

ALGONAC HIGH SCHOOL SCHEDULING GUIDE

22.0 CREDITS TO GRADUATE



MICHIGAN MERIT CURRICULUM REQUIREMENTS

ENGLISH (4 CREDITS)

Core courses earning English credit are: Survey of Literature and Composition (H), American Literature and Composition (H), European Literature and Composition, World Literature and Composition, IB English HL I, and IB English HL II.

MATH (4 CREDITS)

Core courses earning Math credits are: Algebra, Geometry (H), Algebra II A/B, Algebra II, Pre-Calculus, Senior Mathematics, IB Mathematics SL I, IB Mathematics SL II, and Advanced Placement Statistics.

SCIENCE (3 CREDITS)

Core courses earning Science credits are: Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Anatomy and Physiology, Forensic Science, IB Biology HL I, and IB Biology HL II (*Must take Chemistry or Physics*)

SOCIAL STUDIES (3 CREDITS)

Core courses earning credit are: U.S. History, Government/Economics A/B, World History, IB History of the World HL I, and IB History of the World II.

HEALTH AND PHYSICAL EDUCATION (1 CREDIT)

Minimum must be .5 Health and .5 Physical Education. Core courses earning credit are: Health, Physical Education I, Advanced Fitness and Conditioning and Athletic Dimensions.

VISUAL, PERFORMING AND APPLIED ARTS (1 CREDIT)

Referred to as V.P.A.A. in course guide

Core courses earning credit are: Chorus, Band, Drawing and Painting I, II & III, Publications, Digital Media, TEC Programs and IB Music SL I, IB Music SL II.

WORLD LANGUAGES (1 CREDIT)

-BEGINS WITH THE CLASS OF 2016-

Students who have attended Algonquin Middle School will have met one credit of the requirement by passing their 8th grade Spanish I exam with a 60% or higher. Students choosing to continue with a world language may take Spanish II, III and Spanish SL I and II. Students entering AHS from another district can submit their transcripts to High School Counselor for review to earn credit from a 6th -8th grade Foreign Language course. Students attending at TEC Program or taking additional VPAA credits will only need one (1) foreign language credit for graduation.

ONLINE LEARNING EXPERIENCE

There are several options to fulfilling this requirement. Sophomores at Algonac High School participate in a Career Pathway seminar. The Career Pathway seminar will fulfill this requirement. Other options include taking an E 20/20 course as a senior or Michigan Virtual University that uses an online component.

ALGONAC HIGH SCHOOL SAMPLE SCHEDULES

AHS is proud to offer an eclectic curriculum, including the prestigious IB Diploma Programme. We encourage you to customize your curriculum in a way that best fits your educational goals and needs. **It is strongly suggested that students challenge themselves throughout their four years of high school and take the most rigorous curriculum possible.** If you require a personal curriculum or have other questions regarding scheduling choices, please contact your guidance counselor. If you qualify for special education services, your caseload worker will work with you to set your schedule.

NOTE: Not all courses are offered every year. Student population, staffing, and demand will dictate the master schedule. Counselors will be aware of courses not offered and explain any modifications as they arise.

- The following schedules are only *samples/suggestions*.

SAMPLE SCHEDULE I

General Education

A general education curriculum is intended for those that plan on entering the workforce directly out of high school. Successful (good marks and attendance) completion of the curriculum will most likely allow the student the ability to enter a community college if desired. If entrance to a four year university is desired, a college preparatory curriculum is recommended.

Freshman Schedule

Survey of Literature and Composition 9
Algebra (Remedial)/Geometry
Biology
U.S. History
PE/Health
Elective (V.P.A.A. or F. Lang. suggested)

Sophomore Schedule

American Literature and Composition 10
Geometry/Algebra II A
Chemistry A
Government/Economics A/B
Elective (Foreign Language Suggested)
Elective

Junior Schedule

European Literature and Composition
Algebra IIA/Algebra II B
Chemistry B
World History
Elective (Foreign Language Suggested)
Elective

Senior Schedule

World Literature and Composition
Core Senior Math/Algebra II B
Elective (Physics or Anat. & Phys. Suggested)
Elective (Foreign Language Suggested)
Elective
Elective

SAMPLE SCHEDULE II

College Preparatory

A college preparatory curriculum is intended for those that plan on entering a community college or four year university. Successful (good marks and attendance) completion of the curriculum will most likely allow the student the ability to gain entrance to a college/university. Increased rigor in course choices (and performance) will better a student's chance to gain entrance into the university of their choice. Consult with your guidance counselor if you have questions about requirements of specific universities and/or programs.

Freshman Schedule

Survey of Literature and Composition 9/ (H)
Geometry/ (H)
Biology/ (H)
U.S. History
PE/Health
Spanish II

Sophomore Schedule

American Literature and Composition 10/(H)
Algebra II/Algebra II A
Physics/Chemistry
Government/Economics A/B
Elective (V.P.A.A. suggested)
Spanish III

Junior Schedule

European Literature and Comp. /IB English HL1
Algebra II B/Pre-calculus/IB Math SL I
Physics/Chemistry/IB Biology HL 1
World History, IB History of Am. HL I
Elective (IB Spanish SL I/)
Elective

Senior Schedule

World Literature and Composition/IB English HLII
Senior Math/AP Statistics/Pre-Calculus/IB Math SL II
Physics/Chemistry/ A&P/IB Biology HL II
Elective (IB History of Am. HL II)
Elective (IB Spanish SL II)
Elective

NOTES:

- If a student chooses to take Band during the freshman year, they can take it in place of PE/Health during their freshman year as long as they take the course during one of the elective choices during the sophomore, junior, or senior years.
- Taking an IB course (and scoring well on the assessment) could lead to gaining college credit.

SAMPLE SCHEDULE III

Technical Education

A technical education curriculum is intended for those that plan on gaining certain job skills throughout their high school tenure (geared toward students that have a pre-determined career path in one of the offered programs). Algonac High School is allocated a certain number of slots in the St. Clair County RESA TEC Program annually. An application is required to gain entry to the program. The programs operate for two years (Junior and Senior year). Three hours of the day are spent at AHS. TEC offers both a.m. and p.m. time slots. Consult with your guidance counselor if you have questions about the pros/cons of choosing a technical education curriculum.

Available TEC programs:

- Automotive Technology
- Collision Repair
- Cosmetology
- Culinary Arts
- Digital Media Technology
- Employer-Based Programs
- Health Careers
- Information Technology
- Mechatronics & Robotics
- Metal Machining Technology
- Welding Technology

Freshman Schedule

Survey of Literature and Composition 9/ (H)
Algebra (Remedial)/Geometry/ (H)
Biology/(H)
U.S. History
PE/Health
Elective (V.P.A.A. or Foreign Language suggested)

Sophomore Schedule

American Literature and Composition 10/ (H)
Geometry/Algebra II A/Algebra II
Physics/Chemistry/Anatomy & Physiology
Government/Economics A, B
Elective (V.P.A.A. or Foreign Language suggested)
Elective

Junior Schedule

European Literature and Comp/IB English HL1
Algebra II B/Pre-Calculus/IB Math SL I
Physics/Chemistry/World History
TEC PROGRAM
TEC PROGRAM
TEC PROGRAM

Senior Schedule

World Literature and Composition/IB English HLII
Senior Math/Pre-Calculus/AP Statistics/IB Math SL II
Physics/Chemistry/World History
TEC PROGRAM
TEC PROGRAM
TEC PROGRAM

NOTES:

- TEC programs slots are offered on a competitive basis. Grades, credit, attendance and behavior are evaluated when slots are allocated to students.
- Taking an IB course, and scoring well on the assessment, could lead to gaining college credit.

SAMPLE SCHEDULE IV

IB Diploma Track

An IB Diploma is one of the most prestigious accomplishments a high school student can achieve **IN THE WORLD**. Algonac High School is proud to offer this opportunity to our students and hope that you will consider accepting the IB challenge! Though rigorous, we believe that **ANY** motivated student can be successful in the IB Diploma Programme with proper work ethic and time commitment. Successful (good marks and attendance) completion of the IB Diploma Programme can lead to admission in some of the elite universities in the world. Students that score well on IB assessments can earn numerous college credits. Consult with the IB Coordinator or your guidance counselor if you have questions about the IB Diploma Programme at AHS.

Note: As was written in the college preparatory curriculum schedule, you do not need to enroll in the entire IB Diploma Programme to take an IB course. IB courses are available to students that would like to take them on an individual basis (certificate classification). Please know that we encourage students to take the full IB Diploma curriculum as the benefits are immeasurable. Because of this, priority in scheduling is given to full diploma candidates.

Freshman Schedule

Survey of Literature and Comp. 9 (H)
Geometry (H)
Biology (H)
U.S. History
PE/Health
Spanish II

Sophomore Schedule

American Literature and Composition 10 (H)
Algebra II
Chemistry/Physics (Depending on Post Sec. Plan)
Government/Economics A, B
Elective /AP Statistics (V.P.A.A. if not taking Stats)
Spanish III

Junior Schedule

IB English HL I
IB Mathematics SL I
IB Biology HL I
IB History of Americas HL I
IB PSY SL I/Music SL I/IB SPT/EXERCISE
IB Spanish SL I
TOK – Seminar (Mandatory)

Senior Schedule

IB English HL II
IB Mathematics SL II
IB Biology HL II
IB History of Americas HL II
IB PSY SL II/Music SL II/IB SPT/EXERCISE
IB Spanish SL II
TOK – Seminar (Mandatory)

NOTE: If a student chooses to take Band, they can take it in place of PE/Health during the Freshman year as long as they adopt a personal curriculum opting out of the courses. IB Music SL is concurrent with regular band instruction during the Junior and Senior year.

SAMPLE SCHEDULE V

Blue Water Middle College

Algonac High School offers students the opportunity to participate in the Blue Water Middle College Program. This begins in the junior year. Students begin taking college classes through St. Clair County Community College (SC4) as a BWMC student. They continue taking them their senior year and there is a 5th year component that is required. Students enrolled in the BWMC program will not receive an AHS diploma. Instead they will earn their high school diploma from the Blue Water Middle College. In addition, they will earn their associates degree from SC4. Students interested in the BWMC program should attend their informational meetings and contact Mr. Pete Spencer, the director, for more information. (810) 989-5805 or email him at spencer.pete@sccresa.org.

Freshman Schedule

Survey of Literature and Comp. 9 (H)
Algebra or Geometry
Biology (H)
U.S. History
PE/Health
Spanish II

Sophomore Schedule

American Literature and Composition 10 (H)
Algebra II A or Honors Algebra II
Chemistry/Physics (Depending on Post Sec. Plan)
Government/Economics A, B
Elective
Elective

Junior Schedule

European Lit & Comp
Algebra II A, B/Pre-Calculus
Science (A&P)
World History
BWMC - College Class
BWMC -College Class

Senior Schedule

World Lit & Comp
Senior Math, AP Stats or Pre-Calculus
BWMC - College Class
BWMC - College Class
BWMC - College Class
BWMC - College Class

SAMPLE SCHEDULE VI

Dual Enrolling

Algonac High School offers students the opportunities to dual enroll in college classes at St. Clair County Community College. This begins in the junior year. Students can take college classes through St. Clair County Community College (SC4). Up to two (2) classes can be taken a semester and fall and winter semesters are the ones that are covered by ACS. Mrs. Blair does the paperwork for dual enrolling. Students must have qualifying scores on the ACT to be eligible.

Freshman Schedule

Survey of Literature and Comp. 9 (H)
Algebra or Geometry
Biology (H)
U.S. History
PE/Health
Spanish II

Sophomore Schedule

American Literature and Composition 10 (H)
Algebra II A or Honors Algebra II
Chemistry/Physics (Depending on Post Sec. Plan)
Government/Economics A, B
Elective
Elective

Junior Schedule

European Lit & Comp
Algebra II A, B/Pre-Calculus
Science (A&P)
World History
College Class
College Class

Senior Schedule

World Lit & Comp
Senior Math, AP Stats or Pre-Calculus
Elective
Elective
College Class
College Class

ELECTIVE OPTIONS

- **ALL ELECTIVES ARE FULL YEAR COURSES**
- Progressive electives (multiple levels) require taking the first level before advancing.
- Electives may only be taken once (Except Band and Choir).
- Courses earning core credit may also be taken as supplemental electives
 - Including but not limited to:
 - IB Chemistry SL I,II, IB History of the Americas HL I,II, Anatomy and Physiology, A.P. Statistics

AHS ELECTIVES

SOCIAL STUDIES

Psychology
IB Psychology SL I, II

ARTS (V.P.A.A.)

Band
Choir
Drawing and Painting
Drawing & Painting II & III
Newspaper
Yearbook
IB Music SL I, II

FOREIGN LANGUAGE

Spanish II, III
IB Spanish SL I, II

COMPUTERS/BUSINESS (V.P.A.A.)

Digital Media Technology

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Physical Education /Health
Advanced Fitness and Conditioning
Athletic Dimensions

EDUCATION 20/20

E 20/20 is an online computer program that allows students to complete coursework off-campus. A wide variety of electives are available. If eligible (have met all core academic requirements)

JUNIORS AND SENIORS are eligible to take two E20/20 courses (**electives only**). Seniors taking E20/20 courses can attend school only for the hours they are taking AHS course work. E20/20 course work can be completed on or off campus.

E20/20 Electives:

Environmental Science, Earth Science, Geography, Human Geography, Health, Computers, Consumer Skills, Financial Math, Career Planning and Development, Computer Applications, Lifetime Fitness, Healthy Living, Foundations of Personal Wellness, Introduction to Art, Art History, Psychology I, Psychology II, Sociology I, Sociology II, Spanish I, Career Skills, Communications and Speech, IDEA Writing, Classic Literature (For a course description, please see the E2020 Coordinator.)

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

MATH

Algebra I: Students will begin with a review of algebraic expressions. Students will then study linear equations, linear functions, linear relations, linear inequalities and systems of linear equations and inequalities. Students will conclude the year with a study of polynomials with factoring and quadratic equations and a study of functions including quadratic, exponential, radical, and rational functions. Algebra I taken in 8th grade fulfills this requirement.

Geometry: Beginning with a brief review of algebra concepts, Geometry students study the concepts of geometric structure, congruence, similarity and measurement. The concepts are introduced through a variety of instructional techniques and next-generation technology including web-based resources.

Geometry Honors: Progressing at a faster pace than Geometry, the Geometry Honors course covers the concepts of geometric structure, congruence, similarity and measurement. The concepts are introduced through a variety of instructional techniques and next-generation technology including web-based resources. Placement requires teacher recommendation and assessment criteria.

Algebra II A: (Year Long: Part I of Algebra II) Students will begin with a review of solving linear equations, absolute value equations and linear inequalities. Students will progress to writing linear functions given various information about lines. Students will then study relations and functions, including the parent functions and their transformations. Students will conclude the year by studying exponent rules and operations with polynomials, solving quadratic functions and rational functions.

Algebra II B: (Year Long: Part II of Algebra II) Students will start the year with the equations of circles, then studying the inverse of functions. Students will progress to the study trigonometric functions and the unit circle. Next the students will study exponential and logarithmic functions, finishing the year with conditional probability, the binomial theorem and sequences and series.

Algebra II: (Year Long: Fulfills all requirement for Algebra II) Students will begin with a brief review of solving linear equations, absolute value equations and linear inequalities, and writing linear functions given various information about the lines. Students will then begin study of relations and functions, including the parent functions and their transformations, exponent rules, operations with polynomials, solving quadratic functions and rational functions, equations of circles, the inverse of functions, trigonometric functions and the unit circle, exponential and logarithmic functions, conditional probability, the binomial theorem and sequences and series. Placement requires teacher recommendation and assessment criteria

Pre-Calculus:

Senior Mathematics: This course is only open to seniors. Topics for Core Senior Math include: working with percentages; simple and compound interest; loans & credit cards;

checking & savings accounts, writing checks, balancing a checking account; graph theory; converting from base 10 to bases 2 through 9 and vice versa; adding and subtracting in other bases; time cards, salary, wages, overtime, taxes, gross pay/net pay; understanding tax tables; filing a tax return; financial aid; introductory college algebra; practical geometry as related to painting a house, measuring for flooring & molding; introductory college algebra and preparation for college math placement tests.

AP Statistics: (As stated by the College Board): The purpose of the AP course in statistics is to introduce students to the major concepts and tools for collecting, analyzing, and drawing conclusions from data. Students are exposed to four broad conceptual themes. Exploring Data: Describing patterns and departures from patterns; Sampling and Experimentation: Planning and conducting a study; Anticipating Patterns: Exploring random phenomena using probability and simulation; and Statistical Inference: Estimating population parameters and testing hypotheses. Placement requires teacher recommendation and assessment criteria. Placement requires teacher recommendation and assessment criteria. May be taken in sophomore or senior year.

IB Mathematics SL I/II: Mathematics SL is a two-year course designed for students to develop and expand upon their mathematical knowledge. Students will be exploring topics in algebra, functions, equations, circular functions, trigonometry, matrices, vectors, statistics, probability, and calculus through investigative means in order to create new knowledge in addition to enhancing previously learned concepts. Students will be required to think critically and analytically, use and appreciate the language of mathematics and its origins, and express mathematical knowledge and ideas in oral, written, and symbolic formats.

Students will be assessed in a variety of ways including tests, quizzes, oral and written expression, projects, and occasionally on daily work. Students will be expected to be proficient in using graphing calculators and computers in order to perform mathematical calculations, create graphs, analyze data, as well as creating presentations and reports. Placement requires teacher recommendation and assessment criteria.

ENGLISH

Survey of Literature and Composition-9: This year long class, aligned to meet the Common Core State Standards, will include the process of writing across genres; integration of grammar skills; technology and standardized test prep; introduce students to classic plays, novels, and short stories using recommended exemplary texts.

Survey of Literature and Composition-9 Honors: In addition to the content covered in the standard course, the honors course will move at a faster pace and include the reading of additional anchor texts and more advanced writing. Placement requires teacher recommendation and assessment criteria.

American Literature and Composition 10: This year long class, aligned to meet the Common Core State Standards, will include the process of writing across genres; integration of grammar skills; technology and standardized test prep; introduce students to classic plays, novels, short stories and poetry in the context of a historical survey of American Literature.

American Literature and Composition 10 Honors: In addition to the content covered in the standard course, the honors course will move at a faster pace and include the reading of additional anchor texts and more advanced writing. Placement requires teacher recommendation and assessment criteria.

European Literature and Composition -11: This year long class, aligned to the common core state standards, will survey writing across Europe in a historical context from early civilization through modern times. The exploration of literary and writing genres will incorporate grammar skills; technology; standardized test prep; and research.

World Literature and Composition-12: This year-long Senior English class will begin with research and writing in the context of college, career and military exploration. Students will also explore literature from around the world, including units in Russian Literature; Asian Literature; African and Middle-Eastern Literature; and Central and South American Literature. Aligned to the common core state standards, students will continue to develop reading, grammar and writing skills begun in the earlier grades as they work toward college and career readiness.

IB English A HL- Language and Literature-11th and 12th grades: This two year course aims to develop in students skills of textual analysis and the understanding that texts, both literary and non-literary, can be seen as autonomous yet simultaneously related to culturally determined reading practices. An understanding of the ways in which formal elements are used to create meaning in a text is combined with an exploration of how that meaning is affected by reading practices that are culturally defined and by the circumstances of production and reception. Placement in IB English requires teacher recommendation and assessment criteria. This course is a requirement for students attempting to earn the IB Diploma.

SCIENCE

Biology: Biology is a one-year course taken by all freshmen. It is a required course for graduation. The standards and benchmarks for this class have been aligned to the state science standards and the ACT college readiness standards. Topics of study include biochemistry, cell structure and function, homeostasis and the body, energy conversion processes of life, heredity and DNA, evolution, infectious disease, taxonomy and ecology. Laboratory experiences, classroom lectures and activities will reinforce all material.

Biology - Honors: In addition to the content covered in the standard Biology course, the honors course will move at a faster pace and will prepare students to be successful in the IB HL Biology course with an emphasis on laboratory technique and data analysis. Placement requires teacher recommendation and assessment criteria.

Physics: The main focus of physics is the study of the physical laws and mathematical relationships that govern the motion of objects. Topics include one-dimensional and two-dimensional motion, forces, Newton's Laws, work, energy, momentum, and circular motion. Other topics include the study of waves, sound, light, and the basic concepts of electricity and simple circuits. A basic understanding of algebra and trigonometry is recommended, but not required.

Chemistry: This course is a one-year college preparatory program designed to give students ample background in basic chemistry concepts. Descriptive information and critical thinking are integrated with laboratory activities. For those students who do not plan to go on in science, the course provides an opportunity to practice good study and organizational skills that are common in all areas of college work. An inquiry method of instruction is promoted to allow students an opportunity to practice scientific processes.

Anatomy and Physiology: A one-year science course for juniors or seniors. Prerequisites include completion of and credit earned in 9th grade Biology and either chemistry or physics. Anatomy may be taken in conjunction with chemistry or physics with permission from the instructor.

Human Anatomy and Physiology is a comprehensive, in-depth study of human structure and function. Topics included are anatomical terminology, cell and tissue classification, structure and function, and the study of the eleven body systems, including organs, physiology, development of, disorders of and interrelationships of the body systems.

IB Biology HL I/II: This class is a challenging class in which students will be provided with the knowledge of principles, the methods and techniques required to approach, understand, initiate, design and investigate the worlds and its wonders in a scientific matter. Students will be able to grasp the idea of a living world in which universality means that a diverse range of organisms (including ourselves) are connected and interdependent. There will be emphasis on the contribution of the international community to the discoveries and advancement of science and technology. Placement requires teacher recommendation and assessment criteria.

SOCIAL STUDIES

U.S. History: Students spend two semesters studying the history of the U.S. from industrialization into the twenty-first century. The national social studies standards of content knowledge are integrated with the six historic themes for instructional purposes. Students interpret the past and analyze different points of view through critical thinking.

Government Economics A/B: The government portion of this course will provide students with knowledge of Michigan and United States Government that will enable them to participate effectively in civic life in America. Students will examine fundamental constitutional principles; the organization of government at the federal, state, and local level; the rights and responsibilities of citizenship; the policy-making process; political parties and elections; comparative government and foreign policy; and the American economic system. The economics portion of this course will give the students a greater understanding of economics ranging from the viewpoint of the individual consumer or small business owner to the global economy. The course will study the law of supply and demand, forms of business, labor unions, government finances and influence on the economy, money and prices, personal finance, and inflation and deflation cycles. The course will connect history and government to the study of economics.

World History: World History and Geography takes a global and comparative approach to studying the world and its past to develop greater understanding of the development of

worldwide events, processes, and interactions, among the world's people, cultures, societies and environment. The expectations are organized using both time and space to engage students in cross-temporal and cross-regional studies. The themes of study include expanding and intensified hemispheric interactions, the emergence of the first global age, the age of global revolutions, the global crisis and achievement of the twentieth century, and the Cold War and its aftermath.

IB History of the World HL I/II: History of the World is the first year of a two-year IB HL course. This course will be chronologically based and will begin with the struggle for United States independence and the years of nation building that followed. The course will then move into an in-depth study of the Civil War and a large focus of this course will be on U.S. foreign relations during the major U.S. wars of the nineteenth and twentieth century. The transition into the twentieth century will place a large focus on the transformation of the economic, political and social structures of the Americas. There will also be an emphasis placed on the influence Canada and Latin America had on shaping the western hemisphere during these centuries.

The second year will consist of Twentieth Century World History. This course will begin with the global causes of the First World War and the war itself. This will lead into the prescribed subject 1 and the 20th century topic of causes, practices, and effects of wars. There will be a heavy focus on primary source documents and historical analysis. Critical thinking will guide us through what led to WWII and the ensuing Cold War, which is prescribed topic 5. Placement requires teacher recommendation and assessment criteria.

Psychology: Psychology is a one-year social studies elective course. The course includes these topics: the historical background of the study of psychology, research and statistical methods, the life span, the brain and body, learning and cognitive processes, personality, stress, psychological disorders and social psychology. Class work will include daily lectures and discussions, evaluation of experiments and articles from psychological journals, and daily class activities that support the material. Writing assignments and data analysis will be included to help students meet college readiness standards for social studies.

IB Psychology SL I/II: IB psychology is a two year course which begins the first semester of a student's junior year. The course of study for IB Psychology focuses on the systemic study of human behavior and the experiences and mental factors that influence behavior. Students will develop an understanding of the historical background and origins of psychology as well as an appreciation for the diversity of the human experience across the globe. The three major perspectives in psychology- biological, behavioral and cognitive- will be presented, requiring the skills of critical thinking and the methods of empirical investigation and data analysis that are the hallmarks of psychology.

Ethics and experimentation are to be given special attention throughout the course. The exploration of human behavior will consider the opportunity for psychology to contribute positively to and improve upon the human condition. Students will be provided the opportunity to study an optional subject area in depth.

Students who complete this course will gain a deep appreciation for and understanding of psychology across cultures, ethics and gender. Open-mindedness, inquiry and integrity are skills that will be developed as students work toward the goal of becoming life-long learners who are

able to communicate their knowledge to the benefit of society. Placement requires teacher recommendation and assessment criteria.

ARTS

Choir: This class continues the development of skills learned in middle school choir classes. Students learn the appropriate posture, breath control, tone production and method of sight-reading for choral singing. These skills are applied by preparing music of various styles and cultures which are performed at concerts throughout the school year. This choir also competes in the annual Michigan School Vocal Music Association's Choral Festival. **Rainbow Connection is a subset of the high school choir. Students who are interested in Rainbow Connection must pass an audition and commit to an after-school rehearsal schedule.

Drawing/Painting: Students perform basic drawing up through advanced. The course exposes students to the major areas of two dimensional art. It prepares students for advanced courses in the art field, develops independent study habits and helps create a personal portfolio. This class is needed to take Commercial Design.

Drawing/Painting II & III: Students do advanced work in the field of design. The fields of study include, fashion, automotive, advertising and related fields of design. The course includes a final project that contains all of the areas covered. Work is also offered from outside sources for real job opportunities and experience. The course will finish developing student portfolios for use in college or technical school level acceptance.

Instrumental Music (Band): The instrumental music program at Algonac High School encompasses a wide variety of experiences and seeks to have the student experience the joy of music through the medium of performance. Students will spend the first 9 weeks in the marching band, which will appear at home football games, various community parades and events, and will participate in MSBOA District 16 Marching Band Festival in October. The Marching Band portion of the class concludes with the annual Marching Band Concert.

For the remainder of the academic year, students will participate in the Symphonic Band. The Symphonic Band will perform at Band-A-Rama, the Spring Concert, the Senior Awards Assembly, Commencement and will also participate in MSOBA District 16 Band and Orchestra Festival. During the course of Symphonic Band participation, students will also have the option of participating in Solo & Ensemble Festival, MSBOA Honors Band, MYAF State Honors Band, WAVE Percussion Ensemble, Taft Road Jazz Society and other extra-curricular activities.

The instrumental music program travels on a bi-annual basis. Participation in music trips, which are planned around a major festival performance, are not mandatory but highly encouraged. Past trips have included the Dixie Classic Festival in Chicago, Magic Music Days Festival in Orlando and other locations such as New Orleans, Toronto and San Diego.

Students are highly encouraged to participate in fund raising activities, sponsored by the Band Boosters, to fund their student band accounts, which can be used to defray any costs associated with band. All students are required to attend a week long band camp in late July/early August at CMU and are expected to participate fully in all concerts and scheduled activities.

The instrumental music department is committed to allowing students to participate in music and athletics and works closely with the coaches and athletic director to avoid and resolve conflicts. Students will never be penalized for participation in both activities.

Publications (Newspaper & Yearbook): Writing for Publication is a course designed to instruct students in techniques used to write and publish various news media including straight news, editorials, and feature stories. Students utilize various brainstorming, interviewing, and news-gathering techniques to create a monthly publication, *The Rat Review*. Students also utilize computers for typing, layout design, and photo editing for the production of a school newspaper. Students in publications will also put together the school yearbook. They will spend the year learning the techniques of writing for a publication. This journalism style of writing will teach students the art of interviewing and uncovering facts and interesting detail. While sticking to strict deadlines, the class works towards producing an annual book that will document each year as it passes. The documentation is done with the use of extensive technology and design.

IB Music SL I/II: The International Baccalaureate Music course at Algonac High School will focus on giving students the needed vocabulary, tools and experiences to assimilate, analyze and appreciate music of all genres from all cultures. Using both audio and video recordings, students will be exposed to music from a broad sampling of cultures and time periods in an effort to impart a more global perspective on the role of music in culture and in the human experience in general.

All IB Music students in Algonac will satisfy their Group Performance requirement through participation in the instrumental or vocal music program during the regularly scheduled class time. IB Music students will be required to participate in the solo & ensemble festival component of either the vocal or instrumental music curriculum as a way to build performing experience and repertoire for the solo performance component of the Standard Level requirements.

Algonac IB Music students will participate in small class instruction, including training in theory, composition and analysis, in regularly scheduled before or after school 'zero hour' classes in order to be able to participate in the school music performance programs. Resources will be made available for individual, self guided exploration and instruction thru the school media center, computer labs and school web sites.

IB Music will satisfy the IB curriculum in area 6, and is offered as a one year course to juniors and seniors (SL) or as a two year course to seniors (HL) who have taken one year but have not taken the SL test.

FOREIGN LANGUAGE

Spanish I: Introduction to Spanish I.

Spanish II: In Spanish II, students will build on prior knowledge and skills. Students will use the four communicative skills (reading, writing, listening and speaking) to perform a variety of tasks. In reading and listening, students will be able to determine the main point, key ideas, and supporting material. In writing and speaking, students will use both idiomatic expressions *and*

their own sentences using present and past verb tenses. Students will write notes, paragraphs, letters, and compositions. Students will present prepared materials and hold conversations in Spanish.

Spanish III: In Spanish III, students will use previously-learned material with new verbs and vocabulary. Students will distinguish between present, past, and future events, as well as other verb tenses. The class will emphasize communication skills (reading, writing, listening, and speaking). In reading and listening, students will be able to summarize key points and respond to questions in Spanish. Students will be able to express themselves in speech, including impromptu speeches and round-table discussions. Students will write letters, compositions, and reviews.

IB Spanish SL I/II: Spanish Language B, Standard Level, focuses on the four communicative skills. Students will refine their grammatical skills and produce language in oral and written form. The course will promote the use of language skills in both practical and social situations involving a varied range of contexts. Students will use multi-media resources and other authentic texts as a basis for discussion, evaluation, and individual expression. Over the two-year course, the Spanish B learner will acquire confidence and a risk-taking attitude toward speaking in unfamiliar situations. Placement requires teacher recommendation and assessment criteria.

COMPUTERS/BUSINESS

Digital Medial Technology: With technology, students learn multimedia techniques. This is a project based class.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Physical Education: This course introduces freshmen to concepts for personal development in health-related fitness and physical skills. These include cardiovascular exercise, body composition, strength, endurance, and flexibility; which will be the basis throughout the semester. Students will develop physical and health-related fitness skills through participation in individual and field activities.

Health: Health is a one semester course designed to cover topics which teenagers are faced with everyday. Emphasis is placed on the four components of total wellness: Physical, Intellectual, Social, and Emotional. Students are encouraged to make healthy and proper choices related to their health behaviors.

Advanced Fitness and Conditioning: The main focus of this class is to increase your strength, speed, power, and conditioning. You will work extremely hard in this class, so be prepared to work. All students are expected to perform to the best of their abilities.

Athletic Dimensions: Athletic Dimensions is a one year course designed to cover 10 dimensions related to athletics. The dimensions that will be explored are as followed:**1.** History of Sports **2.** Basic Sport Skills **3.** Sport Rules & Regulations **4.** Sport Management **5.** Athletic Promotion **6.** Athletic Nutrition **7.** Athletic Training **8.** Athletic Creativity **9.** Athletic Strength & Conditioning **10.** Athletic Motivation & Leadership.