

NHS COURSE SELECTION 2015-2016

In the next couple of months, you will work with your teachers and guidance counselor to determine your courses for next school year. Your current teachers will recommend courses and levels based on your performance in class up to this point in the year. You are encouraged to discuss these placements with your teachers. You will then meet individually with your guidance counselor to review teacher recommendations and to determine what elective class(es) you would like to take next year. It is important that you have a conversation with your parents/guardians about this selection process so that you are well-prepared to choose appropriate courses.

Below is the Graduation Requirement Checklist. In addition to the specific courses required, you will need to earn a total of at least 100 credits (25 minimum your senior year) and meet MCAS requirements.

Please check off the courses that you have already completed successfully so that you are aware of what courses you need going forward. *Please note: the number listed in parentheses is the amount of years you are required to take the courses listed below each discipline.*

Graduation Requirement Checklist:

English (4 years):

Fr English _____ Soph English _____ Jr English _____ Sr English _____

Math (3 years):

Algebra I _____ Geometry _____ Algebra 2 _____ Pre-Calculus _____ Senior College Math _____
Calculus _____ Data Skills _____

Science/Technology (3 years):

Physical Science _____ Biology _____ Chemistry _____ Physics _____ Forensic Science _____
Anatomy _____ Engineering _____

Social Studies (3 years):

World History _____ US History I _____ US History II _____

Foreign Language

(There is no Foreign Language graduation requirement; however, two years of the same foreign language is required to meet the standards of MA state universities):

Spanish 1 _____ Spanish 2 _____ Spanish 3 _____ Spanish 4 _____ Spanish 5 _____

French 2 _____ French 3 _____ French 4 _____ French 5 _____

Italian 1 _____ Italian 2 _____ Italian 3 _____ Italian 4 _____

Latin 1 _____ Latin 2 _____ Latin 3 _____ Latin 4 _____

Physical Education (2 years):

Phys Ed _____ & _____

Health (4 years):

Fr Health _____ Soph Health _____ Jr Health _____ Sr Health _____

Please complete the back of this form →

Course Selection Worksheet

In addition to the core course requirements listed on the front of this sheet, you will also need to earn credits by taking elective classes. On the attached sheet is a list of elective course offerings available for your grade. Please discuss these options with your parents/guardian.

After you have discussed course and level placement with your teachers and have reviewed the elective course offerings, please complete the form below. You will bring this completed form with you when you meet with your guidance counselor in late February or early March. You will receive advanced notice of when this meeting will take place.

Below, please list the core courses and electives class(es) that you plan to take next year.

English: _____

Math: _____

Science: _____

Social Studies: _____

Foreign Language (if applicable): _____

Elective #1: _____

Elective #2 (if applicable): _____

Elective #3 (if applicable): _____

NHS Course Selection for 2015-2016 School Year

Elective Offerings for Future Sophomores

❖ **Accounting** – 5 Credits *(offered at Honors or CP level)*

Students will have the opportunity to learn the complete accounting cycle; learn the accounting subsystems of cash receipts, cash payments, purchases, sales, personal and payroll taxes and general accounting; and learn to prepare financial reports. The course integrates manual and automated accounting through the use of the computer system and automated software.

❖ **Intro to Technology** – 5 Credits *(offered at CP level)*

This is a full year survey course that introduces students to topics related to technology and engineering: design process, drafting, CAD, construction and manufacturing technologies, as well as electricity and alternate energy technologies. State content standards in technology and engineering will be reinforced in a project based classroom/lab that emphasizes student preparation for future technology/engineering courses: CAD, Wood Technology / Manufacturing, Energy Systems, or Engineering/Robotics. There will be additional academic expectations for college prep courses.

❖ **Engineering** – 5 Credits *(offered at Honors or CP level)*

This full-year course will combine technology, engineering, and mathematics standards into an engineering capstone project very similar to the Mars Pathfinder Rover Project. In completing this capstone project, students will study and apply concepts in a number of disciplines: science, technology, engineering, and mathematics. Science topics include motion, gravity, speed of light, and electrical and mechanical energy. Technology and engineering topics covered are the design process, design implementation, operation systems, invention, innovation, control systems, basic and advanced electronics; and principles of machining. Mathematics topics that are introduced and reinforced include percentages, ratios; problem solving, and geometric relationships. The course focus is that of real-life applications for science, technology, engineering, and math. Smaller student projects during the course may include a catapult, and robotic arm. There will be significantly higher academic expectations of students in honors level courses.

❖ **Computer Aided Drawing (CAD)** – 5 Credits *(offered at CP level)*

This is a yearlong course designed to acquaint students with the basic skills, and computer aided drawing (CAD) procedures used by all industries in communicating manufacturing information. The primary focus will be on two dimensional multi-view drawing using computers, and traditional drawing tools—including geometric constructions, interior details, dimensioning, auxiliary views, and model rendering (pictorial drawing). This CAD course is intended for students with engineering, architectural or other technical college/profession ambitions. The course will also provide an excellent background for any other Science or Technology Education elective.

Prerequisite: Intro to Technology or teacher approval

❖ **Foundations of Art Making** – 5 Credits *(offered at Honors or CP level)*

This course introduces students to the fundamentals of art making and design. This course is designed to meet the needs of students of all ability and experience levels. Students will spend an entire quarter studying the following disciplines: drawing, painting, digital 2D design (computer graphics), and 3D design (sculpture). The Elements of Art and the Principles of Design will be studied in depth. Students will learn vital drawing skills, the fundamental of color theory, painting techniques, how to manipulate three dimensional space, as well as essential skills in Adobe's Creative Suite. Students will use a variety of materials, including charcoal, acrylic paint, clay, Adobe's Photoshop, etc. This course is designed for students who are an interest in art, whether it may be to pursue a career in the vast field of visual arts or as a personal passion/interest, or just want to learn. The emphasis of this course is skill development. For homework, each week students are expected to complete 5 ten-minute drawings based on the assigned theme. This course is required to take any second level Drawing and Painting, 2D Digital Design or 3D Design courses.

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❖ **The History of Rock & Roll** – 5 Credits *(offered at the CP level)*

An elective course designed for students interested in learning about the development of popular American music. Students will listen to and analyze examples of music, starting with the folk music tradition and tracing its evolution through classic rock and up to today's "top 40". Current or previous study of an instrument or voice is not necessary.

❖ **Men's or Women's Concert Choir** – 5 Credits *(offered at the Honors or CP level)*

The Men's Choir is an intermediate level male (TTB) vocal ensemble that performs a wide variety of choral repertoire. The Women's Concert Choir is an intermediate level treble (SSA) vocal ensemble that performs a wide variety of choral repertoire. Personal musicianship skills developed through participation in this ensemble include beginning to intermediate singing techniques, music literacy, music theory, ear training, and performance experience. With the approval of the choral director, students may elect to take this class for honors credit. Students who elect to take this class for honors credit will be required to take private voice lessons and perform in a minimum of one class recital.

❖ **Concert Band** – 5 Credits *(offered at the Honors or CP level)*

The Concert Band is an intermediate level instrumental ensemble that performs a wide variety of concert repertoire. Personal musicianship skills developed through participation in this ensemble include beginning to intermediate level playing techniques, music literacy, music theory, ear training, and performance experience. Ensemble skills that are developed include awareness of and sensitivity to ensemble tone quality, blend, balance, intonation, articulation, phrasing, dynamics, and style. This class will require participation in rehearsals and performances both during and after school. In addition, a student's attitude and behavior must meet the standards set by the Band Director and Director of Fine Arts. With the approval of the band director, students may elect to take this class for honors credit. Students who elect to take this class for honors credit will be required to take private instrumental lessons and perform in a minimum of one class recital.

❖ **Intro to Theatre Performance/Drama I** – 5 Credits *(offered at the CP level)*

This introductory acting course is designed for students interested in learning how to act and perform in theater, television and film. Students will develop acting skills through improvisation, scene work, theater games and exercises, and group play building. Students will be required to memorize and perform monologues and scenes. Students will also learn the essential mechanics of script development through improvisational material, group writing, and analysis of proven works. This class will require participation in rehearsals and performances both during and after school.

❖ **Intro to Telecommunications/TV 1** – 5 Credits – STUDENTS MUST APPLY FOR THIS ELECTIVE!

This class will study the history of and future implications of television and video in industry, education, entertainment and other forms of media communication. Students will be given the opportunity to learn about television production, news production, and techniques for successful writing and production. Students will be eligible to audition and participate in front of the camera and behind the scenes of the school newscast. The inner workings of the newsroom, and media literacy from advertising, sit coms, newscasts, and dramas are studied. This level of TV class produces programs for the educational access channel. Student projects may include public service announcements, news packages, commercials, news opens, and music videos. Students will be trained on switching, special effects, graphics, studio and remote cameras, and digital editing. After school time will be needed to complete many projects. This course is a requirement for any future coursework in TV. *(Offered at the CP level)*

❖ **Intro to Guitar** – 3 Credit Elective Minor *(offered at the CP level)*

Students will learn to play guitar and experience a wide variety of musical styles, such as folk, rock, blues, jazz, and country. Personal musicianship skills developed will include right and left hand playing techniques, ear training, improvisation, music literacy, and basic music theory. ***Students need not own their own guitars. Instruments will be made available through the music department.***