

# Tri-County

**Regional Vocational Technical High School**



2016 - 2017

Academic Course Descriptions

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## Promotion/Graduation Requirements

A minimum of 152 credits will be necessary for graduation. Students must earn 37.5 credits per year for promotion from grade 9 to grade 10 and from grade 10 to grade 11. For promotion from grade 11 to grade 12 and in grade 12 for graduation, a student must earn 38.5 credits. A student must pass his/her shop and English, Math, Science and Social Studies for 4 years, 3 of which must be U.S. History, Physical Education for 4 years and Related Instruction for 2 years. Students must successfully complete all aspects of the Senior Project including the research paper, product, and presentation.

<b>From Grade</b>	<b>To Grade</b>	<b>Credits</b>
9	10	37.5
10	11	75
11	12	113.5
<b>For Graduation</b>		152

### Enrollment in Courses

Courses selected will be assigned on a space available basis.

### Special Education Services

Special Education services are offered in general education classes through a consultation/support model.

*~ Grade 9 courses begin with "1", grade 10 with "3", grade 11 with "5" & grade 12 with "7".*

## Academic Course Descriptions

- Business Technology
- English
- Health and Physical Education
- Mathematics
- MCAS Tutoring
- Music Appreciation
- Science
- Social Studies
- Spanish

## **Business Technology**

### **BU 189**

#### **Technology Literacy**

**1.25 credits**

Today's workplace requires employees to have a strong foundation in technology. This course incorporates real-world business scenarios in which students create documents and spreadsheets using Microsoft Word and Excel, in addition to saving, organizing, and submitting files electronically. Keyboarding speed and accuracy is gained through the assignments and keyboard labs. Students must take both BU189 and PE169.

### **BU 103, 303, 503**

#### **Social Media and the Business World**

**2.5 credits**

Facebook, Twitter, and YouTube are just a few of the social media platforms that will be studied in Social Media for the Business World. This course will allow students to experience how businesses utilize social media to market their product, build relationships with customers, and gain brand loyalty. Students will create classroom Facebook and Twitter accounts, develop a social media policy for the classroom, and write posts and tweets to be posted by their instructor. Students will also select a company to follow, and will identify and analyze how that company utilizes social media marketing to build customer relations and to sell its product. The course culminates with students developing a social media plan.

### **BU 186, 386, 586, 786**

#### **Managing Your Own Business**

**2.5 credits**

Thinking of owning your own business one day? Students will select a business and write a business plan, incorporating the skills and principles taught throughout the course. Students will learn the skills and knowledge required to be successful in today's business world: customer service, management, sales, finance, communication, social networking, negotiation, planning, time-management, leadership, brainstorming, and problem-solving. Computer applications and guest speakers will enrich the learning experience.

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## **English**

### **EN 112**

#### **English 9 CP**

**5 credits**

This college preparatory course emphasizes the elements of fiction with an introduction to Shakespearean drama and poetry. Representative examples of the literature include *Romeo and Juliet*, *Of Mice and Men*, *The Odyssey*, and selected essays, short stories, and poems. The year includes a focus on basic grammar skills, and identifying specific sentence types by structure and purpose and developing sound paragraph structure, with progression to the five-paragraph essay and the essential elements of a documented research essay. Elements of oral presentation are also covered in this course. Outside reading and written homework is regularly assigned.

### **EN 110**

#### **English 9 Honors**

**5 credits**

This honors level program is for students who have above average aptitude and interest in reading and writing. Representative examples of literature include *Romeo and Juliet*, *Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde*, *The Odyssey*, and selected essays, short stories, and poems. The honors course delves more deeply into topics covered in EN 112 and requires a more advanced level of usage. The honors program includes the additional expectation that students apply specific elements of style such as tense consistency, elevated diction and advanced punctuation usage to their writing. Extensive outside reading and written homework is assigned on a regular basis.

### **EN 312**

#### **English 10 CP**

**5 credits**

This college preparatory course includes a review of the elements of plot and abstract literary elements such as figurative language, foreshadowing, diction, tone, and character development. Students identify and analyze theme in both fiction and poetry. Poetry and nonfiction writing are also covered in this course. Representative examples of the literature include *Lord of the Flies*, *Antigone*, *Catcher in the Rye*, *A Separate Peace*, *I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings* and selected essays, short stories and poems. Students will review basic sentence structure and punctuation in order to develop their presentation of complex ideas in such topical essays as character analyses and causation essays. In this course, the emphasis goes beyond initial writing and focuses on

revision and editing. The year ends with the research, writing, revision, and publication of a fully documented research paper along with the preparation and delivery of a shop process demonstration. Outside reading and written homework is assigned on a regular basis.

### **EN 310**

#### **English 10 Honors**

**5 credits**

This honors level course is for students who have above average achievement and interest in reading and writing. While many of the topics covered and skills required are the same as those covered in EN 312, the honors course delves more deeply into these topics and requires a more advanced level of usage. The honors program includes an additional expectation that students apply specific elements of style such as parallel structure, elevated diction and advanced punctuation usage to their writing. Students in this class read two dramas. Representative examples of the literature include *Lord of the Flies*, *Julius Caesar*, *Antigone*, *Catcher in the Rye*, *a Separate Peace*, selected short stories and poems. Extensive outside reading and written homework are assigned on a regular basis. **Prerequisite: B or better in English 9 Honors or B+ or better in English 9 CP AND teacher recommendation.**

### **EN 512**

#### **English 11 CP**

**5 credits**

This college preparatory course offers an overview of American Literature with an exploration of regional differences in dialect and tone. The course includes students researching, developing, writing, and revising their senior project papers as well as course work completed within their vocational programs. A passing grade is required on this paper in order for students to progress to senior English. This course covers the principles of argument and persuasive writing and speaking. Representative examples of the literature include *The Crucible*, *The Great Gatsby*, *The Things They Carried*, *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*, and selected short stories and poems with the purpose of connecting literature to history and culture. An informational paper, which is written primarily on the student's own time, outside reading and written homework are assigned on a regular basis.

### **EN 510**

#### **English 11 Honors**

**5 credits**

This honors level course emphasizes developing personal writing style and voice by examining various writers' purpose and literary themes. While many of the topics covered and skills required are the same as those covered in EN 512, the honors course delves more deeply into these topics and requires a more advanced level of application. The full length pieces of literature are the same as those covered in EN 512 with additional informational pieces presented. This program contains highly challenging material for students who have scholarly interest and who have the time and motivation to accept responsibility for extensive outside preparation. This course prepares students for the rigor and challenges of Humanities and Advanced Placement Literature and Composition offered in the senior year. In addition to the senior project paper, which is written primarily on the student's own time, outside reading and written homework are assigned on a regular basis. **Prerequisite: B or better in English 10 Honors or B+ or better in English 10 CP AND teacher recommendation.**

### **EN 508**

#### **Advanced Placement Language and Composition**

**5 credits**

In this course, students will write in narrative, expository, analytical, and argument form about a variety of subjects. They will define their own writing voices as they explore the rhetorical strategies and techniques employed in a diverse selection of prose styles and genres. In addition to formal essay writing that entails a multi-draft process, students will also write in informal contexts such as journal keeping and collaborative writing. Students will provide and accept feedback from peers and their teacher and use this input to revise their writing. Though most of the reading in the class is nonfiction, students may read fiction and poetry to understand how various effects are achieved by the writers' linguistic and rhetorical choices. Students will also examine graphics and visual images as they relate to written texts and as a form of text themselves. Students will develop, draft, and revise a researched argument paper that includes the analysis and synthesis of ideas from an array of sources (Senior Project Paper). Students will be expected to take the AP Language and Composition Exam in the spring. **Prerequisite: A final grade of B+ or better in English 10 Honors AND teacher recommendation or A- or better in English 10 CP AND teacher recommendation.**

**EN 714****Humanities Honors****5 credits**

This honors course is offered in conjunction with SS 704, the Social Studies component of the Humanities program. Students are introduced to literary and historical aspects of Western Civilization through extended readings, lecture, individual, and class projects. There will be some common assessments that connect the social studies and English classes, including a common mid-year and final exam. Beginning with Ancient Greece, students read representative literature while at the same time studying major historical events in Western history. This honors program contains highly challenging material for students who have scholarly interest and who can conduct independent Internet research. Access to the Internet is required for homework assignments.

**Prerequisite: B or better in English 11 Honors or B or better in Advanced Placement Language and Composition or B+ or better in English 11 CP AND teacher recommendation.**

**EN 712****English 12 CP****5 credits**

This college preparatory course covers advanced standards of sentence, paragraph, and composition structure with an emphasis on real world applications such as the college essay, the resume, the employment application, and the business letter. Formal and informal oral presentations are also emphasized as well as the incorporation of multi-media into such presentations. Students will closely examine the theme of social responsibility as it relates to course materials and their lives. Representative examples of literature include "The Allegory of the Cave," *An Enemy of the People*, *The Tragedy of Macbeth*, and a number of selected short stories, articles, and poems. Outside reading and written homework are assigned on a regular basis.

**EN 710****English 12 Honors****5 credits**

In this course, students will demonstrate an understanding of historical events reflected in world literature, with special emphasis on classical works. They will also analyze the moral and philosophical questions posed in masterpieces in novels, drama, poetry, and short stories. In addition, they will prepare effective dramatic presentations, demonstrate advanced skills in application of the conventions of Standard English and write compositions using various specific methods of organization, including the production of a documented research project. Continuing preparation for the Scholastic Aptitude Test is also offered. **Prerequisite: B or better in English 11 Honors or B or better in Advanced Placement Language and Composition or B+ or better in English 11 CP AND teacher recommendation.**

**EN 708****Advanced Placement Literature and Composition****5 credits**

This advanced course offers interpretation and evaluation of representative examples of poetry, drama, fiction, and expository prose from various cultures and historical periods. Pieces are examined for structure, style and theme, as well as imagery and symbolism and are analyzed and evaluated on their literary and social merit. The class requires students to react and respond to the literary works by means of reflection, argumentation, and expository prose that demonstrate not only advanced skills in the application of standard English conventions, but also elements of stylistic maturity and creativity. Representative examples of the literature include *Heart of Darkness*, *Things Fall Apart*, *Hamlet*, and *Oedipus the King*. Students will be expected to take the AP Literature and Composition Exam in the spring. **Prerequisite: A final grade of B+ or better in English 11 Honors or AP Language and Composition AND teacher recommendation or A- or better in English 11 CP AND teacher recommendation.**

**Health & Physical Education****PE 169****Physical Education/Health****1.25 credits**

Physical education, as an instructional program, provides a learning environment to develop and improve a student's physical, emotional, and social acuity. Participation is the primary requirement. The performance evaluation is determined by quantity and quality of participation. This element accounts for 25% of the grade. Time: one marking term.

An additional 25% of the grade derives from health education. Topics include drugs, alcohol, sexually

transmitted diseases, and smoking cessation. Performance indicators are classroom reading, writing, and discussion. Time: one marking term. Students must take both PE169 and BU189.

### **PE 360**

#### **Physical Education/Health**

**2.5 credits**

Physical Education, as an instructional program, provides a learning environment to develop and improve a student's physical, emotional, and social acuity, leading to good health, well-being, and fitness. Participation is the primary requirement of the Physical Education Program. Evaluation of performance is determined by the quantity and quality of participation.

Fifty percent of curricular time will be spent in health education. Topics to be covered include drugs and alcohol, sexually transmitted diseases, and smoking cessation. Parents may request waivers from this component. Alternate assignments will be provided.

### **PE 566, 766**

#### **Total Body Conditioning**

**2.5 credits**

This class emphasizes individual fitness through a wide variety of aerobic activities and training. A basic conditioning program, which alternates aerobic dance, strength training, and aerobic activities, will be utilized. Information on a variety of health-related fitness topics will also be presented.

### **PE 561**

#### **Yoga, Self-Defense, and Aerobic Activities**

**2.5 credits**

This course will focus on the mind-body connection by teaching students both yoga and martial arts exercises that will help improve both physical and mental fitness. Students will learn how to concentrate and focus better as well as improve flexibility and core strength. Students will learn alternative methods of exercise such as step aerobics, pilates, cardio kickboxing, zumba and cardiovascular endurance.

### **PE 562, 762**

#### **Team and Individual Sports**

**2.5 credits**

This course is designed for students in grades 11 and 12 who enjoy team sports and individual sports. The students will develop an understanding of offensive and defensive strategies, fair competition, sportsmanship, and gamesmanship in all activities.

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## **Mathematics**

### **MA 121**

#### **Algebra I CP**

**5 credits**

This course is designed for students who have basic mathematical skill with whole numbers, fractions, decimals, and percentages. The objective of this class is to learn the language, concepts, and techniques of algebra and to develop critical thinking and logical reasoning skills. Students will study the real number system and solve problems using equations, polynomial operations, factoring, rational expressions, inequalities, systems of equations, rational and irrational numbers, and the quadratic formula.

### **MA 120**

#### **Algebra I Honors**

**5 credits**

In addition to the contents of the CP course, the Honors program will include a deeper exploration of the standards that focuses on analytical and abstract reasoning. The class includes a variety of applications to other fields, challenging problems to develop strong problem solving skills, and an emphasis on connecting visual, symbolic, and verbal representations of algebraic concepts. It is highly recommended for students to purchase a graphing calculator. Recommended calculator: TI-84+.

**MA 123, 520****Algebra II/Trigonometry Honors****5 credits**

This course is designed for students who have demonstrated significant mathematical skill in the completion of an Algebra I course. The course of study includes basic concepts of real numbers, inequalities, linear and quadratic functions, factoring with applications, rational expressions, irrational and complex numbers, exponential and logarithmic functions, trigonometry with applications, and matrices. It is highly recommended for students to purchase a graphing calculator. Recommended calculator: TI-84+. **Prerequisite for Course MA 520: B or better in Geometry Honors AND Algebra I Honors or B+ or better in Geometry CP AND Algebra I CP AND teacher recommendation.**

**MA 321****Pre-Advanced Placement Geometry Honors****5 credits**

This course is designed for any student who has successfully completed Algebra II/Trig Honors (MA 123). The Pre-AP course provides an accelerated, in-depth study of the Honors Geometry topics with additional emphasis on coordinate Geometry and Trigonometry. These additional topics will include the trigonometry of right and oblique triangles, the use of trigonometry to calculate areas with volumes, and an introduction to conic sections. It is highly recommended for students to purchase a graphing calculator. Recommended calculator: TI-84+. **Prerequisite: B or better in MA 123 Algebra II/Trigonometry Honors AND teacher recommendation.**

**MA 320****Geometry Honors****5 credits**

This course is designed for any student who has successfully completed Algebra I Honors. The course covers all topics as Geometry CP, but will go into greater depth, especially in the areas of inductive and deductive reasoning, interpreting and writing proofs (both direct and indirect), congruency, similarity, right triangle trigonometry and the application of skills to practical problem solving. **Prerequisite: B or better in Algebra I Honors or B+ or better in Algebra I CP AND teacher recommendation.**

**MA 324****Geometry CP****5 credits**

This course is designed for students who have successfully completed Algebra I. Topics to be covered are: introduction to constructions, basic postulates of geometry, writing proofs, the Pythagorean Theorem, two and three dimensional shapes, parallel lines, coordinate geometry area and volume circles, and the application of skills to practical problem solving.

**MA 522****Algebra II CP****5 credits**

When taken with Trigonometry in the senior year, this course is designed to prepare students for college level mathematics. This class will reinforce the skills taught in Algebra I and add advanced Algebraic reasoning skills necessary for the post graduate. Topics to be covered are: Linear equations, Inequality equations, radicals, complex numbers, quadratics, rational expressions, exponential and logarithmic functions, statistics and probability.

**MA 585, 725****Pre-Calculus Honors****5 credits**

This course is intended for juniors and seniors who have completed Algebra II/Trigonometry. Topics covered will be linear and quadratic functions, polynomial functions, inequalities, operations with functions, exponents and logarithms, trigonometric equations, triangle trigonometry, trigonometry identities and matrices. A graphing calculator (TI-83+) will be utilized throughout the course. It is highly recommended for students to purchase a graphing calculator. Recommended calculator: TI-84+. **Prerequisite for Course MA 585: B or better in Algebra II/Trigonometry Honors AND B or better in Geometry Honors AND teacher recommendation. Prerequisite for Course MA 725: Successful completion of Algebra II/Trigonometry Honors AND teacher recommendation.**

## MA 705

### Advanced Placement Statistics

5 credits

This course will introduce students to the concepts and tools for collecting, analyzing, and drawing conclusions from data. Students will be exposed to four themes throughout the year: Exploring data, planning a study, anticipating patterns, and statistical inference. From these four themes students will observe patterns in data, devise a means to analyze data as well as develop models to draw conclusions from the data. It is highly recommended for students to purchase a graphing calculator. Recommended calculator: TI-84+. Students will be expected to take the AP Statistics Exam in the spring. **Prerequisite: A final grade of B+ or better in Algebra II/Trig Honors or B+ or better in Pre-Calculus Honors AND teacher recommendation.**

## MA 719

### Advanced Placement Calculus AB

5 credits

AP Calculus AB is a college level course in single-variable calculus that includes concepts and skills of limits, derivatives, definite integrals, and the Fundamental Theorem of Calculus. Applications of these topics will include extrema, related rates, Riemann sums, separable differential equations and slope fields as examples of mathematical modeling, and volume. Throughout the course, students will analyze concepts and solve problems graphically, numerically, analytically, and verbally and make connections between these representations. Students will be expected to take the AP Calculus AB Exam in the spring. **Prerequisite: A final grade of B+ or better in Pre-Calculus Honors AND teacher recommendation AND completion of a summer calculus assignment. Students will participate in one or both summer calculus sessions.**

## MA 722

### Trigonometry CP

5 credits

This course is designed for any student who has successfully completed Algebra II. The topics of study include analytical trigonometry, right triangle and circular trigonometric functions, and applications of trigonometric functions. Students will also study trigonometric identities and formulas as well as their inverses.

## MA 726

### Introduction to Calculus Honors

5 credits

This course is an accelerated course of the Pre-Calculus program, along with an introduction to Calculus. Topics covered will include the Pre-Calculus course including limits, derivatives as limits, the product and quotient rules, the chain rule, derivatives of trigonometric functions, implicit differentiation, and integration. Application of calculus in relation to business, social sciences, medicine, physics and biology will be incorporated in the program. A graphing calculator will be utilized throughout the course. It is highly recommended for students to purchase a graphing calculator. Recommended calculator: TI-84+. **Prerequisite: B+ or better in MA 520, Algebra II/Trigonometry Honors AND teacher recommendation.**

## MA 733

### Foundations of Mathematics III CP

5 credits

A mastery-based course in Algebra, Geometry, and Statistics, designed to provide a thorough and integrated approach to mastering the applications through problem-solving techniques.

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## Science

### SCI 136

#### Biology I CP

2.5 credits

This course is the first of a two year sequence in Biology which includes biochemistry, cellular biology, genetics, evolution, ecology, and anatomy and physiology. Biology I will focus on biochemistry, cellular biology, and genetics. As a lab-based program, scientific process and laboratory skills are emphasized. Writing assignments, discussion and outside reading will be used to relate the course content to current biological issues.

### SCI 135

#### Biology I Honors

2.5 credits

In addition to an extended coverage of the topics in Biology I (SCI 136), Honors Biology I will place a greater emphasis on biochemical relationships and scientific vocabulary. More emphasis will be placed on reading and

writing in the form of formal lab reports, assessment of independent reading and outside reading.

**Prerequisite: Currently taking Algebra I Honors or Algebra II/Trigonometry Honors.**

### **SCI 333**

#### **Biology II CP**

**2.5 credits**

This course is the second of a two year sequence in Biology which includes biochemistry, cellular biology, genetics, evolution, ecology, and anatomy and physiology. Biology II will focus on evolution, ecology, and anatomy and physiology. As a lab-based program, scientific process and laboratory skills are emphasized. Writing assignments, discussion and outside reading will be used to relate the course content to current biological issues.

### **SCI 334**

#### **Biology II Honors**

**2.5 credits**

In addition to an extended coverage of the topics in Biology II (SCI 333), Honors Biology II will place a greater emphasis on biochemical relationships and scientific vocabulary. More emphasis will be placed on reading and writing in the form of formal lab reports, assessment of independent reading, and outside reading. **Prerequisite: B or higher in Biology I Honors or a B+ or higher in Biology I CP AND teacher recommendation.**

### **SCI 543**

#### **Biology III**

**2.5 credits**

This course covers the Biology curriculum to prepare a student for the MCAS Biology exam or MCAS Biology Retest Exam.

### **SCI 531**

#### **Chemistry CP**

**2.5 credits**

A single period class, CP Chemistry is intended to provide the theory and techniques necessary for entry into a post-secondary chemistry program. Using a laboratory approach to learning, this course will utilize activities integrating language arts, mathematics, history and technology with fundamental scientific principles. Emphasis will be placed on deductive reasoning, cooperative learning, laboratory techniques and safety, scientific methodology and technology applications.

### **SCI 534**

#### **Chemistry Double Period CP**

**5 credits**

A double period class, CP Chemistry covers the topics described in SCI 531 and will also offer students an extended depth of coverage augmented by increased laboratory content and individual assignments. This course is recommended for students seeking admission into a four year college. **Note: Students who take this course do not take an elective.**

### **SCI 530**

#### **Chemistry Honors**

**5 credits**

In addition to an extended depth of coverage, Honors Chemistry will place greater emphasis on quantitative chemistry and scientific vocabulary. Formal lab reports and additional outside reading will be assigned. This course is recommended for students seeking admission into a four year college. **Prerequisites: B or better in Biology II Honors or B+ or better in Biology II CP AND teacher recommendation. Currently taking Geometry Honors or higher. Note: Students who take this course do not take an elective.**

### **SCI 731**

#### **Microbiology CP**

**2.5 credits**

Microbiology is a lab based science course that explores the various types of microscopic organisms, including viruses, bacteria, fungi, protozoa and helminths. Lab experiments will allow discovery of various microbial principles, such as conditions that promote growth, reproduction, identification procedures, epidemiology, immunology and pathogenic cycles of these organisms and how to protect against them. Lecture, discussions and projects will be the basis of exploring the course content and the economic value of the various micro-organisms. Emphasis will be placed on the effect these organisms have at home, in vocational shops, and in the workplace. Course topics will apply to several shop areas, including but not limited to the Culinary Arts, Cosmetology, Medical Careers, Dental Careers and Early Childhood Careers. The course emphasizes problem

solving, lab techniques and discovery through the collection and interpretation of data and the use of the scientific method and technology.

### **SCI 734**

#### **Anatomy and Physiology Double Period Honors**

**5 credits**

This course is modeled upon a undergraduate-level post-secondary course and is specifically designed for students who are highly likely to pursue post-secondary education where knowledge of human anatomy and physiology will be required. Using a laboratory-based approach to learning, including microscopy, histology, a cat dissection and practical exams, the curriculum will also include a significant inquiry-based component, including case studies and assessments which heavily integrate deductive reasoning, the language arts (writing formal lab reports, case studies and research papers) and technology which incorporate fundamental scientific principles. **Prerequisites: B or better in Biology I and II Honors and B or better in Chemistry Honors, or B+ or better in Biology I and II CP and B+ or better in Chemistry Double Period CP AND teacher recommendation.**

### **SCI 735**

#### **Physics Honors**

**5 credits**

Honors physics is intended to provide the theory and techniques necessary for entry into a post-secondary Physics program. Through rigorous mathematical examination, students will explore the basic laws of Physics in the areas of mechanics, dynamics, thermodynamics, and optics. Using a laboratory approach to learning, this course will utilize activities integrating language arts, mathematics, history, and technology with fundamental scientific principles. Emphasis will be placed on deductive reasoning, cooperative learning, laboratory techniques and safety, scientific methodology and technology applications. **Prerequisites: B or better in Chemistry Honors or B+ or better in Chemistry CP AND teacher recommendation; B or better in Algebra II/Trigonometry Honors. Note: Students who take this course do not take an elective.**

### **SCI 738**

#### **Advanced Placement Physics 1: Algebra-Based**

**5 credits**

This course is intended for a student seeking a rigorous course in physics. It is intended to be a college level course, equivalent to a first-semester college course in algebra-based Physics. This course provides a systematic introduction to several topics in Physics, and emphasizes the development of a deep understanding of key foundational principles. The course covers Newtonian mechanics (including rotational dynamics and angular momentum); work, energy, and power; and mechanical waves and sound. It will also introduce electric circuits. Prior study of high school-level physics is not required. Students will be expected to take the AP Physics 1: Algebra-Based Exam in the spring. **Prerequisite: A final grade of B+ or better in Chemistry Honors AND B+ or better in Algebra II/ Trigonometry Honors AND teacher recommendation. Note: Students who take this course do not take an elective.**

### **SCI 739**

#### **Environmental Science CP**

**2.5 credits**

Environmental Science examines scientific principles, concepts, and methodologies required to understand the interrelationships of the natural world, to identify and analyze environmental problems both natural and human-made, to evaluate the relative risks associated with these problems and to examine alternative solutions for resolving and/or preventing them. The course also examines fundamental thermodynamic concepts such as energy and power and explores the comparative environmental costs and benefits, including potential long term consequences, of producing energy from various sources such as fossil fuels, nuclear reactors, wood burning, solar panels, wind turbines, etc. A laboratory component allows application of the scientific method to investigate natural flows of chemicals/water/energy in Earth's subsystems, and how humans impact these natural flows and subsystems. An emphasis is placed on students using critical thinking and analytical skills to make a positive impact on the environment.

## SCI 741

### Forensic Science Double Period CP

5 credits

Forensic Science is intended to give students the opportunity to explore how scientific principles are used in crime scene investigations. In this course, study will focus on forensic science concepts: abilities to perform inquiry; basic criminal law; crime scene investigation; DNA analysis; blood splatter analysis; fingerprinting; firearm comparison; hair and fiber trace evidence and the nature of toxins. The primary emphasis will be to develop understanding of these concepts through hands-on field inquiry. In addition to lab reports, research papers and investigative reports will be assigned throughout this course. **Prerequisite: Successful completion of Chemistry Double Period CP or Chemistry Honors.**

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## Social Studies

### SS 155

#### United States History I CP

2.5 credits

This course is a basic survey of the nation's history from colonial times through the Civil War. It covers the principle events, personalities, movements, and ideas from 1780 to 1865. Attention will be given to the following topics: the drafting of the Constitution, the formation of an American identity and political parties, the rise of Sectionalism and Westward Expansion, and the Civil War.

### SS 154

#### United States History I Honors

2.5 credits

In addition to the requirements of the college preparatory curriculum, this course presents a more challenging and in-depth investigation of the issues. An emphasis is placed on the development of reading, writing, and interpretive skills and requires extensive assignments in all of these areas.

### SS 355

#### United States History II CP

2.5 credits

This course is a basic survey of the period after the Civil War through the end of the Second World War. It covers the principle events, personalities, movements, and ideas from 1870 to 1945. Attention will be given to the following topics: Industrialization, America's entrance onto the world stage, the economic conditions of the 1920s and 1930s, and the American role in World War II.

### SS 354

#### United States History II Honors

2.5 credits

In addition to the requirements of the college preparatory curriculum, this course presents a more challenging and in-depth investigation of the issues. An emphasis is placed on the development of reading, writing, and interpretive skills and requires extensive assignments in all of these areas. **Prerequisite: B or better in United States History I Honors or B+ or better in United States History I CP AND teacher recommendation.**

### SS 557

#### United States History III CP

2.5 credits

This course is a basic survey of the period after World War II to the present. It covers the principle events, personalities, movements, and ideas from 1945 to the present. Attention will be given to the following topics: the role of America in rebuilding the world after the Second World War, the creation of the Cold War, the Civil Rights Movement, political and social unrest at home, and the dawn of the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

### SS 558

#### United States History III Honors

2.5 credits

In addition to the requirements of the college preparatory curriculum, this course presents a more challenging and in-depth investigation of the issues. An emphasis is placed on the development of reading, writing, and interpretive skills and requires extensive assignments in all of these areas. **Prerequisite: B or better in United States History II Honors or B+ or better in United States History II CP AND teacher recommendation.**

**SS 706****World History CP****2.5 credits**

This course is a basic survey of world events from the Renaissance through the Napoleonic era. It covers the principle events, personalities, movements, and ideas of the era and their relationship to contemporary world crises. Attention will be given to the following topics: the Renaissance, the Reformation, Absolutism, and the Enlightenment.

**SS 704****Humanities/World History Honors****2.5 credits**

This Honors class is offered in conjunction with EN714, the English component of this course. Students are introduced to the history of Western society and culture through text work, primary source material, visual and other resources, with particular focus on art, sculpture, and architecture. Beginning with the required summer reading books on Minoan and Mycenaen cultures, students will study the evolution of Western society through the Middle Ages. There will be some common assessments that connect the social studies and English classes, including a common mid-year and final exam. Access to Internet required for homework assignments.

**Prerequisite: B or better in U.S. History III Honors, or B+ or better in U.S. History III CP AND recommendation.**

**SS 702****World History Honors****2.5 credits**

In addition to the requirements of the college preparatory curriculum, this course will examine the influence of world events from 1500-1900 on contemporary world crises, and analyze their cause/effect relationships through independent readings as well as individual and group projects. **Prerequisite: B or better in United States History III Honors or B+ or better in United States History III CP AND teacher recommendation.**

**SS 755****Street Law****2.5 credits**

This course is a basic survey of contemporary issues and events in American jurisprudence. It includes the investigation of controversial topics and rulings that have shaped American society. An emphasis is placed on developing reading, writing, and interpretive skills.

**SS 757****Psychology****2.5 credits**

This course is a basic survey of the study of behavior and mental processes. It includes the investigation of the biophysical, cognitive, developmental, and social-emotional analyses of the human psyche. An emphasis is placed on developing reading, writing, and interpretive skills.

**Spanish****SP 175, 375, 575****Spanish I CP****2.5 credits**

This course introduces students to the Spanish language. Students learn vocabulary and concepts of basic grammar, allowing them to communicate information about themselves and others using simple sentences, both orally and in writing. The practice of all four language skills: listening, speaking, reading, and writing, helps students solidify their acquisition of the Spanish language. In addition, students become familiar with cultures of different Spanish speaking countries through a variety of multi-media resources. Active participation in class activities and completion of daily homework assignments are required.

**SP 177, 377, 577, 777****Spanish II CP****2.5 credits**

This course is a continuation of Spanish I. While students acquire additional vocabulary, they are introduced to more advanced grammar concepts. Practice of all four language skills continues: listening, speaking, reading and writing, with the possibility of more diverse communication in Spanish. Students are expected to increase their oral interactions in Spanish and strive to improve their writing skills. Understanding and appreciation of the culture, history, customs and traditions of people from Spanish speaking countries are important aspects of

the Spanish II curriculum. Active class participation and completion of daily homework assignments are required. **Prerequisite: Grade C or better in Spanish I AND teacher recommendation.**

**SP 379, 579, 779**

**Spanish III CP**

**2.5 credits**

Curriculum in the third year continues to stress all four language skills: listening, speaking, reading, and writing. Grammar concepts and vocabulary topics are also further expanded. Students are expected to work on increase oral fluency and to communicate in Spanish during class. Student written work will be more complex and accurate. In addition, studies include a deeper understanding of the culture, history, customs and traditions of the Spanish speaking countries and their people. Active class participation and completion of daily homework assignments are required. **Prerequisite: Grade B or better in Spanish II AND teacher recommendation.**

**SP 588, 788**

**Spanish IV CP**

**2.5 credits**

Spanish IV presents more advanced grammar and language structures. Along with the introduction of additional vocabulary topics, practice continues through a variety of activities reflecting all four language skills: listening, speaking, reading and writing. Expectations include improved fluency and accuracy in both written and spoken Spanish. Students are involved in more independent and collaborative activities both in and out of class, developing deeper insights into the culture, history, customs and traditions of people from Spanish speaking countries. Active class participation and completion of daily homework assignments are required.

**Prerequisite: Grade B or better in Spanish III AND teacher recommendation.**

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## **Electives**

**198, 398, 598, 798**

**Academic Support**

**2.5 credits**

This course will provide support for students who need assistance with organizational and study skills in the college preparatory environment. Guidance recommendation. Graded as “satisfactory” or “unsatisfactory”.

**188**

**Math Support**

**2.5 credits**

This course is designed to provide enhanced preparation in Algebra. Students will be scheduled in this class, based on a variety of factors including Grade 7 MCAS and Stanford 10 Math performance. Guidance recommendation required.

**394**

**MCAS Tutoring**

**2.5 credits**

This course is designed to provide enhanced MCAS preparation in Mathematics. Students will be scheduled in this class, based on Grade 8 MCAS performance.

**MU 199, 399, 595, 795**

**Introduction to Music Appreciation & Theory CP (Music I)**

**2.5 credits**

In this course, students will develop their own musical understanding and explore the significance of music from its earliest period to the 21st century. The course also presents introductory concepts in reading and notation.

**MU 390, 590, 797**

**Music Appreciation and Theory CP (Music II)**

**2.5 credits**

This course emphasizes the development of American music, jazz, rock and other contemporary genres. Students will also demonstrate an understanding of phrasing, chord notation, and key signatures.

## Statement of Philosophy

Successful education is an on-going, ever-changing learning process involving students, families, faculty, administrators, and School Committee members, working together to provide a culture of excellence, responsibility, safety, and respect. This process fosters citizenship, social awareness, creativity, self-respect, and a desire to pursue further education. Tri-County Regional Vocational Technical High School offers students opportunities for training and skill development that lead to rewarding employment and provide a well-rounded education that inspires life-long learning. By developing students' abilities through diverse curricula, including a wide range of instructional settings, Tri-County strives to bring students to their highest potential in the attainment of academic and vocational-technical excellence. Tri-County encourages students to engage in individual, group, and team activities by offering a variety of co-curricular and extra-curricular activities. In conjunction with the academic and vocational-technical curricula, these activities foster productive and responsible citizenship in today's technical society. To support this philosophy, Tri-County maintains the following goals:

- To ensure that students possess the ability to access information, demonstrate interpersonal skills, and use resources and technology.
- To promote literacy, critical-thinking, intellectual curiosity, and life-long learning.
- To develop citizens who demonstrate social responsibility, responsible decision-making skills, a sound work ethic, and a sense of community.
- To prepare students for entry into the workforce and/or the pursuit of postsecondary education.
- To encourage incoming students to explore various traditional and nontraditional areas.
- To integrate learning between academic and vocational areas.
- To provide a safe and cooperative learning environment for all students and staff.
- To provide cooperative education programs, adult education, and extracurricular activities.
- To promote parental involvement and communication.
- To provide meaningful opportunities for professional and staff development.
- To provide extensive student support services.

*The Tri-County Regional Vocational Technical School District is an equal opportunity employer and co-educational high school and does not discriminate because of race, color, sex, gender identity, religion, national origin, sexual orientation, or disability in its employment policies, in the enrollment of students, or in eligibility for programs and activities in compliance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Title IX of the 1972 Educational Amendments, and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. To contact the Title VI, Title IX or 504 Coordinator call or write Adele G. Sands, Director of Student Services, Tri-County RVTHS, 147 Pond Street, Franklin, MA 02038, 508-528-5400.*