

Franklin Central

Freshman Course Descriptions

LANGUAGE ARTS

English 9

2 Semesters / 2 Credits

Grade 9

English 9 is a one-year course in the CORE 40 English curriculum which is required for all incoming freshmen seeking high school diplomas. The majority of students enrolled in this course plan to go on to a four-year college or university, a vocational/technical school, or the military. This course seeks to integrate the study of literature, composition, and grammar.

Pre-AP English 9

2 Semesters / 2 Credits

Grade 9

English 9 Pre-Advanced Placement is a course designed to expand upon the college-bound English 9 curriculum. Students will study a more expansive variety of genres and authors with an emphasis on a more in-depth analysis of said authors. A major emphasis of this class is to improve student writing across the curriculum through the inclusion of a variety of writing styles. Audience and purpose will be addressed. William Golding. These books are required to be read prior to school starting in August.

Creative Writing (Elective)

1 Semester / 1 Credit

Grades 9-12

This creative writing course teaches the student how to kick-start the creative writing process, tap into one's imagination, draw from everyday experiences and memories, give structure to one's writing, and use character and dialogue. Students will work alone and with other students, will learn to focus their talent, skills, and energy, and will learn to critique their own work. Students will learn how to pen different types of creative writing such as vignettes, fractured fairy tales, mystery, comedy sketches, parodies, satires, poetry, nonfiction poetry, play scripts, historical fiction, and diary entries.

Speech (Elective)

1 Semester / 1 Credit

Grades 9 - 12

Prerequisite - None

Speech is a one-semester elective which is offered to students in grades 9-12 who wish to gain experience in the art of public speaking. With no prerequisites, this is a course designed to give introductory information and beginning practice in various speech activities. Included is public speaking, listening skills, researching skills, evaluating speeches, and oral interpretation of literature.

Mass Media (Elective)

1 Semester / 1 Credit

Grades 9 - 12

This course provides a study of radio, television, film, newspapers, and videotape as sources of information, persuasion, and creative expression. Students create their own media productions. They become more aware of audience and purpose in the evaluation of mass media. They learn to judge media critically and understand the use of persuasive language strategies. Public speaking skills are emphasized and students receive an opportunity to prepare projects for use on WRFT, the school radio station. This course is required of any student who wishes to join the WRFT radio staff.

Journalism (Elective)

1 Semester / 1 Credit

Grade 9-12

Journalism is a one semester class for students in grades 9-12. The prerequisite is a C average in English. Journalism is required for joining the Pilot Flashes staff. Journalism provides students with the opportunity to improve their writing skills in the specialized field of newspaper publishing. Students will create a portfolio of journalistic writing, including news, feature, sports, and editorial articles. Students will also analyze and discuss both professional and student media for ethical and design concerns. The writing process is emphasized, as students use self and peer editing and teacher conferencing to revise work. The course will also cover research and interviewing techniques, AP style, headline and lead writing, and other topics to prepare students for positions on the school newspaper.

SOCIAL STUDIES

Geography and History of the World

2 Semesters / 2 Credits

Grade 9

Prerequisite - None

This two semester course will serve as the standard social studies requirement for freshmen. Students will use geographical skills and historical concepts to deepen their understanding of global themes. Students will use research tools to ask questions and acquire relevant information. They will use primary and secondary sources, produce maps, timelines and other graphic representations to interpret geographic and historical problems and events. Key concepts include change over time, cultural landscape, diffusion, human environment interactions, physical systems, and spatial organization and variation.

Geography and History of the World Pre AP

2 Semesters/ 2 Credits

Grade 9

Prerequisite – Recommended A or B in 8 grade Social Studies

This two semester course will serve as an introduction to Advance Placement social studies courses for freshmen. This course demands the academic excellence expected from an Advanced Placement course, including the development of advanced study skills and rigorous amounts of out of school work. Students should be prepared to make a serious commitment of time and energy to make the most of the course. In the class, students will use geographical skills and historical concepts to deepen their understanding of global themes. Students will develop their non-fiction literacy skills by analyzing primary and secondary sources. Students will also collaboratively use research tools to ask questions and acquire relevant information. They will produce maps, timelines, and other graphic representations to interpret geographic and historical problems and events. Key concepts include change over time, cultural landscape, diffusion, human environment interactions, physical systems, and spatial organization and variation.

MATH

Algebra I

Grades 9-12

2 Semesters / 2 Credits

Prerequisite - None

The focus of this course is the fundamental concepts of algebra. The course will begin with a review of the order of operations. First semester topics include solving equations and inequalities, solving word problems, and writing equations and graphing linear functions. Second semester topics include operations with polynomials, including factoring, systems of equations, operations with radical expressions, and quadratic functions.

Algebra II

2 Semesters/ 2 Credits

Grades 9-12

Prerequisite - Algebra I

Taking Algebra II and Geometry concurrently should only be done by those with an A/B average in Algebra I. This course continues the study of Algebra. New topics are linear programming, the absolute value function, greatest integer function, logarithms, higher degree equations, systems of quadratic equations, and conic sections.

Algebra II Pre AP

2 Semesters / 2 Credits

Grades 9-10

Prerequisite - A or B in Algebra I is recommended.

This course continues the student's study of advanced algebraic concepts including functions, imaginary and complex numbers, polynomials, quadratics, rational expressions, systems of functions and inequalities, logarithms, conic sections, and matrices. Students will be expected to describe and translate among graphic, algebraic, and numeric representations of relations and use those representations to solve problems. Emphasis will be placed on practical applications and modeling. Appropriate technology, from manipulatives to calculators will be used regularly for instruction and assessment. Pre-AP Algebra II is intended to be more challenging than regular Algebra II and provide multiple opportunities for students to take greater responsibility for their learning. This course should be distinguished by a difference in the quality of the work expected rather than merely by the quantity of the work required.

Geometry Pre AP

2 Semesters/ 2 Credits

Grades 9-11

Prerequisite - A or B in Pre AP Algebra II is recommended.

This course includes all the concepts taught in Geometry; however, it focuses heavily on proofs and application problems, especially when discussing triangles and trigonometry. Material is covered at a faster pace and no manipulatives, such as formula sheets, foldables, etc. are used on exams. As with all Pre-AP courses, retakes and practice exams are also not given.

SCIENCE

Biology I

2 Semesters / 2 Credits

Grade 9

Prerequisite - None

Biology is an introductory course designed to study living organisms and their physical environment. Students should apply scientific methods of inquiry and research in examining the following areas: biochemistry, cell structure, function and reproduction, cell energy, molecular basis of genetics, natural selection and diversity, and ecology. This course is required for graduation.

Biology I – Pre AP

2 Semesters / 2 Credits

Grade 9

Prerequisite – A or B average in 8 grade science

Honors Biology is designed for students who have excellent reading, comprehension, and study skills. The pace in the course is rapid, and critical thinking is stressed. Biology is a laboratory/project-based course designed to study living organisms and their physical environment. Students should apply scientific methods of inquiry and research in examining the following topics: biochemistry, cell structure and function, cell energy, molecular basis of genetics, natural selection and diversity, and ecology. This course is required for graduation.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Physical Education I-II (Required)

2 Semesters / 2 Credits

Grades 9-12

Prerequisite - None

Physical education offers opportunities for the development of leadership, physical fitness, sportsmanship and the opportunity to learn to work, and to play together. It is more than aimless, frivolous play. Physical Education I-II covers a wide range of team sports, aerobics, health related fitness activities, recreational activities, outdoor pursuits, individual and dual sports and aquatics. In class, skills and rules are taught that may be used in leisure time activities. Uniforms are required in P.E. These uniforms must be worn each day of class. These may be purchased from the bookstore at a cost of \$18.00. All students must complete the Physical Education requirement. Swimming is a required phase of Physical Education I-II and must be completed in order to receive credit for this course. Students must provide their own swimsuits and towels for the swimming portion of class. Girls must wear one-piece swimsuits. Adaptive PE is offered as determined by case conference committee if determined the least restrictive environment. At least one of the two required semesters must be taken during the regular school year.

BUSINESS

Digital Applications & Responsibility-1

1 Semester/ 1 Credit

Grades 9 – 12

This course would be an excellent choice for every FCHS student. Strong computer skills, a must in today's job market, will be the focus of this class, as students use technology, primarily Microsoft Office 2010 to create advanced documents applicable to home, school, future jobs, and college. Students will use word processing (MS Word) and databases (MS Access) in this course. Students will also focus on creating/editing spreadsheets (MS Excel) and presentations (MS PowerPoint). Students will develop efficient and practical computer skills beyond the basics. Internet usage and basic computer hardware and software knowledge will also be incorporated throughout the entire course.

Introduction to Computer Science

1 Semester / 1 Credit

Grade 9-12

Prerequisites: None

Introduction to Computer Science is designed to introduce students to the breadth of the field of computer science. Rather than focusing the entire course on learning particular software tools or programming languages, the course is designed to focus on the conceptual ideas of computing and help students understand why certain tools or languages might be utilized to solve particular problems. The goal of this course is to develop in students the computational practices of algorithm development, problem solving and programming within the context of problems that are relevant to the lives of today's students. Students will also cover topics such as interface design, limits of computers, and societal and ethical issues.

Introduction to Business

2 Semesters / 2 Credits

Grades 9-10

Prerequisites: None

Introduction to Business introduces students to the world of business, including marketing, management, entrepreneurship, and business law. Concepts, functions, and skills required for meeting the challenges of operating a business in the twenty-first century on a local, national, and international scale will be included. The course further develops business vocabulary and provides an overview of business and the role that business plays in economic, social, and political environments.

Preparing for College and Careers

1 Semester / 1 Credit

Grades 9-12

Preparing for College and Careers addresses the essential knowledge, skills, and behaviors all students need to be prepared for success in college, career, and life. The impact of today's choices on tomorrow's possibilities is the focus of this course. Topics to be addressed include exploration of personal aptitudes, interests, values, and goals; life and career exploration and planning; examining multiple life roles and responsibilities as individuals and family members; planning and building employability skills; transferring school skills to life and work; decision making and organizational skills; and managing personal resources. Developing a Ten-Year Academic/Career Plan (high school schedule and beyond) is a required component of the course. Preparing for College and Careers includes reviewing the 16 national career clusters and Indiana's College and Career Pathways. One or more pathways will be investigated in-depth as graduation plans are evaluated, career plans developed, and personal and career portfolios created. This course is one course in a series of three Family and Consumer Sciences courses that can be taken to meet the Health and Safety/Wellness one-credit requirement. (See note at end of FACS section.)

FAMILY & CONSUMER SCIENCES

Interpersonal Relationships

1 Semester / 1 Credit

Grades 9-12

Interpersonal Relationships addresses the knowledge, skills, attitudes, and behaviors all students need to participate in positive, caring, and respectful relationships in the family and with individuals at school, in the community, and in the workplace. This is an introductory course that is especially relevant for students interested in careers that involve interacting with people. Topics include components of healthy relationships, roles and responsibilities in relationships (e.g. power, conflicting interests, peer pressure, life events); and establishing and maintaining relationships. Building self-esteem and self-image through healthy relationships is explored. A primary focus of the course is communication styles and techniques for effective communication and the impact of these elements on relationships. Ways of preventing and managing stress and conflict are analyzed and evaluated. Class discussion, group activities, individual assignments and projects are utilized throughout the course to better assist students in applying the principles of positive personal development and interpersonal growth to their individual lives. Other course topics include leadership, teamwork and collaboration; conflict prevention, resolution, and management; exploration of individual needs and characteristics and their impacts on relationships; addressing violence and abuse; and related family resources, services and agencies. This course provides the foundation for continuing and post-secondary education in all career areas that involve interacting with people both inside and outside of a business/organization, including team members, clients, patients, customers, and the general public. This course is one course in a series of three Family and Consumer Sciences courses that can be taken to meet the Health and Safety/Wellness one-credit requirement. (See note at end of FACS section.)

Introduction to Fashion and Textiles 1-2

2 Semesters / 2 Credits

Grades 9-12

Introduction to Fashion and Textiles is a two-semester course with particular relevance for those students interested in academic enrichment or a career in the fashion, textile, and apparel industry. Introduction to Fashion and Textiles addresses basic knowledge and skills related to design, production, acquisition, and distribution in the fashion, textile, and apparel arena including the factors influencing the merchandising and selection of fashion, textile, and apparel goods and their properties, design, and production. Students will operate a sewing machine and experience basic construction and alteration techniques while practicing care and maintenance of textile products, equipment, and tools used in the industry. Students will also explore the impact of technology as it relates to fashion, textile, and apparel. Topics include the social, psychological, cultural and environmental aspects of clothing and textiles selection. The influences on clothing choices will be investigated and students will discover the messages often conveyed through one's appearance. Fashion cycles, fashion influences, and fashion trends are explored and clothing styles are analyzed and evaluated according to color schemes, design elements, design principles, and fashion components. Laboratory experiences including the construction of multiple projects are required. This course provides the foundation for continuing and post-secondary education in fashion, textile, and apparel-related careers. Students must schedule these semesters consecutively. ***This course counts toward the Fine Arts credit requirement for the Core 40 with Academic Honors diploma.**

Nutrition and Wellness

1 Semester / 1 Credit

Grades 9-12

Students in Nutrition and Wellness explore the lifelong benefits of sound nutrition and wellness practices over a lifetime and are empowered to apply these principles in their everyday lives. This is a two semester introductory course valuable for all students as a life foundation and academic enrichment, but is especially relevant for students interested in careers related to food, nutrition and wellness. Topics include: making healthy choices that promote optimum growth and development; physical, social, and psychological wellness; importance of physical activity and fitness; and selection and preparation of nutritious meals and snacks based on USDA Dietary Guidelines. Students also explore safety, sanitation, and storage issues associated with foods, nutrition, and wellness. Career exploration is included as it relates to nutrition, food preparation, and health and wellness. Basic laboratory experiences, which emphasize both nutrition and wellness practices and basic food science, are a primary focus and a required element in this course. These semester courses must be scheduled consecutively. Nutrition and Wellness is the first in a sequence of courses, followed by Advanced Nutrition and Wellness, that provides a foundation for continuing and post-secondary education in all career areas related to food, nutrition, and wellness. This course is one course in a series of three Family and Consumer Sciences courses that can be taken to meet the Health and Safety/Wellness one-credit requirement. (See note at end of FACS section.)

PERFORMING & VISUAL ARTS

Beginning Concert Band-Concert Band

2 Semesters / 2 Credits

Grades 9 – 12

Prerequisite – Audition

This is a performing ensemble and is part of the Franklin Central High School Band Program. Students' after school commitments include several band concerts, contests, and rehearsals leading up to these performances. All students must maintain their own instrument in good working order. Students moving from middle school band to high school band should consider replacing their beginner instrument with a step-up instrument. Attendance at all practices and performances is mandatory. Students can expect to learn the fundamentals of music and develop good ensemble playing technique.

Beginning Chorus-Men-Vocal Majority

2 Semesters / 2 Credits

Grades 9-12

Prerequisite – None, no audition necessary

Encores is an entry level vocal course for males designed to improve vocal technique and music literacy. This course will require students to rent concert attire and pay transportation fees. Students will sing music in three or more parts from various styles and cultures. Attendance at school performances, ISSMA contest, and rehearsals is mandatory.

Music History and Appreciation

1 Semester / 1 Credit

Grades 9-12

Prerequisite - None

Music History and Appreciation is a study of music from prehistoric times through the twenty-first century. The course will focus on musical periods of history and the composers and music therein. Students should come prepared for a history course requiring reading and studying. Previous musical experience is helpful, but is not required. Students can expect the following academic standards to be addressed: singing alone and with others, reading and notating music, evaluating and describing music, understanding the relationship between music and the other arts, and understanding music in relation to history and culture. Written assignments and presentations in front of the class are required. Through the study of music history, students will gain an appreciation of varied styles and genres of music and develop an educated musical ear.

Beginning Chorus-Women-Harmonia & Concordia

2 Semesters / 2 Credits

Grades 9-12

Prerequisite – None, no audition necessary

Harmonia & Concordia is an entry level vocal course for females designed to improve vocal technique and music literacy. This course will require students to rent concert attire and pay transportation fees. Students will sing music in three or more parts from various styles and cultures. Attendance at school performances, ISSMA contest, and rehearsals is mandatory.

Beginning Orchestra-Concert

Grades 9-12

2 semesters / 2 credits

Prerequisite: Previous Orchestra Experience

This orchestra will be rooted in the fundamentals and technique of performing in a music ensemble. Students will also begin to develop skills and artistry in musical expression. Membership is primarily comprised of freshmen and some sophomores recommended by the orchestra director. In addition to developing technique, this course will focus on group II and III repertoire as defined by the ISSMA. Fundamentals of music theory will complement the performance material. FC Concert Orchestra students will be strongly urged but not required to participate in the ISSMA Solo and Ensemble contest.

Theatre Arts I

Grades 9-12

2 Semesters / 2 Credits

Prerequisite - None

Theatre Arts is a year-long survey class in which students will develop acting skills, create scripts, and conceive scenic designs. Students will explore the creative process through developing monologues and scenes and creating design elements. Students will read and analyze plays and identify characteristics, ideas and themes in theatre. Students will attend and critique theatrical productions.

Intro to Two-Dimensional Art

Grades 9-12

2 Semesters / 2 Credits

Prerequisite - None

This course is an introduction to the utilization of the elements and principles of design through various media on a flat surface. These media and techniques will be used to explore and to develop observation skills, visual problem-solving, craftsmanship, and an introduction to planning and executing individual ideas and concepts. This class requires a lab fee to help offset the costs of art supplies.

Intro to Three-Dimensional Art

Grades 9-12

2 Semesters / 2 Credits

Prerequisite - None

Students in this course will study a variety of thematic units and use a variety of 3D media including: clay, wire, and foam-core. Students will learn techniques like sculpting, carving, slab-building, and coil-building to develop their spatial skills. The students will reflect upon and revise their work, relate to other disciplines and explore historical and cultural background and connections. Students will engage in sequential learning experiences that encompass art history, art criticism, aesthetics, production and integrated studies. This class comes with a lab fee to help offset the costs of art supplies.

Dance Choreography

Grades 9-12

1 Semester / 1 Credit

Dance Choreography class is part of the Franklin Central High School Band Program. As part of that program, students will perform in and outside of class. All members of the Color Guard for marching band and Winter Guard are highly encouraged to take this class. The dance class curriculum will be aligned with the season's color guard work, but will focus on movement more than equipment manipulation. Members will learn about various styles of group and individual dance to all kinds of music and have opportunities to perform for the public. The focus of the course will center around traditional dance choreography. Dance Choreography is based on the Indiana Academic Standards for Dance. Learning activities in choreography are sequential and systematic and allow students to express themselves. A wide variety of materials and experiences are used in order to provide students with the knowledge, skills, and appreciation of the multi-styled and multicultural dance expressions. Choreographic activities provide students opportunities to participate in roles as a soloist, a choreographer or leader, and in a subject role. Students also explore a wide variety of choreographic philosophies as well as administrative and media skills necessary for the promotion and documentation of works to be performed. Students experience and learn to use appropriate terminology to describe, analyze, interpret, and critique dance compositions by professional individuals or companies.

Introduction to Music Theory and Composition

Grades 9-10

1 Semester / 1 Credit

Prerequisite: None

Introduction to Music Theory and Composition is a beginning level course to understand the basic rudiments of music. Music theory distills and analyzes the fundamental elements of music: rhythm, harmony, harmonic function, melody, structure, form, and texture. In addition to the written aspects of music, aural skills or the ability to identify musical patterns by ear, are integral to the course. Students will have to dictate played music and read music at sight. Students who wish to continue on to AP Music Theory who are not currently enrolled in an advanced ensemble at Franklin Central should consider this course.

ENGINEERING & TECHNOLOGY EDUCATION

Introduction to Manufacturing

2 Semesters / 2 Credits

Grades 9-12

Prerequisite - None

Introduction to Manufacturing is a course that specializes in how people use modern manufacturing systems with an introduction to manufacturing technology and its relationship to society, individuals, and the environment. An understanding of manufacturing provides a

background toward developing engineering & technological literacy. Students will apply the skills and knowledge of using modern manufacturing processes.

Introduction to Communications-1

1 Semester / 1 Credit

Grades 9-12

Prerequisite – None (computer knowledge needed)

Introduction to Communications-1 is a project based course that specialized in learning to use modern communication technology to design and produce graphic messages. Students will work with and become proficient using Adobe Photoshop to create graphics and to edit photographs as well as Adobe Dream Weaver to design websites. Students will also get an introduction to product design using 3D CAD software. **This course is part of the “Web & Digital Communications” Pathway in the Business Department.**

Introduction to Communications-2

1 Semester / 1 Credit

Grades 9-12

Prerequisite – Intro to Communications 1 recommended (computer knowledge needed)

Introduction to Communications is a project based course that specializes in learning to use modern communication technology to design and produce graphic messages. Students will complete projects in photography, animation, and audio production and editing. **This course is part of the “Web & Digital Communications” Pathway in the Business Department.**

Civil Engineering and Architecture (Elective)

2 Semesters / 2 Credits *Dual Credit

Grade 9-12

Prerequisite – None, Recommended C or better in Algebra I

Civil Engineering and Architecture provides an overview of the fields of Civil Engineering and Architecture, while emphasizing the interrelationship and dependence of both fields on each other. Students use state of the art software to solve real world problems and communicate solutions to hands-on projects and activities. **Students can also earn dual credit for this course through Ivy Tech.**

Introduction to Engineering Design (Elective)

2 Semesters / 2 Credits *Dual Credit

Grades 9-12

Prerequisite – Recommended C or better in Algebra I

This course is an introduction to problem solving with an emphasis placed on the development of three-dimensional computer models. Students will progress from sketching simple geometric shapes to applying a solid modeling computer software package to design real products. They will learn a problem solving design process and how it is used in industry to manufacture a product. **Students can also earn dual credit for this course through Ivy Tech.**

Digital Electronics (Elective)

2 Semesters / 2 Credits *Dual Credit

Grade 9-12

Prerequisite – Algebra I

Digital Electronics is a course of study in applied digital logic that encompasses the design and application of electronic circuits and devices found in video games, watches, calculators, digital cameras, and thousands of other devices. Instruction includes the application of engineering and scientific principles, as well as the use of Algebra to solve design problems. Using computer software that reflects current industry standards, activities will provide opportunities for students to design, construct, test, and analyze simple and complex digital circuitry. This course engages students in critical thinking and problem solving skills, time management, and teamwork skills.

Introduction to Construction

2 Semesters / 2 Credits

Grades 9-12

Prerequisite – None

Introduction to Construction is a course that will offer hands-on activities and real world experiences related to the skills essential in residential, commercial, and civil building construction. During the course students will be introduced to the history and traditions of construction trades. The student will also learn and apply knowledge of the care and safe use of hand and power tools as related to each trade. In addition, students are introduced to blueprint reading, applied math, basic tools and equipment, and safety. Students will demonstrate building construction techniques, including concrete and masonry, framing, electrical, plumbing, dry walling, HVAC, and painting as developed locally in accordance with available space and technologies. Students learn how architectural ideas are converted into projects and how projects are managed during a construction project in this course. Students study construction technology topics such as preparing a site, doing earthwork, setting footings and foundations, building the superstructure, enclosing the structure, installing systems, finishing the structure, and completing the site. Students also investigate topics related to the purchasing and maintenance of structures, special purpose facilities, green construction, and construction careers.

WORLD LANGUAGES

French I, German I, Spanish I

2 Semesters / 2 Credits

One year sequenced course of study.

Students at the beginning level will practice correct pronunciation, intonation, and expression in the target language through oral drill and repetition, guided conversations, presentations, dialogues and lecture. Some instruction takes place in the target language. Oral participation in the target language is required. Students will be expected to read short narratives or texts on simple topics and respond in writing using familiar vocabulary and phrases and appropriate grammatical structure. Students will develop an appreciation for the contributions the target cultures have made to the United States and the world. Students will have access to an online textbook and numerous review activities to complete assignments and practice language skills outside of class.

All world language courses are designed for students who have demonstrated a willingness to commit considerable time to studying and completing assignments both inside and outside of class. Excellent verbal and written skills are recommended, as well as above average grades in previous English classes. Students will have access to an online textbook and numerous review activities to complete assignments and practice language skills outside of class.

While world language requirements for colleges and universities differ, many require at least one or two years of world language study for admission. Because most colleges and universities offer world language placement exams for students to test out for credit, it is strongly suggested that four years of the same language be studied for maximum skill development.

All world language courses at Franklin Central are electives. Students with prior experience or knowledge of the target language may be tested for placement into the appropriate level of study. These assessments will measure the student's proficiency in the four major skill areas of learning a world language: listening, speaking, reading and writing.