

Whitmore Lake High School Course Guide

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CAREER PATHWAY KEY



Arts & Communication



Business, Management, Marketing, & Technology



Health Sciences



Natural Resources & Agriscience



Engineering, Manufacturing, & Industrial Technology









Human Services





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In June 2010, the State Board of Education adopted the Common Core State Standards (CCSS) as the new standards for K-12 Mathematics and English Language Arts. These standards improved upon Michigan's current standards (the Grade Level Content Expectations and the High School Content Expectations) by establishing clear and consistent goals for learning, and allow Michigan to work collaboratively with other states to provide curricular support to schools and educators. For Questions and Answers visit - http://www.michigan.gov/documents/mde/FAQ_4.10.13_418299_7.pdf







ENGLISH COURSES

Course Name & Pathway	Grade, Length, Prerequisites	Course Description
AP LANGUAGE AND COMPOSITION 	Grades: 11 Length: Year Prerequisites: AP Seminar or Teacher Approval	Graduation Requirement. The AP English Language and Composition course aligns to an introductory college-level rhetoric and writing curriculum, which requires students to develop evidence-based analytical and argumentative essays. Students evaluate, synthesize, and cite research to support their arguments. Additionally, students read and analyze the rhetorical elements and their effects in texts. The students may choose to take the Advanced Placement test at the end of the course in order to obtain possible college credit.
AP LITERATURE AND COMPOSITION 	Grade: 12 Length: Year Prerequisites: AP Language or Teacher Approval	This class is designed to prepare students for college-level work, and therefore, will be taught as a college-level course. The emphasis will be on analytical and evaluative skills. Assignments will evolve from various novels, short stories, plays, poems, and essays, and will assess both interpretive reading and writing skills. In addition, students will be expected to complete various supplementary projects. The students may choose to take the Advanced Placement test at the end of the course in order to obtain possible college credit.
new CURATING THE COLLECTION 	Grades: 9-12 Length: Semester or Year	In this English elective, students will step into the role of library curators, actively shaping the future of our school's collection. Through a blend of critical analysis, research, and collaborative decision-making, students will evaluate existing library resources, identifying materials to retain, discard, or expand upon. This course will help students better understand the diverse needs of our student body, analyze current trends in literature and media, and master the tools and techniques for evaluating resources effectively. Course not offered every year.
ENGLISH 9 	Grade: 9 Length: Year	Graduation Requirement. English 9, required of all ninth (9th) graders, will develop the basic skills of English. The class will emphasize basic grammar, spelling, vocabulary, writing, and research/technology skills. Work in literature will include an introduction to short stories, poetry, drama, memoirs, novels, and mythology. The class will familiarize students with the main areas of English study, giving them a basis upon which to choose future English electives.
ENGLISH 10 	Grade: 10 Length: Year	Graduation Requirement. English 10 is a required course. Becoming well-versed in the English Language Arts requires students to develop the skills to become thoughtful readers, writers, listeners, speakers, and viewers both inside and outside of the classroom. To meet this goal, English 10 students read and closely interact with a variety of narrative and informational texts, written mainly by American authors, to meet national reading standards. Students will develop their writing skills too, specifically through persuasive, narrative, explanatory, and research writing.
ENGLISH 10: AP SEMINAR 	Grade: 10 Length: Year Prerequisites: Teacher Approval	An English course taught in the AP Seminar style, English 10: AP Seminar helps students develop and practice foundational writing, collaboration, research, and presentation skills needed across academic disciplines. Students will investigate topics in a variety of subject areas, write research-based essays, and design and give presentations both individually and as part of a team. Portfolio work is submitted to the College Board throughout the course, culminating in the Advanced Placement test at the end of the second semester.







ENGLISH COURSES

Course Name & Pathway	Grade, Length, Prerequisites	Course Description
ENGLISH 11 	Grade: 11 Length: Year	Graduation Requirement. This course will allow students the opportunity to read, write, speak, listen, and think. Students improve their critical-thinking skills as they determine the underlying assumptions and values within the selected works and as they develop an understanding of both fiction and non-fiction texts. The course will stress the improvement of analysis skills, writing skills, vocabulary, and grammar.
ENGLISH 12 	Grade: 12 Length: Year	Graduation Requirement. English 12 is designed to comply with the curricular requirements of the Common Core Standards of Michigan and is aligned with the SAT requirements for Grade 12. The goal for this course is to refine, apply, and extend the solid foundation of knowledge, skills, and strategies previously developed. Students will identify and apply their own leadership skills and prepare for responsible action as American citizens in the context of a global world. Students will develop their knowledge of textual elements and structures, enabling them to engage in classroom reading of increasingly complex texts and develop analytical skills and strategies to access, navigate, and evaluate literature. The analysis of texts will focus on bias and point of view in writers and readers. Students will explore the influence of great writers of cultural situations. Students will also self-monitor the skills, habits, strategies, and processes they use to set goals and reflect on their growth.
WRITING FOR PUBLICATIONS  	Grades: 9-12 Length: Year Repeatable for Credit Prerequisites: Teacher Approval	This course is designed to provide students with the opportunity to produce the Whitmore Lake High School Iliad yearbook and Trojournal newspaper. Students will develop skills in journalism, page design, advanced publishing techniques, copywriting, editing, and photography while producing a creative, innovative high school newspaper and yearbook that records school memories and events. Students will gain useful, real-world skills in time management, marketing, teamwork, and design principles. The curriculum for Writing for Publications is aligned to Walsworth Yearbooks and Michigan Interscholastic Publications Press Association to the state's Visual Performing and Applied Arts standards.









MATHEMATICS COURSES

Course Name & Pathway	Grade, Length, Prerequisites	Course Description
ALGEBRA I 	Grade: 9 Length: Year Prerequisites: MATH 7	Graduation Requirement. Topics for Algebra I include the following: sets of numbers and their operations, solution sets of linear equations/inequalities, systems of equations, quadratic equations, polynomials, factoring, graphing in the coordinate plane, irrational and imaginary numbers, fractional equations, and various types of verbal problems.
ALGEBRA II 	Grades: 10-12 Length: Year Prerequisites: B- or higher in ALGEBRA I	Graduation Requirement. This course will contain a review of all topics covered in Algebra I, plus the introduction of the following topics: inverse relations and functions, rational exponents, radical functions, exponential and logarithmic functions, matrices and determinants, sequences and series, binomial expansions, and trigonometric functions.
ALGEBRA II ESSENTIALS 	Grades: 11-12 Length: Year Prerequisites: ALGEBRA I	Essentials of Algebra 2 includes topics arranged around a family of functions, including polynomial, radical, exponential, logarithmic, and rational. Other topics include systems of equations, an introduction to trigonometry, and statistics. The course will also include instruction and practice on standardized test questions in a variety of formats, including multiple choice, short response, and extended response. Course not offered every year.
AP STATISTICS 	Grades: 11-12 Length: Year Prerequisites: B- or higher in ALGEBRA II	The purpose of the AP course in statistics is to introduce students to the major concepts and tools for collecting, analyzing, and drawing conclusions from data. Students are exposed to four broad conceptual themes: 1. Exploring Data: Describing patterns and departures from patterns 2. Sampling and Experimentation: Planning and conducting a study 3. Anticipating Patterns: Exploring random phenomena using probability and simulation 4. Statistical Inference: Estimating population parameters and testing hypotheses. Students who successfully complete the course and exam may receive credit, advanced placement or both for a one-semester introductory college statistics course. Course not offered every year.
FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT 	Grade: 12 Length: Year	Financial Management is designed to inform students how individual choices directly influence goals and future earnings potential. Real-world topics covered include: taxes, insurance, savings and investments, banking, credit management, budgeting, financial needs and goals, income, and overall career planning. On the business end, students will analyze cost/profit relationships to make business decisions, learn basic accounting procedures, and study fundamental economic concepts and systems.
GEOMETRY 	Grades: 9-10 Length: Year Prerequisites: ALGEBRA I	Graduation Requirement. Basic vocabulary and geometry will be covered together. The following basic topics will be discussed: induction, deduction, proofs, angle relationships, perpendicular and parallel lines on planes, similar and congruent triangles, similar polygons, circles, arc angles, area, and volume of objects.










SCIENCE COURSES

Course Name & Pathway	Grade, Length, Prerequisites	Course Description
ANATOMY/ PHYSIOLOGY 	Grades: 11-12 Length: Year	The student should possess above-average reading and spelling skills to take this course. Advanced skills in dissection will be applied as larger, more advanced animals are studied. Optional specimens may include sharks, fetal pigs, cats, rabbits, and rats. Participation in discussions, special oral and written reports, and dissections is required. Laboratory investigation activities will average one every other week. General topic areas will include human body systems, recent efforts of biotechnology involving world problems, man's influence on the natural environment, and current, controversial biological issues and activities of man. The biology of the human body is the major focus of study.
BIOLOGY 	Grade: 9 Length: Year	Graduation Requirement. This course will deal with the overall study of animals. Lab work will average one (1) day per week as students do various investigations and experiments. Dissection will include examples of different animal groups. Outdoor work will emphasize ecological relationships between plants and animals. General topics will include the structure and formation of cells, how animals obtain and use food, animal methods of reproduction, animal growth and behavior, environment, diseases in animals, including man, and conservation of natural resources. The topics of genetics, evolution, and classification of plants and animals are also covered. We will try to utilize Whitmore Lake in some of our studies.
CHEMISTRY 	Grades: 11-12 Length: Year Prerequisites: ALGEBRA I and B- or higher in previous science course	Chemistry is a science class that studies the structure and composition of substances and the mechanisms of changes in these substances. The course consists of lectures and laboratory experience. A strong math background is necessary. Laboratory experiences average one per week.
CSI: FORENSIC SCIENCE 	Grades: 9-12 Length: Semester	This course introduces students to forensic science and the law. Through the lens of crime scene investigation, students will study forensic investigative techniques and types of evidence at a crime scene. Analysis may include fingerprints, hairs, fibers, drugs, toxicology, trace evidence, blood and blood spatter analysis, entomology, documents, and handwriting. Students will also study crime scene reconstruction and criminal profiling. This course is an elective course that cannot be used to fulfill the science requirement.
GEOCHEMISTRY 	Grades: 11-12 Length: Year	This yearlong course is designed to fulfill the MME's 3rd-year science requirement. This course engages students in inquiry, real-world application, and labs through the lens of Earth Science. Units of study include: Introduction to Science; The Universe; Planet Earth; The Atmosphere; Using Natural Resources; The Chemical Processes in Earth's Interior, Atmosphere, Environment, and Space. Course not offered every year.
PHYSICS 	Grade: 10 Length: Year	Graduation Requirement. Physics is the study of matter and energy and how they interact. Many mathematical concepts are used in understanding the relationships between motion, force, heat, electricity, magnetism, sound, light, and waves. Laboratory and other hands-on experiences will be used to clarify concepts.






SOCIAL STUDIES COURSES

Course Name & Pathway	Grade, Length, Prerequisites	Course Description
AP PSYCHOLOGY 	Grades: 10-12 Length: Year Prerequisites: Teacher Approval	Following the College Board's Course Exam and Description, this course "introduces students to the systematic and scientific study of human behavior and mental processes. While considering the studies that have shaped the field, students explore and apply psychological theories, key concepts, and phenomena associated with major units of study, including biological bases of behavior, cognition, development, learning, social psychology, personality, and mental and physical health. Throughout the course, students apply psychological concepts and employ psychological research methods and data interpretation to evaluate claims, consider evidence, and effectively communicate ideas."
AP U.S. GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS 	Grade: 11-12 Length: Year Prerequisites: Teacher Approval	Following the College Board's Course Exam and Description, this course "provides a college-level, nonpartisan introduction to key political concepts, ideas, institutions, policies, interactions, roles, and behaviors that characterize the constitutional system and political culture of the United States. Students will study U.S. foundational documents, Supreme Court decisions, and other texts and visuals to gain an understanding of the relationships and interactions among political institutions, processes, and behaviors. Students will also engage in skill development that requires them to read and interpret data, make comparisons and applications, and develop evidence-based arguments. In addition, they will complete a political science research or applied civics project."
ECONOMICS 	Grade: 11-12 Length: Semester	Graduation Requirement. The purpose of this course is to help students use knowledge of the production, distribution, and consumption of goods and services to make personal and societal decisions about the use of scarce resources. Major units of study will include: Individual, Household, & Business Choices, Economic Systems & the Role of Government, and The International Economy.
GOVERNMENT 	Grade: 11-12 Length: Semester	Graduation Requirement. This course will begin with a review of the origins and foundations of American Government. Other course content includes responsibilities of citizens in a representative democracy, values and principles of American democracy, roles and functions of the three branches of government, and the relationship of the United States to other nations and world affairs.
 HISTORY VS. HOLLYWOOD 	Grades: 9-12 Length: Semester or Year	This history elective will examine the ways in which Hollywood films accurately (or inaccurately) portray historical events, people, and social movements. Like historians, filmmakers are tasked with evaluating the historical record and interpreting past events to tell a story—or a <i>history</i> . However, historians strive to distinguish fact from fiction, whereas filmmakers may have alternative purposes, such as to entertain or to make a profit. Consequently, filmmakers may take liberties with the truth to provide an enhanced overall experience for the viewer. This course will evaluate the role of film in creating, preserving, and in some cases, distorting the historical record. Students will be asked to read and analyze primary and secondary sources, watch and analyze Hollywood films and film clips, and work both independently and collaboratively to evaluate the <i>reel</i> /vs. the <i>real</i> .
 STREET LAW 	Grades: 9-12 Length: Semester	By looking at the legal system and a range of law topics (criminal justice, consumer law, family law, housing law, individual rights and liberties, etc), this course will explore how the law affects you. It provides practical information and problem-solving opportunities to develop your knowledge and skills relative to the law. The curriculum includes case studies, small-group activities, and simulations. Guest speakers will be provided through partnerships with local law enforcement and social agencies. Grades will be based on in-class activities, homework assignments, projects, and exams. Course not offered every year.





SOCIAL STUDIES COURSES

Course Name & Pathway	Grade, Length, Prerequisites	Course Description
new THE REAL WORLD: GLOBAL ISSUES IN POP CULTURE & NEWS 	Grades: 9-12 Length: Semester	Step into the intersection of current events, global challenges, and pop culture. This dynamic elective invites students to explore how real-world issues—such as climate change, social justice, global conflict, human rights, and technology—are reflected in and influenced by today's media, entertainment, and public discourse. Through analysis of news articles, films, music, social media, and more, students will develop critical thinking skills, media literacy, and a deeper understanding of the world around them. Expect lively discussions, collaborative projects, and opportunities to make connections between what's happening in the world and what's trending on your screen. This course is ideal for students who want to be informed, engaged, and ready to think beyond headlines.
U.S. HISTORY 	Grade: 10 Length: Year	Graduation Requirement. This course is a continuation of American History from 8th grade. Students will deal with the history of our country from 1865 to the present. There will also be some review of earlier history. Critical thinking will be emphasized. Sample topics to be presented include: World Wars I & II, the Great Depression, the Vietnam War, and the Civil Rights Movement.
WORLD HISTORY 	Grade: 9 Length: Year	Graduation Requirement. In this course, you will investigate the transformations that created our modern world. You will explore a survey of world history from just before 1500 CE to the present. Using inquiry questions and narrative frames, you will study major global events at a variety of scales and develop the historical thinking skills that will prepare you to use the past to address the dilemmas of the present and future.
YOUR FUTURE MATTERS      	Grades: 11-12 Length: Semester	This class builds time into your school day to focus on what's next after high school. Open to rising Juniors and Seniors, major topics of study will include the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Self-Identity and Vision • Life Beyond High School • Career Exploration • College Exploration • College Admissions Process • Financing College • Budgeting






BUSINESS TECHNOLOGY COURSES

Course Name & Pathway	Grade, Length, Prerequisites	Course Description
AP COMPUTER SCIENCE A 	Grades: 10-12 Length: Year	AP Computer Science A introduces students to computer science through programming. Fundamental topics include designing solutions to problems, utilizing data structures to organize large datasets, developing and implementing algorithms to process data and uncover new insights, analyzing potential solutions, and examining the ethical and social implications of computing systems. The course emphasizes object-oriented programming and design using the Java programming language. To enroll, students should have successfully completed AP Computer Science Principles or received permission from the instructor. This course can be used to fulfill the 4th-year math requirement or the 2nd-year world language requirement. Course not offered every year.
AP COMPUTER SCIENCE PRINCIPLES 	Grades: 9-12 Length: Year	This course is designed as a first-time introduction to computer science and does not require students to have prior computer programming experience. AP Computer Science introduces students to the foundational concepts of computer science and explores the impact computing and technology have on our society. With a unique focus on creative problem-solving and real-world applications, the course gives students the opportunity to explore several important topics of computing using their own ideas and creativity, use the power of computing to create artifacts of personal value, and develop an interest in computer science that will foster further endeavors in the field. This course can be used to fulfill the 4th-year math requirement or the 2nd-year world language requirement.
 BUSINESS & TECHNOLOGY 	Grades: 9-12 Length: Semester or Year	<p>This course provides an overview of business, data analytics, and technology skills required for today's business environment. After mastery of the standards in this course, students should be prepared to earn an industry-recognized credential: Microsoft Office Specialist for Excel Certification.</p> <p>According to the World Economic Forum's Future of Jobs Report (2023), data analytics will become a necessary foundation skill that will need to be taught by all high schools in the very near future. As such, we are working with WCC, which has developed an online Data Analytics Technician training program aligned with industry credentials to meet that need. Students will be enrolled in the WCC online training free of charge and have the entire academic year to complete it. At the end of the first semester, students will take their Microsoft Excel Certification exam. If they also complete a second semester, they will have the opportunity to obtain additional industry certification credentials.</p> <p>This course is articulated with Washtenaw Community College as well as many other schools around Michigan as a business tech credit. See Ms. Taylor for articulation information.</p>
BUSINESS OPERATIONS: SCHOOL STORE 	Grades: 10-12 Length: Semester or Year Repeatable for Credit	Students will learn what it takes to effectively start and run a business by managing the Whitmore Lake School Store – the Trojan Den. Through a variety of hands-on activities, students will gain an in-depth understanding of business and its inception. Students will evaluate a new business venture's potential for success, determine the necessary resources, and develop a comprehensive business plan for this venture. After establishing a venture concept, students will develop operations planning and control, create procedures and policies for their venture, and apply project management skills to manage the various facets of a store. During the semester, students will work closely with WL athletic groups and students in product development and design, as well as retail sales to these groups, and manage business projects. This course is articulated with Washtenaw Community College and Baker College; see a CTE instructor for more information. Course not offered every year.









WORLD LANGUAGE COURSES

Course Name & Pathway	Grade, Length, Prerequisites	Course Description
SPANISH I 	Grades: 9-12 Length: Year	Spanish I will introduce the student to the Spanish language, the people who speak it, and the countries where it is spoken. Basic skills in the language will be acquired through listening, speaking, reading, and writing. Spanish culture will be imparted through movies, slides, songs, and food. A GPA of 3.0 or higher and excellent attendance are strongly recommended for freshmen.
SPANISH II 	Grades: 9-12 Length: Year Prerequisites: B- or higher in SPANISH I or teacher approval	Spanish II is a continuing program in Spanish designed to increase the student's proficiency in the four skills of listening, speaking, reading, and writing. Knowledge and appreciation of Hispanic cultures will be emphasized through presentations. This course is designed to acquaint the student with some of the historical and cultural forces that have helped to form the Hispanic world as it is today.
SPANISH III 	Grades: 10-12 Length: Year Prerequisites: B- or higher in SPANISH II or teacher approval	Spanish III is designed to be a culmination of all things learned in previous Spanish courses. Most, if not all, reading and writing will be in Spanish. Conversations and typical social situations will be emphasized. Texts will include Spanish readers and workbooks. Role-playing, skits, and classroom presentations/speaking are very important.
SPANISH IV 	Grades: 11-12 Length: Year Prerequisites: B- or higher in SPANISH III or teacher approval	Spanish IV is designed to delve deeply into the culture and the language of Spanish and prepare the student for the AP exam. All reading, writing, and speaking will be in Spanish. Text will include an integrated reader/workbook, short stories, and the history of Mexico. Students should be highly motivated to practice the language in all forms.






PHYSICAL EDUCATION & HEALTH COURSES

Course Name & Pathway	Grade, Length, Prerequisites	Course Description
HEALTH 	Grades: 9-12 Length: Semester	Graduation Requirement. This course investigates how to improve physical, mental, emotional, and social wellness through making decisions associated with the maintenance of sound and practical health habits. Emphasis is on wellness as a lifestyle, substance abuse prevention, and general health concerns. Effective communication skills and etiquette and manners are included in the social wellness section. Human sexuality/reproductive health will explore the complex dimensions of adolescent sexual development to help adolescents understand and accept their evolving sexuality and to help them make responsible sexual choices, now and in their future adult roles. Parental notification is given prior to the human sexuality unit.
LIFELONG FITNESS AND SPORTS 	Grades: 9-12 Length: Semester Repeatable for Credit	This elective physical education course will focus on exercise that promotes a healthy lifestyle and social interaction with sports and activities that can be played beyond high school and well into the later years of life. Activities may include, but are not limited to, disc golf, volleyball, aerobics, yoga, badminton, circuit training, swimming, pickleball, archery, table tennis, and yard games. Sport rules, skills, teamwork, and strategy with an emphasis on sportsmanship will be taught throughout the course, while promoting lifelong fitness and enjoyment in sport. The course grade will be based on daily participation, sportsmanship and effort, physical fitness testing, specific sport skills tests, and written tests. Course not offered every year.
OLYMPIC SPORTS 	Grades: 9-12 Length: Semester Repeatable for Credit	This elective physical education course will focus on games and sports that are contested in the Olympic Games, such as basketball, volleyball, badminton, table tennis, water polo, team handball, soccer, rugby, archery, and floor hockey. Sport rules, skills, teamwork, and strategy will be taught throughout the course, while promoting lifelong fitness and enjoyment in sport. This course will also have a focus on physical fitness, daily exercise, and social interaction. The course grade will be based on daily participation and effort, physical fitness testing, specific sport skills tests, and written tests. Course not offered every year.
RECREATIONAL SPORTS I 	Grades: 9-12 Length: Semester Repeatable for Credit	This basic physical education class will introduce students to a wide multitude of activities and sports that may include, but are not limited to, ultimate frisbee, flag football, soccer, badminton, tchoukball, and volleyball. Sport rules, skills, teamwork, and strategy will be taught throughout the course, while promoting lifelong fitness and enjoyment in sport. This course will also focus on physical fitness, daily exercise, and social interaction. The course grade will be based on daily participation and effort, physical fitness testing, specific sport skills tests, and written tests. Course not offered every year.
RECREATIONAL SPORTS II 	Grades: 9-12 Length: Semester Repeatable for Credit	This is a continuation of Rec. Sports I, but may be taken as a standalone class too. Activities and sports in Rec. Sports II may include, but are not limited to, basketball, sabakiball, pickleball, swimming, speedball, wiffle ball, and field hockey. Sport rules, skills, teamwork, and strategy will be taught throughout the course, while promoting lifelong fitness and enjoyment in sport. This course will also focus on physical fitness, daily exercise, and social interaction. The course grade will be based on daily participation and effort, physical fitness testing, specific sport skills tests, and written tests. Course not offered every year.
STRENGTH TRAINING AND CONDITIONING 	Grades: 9-12 Length: Semester Repeatable for Credit	This elective physical education course will focus on the many facets of training the human body for physical fitness and athletics. Training may include, but is not limited to, weight training, speed training, flexibility, endurance training, and plyometrics. The course grade will be based on daily participation and effort, proper mechanics, physical fitness growth, and written tests. Course not offered every year.





VISUAL, APPLIED, AND PERFORMING ARTS COURSES

Course Name & Pathway	Grade, Length, Prerequisites	Course Description
 2-DIMENSIONAL ART 	Grades: 9-12 Length: Semester	In this hands-on studio class, students will explore the exciting world of two-dimensional art through drawing, painting, printmaking, and mixed media. Emphasis is placed on learning the elements and principles of design, experimenting with a variety of materials, and developing personal style and creativity. Students will study the work of historical and contemporary artists to gain inspiration and context for their own projects. Whether you're a beginner or already love to make art, this course offers the tools and space to grow as an artist and visual thinker.
 3-DIMENSIONAL ART 	Grades: 9-12 Length: Semester	This course introduces students to the creative world of three-dimensional art through hands-on experiences in sculpture and other construction-based media. Students will explore form, texture, balance, and space while working with materials like wire, cardboard, and wood. Projects will be inspired by both traditional and contemporary artists and will encourage creativity, problem-solving, and craftsmanship. Whether building for the first time or expanding their skills, this course helps students bring their artistic ideas into the third dimension.
CERAMICS 	Grades: 9-12 Length: Semester	This course introduces students to basic hand-building and wheel-throwing techniques through a variety of concepts and experiences. Students will be expected to apply design elements and principles as they create functional and sculptural forms in clay. *A lab fee of approximately \$35.00 may be incurred for consumable materials. Fee exemptions may be made on an "as needed" basis. Course not offered every year.
CERAMICS INDEPENDENT STUDY 	Grades: 10-12 Length: Semester Prerequisites: C- or better in CERAMICS STUDIO	This course is for students who have taken both ceramics classes and would like more time to develop their skills. Students will work closely with the teacher to develop a work/project schedule. By the end of the semester, students will have a number of cohesive pieces that are show-ready. *A lab fee of approximately \$35.00 may be incurred for consumable materials. Fee exemptions may be made on an "as needed" basis. Course not offered every year.
CERAMICS STUDIO 	Grades: 9-12 Length: Semester Prerequisites: C- or better in CERAMICS	This course continues to build on the techniques and skills learned in Ceramics. Combining the techniques, incorporating personal expression, and relating the work to art history are all important components. When possible, students will work more often on the ceramics wheel to develop that skill. Success will reflect good use of the elements and principles of design and craftsmanship. *A lab fee of approximately \$35.00 may be incurred for consumable materials. Fee exemptions may be made on an "as needed" basis. Course not offered every year.
INTRODUCTION TO MUSIC TECHNOLOGY 	Grades: 9-12 Length: Semester or Year	In this class, students will learn the basics of understanding the navigation of sound production software available through the school. Students will also learn about music theory through informal learning (natural musicianship) and using DAWs (digital audio workstations). In addition to technology learning, students will also learn about the science of sound, the psychology of music (connections to brain and identity), the history of electronic music and instruments, and the utilization of electronics in "art" music.




VISUAL, APPLIED, AND PERFORMING ARTS COURSES

Course Name & Pathway	Grade, Length, Prerequisites	Course Description
 JV BAND 	Grades: 9-12 Length: Year Prerequisites: One year of experience playing a concert band instrument	This developmental class is open to all students who have at least one year of experience playing a concert band instrument and wish to further develop their skills and confidence in an ensemble setting. Band is a one-year commitment every school year. This group will perform in concerts throughout the school year. Musical skill growth targets will be discussed and selected for all members of this class based on individual goals. Group goals will be aimed at building a strong ensemble culture, learning to listen, and supporting everyone's role within the music being performed.
THEATER ARTS 	Grades: 9-12 Length: Semester or Year	Theater Arts will focus on a variety of plays and musicals as well as the design and practical application of technical theater. Students will study every aspect of theater, including acting, set design and construction, lighting design and construction, sound design and construction, costume design and construction, and marketing techniques. The course will culminate in a performance event and will prepare students for performing arts productions. Course not offered every year.
 VARSITY BAND 	Grades: 9-12 Length: Year Prerequisites: Teacher Approval	This intermediate class is open to students by audition or permission of the instructor. Band is a one-year commitment every school year. Students in this class are prepared for higher levels of instrumental performance and are expected to demonstrate the dedication and independence required to meet the increased performance demands of this class. Required performances include half-time shows, parades, holiday and spring concerts, band festivals, commencement exercises, and some basketball games. Other performing opportunities arise from year to year.


FLEXIBLE PATHWAYS

Course Name & Pathway	Grade, Length, Prerequisites	Course Description
DUAL ENROLLMENT 	Grades: 9-12 Length: Semester or Year Prerequisites: School Counselor Approval	Dual enrollment is open to 9th-12th graders with qualifying test scores. Once approved, students should complete the tasks on page 2 of the dual enrollment packet . The school counselor must approve courses prior to registration. WLHS pays for the course, but if the student withdraws after the drop deadline or fails the course, the student is responsible for reimbursing the school for the cost of the course.
LEADERSHIP SEMINAR 	Grades: 11-12 Length: Semester Prerequisites: Teacher Approval	Leadership Seminar is designed for students interested in learning the basic concepts of leadership and developing his/her own leadership skills. The emphasis of this course will be on developing knowledge of self and others, defining and developing leadership skills and practices, and service learning. Students will learn about effective motivation, goal setting, time management, problem-solving, group dynamics, team building, communication, stress management, and leadership styles. Students will clearly understand the fundamental concepts of the differences between people and how they work together. Students will learn to recognize and have respect for the individuality of others, no matter their capability, race, gender, or religion. The class will be involved in the planning and execution of major school activities, along with numerous school-related projects. A service-learning requirement may take place outside of the designated class period of the school day. Instructor approval is required. Course not offered every year.
LINKS 	Grades: 11-12 Length: Semester or Year Prerequisites: Teacher Approval	LINKS is an elective class that pairs a student with special needs with a LINK for one scheduled class hour each day. This class focuses on assisting special needs students with socialization, independence, age-appropriate behavior, and life skills. The class teaches general information about disabilities, behavior, myths, and stereotypes. Our goal is to spread awareness not only to students in the LINKS course but the whole community. The student enrolled in LINKS will be a mentor, role model, friend, and a "link" to the community and school for a student with a special need. Additionally, they will assist the student in such things as appropriate classroom behavior, organization of assignments and supplies, and focusing on what the teacher is saying. Interested students should apply HERE . Course not offered every year.
LIVINGSTON CTE 	Grades: 11-12 Length: Year Prerequisites: School Counselor Approval	Programs offered through the Livingston Career & Technical Education are housed at various schools throughout Livingston County. These classes are offered during the school day and can be used as applied art or elective credits. A few of these courses can also fulfill the 3rd science or 4th-year math credit. Programs that may be available (based on slot allocation) to Whitmore Lake students include the following: Engineering and Robotics, Accounting, Early Childhood Education, Construction Trades, Graphic Communications, Manufacturing and Machine Trades, Culinary Arts, Health Occupations, Computer Network Engineering, Computer-Aided Design, Emergency Medical Service, and Alternative Energy. Students need to have secured a spot in their program of choice prior to scheduling.

FLEXIBLE PATHWAYS

Course Name & Pathway	Grade, Length, Prerequisites	Course Description
MICHIGAN VIRTUAL SCHOOL 	Grades: 9-12 Length: Semester or Year Prerequisites: School Counselor Approval	<p>Michigan Virtual is an online learning platform typically used for students who want to take a course not offered by WLHS. Virtual learning is a great option for many students and can be a very effective way to learn, but taking virtual courses is quite different from taking courses in a traditional face-to-face classroom and requires different skills than learning in a face-to-face classroom. It's important for students to know what they're getting into and what kind of support they'll need to be successful before classes start. Prior approval is needed before enrolling in this class, and a contract must be signed.</p>
PEERS 	Grades: 11-12 Length: Semester or Year Prerequisites: Teacher Approval	<p>PEERS (Positively Empowering & Encouraging our Students) is a course designed to educate students to provide support for peers with academic and social needs. The PEERS will serve as mentors, role models, and advocates. They will be assigned a classroom setting for a specific hour in the day that meets their schedule. This course will assist the student in acquiring an understanding and acceptance of diversity in everyday life and the work world ahead of them. Interested students should apply HERE. Course not offered every year.</p>
WORK-BASED LEARNING 	Grades: 11-12 Length: Semester or Year Prerequisites: CTE Director Approval	<p>Students employed outside the school in an approved job that aligns with the student's Educational Development Plan and career goals can apply for work-based learning credit. The maximum number of students for this program is 20. Students must work at least 5 hours but no more than 48 hours per week – school and work combined. Students must work only one job and at least 16 weeks out of an 18-week semester. If a student voluntarily leaves a job prior to the end of the semester or is terminated because of poor work habits, no credit will be given. Students must also be enrolled in a related business class. Other requirements/paperwork must be met within the first week of the class, or the student will be removed. For CTE Capstone, the student must have completed 6 of 12 segments. See Mrs. Taylor for more information if you are interested in work-based learning.</p>

ACADEMIC SUPPORT

Course Name & Pathway	Grade, Length, Prerequisites	Course Description
<p>TROJAN TIME</p> 	<p>Grades: 9-12 Length: Year</p>	<p>Trojan Time is a daily 25-minute instructional period in which students meet with an assigned teacher to engage in structured academic activities. Students may receive reteaching or enrichment, complete assessments, access tutoring, or participate in teacher-directed tasks. School announcements and important information are also shared during this time. Trojan Time ensures students have equitable access to academic support, enrichment, and communication during the school day.</p>