

Decatur Central High School  
**Course Description  
Handbook**



- Class of -  
2028

## CTE Courses

### **Principles of Agriculture**

2 semester course / 1 credit per semester

7117F / 7117S

Grade Level: 9-11

*Principles of Agriculture* is a two-semester course that will cover the diversity of the agricultural industry and agribusiness concepts. Students will develop an understanding of the role of agriculture in the United States and globally. Students will explore Agriculture, Food, and Natural Resource (AFNR) systems related to the production of food, fiber and fuel and the associated health, safety and environmental management systems. Topics covered in the course range from animals, plants, food, natural resources, ag power, structures and technology, and agribusiness. Participation in FFA and Supervised Agricultural Experiences (SAE) will be an integral part of this course in order to develop leadership and career ready skills.

### **Principles of Biomedical Sciences**

2 semester course / 1 credit per semester

5218F / 5218S

Grade Level: 9-11

*Principles of the Biomedical Sciences* provides an introduction to this field through “hands-on” projects and problems. Student work involves the study of human medicine, research processes and an introduction to bioinformatics. Students investigate the human body systems and various health conditions including heart disease, diabetes, hypercholesterolemia, and infectious diseases. A theme through the course is to determine the factors that led to the death of a fictional person. After determining the factors responsible for the death, the students investigate lifestyle choices and medical treatments that might have prolonged the person’s life. Key biological concepts included in the curriculum are: homeostasis, metabolism, inheritance of traits, feedback systems, and defense against disease. Engineering principles such as the design process, feedback loops, fluid dynamics, and the relationship of structure to function will be included where appropriate. The course is designed to provide an overview of all courses in the Biomedical Sciences program and to lay the scientific foundation necessary for student success in the subsequent courses. NOTE: This course aligns with the PLTW Principles of Biomedical Sciences curriculum.

### **Principles of Broadcasting**

2 semester course / 1 credit per semester

7139F / 7139S

Grade Level: 9-11

The purpose of the *Principles of Broadcasting* course is to provide entry-level fundamental skills for students who wish to seek or pursue opportunities in the field of broadcasting or mass media. Students will explore the technical aspects of audio and sound design for radio production and distribution, as well as, the technical aspects of video production and distribution.

## CTE Courses

### **Principles of Business Management**

2 semester course / 1 credit per semester

4562F / 4562S

Grade Level: 9-11

*Principles of Business Management* examines business ownership, organization principles and problems, management, control facilities, administration, financial management, and development practices of business enterprises. This course will also emphasize the identification and practice of the appropriate use of technology to communicate and solve business problems and aid in decision making. Attention will be given to developing business communication, problem-solving, and decision-making skills using spreadsheets, word processing, data management, and presentation software.

### **Principles of Computing**

2 semester course / 1 credit per semester

7183F / 7183S

Grade Level: 9-11

*Principles of Computing* provides students the opportunity to explore how computers can be used in a wide variety of settings. The course will begin by exploring trends of computing and the necessary skills to implement information systems. Topics include operating systems, database technology, cybersecurity, cloud implementations and other concepts associated with applying the principles of good information management to the organization. Students will also have the opportunity to utilize basic programming skills to develop scripts designed to solve problems. Students will learn about algorithms, logic development and flowcharting.

### **Principles of Construction Trades**

2 semester course / 1 credit per semester

7130F / 7130S

Grade Level: 9-11

*Principles of Construction Trades* prepares students with the basic skills needed to continue in a construction trade field. Topics will include an introduction to the types and uses for common hand and power tools, learn the types and basic terminology associated with construction drawings, and basic safety. Additionally students will study the roles of individuals and companies within the construction industry and reinforce mathematical and communication skills necessary to be successful in the construction field.

### **Principles of Criminal Justice**

2 semester course / 1 credit per semester

7193F / 7193S

Grade Level: 9-11

*Principles of Criminal Justice* covers the purposes, functions, and history of the three primary parts of the criminal justice system: law enforcement, courts, and corrections. This course further explores the interrelationships and responsibilities of these three primary elements of the criminal justice system.

## CTE Courses

### **Principles of Digital Design**

2 semester course / 1 credit per semester

7140F / 7140S

Grade Level: 9-11

*Principles of Digital Design* introduces students to fundamental design theory. Investigations into design theory and color dynamics will provide experiences in applying design theory, ideas and creative problem solving, critical peer evaluation, and presentation skills. Students will have the opportunity to apply the design theory through an understanding of basic photographic theory and technique. Topics will include image capture, processing, various output methods, and light.

### **Principles of Early Childhood Education**

2 semester course / 1 credit per semester

7160F / 7160S

Grade Level: 9-11

*Principles of Early Childhood Education* provides students with an overview of skills and strategies necessary to successfully complete a certificate. Additionally, it provides an overview of the history, theory, and foundations of early childhood education as well as exposure to types of programs, curricula and services available to young children. This course also examines basic principles of child development, Developmentally Appropriate Practices (DAP), importance of family, licensing, and elements of quality care of young children with an emphasis on the learning environment related to health, safety, and nutrition. Students may be required to complete observations and field experiences with children as related to this course.

### **Introduction to Engineering Design**

2 semester course / 1 credit per semester

4802F / 4802S

Grade Level: 9-11

*Introduction to Engineering Design* is a fundamental pre-engineering course where students become familiar with the engineering design process. Students work both individually and in teams to design solutions to a variety of problems using industry standard sketches and current 3D design and modeling software to represent and communicate solutions. Students apply their knowledge through hands-on projects and document their work with the use of an engineering notebook. Students begin with completing structured activities and move to solving open-ended projects and problems that require them to develop planning, documentation, communication, and other professional skills. Ethical issues related to professional practice and product development are also presented. NOTE: This course aligns with the PLTW Introduction to Engineering Design curriculum.

### **Principles of Exercise Science**

2 semester course / 1 credit per semester

7320F / 7320S

Grade Level: 9-11

*Principles of Exercise Science* provides an introduction to the science of exercise and human movement. Special topics include exercise physiology, sport biomechanics, sports medicine, and motor integration. Additionally, the course will examine career options in sport, health and wellness, education, and the medical fields like personal trainer, athletic training and physical therapy.

## CTE Courses

### **Principles of Industry 4.0 and Digital Manufacturing**

2 semester course / 1 credit per semester

7220F / 7220S

Grade Level: 9-11

*Principles of Industry 4.0* introduces students to the Industrial Internet of Things (IIoT). Students will explore Industry 4.0 technologies such as artificial intelligence (AI), human to robot collaboration, big data, safety, electrical, sensors, digital integration, fluid power, robot operation, measurement, CAD, CNC, additive manufacturing, print reading, and technical mathematics. Students will complete hands-on labs, virtual simulations, projects, and critical thinking assignments to help prepare for SACA C-101 Certified Industry 4.0 Associate I - Basic Operations certification exam.

### **Principles of Teaching**

2 semester course / 1 credit per semester

7161F / 7161S

Grade Level: 9-11

*Principles of Teaching* provides a general introduction to the field of teaching. Students will explore educational careers, teaching preparation, and professional expectations as well as requirements for teacher certification. Current trends and issues in education will be examined. A minimum 20 hour classroom observation experience is required for successful completion of this course.

## Fine Arts Courses

### **Introduction to Two-Dimensional Art**

4000

1 semester course / 1 credit

Grade Level: 9-12

*Introduction to Two-Dimensional Art* is a course based on the Indiana Academic Standards for Visual Art. Students taking this course engage in sequential learning experiences that encompass art history, art criticism, aesthetics, production, and integrated studies and lead to the creation of portfolio quality works. Students explore historical and cultural background and connections; analyze, interpret, theorize, and make informed judgments about artwork and the nature of art; create two-dimensional works of art, reflect upon the outcomes, and revise their work; relate art to other disciplines and discover opportunities for integration; and incorporate literacy and presentational skills. They identify ways to utilize and support art museums, galleries, studios, and community resources.

### **Introduction to Three-Dimensional Art**

4002

1 semester course / 1 credit

Grade Level: 9-12

*Introduction to Three-Dimensional Art* is a course based on the Indiana Academic Standards for Visual Art. Students taking this course engage in sequential learning experiences that encompass art history, art criticism, aesthetics, production, and integrated studies and lead to the creation of portfolio quality works. Students explore historical and cultural background and connections; analyze, interpret, theorize, and make informed judgments about artwork and the nature of art; create three-dimensional works of art, reflect upon the outcomes, and revise their work; relate art to other disciplines and discover opportunities for integration; and incorporate literacy and presentational skills. They identify ways to utilize and support art museums, galleries, studios, and community resources.

### **Advanced Two-Dimensional Art**

4004

1 semester course / 1 credit

Grade Level: 9-12

Prerequisite: C- or higher in Introduction to Two-Dimensional Art

*Advanced Two-Dimensional Art* is a course based on the Indiana Academic Standards for Visual Art. Students in this course build on the sequential learning experiences of Introduction to Two-Dimensional Art that encompass art history, art criticism, aesthetics, and production and lead to the creation of portfolio quality works. Students explore historical and cultural background and connections; analyze, interpret, theorize, and make informed judgments about artwork and the nature of art; create two-dimensional works of art, reflect upon the outcomes and revise their work; relate art to other disciplines and discover opportunities for integration; and incorporate literacy and presentational skills. They identify ways to utilize and support art museums, galleries, studios, and community resources.

## Fine Arts Courses

### **Advanced Three-Dimensional Art**

4006

1 semester course / 1 credit

Grade Level: 9-12

Prerequisite: C- or higher in Introduction to Three-Dimensional Art

*Advanced Three-Dimensional Art* is a course based on the Indiana Academic Standards for Visual Art. Students in this course build on the sequential learning experiences of Introduction to Three-Dimensional Art that encompass art history, art criticism, aesthetics, and production and lead to the creation of portfolio quality works. Students explore historical and cultural background and connections; analyze, interpret, theorize, and make informed judgments about artwork and the nature of art; create three-dimensional works of art, reflect upon the outcomes, and revise their work; relate art to other disciplines and discover opportunities for integration; and incorporate literacy and presentational skills. They identify ways to utilize and support art museums, galleries, studios, and community resources.

### **Painting 1**

4064

1 semester course / 1 credit

Grade Level: 9-12

\*The nature of this course allows for successive semesters (up to 4 semesters) at an advanced level if the student earns a C- or better.

*Painting* is a course based on the Indiana Academic Standards for Visual Art. Students taking painting engage in sequential learning experiences that encompass art history, art criticism, aesthetics, and production that lead to the creation of portfolio quality works. Students create abstract and realistic paintings, using a variety of materials such as mixed media, watercolor, oil, and acrylics as well as techniques such as stippling, gouache, wash, and impasto. They reflect upon and refine their work; explore cultural and historical connections; analyze, interpret, theorize, and make informed judgments about artwork and the nature of art; relate art to other disciplines and discover opportunities for integration; and incorporate literacy and presentational skills. Students utilize the resources of art museums, galleries, and studios, and identify art-related careers.

### **Technical Theatre**

4244

1 semester course / 1 credit

Grade Level: 9-12

Technical Theater is based on the Indiana Academic Standards for Theater. Students enrolled in Technical Theater actively engage in the process of designing, building, managing, and implementing the technical aspects of a production. These activities should incorporate elements of theater history, culture, analysis, response, creative process, and integrated studies. Additionally, students explore career opportunities in the theater, attend and critique theatrical productions, and recognize the responsibilities and the importance of individual theater patrons in their community.

## World Languages

### Spanish I

2 semester course / 1 credit per semester

2120F / 2120S

Grade Level: 9-12

*Spanish I*, a course based on Indiana's Academic Standards for World Languages, introduces students to effective strategies for beginning Spanish language learning, and to various aspects of Spanish-speaking culture. This course encourages interpersonal communication through speaking and writing, providing opportunities to make and respond to basic requests and questions, understand and use appropriate greetings and forms of address, participate in brief guided conversations on familiar topics, and write short passages with guidance. This course also emphasizes the development of reading and listening comprehension skills, such as reading isolated words and phrases in a situational context and comprehending brief written or oral directions. Additionally, students will examine the practices, products and perspectives of Spanish-speaking culture; recognize basic routine practices of the target culture; and recognize and use situation-appropriate non-verbal communication. This course further emphasizes making connections across content areas and the application of understanding Spanish language and culture outside of the classroom.

### Spanish II

2 semester course / 1 credit per semester

2120F / 2120S

Grade Level: 9-12

Prerequisite: successful completion of Spanish I

*Spanish II*, a course based on Indiana's Academic Standards for World Languages, builds upon effective strategies for Spanish language learning by encouraging the use of the language and cultural understanding for self-directed purposes. This course encourages interpersonal communication through speaking and writing, providing opportunities to make and respond to requests and questions in expanded contexts, participate independently in brief conversations on familiar topics, and write cohesive passages with greater independence and using appropriate formats. This course also emphasizes the development of reading and listening comprehension skills, such as using contextual clues to guess meaning and comprehending longer written or oral directions. Students will address the presentational mode by presenting prepared material on a variety of topics, as well as reading aloud to practice appropriate pronunciation and intonation. Additionally, students will describe the practices, products and perspectives of Spanish-speaking culture; report on basic family and social practices of the target culture; and describe contributions from the target culture. This course further emphasizes making connections across content areas and the application of understanding Spanish language and culture outside of the classroom.

## World Languages

### **Latin I**

course / 1 credit per semester

2080F / 2080S 2 semester

Grade Level: 9-12

*Latin I*, a course based on Indiana's Academic Standards for World Languages, introduces students to effective strategies for beginning Latin language learning, and to various aspects of classical Roman culture. This course emphasizes the development of reading and listening comprehension skills, such as reading isolated words and phrases in a situational context and comprehending brief written or oral directions. Though interpersonal communication is not an explicit emphasis of this course, opportunities may be provided for students to make and respond to basic requests and questions, understand and use appropriate greetings and forms of address, participate in brief guided conversations on familiar topics, and write short passages with guidance. Additionally, students will examine the practices, products and perspectives of classical Roman culture; recognize basic routine practices of the target culture; and recognize and use situation-appropriate non-verbal communication. This course further emphasizes making connections across content areas and the application of understanding Latin language and culture outside of the classroom.

## General Electives

### Indiana Studies

1518

1 semester course / 1 credit

Grade Level: 9-12

*Indiana Studies* is an integrated course that compares and contrasts state and national developments in the areas of politics, economics, history, and culture. The course uses Indiana history as a basis for understanding current policies, practices, and state legislative procedures. It also includes the study of state and national constitutions from a historical perspective and as a current foundation of government. Examination of individual leaders and their roles in a democratic society will be included, and students will examine the participation of citizens in the political process. Selections from Indiana arts and literature may also be analyzed for insights into historical events and cultural expressions.

### Ethnic Studies

1516

1 semester course / 1 credit

Grade Level: 9-12

*Ethnic Studies* provides opportunities to broaden students' perspectives concerning lifestyles and cultural patterns of ethnic groups in the United States. This course will either focus on a particular ethnic group or groups, or use a comparative approach to the study of patterns of cultural development, immigration, and assimilation, as well as the contributions of specific ethnic or cultural groups. The course may also include analysis of the political impact of ethnic diversity in the United States.

### Creative Writing

1092

1 semester course / 1 credit

Grade Level: 9-12

*Creative Writing*, a course based on the Indiana Academic Standards for English/Language Arts, is a study and application of the rhetorical writing strategies for prose and poetry. Using the writing process, students demonstrate a command of vocabulary, the nuances of language and vocabulary, English language conventions, an awareness of the audience, the purposes for writing, and the style of their own writing. Course can be offered in conjunction with a literature course, or schools may embed Indiana Academic Standards for English/Language Arts reading standards within curriculum.

### Advanced Composition

1098

1 semester course / 1 credit

Grade Level: 9-12

*Advanced Composition*, a course based on the Indiana Academic Standards for English/Language Arts, is a study and application of the rhetorical writing strategies of exposition and persuasion. Students write expository critiques of nonfiction selections, literary criticism of fiction selections, persuasive compositions, and research reports in addition to other appropriate writing tasks. Course can be offered in conjunction with a literature course, or schools may embed Indiana Academic Standards for English/Language Arts reading standards within curriculum.