

# Ottawa Township High School



## Course Catalog 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Edition

**Student Course Load**

- ❖ Recommended Course Load per semester = 6 academic classes and physical education
- ❖ Minimum Course Load per semester = 5 academic classes, physical educ., and study hall

**Class Rank / Grade Point Average (GPA) Policy**

<u>ACADEMIC GRADES</u>	<u>Point Value</u>	
	Regular	Weighted
A -----Outstanding Achievement-----	4.0-----	5.0
B -----High Quality -----	3.0-----	4.0
C -----Average -----	2.0-----	3.0
D -----Below Average -----	1.0-----	1.0
F-----Failing - No Credit -----	0.0-----	0.0
P-----Medical Excuse or Pre-Excused -----	0.0-----	0.0
I -----Incomplete Work -----	0.0-----	0.0

I An incomplete (I) will be assigned to a student who finds it impossible because of reasons beyond his or her control, such as illness, to complete the required work by the end of the semester. An incomplete will be changed to an ‘F’ if not made up within two weeks after the end of the semester. Since the grade of “I” carries no credit, courses carrying that grade may not be counted toward academic requirements for co-curricular participation. Nine week “incompletes” will be handled at the teacher’s discretion.

(H)\* This symbol following the course title means a weighted course.

**Class Rank**

All courses will be used to determine class rank except any course described in B below. Any courses given a grade of P (medical excuse), or N (sports waiver) will not be used to determine class rank.

- A. All students’ class ranks will be determined by grade points.
- B. Courses taken outside the regular campus daytime curriculum, such as summer school, college courses, and night school may be counted as credit, upon administrative approval, but will not be used to determine class rank.

## Placement Information

It is the responsibility of OTHS to provide our students with a curriculum that will challenge them to experience maximum growth throughout their high school careers. It is also the responsibility of the school to place students appropriately within this curriculum.

The PSAT 8/9 test was given to 8<sup>th</sup> grade students in November. Your PSAT 8/9 scores, Explore scores (if you took this placement test), grades earned in their current coursework and recommendations from your teachers are the primary sources of information used by OTHS counselors when considering placement for the freshman year.

The scores that inform counselors decisions in placing students in the core areas of English, Math, Science, and Social Science are below along with the courses for each score range.

### English/Science/Social Science

	PSAT 8/9	Explore
Benchmark	390	18
Read 180, Geoscience, World History	120-330	0-12
English I, Biology, World History	340-450	13-25
Honors English I, Honors Biology, Honors World Hist.	460+	26+

### Mathematics

	PSAT 8/9	Explore
Benchmark	440	19
Math 180 and Pre-Algebra	120-300	0-8
Pre-Algebra	310-350	9-11
Algebra	360-450	12-19
Honors Algebra	460+	20+
Honors Geometry	Honors Algebra criteria and take the Honors Algebra Final Exam	

## Course Descriptions

**Literacy Support** **9**      **2 credits**      **Year Course**

Prerequisite: Recommendation of the Assistant Principal

Course Description: The literacy support course will be taken alongside English I and will provide students with an opportunity to learn and apply a variety of reading strategies to improve the comprehension of both fiction and nonfiction texts. Designed to support students in the required content area classes, this course utilizes students' content area texts as well as independent reading books. Emphasis is placed on comprehension skills such as predicting, summarizing, connecting, questioning, and inferring. In addition, students will improve their understanding of the writing process, grammar, study strategies, and organizational techniques. This course does not meet 4 year college entrance requirements.

**English I** **9**      **2 Credits**      **Year Course**

Course Description: All English I students will study a core curriculum which continues and expands in the second and third years. This core curriculum is based on the Common Core State Standards and College Readiness Standards. Readings in literature will be supplemented with vocabulary lessons, grammar lessons, writing assignments, speaking assignments, and library assignments. Major readings will include works by Shakespeare and a variety of novels, short stories, nonfiction, and poetry.

**Honors English I** **9**      **2 Credits**      **Year Course**

Prerequisite: Meets or exceeds placement guidelines determined by the district

Lab Fee: Cost of paperback books for summer reading

Course Description: Honors English I is a weighted course that does require students to complete summer reading prior to the start of the school year. The course is designed to accelerate the English program in preparation for taking advanced courses in the English curriculum during sophomore, junior and senior years. This course is substantially more rigorous than English I. While students review basic essay structure and grammar, they work extensively on in-depth literary analysis, including study of short stories, novels, plays, poetry, and nonfiction. Students will submit at least two major projects, write at least two MLA formatted essays, complete discussion-style assessments, complete reading check quizzes, and keep a class binder. Students must maintain a "C" average in this course to be eligible for Honors English II.

**Math 180** **2 Credits**      **Year Course**

College Prep: No

Prerequisite: See placement information

Course Description: **This course does not meet mathematics graduation requirements.** Math 180 is an intensive mathematics intervention program designed to meet the needs of students whose math achievement is below the proficient level. The program directly addresses individual needs through adaptive and instructional software, and direct instruction in small-group and whole-class settings. Math 180 is a single-hour course that will be taken in conjunction with pre-algebra. Students will earn one elective credit for each semester of the course that is successfully completed. This course does not meet 4 year college entrance requirements.

**Algebra IA** **9** **2 Credits** **Year Course**

College Prep: Yes

Prerequisite: Meets placement guidelines determined by the district.

Course Description: The Algebra A and Algebra B sequence is designed to cover the same objectives as Algebra I, but it is done over the period of two years. Those who are enrolled in and successfully complete Algebra A are required to take Algebra B the following year. Algebra A is designed for those students who need reinforcement in their computational and problem-solving skills. The class will emphasize symbol manipulation, linear equations, algebraic expressions, equations, inequalities, linear functions, and graphs.

**Algebra I** **2 Credits** **Year Course**

College Prep: Yes

Prerequisite: See placement information

Course Description: This is a comprehensive course in algebra designed for the average mathematics student. The class will emphasize symbol manipulation and linear equations, this will include algebraic expressions, equations, inequalities, linear functions, graphs, laws of exponents, polynomials, factoring, quadratics, and rational expressions.

**Honors Algebra I** **2 Credits** **Year Course**

College Prep: Yes

Prerequisites: See placement information

Course Description: This is a Weighted Course in algebra and is designed for the college-bound, advanced mathematics student. Students will study the topics listed under Algebra I plus an introduction to probability. Honors Algebra consists of an enriched curriculum that fosters creativity and imagination, emphasizes peer collaboration, and emphasizes higher level thinking skills. Students will experience more in-depth study of the subject matter. When appropriate, the pace of instruction will be accelerated and the study of materials will be more challenging.

**Honors Geometry** **2 Credits** **Year Course**

College Prep: Yes

Prerequisite: See placement information

Course Description: This is a Weighted Course in geometry; enhanced by emphasizing and integrating logical reasoning and spatial visualization skills. Students develop higher thinking skills by the use of mathematical analysis, evaluation, research, and deductive and inductive reasoning. Students learn technical skills, become familiar with symmetry and transformation, and study angles, lines, and circle relationships in depth. Independent thinking is encouraged, projects are developed, problem-solving skills are stressed, and the students learn to apply geometric knowledge and skills to a variety of purposes. Honors coursework consists of an enriched curriculum that fosters creativity and imagination, emphasizes peer collaboration and higher level thinking skills, and provides an opportunity for independent learning. Students will experience more in-depth study of the subject matter. When appropriate, the pace of instruction will be accelerated and the study of materials will be more challenging.

**Geoscience** **2 Credits** **Year Course**

College Prep: No

Prerequisite: See placement information

Course Description: Geoscience is a laboratory science course alternative to Biology for freshman that would fulfill the physical science requirement. Emphasis is placed on problem solving through student-centered activities, note-taking skills and enhancing critical thinking skills for multi-disciplinary learners. Topics covered include basic science skills, physics, chemistry, and earth systems. This course will prepare students for Biology sophomore year. This course is not available for repeat. This course does not meet 4 year college entrance requirements.

**Biology** **2 Credits** **Year Course**

College Prep: Yes

Prerequisite: See placement information

Course Description: Special emphasis will be placed upon the areas of molecular and cellular biology, classification, reproduction, and principles of heredity and biodiversity. Successful completion of this course will prepare the student to continue on to higher-level science courses.

**Honors Biology** **2 Credits** **Year Course**

College Prep: Yes

Prerequisite: See placement information

Course Description: Honors Biology is a Weighted Course in which special emphasis will be placed upon the areas of molecular and cellular biology, classification, reproduction, and principles of heredity and biodiversity. Honors Biology consists of an enriched curriculum that fosters creativity and imagination, emphasizes peer collaboration and higher level thinking skills, and provides an opportunity for independent learning. Students will experience more in-depth study of the subject matter. When appropriate, the pace of instruction will be accelerated and the study of materials will be more challenging.

**World History** **2 Credits** **Year Course**

College Prep: Yes

Prerequisite: See placement information

Course Description: This course is required of all freshmen except those taking Honors World History. Students will study a variety of current issue topics that affect our everyday world and the society we live in. Students will examine in-depth topics such as world religions, culture, genocide, population, political systems, economic systems, and the United Nations. Geography will be an emphasis throughout the course. Topics will include other major issues or events that may emerge as the school year progresses.

**Honors World History** **2 Credits** **Year Course**

College Prep: Yes

Prerequisite: See placement information

Course Description: This Weighted Course is required of all freshmen except those taking World History. Students will study a variety of current issue topics that affect our everyday world and the society we live in. Students will examine in-depth topics such as world religions, culture, genocide, population, political systems, economic systems, and the United Nations. Geography will be an emphasis throughout the course. Topics will include other major issues or events that may emerge as the school year progresses.

**Freshman Physical Education****1 Credit Semester Course**Prerequisites: None

Course Description: Physical Education I will introduce students to a variety of individual and team sports. Units include dance, disk golf, softball, speedball, swimming, ultimate Frisbee and volleyball. Students will also engage in teambuilding activities. In conjunction with this course, progress monitoring of student health-related fitness levels will begin in this class and continue throughout a student's four years of high school. Aerobic capacity, body composition, flexibility, muscular strength and muscular endurance will be monitored. Ongoing assessments will include both written and performance-based skill evaluations.

**German I****2 Credits Year Course**Prerequisite: NoneText: Komm Mit - Level ICourse Activities:

1. Oral, listening and written exercises from textbook
2. Written exercises in workbook
3. Oral presentation of lesson dialogs and daily conversational practice
4. Use of supplementary materials such as games, audio-visual material, puzzles, charts, worksheets, etc.
5. Quizzes and tests
6. Semester exams
7. Discussion of culture and customs of German speaking countries.

**Spanish I****2 Credits Year Course**Prerequisite: NoneText: ¡Exprésate! Level I (Ch. 1-6)Course Activities:

1. Introduction
2. Textbook and supplemental oral/written activities
3. Listening and speaking comprehension activities
4. Video and audio activities
5. Vocabulary and lesson quizzes
6. Chapter tests
7. Semester exams
8. Supplementary cultural activities

**Study Skills & Test Taking Strategies****1 Credit Semester Course**

Course Description: This course is open to all students who need help with taking notes, reading textbooks, managing time, and taking tests and test anxiety. Strategies presented include Cornell notes, SQ3R textbook study system, note cards, study tips for various types of tests, and tips for overcoming test stress and anxiety.

**Introduction to Business****1 Credit****Semester Course****\*\*\*Fulfills Consumer Education Graduation Requirement\*\*\***

Course Description: This introductory level class introduces students to the business world and helps them prepare to deal successfully with – and become a part of – the business community. This offering is designed to help students understand the role of business in a free enterprise economic system. It provides economic principles, concepts, and understandings for preparation of individuals as effective citizens, consumers and employees/employers, participating in the American economy. This class will develop students' abilities to make personal financial decisions in the areas of budgeting, record-keeping, insurance, real estate, transportation and financial institutions and services. Students will learn about topics such as speedwriting, advertising, nutrition, grocery shopping, auto ownership, housing, clothing, banking services, credit, taxes, insurance, and consumer action.

**Computer Concept****1 Credit****Semester Course**

Course Description: Computer Concepts is an introductory course and a prerequisite for all other computer courses. This one semester course teaches the touch method of alphabetic and numeric keyboarding while introducing basic computer skills. Students learn to format documents such as letter, memos, reports, and tables for personal, classroom, and business use. Students use Microsoft Word to format documents and are introduced to the basic elements of Microsoft Excel, Publisher, and PowerPoint. Success in this course will allow students to be successful on the IVCC Keyboarding proficiency exam.

**Microsoft Office I****1 Credit****Semester Course**

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Computer Concepts

Course Description: The purpose of this intermediate computer course is to provide college and business bound with a working knowledge of Microsoft Office 2010. This computer course will cover the Word, Excel, and PowerPoint portions of the Microsoft Office suite. The Word portion of the class will cover preparing documents, sorting data, creating tables and charts, formatting paragraphs, inserting pictures, and creating promotional flyers. Using Excel the students will learn how to enter data, change worksheet appearance, move and copy data in a worksheet, and utilize the formula feature. The PowerPoint portion of the class will focus on designing, enhancing, and preparing presentations.

**Microsoft Office II****1 Credit****Semester Course**

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Microsoft Office I

Course Description: This course is a continuation of Microsoft Office I and is designed to develop proficiency in using advanced features of the software program Excel as well as introductions to the programs Publisher and Access. The semester will conclude with a business simulation integrating the programs of the Office suite to perform a variety of office-related tasks combined with entrepreneurial principles. *Concepts presented in Office I and II align with skills tested in the Basic Computer Skills Inventory required of all incoming fulltime students at IVCC and many other colleges.*

**Introduction to Multimedia****1 Credit****Semester Course**

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Computer Concepts

Course Description: This course is an introduction to the study and creation of multimedia using Adobe CS4. Students will be introduced to photo editing, graphic design, sound editing, animation, and web design. The course is designed as a survey course in which students can explore various aspects of multimedia and determine which of those aspects they may wish to pursue further.

**Web Design I****1 Credit****Semester Course**Prerequisite: Successful completion of Computer ConceptsCourse Description: Web page design is one of the workforce skills in greatest demand. Students will learn to design web pages while learning the basics of hypertext markup language along with web page editing software from Microsoft and Adobe. The semester will be capped off with a business simulation in which students will go through the steps of designing a site for a business from start to finish.**Introduction to Agriculture****2 Credits****Year Course**Prerequisite: NoneCourse Description: This course introduces students to the agricultural industry, the history and importance of agriculture, and how the industry is organized; agriculture's major components and basic concepts; the economic influence of agriculture at the local, state, national, and international levels, and the scope and types of career opportunities available in the field of agriculture. Areas of study include concepts in basic animal science, basic agricultural mechanization, basic science and technology in agriculture, agricultural occupations, basic soil science principles, basic food science technology, wildlife ecology, basic horticulture and landscaping, hydroponics, aquaculture microcomputer applications in agriculture and the history and organization of the FFA. Students will have the opportunity to participate in FFA activities.**Introduction to Technology****2 Credits****Year Course**Prerequisite: None.Course Description: This class is designed to allow the student to learn about as many areas of technology as possible in the time period and space available. The course will help prepare the student to function as a productive, knowledgeable citizen in our technological world. Technology involves the practical application and use of reading, writing, problem-solving, science, and math. In this class, students must take an active role in their studies. **STUDENT SUCCESS IN THIS COURSE IS DEPENDENT ON THEIR WILLINGNESS AND ABILITY TO READ AND FOLLOW DIRECTIONS.**Topics of Study

Electricity/Electronics	Computer Aided Drawing
Lasers and Fiber Optics	Architecture
Structures	Aerospace Technology
Plastics Technology	Hydraulics
Research and Development	Pneumatics
Computer Animation	Drafting Principles
Transportation	Inventors and Inventions
Computer Numerical Control	Measuring
3D Solid Modeling	Construction
Robotics	Engineering and Design

**Foundations of Art – Art I****2 Credits****Year Course**Prerequisite: None

Course Description: This course introduces students to the elements and principles of art and design. The students will be exposed to various media and techniques as they explore a wide range of class projects. An emphasis will be placed on craftsmanship and creative problem solving. Some art history and appreciation will be covered to strengthen the student's understanding of the role art plays throughout society. The projects in this course will deal with subject matter ranging from still life to figure and landscape. The students will work with pencil, charcoal, pastels, ink, acrylic paint, watercolors, colored pencils and markers. Many other design processes will also be explored and utilized during the course. The instructor determines the sequence of the projects according to the student's needs and interests. The first six weeks will be used to focus on drawing and value. The students are required to furnish their own supplies and equipment that costs approximately \$35.00. The materials will need to be obtained during the first few weeks of the school year. Students with financial difficulties who cannot afford the required supplies should check with their counselor, principal or teacher. No student will be refused placement due to financial difficulties.

**Crafts****2 Credits****Year Course**Prerequisite: None

Course Description: Students selecting this class should have a sincere interest in crafts and be prepared to collect and purchase their own supplies. The student may expect to spend approximately \$20.00 each semester depending on individual choices made about the types of projects and materials. Students with financial difficulties who cannot afford to buy the required supplies should check with their counselor. First semester is devoted to the exploration of various materials through the production of craft projects. Those materials commonly explored are: paper, leather, fabric, wood, and plaster. Second semester is mostly devoted to the study and production of ceramics, which includes these major areas: 1. Basic hand-building techniques 2. Introduction to commercial mold techniques 3. Ways of glazing and finishing ceramics. Actual projects will vary according to student interest, current trends, and the availability of supplies and equipment. A student may register for either or both semesters. Some drawing will be required.

**Instrumental Music - Band****2 Credits****Year Course**Prerequisite: NoneContent/Activities:

1. Present three major concerts throughout the year (Fall, Winter, Spring)
2. Participate in the Illinois Music Educators Association (IMEA) District and All-State Music Festivals
3. Participate in the IHSA Solo & Ensemble and Organizational Contests
4. Participate in the Northern Illinois Big 12 Conference Music Festival
5. Participate in the OEHS Music Fest
6. Perform pre-game and half-time shows for all home football games
7. Perform at home boy's and girl's varsity basketball games
8. Participate in local parades
9. Provide music for graduation

Instrumental students study comprehensive musicianship through band performance. This includes: 1) developing technical and aural skills, 2) understanding the structural elements of music, and 3) gaining the knowledge of music as a creative art form of man in a historical context.

**Choir** **2 Credits**      **Year Course**

Prerequisite: None

Content/Activities:

1. Present three major concerts throughout the year (Christmas, Winter, Spring)
2. Participate in the Illinois Music Educators Association (IMEA) District and All-State Music Festivals.
3. Participate in the IHSA Solo & Ensemble and Organizational contests
4. Participate in the OEHS Music Festival
5. Provide soloists, ensembles or large groups to perform the National Anthem at home football and basketball games
6. Provide music at graduation

The basic fundamentals in voice training, sight-reading, and music knowledge are approached and used as the groups study and perform examples of a variety of styles and periods of choral music.

**Additional Programing Available to Students with Special Needs (IEPs)**

**Instructional Reading** **9-10-11-12**      **2 Credits**      **Year Course**

Prerequisite: Permission of the Director of Special Services

Course Description: This course is designed to accommodate the full range of problem readers based on their Individualized Educational Program and identified areas of deficit(s). This course will provide extensive practice in following directions and statement repetition. It will also present various analytical skills that relate to 'higher-order' thinking tasks, cover both "fact system" and vocabulary words, teach written expression, and address the student's self-image with reading. This course does not meet 4 year college entrance requirements.

**System 44** **9-10-11-12**      **2 Credits**      **Year Course**

Prerequisite: Permission of the Director of Special Services.

Course Description: This course is a foundational reading program to move readers on the path to college and career readiness. System 44 uses a personalized learning progression with explicit instruction to engage students in reading, writing, language, speaking, and listening. System 44 accelerates students toward independent reading, gives students access to a range of nonfiction text types, provides rigorous and text-based questions all while using technology as a tool for instruction.

**EnglishA** **9**      **4 Credits**      **Year Blocked Course**

Prerequisite: Recommendation of the Director of Special Services

Course Description: English A uses Read 180, which is an intensive English Language Arts course designed to assist struggling readers in moving toward grade level in reading skills. Course activities focus on expanding vocabulary skills, improving comprehension skills, and strengthening listening, viewing, speaking, and writing skills. Students will learn reading strategies to use with a broad range of fiction and nonfiction texts and respond orally and in written form. Students will further develop academic writing skills by improving language mechanics and grammar usage. This course focuses on skills and strategies that meet the Illinois Common Core Standards in reading, writing, speaking, and listening. This course does not meet 4 year college entrance requirements.

**Instructional Math** **2 Credits**      **Year Course**

Course Description: This course is designed to provide support for students who have difficulty with mathematics based on their Individualized Educational Program. The course is organized to assist students with specific weaknesses in computational skills by breaking concepts down into small skills, rules, and procedures.

**Math 1****2 Credits****Year Course**

Course Description: This math course is an entry level high school math course designed to reinforce the student's prior knowledge and skills in math. Along with reviewing material that the student has previously learned such as addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division, the student will be introduced to many new math concepts in preparation for Math 2. Students will explore data and graphs, fractions, geometry, proportions, percents, and probability. This course does not meet 4 year college entrance requirements.

**Earth Science****2 Credits****Year Course**

Course Description: This course is designed to present basic principles in the field of physical science. It affords an opportunity to students to survey in a broad sense many of the principles which affect their lives. Topics include scientific method, graphing, the metric system, scientific tools, structures of matter, volcanoes, earthquakes, planets, weather and climate, rock layers, motion and forces, sound and light waves, and energy. Successful completion of this course will fulfill the physical science requirement. This course does not meet 4 year college entrance requirements.

**Social Science****2 Credits****Year Course**

Course Description: This course is provided for eligible students of which placement in the standard education World History is deemed inappropriate by consensus of standard and special services teachers, related services personnel, and parents. A fundamental knowledge of World History is a necessary component of the student's basic education. Emphasis is not placed upon the memorization of dates and names, but rather on an understanding of the ideas, vocabulary, cause-effect relationships, economics, political and social systems, and geography from the development of early civilization to the Twentieth Century. This course does not meet 4 year college entrance requirements.

**Physical Education – Adaptive****1 Credit****Semester Course**

Course Description: This course is designed to fit the capabilities of students with special needs. Students will participate in a variety of activities which include badminton, basketball, bags, bocce ball, bowling, dance, fishing, Nintendo Wii sport and Wii Fit, parachute activities, scooter hockey, and soccer. In conjunction with this course, progress monitoring of students health-related fitness levels will and include: Aerobic capacity, body composition, flexibility, muscular strength and muscular endurance. Common assessments will include both written and performance-based skill evaluations.

**Computers I****1 or 2 Credits****Semester or Year Course**

Course Description: Introduction to basic computer application skills related to independent living skills and career exploration. Topics covered include identification of computer components, identification of different types of computers, setting up a desktop PC, introduction to Microsoft Office, the internet, digital photography, and to photo editing software.

**Computer Technology****1 or 2 Credits****Semester or Year Course**

Course Description: Computer technology introduces students to many different forms of technology with emphasis on hardware and software used in conjunction with computers. In semester one, students will learn proper keyboard techniques, basic use of Microsoft Word, PowerPoint, Excel, internet search techniques, and available tools on the internet. In semester two, students will learn the more advanced features in Word, PowerPoint, and Excel. Students will be introduced to digital photography/videography, and basic computer troubleshooting.

**Global Strategies****2 Credits****Year Course**

Prerequisite: Permission of the Director of Special Services to enroll in this course.

Course Description: The student will participate in a variety of activities designed to improve his/her instructional skills. Along with a curriculum, this course will be designed for the student's needs as identified in their Individualized Educational program. Through the use of student's instruction assignments, emphasis will be placed on the development or improvement of organizational skills, instructional support for the required general curriculum, study skills methods, self-advocacy, transition, and adapting and compensating in order to be a successful learner/citizen.

**Basic Vocational Courses****1 or 2 Credits****Semester or Year Course**

Course Description: This class accommodates individual needs while meeting general high school requirements with emphasis on basic skills, social behavior, vocational, and occupational training. The class will meet at least one period daily, based on the needs of the students. The number of credits is determined by staffing recommendations.

**Life Skills Courses****1 or 2 Credits****Semester or Year Course**

Course Description: Students complete high school requirements utilizing a modified curriculum that will accommodate individual needs. Students also work on life skills, job skills, and opportunities for community based instruction. Instruction is provided in a classroom environment that follows the bell schedule.