

Pathways to Graduation

What's the difference between the pathways?

Graduation (*Standard*)

This set of courses meets the state's basic standards for graduation. It is designed to prepare students for entry-level jobs and some technical programs. An agreement, signed by the student's parents and the school administrator or counselor, is necessary to pursue this path.

College Entrance (*Advanced*)

This set of courses meets the state's standards for graduation and prepares students for education beyond high school. It fulfills the minimum requirements for admission to South Dakota's public universities and to most highly technical fields of study at technical institutes.

Regents Scholar (*Distinguished*)

This set of courses meets the state's highest level of standards for graduation. It fulfills the minimum requirements for admission to most major colleges and universities. This pathway satisfies the course requirements of the South Dakota Board of Regents Opportunity Scholarship.

This pathway would be appropriate for students who wish to participate in NCAA level athletics. Also, students who plan to attend an out-of-state college may want to consider taking a foreign language.

Minimum South Dakota State Graduation Requirements			
<p>Applies to seniors graduating 2010- 2013 22 credits required</p> <p>Questions related to requirements for the South Dakota Opportunity Scholarship should be directed to the SD Board of Regents Office or refer to the BOR website http://www.sdbor.edu/.</p>			
	<i>Graduation Curriculum (Standard)</i>	<i>College Entrance Curriculum (Advanced)</i>	<i>Regents Scholar Curriculum (Distinguished)</i>
English/Language Arts	4 units of English/Language Arts	4 units of English/Language Arts	4 units of English/Language Arts
	-1 ½ units of writing -1 unit of literature - ½ unit of American lit - ½ unit speech - ½ unit of other language arts	-1 ½ units of writing -1 unit of literature - ½ unit of American lit - ½ unit speech - ½ unit of other language arts	-1 ½ units of writing -1 unit of literature - ½ unit of American lit - ½ unit speech - ½ unit of other language arts
Social Science	3 units of social studies	3 units of social studies	3 units of social studies
	-1 unit of US history -½ unit of US government - ½ unit of geography - ½ unit of world history - ½ unit of other social sciences	-1 unit of US history -½ unit of US government - ½ unit of geography - ½ unit of world history - ½ unit of other social sciences	-1 unit of US history -½ unit of US government - ½ unit of geography - ½ unit of world history - ½ unit of other social sciences
Math	3 units of math, including a minimum of 1 unit of Algebra I or higher	3 units of math, including a minimum of 1 unit each of algebra I, algebra II, and geometry	4 units of math, including a minimum of 1 unit each of algebra I, algebra II, geometry, and advanced math elective
Science	2 units of lab science	3 units of lab science that must include a minimum of biology and chemistry, or physics	4 units of science that must include a minimum of biology and chemistry, or physics. 3 units must be lab science.

	Applies to seniors graduating 2010 - 2013		
	<i>Graduation Curriculum (Standard)</i>	<i>College Entrance Curriculum (Advanced)</i>	<i>Regents Scholar Curriculum (Distinguished)</i>
Computer	<u>Groton Area School requirement</u> ½ unit computer studies	<u>Groton Area School requirement</u> ½ unit computer studies	½ unit computer studies
Fine Arts	1 unit of fine arts	1 unit fine arts	1 unit fine arts
PE/Health	½ unit of physical education or health <u>Groton Area School requirement</u> Additional ½ unit of physical education or health	½ unit of physical education or health <u>Groton Area School requirement</u> Additional ½ unit of physical education or health	½ unit of physical education or health <u>Groton Area School requirement</u> Additional ½ unit of physical education or health
Economics or personal finance	½ unit of personal finance	½ unit of personal finance	½ unit of personal finance
Other	1 ½ units of any combination of the following required offerings: -World languages, or -Computer studies, or - Approved CTE courses, or - Math courses in addition to requirements above, or - Science courses in addition to requirements above.	1 ½ units of any combination of the following required offerings: -World languages, or -Computer studies, or - Approved CTE courses, or - Math courses in addition to requirements above, or - Science courses in addition to requirements above.	2 units of world languages, including two years of the same language

Minimum South Dakota State Graduation Requirements			
<p>Applies to seniors graduating 2014 and beyond 22 credits required</p> <p>Questions related to requirements for the South Dakota Opportunity Scholarship should be directed to the SD Board of Regents Office or refer to the BOR website http://www.sdbor.edu/.</p>			
	<i>Graduation Curriculum</i>	<i>College Entrance Curriculum</i>	<i>Regents Scholar Curriculum</i>
English/Language Arts	4 units of English/Language Arts	4 units of English/Language Arts	4 units of English/Language Arts
	-1 ½ units of writing -1 unit of literature - ½ unit of American lit - ½ unit speech - ½ unit of other language arts	-1 ½ units of writing -1 unit of literature - ½ unit of American lit - ½ unit speech - ½ unit of other language arts	-1 ½ units of writing -1 unit of literature - ½ unit of American lit - ½ unit speech - ½ unit of other language arts
Social Science	3 units of social studies	3 units of social studies	3 units of social studies
	-1 unit of US history -½ unit of US government - ½ unit of geography - ½ unit of world history - ½ unit of other social sciences	-1 unit of US history -½ unit of US government - ½ unit of geography - ½ unit of world history - ½ unit of other social sciences	-1 unit of US history -½ unit of US government - ½ unit of geography - ½ unit of world history - ½ unit of other social sciences
Math	3 units of math, including 1 unit of Algebra I and either Geometry or Algebra II. A student may waive either Geometry or Algebra II for another math.	3 units of math, including a minimum of 1 unit each of Algebra I, Geometry, and Algebra II	4 units of math, including a minimum of 1 unit each of Algebra I, Geometry, Algebra II and advanced math elective
Science	3 units of lab science including physical science and biology. The 3 rd science (chemistry or physics) may be waived for another science.	3 units of lab science that must include a minimum of physical science, biology and chemistry, or physics	4 units of science that must include a minimum of biology and chemistry, or physics. 3 units must be lab science.

	Applies to seniors graduating 2014 and beyond		
	<i>Graduation Curriculum</i>	<i>College Entrance Curriculum</i>	<i>Regents Scholar Curriculum</i>
Computer	<u>Groton Area School requirement</u> ½ unit computer studies	<u>Groton Area School requirement</u> ½ unit computer studies	½ unit computer studies
Fine Arts	1 unit of fine arts	1 unit fine arts	1 unit fine arts
PE/Health	½ unit of physical education ½ unit of health	½ unit of physical education ½ unit of health	½ unit of physical education ½ unit of health
Economics or personal finance	½ unit of personal finance	½ unit of personal finance	½ unit of personal finance
Other	1 unit of any combination of the following required offerings: -World languages, or - Approved Career and Technical Education courses, or -Capstone Experience or Service Learning (school internship)	1 unit of any combination of the following required offerings: -World languages, or - Approved Career and Technical Education courses, or -Capstone Experience or Service Learning (school internship)	2 units of world languages, including two years of the same language or approved Career and Technical Education courses or a combination of the two

Appendix A
ACT and COMPASS Placement Scores
 Effective Fall 2011

PRE GENERAL EDUCATION PLACEMENT

University	Course(s)	Enhanced ACT Scores	COMPASS Scores
ENGLISH			
BHSU	ENGL 033 Basic Writing: 3 credits*	ACT English: 1 to 17	Writing: 1 to 73
	ENGL 101 English Composition: 3 Credits	ACT English 18 – 36	Writing 74 - 100
DSU & NSU	ENGL 033 Basic Writing: 3 credits*	ACT English: 1 to 17	Writing: 1 to 73
SDSMT	ENGL 033 Basic Writing: 3 credits*	ACT English: 1 to 12	Writing: 1 to 32
	ENGL 032 Basic Writing: 2 credits*	ACT English: 13 or 14	Writing: 33 to 48
	ENGL 031 Basic Writing: 1 credit*	ACT English: 15 to 17	Writing: 49 to 73
SDSU	ENGL 033 Basic Writing: 3 credits*	ACT English: 1 to 13	Writing: 1 to 38
	ENGL 032 Basic Writing: 2 credits*	ACT English: 14 to 17	Writing: 39 to 73
USD	ENGL 032 Basic Writing: 2 credits*	ACT English: 1 to 17	Writing: 1 to 73
MATHEMATICS			
ALL	MATH 021 Basic Algebra	ACT Math: 1 to 17	Pre-Algebra: 0 to 100 OR Algebra: 0 to 30
ALL	MATH 101 Intermediate Algebra	ACT Math: 18 to 19	Algebra: 31 to 40

*Depending on the university, enrollment in ENGL 031/032/033 may occur either concurrently or sequentially with ENGL 101.

**GENERAL EDUCATION
 PLACEMENT**

Course(s)	Enhanced ACT Scores	COMPASS Scores
ENGLISH		
ENGL 101 Composition I	ACT English: 18 to 36	Writing: 74 to 100
MATHEMATICS		
MATH 102 College Algebra MATH 103 Quantitative Literacy MATH 104 Finite Mathematics	ACT Math: 20 or higher**	Algebra: 41 to 100 or College Algebra: 0 to 62
MATH 115 Precalculus MATH 120 Trigonometry MATH 121 Survey of Calculus Math 201, Introduction to Discrete Mathematics	Institutional Chairs of the Math Department (or his/her Designee) have the authority to use ACT or additional information to determine a student's appropriate placement in courses above Math 104.	College Algebra: 63 to 100 and/or Trigonometry: 0 to 39
MATH 123 Calculus I***	Institutional chairs of the Math department (or his/her designee) have the authority to use ACT or additional information to determine a student's appropriate placement in courses above Math 104.	Trigonometry: 40 to 100

** Students with an ACT of 20 or higher can enroll in Math 102 without additional placement testing.

Current Board of Regents College Entrance	Current Regents Scholar Requirements class of 2013	Current Regents Scholar Requirements class of 2014
Top 60 % of graduating class or ACT Comp Score 18 or more or H.S. GPA or 2.6 on 4.0 scale Some schools require higher GPA and ACT	No final grade below a C B grade point average Regents Scholar grading at www.sdbor.edu	No final grade below a C B grade point average Regents Scholar grading at www.sdbor.edu
4 years (Emphasis on grammar, composition, and literature)	4 units of English (Courses with major emphasis upon grammar, composition, or literacy analysis) 1 year of debate instruction may be included to meet this requirement	4 units of English (Courses with major emphasis upon grammar, composition, or literacy analysis) 1 year of debate instruction may be included to meet this requirement
3 years (History, Economics, Sociology, Geography, Government)	3 units of Social Studies (History, Economics, Sociology, Geography, Government including US and South Dakota American Problems, Etc)	3 units of Social Studies (History, Economics, Sociology, Geography, Government including US and South Dakota American Problems, Etc)
3 years (At Algebra I and higher does not include Arithmetic, Business, Consumer or General Math or other similar courses)	4 units of Algebra or higher Mathematics (Algebra, Geometry, Trigonometry or other advanced Mathematics including accelerated or honors Mathematics (Algebra) provided at the 8th grade shall be accepted. Not included are Arithmetic, Business, Consumer or General Mathematics or other similar courses)	4 units of Algebra or higher Mathematics (Algebra, Geometry, Trigonometry or other advanced Mathematics including accelerated or honors Mathematics (Algebra) provided at the 8th grade shall be accepted. Not included are Arithmetic, Business, Consumer or General Mathematics or other similar courses)
3 years (Biology, Chemistry, Physics with at least 1 laboratory scheduled each week)	4 units of science including 3 units or approved laboratory Science (Courses in Biology, Chemistry, or Physics in which at least 1 regular laboratory period is scheduled each week. Accelerated or honors science (Biology, Physics, or Chemistry) provided in the 8th grade shall be accepted. Qualifying Physical Science or Earth Science courses (with Labs) shall be decided on a case by case basis.)	4 units of science including 3 units or approved laboratory Science (Courses in Biology, Chemistry, or Physics in which at least 1 regular laboratory period is scheduled each week. Accelerated or honors science (Biology, Physics, or Chemistry) provided in the 8th grade shall be accepted. Qualifying Physical Science or Earth Science courses (with Labs) shall be decided on a case by case basis.)
Demonstrated either through high school course work or documented by some other means	1/2 unit of Computer Science (Students will have basic keyboarding skills and have had experience in using computer wordprocessing database and spreadsheet pacakages and using the internet or other wide area networks)	1/2 unit of Computer Science (Students will have basic keyboarding skills and have had experience in using computer wordprocessing database and spreadsheet pacakages and using the internet or other wide area networks)
1 year Art, Theater, Music	1 unit of Fine Arts	1 unit of Fine Arts
None	2 units of a modern (including American Sign Language) or classical languages	2 units of word languages, including two years of the same language or approved Career and Technical Education courses or a combination of the two.
	Class of 2013 students may establish SD Opportunity eligibility by getting a 28 on ACT and obtaining benchmark subtest scores	Class of 2014 students may establish SD Opportunity eligibility by getting a 28 on ACT and obtaining benchmark subtest scores

South Dakota Opportunity Scholarship

- Complete a Regents Scholar Curriculum with
 - No final grade below a C
 - Cumulative GPA 3.0
 - Region Scholar Curriculum changes are in place for the class of 2014 and beyond
 - ACT score of 24 or greater or SAT score 1070 (sum of verbal and mathematics)
 - Attend a college, technical school, or university in SD that is accredited by the NCA (North Central Association)
 - Enter into the program within five years of high school graduation or within one year of a student's release of active duty military service (if within five years of graduation)
 - Must maintain a 3.0 in college calculated after the second semester and every semester thereafter
 - Complete consecutive spring and fall terms in college
 - Complete 15 credit hours per term (remedial courses and repeated courses do not count)
 - Sit for and meet, on the first attempt, the minimum passing scores established by the BOR for the college proficiency exam (after completing 48 credit hours)
 - May participate for four academic years
 - Be a SD resident at the time of graduation
 - Submit the form by Sept. 1
 - The SD Opportunity Scholarship provides \$5000 over 4 years:
 - \$1000 First year
 - \$1000 Second year
 - \$1000 Third year
 - \$2000 Fourth year
- * If the number of eligible recipients exceeds the amount of money appropriated for the scholarship by the SD Legislature, the scholarship may be prorated and distributed to each recipient proportionally

This scholarship is non-competitive; all students who meet the requirements and complete the application can receive the scholarship. Qualifying students who first attend an out-of-state school may return to SD and receive a partial scholarship.

For more information, please see the SD Opportunity Scholarship website at:
<http://www.sdbor.edu/SDOpportunityScholarship.htm>

NINTH GRADE

REQUIRED COURSES:

ENGLISH

030 English 9

MATH – must select one

- 135 Pre-Algebra
- 149 Informal Geometry
- 130 Algebra I
- 140 Geometry

SCIENCE

230 Physical Science

PE/HEALTH

450 Physical Education/ 451 Health

Choose 3 elective courses - 2 if you need a study hall

- 810 Spanish I
- 330 World History – one semester required
- 580 FACS I – Foundation of CTE – Sem. 1
- 581 FACS I – Foundation of CTE – Sem. 2
- 540 Tech I – Intro to Technology Education – Sem. 1
- 541 Tech I – Intro to Technology Education – Sem. 2
- 510 Ag I - Intro to Agriculture, Food & Natural Resources – Sem. 1
- 511 Ag I - Intro to Agriculture, Food & Natural Resources – Sem. 2
- 650 Band
- 670 H.S. Choir

- 910 Study Hall

TENTH GRADE

REQUIRED COURSES:

ENGLISH - must select one

- 040 English Speech (10)

MATH – must select one

- 149 Informal Geometry
 130 Algebra I
 140 Geometry
 150 Algebra II

SCIENCE

- 240 Biology I

SOCIAL SCIENCE/COMPUTER STUDIES

- 340 Geography / 720 Computer Applications

Choose 3 elective courses - 2 if you need a study hall

- 810 Spanish I
 815 Spanish II
 330 World History
 585 FACS II – Nutrition & Wellness – Sem. 1
 586 FACS II – Interior Design – Sem. 2
 545 Tech II – Intro to Manufacturing – Sem. 1
 546 Tech II – Intro to Manufacturing – Sem. 2
 515 Ag II – Wildlife/Fisheries – Sem. 1
 516 Ag II – Ag Processing Technology – Sem. 2
 680 Art I – Creative Art Comprehensive – Sem. 1
 681 Art 1 – Creative Art Comprehensive - Sem. 2
 260 Chemistry I – with permission from physical sci. teacher
 650 Band
 670 H.S. Choir

 910 Study Hall

Distance Learning Class – TV Lab

- 832 French I

ELEVENTH GRADE

REQUIRED COURSES:

ENGLISH

- 050 English (11)

MATH – must select one

- 130 Algebra I
 140 Geometry
 150 Algebra II
 160 Stat. & Trig – Pre-Calculus

SOCIAL SCIENCE – must select one

- 350 U.S. History
 352 Honors U.S. History

Choose 4 elective courses - 3 if you need a study hall

- 810 Spanish I
 815 Spanish II
 255 Biology II – Anatomy & Physiology
 258 Conceptual Chemistry
 260 Chemistry I
 270 Chemistry II – Organic Chemistry
 370 Psychology – Sem. 1
 375 Sociology - Sem. 2
 725 Web 2.0 - Digital Media Technology – 1 Sem.
 730 Advanced Computer – Multi. Media Design – 1 Sem.
 155 Consumer Math
 455 Personal Fitness – Fitness for Life – 1 Sem.
 590 FACS III – Fashion Design – Human Development
 550 Tech III – Intro to Architecture & Construction – Sem. 1
 551 Tech III – Intro to Architecture & Construction – Sem. 2
 520 Ag III – Fundamental of Plant Science - Sem. 1
 521 Ag III – Fundamental of Animal Science – Sem. 2
 530 Horticulture – Sem. 1
 531 Greenhouse Management (Hort.) – Sem. 2
 680 Art I – Creative Art Comprehensive – Sem. 1
 681 Art I – Creative Art Comprehensive – Sem. 2
 690 Art II - Drawing/Painting – Sem. 1
 691 Art II - Drawing/Painting – Sem. 2
 650 Band
 670 H.S. Choir
 910 Study Hall

Distance Learning Classes - TV Lab

- 080 English Comp. I – Sem. 1
 081 English Comp. 2 – Sem. 2
 832 French I
 833 French II

See counselor for other distance learning courses _____

TWELFTH GRADE

REQUIRED COURSES:

ENGLISH – must select one

- 060 English 12
- 065 Honors English (12)

SOCIAL SCIENCE/PERSONAL FINANCE

- 360 US Government / 598 Personal Finance

Choose 5 electives - 4 if you need a study hall

- 810 Spanish I
- 815 Spanish II
- 150 Algebra II
- 155 Consumer Math
- 160 Stat. & Trig. - Pre-Calculus
- 161 Discrete Math
- 255 Biology II - Anatomy & Physiology
- 258 Conceptual Chemistry
- 260 Chemistry I
- 270 Chemistry II – Organic Chemistry
- 280 Physics
- 370 Psychology - Sem. 1
- 375 Sociology – Sem. 2
- 725 Web 2.0 – Digital Media Technology – Sem. 1
- 730 Advanced Computer - Multi Media Design - Sem. 2
- 455 Personal Fitness – Fitness for Life – 1 Sem.
- 595 FACS IV – Intro to Human Services
- 525 Ag IV - Ag Bus Sales & Marketing - Sem. 1
- 526 Ag IV – Agribusiness Entrepreneurship – Sem. 2
- 530 Horticulture – Sem. 1
- 531 Greenhouse Management (Hort.) – Sem. 2
- 555 Tech IV (2 hour class) ATV/Small Engine Mechanics – Sem. 1
- 556 Tech IV (2 hour class) Intro to Vehicle Systems & Maintenance – Sem. 2
- 680 Art I – Creative Art Comprehensive – Sem. 1
- 681 Art I – Creative Art Comprehensive – Sem. 2
- 690 Art II – Creative Art – Drawing/Painting – Sem. 1
- 691 Art II – Creative Art – Drawing/Painting – Sem. 2
- 695 Art III – Art Portfolio – Sem. 1
- 696 Art III – Art Portfolio – Sem. 2
- 650 Band
- 670 H.S. Choir
- 910 Study Hall
- 965 School Internship – Sem. 2

Distance Learning Classed – TV Lab

- 080 English Comp. I – Sem. 1
- 081 English Comp. II – Sem. 2
- 832 French I
- 833 French II

See counselor for other distance learning courses _____

AGRICULTURE EDUCATION

ELECTIVE CLASSES:

The major objective of the Groton Ag Ed Department is to provide students with an opportunity to develop a passion and knowledge for the agriculture industry. Human relation skills, leadership activities, and agricultural proficiencies and talents are developed through the National FFA Organization. The Supervised Agricultural Experience program helps students develop skills they will use in any career. Description and topics to be covered in each course are as follows:

INTRODUCTION to AG (Ag I)

Grade 9

Prerequisite: A desire to learn about agriculture.

This freshman level course is designed to introduce students to the world of agriculture, explore career choices, and gain leadership skills in the FFA. The students will become aware of how agriculture affects their lives. They will keep a record book and participate in FFA events. No previous agriculture experience is necessary. Units covered in this course are:

FALL SEMESTER

- History of Agriculture
- Introduction to FFA
- Parliamentary Procedure
- Record Keeping

SPRING SEMESTER

- Introduction to Animal Science
- Introduction to Plant Science
- Introduction to Natural Resources
- Farm Safety

ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE (Ag II) Sem. 1

AG PROCESSING TECHNOLOGY (Ag II) Sem. 2

Grades 10-11

Prerequisite: Ag I

Desire to learn about agriculture

Students will be discovering ways to conserve and protect our natural resources by using hands on experience. The students will also explore the processes the agriculture products go through to become food. Throughout the year, leadership skills will be incorporated into the curriculum. The students will keep a record book and participate in FFA events. Units covered in this course are:

FALL SEMESTER

- Soil/Range Management
- Environmental Science
- Natural Resources
- Wildlife & Fishery Management

SPRING SEMESTER

- Dairy Production & Processing
- Meat Science and Technology
- Food Service

FUNDAMENTAL PLANT SCIENCE (Aq III) Sem. 1

FUNDAMENTAL ANIMAL SCIENCE (Aq III) Sem. 2

Grades 11-12

Prerequisite: Ag I, Ag II, Biology I;

Desire to learn about agriculture

In the first semester the students will be taking an in-depth look at crop and plant production and the practices farmers use today. In the second semester the students will switch their focus to animals and learn the practices farmers use to raise livestock. This class is designed to develop skills students will need to be competitive in the agriculture industry. They will keep a record book and participate in FFA events.

FALL SEMESTER

- Soil Management
- Crop Production

SPRING SEMESTER

- Animal Science

AG BUSINESS SALES & MARKETING (Aq IV) Sem.1

AGRIBUSINESS ENTREPRENEURSHIP (Aq IV) Sem. 2

Grades 11-12

Prerequisite: Ag I, Ag II, III;

Desire to learn about agriculture

This class will increase the students' knowledge in the area of agricultural business and marketing. Students will explore the different methods of marketing grain and livestock by using the DTN and other resources to make market decisions. The students will also learn the management that is needed to operate a farm. They will keep a record book and participate in FFA events.

FALL SEMESTER

- Advanced Soil Management
- Commodity Marketing
- Sustainable Agriculture

SPRING SEMESTER

- Agriculture Business Management
- Senior Project

HORTICULTURE Sem. 1

GREENHOUSE MANAGEMENT Sem. 2

Grades 11-12

Prerequisite: Ag I, Ag III or Biology

Desire to learn about agriculture

This course will teach the students various aspects of the horticulture industry. Students will be working in the greenhouse and active in other class projects. They will be setting a business plan for a greenhouse operation and running this business from the greenhouse. They will be keeping a record book and participating in FFA events.

Fall Semester

- Soils
- Hydroponics
- Plant Science

Spring Semester

- Greenhouse Management
- Floriculture
- Landscaping

ART EDUCATION

ELECTIVE CLASSES:

Creative Art - Comprehensive (Art I)

Grades 10-12

Comprehensive courses provide students with the knowledge and opportunity to explore an art form and to create individual works of art. These courses may also provide a discussion and exploration of career opportunities in the art world. Initial courses cover the language, materials, and processes of a particular art form and the design elements and principles supporting a work of art. As students advance and become more adept, the instruction regarding the creative process becomes more refined, and students are encouraged to develop their own skills for the various art mediums. Students enhance their drawing abilities by completing nine sketchbook drawings per quarter.

Creative Art - Drawing / Painting (Art II)

Elective upon completion of Art I

Creative Art - Drawing / Painting courses cover the same topics as Creative Art - Comprehensive courses, but focus on drawing and painting. In keeping with this attention on two - dimensional work, students typically work with several media (such as pen-and-ink, pencil, chalk, watercolor, acrylics, possibly oils and so on), but some courses may focus on only one medium. There will also be some exposure to sculptural art during the course. Students enhance their drawings abilities by completing nine sketchbook drawings per quarter.

Art Portfolio (Art III)

This class is only for students who have successfully completed the Art I and Art II courses.

Art Portfolio courses offer students the opportunity to create a professional body of work that reflects their personal style and talent. Students may display their work publicly such as a business in town. Students enhance their drawing abilities by completing nine sketchbook drawings per quarter.

COMPUTER EDUCATION

REQUIRED CLASS:

COMPUTER APPLICATIONS (Computer Lit)

Grade 10

This one semester course is required for graduation. The course covers the basic use of the Internet. In addition, it is an introduction to the fundamentals used with Microsoft Office 2007. Students are exposed to Word, Excel, Access, and Power Point. They use practical examples of the computer as a useful tool throughout the class. The class will also do projects that involve merging and embedded objects with Excel, Access, and Word.

ELECTIVE CLASS

MULTI-MEDIA DESIGN (Adv. Computers)

Prerequisite: Computer Applications (minimum grade of B)
Grades 11-12

This one semester course will emphasize the usage of computers beyond word

processing. Topics to be explored include but are not limited to: enhancing photos, and create original graphics, learning the principles of web design and author websites, and create a video project by creating a story board and shooting, editing, and producing it in a digital format. The use of other tools such as digital cameras, digital video cameras, scanners, and various software will be used to complete the projects.

ELECTIVE CLASS

DIGITAL MEDIA TECHNOLOGY (WEB 2.0)

Prerequisite: Multi-Media Design (minimum grade of B)
Grades 11 – 12

This one semester course explores the meaning and uses of “Web 2.0” and its impact on the technology world. Students will learn about and use on-line applications and websites that will be useful in school and their day to day lives. Class topics and projects will include but are not limited to: effective web searching, wikis, blogs, and pod casting, social bookmarking, Google apps., and various types of on-line collaboration and organization. The class will use their acquired knowledge to create Web 2.0 based projects.

FAMILY AND CONSUMER SCIENCES

ELECTIVE CLASSES:

FOUNDATIONS OF CTE (FACS I)

Grade 9

This course is an elective to any student in high school.

Units covered in this class:

Taking Charge

- a study on abstinence and career choices

Clothing

- the construction of pajama pants
- use of sewing machine

Illustrated Talks

- teen issues

Preschool Child

Foods and Nutrition

The use of group discussion, guest speakers, daily assignments, tests, films, projects, and lecture will be used in this course.

The students are required to model their sewing projects in the style show.

Nutrition & Wellness (FACS II) Sem. 1

Interior Design (FACS II) Sem. 2

Grade 10

This course is open as an elective to any student in high school.

Units covered are:

- Foods and Nutrition
- The Toddler Aged Child
- Textiles – Knitting/Croqueting
- Home Planning and Living
- Furniture Selection

The students are required to model the textile project that they construct in the style show.

The use of group discussion, daily assignments, tests, hands-on projects, films, and lecture will be used in this course.

FASHION DESIGN (FACS III) Sem. 1

HUMAN DEVELOPMENT ADOLESCENCE TO ADULTHOOD (FACS III) Sem. 2

Grade 11

This course will involve a detailed study of textiles and the completion of a textile project which is shown in a style show. A parenting unit covers conception to birth and issues that face parents. The foods unit will include demonstrations given by the student and various food categories. A unit on marriage/single life and family will be covered.

The use of group discussion, daily assignments, tests, films, and lecture will be used in this course.

INTRO TO HUMAN SERVICES (FACS IV)

Grade 12

In this class most of the projects are done at the expense of the students. Furniture refinishing is covered in the first quarter. The second quarter is dedicated to the “Healthy Eating” unit and Holiday Baking. Cross-Stitching is also covered in the second quarter. Second semester is dedicated to a clothing/quilt project, jewelry making unit, and projects that prepare the student for graduation. The students are required to model their clothing project in the style show.

FOREIGN LANGUAGE

ELECTIVE CLASSES:

SPANISH I

Beginning students will develop a thorough understanding of basic Spanish grammar. They will master a wide variety of vocabulary in Spanish through each chapter's core theme. With their knowledge of basic grammar and vocabulary, students will be able to converse in Spanish with their classmates. Almost all of the Spanish I curriculum is based in the present tense. Other more complex tenses will be learned in Spanish II. Students will learn about many different aspects of Spanish culture through videos, presentations, classroom celebrations, music, and foods. Any students interested will be able to take the National Spanish Exam in the spring.

SPANISH II

Intermediate students will continue building on the material learned in Spanish I. They will learn new grammatical structures which will enable them to communicate in the present, past, and future tenses. They will develop a more complex set of vocabulary this year, and will continue to use the vocabulary from Spanish I. The textbook will be supplemented with other cultural lessons. The topics of the cultural lessons are taught through various methods including videos, music, presentations, celebrations, and food. Any students interested will be able to take the National Spanish Exam in the spring.

INDUSTRIAL TECHNOLOGY

ELECTIVE CLASSES:

INTRODUCTION TO TECHNOLOGY (Tech I)

This is an elective course which should contribute to occupational awareness, exploration and core element skills. Students will have an opportunity to learn about costs, maintenance, and the safe use of hand tools, portable power tools and stationary power tools. They will gain experience in woodworking, metalworking, plastics, electricity, mass production, computer aided drafting, computer aided manufacturing, engineering, surveying, radio and TV production, robotics, laser engraving, arc welding, plasma cutting, etc.

The course revolves around five basic areas of exploration:

1. Construction

2. Communication
3. Energy/Power
4. Transportation
5. Manufacturing

This course is a prerequisite for other Technology courses, and cannot be added 2nd semester without approval from the instructor.

INTRO TO MANUFACTURING (Tech II)

Prerequisite: Tech I
Grade 10, 11, 12

This is an elective course with an emphasis on a variety of occupational skills. Students will pursue some of the same areas they did in the introductory class with an opportunity to explore areas of their choice in more depth.

The students will rotate through modules including: engineering, surveying, desktop publishing, electronics, house wiring, architectural drafting, computer aided drafting, power tool safety, woodworking, gas welding, arc welding, careers, TV production, and materials fabrication. They will also spend about 14 weeks pursuing a module of their choice or working in the shop on individual projects. This course cannot be added second semester without approval from the instructor.

INTRO TO ARCHITECTURE & CONSTRUCTION (TECH III)

Prerequisite: Tech I

This is an elective course, which should give the students a variety of experiences and an opportunity to pursue an individual interest. During the first 12 weeks, students will be involved in a group construction project, they will build a garage or storage sheds. After the completion of this unit, time will be spent on other building trades such as wiring and plumbing. Students will also work on their welding skills and finish the year working on individual projects of their choice.

Students cannot enter this class 2nd semester without approval from the instructor.

INTRO TO VEHICLE SYSTEMS & MAINTENANCE (TECH IV) Sem. 1

ATV/SMALL ENGINE MECHANICS (TECH IV) Sem. 2

Prerequisite Tech I

This is a two hour elective course for seniors and will cover transportation, including alternate fuel vehicles, small gas engines, auto body, basic auto repair and preventative maintenance. One hour will be spent in the classroom studying theory and the other in the shop gaining hands on experience.

Students that have taken Tech I, II, and III will be given 1st priority for the course.

This course cannot be added second semester without approval from the instructor.

VOCATIONAL AUTO MECHANICS (ELECTIVE)

This is a three hour class for 2 credits.

Auto Mechanics is offered to seniors and will normally consist of one hour per day of classroom work and an additional 2 hours per day of lab experience in the auto shop. The first few weeks, engine construction, design, and operation will be covered. Each student must completely overhaul a small lawn-mower type of engine. After small engines, work on trainer car engines and on their own cars, whenever available, will be done.

In the classroom, theory will be taught regarding all phases of the automobile, such as: engines, ignition systems, lubrication and fuel systems, carburization, clutches, transmissions, drive lines, differentials, suspension systems, tires, alignment, brakes, tool use and safety. Units covering electronic fuel injection and computerized engine controls will also be taught and emphasis will be on basic automotive electricity.

Throughout the year, the student's should gain some work experience in the shop in most of these areas. The class will provide valuable experience not only for anyone planning to become a mechanic, but also for anyone planning to work in a related area. It will also be beneficial for a student who may be pursuing another line of work as everyone should become better and wiser consumers in the automotive field, and will learn to save money by properly caring for and repairing their cars. Trouble shooting and basic mechanical skills will be taught.

LANGUAGE ARTS

REQUIRED CLASSES:

English/Composition I (English 9)

English/Composition balances a study of grammar, vocabulary, spelling, and writing. The grammar units studied emphasize parts of speech and conventional elements. Writing assignments are given routinely as students learn to write complete sentences and well-organized paragraphs. Students study short stories by a variety of authors, read Ray Bradbury's *Fahrenheit 451*, and complete a reader's workshop unit in which they choose their own Science Fiction/Fantasy novel.

English/Literature I (English 9)

English/Literature balances a study of grammar, vocabulary, spelling, writing, and literature. Grammar units studied emphasize conventional elements. Students examine a variety of literary works including William Shakespeare's *Romeo and Juliet*, *The Odyssey*, and *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*. Students will complete a research

paper using proper formatting, and other writing assignments are incorporated into the literary and grammar units as the students learn to write complete sentences and well-organized paragraphs.

SPEECH I (English 10) **Sophomore Speech Communication/English**

The Sophomore English year is divided into two semesters, each covering a distinct area. The first semester includes the fundamentals of speech communication. Students study basic elements of personal communication. Each student is required to give an informative speech, a persuasive speech, an impromptu speech, a demonstration speech, and several smaller speeches throughout the semester. In addition, students explore the genre of poetry and study a unit on interviews and career planning.

ENGLISH/LITERATURE II (English 10)

The second semester combines the study of literature with research, writing, and grammar. The following selections are read and studied: *Julius Caesar* by William Shakespeare, *The Pearl* by John Steinbeck, and a variety of short stories. Composition assignments are given at regular intervals.

English/Composition (English 11) Sem. 1 **American Literature (English 11) Sem. 2**

Junior English is the study of American literature, combined with the study of vocabulary, grammar and usage; composition is integrated with the literature study all year to increase the understanding of the English language and to improve the students' writing skill. There is an emphasis on writing/composition during the first semester of the year to reinforce the logical and critical-thinking skills that are necessary for good writing. Students write in a variety of styles, including descriptive, narrative, persuasive and expository. The literature is chronologically studied; therefore, it generally correlates with the junior's required U.S. History course. The course follows the reasons and methods of writers to persuade or enlighten the American public. In addition to the essays, speeches, poems, and short stories in the textbook, the students read several additional works. The following novels are used: *To Kill a Mockingbird* by Harper Lee and *The Catcher in the Rye* by J.D.Salinger. The play, *Our Town*, by Thornton Wilder is also read. Students will also read Accelerated Reader novels and take computerized tests as part of their literature study. A 30-lesson vocabulary series is used requiring students to constantly review words previously studied. Part of the vocabulary series is the study of analogies, which requires the students to think very critically. Grammar and usage are reviewed daily through the use of DOL (Daily Oral Language) exercises and weekly quizzes.

English/Composition (English 12) Sem. 1
British Literature (English 12) Sem. 2

Writing is an integral part of the senior English curriculum. Each student is required to write a 20 chapter Senior Memory Book (a compilation of reflective essays, personal narratives and poems); a research paper; and additional essays and paragraphs. Composition is the focus of first semester when the research paper unit is studied. The course provides continued and advanced instruction in writing for a variety of purposes and audiences, including preparation for college-level and workplace writing. Senior English is also the study of British literature, combined with the study of vocabulary, grammar and usage. The literature is chronologically studied, following the time periods of British literature: the Anglo-Saxons, the Middle Ages, the Renaissance, the Restoration and 18th century, the Romantic period, the Victorian period and the Modern era. The major literature units include *Beowulf*, *The Canterbury Tales*, *Macbeth*, *Of Mice and Men*, and *Flowers for Algernon*. Also many essays, poems, and short stories are read. Students will also read Accelerated Reader novels and take computerized tests as part of their literature study. A 30-lesson vocabulary series is used requiring students to constantly review words previously studied. Part of the vocabulary series is the study of analogies, which requires the students to think very critically. Grammar and usage are reviewed daily through the use of DOL (Daily Oral Language) exercises and weekly quizzes. It is also assessed in almost all writing assignments, including the major Senior Memory Book unit.

Senior English (Honors)
Research/Technical Writing (Sem. 1)
English/ Literature (Sem. 2)

Honors English is open to seniors who meet the following criteria:

1. referral by the junior English instructor
2. a 3.0 average in junior English
3. an ACT English score of 21 or above
4. a maintained 3.0 average in Honors Class
5. 3.50 cumulative GPA

The goal of this class is to prepare seniors for the kinds of writing and reading interpretation skills needed for college level work; therefore, writing is a major part of the Honors English curriculum. Composition is the main focus of the first semester. Students complete the major research paper unit during the first semester. Composition is the focus of first semester when the research paper unit is studied. The course provides continued and advanced instruction in writing for a variety of purposes and audiences. Throughout the full year, each student is also required to write a 30 chapter Senior Memory Book (a compilation of reflective essays, personal narratives and poems); critical literary analysis paper, and additional essays and paragraphs. Each student will be writing at least one developed essay a week. Honors English is the study of British literature, combined with the study of vocabulary, and a brief review of grammar and usage. The literature is chronologically studied, following

the time periods of British literature: the Anglo-Saxons, the Middle Ages, the Renaissance, the Restoration and 18th century, the Romantic period, the Victorian period and the Modern era. The major literature units include *Beowulf*, *The Canterbury Tales*, *Macbeth*, *Of Mice and Men*, and *Flowers for Algernon*. Also many essays, poems, and short stories are read. Each student is also required to read a specific number of Accelerated Reader novels and pass the computerized tests (for all four quarters). A 30-lesson vocabulary series is used requiring students to constantly review words previously studied. Part of the vocabulary series is the study of analogies, which requires the students to think very critically. Grammar and usage are reviewed daily through the use of DOL (Daily Oral Language) exercises and weekly quizzes. It is also assessed in almost all writing assignments, including the major Senior Memory Book unit. Honors English is subject to the weighted grading scale used at Groton Area High School.

MATHEMATICS

PRE-ALGEBRA I

Pre Algebra/Algebra I (Placement in one of these will be determined by the teaching staff.)

This course is primarily a complete review of the material covered in the seventh and eighth grades, including mathematical operations using integers, fractions, and decimals. Geometry, percent, interest, and an introduction to basic algebra are also covered.

Pre-Algebra I students must take Informal Geometry before taking Algebra I unless they have at least a B or permission from the Algebra I instructor.

INFORMAL GEOMETRY

Prerequisite: Pre-Algebra or Transition Math

Informal Geometry is a basic geometry course designed for students who have not yet taken Algebra I. This course reviews and uses algebra concepts in the study of geometry as students discover, learn, and apply geometry to real-life situations. Upon completion of this course the students should have the foundation needed to take Algebra I.

ALGEBRA I

Prerequisite: Transition Math or Informal Geometry

Algebra I is a comprehensive study of the material covered in previous math courses. It presents the language of algebra and covers work with linear equations and inequalities, quadratic equations, functions, relations, graphs, rational and irrational

numbers, powers and roots, and polynomials. This course requires a strong background in fractions, integers, and decimals and is a requirement for high school graduation.

GEOMETRY

Prerequisite: Algebra I

This course is usually taken after successfully completing Algebra I. Geometry literally means "earth measurement," thus it is the study of all the properties of the different shapes and forms of lines, circles, and polygons.

Geometry stimulates logical thinking. This is the primary objective of the course. It also gives the student better background for the study of further mathematics.

CONSUMER MATH

Grades 11-12

Consumer mathematics emphasizes basic arithmetic as applied to business and personal problems, particularly those of the consumer. The principles and practices involved in consumer mathematics are useful in office and clerical jobs, personal finances, record keeping and accounting, and other business activities.

ALGEBRA II

Prerequisite: Algebra I

This course offers the student a sound development of the structure of the real number system. It includes discussion of number sentences, relations, and linear, polynomial functions that will give the student insight into some of the most productive ideas of mathematics. The section on complex numbers provides further opportunities for students to investigate the nature of number systems. Also covered is the section on sequences, matrices and probability.

PRE-CALCULUS (Stat/Trig)

Prerequisites: Algebra I & II, Geometry

Topics dealt with include trigonometry, polynomials, roots, factorization, solving quadratic equations, complex numbers, exponential and logarithmic functions, probability, statistics, and matrices. This course is primarily a college preparatory course. This is a weighted grade class.

DISCRETE MATHEMATICS

Prerequisites: Algebra I & II, Geometry, Pre-Calculus

Topics dealt with include logic, function analysis, solving higher power functions, trigonometry, mathematical induction, polar coordinates, calculus, and combinatorics. This course is a college preparatory course. This is a weighted class.

MUSIC

ELECTIVE CLASSES:

BAND

An elective open to all high school students who have been taught the playing techniques of a band instrument and are capable of performing at the high school level.

The first six weeks of the school year are used mostly in preparation for marching band performances. The band competes or performs at three events during the fall, usually on weekends. Extra rehearsals outside the normal school day are possible.

The concert band starts after the marching season. This group prepares for two concerts held at Christmas and during the spring, and performs at the Region IV Large Group Contest. The band is also asked to play at selected basketball, football, wrestling, and volleyball events.

The students have extra opportunities to perform in jazz band or the Region IV Solo and Ensemble Contest, as well as other miscellaneous community performances. Advanced students also have the option of auditioning for All-State Band, All-State Orchestra, or All-State Jazz Band.

VOCAL MUSIC

This program is open to all students in the high school.

The Concert Choir is composed of all vocal music students. It meets three times weekly. The students learn about and perform many styles of choral music, along with learning basic music terms and skills.

Members of the Concert Choir will perform at the Christmas Concert, Spring Concert, Region Music Contest, and possibly Graduation. Students are also required to work in some capacity at the Pops Concert.

The Show Choir is an auditioned group of singers and dancers who are chosen in the

fall. Show Choir students must be a member of the Concert Choir. They compete at various competitions and perform at the Pops Concert. They will do a variety of fund raising to support these events.

The Chamber Choir is a small auditioned group of singers who sing choral music that is more demanding than the music that is sung in Concert Choir. These students will perform at the Christmas Concert, Spring Concert, Region Contest and other community events.

The opportunity to take voice lessons, perform as a soloist, participate in All-State Chorus, audition for Honor Choir as a sophomore or junior, and to be a member of various ensembles is also available.

PERSONAL FINANCE

REQUIRED CLASS:

Personal Finance (semester course)

This course fulfills South Dakota high school graduation requirements for .5 units of Economics or Personal Finance.

Personal Finance is a class used to achieve financial success based upon the development and implementation of financial goals. The focus of a financial plan will vary depending upon the values and goals of the individual in conjunction with their lifestyle conditions.

Units covered will include:

- Behavior Styles
- Values, Needs vs. Wants, & Goals
- Career Development
- Paychecks
- Spending Plans
- Saving
- Investing
- Major Expenditures-Housing
- Major Expenditures-Transportation
- Major Expenditures-Foods
- Managing your Cash
- Managing your Credit
- Credit & Consumer Protection
- Insurance

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

HEALTH This is a required course for 9th grade.

Health is the study of contemporary health problems that teenagers will encounter now and in the future and how to deal with them.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION This is a required course for 9th grade.

Physical education class is composed of a variety of activities stressing the importance of physical exercise, individual and team sports, and sportsmanship. Rules and terms of lifetime activities will be emphasized. Units taught may be badminton, bowling, floor hockey, archery, pickleball, volleyball, golf, tennis, soccer and dance. Physical fitness testing will also be required.

FITNESS for LIFE (Personal Fitness)

Grades 11-12

Personal Fitness is an understanding of the relationship between behavior and health, as well as a means for assessing that relationship. Personal Fitness is a class designed to allow each student to set and reach optimal wellness goals. The goals and standards of the class curriculum are to have students monitor, assess, and manage cardiac data, promote wellness, elicit healthy decision making and healthy behavior, and support realistic goals based on individual stages of development and current fitness levels. Each student will use a heart rate monitor to measure their hearts at work or rest and continuously note their heart's response to stimuli.

SCIENCE

REQUIRED CLASSES:

PHYSICAL SCIENCE

Grade 9

Physical science is a required course for ninth graders. This course is an introduction to physics and chemistry and deals with the interaction of matter and energy. Areas to be studied include speed, acceleration, machines, composition of matter, reactions of matter, wave motion including light, sound, and electricity. This is a laboratory based science class. Many laboratory processes and techniques will be studied. Students will use computer interfaces to study motion, pressure and sound. Students will gain an

introduction to basic chemistry laboratory equipment and its use.

BIOLOGY I

Grade 10

Biology is the study of living things. It is required of all sophomores. Some of the topics studied are ecology, DNA, heredity, cells, plants, animals from simplest to the most complex, and the human body systems. There are several laboratory investigations during the year including microscopic studies, dissection of several organisms and the growing of plants.

ELECTIVE CLASSES :

BIOLOGY II (Anatomy & Physiology)

Prerequisite: Biology I

Grade 11-12

This course covers Human Anatomy and Physiology and is designed to prepare students for a future study in college or tech of the human body. All major body systems will be discussed and several labs will be performed. Students will learn health science vocabulary, analyze medical conditions, and do practice tests in science. The course will consist of lectures, discussions, projects, written activities, lab activities (including dissections), quizzes, and tests.

It is recommended for students wishing to enroll in Biology II that they have a B average in Biology I. This course is subject to the weighted grading scale used at Groton Area High School.

CHEMISTRY

Prerequisite: Algebra I

Chemistry is the study of matter and the changes it undergoes. Topics to be studied include problem solving, measuring chemical quantities, density, specific heat, periodic properties, states of matter, stoichiometry, formula writing, equation writing, electron structure, acids, bases and solutions. This course will prepare students for chemistry in college and is recommended for those planning on attending college.

Many laboratory exercises will also be completed. Students will learn how to use basic chemistry laboratory equipment such as beakers, flasks, Bunsen burners, crucibles, spot plates, and test tubes. They will learn basic laboratory techniques such as filtration, decanting, drying, separation, and titration.

ORGANIC CHEMISTRY II

Prerequisite: Chemistry I

Chemistry II is a weighted second year chemistry class focusing on organic chemistry. The class uses a college textbook. Topics covered during the class include organic nomenclature, physical properties, and chemical reactions. Laboratory units are also covered including distillation, extraction, polymerization, organic synthesis and saponification. This class is especially useful for students planning to pursue science or medical careers.

PHYSICS

Prerequisite: Algebra I and II, and Physical Science

Physics is a branch of knowledge that involves the study of the physical world and the relationship between matter and energy. This course covers the basic laws and concepts of motion, forces, energy, waves, mirrors, light, electricity, and magnetism. Several labs accompany each unit. Students will work with laboratory carts, springs, mirrors, lenses, circuits and computer based lab equipment.

Students pursuing a college degree in any science (physical, life, agricultural, medical) or math would benefit by taking this course.

CONCEPTUAL CHEMISTRY

This course is designed for the student who needs to take a third year of science to meet state graduation requirements but does NOT plan on attending a college or university or pursuing a science related career. This course will investigate many chemistry topics in a nonquantitative way. Basic arithmetic skills will be used in problem solving. This course will examine the impact chemistry has in our everyday lives. Topics to be addressed include behaviors of solids, liquids, and gases, acid base relationships, atomic structure, energy changes, mixtures and solutions, chemistry of life, and hydrocarbon chemistry. Conceptual chemistry places less emphasis on mathematical equations and calculations than traditional chemistry. Prerequisite-successful completion of physical science.

SOCIAL SCIENCES

REQUIRED CLASSES:

GEOGRAPHY

Grade 10

Geography is the study of the earth and all things on it. The course will cover physical geography which includes our natural surroundings as well as cultural geography which

includes man-made features.

It will include the study of landforms, climates and how humans have impacted the earth we live on. The students will also study cultures and capitals of those countries and the people, land and economy of the country. Ethnic groups, languages, religion and significant physical features of the country will be covered.

UNITED STATE HISTORY

Grade 11

United States History is class that is required by the State of South Dakota for graduation. The intent of this course is to give you insight into the culture of the United States. Throughout the school year, you will be exposed to many historical people, places, and things. We will discuss both America's successes and proud moments, and the failures and embarrassments that are a part of our storied past. A full credit is required for high school graduation according to the South Dakota Board of Education.

HONORS UNITED STATES HISTORY

Grade 11

Honors United States History is designed for the student who accepts challenges. The course work includes materials similar to the regular United States History class enhanced with research and writing projects. To enroll in this class students must have a minimum 3.25 GPA.

Honors United States History's grading scale is weighted under the "College Prep Courses" used at Groton Area School District. A full credit is required for high school graduation according to the South Dakota Board of Education.

U.S. GOVERNMENT Required Grade 12

American Government provides students with details of American democratic principles and practice. It encourages students to explore how government works in their everyday lives. It presents a clear picture of the political process by stressing critical-thinking and problem-solving skills students need to participate responsibly in the American system of government, the Constitution, and political parties. During the second quarter students will study the judicial branch and the American legal system, and foreign policy.

The main part of this required course is based upon Holt, Rinehart and Winston's American Government Text. Lectures and group discussions are used with the text.

WORLD HISTORY

Grade 9-12

World History is the study of the past and present cultures of the world. This course is designed to provide an overview of world history starting from prehistory to present. We will cover the world and discuss civilizations, wars, trends, peoples, and religions. Students will gain a better understanding of the world we live in today, by studying the events and causes that have brought us here. The course is divided into six chronological units. Students will gain a profound understanding of countries and civilizations that either exist or existed. A half credit is required for high school graduation according to the South Dakota Board of Education.

ELECTIVE CLASSES:

PSYCHOLOGY (1 semester)

Grade 11-12

Psychology is the study of human behavior. It focuses on people and how they perceive the world, how they think, and why they behave the way they do. Psychologists continue to try to unravel the mysteries of human thought and behavior. With such a complex focus of study, psychology is a dynamic, ever changing field. During the semester students will study human behavior, learning and the mind, memory and intelligence, personality, abnormal behavior, conditioning, interpersonal relationships and different fields of psychology.

The main part of this elective course is based upon Holt, Rinehart and Winston's Principles in Psychology text. Lectures, group discussions are used with the text.

SOCIOLOGY (1 semester)

Grade 11-12

Sociology is the science that studies human society and social behavior. Sociologists are mainly interested in social interaction, how people relate to one another and influence each other's behavior. Studying sociology can help us gain a new view, or perspective, for looking at ourselves and the world. Sociology teaches us to look at social life in a scientific, systematic way.

The main part of this elective course is based upon Sociology: The Study of Human Relationships, text.

Lectures and group discussions are used with the text.

OTHER CLASSES

ELECTIVE CLASS

EMPLOYABILITY

Prerequisite: Certain qualifications must be met to take this class
Grades 10, 11, 12

This course is designed to improve the long-term employability of youth. Pre-employment skills such as career exploration, job applications, resumes, punctuality, and on-the-job behaviors will be taught.

SCHOOL INTERNSHIP

Grade 12

This is an elective course that will allow students to gain hands-on experience in a school setting. The student will work closely with a cooperating teacher. Within this course students will learn employability skills, gain an inside perspective into the daily tasks of classroom management, curriculum development, technical skills, student tutoring, etc.

Students will be required to maintain a weekly journal, write 10 article reviews, and compile an exit portfolio.

Distance Learning Classes

Students can earn many college credits and save a lot of future expense by taking college credit in high school. The web site <http://sdvs.k12.sd.us> has a listing of many off-campus distance education courses. Students can check out possible courses from Northern State Universities e-learning center by going to www.northern.edu and clicking on the e-learning button. For more information, see the guidance counselor.

You must have a 3.25 GPA to take the following courses that may be offered through NSU's e-learning center:

- AP American History
- AP Calculus
- AP English - Composition
- AP English – Literature
- AP Physics

You must have a 3.0 GPA to take the following courses that may be offered through NSU's e-learning center:

French I
French II
Spanish III
Astronomy – one semester course

DUAL CREDIT CLASSES FROM PRESENTATION COLLEGE

To select one of these classes, your grade point average should be at least a 3.25.

College Composition I (1st semester)
College Composition II (2nd semester)
(You must take the Compass test at Presentation College)

If you have any questions regarding class registration contact Jodi Sternhagen at Jodi.Sternhagen@k12.sd.us or Joe Schwan at Joe.Schwan@k12.sd.us. They may also be reached by phone at 397-8381.