



Niles High School
Course Descriptions
Grades 9-12
2023-2024



Niles High School Course Descriptions

*Dynamic Learners * Diverse Opportunities * Driven to Succeed*

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Niles High School Course Descriptions

English Courses

English 9:

Year/1 credit

MMC Credits Earned: English 9 (1)

Grade: 9

Prerequisite: None

Students will engage in learning tasks that will emphasize Common Core State Standards in reading, writing, language, and speaking and listening. Daily tasks will include reading, writing, and group discussions.

Reading Enrichment:

Year/1 credit

MMC Credits Earned:

Grade: 9

Prerequisite: placed based on test scores, teacher recommendation

The purpose of this course is to support 9th grade students with reading proficiency. This course will utilize tools and strategies from the Read 180 program. Students engage in whole group, small group and independent work on spelling, writing, academic vocabulary, and comprehension skills.

English 9 Accelerated:

Year/1 credit

MMC Credits Earned: English 9 (1)

Grade: 9

Prerequisite: minimum test score, teacher recommendation, 8th grade grades

In this course, students will analyze, interpret, and examine a wide variety of reading material. From classic novels and plays to challenging articles and short stories, students can expect in-depth reading assignments. Essential components of this course include advanced critical thinking and writing skills. Students will also work on basic presentation methods.

English 10:

Year/1 credit

MMC Credits Earned: English 10 (1)

Grade: 10

Prerequisite: English 9

This course combines a strong focus on reading as an adult while enabling students to craft essays, which provide analysis and mature reading. Focus is on the student forming opinions on what is read and analyzing the works from the perspective of an adult. Themes focus on love and marriage, the search for personal identity, lessons of history (including a section on the Holocaust of WW II), as well as fantasy and science fiction. Writers range from Ray Bradbury, Sylvia Plath, to Shakespeare as well as Anne Frank and Elie Wiesel. In addition to an emphasis on expanding vocabulary, grammar is studied as it relates to sentence structure and punctuation.

English 10 Accelerated:

Year/1 credit

MMC Credits Earned: English 10 (1)

Grade: 10

Prerequisite: English 9, minimum test score, teacher recommendation, 9th grade grades

This course moves at a quicker pace with higher expectations and more advanced reading selections than English 10.

English 11:

Year/1 credit

MMC Credits Earned: English 11 (1)

Grade: 11

Prerequisite: English 9, English 10

This course is designed and devoted to an in-depth study of the American experience as captured in the seminal works of masters of American literature. Through poetry and stories, students are exposed to the various periods of American literature and the ideas and forces that shaped the writing of those times. The course focuses on historical as well as literary themes through reading, writing, listening/viewing, speaking and SAT prep. The analysis, interpretation and appreciation of the many aspects of American literature is emphasized throughout the course.



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AP English Language and Composition:

Year/1 credit

MMC Credits Earned: English (1)

Grade: 10-12

Prerequisite: English 9, minimum test score, teacher recommendation, grades

AP Language and Composition is a rigorous academic program built on the commitment, passion and hard work of students. Students develop and apply the skills, abilities and content knowledge they will need later in college. Students will have the opportunity to earn college credit based on individual scores on the AP Exam taken in May. SAT prep is also a focus.

AP English Literature and Composition:

Year/1 credit

MMC Credits Earned: English (1)

Grade: 10-12

Prerequisite: English 9, minimum test score, teacher recommendation, grades

This course will engage you in the careful reading and critical analysis of imaginative literature. Through the close reading of selected texts, you can deepen your understanding of the ways writers use language to create meaning. You'll learn to consider a work's structure, style, and themes, as well as smaller-scale elements such as the use of figurative language, imagery, symbolism, and tone.

English 12:

Year/1 credit

MMC Credits Earned: English 12 (1)

Grade: 12

Prerequisite: English 9, 10, 11

The purpose of this course is to give students an understanding of the expectations of a college reading course. Students will read and analyze a selection of novels and works of nonfiction. Analysis will be accomplished through Socratic Seminars and the writing of papers. Students will acquire the skills necessary to write a college-level literary analysis as well as improve reading comprehension and note taking skills.

College Writing:

Semester/.5 credit

MMC Credits Earned: English 12 (1)

Grade: 12

Prerequisite: English 9, 10, 11, minimum test score

This course focuses on expository writing and closely related activities of critical reading and thinking. Primary attention given to formal elements of short essays based upon or incorporating documented source material.

Creative Writing:

Semester/.5 credit

MMC Credits Earned: English 12 (1)

Grade: 12

Prerequisite: English 9, 10, 11, minimum test score

Students read and write in a variety of genres. Writings are read aloud.

IEP English

Year/1 credit

MMC Credits Earned: English 9-12 (1)

Grade: 9-12

Prerequisite: none

Our purpose is to prepare our students to become respectful, responsible, and resilient productive adult life long learners. It is our expectation these students will have the skills, both academic and affective, to be successful at home, in the community, and in the world of work. This preparation involves mastery of the Common Core College/Career Readiness anchor standards for reading and writing.

Dual Enrollment English:

Semester/.5 credit

MMC Credits Earned: English

Grade: 11-12

Prerequisite: application to LMC or SMC, minimum AccuPlacer score



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History/Social Studies Courses

US History:

Year/1 Credit

MMC Credits Earned: US History(1)

Grade: 9

Prerequisite: none

The study of United States history and geography prepares students to take up the challenges of life in contemporary society. This course introduces students to the history of the United States with a focus on the post-Civil War Industrial Age to the present day. Beginning with a review of prior political, intellectual, and demographic transformations that shaped the nation, students learn about major political, philosophical, and historical underpinnings of our government. Students analyze how ideas of freedom and equality have shaped our collective past and explore implications for the future. Adopting a chronological approach, students analyze their causes and effects of events in the nation's past. They use primary and secondary sources to explore time and place in the twentieth century. Within their historical study of twentieth century America, students deepen their understanding of major geographical themes, economic principles, and significant concepts in United States government. Students learn to develop important questions, conduct inquiry, and evaluate evidence. They also read a variety of historical arguments and develop skills in writing evidentiary-based arguments and historical narratives. By helping identify common and diverse strands that formed and continue to shape life in America, students develop the habits of mind essential for democratic citizenship.

IEP US History

Year/1 Credit

MMC Credits Earned: US History(1)

Grade: 9-12

Prerequisite: IEP

This course will focus on the period of American history of 1862 to the present. Students are expected to know the key social, economic, political and cultural events, to demonstrate an understanding of personal narratives, cause and effect, key political and economic decisions, and to analyze and interpret historical evidence.

Civics:

Semester/.5 Credit

MMC Credits Earned: Civics (.5)

Grade: 10

Prerequisite: none

This one-semester course deepens students' knowledge of American government. Through discussion and writing, students practice making reasoned decisions about matters of public policy. Five questions guide students' study: What are civic life, politics, and government? What are the origins and foundations of the American political system? How does the government, established by the Constitution, function to embody the purposes, values, and principles of American constitutional democracy? What is the relationship of the United States to other nations and its role in world affairs? What are the roles of citizens in American society? Students engage in investigations, analysis, and arguments about civic life in the United States and the role of the United States in the world. In making reasoned and evidentiary-based interpretations, arguments, or decisions, students frame important questions, locate and analyze appropriate evidence and data, consider differing points of view, and apply concepts and principles of American constitutional democracy. Through participating in democratic deliberations around public policy issues to strengthen their understanding of the legal rights and accompanying responsibilities shared by all citizens.

IEP Civics:

Semester/.5 Credit

MMC Credits Earned: Civics (.5)

Grade: 9-12

Prerequisite: IEP

Students explore ideas, values, and institutions underlying the American democratic system, and forms functions and processes of national government to illustrate a citizen's relationship to our government. In groups or on an individualized basis, students learn the rights and responsibilities of a citizen.



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Economics:

Semester/.5 Credit

MMC Credits Earned: Economics (.5)

Grade: 10

Prerequisite: none

This course builds economic literacy in students. The overarching problem of scarcity, unlimited human wants pursuing limited resources, is a focal point of the course. Students deepen their prior knowledge of basic economic concepts and apply them to national and international economic systems and problems as a whole. In addition to their study of macroeconomics, students study how interactions of buyers and sellers impact prices and supplies, as well as the role of trade-offs and incentives in consumer and business decisions. Using a variety of media, students will compile, analyze, and present statistical data pertinent to economic problems. Students will use their economic knowledge to make informed decisions as consumers and to participate as citizens in deciding matters of economic policy. This course is designed to develop students' global perspective in an economically interdependent world.

IEP Economics:

Semester/.5 Credit

MMC Credits Earned: Economics (.5)

Grade: 9-11

Prerequisite: IEP

This course provides students with an economic perspective of the world. Study includes: economic choices of individuals and society, economic choices of business, the government's role in economics, economic systems, and interdependence created by economic activity.

World History:

Year/1 Credit

MMC Credits Earned: World History (1)

Grade: 11

Prerequisite: none

This course introduces students to the study of world history in order to construct a common memory of where humankind has been and what accounts for present circumstances. Building upon foundations from middle school, the course begins with a period of expanding and intensified hemispheric interactions (circa 300 C.E.) and

continues to the present. Students study world history through several lenses: global, interregional, and regional. Through a global and comparative approach, students examine worldwide events, processes, and interactions among the world's people, cultures, societies, and environment. Interregional and regional approaches provide students the opportunity for deep investigation of examples of global trends. Emphasis is placed on skills that enable students to evaluate evidence, develop comparative and causal analyses, interpret the historical record, construct sound historical arguments, and recognize perspectives on which informed decisions in contemporary life can be based. This course enables students to focus on large historical and geographic patterns, as well as their causes and consequences. Students study human governance systems, patterns of interactions among societies and regions, and patterns of cultural, intellectual, religious, and social changes. They analyze the impact of demographic, technological, environmental, political, and economic changes on people, their culture, and their environment. The integration of historical thinking skills and historical understandings throughout this course equips students to analyze issues and problems confronting citizens today.

IEP World History

Year/1 Credit

MMC Credits Earned: World History (1)

Grade: 9-12

Prerequisite: IEP

This course helps students see the relevance of world history in their lives with stories of the world's people, including events from the earliest times to the present.

Psychology:

Semester/.5 Credit

MMC Credits Earned: none

Grade: 11-12

Prerequisite: none

This course will introduce students to the study of psychology by providing broad coverage of the field through presenting basic theories, research, and applied use of psychology. Students also get a background from which either to pursue more advanced psychology courses in college, or to retain the information as a basic knowledge of psychology in general. Most importantly,



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students will begin to discover more about themselves and why they and others might behave the way they do.

Topics include: The Science of Psychology, Psychology and Behavior, Sensation and Perception, States of Consciousness, Learning, memory, cognition, Lifespan development, Motivation and Emotion, Personality, Abnormal Psychology and Therapies, Social Psychology and Diversity. You will study psychology from both theoretical and applied perspectives. Students will develop critical thinking skills to help them develop effective decision-making skills.

Sociology:

Semester/.5 Credit

MMC Credits Earned: none

Gradel: 11-12

Prerequisite: none

Sociology is the study of the development, structure, and functioning of human society. It is concerned with people's relationships, roles, responsibilities and organization. In short, it is the study of people in society. Students will focus on the major theoretical perspectives, functionalism, conflict theory, and Symbolic interactionism, learn to apply them to better understand social behaviors and their consequences. They will apply social research methods to analyze the strengths and weaknesses of each theoretical and methodological approach. Students will study how social institutions and cultures change and evolve, examine the reciprocal relationship of socialization between groups and individuals, and evaluate how individuals and groups respond to social inequality and social movements.

AP Psychology:

Year/1 Credit

MMC Credits Earned: none

Grade: 10-12

Prerequisite: minimum test score, teacher recommendation, grades

The purpose of AP® Psychology is to introduce students to the systematic and scientific study of the behavior and mental processes of human beings and other animals. Students are exposed to the psychological facts, principles, and phenomena associated with each of the major subfields within psychology. A variety of activities, demonstrations, and projects will be provided to meet this goal of instructing scientific and empirical approaches.

Students will learn about some of the explorations and discoveries made by psychologists over the past century, assess some of the differing approaches adopted by psychologists, including the biological, behavioral, cognitive, humanistic, psychodynamic, and sociocultural perspectives. Most importantly, students come to an appreciation of how psychologists think (or at least an appreciation of the kind of critical analysis that psychologists espouse and hope to model in their words and actions). Summer work may be expected; this course is weighted.

AP US Government and Politics

Year/1 Credit

MMC Credits Earned: Civics (½)

Grade: 10-12

Prerequisite: US History, minimum test score, teacher recommendation, grades

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 behavior. They will also engage in disciplinary practices that require 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.

AP US History:

Year/1 Credit

MMC Credits Earned: US History(1)

Grade: 10-12

Prerequisite: US History, minimum test score, teacher recommendation, grades

This Advanced Placement history class is designed to challenge high school students on the level of an introductory college history class. To this end students will need to develop and demonstrate many skills. It is expected that students read historical material effectively, learn to think critically and write persuasively and analytically. Students will read a college level text, primary sources, and a variety of interpretive, scholarly works.



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Students are expected to arrive at evaluative conclusions based on the weight of evidence. Students are expected to gather and apply knowledge from maps, charts, graphs, and political cartoons. The course is designed to help students master the basics of historical thinking. These skills include; looking for patterns in the past, and how the past informs the present, analyzing cause and effect relationships, and to recognize change over time and explain its significance. Also longitudinal themes will be examined in each unit, in particular how class, race, gender, religion, and regional differences shape our history. Throughout the course we will practice writing analytical, logically organized, thesis driven essays. In these essays the student will use significant and relative evidence to support their contentions. Tests will be constructed to align as closely to the format of the Advanced Placement Exam as possible. All free response essays and Document Based Questions will be drawn from previous Advanced Placement Exams and scored according to the Advanced Placement rubric to ensure the appropriate challenge and validity of assessment. Summer work may be expected; weighted

Dual Enrollment Social Studies:

Semester/.5 credit

MMC Credits Earned: Social Studies/History

Grade: 11-12

Prerequisite: application to LMC or SMC, minimum AccuPlacer score



Niles High School Course Descriptions

Math Courses

PROGRESSION:

Geometry, Algebra 1, Algebra 2

Geometry:

Year/1 credit

MMC Credits Earned: Geometry

Grade: 9

Prerequisite: none

Geometry is the study of the methods of mathematical reasoning using the physical world as a model. Relationships between straight and curved lines, planes, and both flat and solid shapes are studied.

Math Enrichment:

Year/1 credit

MMC Credits Earned:

Grade: 9

Prerequisite: placed based on test scores, teacher recommendation

The purpose of this course is to support 9th grade students, who are not yet ready to learn high school level mathematics. This course will be aligned to the Delta Math readiness standards for grades 6th, 7th and 8th. Note that these standards are a subset of our district power standards. Additionally, proficiency with these particular standards has been shown to have a positive impact on student achievement in high school mathematics.

IEP Geometry

Year/1 credit

MMC Credits Earned: Geometry

Grade: 9-12

Prerequisite: IEP

This course covers the relationship of points, lines, planes and three dimensional figures. The student will develop a limited knowledge of ratios, proportions, and formulas

Accelerated Geometry

Year/1 credit

MMC Credits Earned: Geometry

Grade: 9, 10

Prerequisite: minimum test score, teacher recommendation, grades

This course moves at a faster pace than Geometry and covers the topics of Geometry more in depth. This course is meant for those that are ambitious students.

Algebra 1:

Year/1 credit

MMC Credits Earned: Algebra

Grade: 10

Prerequisite: Geometry

Algebra is designed to give students the requisite skills that provide a foundation for all future mathematics courses. Students will explore writing and solving linear equations, powers and exponents, quadratic equations, polynomials and factoring, graphing and solving linear inequalities and functions.

IEP Algebra I

Year/1 credit

MMC Credits Earned: Algebra

Grade: 10

Prerequisite: Geometry, IEP

Designed as a foundation for algebra, this comprehensive program motivates students as they build the important skills and confidence they need to take on algebra. Students are provided with essential preparation for a variety of testing situations, including the most widely used standardized tests.

Algebra II:

Year/1 credit

MMC Credits Earned: Algebra II

Grade: 11

Prerequisite: Geometry, Algebra 1

This course is an extension of Algebra 1, followed by the treatment of new topics, including: linear functions and equations, inequalities, quadratics, polynomial and rational expressions, exponential and logarithmic functions, conics, trigonometry, and probability and statistics.



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IEP Algebra II

Year/1 credit

MMC Credits Earned: Algebra II

Grade: 11

Prerequisite: Geometry, Algebra 1

This course will help students understand that Algebra is the study of the structure of real and complex number systems. Students will also acquire knowledge in the applications of algebraic concepts and skills.

Accelerated Algebra II:

Year/1 credit

MMC Credits Earned: Algebra II

Grade: 10

Prerequisite: Geometry, Algebra 1

minimum test score, teacher recommendation, grades

This course moves at a faster pace than Algebra II and covers the topics of Algebra II more in depth. This course is meant for those that are planning to take AP Calculus in the future.

IEP Consumer Math:

Year/1 credit

MMC Credits Earned: final year math

Grade: 12

Prerequisite: IEP

This course is designed for the student who desire to strengthen and develop basic math skills for everyday living. Topics include consumer skills related to earning money, transportation costs, living costs, money management and managing a household. Personal financing and budgeting for now and after high school is a large portion of this course.

Personal Finance

Semester/.5 credit

MMC Credits Earned: final year math if taken senior year

Grade: 12

Prerequisite: none

Understanding and managing personal finances are crucial to one's future financial success. This one-semester course provides learners with the essential knowledge and skills to make informed decisions about their financial futures. Learners will learn to apply decision making skills to evaluate career choices and set personal

goals. The content of the course is designed to help the learner make wise spending, saving, and credit decisions and to make effective use of income to achieve personal financial success

Probability & Statistics:

Semester/.5 credit

MMC Credits Earned: final year math if taken senior year

Grade: 12

Prerequisite: Algebra 1, Geometry, Algebra 2

In this course, students will learn the concepts that serve as the foundation for the study of probability and statistics. Students will see how fields outside of mathematics use statistics to analyze and interpret data to make informed decisions. This course is designed for those not looking to take math after high school but may also be of interest to the math/science-focused student and taken concurrently with another math class.

Pre-Calculus:

Year/1 credit

MMC Credits Earned: final year math if taken senior year

Grade: 11-12

Prerequisite: Geometry, Algebra 1, Algebra 2, teacher recommendation, grades

This course is intended for the serious math student or student that is expecting to take Calculus in high school or college. It is designed to prepare the student for calculus by studying functions, limits, trigonometry, analytical geometry, and also covers the beginning units of Calculus

AP Precalculus:

Year/1 credit

MMC Credits Earned: math

Grade: 12

Prerequisite: Geometry, Algebra 1, Accelerated Algebra 2 (A or B) or Regular Algebra 2 (A and teacher recommendation)

In AP Precalculus, students explore everyday situations using mathematical tools and lenses. Through regular practice, students build deep mastery of modeling and functions, and they examine scenarios through multiple representations. They will learn how to observe, explore, and build mathematical meaning from dynamic systems, an important practice for thriving in an ever-changing



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world. AP Precalculus prepares students for other higher-level mathematics and science courses. The framework delineates content and skills common to college precalculus courses that are foundational for careers in mathematics, physics, biology, health science, social science, and data science.

AP Calculus AB:

Year/1 Credit

MMC Credits Earned: final year math if taken senior year

Grade: 12

Prerequisite: Algebra, Geometry, Algebra II, Pre-Calc, teacher recommendation, grades

This course is a first-semester, college-level Calculus course that explores functions, limits, derivatives and integrals. It prepares students to take the AP Calculus AB test. It is meant for students intending to earn a math related degree (mathematics, engineering, physics) in college as well as those students seeking an opportunity to possibly test out of a math course in college. Summer work may be expected.

Dual Enrollment Math:

Semester/.5 credit

MMC Credits Earned: Math

Grade: 11-12

Prerequisite: application to LMC or SMC, minimum AccuPlacer score



Niles High School Course Descriptions

Science Courses

SCIENCE PATHWAYS FOR GRADUATION:

OPTION 1: Biology, Physical Science, Earth Science

OPTION 2: Biology, Chemistry, Earth Science, Physics:
considered more rigorous by colleges

IN ORDER OF PROGRESS

Biology:

Year/1 credit

MMC Credits Earned: Biology (Life Science)

Grade: 9

Prerequisite: none

Biology introduces students to a variety of topics ranging from the study of living things to environmental problems including cells, classification, heredity, evolution and ecosystems. An emphasis will be placed on students performing scientific investigation, as well as reading, discussing and researching biologically related issues while studying the following topics: structure and function, matter and energy in organisms and ecosystems, interdependent relationships in ecosystems, inheritance and variation of traits, natural selection and evolution. This class meets the Michigan Science Standards for Life Science and is required for graduation.

IEP Biology:

Year/1 credit

MMC Credits Earned: Biology (Life Science)

Grade: 9-12

Prerequisite: IEP

This course will provide the students with an overall understanding of the life science field. Emphasis is placed on the cell, genetics/heredity/natural selection, and the five kingdoms of living things (animals, plants, fungi, monerans, and protists). In addition, the scientific method, ecology, and the living conditions are studied. This class meets the Michigan Science Standards for Life Science and is required for graduation.

Physical Science:

Year/1 credit

MMC Credits Earned: Physical Science

Grade: 10

Prerequisite: Geometry, concurrent with Algebra 1

Physical Science provides students with a broad-based introduction to physics and chemistry. Students will utilize laboratory work, technology applications and research skills while learning about structure and properties of matter, chemical reactions, forces and interactions, waves and electromagnetic radiation, and energy. This class meets the Michigan Science Standards for Physical Science and is required for graduation.

IEP Physical Science:

Year/1 credit

MMC Credits Earned: Physical Science

Grade: 9-12

Prerequisite: IEP

This course will provide students with a focus on the introduction, types, and behavior of matter. Also, exploring the periodic table, chemical reactions, forces, motion, energy, waves, sound, light, electricity, and magnetism. In addition, the scientific method and career opportunities in this field are studied. This class meets the Michigan Science Standards for Physical Science and is required for graduation.

Chemistry:

Year/1 credit

MMC Credits Earned: Chemistry (Physical Science -
When taken in conjunction with Physics)

Grade: 10-12

Prerequisite: Geometry, concurrent with Algebra 1, and
Teacher Recommendation

Chemistry provides students with an understanding of chemical principles and skills. The study of chemistry includes laboratory investigation, problem solving activities, textbook study, lecture, and class discussion. The emphasis of this class is an in depth classroom and laboratory study of structure and properties of matter, chemical reactions, forces and interactions, and energy.



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Earth Science:

Year/1 credit

MMC Credits Earned: Earth and Space Science

Grade: 10-12

Prerequisite: none

Earth Science will investigate processes that operate on Earth and also address its place in the universe. The Earth consists of a set of systems such as the atmosphere, hydrosphere, geosphere, and biosphere that are intricately interconnected. Students will explore how small changes, including human impact can have large and sudden consequences in parts of other systems. Units of study will include: space systems, the history of Earth, Earth's systems, weather and climate, and human sustainability. This class meets the Michigan Science Standards for Earth and Space Science and is required for graduation.

IEP Earth Science:

Year/1 credit

MMC Credits Earned: Earth and Space Science

Grade: 9-12

Prerequisite: IEP

This course will provide the students with an overall understanding of the earth science field. Emphasis is placed on the Earth's structure, history, solar system, geochemical cycles, personal and social perspectives on our earth, challenges we face, and science and technology. In addition, the scientific method, understanding science inquiry, and the application of sciences in our lives. This class meets the Michigan Science Standards for Earth and Space Science and is required for graduation.

Physics:

Year/1 credit

MMC Credits Earned: Physics (Physical Science - When taken in conjunction with Chemistry)

Grade: 11-12

Prerequisite: Geometry, Algebra 1, concurrent with Algebra 2 or Pre-Calc, and Teacher Recommendation

Physics engages students who have a curiosity about the physical world. Emphasis is placed on understanding the structure and properties of matter, forces and interactions, waves and electromagnetic radiation, energy and electricity. In addition students will continue developing

laboratory skills and using the scientific method to investigate and apply the ideas of physics to technology and developing an awareness of the impact of physics on society.

Dual Enrollment Science:

Semester/.5 credit

MMC Credits Earned: Science

Grade: 11-12

Prerequisite: application to LMC or SMC, minimum AccuPlacer score



Niles High School Course Descriptions

New Tech Program: 9th through 10th grade

American Studies

Year/1 credit

MMC Credits Earned: English 9 (1), U.S. History (1)

Gradel: 9

Prerequisite: None

This interdisciplinary humanities course integrates a comprehensive academic survey of twentieth-century U.S. History with ninth grade English. In this course, learners will complete complex and challenging projects that focus on the political, economic, and social events and issues related to the United States development as a world power. Their work will include reading short stories, poetry, non-fiction, novels, and drama related to the United States in the twentieth-century. They will write for a variety of purposes and audiences in traditional forms (personal narrative, essay, literary analysis, journaling, poetry, etc.) as well as in 21st-century forms (movies, documentaries, weblogs, digital stories, podcasts, presentations, Google Docs, etc.)

Bio Earth

Year/1 credit

MMC Credits Earned: Biology (1), Earth Science (1)

Grade: 9

Prerequisite: None

This course integrates Biology and the Earth Science curriculum that is traditionally taught separately. In this course, learners will solve challenging real-world problems that demonstrate understanding of how abiotic matter (atoms, molecules, elements) interacts with and affects biotic matter (living organisms and the environment). Specific concepts that are covered include the scientific process, Earth's spheres, energy and matter cycles, human impacts, cells, DNA, homeostasis, evolution, genetics, ecology, as well as additional scientific concepts necessary for future success. This class meets the Michigan Science Standards for Earth, Space Science, and Biology.

Civics Lit

Year/1 credit

MMC Credits Earned: English 10 (1), Civics (.5)

Grade: 10

Prerequisite: English 9, U.S. History

This integrated semester-long course pairs the social science of Civics with English 10. The purpose of this course will be to enhance critical thinking skills, writing skills, commitment to democratic values, and citizen participation through project-based learning. In this course, learners will study the forms of government, foundations, structure, and functions of the government of the United States of America, civic virtues and constitutional principles, foreign and domestic policy, civic engagement in society, and rights and responsibilities of citizenship. Learners will develop and apply their reading and writing strategies through literature, informational text, and foundations/vocabulary to explore civics and deepen their understanding of language, grammar, and communication. Learners can expect to read a range of texts day to day (informational articles to Shakespeare), and write a research paper during the semester.

Health Wealth

Year/1 credit

MMC Credits Earned: Health (.5), Economics (.5)

Grade: 10

Prerequisite: None

Combining Marketing and Health education, this course focuses on project-based initiatives to encourage healthy lifestyles. Life-long learners will explore their social, emotional, and physical health. Healthy eating habits and the necessity of physical activity will be the focus. Other areas analyzed include STD education, reproductive health, and drug and alcohol abuse. Learners will use marketing strategies to promote personal wellness and create a marketing plan for the school.



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Career Tech Education Courses: ON CAMPUS

Agricultural Tech:

Year/1 credit

MMC Credits Earned: VPAA, final year math if taken senior year

Grade: 9-12

Prerequisite: none

This course introduces students to the various segments of the agricultural industry. Agricultural career opportunities will be emphasized. Basic animal science, plant and land science, as well as an agricultural experience program and related record keeping will be presented. Leadership development will be provided through FFA.

Agriscience & Natural Resources:

Year/2 credits; 2 periods

MMC Credits Earned: VPAA, final year math if taken senior year

Grade: 10-12

Prerequisite: 1 year of Agricultural Tech

Students will learn new technologies working with food, plants and animals. Considerable time will be spent on hands-on projects in the agriscience labs and greenhouse. Students will work with small animals, hydroponic vegetable systems, food processing and growing systems, field and floriculture crops. This is a class for students that want to learn about their food systems and develop leadership skills to help feed a growing world. Michigan State University general credits can be earned if a student successfully completes this course and earns their State FFA Degree.

Allied Health:

Year/3 credits

MMC Credits Earned: VPAA, final year math if taken senior year

Grade: 11-12

Prerequisite: attendance, grades, drug screening, background check, all vaccines must be up to date.

Allied Health program introduces high school juniors and seniors to the healthcare field through both coursework and approximately 40 hours of clinical observation within healthcare facilities. It is a partnership between the

Lakeland Regional Health System, Niles High School, and Lake Michigan College. Spectrum Lakeland Hospital; PM classes; 2 college credits are available if eligible (Intro to Health 101).

Automotive Tech:

Year/1 credit

MMC Credits Earned: VPAA, final year math if taken senior year

Grade: 9-12

Prerequisite: none

The course is based on the National Automotive Technicians Education Foundation (NATEF) curriculum. Gain a broad base of basic automotive knowledge and repair skills.

Automotive Technology:

Year/2 credit; 2 periods

MMC Credits Earned: VPAA, final year math if taken senior year

Grade: 11-12

Prerequisite: Automotive Tech, 1 period course

The course is based on the National Automotive Technicians Education Foundation (NATEF) curriculum. Gain knowledge of automotive maintenance and light repair. A NATEF end of program of test will be given and if passed the student will earn an industry recognized certificate.

Culinary Arts:

Year/2 credits; 2 periods

MMC Credits Earned: VPAA, final year math if taken senior year

Grade: 10-12

Prerequisite: none

Students will learn in a very hands-on experience the latest culinary arts skills & management techniques along with basic food hygiene, safety skills with cooking fundamentals and food serving skills. ServeSafe certification.



Niles High School Course Descriptions

Graphics Tech:

Year/1 credit; 1 period

MMC Credits Earned: VPAA, final year math if taken senior year

Grade: 9-12

Prerequisite: none

Students are introduced to the basic principles and practices of electronic imaging; focusing primarily on student productions. Industry standard software includes the Adobe Creative Cloud (Photoshop, Illustrator, and InDesign) in addition to GarageBand and Final Cut Pro. An exploratory approach is taken to the introduction of printing, screen printing, multimedia and web site creation.

Graphic Design & Production:

Year/2 credits; 2 periods

MMC Credits Earned: VPAA, final year math if taken senior year

Grade: 10-12

Prerequisite: B or higher in Graphics Tech

Students advance their graphic design skills through designing, creating and publishing in several different platforms of web, photography, print media, and multimedia. Software training includes Adobe Creative Cloud. Students continue to use professional industry-standard imaging-editing technologies and software which contains tools for designers to produce sophisticated graphics for the web, multimedia and print medias. Emphasis will be given to product advertising, portfolio development, technology demonstrations, visual and interactive displays, and point-of-purchase advertising. 2 periods. 9 LMC direct college credits are available if eligible: 6 first semester, 3 second semester

Introduction to Business:

Year/1 credit MMC

Credits Earned: VPAA, final year math if taken senior year

Grade: 9-12

Introduction to Business is a study of the foundational designs, organizational types and core aspects of the many different components of today's businesses. It includes an introduction to the primary functional areas of business.

Introduction to Health Careers:

Year/1 credit MMC

Credits Earned: elective

Grade: 9-12

Intro to Health Care Careers is a full-year course designed to give students an overview of the evolving healthcare system. This course will introduce students to a variety of allied healthcare careers. This course would align with the Perkins Course Competencies. Students will cover and review essential foundations of knowledge and skills within health science fields, including: Health Science Careers, Post-Secondary Education Pathways, Human Body Systems & Medical Terminology, Professionalism & Employability Skills

Introduction to Marketing:

Year/1 credit MMC

Credits Earned: VPAA, final year math if taken senior year

Grade: 9-12

The Introduction to Marketing curriculum is designed to meet three learning objectives. First, to develop skills that equip you for a professional setting in your desired career field or industry. Second, to introduce you to the many different systems, structures and strategies essential to today's marketing landscape. Lastly, to provide hands-on marketing experience through the creation and promotion of school and community events and initiatives.



Niles High School Course Descriptions

Career Tech Education Courses: OFF CAMPUS - Grades 11-12

CISCO:

Year/3 credits

MMC Credits Earned: VPAA, final year math if taken senior year

Grade: 11-12

Prerequisite: attendance, grades

The CISCO Academy is an alliance between CISCO Systems, academy curriculum sponsors, private institutions, education, business, government and communities. This program trains students to build and maintain network systems and prepares them for the demands and opportunities of the information economy. Students who successfully complete this program and their Certified CISCO Network Academy (CCNA) certification will be on their way to a high tech career in network administration. Buchanan High School: AM classes. CompTIA A+ Certification; credits: LMC

Computer Aided Design (CAD):

Year/3 credits

MMC Credits Earned: VPAA, final year math if taken senior year

Grade: 11-12

Prerequisite: attendance, grades

Mechanical drafting is a hands-on course in general drafting. It provides the student with an opportunity to develop basic drafting and computer related skills using current technology. This course is designed to develop manipulative skills needed for reading the language of blueprints. The use of CAD software will correlate with the text on a weekly basis. Units in orthographic projection, pictorial drawing, geometrical construction, auxiliary views, section views, architectural rendering, etc. will be covered. Second semester will include 3D modeling and detail drawings using SolidWorks. Brandywine High School: AM Classes; MITES Competition.

Construction Trades:

Year/3 credits

MMC Credits Earned: VPAA, final year math if taken senior year

Grade: 11-12

Prerequisite: none

The construction trades program prepares students with the skills necessary to work in the construction field building residential and light commercial buildings. Berrien Springs BRESA Pole Barn; AM Classes.

Cosmetology:

Year/3 credits

MMC Credits Earned: VPAA, final year math if taken senior year

Grade: 12

Prerequisite: attendance, grades

This certified program is regulated by the Michigan State Board of Cosmetology and meets the required 1500 hours of classroom and clinic floor experience. Students may enroll in the program during the senior year of high school. The program trains students in the theory and practical aspects of Cosmetology. The goal is to prepare students for immediate employment opportunities with special emphasis placed on enhancing technical skills with practical skills with practical communication and people skills. The course is designed to help students develop proper habits in sanitation, health, and safety in the practice of Cosmetology. A positive attitude and ethical business practices are emphasized throughout the course.

Criminal Justice:

Year/3 credits

MMC Credits Earned: VPAA, final year math if taken senior year

Grade: 11-12

Prerequisite: attendance, grades

This class exposes students to college level Criminal Justice curriculum, *Introduction to Criminal Justice* and *Criminology*, and is offered in conjunction with LMC Special issues are discussed and qualified students are assigned to agencies or departments as interns in the criminal justice system. Courses in CPR & Emergency First Aid are incorporated into this program of study. Students also participate in field trips and will experience guest lectures in each field of study. With the cooperation of the law enforcement community, students also receive hands-on courses in basic crash reconstruction and crime scene investigations. This class gives excellent exposure to students that are



Niles High School Course Descriptions

interested in further knowledge of, or a career in, the criminal justice field.

Berrien Springs High School: AM classes; LMC credit; CPR & emergency First Aid incorporated

EMT:

Year/3 credits

MMC Credits Earned: VPAA, final year math if taken senior year

Grade: 11-12

Prerequisite: none

Class held in Berrien Springs with Medic 1 employees - This program provides an opportunity to earn emergency medical technical and specialist certificates. Courses are college level and the student must earn a grade of "C" or better on all tests/homework, dress as required by clinics and complete 32 hours of clinical work with local ambulance service and hospitals (earned concurrently with class). Information and paperwork will be provided to register in the National Registry and to make reservations for the state examination. Berrien Springs Public Safety Building: AM classes; credits: 6-9 college credits; with 80% or better, students can take the state license test.

Firefighter:

Year/3 credits

MMC Credits Earned: VPAA, final year math if taken senior year

Grade: 11-12

Prerequisite: none

Students enrolled in Fire Fighting I & II will become part of the Berrien Springs Oronoko Fire Department Cadet program. Cadets must be at least 16 years old and have a medical release form for emergency medical treatment. Cadets will be issued full personal protective equipment along with training manuals. This is a half-day program that includes more than 225 hours of state mandated training and testing. Students can take a written and physical test at the end for a lifetime certification good throughout Michigan. Berrien Springs Public Safety Building: AM classes; Can become state certified in Fire Fighting I & II upon reaching their 18th birthday and membership in a fire department.

Manufacturing Academy:

Year/3 credits

MMC Credits Earned: VPAA, final year math if taken senior year

Grade: 11-12

Prerequisite: none

The students in this course will learn safety, semi-precision and precision measurement, layout and basic operation of mills, lathes, drill presses, welding, saws, and an introduction to computerized machines. Projects will be built to teach the basic skills on these machines. This course precedes the vocational Machine Engineering Technology 1 course which helps the student develop skills to be employable as tool and die makers, mold makers, and helps with college machine engineering courses. Brandywine High School- AM Classes; 2 Year Program, Machine tool, CNC Manufacturing, MITES Competition. Credits: LMC

PHCA:

Year/3 credits

MMC Credits Earned: VPAA, final year math if taken senior year

Grade: 11-12

Prerequisite: application, interview, minimum test score, drug screening, background check, all vaccines must be up to date.

The Professional Health Careers Academy program introduces high school juniors and seniors to professional health careers through both coursework and approximately 160 hours of clinical observations in healthcare facilities. It is a partnership between the Lakeland Regional Health System, Niles High School, and Lake Michigan College. Spectrum Lakeland Hospital; AM Classes; LMC credits: Biology 4, Medical Terminology 2, Intro to Health 2

Robotics:

Year/3 credits

MMC Credits Earned: VPAA, final year math if taken senior year

Grade: 11-12

Prerequisite: SMC application, minimum test score

Course at SMC focused on robotics in manufacturing. Graduates of this program will be fully prepared for work in a manufacturing environment. They will possess the



Niles High School Course Descriptions

skills necessary to install, maintain and repair electrical and electronic equipment such as networked process controls, computer controlled machinery, three phase motors and variable frequency motor drives, robots, servos, hydraulics, pneumatics, and welding; SMC Niles Campus: PM Classes; up to 17 credits

Sports Medicine:

Year/3 credits

MMC Credits Earned: VPAA, final year math if taken senior year

Grade: 11-12

Prerequisite: attendance, grades

Class held at LMC Bertrand. The Sports Medicine program assists students in career exploration and a mastery of basic injury care skills. The course provides students with a combination of classroom instruction and clinical experience that leads to career exploration in various sports medicine fields. Students learn the skills needed to provide basic injury care in their area of interest. LMC: PM Classes; Credits: through LMC; Extras: First Aid, CPR, AED, Career Readiness Certificate

Welding:

Year/2-3 credits

MMC Credits Earned: VPAA, final year math if taken senior year

Grade: 11-12

Prerequisite: SMC application, minimum test score, attendance, grades. College level class at SMC Niles that will enable students to gain hours towards earning welding certification; students will work with state of the art equipment. It is recommended, but not required, to take both 11th & 12th grade to earn certification. SMC Niles Campus: Year 1-PM Classes, Year 2-AM Classes;

Woodworking:

Year/2 credits

MMC Credits Earned: VPAA, final year math if taken senior year

Grade: 11-12

Prerequisite: attendance, grades, behavior

This course is designed to teach students basic woodworking and cabinetry skills. The class will emphasize reading the fractional inch, hand/power tool identification and use, basic furniture design,

woodworking machinery use, and most importantly, safety in the woodworking environment. With the instructor's guidance, students will complete an individual project designed to provide practical experience in construction theory and woodworking techniques. Brandywine High School; AM classes



Niles High School Course Descriptions

General Elective Courses

Careers, for students with an IEP:

Year/1 credit

MMC Credits Earned: none

Grade: 9-12

Prerequisite: IEP

This course is designed to research and investigate career options and find careers that meet learner interests and skills. Learners will be introduced to new careers and learn how to obtain jobs in those careers. Completing a job application, resume, and cover letter will be covered in this class along with interviewing experiences.

Connections:

Year/1 credit

MMC Credits Earned: none

Grade: 9-12

Prerequisite: none

Through our mentoring relationships as teachers, we will empower students at NHS to develop self-esteem, responsibility, growth mindsets, and strengthen independent learning in order to become successful in school and productive members of our society.

Cultural Studies:

Year/1 credit

MMC Credits Earned: none

Grade: 11-12

Prerequisite: none

This humanities course introduces students to the history, sociology, literature, art, and music of African-Americans, Hispanic Americans, Indigenous Peoples, and other nationalities. This deep dive into the various cultures will allow learners to construct a common memory of the American experience and how these experiences have shaped today's society and culture within our school, community, and world. This course will enrich students' understanding of the various disciplines of study and provide an opportunity for them to celebrate the richness all cultures bring to our area and nation. Through the literature and resources used in the course, students will learn skills such as critical analysis, developing logically and historically sound arguments, and writing authentic and enticing stories about their experiences. Students will also research their own heritages and explore how it has

shaped who they are. The objective of the class is to enrich students' understanding of various cultures through the lens of the humanities, as well as develop their skills in reading comprehension and writing literacy.

Leadership:

Year/1 credit

MMC Credits Earned: none

Grade: 11-12

Prerequisite: C or higher in Marketing I or Introduction to Business

In this project-based course, learners will be given the opportunity to apply the skills they have learned throughout their classes with hands-on experiences in leadership, entrepreneurship, and service, as well as exposure to a job field of their choice. Through service opportunities, job experiences, research, reading, writing, and presentation, learners will go through a year-long process that begins with self-awareness and skill-building and ends with genuine entrepreneurial experiences. This will culminate in a final capstone project.

Online Career Preparedness

Semester/.5 credit

MMC Credits Earned: none

Grade: 12

Prerequisite: senior status

Using online curriculum, students will assist staff members in a variety of duties.

Peer to Peer Mentoring:

Year/1 credit

MMC Credits Earned: none

Grade: 11-12

Prerequisite: none

Learn to be a positive role model to a younger student who may have special needs. Assist with classwork, help build incentives for that student



Niles High School Course Descriptions

Online Courses:

Semester/.5

MMC Credits Earned: depends on selected course

Grades: 11-12

Prerequisite: none

Through Michigan Virtual High School we are able to provide students with a great many online courses for elective or core classes. It is generally expected that they choose a course we do not offer at the high school or does not fit in their schedule.

School to Career

Semester/.5 or year/1

MMC Credits Earned: none

Grades: 12

Prerequisite: job must match student's EDP; job must have liability & workmans comp insurance, Application Required

Students are allowed up to three periods in their schedule to work one hour per day per each period on the schedule.

Yearbook:

Year/1 credit

MMC Credits Earned: none

Grade: 10-12

Prerequisite: none

Students demonstrate their ability to do journalistic writing and design for the high school yearbook. Students follow the ethical principles and legal boundaries that guide scholastic journalism. Students express themselves publicly with meaning and clarity for the purpose of informing, entertaining, or persuading. Students become published photojournalists with their work appearing in the school yearbook. Yearbook staff members conduct personal interviews, write copy and captions, develop the skills necessary for layout and photography, secure advertising, and create in graphic programs. Students demonstrate proficiency as they take their copy and layout through multiple drafts. All students participate in the business aspects of yearbook including marketing, distribution of books, selling advertisements and senior ads, etc. Students must conduct themselves as responsible, dependable journalists with initiative and creativity. Students work on high school publications so

that they may prepare themselves for career paths in journalism, communications, writing, or related fields.



Niles High School Course Descriptions

Fine Arts Courses

Art Foundations 1/2:

Semester or Year/.5 or 1 credit

MMC Credits Earned: VPAA

Grade: 9-12

Prerequisite: none

Students will learn basics such as perspective, still life, figure drawing, portraits, art styles, artists and art periods, etc. They will work with a variety of media including pencil, charcoal, pastels, paints (watercolor and acrylics). Students participate in several art shows yearly.

Art Foundations 3:

Year/1 credit

MMC Credits Earned: VPAA

Grade: 10-12

Prerequisite: Art Foundations 1

Students will continue to learn basics such as perspective, still life, figure drawing, portraits, art styles, artists and art periods, etc. They will work with a variety of media including pencil, charcoal, pastels, paints (watercolor and acrylics). Students participate in several art shows yearly.

Year/1 credit

Prerequisite: Art Foundations 1

Grade: 10-12

AP 2-D Art and Design

Year/1 credit

MMC Credits Earned: VPAA

Grade: 10-12

Prerequisite: Art Foundations 1

This is an inquiry-based approach to learning about and making art and design. Students are expected to conduct an in-depth, sustained investigation of materials, processes, and ideas. The framework focuses on concepts and skills emphasized within college art and design foundations courses with the same intent: to help students become inquisitive, thoughtful artists and designers able to articulate information about their work. AP Art and Design students develop and apply skills of inquiry and investigation, practice, experimentation, revision, communication, and reflection. 2-D Design will test five physical works or high-quality printed reproductions of physical works that each demonstrate synthesis of materials, processes, and ideas using 2-D art and design skills.

AP 3-D Art and Design

Year/1 credit

MMC Credits Earned: VPAA

Grade: 11-12

Prerequisite: Art Foundations 1, AP 2-D Art and Design

The 3D course is intended to teach sculptural issues. Design involves purposeful decision making about using the elements and principles of art in an integrative way in 3D Design Portfolio. Students are to demonstrate their understanding of design principles as they relate to the integration of depth and space, volume and surface. The course is designed to prepare students for 3-D portfolio examinations to possibly receive college credit.

AP Drawing

Year/1 credit

MMC Credits Earned: VPAA

Grade: 11-12

Prerequisite: Art Foundations 1

The Drawing Studio Course is intended to teach drawing issues and media. Line quality, light and shade, rendering of form, composition, surface manipulation, the illusion of depth and mark making. The course is designed to prepare students for drawing portfolio examinations to possibly receive college credit.

Concert Choir:

Year/1 credit

MMC Credits Earned: VPAA

Grade: 9-12

Prerequisite: none

Concert Choir is a non-auditioned choir of men and/or women with or without past singing experience. This class is designed to fit the needs of students interested in vocal music who demonstrate an attitude toward singing with choral excellence. Daily rehearsals will include the study of singing technique, sight-singing, music theory, and performance habits. Students are expected to participate in concerts throughout the school year.



Niles High School Course Descriptions

Counterpoints:

Year/1 credit

MMC Credits Earned: VPAA

Grade: 9-12

Prerequisite: Auditions

Counterpoints is an auditioned swing choir of men and women with past singing experience. Counterpoints is designed to fit the needs of students with a high interest in vocal jazz and pop music and who demonstrate a positive attitude toward singing with choral excellence. Daily rehearsals will include the study of singing technique, sight-singing, music theory, performance habits and choreography. Students are expected to participate in concerts throughout the school year. Travel and after school commitments are part of the course requirements.

Jazz Band:

Year/1 credit

MMC Credits Earned: VPAA

Grade: 9-12

Prerequisite: must concurrently take Marching/Symphonic Band

A class devoted to the study of jazz in the big band setting. Music will include anything from 1920's - Modern Big Band Music. Guitar, bass, piano, and drum set are included in this group, but must complete a successful audition to participate on either instrument. Travel, and after school commitments are part of classroom and course requirements.

Symphonic Band:

Year/1 credit

MMC Credits Earned: VPAA

Grade: 9-12

Prerequisite: week-long summer camp, auditions

This advanced band course is intended to push and accelerate higher musically achieving students as they will learn and perform more difficult literature. Class explores both marching and concert music, depending on season. Develops young musicians into strong, life-long musicians. Travel and after school commitments are part of classroom & course requirements. Must be able to enroll for the whole year, and must have completed middle school band.



Niles High School Course Descriptions

Physical Education & Health Course

Life Wellness/Health:

Semester/.5 credit

MMC Credits Earned: Health

Grade: 9-12, recommended for 9th graders

Prerequisite: none

This course emphasizes a positive approach to personal health. Students explore their own health behavior and what constitutes good health and responsible decision-making. Topics include social and emotional health, nutrition and physical activity, safety, substance use and abuse, and reproductive health.

Physical Education:

Semester/.5 credit

MMC Credits Earned: Physical Education

Grade: 9-12

Prerequisite: none

General conditioning, team and individual sports, lifelong games and fitness.

Training and Conditioning:

Semester/.5 credit

MMC Credits Earned: Physical Education

Grade: 10-12

Prerequisite: none

This course is designed to give student athletes the opportunity to learn weight training concepts and techniques used for obtaining optimal physical fitness. Students will benefit from comprehensive weight training and cardiorespiratory endurance activities.



Niles High School Course Descriptions

World Languages Courses

Spanish 1:

Year/1 credit

MMC Credits Earned: Foreign Language

Grade: 9-12

Prerequisite: none

An introduction to the language. The Spanish language is learned through the use of TPRS (Teaching Proficiency through Reading and Storytelling), using interactive stories, while focusing on phrases and gradually adding more. The goal is to learn Spanish as naturally as possible. As a student progresses through the levels, different culture aspects are added as well as longer stories and more in depth vocabulary phrases.

Spanish 2:

Year/1 credit

MMC Credits Earned: Foreign Language

Grade: 10-12

Prerequisite: Spanish 1

Continuing to learn the Spanish language through the use of TPRS (Teaching Proficiency through Reading and Storytelling), and using interactive stories. The goal is to learn Spanish as naturally as possible. Different culture aspects are added from Spanish I as well as longer stories and more in depth vocabulary phrases.

Spanish 3/4:

Year/1 credit

MMC Credits Earned: Foreign Language

Grade: 11-12

Prerequisite: Spanish 1, Spanish 2

These higher level courses focus on learning the Spanish language through authentic resources, while still using critical reading skills in a second language. The culture aspects vary from year to year with themes such as; hispanic legends, famous hispanics (singers, artists, writers), humorism, friendship and more. There is also a bi-monthly food carry in where students cook authentic food from the country of the month.

More courses available at <https://www.nilesvp.com/courses.html>



Niles High School Course Descriptions

Dual Enrollment

Niles High School offers college courses at Lake Michigan College or Southwestern Michigan College. Both require students to apply on their own and take a placement assessment. Students that choose this path work directly with the college to register and must verify with their Guidance Counselor that the schedule works around the NHS class times. Niles also requires a contract explaining the expectations of being dually enrolled. This requires a great deal of responsibility and independence on behalf of the student that chooses this opportunity.

We have three dual enrollment programs:

- **Early Middle College:** This is Berrien County's 5th year program. Students apply in the middle of the sophomore year, generally due in late January/early February, and must commit to three years in the program. Students are considered high school graduates after their "5th year" of high school. The 5th year is a full time college schedule on campus at either LMC or SMC. Website for more information: <https://www.berriencte.org/5th-year-emc/>
- **Early College Academy:** Admitted ECA students are allowed more than the state cap of 10 courses.
- **Dual Enrollment, general:** Any student that applies to LMC or SMC and meets the qualifying score on their entrance exam can take up to 10 courses, 9-12. Students individually meet with the college advisor to schedule classes.

Graduation Information

Michigan Merit Curriculum: 18 credits

- English 9-12
- Geometry, Algebra 1, Algebra 2, final year math
 - Final year math can be met through CTE courses
- Biology, Physical Science, Earth Science
 - If Chemistry is taken, students must take Earth Science as a 2nd science during the same year and complete Physics during the junior year.
- US History, Civics, Economics, World History
- 2 years of the same Foreign Language
- Visual, Performing, Applied Arts
- Physical Education, ½ credit
 - Can be met through complete season of a NHS sport or two years of Marching Band
- Health, ½ credit

NHS Graduation Requirements:

- Minimum of 26 credits earned within four years
 - 18 Michigan Merit Curriculum courses, listed above
 - 8 elective courses



Niles High School Course Descriptions

Board Scholar Status: Students may earn the status of a Board Scholar by taking *increasingly rigorous* coursework all four years, **including the senior year**.

- 4 years of progressively more rigorous coursework
 - English
 - Math - 4th credit must be college credit or Pre-Calculus
 - Science
 - Social Studies/History
- 2 years of the same foreign language
- 1000 SAT or 21 ACT
- 3.0 GPA or higher at the end of 7th semester

NOTICE OF NONDISCRIMINATION

Niles Community Schools does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin or ancestry, age, sex, marital status, or handicap in the admission to, access to, participation in, benefits of, or employment in its programs or activities as provided by district policy and in compliance with federal and state law.

For more information, please contact:

Dr. Dan Applegate, Superintendent

Niles Community Schools

1 Tyler Street

Niles, MI 49120