informational texts that will be read and analyzed throughout high school with a special focus on British and World literature. Tenth graders will connect with and respond to texts through critical response and stance. They will learn to evaluate for validity and quality, to balance and expand their perspectives promoting empathy, social action and appropriate use of power. Critical Response and Stance offers students the lens to assess and modify their beliefs, views of the world, and how they have power to impact them.

ENGLISH 11 – AMERICAN LITERATURE AND COMPOSITION

GRADE LEVEL: 11
CREDITS: 0.5 credit per semester
PREREQUISITE: Successful completion of English 10
DESCRIPTION: The goal for English 11 is to continue to build a solid foundation of knowledge, skills, and strategies that will be refined, applied, and extended as students engage in more complex ideas, texts, and tasks. In English 11, students will add to the list of various genres of classic and contemporary narrative and informational texts that will be read and analyzed throughout high school with a special focus on American literature and ACT success. Eleventh graders will connect with and respond to texts through transformational thinking. They will learn to use forward thinking to help make better decisions, to generate new ideas for solving problems, and to find wisdom. They will build a context for change in their lives and develop realistic plans for the future.

ENGLISH 12 – ADVANCED LITERATURE AND COMPOSITION

GRADE LEVEL: 12

CREDITS: 0.5 credit per semester
PREREQUISITE: Successful completion of English 11
DESCRIPTION: The goal for English 12 is to refine, apply, and extend the solid foundation of knowledge, skills, and strategies developed in English 9 through 11. Using the lens of leadership skills, English 12 students will develop a world perspective by analyzing classic and contemporary texts in a variety of genre, including post-colonial literature. Twelfth graders will synthesize information, ideas, and themes to understand the past, the present, and to think innovatively about the future. They will identify and apply their own leadership skills and prepare for responsible action as American citizens in the context of a global world.

Math Department

We prepare students for all possibilities through the reinforcement of foundational knowledge and the teaching of conceptual/logical thinking via arts integration.

ALGEBRA I

GRADE LEVEL: 9 – 11
CREDITS: 0.5 credit per semester
PREREQUISITE: Placement in class is based on preliminary testing and/or teacher recommendation. Proficiency in fractions and the use of negative and positive numbers is expected.
DESCRIPTION: This course will discuss linear functions, systems of equations, inequalities, exponents and exponential functions, quadratic functions, radical and rational functions, and probability. Critical thinking and problems solving skills will be emphasized throughout the course. This course fulfills the high school Algebra 1 requirement for Michigan high schools.

GEOMETRY

GRADE LEVEL: 10– 12
CREDITS: 0.5 credit per semester
PREREQUISITE: Successful completion of Algebra I.
DESCRIPTION: This course is a study of the basic relationships of parallelism, perpendicularity, similarity and congruence of figures with emphasis on triangles,

parallelograms and circles. Logical reasoning and higher level critical thinking skills will be developed through a study of simple deductive proofs. This course fulfills the MME requirement for Geometry.

HONORS GEOMETRY

GRADE LEVEL: 9 – 12
CREDITS: 0.5 credit per semester
PREREQUISITE: Successful completion of Algebra I and recommendation of teacher.
DESCRIPTION: This course will discuss proof writing, logical reasoning, parallel and perpendicular lines, triangle relationships, quadrilaterals, similarity between figures, right triangle trigonometry, transformations, circles, area, perimeter, surface area, and volume. Critical thinking and problems solving skills will be emphasized throughout the course. This course fulfills the high school Geometry requirement for Michigan high schools.

ALGEBRA II

GRADE LEVEL: 10 – 12
CREDITS: 0.5 credit per semester
PREREQUISITE: Successful completion of Geometry or Honors Geometry.
DESCRIPTION: This course will discuss Solving Equations and Inequalities; Writing and Graphing Relations and Functions; Parent Functions and Transformations of Parent Functions; Solving Quadratic Equations including ones with Complex answers; Performing Operations on Polynomials; Graphing Polynomial Functions; Working with Rational and Radical Expressions; Graphing Exponential and Logarithmic Functions; Solving Exponential and Logarithmic Equations; Working with Conic Sections; Geometric Sequences and Series; Right Triangle Trigonometry; and Law of Sines and Cosines. Critical thinking and problems solving skills will be emphasized throughout the course. This course fulfills the high school Algebra 2 requirement for Michigan high schools.

HONORS ALGEBRA II

GRADE LEVEL: 10 – 12
CREDITS: 0.5 credit per semester
PREREQUISITE: Successful completion of Geometry or Honors Geometry and recommendation of teacher.

DESCRIPTION: This course will discuss Solving Equations and Inequalities; Writing and Graphing Relations and Functions; Parent Functions and Transformations of Parent Functions; Solving Quadratic Equations including ones with Complex answers; Performing Operations on Polynomials; Graphing Polynomial Functions; Working with Rational and Radical Expressions; Graphing Exponential and Logarithmic Functions; Solving Exponential and Logarithmic Equations; Working with Conic Sections; Geometric Sequences and Series; The Binomial Theorem; Circular Trigonometry; and Trigonometric Identities. Critical thinking and problems solving skills will be emphasized throughout the course. This course fulfills the high school Algebra 2 requirement for Michigan high schools.

ALGEBRA II OVER 2 YEARS

GRADE LEVEL: 11- 12
CREDITS: 0.5 credit per semester
PREREQUISITE: Placement in class is based on successful completion of Geometry and teacher placement.
DESCRIPTION: This is a 2 year version of Algebra 2 for students who may need additional time to process this course. The first year covers Solving Equations and Inequalities; Writing and Graphing Relations and Functions; Parent Functions and Transformations of Parent Functions; Solving Quadratic Equations including ones with Complex answers; Performing Operations on Polynomials; Graphing Polynomial Functions; Working with Rational and Radical Expressions. The second year covers Graphing Exponential and Logarithmic Functions; Solving Exponential and Logarithmic Equations; Working with Conic Sections; Geometric Sequences and Series; Right Triangle Trigonometry; Law of Sins and Cosines; and Trigonometric Identities. Critical thinking and problem solving skills will be emphasized throughout both years of the course. Completion of both years is required to fulfill the MMC high school Algebra 2 requirement for Michigan high schools.

TRIGONOMETRY/COLLEGE ALGEBRA

GRADE LEVEL: 11 – 12
CREDITS: 0.5 credit per semester
PREREQUISITE: Successful completion of Algebra 2/Honors Algebra 2 and recommendation of Teacher.

DESCRIPTION: This course will discuss Circular Trigonometry and Trigonometric Identities; Right Triangle Trigonometry; Operations and Inverses of Functions; Exponential and Logarithmic Functions; Matrices; Ellipses and Circles; Complex Numbers and De Moivre's Theorem; the Central Limit Theorem; and Statistical Graphing and Analyzation. Critical thinking and problems solving skills will be emphasized throughout the course. This course fulfills the fourth year of mathematics high school requirement for Michigan high school Seniors.

PRE-CALCULUS

GRADE LEVEL: 11 – 12
CREDITS: 0.5 credit per semester
PREREQUISITE: Placement in class is based on successful completion of Algebra 2/Honors Algebra 2 and recommendation of Teacher.
DESCRIPTION: This course will discuss Circular Trigonometry and Trigonometric Identities; Right Triangle Trigonometry; Operations and Inverses of Functions; Exponential and Logarithmic Functions; Matrices; Ellipses and Circles; Vectors and Vector Operations; The Central Limit Theorem; and Introductory Calculus including Limits and the definition of the derivative. Critical thinking and problems solving skills will be emphasized throughout the course. This course fulfills the fourth year of mathematics high school requirement for Michigan high school Seniors. High School Juniors who complete this course have the opportunity to dual enroll the following year at the community college for the first semester and Calculus credit. These courses are paid for by the school provided the student passes the courses.

If enrollment restrictions prevent calculus from running at the Academy, we will offer ANALYTIC GEOMETRY AND CALCULUS I (Math 1760), through dual enrollment at Macomb Community College.

EXPLORATIONS IN DATA SCIENCE

GRADE LEVEL: 11-12
CREDITS: 0.5 credit per semester
PREREQUISITE: 3 full credits of math
DESCRIPTION: In this course, students will learn to understand, ask questions of, and represent data through project-based units. The units will give students

opportunities to be data explorers through active engagement, developing their understanding of data analysis, sampling, correlation/causation, bias and uncertainty, modeling with data, making and evaluating data-based arguments, and the importance of data in society. At the end of the course, students will have a portfolio of their data science work to showcase their newly developed knowledge and understanding.

FINANCIAL LITERACY

GRADE LEVEL: 12
CREDITS: 0.5 credit per semester
PREREQUISITE: 3 full credits of math
DESCRIPTION: This semester course prepares students to successfully manage financial matters when living on their own. Students learn about planning for a career and analyze whether their career choice will afford them the lifestyle they desire. Student learn about budgeting, banking, managing money, saving and investing, using credit wisely, and types of insurance. Personal finance counts as 0.5 credit of Senior Math and is a graduation requirement.

STATISTICS AND PROBABILITY

GRADE LEVEL: 12
CREDITS: 0.5 credit per semester
PREREQUISITE: 3 full credits of math
DESCRIPTION: Students learn and apply the major concepts and tools used for collecting, analyzing, and drawing conclusions from data. The topics for the course are divided into four major themes: exploratory analysis, planning a study, probability, and statistical inference.

Social Studies Department

Social Studies encourages an understanding of and action in local, national, and global issues. Students practice critical thinking skills which encourage informed civic action. As members of a globally interconnected democracy, students will understand, participate in and make decisions about their world. Through the core social science

disciplines of history, geography, economics, and civics, an education in social studies provides students with tools to understand human behavior, culture, development, and to become agents of change.

AMERICAN HISTORY AND GEOGRAPHY

GRADE LEVEL: 9-11
CREDITS: 0.5 credit per semester
PREREQUISITE: None
DESCRIPTION: U.S. History and Geography is a two-semester course that is required for graduation. This class will begin with a review of Early American History (from the Native American world through the Civil War and Reconstruction). The remainder of the course will be spent learning about the people and social forces which shaped the United States from Industrialization to the Present. Students will learn through traditional methods related to the textbook and lectures as well as special projects integrating the arts, film, computer research and simulations.

CIVICS

GRADE LEVEL: 10-12
CREDITS: 0.5 credit per semester
PREREQUISITE: None
DESCRIPTION: The focus of this course is to help students understand the meaning of citizenship as they interact with their community, state, nation and the rest of the world. Focus will be on the foundations and function of the American system of government with a review of other historic and contemporary forms of government. Students will understand how individuals and groups have impacted the American political landscape over the course of our history and how they can meet the responsibilities of citizenship now and in the future. Discussion and debate are critical elements of this course and frequent oral participation is expected.

ECONOMICS

GRADE LEVEL: 10-12
CREDITS: 0.5 credit per semester
PREREQUISITE: None

DESCRIPTION: Economics is a semester course in which students will study the American Economic System in terms of Microeconomics and Macroeconomics. The principles of capitalism will be examined with the emphasis on individual and household choices, business choices, money, banking, finance, and the government's role in the economy and trade in both domestic and international markets.

WORLD HISTORY AND GEOGRAPHY

GRADE LEVEL: 11-12
CREDITS: 0.5 credit per semester
PREREQUISITE: None
DESCRIPTION: World History and Geography is the study of civilizations, people, places, and events over the past 5,000 years of human history. It includes the Foundations of History, Expanding Hemispheric Interactions, the First Global Age, Global Revolutions, and Global Crisis and Achievement, The Cold War and Aftermath, and Contemporary Global Issues. Students will realize that man has had similar needs and problems universally through time and has met those needs and problems in different ways. Students will learn through traditional methods related to the textbook and lectures as well as special projects integrating the arts, film, computer research and simulations.

World Language Department

Our World Language courses provide opportunities to acquire a second language, language appreciation, and language consciousness. The work shall be toward the development of accurate pronunciation and appropriate usage of the mechanics of the language; an ability to listen and understand, to speak, to read, and to write the language in its simple forms; and an awareness and understanding of the culture of other cultures.

FRENCH I

GRADE LEVEL: 10-12
CREDITS: 0.5 credit per semester
DESCRIPTION: An introductory course providing for the elementary acquisition of a second language, language appreciation, and language consciousness. The work

shall be toward the development of: Accurate pronunciation of French, making use of the mechanics of the language; Ability to listen and understand, to speak, to read, and to write the language in its simple forms; and Awareness and understanding of the culture of the French-speaking world

FRENCH II

GRADE LEVEL: 10-12
CREDITS: 0.5 credit per semester
PREREQUISITE: Successful completion of French 1 or consent of instructor
DESCRIPTION: A continuation of French I /Italian I, providing the opportunity to obtain fluency in both written and spoken French. The work shall be toward the development of: Fluency and accuracy of pronunciation; Ability to converse freely in simple, practical, everyday French/Italian; Ability to read easily and intelligently, prose of increased difficulty; Ability for oral comprehension of the language, including idioms and common expressions; and Appreciation of the contemporary civilization of the French/Italian-speaking world.

Science Department

The study of science encourages creativity, develops analytical skills, improves communication skills, develops a love of learning, and broadens perspectives. Students involved in the experimenting experience have room to try new ideas fosters creativity and resourcefulness. Students look closer and examine the natural world through observation, predictions, and forming conclusions. Scientists develop organization through writing and tracking data and describing the process in a clear and well-developed way. By seeking answers scientists learn to pursue knowledge. Science changes how you see other subjects, including art and music. Someone may examine works of art with more interest after studying how our eyes see color. Students may notice the variety of tones in orchestra instruments after studying sound waves.

BIOLOGY

GRADE LEVEL: 9-12
CREDITS: 0.5 credit per semester

PREREQUISITE: Physical Science or passing score on placement exam
DESCRIPTION: Biology is a two semester course that will focus on how and why Biology is studied. The course will include the chemistry of living things, cell structure and function, genetics, evolution, and the history and diversity of life. The second semester of this course will give an introduction to the Kingdoms of living things from single celled organisms through complex multicellular organisms. Following the various Kingdoms of living things, the course will finish with Ecology.

CHEMISTRY

GRADE LEVEL: 9-12
CREDITS: 0.5 credit per semester
PREREQUISITE: Biology and/or Physical Science; Algebra 1 or consent of Instructor
DESCRIPTION: Chemistry is the science dealing with the structure, composition, properties, and reactive characteristics of matter. Topics include lab safety, physical & chemical properties of matter, energy, chemical nomenclature, mole relationships, chemical equations, stoichiometry, gas laws, atomic theory, periodicity, bonding, solutions, and acid-base theory. Laboratory experiments and demonstrations will consistently reinforce and aid in the understanding of each of the basic concepts of chemistry. The ultimate goal of this course is to get students acquainted with the basics of chemistry and the world's chemical makeup.

ANATOMY & PHYSIOLOGY

GRADE LEVEL: 10 -12
CREDITS: 0.5 credit per semester
PREREQUISITE: Biology and/or Chemistry
DESCRIPTION: Anatomy & Physiology is a project- and laboratory-based course where students will obtain knowledge about the structure and functions within the human body. This course is considered an advanced biology course, and students are expected to acquire knowledge about the human body actively, allowing the teacher to simply guide their discoveries. Topics include anatomy vocabulary and terminology, skeletal system, cells and tissues, skin and membranes, muscular system, nervous system, endocrine system, blood and pathogens, cardiovascular system, lymph, respiratory system, digestive system, urinary system and reproductive system. Memorization of

terminology and functions is crucial when it comes to student success in this course. The ultimate goal of this course is to get students acquainted with human biology.

PHYSICS

GRADE LEVEL: 9-12
CREDITS: 0.5 credit per semester
PREREQUISITE: Algebra II/Trig; completion of Chemistry is preferred
DESCRIPTION: This course introduces the essential physics principles that explain how objects interact with each other. Topics include 1-dimensional and projectile motion, Newton's Laws, momentum and conservation of energy, circular motion, waves, sound, light, color, reflection & refraction, lenses, electric currents and magnetism. Laboratory experiments and demonstrations consistently reinforce and aid in the understanding of each of the basic concepts of physics. The goal of this course is to increase student awareness of how physics can affect their surrounding environment, problem solving as well as generate further appreciation of the sciences.

If enrollment restrictions prevent Physics from running at the Academy, we will offer COLLEGE PHYSICS I (PHYS-1180), through dual enrollment at Macomb Community College.

ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE

GRADE LEVEL: 11-12
CREDITS: 0.5 credit per semester
PREREQUISITE: Successful completion of Biology and Chemistry
DESCRIPTION: Environmental science is a captivating and rapidly expanding field, and this two-semester course offers compelling lessons that cover many different aspects of the field: ecology, the biosphere, land, forests and soil, water, energy and resources, and societies and policy. Through unique activities and material, high school students connect scientific theory and concepts to current, real-world dilemmas, providing them with opportunities for mastery in each of the segments throughout the semester.

FORENSIC SCIENCE

GRADE LEVEL: 11-12

PREPARE FOR POSSIBILITY

Dance, Vocal and Instrumental Music, Traditional and Digital Visual Art, Creative Writing, and Acting are a part of every student's schedule – ART EVERY DAY. Our extensive arts program is integrated into our solid academic curriculum. The Arts Academy in the Woods is chartered by the Macomb Intermediate School District's Board of Education

CREDITS: 0.5 credit per semester
PREREQUISITE: Biology and Chemistry
DESCRIPTION: Forensic Science is a hands-on laboratory and project-based learning course that will lead the student through a foundation of law and criminal justice, history of forensics, and modern scientific advances in the field. This course recognizes the growing interest in jobs within the sciences, medical field, engineering, and law enforcement. Students examine the sciences used in crime scene investigations. Students explore topics such as blood spatter Analysis, toxicology, serology, impressions, genetics, fingerprinting, and DNA. The scientific method, data analysis, and powers of observation and critical thinking to solve a problem are addressed in all aspects of the course.

Health & Wellness

The Academy's Health and Wellness curriculum includes focus on many life skills to help improve and maintain physical, mental, emotional, and academic wellness, with an added emphasis on mental health.
Students can earn 0.5 credit towards the Health and Wellness requirement by completing one semester of Dance or Musical Theater

Health & Wellness

GRADE LEVEL: 9-12
CREDITS: 0.5 credit per semester
DESCRIPTION: The Academy's Health and Wellness curriculum combines traditional Physical Education and Health classes. Health & Wellness includes focus on many life skills to help improve and maintain the student's overall understanding of their physical, social, mental, emotional, and academic wellness, with an added emphasis on mental health. Each semester counts as a half credit toward the Michigan Merit Curriculum requirement of a half credit of Health and a half credit of Physical Education.

Special Services

LEARNING RESOURCE CENTER

GRADE LEVEL: 9-12
CREDITS: 0.5 credit per semester
PREREQUISITE: Student must have an IEP or 504 plan which indicates the need for support in the LRC.

DESCRIPTION: The Learning Resource Center (LRC) provides individualized learning services through the use of consultative, diagnostic and prescriptive functions, to support the diverse population of students at the Academy who qualify for assistance under IDEIA or Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. The LRC also endeavors to support and assist General Education Teachers' classroom instruction to enable students with special needs to develop the skills necessary to continue in school through

graduation, attain academic and future employment success, and develop life skills that will lead to independence.

Credit Recovery Details

Students who have failed courses must complete credit recovery to meet graduation requirements.

- Students will be scheduled back into classes that they have not completed unless other credit recovery options have been approved.
- Students may elect to take credit recovery courses with any public school district summer school program. Contact your local public school district for information.
- Students may choose to complete online or correspondence credit recovery with AAW approved online providers. Please see the counselor for details and for course registration approval.

Online Options for Credit Recovery

The Academy utilizes Edgenuity for online credit recovery. Edgenuity's credit recovery courses are designed to help students who have fallen behind, focus on the skills they need to improve so they can graduate on time. Students begin by taking a pretest to determine where they need to focus, and the flexibility of these courses allows them to work at their own pace and on their own time to recover credits so they can catch up to their peers. The Edgenuity course catalog is available at https://www.edgenuity.com/course-lists/Edgenuity-Michigan-Course-List.pdf

Dual Enrollment

Dual enrollment is an opportunity to allow students in grades 9-12 to take classes in high school and one or more college level classes at a college campus or online university. These are courses not offered at your high school or that cannot fit into your schedule. Transportation must be provided by the student.

CREDIT: College classes that earn 0.5 credit hours per semester will earn 0.5 credit hours per semester at the high school level as well.