

METHUEN HIGH SCHOOL

PROGRAM OF STUDIES

2015-2016

Methuen Public Schools Methuen, Massachusetts

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Methuen Public Schools reserves the right to make necessary changes to information in the Program of Studies.

Foreword

Methuen High School is a four-year comprehensive school which is fully accredited by the New England Association of Schools and Colleges. The Program of Studies is designed to inform and assist students and their parents/guardian in the selection of courses. This document should be consulted and utilized when making decisions regarding course requests. Methuen High School Graduation Requirements, which are outlined below, drive course requests and student schedules. It is strongly encouraged that student course requests be based upon educational and career goals, academic ability, past achievement, and areas of interest.

Policies of the Methuen Public Schools

Non-Discrimination Policy

It is the policy of the Methuen Public Schools not to discriminate on the basis of gender, race, religion, color, disability, or ethnicity in its educational programs, activities or employment policies as required by Title IX of the 1972 Education Amendments, Chapter 622 of the Acts of 1971, and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts has enacted Chapter 71A. This legislation provides for the education of all limited English proficiency students. The Methuen School District complies with this mandate in order to provide students with equal access to quality education. The Methuen Public Schools also provide appropriate services for low incidence language minority students as required by the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and the Supreme Court decision of Lau vs. Nichols.

Graduation Requirements

To be eligible for graduation with a Methuen High School diploma, a student must matriculate for four full years at the high school level (9-12) and complete Methuen High School's graduation requirements. Upon successful completion of the Methuen Public Schools and state graduation requirements, a diploma will be awarded based upon the year in which the requirements were met (unless otherwise authorized by the principal).

Note: Students who do not meet proficiency on the Grade 10 Massachusetts Comprehensive Assessment System (MCAS) in English Language Arts and Mathematics will be required to have an Educational Proficiency Plan (EPP) as per the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education.

Minimum Credit Requirements for Graduation

<u>Subject</u>	<u>Required Credits</u>	<u>Mass Core Recommendations</u>
English	4.0 credits	4 credits
Math	4.0 credits	4 credits
Science	3.0 credits	3 credits
Social Studies	3.0 credits	3 credits
Physical Education	2.0 credits	2 credits
Health	2.0 credit	(Class of 2017 and forward)
Electives	7.5 credits	1 credit of Fine Arts & 2 credits of Foreign Language
Total	24.0 credits	

State Requirements for Graduation

In Massachusetts, students need to score at least a 220 (Needs Improvement) on all three (3) Grade 10 MCAS exams (English Language Arts, Mathematics, Science and Technology/Engineering) in order to graduate with a high school diploma. Students have more than one opportunity each year for retest if they are unable to meet the competency determination in their first attempt.

Failed Courses/Credit Denial – Recovering Credits through Summer School or Night School

Students who fail a course or are denied course credit due to attendance are strongly encouraged to attend Methuen High School summer school or night school to recover the credit. Information regarding summer school registration is available at the end of each school year. See your Guidance Counselor for more information regarding Night School admittance. Recovering credits from educational institutions other than Methuen High School is possible, but must be approved by the Supervising Principal prior to taking the course.

Dual Enrollment

The Dual Enrollment Program, established by the Education Reform Act of 1993, provides access to higher education for qualified high school students. The Commonwealth of Massachusetts, through the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) and subject to appropriation, will reimburse Massachusetts public institutions of higher education an amount per credit for tuition and fees for participating students. This is a state-sponsored program administered by DESE that is available to high school students who reside in Massachusetts and wish to attend a state higher education institution. The students can simultaneously earn both high school and college credit through this program. Please see your guidance counselor for more information.

Report Cards/Progress Reports

Report Cards are issued four times during the school year at the completion of each academic quarter/term. Grades are recorded by letters which indicate the scholastic achievement of the student for that marking period. Progress reports are issued to students midway through each of the four terms. Parents/Guardians should expect to receive either a progress report or report card approximately every 5 to 6 weeks. Please refer to the school calendar for dates.

Honor Roll

The Honor Roll at Methuen High School is determined each term based on the point system below.

Students earn: **Five (5) points for each A** earned in that term;
Four (4) points for each B earned in that term;
Zero (0) points for each C, D, or F earned in that term.

Highest Honors is achieved if a student has: **34-35 points**

High Honors is achieved if a student has: **32-33 points**

Honors is achieved if a student has: **28-31 points**

There is no academic distinction for fewer than 28 points

The Honor Roll considers all grades equitably regardless of course level.

Course Levels/ Grade Point Average (GPA)

There are three academic course levels. Courses designated as levels 3, 4 and 5 are weighted by degree of difficulty and enter into the calculation of the Grade Point Average (GPA). Level 1 courses are considered unweighted and are not included in the calculation of a student's GPA. Both weighted and unweighted courses appear on a student's transcript and are part of the permanent record. For weighted courses, the level designation is printed next to the course title. Level 3 as L3; Level 4 as L4 and Level 5 as either AP or L5. Level 1, or unweighted, courses carry no such designation.

LEVEL 5 (Advanced Placement or College) – The curriculum for Advanced Placement (AP) courses is designated and approved by The College Board. These courses are the most rigorous available in the high school's curriculum. For AP courses, students must take an AP Exam for the course in May. Depending upon AP Exam results and college requirements, college credit may be granted for these courses. Successful completion of a college course awards dual credit, at both MHS and the college. Teacher recommendation is strongly preferred.

LEVEL 4 (Honors) – These courses prepare students for the selective four-year colleges and universities. With accelerated instruction, L4 courses are designed for students with a strong fundamental knowledge of the subject, notable critical thinking ability, and independent study skills. L4 classes should be expected to move at a faster pace than L3 courses and often have higher expectations for the amount and level of work. Teacher recommendation preferred, but not required.

LEVEL 3 (Standard College-Prep) – L3 courses are designed to prepare students for four-year colleges and universities and these classes meet the application requirements for most 4-year colleges. L3 courses are suitable for students who are capable of responsible, independent study of academic subjects.

Grade Point Average (GPA) is calculated using the table below. Grades from weighted courses (Levels 3 through 5) are converted into points and averaged together. A student’s cumulative GPA is comprised of course grades from Grades 9 through 12.

Grading System		Points based on Course Levels			
		Level 5	Level 4	Level 3	Level 1
94–100	A	5.0	4.5	4.0	<i>Unweighted; not calculated into GPA</i>
90–93	A-	4.7	4.2	3.7	
87–89	B+	4.3	3.8	3.3	
84–86	B	4.0	3.5	3.0	
80–83	B-	3.7	3.2	2.7	
77–79	C+	3.3	2.8	2.3	
74–76	C	3.0	2.5	2.0	
70–73	C-	2.7	2.2	1.7	
67–69	D+	2.3	1.8	1.3	
64–66	D	2.0	1.5	1.0	
60–63	D-	1.7	1.2	0.7	
0–59	F	0.0	0.0	0.0	

Graduating with Honors

Any senior who satisfies the GPA requirements at Methuen High School will be eligible to graduate with honors. To determine a student’s status for graduating with honors, GPA will be calculated at the end of the third term of the senior year.

Graduation with Highest Honors is achieved if a student satisfies the GPA requirement of: **3.7 and above**

Graduation with High Honors is achieved if a student satisfies the GPA requirement of: **3.5 – 3.699**

Graduation with Honors is achieved if a student satisfies the GPA requirement of: **3.2 – 3.499**

There is no graduation distinction for a student with a GPA below 3.2.

National Honor Society

The objectives of the Methuen Chapter of the National Honor Society are to create an enthusiasm for scholarship, stimulate a desire to render service, promote leadership, and develop character in students. Candidates shall have spent at least one semester at Methuen High School and shall be members of the junior or senior class. A student must have achieved a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.5 to be considered a candidate for the National Honor Society. See Student/Parent Handbook for more detailed information.

THE GUIDANCE DEPARTMENT

The Methuen High School Guidance Department welcomes all students. It is our mission to assist students on three fronts: with their academic careers, with their post-secondary planning and, with their social/emotional health. It is our goal to meet our caseload of ninth graders and follow them throughout their four years in order to build a strong relationship with the student and their family. Our connection with our students is two-way: we initiate meetings with students and students have open access to initiating contact with us by requesting a meeting. We do our best to honor these appointments within one to two days. In the event of a crisis, students have open access to their counselor. Specifically, our duties entail:

Academics: We seek to support students in making informed decisions that will help them excel academically, meet state mandates, and participate in graduation on time with their peers. To this end, course request information will be given to all students in Grades 8 through 11. The process for requesting courses begins with course level recommendations by teachers. Students and parents/guardians then complete the request process online via iParent (see www.MHScourserequest.com). The process is completed with a face-to-face meeting between the student and her/his guidance counselor.

Post-secondary planning: We partner with *Naviance* to provide a powerful, web-based tool to enhance communication, information, and collaboration between students, parents, and guidance counselors regarding career and college planning. *Naviance* is the portal through which students manage components of their college applications. Students and parents are encouraged to use this tool throughout high school as an important part of the career and college advising work they will do with the guidance department. Students can login to *Naviance* at: www.connection.naviance.com/methuen

Social/emotional health: As mental health professionals, we are available to meet with students individually or in a group, depending on the particular issues/needs at hand. We are interested in setting goals to support students through an acute crisis or in managing long-term mental health concerns.

Parents are encouraged to call or e-mail to request an appointment with their child’s counselor should they have a question or concern. In addition to the students’ guidance counselors, students have access to a student support counselor to discuss personal/social issues. Counseling staff enjoy reaching out and connecting with students and parents/guardians. Some featured group presentations include:

8 th Grade Transition Visits	Course Request Presentations	MEFA Financial Aid Presentation
8 th Grade Parent Night	Back to School Night	Scholarship Info Session
9 th Grade Small Group Welcome	Junior College Planning Night	Colleges & Careers Fair
PSAT Presentations	Senior College Planning Night	Voc/Tech School Fair

Section 504

Students who have a disability may not require special education services, but may be eligible for accommodations under a 504 plan. Section 504 of the Federal Rehabilitation Act of 1973 states that any student having a disability that substantially limits one or more major life functions may be eligible for accommodations.

THE ADVANCED PLACEMENT (AP) PROGRAM

With AP courses, students can get a feel for the rigors of college-level studies while they still have the support of a high school environment. When students take AP courses, they demonstrate to college admission officers that they have sought out an educational experience that will prepare them for success in college and beyond. Resourceful and dedicated AP teachers work with their students to develop and apply the skills, abilities and content knowledge they will need later in college. Each AP course concludes with a college-level exam. AP exams are an essential part of the AP experience, enabling students to apply the new critical thinking skills they have learned in a comprehensive exam. Most two-and four-year colleges and universities worldwide recognize AP in the admission process and accept successful exam scores for credit, advanced placement or both. Performing well on an AP exam means more than just the successful completion of a course; research consistently shows that students who score a 3 or higher (on a scale of 1 to 5) typically earn higher GPAs in college and have higher graduation rates. Students may opt to take an AP exam even if they are not enrolled in the course and/or even if the course is not being offered at MHS. In both situations students need to contact the AP administrator so that an exam can be ordered for them.

101AP AP Enhancement Block Level 1 . 25 credit

Prerequisite: *Must be enrolled in at least one AP course*

This course is intended to support AP students in all AP classes as an additional class. AP teachers will be available to work with students and students may work together on projects, assignments, or in study groups.

ENGLISH COURSE OFFERINGS

1001 Reading Enhancement Level 1 . 25 credit

Prerequisite: *Teacher recommendation*

Reading Enhancement is a web-based course where students connect to *Reading Plus*, a Common Core aligned reading intervention that serves as an adjunct to the regular English class. The course prepares students to engage with complex text by developing the three key dimensions of successful reading: capacity, efficiency, and

motivation. The program is personalized for each student and adjusts to their reading level to increase reading and writing achievement. The activities include silent reading fluency, comprehension, vocabulary development, visual skill development and a reading-writing connection. The high-interest text makes reading easier and develops stamina while increasing rate and enjoyment. Students will be scheduled by teacher recommendation and reading test data.

1101 Academic Support Lab Level 1 .25 credit

Prerequisite: *Placement made by referral only*

The Academic Support Lab is a program designed with a focus on improving MCAS scores and the graduation rate, both targeted areas of improvement. This lab functions as an intervention for students who are under performing in English and/or mathematics. The identified students will be assigned to the lab in lieu of an elective. As improvement is documented, movement out of this class will be fluid in nature. Students will remain in this lab for a minimum of one term, approximately forty-five school days. Each term class size will remain under ten each block to ensure personal, proactive support. We believe that this intervention will result in our ultimate goal of being a level one school.

1013CS English 9 Level 3 1 credit

Prerequisite: *None*

Designed for students with strong basic reading and writing skills, as well as independent motivation to learn, English 9 Level 3 integrates the study of all genres of literature with the development of effective communication skills. As they read poetry, short fiction, novels, drama, and nonfiction, students develop the inferential and interpretive skills which are applied in their writing assignments. They follow the four-stage writing process to create narrative, descriptive, expository, and argumentative papers. Vocabulary development and correct grammatical usage are addressed through their reading and writing. Group and individual presentation help them gain confidence and skills in speaking. Additional emphasis is placed upon enhancing study skills. Students are also offered strategies and practice to enhance their performance on the state-mandated MCAS exam in English Language Arts.

1014CS English 9 Level 4 1 credit

Prerequisite: *None*

English 9 Level 4 is an accelerated honors-level course designed to challenge highly motivated students who have demonstrated superior reading, writing and language skills in Grade 8 English. Through extensive reading of all genres of literature and frequent writing assignments, students increase their proficiency in literary analysis, research, writing, and inferential thinking. They demonstrate gradual independence in following the four-stage writing process to produce increasingly complex narrative, descriptive, expository, and argumentative pieces, especially discussions and frequent group projects that enhance their public speaking skills. Students are also offered strategies and practice to enhance their performance on the state-mandated MCAS exam in English Language Arts.

1123 English 10 Level 3 1 credit

Prerequisite: *Successful completion of English 9 or concurrent enrollment in English 9*

In English 10 students read and critically analyze world literature from all genres, including fiction, mythology, poetry, drama, and nonfiction. Through increasingly independent work, they develop proficiency in applying the four-stage writing process to create numerous narrative, descriptive, expository, and argumentative papers that demonstrate accurate grammatical usage and varied vocabulary. Group and individual oral presentations help them gain further skill in speaking. Students are also offered strategies and practice to enhance their performance on the state-mandated MCAS exam in English Language Arts.

1124 English 10 Level 4 1 credit

Prerequisite: *Successful completion of English 9 or concurrent enrollment in English 9*

With outstanding independent motivation, students entering English 10 L4 have shown superior ability in all phases of Grade 9 English, especially critical reading and writing. The literature program encompasses all genres, including works in translation as well as British and American classics. Through independent application of the four-stage writing process, students will develop numerous narrative, descriptive, expository, and argumentative papers. Students complete extensive independent reading and research projects that integrate their skills in writing and critical reading. Students are expected to participate regularly in class discussions and to deliver individual and group oral presentations that show strong public speaking proficiency. Students are also offered strategies and practice to enhance their performance on the PSAT, as well as the state-mandated MCAS exam in English Language Arts.

1243 American Literature II Level 3 1 credit

Prerequisite: *Successful completion of English 10 or concurrent enrollment in English 10*

English 11 L3 is designed to provide students with the literary and critical writing backgrounds necessary for success in college. To explore the historical development of American literature and its enduring themes, they read poetry, essays, plays, short stories, and novels from 16th- through 21st-century authors. Through frequent critical assignments, including a full research project, students increase their independent writing proficiency, particularly in expository and argumentative papers. Group and individual oral presentations enhance their public speaking skills. Students are also given opportunities to practice for the SAT.

1253 Contemporary Issues I Level 3 1 credit

Prerequisite: *Successful completion of English 10 or concurrent enrollment in English 10*

This junior English course focuses on literature that examines the issues of our complex, modern world while emphasizing literacy skills. Encouraging the exploration of and response to, contemporary, high interest texts from various genres and cultures, this course is dedicated to those readers who may have struggled to understand or enjoy more traditional period and literary classics in other English classes. Students develop reading and research strategies analyzing texts for meaning and finding intertextual and intratextual patterns as a means to unearth archetypal symbols, themes, and abstract concepts. The course emphasizes the need to understand unfamiliar perspectives and draw inferences from literature. In addition, students continue to develop their writing skills using a variety of prompts and exercises designed to challenge assumptions, encourage critical thinking, and promote effective and creative writing. Instruction in language skills, integrating reading, writing, speaking, and listening, while placing emphasis on the progress of individual students, will be provided. Course content depends upon students' abilities. The focus will be on "The World Today."

1244 American Literature II Level 4 1 credit

Prerequisite: *Successful completion of English 10 or concurrent enrollment in English 10*

Highly motivated for independent learning, the students in English 11 L4 are challenged by extensive reading of all genres of American literature, including work from the colonial, Federalist, transcendentalist, and Romantic periods, as well as movements of realism and naturalism and the modern age. Viewing literature through an historical lens as well as examining its current social relevance, students focus on close reading of texts to explore the development of American literary trends and themes. A full research paper and numerous critical analyses are included among the writing assignments. Independent outside reading, much of it unassisted, is integral to the course. Many individual and group projects or presentations, which grow out of the seminar-style instruction of the class, reinforce their public speaking skills. Students are given opportunities to practice for the SAT and are also introduced to the format of the Advanced Placement Exam in English Literature and Composition.

1245 Advanced Placement English Language and Composition Level 5 1 credit

Prerequisite: *Successful completion of English 10 or concurrent enrollment in English 10*

This is a course which seeks to foster the development of reading and comparing texts that span multiple disciplines, genres and rhetorical contexts. Throughout the year students will work to become highly skilled readers of a variety of predominantly nonfiction texts and graphic/visual images. Their reading will be the basis for the writing of expository, narrative, analytical and argumentative compositions. Students will also write informally to explore new information and ideas and to take risks in their writing. Students will conduct independent research on American writers and topics while learning to synthesize a variety of sources into their writing. This course prepares students for the Advanced Placement Exam in English Language and Composition, which all participants in the course are expected to take. Acceptable scores on this exam may enable students to receive college credit.

1433 British Literature Level 3 1 credit

Prerequisite: *Successful completion of English 11 or concurrent enrollment in English 11*

English 12 L3 guides students through a study of the forms and periods of British literature and provides them with literary backgrounds and critical writing skills necessary for success in college. The course traces the evolution of British literature from its origins in the Anglo-Saxon period through the 21st-century. Several major British novels and plays are included among the many shorter literature selections. Writing assignments, usually linked to the readings, are designed to foster analytical thinking, research, and writing proficiency. A research paper dealing with some aspect of British culture or language is required. Through individual and group oral presentations students enhance their public speaking skills.

1453 **Contemporary Issues II** **Level 3** **1 credit**

Prerequisite: *Successful completion of English 11 or concurrent enrollment in English 11*

This senior English course continues from the curriculum of Contemporary Issues I. One need not have taken the first portion of the course in order to take this second portion. Part II will focus on career readiness. The focus will be on “Possible Tomorrows.”

1434 **British Literature** **Level 4** **1 credit**

Prerequisite: *Successful completion of English 11 or concurrent enrollment in English 11*

Through extensive critical reading in all genres, students in English 12 L4, an honors-level course, explore the development of British literature from its origins in the Anglo-Saxon period through the 21st-century. Comparisons of poetry, essays, drama, and fiction from all periods help students to identify the enduring themes in British writing. Independent outside reading, much of it unassisted, is integral to the course. Dealing with the literature, frequent writing assignments focus on sharpening the students’ critical analysis skills and mastering the literary essay. Each student completes an independent research project exploring some aspect of British literature. Students are expected to participate fully and proficiently in seminar-style discussions along with individual and group projects.

1235 **Advanced Placement English Literature and Composition** **Level 5** **1 credit**

Prerequisite: *Successful completion of English 11 or concurrent enrollment in English 11 as a senior*

Designed for students who are prepared to engage in college-level work, this course is intensive and challenging. Through critical reading, film, discussion and writing, students examine various themes in literature. Reading assignments include poetry, drama essays and fiction. Frequent writing assignments deal with critical analysis of the literature. Through independent research into both primary and secondary sources, students develop research papers detailing specific topics related to the literature. Students complete extensive summer reading and writing projects. Much independent work in reading, research, and writing is required. Since the class is conducted in seminar-style, students are expected to participate regularly in literature discussions and to prepare and deliver proficient formal oral presentations. In the spring the students all take the Advanced Placement Exam in English Literature and Composition. Acceptable scores on this test may enable students to receive college credit.

ENGLISH ELECTIVES

1353 **Journalism** **Level 3** **.5 credit**

Prerequisite: *None*

1354 **Journalism** **Level 4** **.5 credit**

Prerequisite: *None*

This semester-long course focuses on teaching students the fundamental types of journalistic writing, including the feature, the editorial, the interview, and the news article. Some projects explore writing for broadcast journalism. Group activities and individualized consultations are used extensively. Students’ writing in this course addresses the standards in the Language and Composition Strands of the Massachusetts English Language Arts Curriculum Frameworks.

1363 **Creative Writing** **Level 3** **.5 credit**

Prerequisite: *None*

1364 **Creative Writing** **Level 4** **.5 credit**

Prerequisite: *None*

This course is designed for students who are writing fiction, drama, and/or poetry, and who wish to develop their craft. A standard workshop format allows students to read each other’s work and offer valuable criticism. In addition to getting feedback from peers, each student also consults regularly with the instructor. Students who participate in the class for Level 4 credit must indicate so at the time of enrollment; these students are given extra writing assignments.

1381 **Literature of Mystery and Horror** **Level 1** **.5 credit**

Prerequisite: *Juniors and Seniors only*

Students in this semester-long course read, discuss, and write about short stories, novels, and films from the mystery and horror genre. Works of horror or suspense by contemporary writers such as Stephen King are used in addition to

classics by writers such as Edgar Allan Poe. Detective fiction by both recent and 19th-century writers is an additional focus of the course. Students' reading and viewing in this course address the standards in the Literature and Media Strands of the Massachusetts English Language Arts Curriculum Frameworks.

1391 Sports Literature Level 1 .5 credit

Prerequisite: *Juniors and Seniors only*

Sports Literature is an English elective, offering juniors and seniors the opportunity to explore many different aspects of sports through different mediums. First, students discuss exactly what sports are and why our culture is so obsessed and fascinated with sports. Students read a number of current events sports articles, selections from sports short story anthologies and a sports-related novel. Students write reflective essays as well as research on specific athletes and sports. The course has specific focus on non-traditional athletics, inspirational sports stories, and sports journalism. Sports Literature also takes a comprehensive look at issues impacting sports today. With regard to their impact on sports, students discuss racism, gender issues, steroids, violence, and athletes as role models. In addition to covering issues, the class explores the positive elements of sports and how sports can transcend race, culture, age, gender, and geographic location while providing people with important lessons on personal perspective.

MATHEMATICS COURSE OFFERINGS

1101 Academic Support Lab Level 1 .25 credit

Prerequisite: *Placement made by referral only*

The Academic Support Lab is a program designed with a focus on improving MCAS scores and the graduation rate, both targeted areas of improvement. This lab functions as an intervention for students who are under performing in English and/or mathematics. The identified students will be assigned to the lab in lieu of an elective. As improvement is documented, movement out of this class will be fluid in nature. Students will remain in this lab for a minimum of one term, approximately forty-five school days. Each term class size will remain under ten each block to ensure personal, proactive support. We believe that this intervention will result in our ultimate goal of being a level one school.

2223C Algebra 1 Level 3 1 credit

Prerequisite: *None*

2224C Algebra 1 Level 4 1 credit

Prerequisite: *None*

Course topics include real numbers, polynomial operations, linear equations and inequalities, linear functions and graphing, probability and statistics, algebraic applications in the workplace and other content material included in the Massachusetts Mathematics Frameworks and the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics Standards. All levels include a range of teaching strategies incorporating manipulatives, group activities, and projects designed to actively engage students in the learning process.

2313 Geometry Level 3 1 credit

Prerequisite: *Successful completion of Advanced Math in Grade 8 or Successful completion of Algebra 1 or concurrent enrollment in Algebra 1*

2314 Geometry Level 4 1 credit

Prerequisite: *Successful completion of Advanced Math in Grade 8 or Successful completion of Algebra 1*

Course topics include inductive and deductive reasoning, logic, angles, lines and planes, triangles, circles, areas, volumes, congruence and algebraic applications. The course is aligned with the Massachusetts Mathematics Frameworks and the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics Standards. Level 3 Geometry concentrates more on applications and understanding. A variety of manipulative and visual activities and projects are stressed.

2413 Intermediate Algebra Level 3 1 credit

Prerequisite: *Successful completion of Algebra 1 and Geometry*

Students revisit the concept of functions and study their graphs and properties. Particular attention will be paid to linear, quadratic, polynomial, and exponential functions. The course will include concepts in Geometry, including connections to Algebra. Introduction into advanced concepts in Algebra will also be addressed. During the school

year students will learn to recognize and express mathematical ideas graphically, numerically, symbolically, and in writing.

2423 Algebra 2 Level 3 1 credit

Prerequisite: *Successful completion of Algebra 1*

2424 Algebra 2 Level 4 1 credit

Prerequisite: *Successful completion of Algebra 1 and Geometry*

Topics are sequential to those covered in Algebra 1. They include matrices, higher order functions, sequences, and graphing. The curriculum is aligned with the Massachusetts Mathematics Frameworks and the National Council of teachers of Mathematics Standards.

2533 Pre-Calculus Level 3 1 credit

Prerequisite: *Successful completion of Algebra 1, Geometry, and Algebra 2*

2534 Pre-Calculus Level 4 1 credit

Prerequisite: *Successful completion of Algebra 1, Geometry, and Algebra 2*

Course topics include analytic geometry, vectors, higher degree equations, logarithms and exponential functions, permutations and combinations, advanced graphing, trigonometry, and polar coordinates. It is designed to prepare students to take the SAT Subjects Mathematics tests. Level 3 Pre-calculus includes a variety of teaching strategies and hands on, group activities, and manipulatives for enhanced understanding. Level 4 Pre-calculus is a comprehensive study of all topics listed; it is preparatory to Level 4 Calculus or Level 5 Advanced Placement Calculus AB. Both levels 3 and 4 make use of graphing technology.

2613 Calculus Level 3 1 credit

Prerequisite: *Successful completion of Algebra 1, Geometry, Algebra 2, and Pre-Calculus*

This course is follows successful completion of Geometry, Algebra II and Pre-Calculus in the Methuen High School Pathway sequence. Master skills to be developed will include numerical, analytical, and visual methods involved in the study of differential and integral calculus of polynomial, exponential, logarithmic, trigonometric, parametric, polar, vector functions, along with sequences and series. The skills learned will be applied to model and solve problems in a variety of contexts. The course will introduce all concepts; a more in depth study will be achieved in AP Calculus.

2625 AP Calculus AB Level 5 1 credit

Prerequisite: *Successful completion of Algebra 1, Geometry, Algebra 2, and Pre-Calculus*

This course is the equivalent of a College Calculus AB course. It is intended only for those students who excel in mathematics at the highest level. Pacing and coverage are intensive and the curriculum is aligned with the recommended Advanced Placement Calculus (AB) curriculum from the College Board. In the spring the class will take the Advanced Placement Examination. Acceptable scores on the test may enable students to receive college credit.

2725 AP Calculus BC Level 5 1 credit

Prerequisite: *Successful completion of Algebra 1, Geometry, Algebra 2, and Pre-Calculus*

This course is the equivalent of a College Calculus BC course. It is intended for only those students who excel in mathematics at the highest level. Pacing and coverage are intensive and the curriculum is aligned with the recommended AP Calculus BC curriculum from the College Board. Extensive summer work will be included and expected. In the spring students will take the AP exam. Acceptable scores may earn college credit.

2435 AP Statistics Level 5 1 credit

Prerequisite: *Successful completion of Algebra 1, Geometry, and Algebra 2*

Advanced Placement Statistics gives students hands-on experience collecting, analyzing, graphing, and interpreting real-world data. They will learn to effectively design and analyze research studies by reviewing and evaluating real research examples taken from daily life. The next time they hear the results from another poll or study, they will know whether the results are valid. As the art of drawing conclusions from imperfect data and the science of real world uncertainties, statistics plays an important role in many fields. The equivalent of an introductory college-level course, AP Statistics prepares students for the AP Exam and for further study in science, sociology, medicine,

engineering, political science, geography, and business. The content aligns to the scope and sequence specified by the College Board and to widely used textbooks.

2733 Advanced Quantitative Reasoning Level 3 1 credit

Prerequisite: *Successful completion of Algebra 1, Geometry, and/or concurrent enrollment in Algebra 2.*

This course serves as a fourth year course to follow Algebra 1, Geometry, and Algebra 2. Its primary purpose is to prepare students for college majors that may not require calculus, for technical training, or for a range of career options. It includes analysis of information using statistical methods and probability, modeling change and mathematical decision making in finance, and spatial and geometric modeling. Students will develop critical skills for success in college and careers by solving problems in many types of applied situations.

2711C Math Enhancement 9 Level 1 .5 credit

Prerequisite: *Teacher recommendation*

This course is intended to support grade 9 students in their background knowledge of middle grade mathematics standards. Students will be given differentiated, individualized instruction as they study Algebra I as their primary grade 9 math course. Students will be placed in the Math Enhancement course based on their prior MCAS performance and teacher recommendation.

2721 Math Enhancement 10 Level 1 .5 credit

Prerequisite: *Teacher recommendation*

This course is designed for sophomores only who need to strengthen skills in order to be successful on the MCAS exam and in the Algebra and Geometry courses required for graduation. They will be recommended by their ninth grade teachers to take this course in addition to their sophomore math course.

SCIENCE COURSE OFFERINGS

3223C Biology Level 3 1 credit

Prerequisite: *None*

3224C Biology Level 4 1 credit

Prerequisite: *None*

Students will study life by examining systems from the molecular level through cell biology and genetics through lessons and laboratory investigations that reinforce the key concepts. Students will also study life by examining systems at the tissue and organ level, invertebrate anatomy and physiology, and at the level of organisms and populations through ecology using lessons and laboratory investigations that reinforce key concepts. Students will explore the following concepts: Chemistry of Life, Cell Biology, Genetics, Ecology, Human Anatomy and Physiology and Evolution and Biodiversity.

3524 Introduction to Biotechnology Level 4 1 credit

Prerequisite: *Successful completion of Microbiology and Macrobiology*

Introduction to Biotechnology is an elective course within in the science curriculum. Biotechnology is most widely used in agriculture, health/medical and environmental fields to manipulate biological organisms to create products that benefit humans. This course is designed to introduce the laboratory techniques and theoretical applications of biotechnology. This college preparatory course includes an introduction to biotech industry standards and advanced discussions of DNA manipulation, transformation and identification.

3624 Advanced Biotechnology Level 4 1 credit

Prerequisite: *Successful completion of Introduction to Biotechnology*

Biotechnology II is a hands-on course designed to improve and refine basic techniques and to learn new state-of-the-art methods, currently used in the biotechnology industry. This course focuses on the theoretical concepts and emphasizes the "hands-on" experience with advanced techniques including, but not limited to, polymerase chain reaction, ELISA, Protein purification and chromatography, and Cell Culture. The biotechnology II curriculum is designed to prepare students for both post secondary education in biotechnology as well as success in the workplace.

3634	Biotechnology Outplacement	Level 4	.5 credit
Prerequisite: <i>Successful completion of Intro to Biotechnology and Biotechnology II</i>			
Outplacement courses will be offered to Methuen High School seniors who have completed the necessary coursework in their programs of study.			
3425	Advanced Placement Biology	Level 5	1 credit
Prerequisite: <i>Successful completion of Microbiology</i>			
The Advanced Placement Biology curriculum follows the College Entrance Boards recommended syllabus and is designed to be the equivalent of a college introductory biology course. Advanced Placement Biology aims to provide students with the conceptual framework, factual knowledge, and analytical skills expected of a college freshman. The course is divided into three major areas examining the living world: Molecules and Cells, Heredity and Evolution, and Organisms and Populations. In Advanced Placement Biology, dissection is an integral part of the curriculum included to exemplify various aspects of vertebrates and invertebrates. In the spring, the class will take the Advanced Placement examination. Acceptable scores on this test will enable students to receive college credit.			
3333	Chemistry	Level 3	1 credit
Prerequisite: <i>Successful completion of Integrated Algebra/Geometry L2 or Algebra 1 L3 or above</i>			
3334	Chemistry	Level 4	1 credit
Prerequisite: <i>Concurrent enrollment in Algebra 2 or above</i>			
Chemistry is a suggested component of the science curriculum normally taken during the junior year. The chemistry curriculum is designed to utilize laboratory experiences in developing and augmenting the principles of chemistry. Mathematical concepts and classroom notes/readings are integrated with laboratory investigations to develop an understanding of chemical principles such as atomic structure, periodicity, molecular reactions, solution process, and acid/base reactions.			
3335	Advanced Placement Chemistry	Level 5	1 credit
Prerequisite: <i>Concurrent enrollment in Algebra 2 or above and successful completion of Chemistry</i>			
The Advanced Placement Chemistry curriculum follows the College Entrance Boards recommended syllabus and is designed to be the equivalent of a college introductory chemistry course. Advanced Placement Chemistry aims to provide students with the conceptual framework, factual knowledge, and analytical skills expected of a first year chemistry student in college. Topics covered include the structure of matter, kinetic theory of gases, chemical equilibrium, chemical kinetics, and basic concepts of thermodynamics. In the spring, the class will take the Advanced Placement examination. Acceptable scores on this test will enable students to receive college credit.			
3443	Physics	Level 3	1 credit
Prerequisite: <i>Concurrent enrollment in Pre-Calculus or above</i>			
3444	Physics	Level 4	1 credit
Prerequisite: <i>Concurrent enrollment in Pre-Calculus or above</i>			
This course emphasizes an in-depth understanding of two core areas of physics: mechanics and electricity through problem solving, data analysis, and laboratory experiences/demonstrations. The physics curriculum includes the following topics: straight line, projectile, circular, and rotational motion or dynamics; Newton's laws of motion, vector analysis; momentum; work, energy, and machines; electrostatics; and electric circuits.			
3465	Advanced Placement Physics 1	Level 5	1 credit
Prerequisite: <i>Concurrent enrollment in Pre-Calculus or above and successful completion of Physics</i>			
The Advanced Placement (Calculus-based) Physics B curriculum follows the College Board's recommended syllabus and is designed to be the equivalent of a college introductory physics course. The course covers a smaller range of topics than the AP Physics B curriculum, but the problems are more challenging and calculus is used widely. The Physics B curriculum focuses exclusively on an in-depth study of the core area of mechanics. In the spring the class will take the Advanced Placement examination. Acceptable scores on the test will enable students to receive college credit.			
3453	Anatomy & Physiology	Level 3	1 credit
Prerequisite: <i>None</i>			
3454	Anatomy & Physiology	Level 4	1 credit
Prerequisite: <i>None</i>			

Anatomy and Physiology is an elective course within the science curriculum. Anatomy and Physiology examines the human body including its overall organization, basic chemistry and biochemistry, histology, as well as the following systems: integumentary and membrane, skeletal, muscular, nervous, sensory, endocrine, blood and circulatory, immune, respiratory, digestive, excretory and reproductive. This course incorporates in its curriculum several hands-on or lab activities. These activities include the dissection of preserved specimens. In Anatomy & Physiology the dissection of the cat and the fetal pig are integral parts of the curriculum included to exemplify various aspects of human anatomy. Alternative lab activities are available upon request.

3463 Environmental Science Level 3 1 credit

Prerequisite: *Successful completion of Microbiology and Macrobiology*

Environmental Science is an elective course within the science curriculum. This course is designed to provide students with an understanding of how humans affect and are affected by their environment. Students are exposed through readings and explorations to the environmental questions that confront our planet every day. Students gain practice in applying science knowledge to improve their decision and problem solving skills through field study and laboratory work.

3475 Advanced Placement Environmental Science Level 5 1 credit

Prerequisite: *Successful completion of Microbiology and Macrobiology*

Advanced Placement Environmental Science curriculum follows the scope and sequence specified by the College Board and is designed to be the equivalent of a college level course. AP Environmental Science aims to provide students with the 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 preventing them. Experiences both in the laboratory and in the field with provide students with important opportunities to test concepts and principles, explore specific problems in more depth, and gain experience conducting field studies. In the spring the class will take the Advanced Placement examination. Acceptable scores on this test may enable students to receive college credit.

3613 Engineering for the Future Level 3 1 credit

Prerequisite: *Successful completion of Algebra 1*

3614 Engineering for the Future Level 4 1 credit

Prerequisite: *Successful completion of Algebra 1*

This course introduces students to the world of technology and engineering, as a first step in becoming technologically literate citizens. Additionally the course will help high school students answer the question: “Why should I study math, science and engineering if I don’t plan on a technical career?” Through the course’s real-world practical connections, students have an opportunity to see how science, mathematics, and engineering are part of their everyday world, and why it is important for every citizen to be technologically and scientifically literate. Additionally, it prepares students to take the MCAS Technology/Engineering exam as an alternative to the Biology or Chemistry exams.

SOCIAL STUDIES COURSE OFFERINGS

4113C World History 2 Level 3 .5 credit

Prerequisite: *None*

4114C World History 2 Level 4 .5 credit

Prerequisite: *None*

This course will begin with the emergence of nationalism in Europe, European imperialism and will proceed through the Chinese revolution, Japanese modernization, the world wars, the political spectrum, the Cold war, nationalism in the 20th century and modern history to present.

4353 American Government Level 3 .5 credit

Prerequisite: *None*

4354 American Government Level 4 .5 credit

Prerequisite: *None*

In this course students will study the basic structure of the United States government and The Constitution. Other areas covered will be national defense, international relations, political parties, federal elections, and federal vs. state conflicts.

4133 United States History 1 Level 3 1 credit

Prerequisite: *Successful completion of World History 2*

4134 United States History 1 Level 4 1 credit

Prerequisite: *Successful completion of World History 2*

The United States History course is designed to provide students with a comprehensive introduction into the history of the United States from the emergence of nationalism in Colonial America and proceed to the American Revolution, Origins of the American Nation, Westward Expansion, Society in the 1800's and the Civil War followed by Reconstruction. The course will require the reading of primary source documents, writing research papers, group projects, oral presentations and a written final exam. Students will be expected to be active learners as they form opinions, evaluate decisions, determine causes and effects, and view issues of American History from multiple perspectives.

4243 United States History 2 Level 3 1 credit

Prerequisite: *Successful completion of United States History 1*

4244 United States History 2 Level 4 1 credit

Prerequisite: *Successful completion of United States History 1*

The United States History course is designed to provide students with a comprehensive introduction to the history of the United States from 1867 to the present, including the study of current events. The course will require the reading of primary source documents, writing research papers, group projects, oral presentations and a written final exam. Students will be expected to be active learners as they form opinions, evaluate decisions, determine causes and effects, and view issues of American History from multiple perspectives.

SOCIAL STUDIES ELECTIVES

4001 History of Methuen Level 1 .5 credit

Prerequisite: *None*

This course on Methuen history covers the development of the city from pre-historic times to the present. Students learn about the significant people and events that have shaped our city and influenced our nation. Analysis of primary source documents aid learners in discovering the identity of this unique community.

4364 Legal Studies Level 4 .5 credit

Prerequisite: *Juniors and Seniors only*

This course will provide students with a comprehensive introduction to the United States legal system. The course will include case studies, mock trials, role-plays, small group exercises, visual analysis activities, and guest speakers in the field of law. Units of study will include criminal law, the criminal justice process, civil law, and constitutional law. Topics in the above units will cover crimes vs. persons and property, legal defense, trial proceedings, lawsuits, individual rights, and divorce. Students will be required to complete readings from textbooks and original sources. Students will do essay writing, answer open-ended questions, research topics, and complete a project relevant to the course.

4053 Introduction to Psychology Level 3 .5 credit

Prerequisite: *Juniors and Seniors only*

4054 Introduction to Psychology Level 4 .5 credit

Prerequisite: *Juniors and seniors only*

This course is designed for students who would like a solid introduction to some of the more interesting topics in psychology. While learning social scientific methodology and important analytical skills, the student will study topics such as The Brain, Sleep and Dreaming, Drug Use and Addiction, Perception and the Media, and Psychological Disorders and Treatment. Students will be required to do several projects requiring them to research and investigate issues related to psychology and themselves. The class will have regular readings, videos, and discussions.

order to meet the goals of this course, students will be expected to adhere to the *Spanish only* policy. Research papers and journals, written in Spanish, will be required.

5204 Spanish 1 for Native Speakers Level 4 1 credit

Prerequisite: *Spanish placement exam*

This course is designed for native speakers of Spanish who need to build writing and reading skills, as well as improve speaking ability. Students will strengthen grammar and vocabulary and study the culture of Spanish-speaking countries. This is an honors level course and is geared toward students who already use the language on a regular basis.

5214 Spanish 2 for Native Speakers Level 4 1 credit

Prerequisite: *Successful completion of Spanish 1 for Native Speakers or Spanish placement exam*

This course is designed for students who are fluent in Spanish but need to develop reading and writing skills as well as enhance their speaking ability. Students will strengthen grammar, vocabulary, and cultural knowledge as they explore literature, history, art and current events. Course work is geared towards someone who already uses the target language on a regular basis. There is a heavy emphasis on reading, listening to lengthy excerpts, and writing compositions. Students who struggle with these disciplines should consider enhancing these skills before applying.

5234 Spanish 3 for Native Speakers Level 4 1 credit

Prerequisite: *Successful completion of Spanish 2 for Native Speakers or Spanish placement exam*

This course is designed to provide advanced study of the language, literature, and culture of the Spanish-speaking world. Emphasis is on preparation for the AP Spanish Language course and /or university level work.

5145 Advanced Placement Spanish Language Level 5 1 credit

Prerequisite: *Successful completion of Spanish 4 LA or placement exam or teacher recommendation*

The equivalent of a college-level language course, this course prepares students for the AP Exam and for further study of Spanish language, culture, and/or literature. Students hone their speaking, listening, reading, and writing skills through extensive practice in each discipline. Cultural topics are also covered in depth. The content aligns to the scope and sequence specified by the College Board.

5503 Italian 1 Level 3 1 credit

Prerequisite: *None*

5594 Italian 1 Level 4 1 credit

Prerequisite: *None*

This course is directed towards those students who have little or no previous Italian language experience. In this course, students will learn the fundamental structures of the Italian language by engaging in brief conversations, directed dialogues, and a variety of oral drills. In addition, short reading passages, aural comprehension, writing activities, and grammar are integral components of the program. Students will also study the culture of Italy through reading selections, research, and videos.

5513 Italian 2 Level 3 1 credit

Prerequisite: *Successful completion of Italian 1*

5514 Italian 2 Level 4 1 credit

Prerequisite: *Successful completion of Italian 1*

This course continues to develop the four language skills learned in Italian 1- listening, speaking, reading, and writing. Students will increase their vocabulary, learn new grammatical concepts, and develop a deeper understanding of the Italian culture. At this stage, students will practice the skill of speaking through class discussions and presentations. Moreover, they will begin to write compositions on a variety of topics.

5524 Italian 3 Level 4 1 credit

Prerequisite: *Successful completion of Italian 2*

This course is designed for students who wish to increase their proficiency in the Italian language. At this stage, students will be expected to read authentic materials and participate in oral presentations. Reading and writing skills, introduced gradually in the earlier levels, are expanded. The readings, which are primarily cultural and of an informal nature, are intended to increase vocabulary, promote classroom discussion, and acquaint students with the

Italian culture. Structures taken from pertinent reading selections serve as models for oral and written exercises. Thus, students now begin to engage in less structured conversation.

5534 Italian 4 Level 4 1 credit

Prerequisite: *Successful completion of Italian 3*

This course completes all aspects of Italian grammar and will afford students an opportunity to use more effectively the phrases and key concepts that they have learned in the classroom. The goal is to achieve a high level of proficiency in conversation and in writing skills, and, at the same time, broaden the students' familiarity with the contemporary Italian-speaking world. This course will focus on Italian literature which will include selections from popular writers such as Collodi. In order to meet the goals of this course, students will be expected to adhere to the *Italian only* policy. Research papers and journals, written in Italian, will be required.

HEALTH & PHYSICAL EDUCATION COURSE OFFERINGS

14001 Introduction to Health & Wellness Level 1 .5 credit

Prerequisite: *Freshmen only*

This course provides young people with the knowledge and skills they need to become successful learners and healthy and productive adults. Students begin by evaluating their own level of health and move into areas of health risks, exercise and nutritional needs, communication, decision making, addictive behaviors, self-care, human sexuality, and mental illness. This is a hands-on course where students learn to take charge of their own health by practicing preventative health habits. The course frequently includes the use of technology for in-class assignments and projects. It meets state standards and is based on the National Health Education standards.

14002 Advanced Health & Wellness Level 1 .5 credit

Prerequisite: *Successful completion of Introduction to Health & Wellness*

This required course meets state standards and is based on the National Health Education standards. It provides advanced knowledge and skills to help students adopt and maintain healthy behaviors. Through a variety of instructional strategies, students practice the development of functional advanced health information; determine personal values that support health behaviors; develop the essential skills necessary to adopt, practice, and maintain health-enhancing behaviors. Advanced Health & Wellness provides students with an in-depth study of promoting personal health and wellness, healthy eating, promoting safety and preventing unintentional injury and violence, dating violence, promoting mental and emotional health, a drug-free lifestyle, and promoting human development and family health.

15001 Personal/Activity Fitness Level 1 .5 credit

Prerequisite: *Freshmen only*

Students will learn proper fitness concepts and exercises and be educated on the value of lifelong fitness. Students will work out in Methuen High School's new state of the art Fitness Center (with cardiovascular equipment, Nautilus machines and free weights). Students will also improve their fitness through games and activities that address the same fitness concepts. Students will be expected to learn proper fitness techniques and exercises. They will learn the fundamentals of how to develop their own fitness plan. Students are expected to be motivated to improve their fitness level. They must honor all safety guidelines and provide a positive and safe atmosphere for all.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION ELECTIVES FOR GRADES 10, 11, & 12

The following courses are elective choices for sophomores, juniors, and seniors. Please note that students may repeat a course and still receive full credit (each class is a "unique" experience determined by the teacher, the classmates, and selection of activities. We want all MHS students to participate in a class that will best meet their interests, level of competition, and personal fitness needs). All electives include an emphasis on continued personal fitness.

15002 Project Challenge Level 1 .25 credit

Prerequisite: *None*

Students engaged in Project Challenge will learn the value of cooperation, communication, teamwork, and problem solving skills. Students will also have the opportunity to physically and emotionally test themselves on the many new challenging elements in the Larry Klimas Memorial Fieldhouse. Students will gain an understanding and respect that the success of a group depends on the contribution of all of its members and that a cooperative, supporting atmosphere encourages participation and success. Students will be expected to take the opportunity to practice positive leadership skills. Students will develop feelings of mutual acceptance, trust and respect for each other – as well as an increase in self confidence – as they experience all the opportunities and obstacles Project Challenge has to offer.

15003 Team Games & Competitive Team Games Level 1 .25 credit

Prerequisite: *None*

This is an elective option for students who enjoy participating in traditional team sports (basketball, floor hockey, soccer, lacrosse, volleyball, team handball, speedball, softball, etc). Students will participate in a variety of team activities. Students will be educated on the skills, rules and strategies related to the specific team sport to be capable of being a participant or spectator of that specific sport. Students will be expected to demonstrate teamwork, good sportsmanship and a cooperative attitude throughout the elective.

15004 Lifelong Recreational Activities Level 1 .25 credit

Prerequisite: *None*

This an elective option for students interested in participating in less competitive activities that have tremendous value as lifelong pursuits (tennis, badminton, golf, inline skating, table tennis, ice skating, walking for fitness, etc). Students will participate in a variety of lifelong/recreational activities. Students will be educated on the skills, rules and strategies related to the specific recreational activities to allow them to utilize them as lifelong activities. Students will be expected to demonstrate self-responsibility, positive attitude, and willingness to try new challenges throughout the elective.

15005 Personal Fitness Level 1 .25 credit

Prerequisite: *None*

This an elective option for students who are interested in learning about and improving their personal fitness. Students will train in our new state of the art Fitness Center that includes cardiovascular machines, Nautilus style weight machines, free weights, etc. Students will design their own work out plan and participate in daily workouts to reach their fitness goals. Students will be educated on how to use and benefit from a variety of cardiovascular and strength training machines. Students will be expected to be self-motivated, demonstrate proper fitness center etiquette, and bring energy and enthusiasm to their daily workout.

15006 Winter Activities Level 1 .25 credit

Prerequisite: *None*

This an elective option for students who are interested in exploring the many fitness related activities that winter can provide. Students will utilize our Ice Center and athletic fields to participate in a unique set of activities that include ice skating, curling, snow shoeing, orienteering, etc. Students will be educated on the basic fundamentals of these winter activities. Students will demonstrate an understanding of the safety concepts and an appreciation of the variety of activities that can be done in the winter season.

15007 Advanced Project Challenge Level 1 .25 credit

Prerequisite: *None*

This an elective option for students that are interested in an extension of the Project Challenge experience they had earlier grades of physical education. Students will participate in more advanced climbs and problem solving initiatives. Students will have the opportunity to challenge themselves on the new high level climbing elements in

This course covers marketing concepts and principles and their practical applications. Students will examine risks and challenges marketers face to establish a competitive edge. Subject matter includes economics and marketing foundations and functions with emphasis on selling, promotion and product/service management. In addition, this course will explore human resource and leadership development

903 Marketing Externship / Placement Level 4 .5 credit

Prerequisite: *Successful completion of Marketing 2*

This course covers the strategies that entrepreneurial companies utilize marketing their products and services. It uses examples from a broad spectrum of industries.

7621 Accounting Fundamentals Level 3 .5 credit

Prerequisite: *None*

This course gives students a fundamental understanding of the total accounting cycle. Students will gain knowledge of business forms, journals, and ledgers. This course contains both a lecture and a computer lab component. Upon successful completion of this course, a student may receive Northern Essex Community College credit.

7622 Managerial Accounting Level 4 .5 credit

Prerequisite: *Successful completion of Accounting Fundamentals*

This course provides students a better understanding on using accounting fundamentals to help manage and operate a business. Students will build upon their knowledge of business forms, journals, and ledgers and apply it to business practices. This course contains both a lecture and a computer lab component. Upon successful completion of this course, a student may receive Northern Essex Community College credit

7631 Banking & Finance Level 1 .5 credit

Prerequisite: *None*

This course introduces students to the banking and financial industries. The course covers banking history, banking operations, the Federal Reserve, securities and insurance concepts. The course will include an understanding of economics as the underlying basis of the transfer and growth of money in our system. It will include information to help students become better consumers and gain skills and knowledge to begin their pursuit of careers in the banking and finance industry.

FASHION TECHNOLOGY BUSINESS & CONSUMER SERVICES CLUSTER

8810 Introduction to Fashion Technology & Design Level 1 .5 credit

Prerequisite: *None*

This course introduces students to basic sewing and pressing equipment, textiles, and introductory level project techniques. Elements include clothing construction, design skills, apparel merchandising and career exploration of the fashion and textile industries. Students will select and purchase their own fabric, as the clothing they design and make will be their own personal property.

8821 Advanced Fashion Technology & Design Level 1 1 credit

Prerequisite: *Successful completion of Introduction to Fashion Technology & Design*

This course will provide students with an in-depth study of fashion, clothing manufacturing and design. Students will have the opportunity to design, create and wear their own designs. In addition to learning multiple techniques for working with various textiles, students will use advanced embroidery techniques that use the latest technologies.

COMPUTER PROGRAMMING & WEBISTE DEVELOPMENT INFORMATION TECHNOLGY SERVICES CLUSTER

904 Building Your Own Website Level 3 1 credit

Prerequisite: *Sophomores, Juniors and Seniors only*

Building Your Own Website is an introduction to industry-standard Adobe software designed to help students develop the 21st Century Career/Vocational and Technical Education (CVTE) skills they need in an increasingly competitive workforce. This innovative CVTE course combines academic rigor with real-world experience and professional job skills. The first semester of this course focuses on graphic design, using Adobe Fireworks, and web portfolios using Adobe Dreamweaver. Students will learn the basics of graphic design for use on the web, and will begin to prepare an online portfolio to house the completed projects they work on throughout all web development classes. Included in the first semester are lessons on graphic design best practices, and time is spent learning HTML, the basic language of the internet. The second semester of this course will focus on building a basic client website using Dreamweaver, and incorporating graphic design elements learned in Fireworks. Students will plan for an entire basic site creation using skills learned throughout the first semester of the course. The course ends with a review workshop that ties together everything learned in the first year, and prepares the student to move on to Web Development 2.

905 Advanced Programming & Website Development Level 4 1 credit

Prerequisite: *Successful completion of Building Your Own Website*

Advanced Programming & Web Development builds upon the skills learned in Building Your Own Website. Industry-standard Adobe software is used to help students develop the 21st Century CVTE skills they need in an increasingly competitive workforce. The first semester of this course focuses on enhancing user experience on your website and creating digital narratives using Adobe Flash. Concepts of website design and overall user experience are covered. Students will learn the basic of Flash design for use on the web, and will prepare several pieces of interactive multimedia. The second semester of this course will focus on the complete production process of a client website using knowledge from previous courses. Students will plan, brainstorm, design, and develop a full working website complete with Flash add-ins; graphics created in Fireworks, and pull it all together in the design phase using Dreamweaver. This course shows students how real-world website development transpires from conception to completion.

7641 PC Troubleshooting & Repair Level 4 1 credit

Prerequisite: *None*

In keeping with the development of 21st Century skills, this course will provide students an opportunity to maintain, de-bug, and work with other staff and students on our newest software applications and technology. Students will also have the opportunity to earn the IC3 Basic License for computers while working “hands-on” with our newest technology.

EARLY EDUCATION & CARE EDUCATION CLUSTER

8601 Early Childhood Exploration Level 3 1 credit

Prerequisite: *Sophomores, Juniors and Seniors only*

This course will explore Child growth and development from birth to school age child. Students will study physical, emotional, cognitive and intellectual development at each stage. Students will care for the **Reality Doll** to relate to experiences connected with the care of a newborn. Students will investigate the different type of play and developmentally appropriate activities for each stage.

8701 Early Childhood Education & Care Level 4 1 credit

Prerequisite: *Successful completion of Early Childhood Exploration*

This course provides the opportunity for students to participate in a pre-school internship placement. Students will be required to complete all the tasks necessary to work in a preschool. Students, who successfully complete this course

with a B or better and have the recommendation of the teacher, will be eligible for ECC Certification and Northern Essex Community College articulation.

8604 Early Education & Care Outplacement Level 4 .5 credit

Prerequisite: *Successful completion of Early Childhood Education & Care*

This course provides the opportunity to gain experience with elementary school children. Students will be assigned a field placement at one of our elementary schools.

BIOTECHNOLOGY MANUFACTURING, ENGINEERING AND TECHNOLOGY CLUSTER

3524 Introduction to Biotechnology Level 4 1 credit

Prerequisite: *Successful completion of Microbiology and Macrobiology*

Introduction to Biotechnology is an elective course within in the science curriculum. Biotechnology is most widely used in agriculture, health/medical and environmental fields to manipulate biological organisms to create products that benefit humans. This course is designed to introduce the laboratory techniques and theoretical applications of biotechnology. This college preparatory course includes an introduction to biotech industry standards and advanced discussions of DNA manipulation, transformation and identification.

3624 Advanced Biotechnology Level 4 1 credit

Prerequisite: *Successful completion of Introduction to Biotechnology*

Biotechnology II is a hands-on course designed to improve and refine basic techniques and to learn new state-of-the-art methods, currently used in the biotechnology industry. This course focuses on the theoretical concepts and emphasizes the "hands-on" experience with advanced techniques including, but not limited to, polymerase chain reaction, ELISA, Protein purification and chromatography, and Cell Culture. The biotechnology II curriculum is designed to prepare students for both post secondary education in biotechnology as well as success in the workplace.

3634 Biotechnology Outplacement Level 4 .5 credit

Prerequisite: *Successful completion of Intro to Biotechnology and Biotechnology II*

Outplacement courses will be offered to Methuen High School seniors who have completed the necessary coursework in their programs of study.

FAMILY & CONSUMER SCIENCE COURSE OFFERINGS

8801 Food for Life Level 1 .5 credit

Prerequisite: *None*

Students will learn the fundamental skills required for the planning and preparation of a variety of basic foods. Through class instruction and laboratory practice, students will actively learn about nutrition, the Dietary Guidelines and the proper and safe handling of food during storage, preparation, and serving. Nutritional benefits of following the Dietary Guidelines will be emphasized. Students will evaluate their own nutritional needs to benefit healthy lifestyle habits for now and in the future.

8901 Advanced Food Lab Level 1 .5 credit

Prerequisite: *Successful completion of Food for Life*

Students in this class will develop skills and focus on the preparation of specialty foods categories. Laboratory experiences and food items will include appetizers, soups, salads, salad dressings, sandwiches, entrées, side dishes and desserts. Students will learn culinary and restaurant techniques, background information, and vocabulary. Emphasis will be placed on sanitation, safety, small and large equipment usage and different cooking techniques.

This is an advanced choral ensemble for students intending to pursue vocal music. Students will perform small ensemble, multipart, often unaccompanied, literature, and perform regularly for concerts and other performance opportunities.

6664 Ranger Jazz Level 1 .5 credit

Prerequisite: *Successful audition or permission of the director. Students may not preregister.*

This is an advanced instrumental performance ensemble open to students by audition only. Candidates for this course should be able to read music fluently and play accurately on the following instruments: saxophones, trumpet, trombone, guitar, string or electric bass, piano, and drum set. Ranger Jazz rehearses one evening per week from November to June, and performs a number of times in the spring semester. Students eligible to audition must be members of symphonic band or concert choir unless approved by the director.

6524 Dirty Hands Ink Level 1 .5 credit

Prerequisite: *Successful audition or permission of the director. Students may not preregister*

This is an advanced instrumental performance ensemble open to students by audition only. Candidates for this course should be able to sight read fluently and have strong experience playing wind and/or percussion instruments. The ensemble relies heavily on rhythmic, improvisational, and creative skills. DHI rehearses one to two evenings per week from November until June, and performs a number of times in the spring semester. Students eligible to audition must be members of symphonic band or concert choir.

6881 Music Technology (Creating Digital Music) Level 1 .5 credit

Prerequisite: *None: Prior musical background is useful but not necessary*

Designed to introduce the student to MIDI sequencing and recording techniques, students in this course use keyboard/computer workstations. They will develop digital recording techniques, making and mixing techniques, to create a portfolio of original, digitally produced works.

6111 Keyboard Fundamentals Level 1 .5 credit

Prerequisite: *None*

This is an introductory course designed to increase and develop students' music literacy skills through the use of the music keyboard. It incorporates an overview of musical styles and periods as they relate to performance and terminology. The course requires limited previous musical background or knowledge. [NOTE: formerly Music Fundamentals]

6234 Music Theory I Level 4 .5 credit

Prerequisite: *C or better in Keyboard Fundamentals*

Part one of a sequential course designed for students intending to pursue further musical study, it focuses on the theoretical aspects of music and how it is written. It covers the elements of scales, intervals, harmony, counterpoint, ear training, and elementary forms of composition. This course assumes a working knowledge of musical notation and application.

6244 Music Theory II Level 4 .5 credit

Prerequisite: *C or better in Music Theory I*

In part two, students continue the theoretical study of music from Theory I. This course encompasses modern scales and twelve-tone techniques, modes, advanced harmony, and 20th Century compositional techniques

6623 Vocal Workshop Level 3 .5 credit

Prerequisite: *None*

This course, which may be taken for either one or two semesters, is designed for students that are considering music education as a career. Students in this class have extensive interaction with our preschool and special education programs – designing and teaching lessons that include singing, dancing, listening, movement, and musical games that facilitate early language acquisition as well as fine and gross motor skills. [NOTE: formerly Vocal Performance Workshop I & II]

THEATRE

6101 Introduction to Acting **Level 1** **.5 credit**

Prerequisite: *None*

This course encourages students to examine acting as an exploration of self. Students will learn basic skills need to improvise individually and collectively with expression. The course will cover character development, mood, techniques of collaboration, as well as improvisation versus scripting. Active participation is an essential component of the course. (NOTE: formerly Introduction to Theatre]

6201 Technical Theatre **Level 1** **.5 credit**

Prerequisite: *None*

This course is designed for the non-performer, and will expose students to a number of backstage techniques. Students will design and construct sets and props, work on costume design and fabrication, and gain experience with theatrical lighting and sound. This class will provide all technical assistance to the department's theatre productions.

VISUAL ARTS

6300 Art Foundations **Level 1** **.5 credit**

Prerequisite: *None*

Designed as an introductory course, Introduction to Visual Art provides a comprehensive design foundation that will introduce and reinforce the elements of visual design – line, pattern, shape, color, and texture in a variety of two and three dimensional art pieces. Each unit of study will lead students through an examination of the elements and principles of design and their applications to a variety of art media. Media used will include painting, drawing and printmaking to sculpture and construction.

6321 Ceramic Design I **Level 3** **.5 credit**

Prerequisite: *None*

In this course, students will learn a variety of techniques for working with clay and glazes in order to form both functional and sculptural pieces. Students will design and create projects from start to finish. Creative thinking, problem solving, use of elements and principles of design are emphasized.

6333 Ceramic Design II **Level 4** **.5 credit**

Prerequisite: *C or better in Ceramic Design I*

This course builds on the skills developed in Ceramics I. The focus is on more complex designs and techniques of execution. Works formed on the pottery wheel are demonstrated and tried. Personal style, creativity, design and expression are emphasized in this course.

6361 Drawing I **Level 3** **.5 credit**

Prerequisite: *None*

This course is designed for the student wishing to explore and expand their interest in drawing. The first portion of the class will introduce pen and pencil techniques on both observational and creative original subjects. The second part of the course will stress composition, drawing figure, face, and proportions using combined media.

6373 Drawing II **Level 4** **1 credit**

Prerequisite: *C or better in Drawing I*

This course is designed for the student who wants to develop more advanced techniques and accomplish longer, more complex drawing assignments. Drawing II is an essential preparatory course for Portfolio and for college course work in visual art.

6343 Photography I **Level 1** **1 credit**

Prerequisite: *None*

This course is designed for the student wishing to explore and expand their interest in photography. The course uses digital cameras and techniques, with emphasis on an historical overview of photography as an art form and what constitutes a high quality photograph. Some darkroom photography may be introduced.

Declaration of Sentiments and Resolutions (1848), Frederick Douglass' Independence Day Speech at Rochester, New York (1852), and Abraham Lincoln's Gettysburg Address and Second Inaugural Address (1863 and 1865).

9921 Leadership Education Training 3 Level 1 1 credit

Prerequisite: *Successful completion of Leadership Education Training 2*

A full year of instruction in the following subjects: Application of Leadership Principles, Application of Communication Techniques, Physical Fitness, Orienteering, Military History, Staff Organization, Marksmanship, Drill and Ceremonies, and Map Reading.

9931 Leadership Education Training 4 Level 1 1 credit

Prerequisite: *Successful completion of Leadership Education Training 3*

A full year of instruction in the following subjects: Placed in a leadership or instructor position within the Cadet Battalion, Application of Methods of Instruction, coaching of physical fitness exercises, responsibilities of leadership, Military Staff Organizations, Presentation of Staff Briefings, Assumption of Command and/or Staff Responsibilities within the JROTC program.

9941 Leadership Education Training 5 Level 1 1 credit

Prerequisite: *Approval of LET/JROTC Department Chair*

A full year of instruction in the following subjects: Placed in a leadership or instructor position within the Cadet Battalion, Application of Methods of Instruction, coaching of physical fitness exercises, responsibilities of leadership Military Staff Organizations, Presentation of Staff Briefings, Assumption of Command and/or Staff Responsibilities within the JROTC Program.

9951 Leadership Education Training 6 Level 1 1 credit

Prerequisite: *Approval of LET/JROTC Department Chair*

A full year of instruction in the following subjects: Placed in a leadership position within the cadet Battalion. Advanced instruction to cadets will include instruction and monitoring of physical fitness criteria. Responsibilities of Leadership, Military Staff Organization, and Presentation of JROTC program of instruction, Assumption of Command and/or Staff Responsibilities within the JROTC program.

SPECIAL EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

In accordance with Commonwealth of Massachusetts Regulation 28 and the federal Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), Methuen High School's Special Education Program provides services for students who meet the eligibility criteria. Students must have a documented disability, be unable to make effective progress in school, and require specially designed instruction or related services to access the curriculum. Special Education staff work closely with students, teachers, and parents/guardians to monitor student progress and to modify and support the regular academic program to meet student needs. For questions regarding the Special Education programs at Methuen High School, please contact the High School Special Education Administrator at (978) 722-6040 x2375.

LANGUAGE ACQUISITION DEPARTMENT

Through the Language Acquisition Department, students who are classified as ELLs (English Language Learners) are provided with classes that are designed to promote the development of the ELL students' English speaking, listening, reading, and writing skills, while they learn core academic subjects. There are five levels of English Language Development (ELD) classes, to which ELL students are assigned based upon their stage of English proficiency; the levels range from 1 to 5; there is also a new series of courses for newcomers. For questions regarding the Language Acquisition Department (LAD) at Methuen High School, please contact the LAD Supervisor at (978) 722-6040 x2344.