

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

School Information .....	2
General Information	
Graduation Requirements .....	4
High School and Beyond Planning .....	5
Athletics and Student Clubs .....	9
Career Services .....	9
Counseling .....	9
Yearly Checklists .....	12
Credits and Grades .....	18
Earning College Credit .....	18
Advanced Placement .....	18
Running Start .....	19
Tech Prep / Direct Credit .....	20
Course Descriptions .....	21
Career and Technical Education .....	22
Agriculture .....	22
Business Education .....	23
Computer Education .....	24
Family and Consumer Science .....	25
Technology Education .....	26
English .....	28
Fine Arts .....	30
Performing Arts .....	30
Visual Arts .....	31
Health and Fitness .....	33
Mathematics .....	34
Science .....	35
Social Studies .....	37
Foreign Language .....	39
Other Offerings .....	40
Additional Learning Opportunities	
Clark County Skills Center .....	41
Online Learning .....	47
Ridgefield High School Policies .....	47



2630 Hillhurst Road  
Ridgefield, WA 98642  
(360) 619-1320  
Fax (360) 619-1395  
Website: [www.ridge.k12.wa.us/schools/rhs](http://www.ridge.k12.wa.us/schools/rhs)

# 2011-2012

# COURSE CATALOG

**Tony VanderMaas, Principal**

**Nathan Plummer, Vice Principal**

Main Office .....	619-1320
Registrar.....	619-1327
Counseling Office.....	619-1327
Sports/Activity Office .....	619-1326
Attendance Office.....	619-1322
Activities Information Line.....	619-1393
Clark County Skills Center .....	604-1050

## **OUR GOAL**

*It is the goal of Ridgefield High School to provide and support quality education for every student in every classroom through the daily practice of every staff member. Success will be measured by the evidence of student learning.*

# GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

There are four requirements that must be met to graduate from Ridgefield Public Schools.

1. **Credit Requirements:** A minimum of 23 credits is required for graduation from Ridgefield Public Schools. Each semester course is worth 0.5 credits. Students take six classes for a total of 3 credits each semester. Students may be required to take additional classes based on their High School Proficiency Exam (HSPE) score.

<b>English</b> 9 <sup>th</sup> Grade English (1 year) 10 <sup>th</sup> Grade English (1 year) 11 <sup>th</sup> Grade English (1 year) 12 <sup>th</sup> Grade English (1 year)	4.0
<b>Mathematics</b> Algebra Geometry Advanced Algebra	3.0
<b>Science</b> Science and Sustainability (1 year) Biology (1 year) Chemistry, Physics, Genetics/Bioethics, or Environmental Science (1 Yr)	3.0
<b>Social Studies</b> SS1/Geography (9 <sup>th</sup> ) (1 year) SS2/US History (11 <sup>th</sup> ) (1 year) SS3/Gov/World Affairs (12 <sup>th</sup> ) (1 year) Washington State History Required	3.0
<b>Health and Fitness</b> Health (1 semester) Physical Education (3 semesters)	2.0
<b>Career and Technical Education</b>	1.5
<b>Fine Arts</b>	1.0
<b>Elective Credits</b>	5.5
<b>MINIMUM CREDITS REQUIRED</b>	<b>23</b>

2. **Culminating Project-** Culminating Project is a graduation requirement with a variety of elements that must be completed and passed according to the Culminating Project guidelines. Students are grouped into advisories and meet routinely with their advisors. The Project consists of a 10 page paper on a pre-approved subject of the student's choosing; to be completed in their junior English Class, and a 40-hour community service-based project. Twenty of these hours must be hands-on, but the other twenty hours may be shadowing, interning, observing, taking classes etc. Students will compile reflective writing and pictures about their project hours into a portfolio. At the end of their senior year, students stand before a panel of judges and discuss their paper and project hours in a 15 minute presentation that includes some form of graphic display.

3. **High School and Beyond Plan-**The HSBP is required for graduation. It is developed with Seniors. Counselors provide guidance and technical assistance to students, parents, teachers, and administrators in this process.

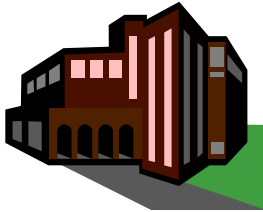
4. **Successful completion of State Testing requirements in the areas of reading, writing, science and math.** The Class of 2012 is exempt from the science testing requirement.

For more information go to [www.k12.wa.us/GraduationRequirements](http://www.k12.wa.us/GraduationRequirements)  
 To view sample WASL questions go to [www.k12.wa.us/assessment/WASL/testquestions.aspx](http://www.k12.wa.us/assessment/WASL/testquestions.aspx)

These are your Post-Secondary Options



University



Community College



Military



Apprenticeship Trade School



High School Graduate



Work

# PLANNING YOUR FUTURE

Step 1: Circle the occupation or major fields of study that most interest you.

Step 2: Circle the career path with occupations or majors that most interest you.

Step 3: Circle an educational goal: 1-2 years, 3-4 years or 5-6 years.

CAREER PATHS <i>(Holland Code)</i>	1-2 YEARS TECH / TRADE SCHOOL	3-4 YEARS OF COLLEGE	5-6 YEARS OF COLLEGE
<b>ARTS &amp; COMMUNICATION</b> <i>(Artistic)</i>	Architecture / Art / Painting / Drawing / Clothing / Textiles / Design / Film / Photography / Radio / TV	Advertising / Arts / Clothing / Textiles / Dance / Drama / Design / Humanities / Interpreting / Literature / Music / Writing	Architecture / Museum Curator / Professor / School Teacher / Reporter / Performing Arts
<b>BUSINESS</b> <i>(Conventional)</i>	Air Traffic Control / Banking / Bookkeeping / Business Mgmt. / Computer Operation / Data Processing / Clerical Support / Secretarial	Banking / Finance / Business Mgmt. / Computer Programming / information Science	Accountant / Budget Analyst / Catalog Librarian / Certified Public Accountant / Bank President / Controller
<b>MARKETING &amp; MANAGEMENT</b> <i>(Enterprising)</i>	Agribusiness / Business Mgmt. / Hotel & Restaurant Mgmt. / Marketing / Purchasing / Office Mgmt. / Sales / Real Estate / Recreation & Tourism	Agribusiness Mgmt. / Banking / Business Mgmt. / Economics / Finance / Marketing Mgmt. / Paralegal / Purchasing / Real Estate Broker / Insurance	Administrator / Financial Planner / Lawyer / MBA Executive / Management Consultant / Urban Planner
<b>SCIENCE</b> <i>(Investigative)</i>	Child Development / Computer Programmer / Computer Repair / Dental Assistant / Certified Nurses Asst. / Drafting / Electronics Technician / Engineering Technician / Food Technician / Medical Lab Technician	Agronomy / Anthropologist / Biologist / Chemist / Computer Scientist / Dental Hygienist / Physicians Asst. / Physicist / Psychologist / Sociologist / Veterinarian Technician / Zoologist	Acupuncturist / Aerospace, Chemical, Mechanical, Nuclear and Electrical Engineer / Agricultural and Biological Scientists / Computer System Analyst / Dentist / Economist / Optometrist / Pharmacist / Technical Writer / Mathematician
<b>SOCIAL &amp; HUMAN SERVICES</b> <i>(Social)</i>	Child Care Workers / Cosmetologist / Dental Asst. / Health Aides / Law Enforcement, / Mail Carrier / Medical Asst. / Radiology Asst. / Security Guard	Air Traffic Controller, / Dental Hygienists / Health Therapist / LPN, / Midwives / Paralegal / Radiology Technician / RN / Speech Pathologist / Vocational Teacher	Business Executive / Case Worker / Counselor / Education Administrator, / Legislatures, / RN / Occupational Therapist / Physical Therapist, / Psychologist / Teacher / College Professor
<b>TECHNICAL</b> <i>(Realistic)</i>	Aircraft Assembler / Mechanic / Appliance Repair / Boilermakers / Brick Layer / Broadcasting Tech / Construction / Dental Lab Tech / Electricians / Forestry Tech / Heating & Cooling Tech / Heavy Equip Op. / Metal Worker / Upholsterers / Seamstress	Compositors & Typesetters / Fish & Wildlife Specialist / Hatchery Asst. / Laboratory Tester / Surveyor Helper / Textile Machine Operator / Wood Working / Welders / Tailors	Forester / Fish & Wildlife Management / Hatchery Technician / Pollution Control Engineer / Surveyor / Winemaker / Cost Estimator

# CORE PREPARATION FOR COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES

	<b>Washington Public Univ. Admission</b> (Academic Core Classes)	<b>Selective University Admission</b>
<b>English Language Arts</b>	<b>4.0</b>	<b>4.0</b>
<b>Math</b>	<b>3.0</b>	<b>3.0+</b>
<b>Science</b>	<b>2.0</b>	<b>3.0+</b>
<b>Social Studies</b> (Social Sciences)	<b>3.0</b>	<b>3.0+</b>
<b>Fine Arts</b> (Visual & Performing Arts)	<b>1.0</b>	<b>1.0+</b>
<b>World Language</b> (Colleges expect 2 years or more of the same language.)	<b>2.0</b>	<b>2.0+</b>

Even if you are not considering college now, take the minimum high school core so the door is open should you change your mind. The core minimum requirements for freshman admission to Central Washington University, Eastern Washington University, Evergreen State College, University of Washington, Washington State University and Western Washington University are:

- **Four years** of English, including three years of literature and composition
- **Three years** of mathematics, including algebra, geometry and advanced mathematics
- **Three years** of social science
- **Two years** of science, including two years of laboratory science (the equivalent of biology, chemistry, physics, or principles of technology)
- **Two years** of the same world language, Native American language, or American Sign language
- **One year** of visual or performing arts or electives from any of the other required subjects

The entrance requirements for each college/university other than the six four-year Washington Universities may be different. It is important to research each institution's admission requirements. There are lots of good college sites to investigate such as: <http://www.usnews.com/usnews/home.htm> or <http://www.xap.com/> or <http://www.princetonreview.com/home.asp>

## **EARLY GRADUATION**

Early graduation from high school is appropriate for very few students given the new graduation requirements. Plans for early graduation must be made cooperatively between the student, parent and school. Any student contemplating early graduation should complete a plan with his/her counselor. The plan must be submitted to the principal for approval one year in advance.

## **STUDENT LEARNING PLANS**

Ridgefield Public Schools strives to see all students be successful and graduate from high school. Students who have not met standards on the WASL will have a Student Learning Plan. This plan is designed to help students succeed and may specify additional classes that would replace electives.

# EDUCATIONAL PLANNING CALENDAR

9 <sup>th</sup> Grade		10 <sup>th</sup> Grade	
<i>1<sup>st</sup> Semester</i>	<i>2<sup>nd</sup> Semester</i>	<i>1<sup>st</sup> Semester</i>	<i>2<sup>nd</sup> Semester</i>
English 9	English 9	English 10	English 10
Algebra or Geometry*	Algebra or Geometry*	Geometry or Adv Algebra	Geometry or Adv Algebra
Physical Science or Biology**	Physical Science or Biology**	Biology or advanced science	Biology or advanced science
Social Studies I	Social Studies I	Health or PE	PE or Health
Elective/PE	PE/Elective	Elective***	Elective***
Elective***	Elective***	Elective***	Elective***
11 <sup>th</sup> Grade		12 <sup>th</sup> Grade	
<i>1<sup>st</sup> Semester</i>	<i>2<sup>nd</sup> Semester</i>	<i>1<sup>st</sup> Semester</i>	<i>2<sup>nd</sup> Semester</i>
English	English	English	English
Adv Algebra or Higher	Adv Algebra or Higher	Social Studies III	Social Studies III
Science	Science	Elective***	Elective***
Social Studies II	Social Studies II	Elective***	Elective***
Elective***	Elective***	Elective***	Elective***
Elective***	Elective***	Elective***	Elective***
<p>* Algebra is required. Teacher approval required to be placed in Geometry Freshman year.  ** Physical Science is required. Teacher approval required to be placed in Biology Freshman year.  *** <b>Elective classes must fall in the area of Fine Arts, Vocational, Physical Education, and Foreign Language.</b></p>			

*RHS students have the opportunity to complete a set of graduation requirements that will enable them to develop their intellectual and personal potential for a lifetime of learning and for responsible productive participation in a diverse society. Through completion of a four-year sequence of courses, students will acquire the academic foundation and career related skills that prepare them for advanced study at four-year colleges, universities, community colleges, technical trade school or other post-secondary training for career level entry.*

## ATHLETICS AND STUDENT CLUBS

All students are encouraged to become active in clubs and school-sponsored activities such as: Associated Student Body (ASB) Leadership/Student Councils, Band, Choir, and Debate, Drama, Business/FBLA (Future Business Leaders of America), FFA (Agricultural Leadership), Knowledge Bowl, Leo Club, Mock Trial, National Honor Society, Rally /Cheerleading. **(OTHER ORGANIZATIONS)**

Student Athletics are in the following seasons:

FALL	WINTER	SPRING
Cross Country - Boys/Girls	Basketball - Boys/Girls	Baseball - Boys
Football - Boys	Wrestling – Boys	Fast pitch Softball - Girls
Golf - Boys		Golf - Girls
Soccer - Girls		Soccer - Boys
Volleyball - Girls		Tennis - Girls
Tennis-Boys		Track - Girls/Boys

An athlete must maintain academic and citizenship standards as set up by the W.I.A.A. and the Ridgefield School District. This includes maintaining a minimum GPA of 2.0. Participation in high school athletics allows a student to waive up to .5 credits of the PE requirement. Waivers do not earn credit.

### ATHLETIC ELIGIBILITY AT NCAA COLLEGES

The NCAA Initial-Eligibility Clearinghouse is an organization that works with the NCAA to determine a student's eligibility for athletic participation in his or her first year of college enrollment. For Division I and II colleges, students should register online with the Clearinghouse by the end of their junior year. Division III students are not required to register. Check the website for details on SAT/ACT tests, minimum GPA, and the 16 core credits needed for college entrance: <http://www.ncaaclearinghouse.net>

## CAREER SERVICES

The future is in the choices made in high school. To be work ready is also to be college ready. Many support staff are available to assist students and their parents in course selections and post high school planning. No students should rule out college because of the costs as financial aid is available on a need basis. The following services and resources are provided to all students in the Career Center in the Ridgefield School District: college and vocational school information, scholarships, information on occupations, career interest inventories, career- and college-informational field trips, current job openings for students, resume-writing, senior project, foreign exchange programs, military, volunteer services, and summer enrichment experiences.

## COUNSELING

Working with the Career Center, the School Counselors prepare students with the skills to be world competitive by supporting their academic, career and personal/social development.

The counselors work hard to provide students with all the information they need to make decisions regarding their high school career and also to plan beyond. Field trips to college fairs and the Skill Center are organized, as well as information nights on financial aid and college choices and how to prepare.

The counseling department also offers a PSAT test on campus each fall. More information regarding all counseling activities, contact information and announcements are available on our website.

### **Schedule Changes**

It is the intent of Ridgefield High School to offer an academic schedule that not only satisfies the requirements of graduations, but also reflects the academic goals of individual students. The teaching schedule is built upon students requested academic choices. Changing a student's schedule can have an impact on the entire student population. Parent/guardian permission is required for all student initiated schedule changes.

Schedule changes requested prior to the first day of school/or first day of the semester will be accommodated to our fullest extent. Changes within the first five days of class may be made without credit/grade consequences for specified reasons. Changes after the first five days of class will only be granted due to extenuating reasons, require administrative approval, and will have credit/grade consequences.

#### **Procedures for Schedule Changes**

##### **Prior to the beginning of class:**

1. Schedule a meeting with your counselor.
2. Parent/guardian permission is required.
3. All changes will be granted within the constraints of the master schedule.

##### **During the first five days of class:**

1. Schedule a meeting with your counselor
2. Parent/guardian permission is required
3. No credit/grade consequence will occur within the first five days
4. Counselors may make changes for one of the following reasons ONLY:
  - a. The student needs to take a required class
  - b. The student was placed in an inappropriate class/skill level
  - c. The student lacked the required prerequisite
  - d. The student had previously received credit in that course
  - e. The student previously failed the class with the same teacher
  - f. The student's schedule had an obvious programming error

#### **Credit and Grading Consequences**

Changes made after the 5<sup>th</sup> class period will result in credit/grade implications. Students will receive an "F" grade posted to transcript for courses dropped unless administratively approved due to improper placement or teacher recommendation. The student will then receive a no credit (NC) grade and the administrator may allow for the student to earn partial credit in their new class.

### **College Prep Testing**

**PSAT:** Preliminary Scholastic Aptitude Test/National Merit Qualifying Test for juniors; others may take it for practice.

**SAT I:** Scholastic Assessment Test needed for most colleges/universities for juniors and seniors. Critical Reading, Writing & Math [www.collegeboard.com](http://www.collegeboard.com)

**SAT II:** Subject tests, required by some selective universities for juniors and seniors.

**ACT:** American College Test, needed for most colleges/universities for juniors and seniors. Reading, Writing, Math & Science [www.act.org](http://www.act.org)

**TOEFL/ELPT:** English Proficiency Tests to evaluate students whose native language is not English. These scores are used for admission to colleges and universities.

**AP:** Advanced Placement Tests may be used to earn credit or waive required college classes. Students may take the tests without having taken the class, i.e. Spanish speaking students should take the Spanish test.

### **Seeing Your Counselor**

There are always sign up sheets available in the counseling office if you need to sign up to see your counselor. Your counselor will send a pass to your class so you can come down. Counselors are also generally available before and after school, and during lunch. **Drop-ins during class time will not be seen.**

Counselors are also available by appointment to meet with parents. Please feel free to call or email at any time to set up an appointment.

### **Four Year Plan**

Students will begin their Four Year Plan during their 9<sup>th</sup> grade year. They will use this tool to plan for their future and map out proper courses. Students are encouraged to use their Four Year Plan to assist in annual forecasting and selection of classes.

### **High School and Beyond Plan**

The counselors will meet with all Seniors in the fall. This meeting is to evaluate what needs to be done in order to ensure graduation in the spring. This meeting will also be used to discuss future plans and what is going to happen after high school.

**Please see the following checklists for information on what needs to be completed each year in order to prepare for graduation and you future beyond high school.**

## Freshman Checklist

### Spring of 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Year

- ☒ Attend VRMS visit from Counselors

### August

- ☒ Attend your scheduled Freshmen Day during Registration. This is your preferred day.
  - Pay for your ASB, yearbook, parking and any course dues.
  - Load your lunch account, take your school picture, and get your schedule.
- ☒ Verify your schedule-do you have at least 6 classes? English? Math? PE?, Science? Social Studies 1? Sign up to see your Counselor before the first day of school if any changes need to be made.
- ☒ Watch the dates to make any schedule changes if necessary.

### September

- ☒ Save samples of your best work for your academic portfolio throughout the year.
- ☒ Keep a log of your co-curricular activities all year for use in later compiling your resume for college.

### October

- ☒ Review grades at the 6-week Progress Report. Speak with your teachers and Counselor if you need extra help.

### December

- ☒ Look up your schedule for the second semester. Sign up to see your Counselor if any changes are necessary.

### January

- ☒ First semester ends mid January.

### March

- ☒ Review grades at the 6-week Progress Report. Speak with your teachers and Counselor if you need extra help.
- ☒ Work on Four Year Plan, participate in forecasting

### June

- ☒ Take the necessary Math End of Course Assessment

### Summer Break

- ☒ Make up any deficiencies you may have in your graduation requirements.
- ☒ Practice online for the PLAN and PSAT tests that you should take in October of your sophomore year.

## Sophomore Checklist

### August

- ❑ Attend your scheduled Sophomore Day during Registration. This is your preferred day.
  - Pay for your ASB, yearbook, parking and any course dues.
  - Load your lunch account.
  - Take your school picture.
  - Pick up your schedule.
- ❑ Verify your schedule-do you have at least 6 classes? English? Math? Science? Health? Sign up to see your Counselor if any changes need to be made.
- ❑ Come to school early on the first day of school.
- ❑ Watch the dates to make any schedule changes if necessary.

### September

- ❑ Save samples of your best work for your academic portfolio throughout the year.
- ❑ Keep a log of your co-curricular activities all year for use in later compiling your resume for college.
- ❑ If you are behind in credits, sign up with your Counselor to take NovaNet Credit Recovery classes. Classes are offered before or after school. The program costs \$100 for each 0.5 credit to be recovered.
- ❑ Sign up to take the PSAT (practice/pre SAT) if you are possibly a college-bound student.
  - Even though these scores will not be used for college admission, it is recommended that students take it for practice, which could improve your SAT scores.
  - Cost: \$20 – Keep your receipt! Pay for and sign up for the test in the Activities Office.
  - Date: TBD (October)
  - Bring to test: Picture ID, two #2 pencils, calculator.

### October

- ❑ Review grades at the 6-week Progress Report. Speak with your teachers and Counselor if you need extra help.
- ❑ Take the PSAT.

### December

- ❑ Look up your schedule for the second semester. Sign up to see your Counselor if any changes are necessary.
- ❑ Attend the PSAT Interpretation to receive your PSAT scores.

### January

- ❑ First semester ends Mid-January.
- ❑ If you are interested in the Running Start program, attend the Running Start Information Night at Clark College. These are usually held on a couple of weeknights in January-dates to be announced.
- ❑ Sign up to take the Compass Placement test at Clark College if you are interested in Running Start for Fall.

### February

- ❑ Attend the Skills Center Assembly held at RHS.

### March

- ❑ Forecast for your Junior year. Make sure that you are choosing challenging classes.
- ❑ Visit the Skills Center on a tour if you are interested.
- ❑ Skill Center Applications are due mid-March. Date TBD.
- ❑ Take the High School Proficiency Exam-Reading and Writing sections
- ❑ Review grades at the 6-week Progress Report. Speak with your teachers and Counselor if you need extra help.

### April

- ❑ Take the Science High School Proficiency Exam.

### June

- ❑ Take the necessary Math End of Course Assessment

### Summer Break

- ❑ Visit colleges that you are interested in! Take a tour, talk to students on campus and talk with admissions representatives. Do they have the major you want?
- ❑ Make up any deficiencies you may have in your graduation requirements during summer school.
- ❑ Practice online for the PSAT, which you should take again in October of your junior year if you are a 4-year college bound student.
- ❑ **Complete the assigned summer work for any AP classes you will be taking junior year.**

## Junior Checklist

### August

- ❑ Take the WASL if there is a section that you did not pass during your Sophomore year.
- ❑ Complete assigned summer work for AP classes, if applicable.
- ❑ Attend your scheduled Junior Day during Registration. This is your preferred day.
  - Pay for your ASB, yearbook, parking and any course dues.
  - Load your lunch account, take your school picture, and pick up your schedule.
- ❑ Verify your schedule-do you have at least 6 classes? English? Math? Science? US History? Sign up to see your Counselor before school if any changes need to be made.
- ❑ Watch the dates to make any schedule changes if necessary.

### September

- ❑ Save samples of your best work for your academic portfolio throughout the year.
- ❑ Keep a log of your co-curricular activities all year for use in later compiling your resume for college.
- ❑ If you are behind in credits, sign up with your Counselor to take NovaNet Credit Recovery classes.
- ❑ Sign up to take the PSAT (practice/pre SAT) if you are possibly a college-bound student.
  - Even though these scores will not be used for college admission, it is recommended that students take it for practice, which could improve your SAT scores.
  - Cost: \$20 – Keep your receipt! Pay for and sign up for the test in the Activities Office
  - Date: TBD (October)
  - Bring to test: Picture ID, two #2 pencils, calculator.

### October

- ❑ Review grades at the 6-week Progress Report. Speak with your teachers and Counselor if you need extra help.
- ❑ Attend the College Info Night with your parents.
- ❑ Take the PSAT.
- ❑ Attend a college fair. The National College Fair comes to Portland at the Oregon Convention Center. Dates and information will be announced later.

### November

- ❑ Junior year grades are extremely important in the college admission process because they are a measure of how well a student can perform in advanced, upper-level courses. Grades are also used to determine scholarships and grants for which you may be eligible. So, put in the extra effort and keep those grades up!

### December

- ❑ Look up your schedule for the second semester. Sign up to see your Counselor if any changes are necessary.
- ❑ Attend the PSAT Interpretation to receive your PSAT scores.
- ❑ Take the Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery to be given at the High School for all Juniors. Date TBD

### January

- ❑ First semester ends Mid January.
- ❑ Sign up online for college admission tests.
  - [www.collegeboard.com](http://www.collegeboard.com) for the SAT and Subject Tests.
  - [www.act.org](http://www.act.org) for ACT
- ❑ If you are interested in the Running Start program, attend the Running Start Information Night at Clark College. The dates to be announced.
- ❑ Take the Compass Placement Test if attending Running Start for the first time in the fall.

### February

- ❑ Attend the Skills Center Assembly held at RHS if you are interested in attending the Skills Center during your senior year.

### March

- ❏ Forecast for your Senior year. Make sure that you are choosing challenging classes.
- ❏ Visit the Skills Center on a tour if you are interested.
- ❏ Take the High School Proficiency Exam Reading and Writing sections if necessary
- ❏ Review grades at the 6-week Progress Report. Speak with your teachers and Counselor if you need extra help.

### April

- ❏ Take the Science HSPE, if necessary.
- ❏ Possibly take the ACT or SAT for the first time. The ACT includes English, mathematics, reading, science reasoning, and writing. The SAT includes critical reading, mathematics, and writing.

### May

- ❏ Take the Advanced Placement exam, if applicable.

### June

- ❏ Take a Math make-up EOC if necessary
- ❏ **Summer Break** Visit colleges that you are interested in! Take a tour, talk to students on campus and talk with admissions representatives. Do they have the major you want?
- ❏ Make up any deficiencies you may have in your graduation requirements.
- ❏ Possibly take a class at Clark College, get an internship, or work at a job in a field that interests you.
- ❏ Complete the assigned summer work for any AP classes you will be taking senior year.
- ❏ Take the August administration of the WASL, if necessary.
- ❏ Start working on your senior project hours, if applicable.

### NCAA

If you are planning on participating in Division I or II sports at the college level you must register with the NCAA Clearinghouse and bring release of information forms to your Counselor. Without this form you cannot compete at the National level. Please go online at [www.ncaaclearinghouse.org](http://www.ncaaclearinghouse.org) for more information.

## Senior Information

### CREDITS AND GRADUATION

Each Senior will meet with their counselor to review their status for graduation. Check to see that you will complete 23 credits by graduation. All credits over the required amount in each subject area will count as elective credits. If you have failed a graduation requirement or are behind in credits, see your Counselor to enroll in NovaNet Credit Recovery. The hours are 7:00 to 8:00 am and 2:45 to 3:45 pm in Portable 3B.

### College Visits

Check individual college websites for preview day dates. Pay attention to the RHS announcements for dates that college representatives will be visiting our school.

### College Applications

Request applications directly from the college/university via email, phone, or download from university website. Almost all private schools require a transcript and a letter of recommendation, as well as a Secondary School Report filled out by your Counselor.

### Letters of Recommendation

Counselors are happy to write letters of recommendation.

Please provide your counselor with information to include in the letter. **Please provide two weeks notice to write a Letter of Recommendation.**

### Senior Conferences

In September and October, every senior will meet with their Counselor to discuss their High School and Beyond Plan and graduation status.

### Transcripts

To request an official transcript for college admission applications, fill out the "Transcript Request Form." This form is available with Ms. Crocker in the Counseling Center. Allow four days for processing.

### College Entrance Exams (CEEB Code 481-005)

SAT Reasoning and Subject [www.collegeboard.org](http://www.collegeboard.org)

ACT [www.actstudent.org](http://www.actstudent.org)

Remember to have your test scores sent to colleges. You may choose four colleges on the registration application. If you need to have your scores sent to more than four schools, go to [www.collegeboard.com](http://www.collegeboard.com). There is a fee per school.

### Financial Aid

Financial aid is available for state and public schools, community colleges, and technical schools. Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA [www.fafsa.ed.gov](http://www.fafsa.ed.gov)) required by all colleges for federal and state aid. You must file between January 1<sup>st</sup> and February 15th.

There will be a Financial Aid Information Night held at RHS in early November. Please watch for the official date and time and be sure to attend.

### Scholarship Information

Check in with Mrs. Hancock in the library frequently for local scholarship information. New scholarships will be announced periodically in the bulletin. Be sure to check with your college of choice for scholarships available at their institution. The internet can be a useful source. National scholarships searches can be done at [www.fastweb.com](http://www.fastweb.com) or a statewide scholarship search engine is [www.thewashboard.org](http://www.thewashboard.org).

## NCAA

If you are planning on participating in Division I or II sports at the college level you must register with the NCAA Clearinghouse and bring release of information forms to your Counselor. Without this form you cannot compete at the National level. Please go online at [www.ncaaclearinghouse.org](http://www.ncaaclearinghouse.org) for more information.

## Western Undergraduate Exchange (WUE)

WUE [www.wiche.edu/sep/wue](http://www.wiche.edu/sep/wue)

**Through WUE, students in western states may enroll in participating two-year and four-year public college programs at a reduced tuition level: 150% of the institutions regular resident tuition. In all cases, WUE tuition is considerably less than nonresident tuition.**

# CREDITS AND GRADES

Freshmen, sophomores, and juniors are required to be enrolled in six classes each semester. Students earn three credits per semester by passing all six of their regularly scheduled classes. Seniors are required to be enrolled in a minimum of five classes. Students are awarded a .5 credit for each semester course completed with a passing grade. The minimum number of credits required to be on track for graduation at the beginning of school year are:

**Sophomore:** 6 credits      **Junior:** 12 credits      **Senior:** 17 credits

The State of Washington has a uniform transcript method for reporting student academic progress. All grades earned in grades 9 through 12 are used in computing grade point average. Grades are not weighted. Grades recognized by the state are as follows:

A	A-	B+	B	B-	C+	C	C-	D+	D	F
4.0	3.7	3.3	3.0	2.7	2.3	2.0	1.7	1.3	1.0	0

Students with special circumstances may be graded on a Pass/No Credit basis. It is also the grade earned for most teacher assistant courses. These grades are not included in the Grade Point Average (GPA) and must be approved by the principal. The GPA is the average of all high school classes taken for credit and one of several factors in college admission. The biggest factor in college admissions is the quality and intensity of a student's high school courses.

# EARNING COLLEGE CREDIT

**Earning College credit while in high school is a real possibility. These are the options offered in the Ridgefield Public Schools:**

**ADVANCED PLACEMENT (AP ®)** The choices you make now will determine the future course of your life. Students are encouraged to enroll in one or more AP courses during their high school years. There are no prerequisites for AP classes other than a desire to work hard. The internationally recognized AP program is administered by the College Board. College level classes in high school allow students to join fellow students seeking intellectual challenge and a taste of college. Colleges know that students who complete Advanced Placement classes and exams will likely be successful at the next level because they have proved it in a well-known, respected, standardized curriculum. Most colleges and universities weigh success in Advanced Placement classes heavily in admissions.

Students are encouraged to take the subject specific AP tests in May. Students who are not native English speakers are encouraged to take the AP test in their native language. Most colleges and universities give credit and/or advanced standing for scores of 3-5. Students should check with prospective colleges to determine how they use AP scores. Students who take three or more AP tests and earn scores of at least three are identified as an AP Scholar. Each test costs approximately \$87 but could save a student thousands of dollars in tuition if they pass with a qualifying score. Financial aid is available to reduce the cost of testing for qualified students.

Ridgefield Schools offer AP courses in English, Math, Social Studies and Science. Class offerings are dependent upon enrollment.

For more information see the College Board's website at: [www.apcentral.collegeboard.com](http://www.apcentral.collegeboard.com)

**RUNNING START** The Running Start Program allows eligible juniors and seniors in high school to attend Clark College part or full-time and receive both high school and college credits for successfully completed classes. The students are limited to college level classes (100 level and higher). The tuition is paid by the school district, but students are responsible for textbooks, class fees, and transportation to the college.

At the end of each quarter the student's grades are sent to the high school for placement on the high school transcript. The student's grades are also placed on the college transcript. Home-schooled or private-schooled students must register at one of the local public high schools and take the eligibility test.

### **PROCEDURE FOR ACCESSING THE RUNNING START PROGRAM:**

#### **Step 1- Eligibility**

Please refer to [www.clark.edu/runningstart](http://www.clark.edu/runningstart) for the most accurate information on Running Start. Students are eligible for Running Start during their Junior and Senior year. Students must take the Compass Test and attend an orientation to be eligible.

#### **The Compass Test**

This test includes three 25 minute tests in reading, writing and math. To be eligible for academic courses, students must qualify with college level scores in reading and writing, and math (if enrolling in college math courses). Some college vocational courses are open to students with lower test scores. Students who do NOT qualify on the test may retest at a later date.

#### **Step 2 - Orientation Meeting**

Students and parents are expected to attend an orientation meeting. At the meeting, students will be given a Clark College Catalog and useful information about the college.

#### **Step 3 - Equivalent Form and Contract**

Students will be required to sign a contract and forecast form with equivalencies with their high school counselor to align with graduation requirements.

#### **Step 4 - Forecast Form**

After the high school counselors have received schedules for the upcoming quarter, students will complete a forecast form, showing what class or classes the student wishes to take at Clark College. Students will complete a forecast form for each quarter they attend Clark College. Students are responsible for delivery of their forecast forms to Clark College. Students may attend day or evening classes. Summer quarter classes are not included in the Running Start Program. Students may be full-time at Clark College, or may attend part-time at the high school and part-time at Clark.

#### **Step 5 - Registration**

Students will register for their classes and pay for any fees associated with their class or classes. Students are also responsible for textbook expenses.

For further information: Clark College at (360) 992-2392, web address: <http://www.clark.edu/runningstart>

**TECH PREP** Tech Prep courses are a competency-based direct credit option for specific courses at Clark College. This credit option allows students to enroll in specific **Tech Prep** high school courses and receive college credit on their transcript for those classes upon completion of college-approved competencies with a “B” grade or better. Please see the course descriptions for specific classes that qualify for Tech Prep.

To receive the Clark College Tech Prep credit a student must do the following:

- Complete high school course with a grade of “B” or better plus additional competencies, if required.
  - Submit Tech Prep Student Registration form and one-time \$15 registration fee to the address on the registration form **within 3 weeks of the completion date of the high school course.**
- Clark College web address: <http://www.clark.edu/techprep>

**2010/2011**  
**Ridgefield High School**  
**Course Offerings**

**Departments:**

**Career and Technical Education**

**English**

**Fine Arts**

**Health and Fitness**

**Math**

**Science**

**Social Studies**

**Foreign Language**

**Other Offerings**

**Skill Center**

**Nova Net**

# Career and Technical Education

Career and Technical Education is a planned program of courses and learning experiences that begins with the exploration of career options. It supports basic academic and life skills, enables achievement of high academic standards, leadership, preparation for industry-defined work, and advanced and continuing education. It includes Agriculture Education, Business Education, Computer Education, Technology Education, and Family and Consumer Sciences. Digital Communication Tools or passing the competency test is required.

## **AGRICULTURE**

The mission of Agriculture Education is to provide all learners with literacy and technical knowledge and skills necessary to live in a global society in the areas of agriculture, natural resources, horticulture, and the environment.

### **METALS TECHNOLOGY**

**Open to Grades:** 9-12

**Credit:** 0.5 (Repeatable for Credit)

**Length of Course:** One Semester

**Prerequisite:** None

**Graduation Requirement:** CTE

**Fee:** \$30

**Course Description:**

- Introduces students to the safe practices and basic processes of metalworking.
- Students will learn arc welding, gas welding, hot metal working, cold metal working, tap and die.
- Students may advance through higher levels

### **ORNAMENTAL HORTICULTURE**

**Open to Grades:** 9-12

**Credit:** 0.5

**Length of Course:** One Semester

**Prerequisite:** None

**Graduation Requirement:**

**Course Description:** CTE

- Hands on approach to plant science
- Topics include:
  1. Plant Propagation
  2. Floral Design
  3. Landscaping
  4. Plant Production

### **FLORAL DESIGN**

**Open to Grades:** 9-12

**Credit:** 0.5 (Repeatable for Credit)

**Length of Course:** One Semester

**Prerequisite:** None

**Graduation Requirement:** CTE

**Fee:** \$30

**Course Description:**

- Understand the design process and implement this process through the medium of floral materials.
- Understand the importance of various holidays and occasions to the floral industry through floral design.
- Create traditional and contemporary designs, corsages, boutonnieres and more.
- Become familiar with mechanics used in producing floral designs.
- Students may take an advanced Floral Design course

### **GREENHOUSE PRODUCTION AND MANAGEMENT**

**Open to Grades:** 9-12

**Credit:** 0.5

**Length of Course:** One Semester

**Prerequisite:** None

**Graduation Requirement:** CTE

**Course Description:**

- Hands on class that is responsible for propagating, growing and managing a spring plant sale

### **LANDSCAPE DESIGN**

**Open to Grades:** 9-12

**Credit:** 0.5

**Length of Course:** One Semester

**Prerequisite:** None

**Graduation Requirement:** CTE

**Course Description:**

- Students will gain skills and practices in landscaping and nursery production
- Topics include:
  1. Landscape design concepts
  2. Landscape drawing
  3. Landscape Construction
  4. Plant Production

### **METAL ARTS**

**Open to Grades:** 9-12

**Credit:** 0.5 (Repeatable for Credit)

**Length of Course:** One Semester

**Prerequisite:** None

**Graduation Requirement:** CTE

**Fee:** \$30

**Course Description:**

- Focus on integrating art design and metals
- Students fabricate metal art projects from small artistic pieces to large objects of ornamental landscape art
- Students may advance through higher levels

## **BUSINESS EDUCATION**

Business Education is education for and about business. Education about business means preparing learners for the various roles that will play economically literate citizens. Education for business means building on these general understandings about business in a way that prepares learners to be employed in a variety of careers. The ever-evolving requirements of the workplace and the relationship of life-long learning to career success are emphasized. Students are encouraged to participate in the Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA).

### **DIGITAL COMMUNICATION SKILLS**

**Open to Grades:** 9-12

**Credit:** 0.5

**Length of Course:** 1 semester

**Prerequisite:** None

**Graduation Requirement:** CTE

**Course Description:**

- Introductory computer software class
- Review keyboarding techniques
- Teaches basic application of Microsoft Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Access

- Basic web page skills are introduced
- Serves as technology background for other high school classes

### **INTRO TO BUSINESS**

**Open to Grades:** 9-12

**Credit:** 0.5

**Length of Course:** 1 semester

**Prerequisite:** None

**Graduation Requirement:** Occupational/Voc

**Course Description:**

- Students are introduced to basic business concepts to help prepare them for the economic roles of consumers, workers, and citizens.
- Serves as a background for other business courses taken in high school
- Assists students with consumer decision-making in our global economy
- Use MS Word, Excel, and PowerPoint to complete assignments and projects

### **PERSONAL BANKING AND FINANCE**

**Open to Grades:** 9-12

**Credit:** 0.5

**Length of Course:** 1 semester

**Prerequisite:** None

**Graduation Requirement:** CTE

**Course Description:**

- Fundamentals of basic financial planning
- Learn how to take care of a family's finances through budgeting, filing, paying bills, writing checks, and using credit wisely.
- Prepare income taxes
- Use MS Word, Excel, and PowerPoint to complete assignments and projects.

### **INTRO TO ACCOUNTING**

**Open to Grades:** 10-12

**Credit:** 0.5

**Length of Course:** 1 semester

**Prerequisite:** None

**Graduation Requirement:** CTE

**Course Description:**

- Develop an understanding of the principles and procedures in handling cash, recording in journals and posting to ledgers, preparing financial reports, and handling payrolls.
- Learn to systemize information about transactions in accounts and records and verify accuracy of data by applying auditing principles.
- Prepare income taxes.
- Use MS Word, Excel, and PowerPoint to complete assignments and projects.

## **FAMILY AND CONSUMER SCIENCES**

The mission of family and consumer sciences education is to prepare students for family life, work life, and careers by providing opportunities to develop knowledge, skills, attitudes and behaviors. Family and consumer sciences education empowers individuals and families across the life span to manage the challenges of living and working in a diverse, global society. Our unique focus is on families, work and their relationships.

### **FAMILY HEALTH**

**Open to Grades:** 9-12

**Credit:** 0.5

**Length of Course:** 1 semester

**Prerequisite:** None

**Graduation Requirement:** Health or CTE

**Course Description:**

- Explore personal and family health issues such as self-esteem, mental health, diet and exercise
- Identify personal safety concerns regarding sexual harassment, date and acquaintance rape, dating violence, STDs
- Explore effects of drugs, tobacco, and alcohol on the body's systems.
- Experience life-like simulation of teen pregnancy using the Real Care Electronic Baby
- Track and analyze personal eating habits based on acquired nutritional knowledge

### **CAREERS WITH CHILDREN**

**Open to Grades:** 9-12

**Credit:** 0.5

**Length of Course:** 1 semester

**Prerequisite:** None

**Graduation Requirement:** CTE

**Course Description:**

- Research and study the importance of childhood focusing on theory
- Discover the interrelationship of the physical, social, emotional, and intellectual development of children
- Study guidance techniques and strategies for working with children
- Explore careers relating to children

### **CREATIVE COOKING**

**Open to Grades:** 9-12

**Credit:** 0.5

**Length of Course:** 1 semester

**Prerequisite:** None

**Graduation Requirement:** CTE

**Fee:** \$10

**Course Description:**

- Prepare creative baked goods and meals to understand the process of daily cooking
- Learn basic kitchen functions and proper use of equipment
- Understand the proper nutritional daily values to apply towards daily cooking

### **GLOBAL FOODS**

**Open to Grades:** 9-12

**Credit:** 0.5

**Length of Course:** 1 semester

**Prerequisite:** None

**Graduation Requirement:** CTE

**Fee:** \$10

**Course Description:**

- Explore different cultures and traditional foods
- Research the difference between cultures food choices
- Understand the proper nutritional daily values to apply towards global food choices

### **INDEPENDENT LIVING**

**Open to Grades:** 11-12

**Credit:** 0.5

**Length of Course:** 1 semester

**Prerequisite:** None

**Graduation Requirement:** CTE

**Course Description:**

- Prepare for living on your own after high school
- Develop an employability portfolio (Letter of Interest, Cover Letter, Resume and letters of Recommendation.)
- Discover financial obligations, practice money management, research credit, insurance, and investment opportunities
- Develop skills regarding renting, buying a house, responsibilities with a roommate and planning for a healthy lifestyle.

## **FASHION AND CLOTHING**

**Open to Grades:** 9-12

**Credit:** 0.5

**Length of Course:** 1 semester

**Prerequisite:** None

**Graduation Requirement:** CTE

**Course Description:**

- Become part of a rewarding and ever-changing world of fashions and textiles
- Explore a wide variety of career opportunities available in the field of apparel from design to sales
- Analyze various phases of the fashion and textile industry
- Emphasis of retailing concepts and practice, the fashion cycle, customer buying behaviors, international markets, promotional campaigns and sales
- Students should expect group discussions, role-plays, demonstrations, case studies, projects, presentations, and guest speakers on retail or fashions merchandising careers.

## **TECHNOLOGY EDUCATION**

Technology Education studies include designing, developing, and utilizing technological systems in real world experiences using up-to-date resources. Trade and Industry Education include preparatory programs that prepare individuals to produce, process, assemble, test, maintain, service and/or repair products.

### **DRAWING AND DESIGN TECHNOLOGY 1**

**Open to Grades:** 9-12

**Credit:** 0.5

**Length of Course:** 1 semester

**Prerequisite:** None

**Graduation Requirement:** CTE

**Course Description:**

- Drawing instruments are used to draft work drawings
- Sketching, line work, lettering, measurement, and geometric design
- Produce scaled technical drawings
- Introduction to Computer Aided Drafting (CAD)

### **DRAWING AND DESIGN TECHNOLOGY 2**

**Open to Grades:** 9-12

**Credit:** 0.5

**Length of Course:** 1 semester

**Prerequisite:** Drawing and Design Tech 1

**Graduation Requirement:** CTE

**Course Description:**

- Architectural engineering using the design analysis method
- Produce scale and dimensioned working drawings representing their own design
- Use architectural engineer CAD software to produce scale drawings
- Regional Architects judge student drawings

### **DRAWING AND DESIGN TECHNOLOGY 3**

**Open to Grades:** 10-12

**Credit:** 0.5

**Length of Course:** 1 semester

**Prerequisite:** Drawing and Design Tech 2

**Graduation Requirement:** CTE

**Course Description:**

- Mechanical engineering using the design analysis method
- Students will produce scale and dimensioned workings drawings representing their own design
- Use mechanical engineering CAD software to produce scale drawings

### **DRAWING AND DESIGN TECHNOLOGY 4**

**Open to Grades:** 10-12

**Credit:** 0.5

**Length of Course:** 1 semester

**Prerequisite:** Drawing and Design Technology 3

**Graduation Requirement:** CTE

**Course Description:**

- Civil engineering using the design analysis method
- Students will produce scale and dimensioned working drawings representing their own design
- Use civil engineering CAD software to produce scale drawings

### **DIGITAL PHOTOGRAPHY**

**Open to Grades:** 9-12

**Credit:** 0.5

**Length of Course:** 1 semester

**Prerequisite:** None

**Graduation Requirement:** Fine Art or CTE

**Fee:** \$15

**Equipment Requirement:** Student must own a digital camera capable of a manual setting

**Course Description:**

- Explore digital imaging concepts and applications
- Cover basic camera operations, compositional elements, workflow, and lighting
- Photoshop Elements CS will be a companion tool

- Learn color correction, cropping and photography effects
- Leadership, careers and Photography History are also covered in the course

### **GRAPHIC DESIGN**

**Open to Grades:** 9-12

**Credit:** 0.5 (repeatable for credit)

**Length of Course:** 1 semester

**Prerequisite:** None

**Graduation Requirement:** Fine Art or CTE

**Fee:** \$15

#### **Course Description:**

- For students interested in the Graphic Arts/Printing Communications/Multimedia Design fields
- Students will be trained in specific software utilized in the Graphic Arts industry.
- Logo design, Advertising, Billboards, Brochures and Multimedia Applications are some areas of focus
- Leadership, careers and Graphic Arts History are also covered in this course

### **WOOD TECH 1**

**Open to Grades:** 9-12

**Credit:** 0.5

**Length of Course:** 1 semester

**Prerequisite:** None

**Graduation Requirement:** CTE

**Fee:** Project Based

#### **Course Description:**

- Students will build a small project, which teaches machine procedures, processes and safety
- Measuring, layout, jigs, fixtures, wood joinery and finishing techniques are introduced along with project planning and blueprint reading
- Developing leadership skills and self motivation are an integral component of this curriculum

### **WOOD TECH 2**

**Open to Grades:** 9-12

**Credit:** 0.5

**Length of Course:** 1 semester

**Prerequisite:** Wood Tech 1

**Graduation Requirement:** CTE

**Fee:** Project Based

#### **Course Description:**

- Students will be introduced to the concepts and techniques of mass production
- The class will mass produce a product, developing all necessary plans for production including prototypes, jigs, fixtures, prod, lines, finishing, and quality control
- Develop and practice advanced skills in commercial cabinetmaking and furniture construction
- Design, material selection, industrial woodworking processes and finishing techniques will be covered
- Students will be expected to complete a major, teacher approved, project of their choice

### **WOOD TECH 3**

**Open to Grades:** 10-12

**Credit:** .50

**Length of Course:** 1 semester

**Prerequisite:** Wood Tech 2 or senior standing

**Graduation Requirement:** CTE

**Fee:** Project Based

#### **Course Description:**

- Introduction to residential construction including site layout, surveying, framing and finishing
- Use level transits, framing mockups and building of storage buildings to work through the curriculum

# ENGLISH

It is the goal of the English Department to give all students the opportunity to experience different forms of language and to provide and promote life-long communications skills. Students are required to earn four credits in English Communications in order to graduate. Three of these credits involve successful completion at each grade level (freshman – junior). The senior year involves choosing from several electives offered. Students who consider themselves college bound should incorporate as much writing in their choices as possible. Additionally, students who know they are heading for a four-year university may take advantage of the Advanced Placement program and take the AP Exam.

## ENGLISH 9

**Open to Grades:** 9

**Credit:** 1.0

**Course Length:** One year or two semesters

**Prerequisite:** None

**Graduation Requirement:** English

**Course Description:**

- Fundamentals of grammar, vocabulary and writing process
- Emphasizes group communication skills and peer editing
- Short stories, biographies, drama, essays and novels read
- Oral presentations, both group and solo

## ENGLISH 10

**Open to Grades:** 10

**Credit:** 1.0

**Course Length:** One year or two semesters

**Prerequisite:** English 9

**Graduation Requirement:** English

**Course Description:**

- Study of short stories, novels, and drama
- Continued development of oral communication and debate
- Continued work on essay structure and writing process
- Research paper

## ENGLISH 11

**Open to Grades:** 11

**Credit:** 1.0

**Course Length:** One year or two semesters

**Prerequisite:** English 10

**Graduation Requirement:** English

**Course Description:**

- Study of American Literature
- Creative and expository writing
- Continued development of oral communications
- Group communication skills and peer editing

## AP COMPOSITION

**Open to Grades:** 11

**Credit:** 1.0

**Length of course:** One year or two semesters

**Prerequisite:** English 10

**Graduation Requirements:** English

**Course Description:**

- College level expository writing
- AP test required at course's end

## ENGLISH 12

**Open to Grades:** 12

**Credit:** 1.0

**Course Length:** One Year or Two Semesters

**Prerequisite:** English 11

**Graduation Requirement:** English

**Course Description:**

- Critical analysis of novels, plays, and short stories
- College level creative and expository writing
- Oral communication: solo and group presentations; debates
- Seminar-style discussions of literature
- Oral communication: solo and group presentations; debates
- Research

## AP LITERATURE

**Open to Grades:** 12

**Credit:** 1.0

**Course Length:** One year or two semesters

**Prerequisite:** None

**Graduation Requirement:** English

**Course Description:**

- Summer reading, writing, and other tasks assigned by instructor prior to class
- Critical analysis of literature
- AP test required at course's end

# Fine Arts

There are many careers available that emphasize art both directly and indirectly. Ridgefield High School offers classes in visual and performing arts. These courses teach skills and encourage the students' creativity and will not only help them in the various areas of music, drama, and visual art, but will also help to build confidence and encourage self expression. The classes also show the influence of the arts in society and culture, both past and present.

## PERFORMING ARTS

### BEGINNING THEATER

**Open to Grades:** 9-12

**Credit:** 0.5-1.0

**Length of Course:** One or Two Semesters

**Prerequisite:** None

**Graduation Requirement:** Fine Arts

**Course Description:**

- Learn and practice the art of communication through speech, movement, improvisation, and dramatic interpretation
- Develop self-confidence and poise in presenting before an audience
- Better understand human emotions and interactions through the study of dramatic interpretation
- Become familiar with the elements of theater, and historical background of theater
- Gain the skills and confidence needed to perform at a higher level

### ADVANCED THEATER

**Open to Grades:** 10-12

**Credit:** 0.5-1.0

**Length of Course:** One or two semesters

**Prerequisite:** Theater

**Graduation Requirement:** Fine Arts

**Course Description:**

- This class is intended for students who have previous experience in theater, or performing, and are seeking to expand their knowledge of theater. Students will develop skills in theatrical analysis, philosophy, style, and directing.
- Activities will include scene study, script analysis, movie analysis, and scene directing. This class is for students who plan on continuing theater after high school.
- Culminating projects will include directing a 5-10 minute scene or one-act applying skills studied during the semester, and written analysis of scene work.

### CHOIR

**Open to Grades:** 9-12

**Credit:** 0.5 or 1.0

**Length of Course:** One or Two Semesters

**Prerequisite:** None

**Graduation Requirement:** Fine Arts

**Cost:** \$25.00

**Course Description:**

- Build a strong musical foundation for students who want a general knowledge of music
- Learn to sing correctly, read music by notes, learn music theory, perform three part music
- Gain skills that will give the students the confidence to sing solo
- Designed primarily for underclassman

### ADVANCED CHOIR

**Open to Grades:** 10-12

**Credit:** 1.0

**Length of Course:** One year or two semesters

**Prerequisite:** Prior musical training, or instructor permission

**Graduation Requirement:** Fine Arts

**Cost:** \$25.00

**Course Description:**

- Study advanced voice development
- Review and put into practice basic fundamentals of music
- Acquaint students with all types of vocal music, emphasis on a standard choral literature
- Attend concerts and musical festivals (required)
- Designed primarily for upperclassman

### **BAND**

**Open to Grades:** 9-12

**Credit:** 1.0

**Length of Course:** One year or two semesters

**Prerequisite:** None

**Graduation Requirement:** Fine Arts

**Cost:** \$25.00

**Course Description:**

- Provides opportunity for study and performance of intermediate level wind music
- Perform at all band commitments including, but not limited to: pep band engagements, concerts and festivals
- Attendance at some weekend and evening events will be expected
- Must be a member of ASB

### **ADVANCED BAND**

**Open to Grades:** 9-12

**Credit:** 1.0

**Length of Course:** One year or two semesters

**Prerequisite:** None

**Graduation Requirement:** Fine Arts

**Cost:** \$25.00

**Course Description:**

- Provides opportunity for study and performance of advanced level wind music
- Perform at all band commitments including, but not limited to: pep band engagements, concerts and festivals.
- Attendance at some weekend and evening events will be expected
- Must be a member of ASB

### **JAZZ BAND**

**Open to Grades:** 9-12

**Credit:** 1.0

**Length of Course:** One year or two semesters, offered during zero period

**Prerequisite:** Co-enrollment in Band or Advanced Band

**Cost:** \$25.00

**Graduation Requirement:** Fine Arts

**Course Description:**

- Provides opportunity for study and performance of beginning to advanced level Jazz, Swing, Latin and other jazz genres
- Perform at concerts and community events
- Attendance at some weekend and evening events will be expected

### **VOCAL JAZZ**

**Open to Grades:** 9-12

**Credit:** 1.0

**Length of Course:** One year or two semesters, offered during zero period

**Prerequisite:** Co-Enrollment in Choir or Advanced Choir

**Graduation Requirement:** Fine Arts

**Cost:** \$25.00

**Course Description:**

- Learn to perform both Jazz and Pop music along with stage presence and performance techniques
- Perform extensively including a major area tour as well as frequent gigs in the Portland/Vancouver area
- Consists of 16-25 singers, a bass player, drummer, guitar and keyboard

### **PERCUSSION**

**Open to Grades:** 9-12

**Credit:** 1.0

**Length of Course:** One Year or two semesters

**Prerequisite:** None

**Graduation Requirement:** Fine Arts

**Cost:** Two pair of 5A drumsticks

**Course Description:**

- Study basic elements of percussion performance, including rhythmic notation, counting systems, stick technique, rehearsal, and composition
- Performance during school hours
- Evening performance

### **MUSIC THEORY**

**Open to Grades:** 9-12

**Credit:** 0.5

**Length of Course:** One Semester

**Prerequisite:** None

**Graduation Requirement:** Fine Arts

**Course Description:**

- Study the fundamental concepts of the construction of music including melody, harmony, rhythm, and form and analysis.
- Performance during school hours of compositions
- Use of music technology software

## VISUAL ARTS

### ART 1

**Open to Grades:** 9-12

**Credit:** 0.5

**Length of Course:** One Semester

**Prerequisite:** None

**Graduation Requirement:** Fine Arts

**Fee:** \$15.00

**Course Description:**

A basic skill building class covering basic principles of design and art elements

Various media included – both 2 and 3 dimensional

### ART 2

**Open to Grades:** 9-12

**Credit:** 0.5

**Length of Course:** One Semester

**Prerequisite:** Art 1

**Graduation Requirement:** Fine Arts

**Fee:** \$15.00

**Course Description:**

A class focusing more on the creative process and critical thinking

Students will further hone their skills using various media – both 2 and 3 dimensional

### ART 3

**Open to Grades:** 10-12

**Credit:** 0.5-1.0

**Length of Course:** One or Two Semesters

**Prerequisite:** Art 2

**Graduation Requirement:** Fine Arts

**Fee:** \$15.00

**Course Description:**

- This class will further hone the creative thinking process and art skills
- Various media will be used – both 2 and 3 dimensional – more focus will be given to visual literacy

### ART 4

**Open to Grades:** 12

**Credit:** 0.5-1.0

**Length of Course:** One or Two Semesters

**Prerequisite:** Art 3

**Graduation Requirement:** Fine Arts or Elective

**Fee:** \$15.00

**Course Description:**

- This class will further hone the creative thinking process and art skills
- Various media will be used – both 2 and 3 dimensional – more focus will be given to visual literacy
- More focus will be given to producing a portfolio of student work
- This class is for serious art students

### 3D ART/ADVANCED 3D ART

**Open to Grades:** 9-12

**Credit:** 0.5

**Length of Course:** One Semester

**Prerequisite:** None

**Cost:** \$15.00

**Graduation Requirement:** Fine Arts

**Course Description:**

- Students will explore possibilities of taking art from 2 dimensional to 3 dimensional
- Various media will be covered
- Students will be exposed to 3-D art work from different cultures and time periods
- ADVANCED CLASS Students will develop further –dimensional art skills
- Students will be encouraged to develop an artistic voice

### CALLIGRAPHY

**Open to Grades:** 10-12

**Credit:** 0.5

**Length of Course:** One Semester

**Prerequisite:** None

**Graduation Requirement:** Fine Arts

**Cost:** \$15.00

**Course Description:**

- Students will learn to use various lettering styles
- Students will use their lettering to produce artistic works
- This class may be repeated for credit

### DRAWING AND PAINTING

**Open to Grades:** 10-12

**Credit:** 0.5

**Length of Course:** One Semester

**Prerequisite:** Art 2

**Graduation Requirement:** Fine Art

**Fee:** \$15.00

**Course Description:**

- This class is for the serious art student
- Various 2-dimensional media will be used
- Students will be expected to produce creative works of their own
- Students will develop works that have an artistic voice

## **DIGITAL PHOTOGRAPHY**

**Open to Grades:** 9-12

**Credit:** 0.5

**Length of Course:** 1 semester

**Prerequisite:** None

**Graduation Requirement:** CTE/Fine Art

**Equipment Requirement:** Student must own a digital camera capable of a manual setting

**Fee:** \$15.00

### **Course Description:**

- Explore digital imaging concepts and applications
- Cover basic camera operations, compositional elements, workflow, and lighting
- Photoshop Elements CS will be a companion tool
- Learn color correction, cropping and photography effects
- Leadership, careers and Photography History are also covered in the course

## **GRAPHIC DESIGN**

**Open to Grades:** 9-12

**Credit:** 0.5 (repeatable for credit)

**Length of Course:** 1 semester

**Prerequisite:** None

**Graduation Requirement:** Fine Art or CTE

**Fee:** \$15

### **Course Description:**

- For students interested in the Graphic Arts/Printing Communications/Multimedia Design fields
- Students will be trained in specific software utilized in the Graphic Arts industry.
- Logo design, Advertising, Billboards, Brochures and Multimedia Applications are some areas of focus
- Leadership, careers and Graphic Arts History are also covered in this course

# HEALTH AND FITNESS

The Ridgefield High School Health and Fitness Program has several goals for its students:

- Encourage physical activity in order to maintain a reasonable level of fitness
- Develop an understanding of the rules and strategies of a variety of games
- Provide students with opportunities for active participation in team and individual activities
- Encourage positive self-image and social development through cooperative interaction

## HEALTH

**Open to Grades:** 9-10

**Credit:** 0.5

**Length of Course:** One Semester

**Prerequisite:** None

**Graduation Requirement:** Health

**Course Description:**

- Learn about nutrition, mental health, drugs, alcohol, tobacco use, and human sexuality
- Set personal fitness and health goals

## PE CORE 1

**Open to Grades:** 9-10

**Credit:** 0.5 (repeatable for credit)

**Length of Course:** One Semester

**Prerequisite:** None

**Graduation Requirement:** Physical Education

**Course Description:**

- A variety of lifelong sports, exercise, conditioning, and activities
- This class is designed for students who wish to participate at a recreational level
- Team and individual activities will be emphasized

## PE CORE 2

**Open to Grades:** 11-12

**Credit:** 0.5 (repeatable for credit)

**Length of Course:** One Semester

**Prerequisite:** None

**Graduation Requirement:** Physical Education

**Course Description:**

- A variety of lifelong sports, exercise, conditioning, and activities
- This class is designed for students who wish to participate at a recreational level
- Team and individual activities will be emphasized

## AEROBICS

**Open to Grades:** 9-12

**Credit:** 0.5 (repeatable for credit)

**Course Length:** One Semester

**Prerequisite:** None

**Graduation Requirements:** Physical Education

**Course Description:**

- This course is designed to improve the fitness level of students through aerobic exercise
- Students will gain improvement in their cardiovascular level as well as muscle tone

## WEIGHTS AND CONDITIONING

**Open to Grades:** 9-12

**Credit:** 0.5 (repeatable for credit)

**Length of Course:** One Semester

**Prerequisite:** None

**Graduation Requirement:** Physical Education

**Course Description:**

- For students dedicated to improving strength, speed and conditioning.
- Students will perform the Bigger, Faster, and Stronger program using a variety of exercises.

## TONING AND WEIGHT TRAINING

**Open to Grades:** 9-12

**Credit:** 0.5 (repeatable for credit)

**Length of Course:** One Semester

**Prerequisite:** None

**Graduation Requirement:** Physical Education

**Course Description:**

- This course will provide an individualized developmentally appropriate and personally challenging instructional program.
- Program will advance the knowledge, confidence, skills and motivation needed to engage in a lifelong, healthy active lifestyle.

# MATH

## ALGEBRA

**Open to Grades:** 9

**Credit:** 1.0

**Length of Course:** One Year or Two Semesters

**Prerequisite:** None

**Graduation Requirement:** Math

**Course Description:**

- Introduction to Functions
- Geometric Concepts
- Statistics and Probability
- Graphing calculator required

## GEOMETRY

**Open to Grades:** 9-10 (9<sup>th</sup> requires teacher approval)

**Credit:** 1.0

**Length of Course:** One Year or Two Semesters

**Prerequisite:** Algebra

**Graduation Requirement:** Math

**Course Description:**

- Solving systems of equations and quadratics
- Transformational Geometry
- Statistics and Probability
- Graphing calculator required

## ADVANCED ALGEBRA

**Open to Grades:** 10-11

**Credit:** 1.0

**Length of Course:** One Year or Two Semesters

**Prerequisite:** Geometry

**Graduation Requirement:** Math

**Course Description:**

- Algebraic Manipulation
- Properties of Geometric Figures
- Statistics and Probability
- Graphing calculator required

**Open to Grades:** 11, 12

**Credit:** 1.0

**Length of Course:** One Year or Two Semesters

**Prerequisite:** Advanced Algebra

**Graduation Requirement:** Math

**Course Description:**

- Advanced Algebra
- Functions
- Logarithms
- Vectors
- Statistics and Probability
- Graphing calculator required

## AP CALCULUS

**Open to Grades:** 12

**Credit:** 1.0

**Length of Course:** One Year or Two Semesters

**Prerequisite:** Pre-Calculus

**Graduation Requirement:** Math

**Course Description:**

- Limits
- Functions
- Integrals
- Optimization

## PRE-CALCULUS

# SCIENCE

The Science Department offers a broad selection of courses preparing students for both practical applications as well as theoretical foundations for advanced study. Three credits of science are required for graduation. One credit must be in Science and Sustainability and one must be in Biology.

## PHYSICAL SCIENCE

**Open to Grades:** 9

**Credit:** 1.0

**Length of Course:** One Year or Two Semesters

**Prerequisite:** None

**Graduation Requirement:** Science

**Course Description:**

- Introductory chemistry and physics
- Introduction to scientific processes
- Explore how science impacts daily life around the world

## BIOLOGY

**Open to Grades:** 9-10 (9 requires teacher approval)

**Credit:** 1.0

**Length of Course:** One Year or Two Semesters

**Prerequisite:** Physical Science

**Graduation Requirement:** Science

**Course Description:**

- Explore life and its diversity through labs and activities
- Learn about the cell and its functions in all living things
- Study genetics and learn about your own inherited traits
- Develop an understanding of systems and their interdependence

## CHEMISTRY

**Open to Grades:** 11-12

**Credit:** 1.0

**Length of Course:** One Year or Two Semesters

**Prerequisite:** Biology

**Graduation Requirement:** Science

**Course Description:**

- The study of matter and its interactions
- Course incorporates the practical applications of chemistry principles in the contextual themes of Alchemy, Smells, Weather, Toxins and Fire.
- A laboratory science class that meets the requirements for all colleges and universities.

## PHYSICS

**Open to Grades:** 11, 12

**Length of Course:** One Year or Two Semesters

**Prerequisite:** Chemistry

**Graduation Requirement:** Science

**Course Description:**

- Activity-based, student-lead course with text book explanations reinforcing practical applications
- This course includes the study of the basic laws of motion, vectors, energy, wave phenomena, and thermal dynamics

## ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE

**Open to Grades:** 11-12 (10<sup>th</sup> w/Teacher Permission)

**Credit:** 1.0

**Length of Course:** One Year or Two Semesters

**Prerequisite:** None

**Graduation Requirement:** Science

**Course Description:**

- Explore the relationship between humans and our ecosystem including ethical issues and problem solving strategies
- Learn through field trips and labs how fragile our ecosystem can be

## AP CHEMISTRY

**Open to Grades:** 11-12

**Credit:** 1.0

**Length of Course:** One Year or Two Semesters

**Prerequisite:** Chemistry

**Graduation Requirement:** Science

**Course Description:**

- Topics covered will include; gas laws, states of matter, reaction rates, equilibrium, oxidation-reduction, and acid-base chemistry
- This course is an advanced college prep laboratory science class. Recommended for students who have a strong interest in science.
- The Advanced Placement test will be given for individuals pursuing college credit.

## **GENETICS & BIOETHICS**

**Open to Grades:** 11-12

**Credit:** 0.5 per semester

**Length of Course:** One Year or Two Semesters

**Prerequisite:** Chemistry

**Graduation Requirement:** Science

### **Course Description:**

- This course will review cell biology; and explore heredity, variation, the history of genetic science, protein synthesis & biochemistry, bioinformatics, biotechnology, and the ethical implications of biological research.
- The work of this course will involve discussion, labs, debate, group work, projects, reading, technology, and films.

# SOCIAL STUDIES

The Social Studies department is concerned with developing reflective and enlightened democratic citizens for effective participation in local, state, national, and international affairs. The global approach helps students to develop an appreciation and understanding of their own cultural heritage, including diversity and its role in contemporary society. Students will study the motives, actions, and consequences of human beings as individuals, as groups and societies in a variety of places and times. In studying this wide array of information, students' will not only learn about human history in general, but also about themselves.

## SOCIAL STUDIES 1/GEOGRAPHY

**Open to Grades:** 9

**Credit:** 1.0

**Length of Course:** One Year or Two Semesters

**Prerequisite:** None

**Graduation Requirement:** Social Studies

**Course Description:**

- This course focuses on the world's regions, countries, and important global issues through the study of geography.
- Five themes of geography will be emphasized while exploring comparisons of economic systems, lessons in civics and world history.

## SOCIAL STUDIES 2/US HISTORY

**Open to Grades:** 11

**Credit:** 1.0

**Length of Course:** One Year or Two Semesters

**Prerequisite:** Social Studies 1

**Graduation Requirement:** Social Studies

**Course Description:**

- Foundations of American Government and the Promise
- Causes of Conflict
- Foreign Policy emphasis:
- Domestic Policy emphasis
- Classroom Based Assessments: Causes of Conflict and Civil Liberties

## SOCIAL STUDIES 3/GOVERNMENT & WORLD AFFAIRS

**Open to Grades:** 12

**Credit:** 0.5

**Length of Course:** One Semester

**Prerequisite:** Social Studies 2

**Graduation Requirement:** Social Studies

**Course Description:**

- This course is a survey course that emphasizes the foundations of American Government
- Course will include an overview of the legislative, executive, and judicial branches of the federal government

- Emphasizes American foreign policy and/or international issues facing American in the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

## INTRODUCTION TO PSYCHOLOGY

**Open to Grades:** 10-12

**Credit:** 0.5

**Length of Course:** One Semester

**Prerequisite:** None

**Graduation Requirement:** Elective

**Course Description:**

- Explore the field of psychology and gain an awareness of its many issues
- Help students explain their behaviors as well as the behaviors of others
- Look at the psychological development of people over the course of a lifetime
- Look at causes of abnormal behavior and various treatments that are used in working with people suffering from these disorders

## 60's

**Open to Grades:** 10-12

**Credit:** 0.5

**Length of Course:** One Semester

**Prerequisite:** None

**Graduation Requirement:** Elective

**Course Description:**

- This course covers the turbulent decade of the 1960s
- Students will be provided an insight into the historical events, cultural tension, political figures and the artistic works of the decade

## FACING HISTORY AND OURSELVES

**Open to Grades:** 10-12

**Credit:** 0.5

**Length of Course:** One Semester

**Prerequisite:** None

**Graduation Requirement:** Elective

**Course Description:**

- Study of the Holocaust as a vehicle to learn about many social issues that threaten our society and the individual
- A study of Sociology
- Prepare a Holocaust Exhibit

### **AP GOVERNMENT**

**Open to Grades:** 11-12

**Credit:** 1.0

**Length of Course:** One Year or Two Semesters

**Prerequisite:** SS1 and SS2 with a B or better or instructor approval

**Graduation Requirement:** Social Studies 3

#### **Course Description:**

- The AP course in American Government is designed to provide students with the analytical skills and factual knowledge necessary to deal critically with the problems facing American citizens today

### **AP US HISTORY**

**Open to Grades:** 10-12

**Credit:** 1.0

**Length of Course:** One Year or Two Semesters

**Prerequisite:** SS1 with a B or better or instructor approval

**Graduation Requirement:** Social Studies 2

#### **Course Description:**

- The AP course in US History is designed to provide students with the analytical skills and factual knowledge necessary to deal

critically with the problems and materials in the United States History

- The course prepares students for intermediate and advanced college courses by making demands upon them equivalent to those made by full-year introductory college courses

### **MOCK TRIAL**

**Open to Grades:** 9-12

**Credit:** 0.5

**Length of Course:** One Semester

**Prerequisite:** None

**Graduation Requirement:** Elective

#### **Course Description:**

- The course's primary purpose is to develop students to a competitive level for Mock Trial Competition at the district and state level
- Student will develop the ability to research law-related material, analyze the data associated with a trial and be able to conduct a court case
- Students will develop skills in public speaking, critical thinking, creative thinking, and oral advocacy

# FOREIGN LANGUAGE

The knowledge of a foreign language is becoming more and more important in today's world. It is necessary not only for communicating while traveling, but also for success in today's global business community. It is also important to learn about people from other countries and other cultures. Foreign language classes are electives and are not required for high school graduation. Most universities, however, require at least two years of foreign language study for admission.

## **SPANISH 1**

**Open to Grades:** 9-11

**Credit:** 1.0

**Length of Course:** One Year or Two Semesters

**Prerequisite:** None

**Graduation Requirement:** Elective

**Course Description:**

- Basic grammar structures
- Basic skills in speaking, listening, reading and writing
- Culture of Spanish speaking peoples in the US and abroad

## **SPANISH 2**

**Open to Grades:** 9-12

**Credits:** 1.0

**Length of Course:** One Year or Two Semesters

**Prerequisite:** Spanish I

**Graduation Requirement:** Elective

**Course Description:**

- Reading, more systematic grammar, controlled writing, and free oral expression
- Basic literary readings
- Culture of the Spanish speaking world in general

## **SPANISH 3**

**Open to Grades:** 10-12

**Credit:** 1.0

**Length of Course:** One Year or Two Semesters

**Prerequisite:** Spanish 2

**Graduation Requirement:** Elective

**Course Description:**

- Development of oral and writing skills
- Development of expression and creativity
- Continuation of cultural introductions

## **SPANISH 4**

**Open to Grades:** 10-12

**Credit:** 1.0

**Length of Course:** One Year or Two Semesters

**Prerequisite:** Spanish 3

**Graduation Requirement:** Elective

**Course Description:**

- Systematic review of all previously covered material as well as introduction of new material.
- The ability to express oneself orally and in writing is a primary goal of Spanish IV
- Students should have a good command of the grammar and competence in listening, speaking, reading and writing
- Students will work on concepts needed to converse in Spanish in various contexts, regardless of topic and to comprehend newspaper, magazine, and literary works

## OTHER OFFERINGS

### **LEADERSHIP**

**Open to Grades:** 9-12

**Credit:** 0.5

**Length of Course:** One Semester

**Prerequisite:** Run for office/Application Process

**Graduation Requirement:** Elective

**Course Description:**

- Students develop and strengthen their leadership skills
- Students get involved in school and community projects
- Students become involved in assembly planning, student council meetings, school improvement projects, recognition projects, and many more
- If you wish to learn more about leadership, please contact Mr. Ford for an application

### **SCHOOL PUBLICATIONS**

**Open to Grades:** 9-12

**Credit:** 0.5 or 1.0

**Length of Course:** One or Two Semesters

**Prerequisite:** None

**Graduation Requirement:** Elective

**Course Description:**

- Produces the RHS Yearbook
- Will learn and be tested on basic journalism principles

- Will write stories, headlines, edit copy, take photos, design pages and sell ad space.
- The goal of this class is to produce an outstanding yearbook the students and community can be proud of for many years.

### **TEACHER/OFFICE ASSISTANT**

**Open to Grades:** 11-12

**Credit:** 0.25

**Length of Course:** One Semester

**Prerequisite:** Teacher or Secretary Permission

**Graduation Requirement:** Elective

**Course Description:**

- Students may serve as an office assistant in the main office, counseling center, career center, library etc. Tasks include typing, filing, telephone answering, message delivery and other general office tasks under the supervision of a staff member.
- Students may assist a teacher with clerical duties, lab setup, equipment setup, physical education demonstrations, and similar duties. Students are to contact teachers directly for permission to serve as a teacher assistant.

## ADDITIONAL LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

### Clark County Skills Center



**Our mission is to prepare each student with relevant knowledge and skills for learning, career and life.”**

The Clark County Skills Center offers Career and Technical Education in 14 program areas where jobs are plentiful and pay well. Students can earn college credit through many of the programs as well as industry certifications and licenses.

Here are some specifics about the Skills Center. Courses outlined are full year classes offered in three-hour blocks to students between the ages of 16 and 21 who are still attending high school. All classes meet Monday through Friday: Session I from 7:45 – 10:15 a.m. and Session II from 11:10 – 1:40 p.m. Cosmetology meets from 11:30 – 3:30, Monday – Thursday during first semester and Monday – Friday second semester. Some program areas offer a second year course of study which is outlined in the course description. Students attending the Skills Center will be bussed from their home high school with the exception of those attending the Cosmetology and Criminal Justice programs which meet off-campus. Requests for driving approval are given through the home high school only. Some programs offer off-campus internships and students will be responsible for their own transportation to the internship site. The Skills Center programs offer hands-on learning and lab experiences so it is mandatory that each student provide proof of health insurance or school accident insurance. If there is concern about insurance coverage, please contact the Skills Center office. All students will be expected to attend an orientation program at the Skills Center with their parent or guardian.

Developing professionalism and leadership skills is a hallmark of the Clark County Skills Center. Communication and interpersonal skills, teamwork, problem solving, quality, goal setting, resource management, employability and community service and citizenship skills are addressed in every program.

### **APPLIED MEDICAL SCIENCES**

**Open to Grades:** 11 – 12

**Credit:** 1.5 credits per semester or 3 credits per year.

**Length of Course:** Full year, 3 hour block course, offered both Session I and II. Applied Medical Sciences II (Emergency Medical Technology (EMT) and/or Nursing) is offered during Session II only.

**Pre-requisites:** Students have successfully completed biology and health prior to enrolling. Ability to read and write at the tenth grade level is required, proficient in tenth grade level math skills. Students must pass the Washington State Patrol background check to be eligible for clinical internships and program completion. Students wanting to participate in the EMT class must be 18 years old at the start of the EMT portion of the course.

**Graduation Requirement:** Occupational Ed. or Elective

**Cost:** Approximate cost of \$45 for uniforms for the first year and \$55 for second year. Students may opt to order program sweatshirt for \$25. Students are also required to have a tuberculosis skin test done annually and second year students are required to have completed the Hepatitis B vaccine series.

**Course Description:** Learn about anatomy, physiology, medical terminology, basic safety and life saving procedures during the first year of this program. Successfully complete the first year and take the state exam to become a Nursing Assistant Certified (NAC). During the second year, students complete Caregiver training and Nurse Delegation as well as have the option of taking the Emergency Medical Technician – Basic class in the spring. College credit is available after completing the course with a “B” or higher grade.

### **AUTOMOTIVE TECHNOLOGY**

**Open to Grades:** 11 – 12

**Credit:** 1.5 credits per semester or 3 credits per year.

**Length of Course:** Full year, 3 hour block course offered both Session I and II. Automotive Technology II is also a full year course offered during Session II only.

**Pre-requisites:** Students must demonstrate mechanical aptitude suitable for the trade. Courses in small gas engines and physics are recommended. Ability to read and write at the tenth grade level is required, proficient in tenth grade level math skills.

**Graduation Requirement:** Occupational Ed. or Elective  
**Cost:** Approximate cost of \$45 for uniforms. Additional costs may include recommended safety shoes and enrollment in Skills USA contests and conferences. Students must provide their own transportation to internship sites.

**Course Description:** During the first year of this two-year program, students will study the theory, operation, and maintenance of all major systems on the automobile. The second year students will study diagnosis and repair of brakes, electrical systems, and engine performance, and steering /suspension systems. All program instructors are ASE Certified Master Technicians and the program is NATEF-certified. Students who successfully complete the two year program of study may qualify for the Automotive Service Excellence (ASE) Training Certification. College credit is available after completing the course with a “B” or higher grade.

### **CONSTRUCTION TECHNOLOGY**

**Open to Grades:** 11 – 12

**Credit:** 1.5 credits per semester or 3 credits per year.

**Length of Course:** Full year, 3 hour block course offered both Session I and II. Construction Technology II is also a full year course offered during Session I only.

**Pre-requisites:** Students must enjoy working outdoors. Math competency in addition, subtraction, multiplication, division, and fractions is highly recommended. Students must be able to read at the 9<sup>th</sup> grade level.

**Graduation Requirement:** Occupational Ed. or Elective  
**Cost:** Students will need to purchase tools and bag (approximately \$100), as well as work clothes and boots. Rain gear is strongly recommended. There is a shop fee of \$50 and Skills USA dues for competitions and conferences.

**Course Description:** The Skills Center and Clark College jointly operate this two-year program. Students will learn blueprint reading, building methods, project management, cost estimating and many other skills. Second year students build a residential home. After successful completion of both years, students can earn credit at Clark College. Successful graduates may earn post-secondary opportunities in the following apprenticeship program(s): International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW), Willamette Carpenter’s Training Center (WCTC), and the NCCER national certification.

## **COSMETOLOGY – Phagan’s Beauty School Northwest**

**Open to Grades:** 12 only

**Credit:** 1.5 credits per semester or 3 credits per year.

**Length of Course:** Full year, 3 hour block course offered from 11:30 – 3:30 p.m. Monday through Thursday first semester and Monday through Friday second semester.

**Pre-requisites:** Students must have senior standing. Students need to be in good physical condition and free of leg or back pain, have good finger dexterity and eye-hand coordination. An orientation/interview at Phagan’s Beauty School with a parent or guardian is required.

**Graduation Requirement:** Occupational Ed. or Elective

**Cost:** Students are required to be in professional dress which consists of black slacks or skirt (mid-knee or longer), appropriate blouses worn under a lab coat, socks or nylons, closed-toe shoes (rubber soles recommended), and black lab coat. The completion of the program after high school will cost approximately \$7398. Students must have their own transportation to Phagan’s Beauty School.

**Course Description:** Students are offered the opportunity to earn 640 of the necessary 1800 hours required by the state toward a beauty operator's license. The course consists of both lecture and lab periods in all phases of theory and science of cosmetology. After graduating from high school and successfully completing this training, students have the opportunity to complete the certification program and take the Washington State Licensing written exam and national practical exam which qualifies them as Cosmetologists, and includes manicuring, skin care and all hair services.

## **CRIMINAL JUSTICE**

**Open to Grades:** 11 – 12

**Credit:** 1.5 credits per semester or 3 credits per year.

**Length of Course:** Full year, 3 hour block course offered both Session I and II. The second year course is also offered both Session I and II.

**Pre-requisites:** Students must complete and pass a Criminal Background check prior to enrollment. It is strongly recommended that students are able to read and write at a 10<sup>th</sup> grade level.

**Graduation Requirement:** Occupational Ed. or Elective

**Cost:** Students must have their own transportation to the training sites and off-

campus classroom. Dues for Skills USA and an approximate \$30 cost for a uniform is required.

**Course Description:** In this two-year program, students receive an overview of the criminal justice system, law enforcement, community policing, criminal acts and their impacts on society, the US Constitution, criminal codes, and problem solving skills. Complete the program to qualify for entry-level opportunities in local and state law enforcement agencies. Students who earn a “B” or better may qualify for college credits. Students may earn an industry certification as a Licensed Security Agent in both Washington and Oregon upon passing the required exams.

## **DENTAL ASSISTING**

**Open to Grades:** 11 – 12

**Credit:** 1.5 credits per semester or 3 credits per year.

**Length of Course:** Full year, 3 hour block course offered both Session I and II. The second year course is also offered both Session I and II.

**Pre-requisites:** Students must enjoy working with people and have the ability to read, write and speak English required for safety considerations. A prior health class, speech or communication class is recommended.

**Graduation Requirement:** Occupational Ed. or Elective

**Cost:** Uniform cost is approximately \$50 and the cost of CPR and First Aid card is \$20. Students must be up to date on their immunizations, which must include Hepatitis B vaccination series, tetanus, and tuberculosis skin testing. Skills USA dues are optional as is the purchase of a program sweatshirt for \$25. Students must have their own transportation for internships.

**Course Description:** Students enrolled in the program will learn professional standards and regulations, patient care, dental materials and science, chair-side assisting procedures, fluoride treatments, radiology (x-ray), impressions and models, office skills, interview skills and human relations. Dental offices and clinics throughout the Vancouver/Portland metropolitan area offer a wide range of employment opportunities for graduates of the Dental Assisting program. The Skills Center staff will inform students of the availability of jobs and help them with the application process. A Washington State Dental Association Certification may be earned at the conclusion of the course.

## **DIESEL TECHNOLOGY**

**Open to Grades:** 11 – 12

**Credit:** 1.5 credits per semester or 3 credits per year.

**Length of Course:** Full year, 3 hour block course offered both Session I and II. The second year course is also offered both Session I and II.

**Pre-requisites:** An interest in the heavy equipment industry and demonstrate a mechanical aptitude suitable for the trade. Students should have 9<sup>th</sup> grade reading, writing, and math skills.

**Graduation Requirement:** Occupational Ed. or Elective

**Cost:** Students furnish their own coveralls (\$25), leather work boots (\$25 – \$65) which are required shop attire and Skills USA dues and fees for competitions and conferences.

**Course Descriptions:** Students will learn operating theory, maintenance and repair of large trucks and off-road equipment. The systems studied include electrical, hydraulics, engines, air systems, brakes, and power transmissions. Emphasis is placed on the safe operation of tools, overhead cranes, forklift trucks and other heavy equipment. Students may earn industry certification in the National Automobile Technician Education Foundation (NATEF) and Medium/Heavy Truck Technician Training Certificate Program (ASE). Students who complete the program with a “B” or better may qualify for college credits.

### **ELECTRO-DIGITAL TECHNOLOGIES**

**Open to Grades:** 11 – 12

**Credit:** 1.5 credits per semester or 3 credits per year.

**Length of Course:** Full year, 3 hour block course offered both Session I and II. The second year course is also offered both Session I and II.

**Pre-requisites:** Students should have successfully completed one year of algebra and demonstrated mechanical aptitude suitable for the trade. General computer knowledge is a must.

**Graduation Requirement:** Occupational Ed. or Elective

**Cost:** Students must pay for Skills USA dues and may opt to purchase a program sweatshirt for \$25. There is a testing cost if the student chooses to pursue A+ and Network + certifications.

**Course Description:** The first year of the program provides instruction in basic electronics and computer skills. Students develop work readiness and professionalism skills. Nearly half of the class time is in the lab completing hands-on projects. Students successfully completing the first year may choose to take the A+ certification exam. Students continuing in the second year will expand their customer service skills with live help desk experience, networking skills, and exploration of software development. Successful second year students may choose to take the Network + certification exam.

### **FINANCIAL CUSTOMER SERVICE**

**Open to Grades:** 11 – 12

**Credit:** 1.5 credits per semester or 3 credits per year.

**Length of Course:** Full year, 3 hour block course offered both Session I and II. The second year course is offered Session II only.

**Pre-requisites:** Keyboarding skills and one semester of general math. Students must be “bondable” (no admission or conviction of a crime involving shoplifting, theft, fraud, forgery, etc.) to work in the financial industry or have the permission of the instructor to enroll.

**Graduation Requirement:** Occupational Ed. or Elective

**Cost:** Students are expected to dress in professional attire and may opt to purchase a program sweatshirt for \$25. Students must provide their own transportation to their internship site.

**Course Description:** Students will learn professional and technical skills and attitudes needed to be successful employees in a variety of customer service jobs with banks, credit unions, and other business-based organizations needing customer service skills. Technical skill development will include bank teller procedures, cash handling, office equipment, and computer terminal operation. Product knowledge is also a technical skill; it includes learning about checking, savings, investment, and loan products offered by financial institutions. Professional skills include customer service techniques, communication skills, interpersonal relations, teamwork, and job search skills. Students operate a student branch of IQ Credit Union that is open to the public. All students spend 40 hours working in a bank, credit union, or customer service position as part of the program. Students who successfully complete the program with a “B” or better may earn college credits.

### **LEGAL/MEDICAL OFFICE APPLICATIONS**

**Open to Grades:** 11 – 12

**Credit:** Earn 1.5 credits per semester or 3 credits per year.

**Length of Course:** Full year, 3 hour block course offered both Session I and II. The second year course is offered Session II only.

**Pre-requisites:** Entry level keyboarding or equivalent skill level of 30 words per minute, basic computer skills, strong skills in reading, writing, and English composition are recommended. Students may be required to pass a background check prior to internship placement.

**Graduation Requirement:** Occupational Ed. or Elective

**Cost:** Professional attire is required and students may choose to purchase a program sweatshirt for \$25. Students should also have a flash drive and \$60 for Microsoft Office Specialist testing if desired.

**Course Description:** This program will teach students to utilize information processing and the internet software as business tools in medical, legal and general business environments. Approximately half of classroom time is

spent on networked computer terminals with the balance of instruction focused on general and legal/medical office practices, skill building in proofreading, business English, machine transcription and career development, with an emphasis on professionalism. Students will work in a typical office environment. An internship experience in the workplace is an integral part of the program. Students must provide their own transportation to internship sites. Successful completion of the program with a grade of “B” or higher, may result in college credit. Students may choose to test for the Microsoft Office Specialist (MOS) industry certification.

### **PRE-ENGINEERING DESIGN TECHNOLOGY**

**Open to Grades:** 11 – 12

**Credit:** 1.5 credits per semester or 3 credits per year.

**Length of Course:** Full year, 3 hour block course offered both Session I and II. The second year course is offered both Session I and II.

**Pre-requisites:** Students should have one year of algebra. Geometry, basic drafting, or technology classes are recommended.

**Graduation Requirement:** Occupational Ed. or Elective

**Cost:** Students participate in Skills USA and are responsible for the dues and conference costs.

**Course Description:** Students will develop technical skills needed for today’s engineering and manufacturing environment. This program combines computer and manufacturing equipment application to give the student hands-on training in Computer-Aided Drafting (CAD), CNC machining, robotics, and hydraulics. Various engineering disciplines are also introduced. Students who complete the program with a “B” or better may earn college credits.

### **RESTAURANT MANAGEMENT/CULINARY ARTS**

**Open to Grades:** 11 – 12

**Credit:** 1.5 credits per semester or 3 credits per year.

**Length of Course:** Full year, 3 hour block course offered both Session I and II. The second year course is offered both Session I and II.

**Pre-requisites:** Students should demonstrate interest in the field and should have completed a general math class.

**Graduation Requirement:** Occupational Ed. or Elective

**Cost:** Culinary uniforms cost approximately \$110 and food handler’s card is \$10. Second year students’ American Culinary Federation (ACF) certification exam is \$45.

**Course Description:** Students enrolled in this two year program will experience all phases of a complete restaurant operation. Students operate an on-campus restaurant, “A Touch of Class”. Students will learn safety and sanitation practices in a restaurant, hand tool skills, operation and care of commercial equipment, basic food preparation techniques, dining room service which includes tableside cooking, proper food and beverage service, hosting/cashier, customer service/hospitality, banquet setup and catering, purchasing, product receiving and storage, product measurement, costing and menu planning, nutrition, food display, and recipe development. Units in hospitality management will be offered. Students who successfully complete both years of the program are able to take the first level American Culinary Federation (ACF) certification exam. Successful completion of the program with a “B” or better may result in college credit.

### **TRAVEL AND HOTEL MANAGEMENT**

**Open to Grades:** 11 – 12

**Credit:** 1.5 credits per semester or 3 credits per year.

**Length of Course:** Full year, 3 hour block course offered both Session I and II. The second year course is offered both Session I and II.

**Pre-requisites:** Students should have completed basic keyboarding, Microsoft Word and Excel, and a speech or communication class. Students must fulfill the customer service criteria outlined by the hotel industry in order to be eligible for internships.

**Graduation Requirement:** Occupational Ed. or Elective

**Cost:** There is a required workbook cost of \$29 each year. Students must have professional attire for internships and a polo shirt is required at a cost of \$20. Students may choose to purchase a program sweatshirt for \$25. Students must provide their own transportation to internship sites.

**Course Description:** This two year program explores the hospitality industry opportunities such as travel agent, airline attendant, hotel front desk, guest services, management, marketing, customer service and personnel. The curriculum includes job shadowing, field trips and internships. College credit is available for students who complete the program with a grade of “B” or better. Students who successfully complete both years of the program are qualified to test for the following industry certifications: Certified Rooms Division Specialist (CRDS) from the American Hotel Lodging Association, Travel and Career Development certificate by ICTA (Institute of Certified Travel Agents), Travel Agent Proficiency (TAP) upon passing test of the American Society of Travel Agents (ASTA).

**The Center for Agriculture, Science & Environmental Education**

**Location:** 11104 NE 149<sup>th</sup> St, Brush Prairie

**Open to Grades:** 9 – 12

**Credits:** 1.5 credits may be earned per semester

**Length of Course:** Full Year, 3-hour block class. Time: 7:45 – 10:15 a.m. or 11:15 – 1:45 p.m.

**Prerequisite:** Student must provide transportation to CASEE Center in Brush Prairie.

**Graduation Requirements:** 1.5 credits for a semester resulting in 0.5 English, 0.5 Science, and 0.5 CTE credit.

**Costs:** \$10.00 Lab fee required

**Program Description:** The C.A.S.E.E. offers opportunities to learn about and explore the natural world we live in using hands-on scientific exploration on a diverse and beautiful 80-acre campus which includes: Science and computer laboratories, greenhouses, organic gardens, aquaculture and wildlife ponds, year-round creek, nature trails, forestry demonstration sites, fruit orchards, wildlife botanical gardens, beekeeping, wood workshop, and game bird aviary. The program strongly emphasizes developing communication and leadership skills, bringing professionals into the classroom to work with students and promoting problem solving both independently and in groups.

**CLARK COUNTY FIRE CADET PROGRAM**

**Location: Open to Grades:** 11-12

**Credit:** 1.5 credit may be earned per semester.

**Length of Class:** Full year, 2-hour block class.

**Prerequisite:** Student must provide own transportation to off-campus training facility. Students must maintain a 2.0 GPA, as well as completing a Skills Center Application, Fire Cadet Application, and Work History & Essay. Applicants will take a written test along with oral interview at student orientation. Student must pass a drug screening test (taken at student's expense), and pass a sports physical (provided at student's expense).

**Graduation Requirement:** Occupational Ed. or Elective

**Cost:** \$50.00 Lab fee, plus cost of drug screening and sports physical.

**Program Description:** This program provides an opportunity for students to explore a career in the emergency services field with particular emphasis on developing some fundamental skills in the fire and emergency medical fields. In addition to studying fire science and emergency medicine, cadets are taught such skills as team-building, decision-making, and problem-solving. This is a hands-on course and is at times physically demanding. Cadets participate in actual training fires and are given instruction in advanced first aid and CPR. Successful completion of the program, with a grade of "B" or better, may result in college credit through Lower Columbia College in Longview, WA, or Portland Community College.

## NOVA NET/CREDIT RECOVERY

Grade: 10-12

Prerequisite: Need to recover failed course in classroom

Graduation Requirement: Depending on course taken

Fee: \$100.00 per 0.5 credits

Students meet requirements by working online with a curriculum called NovaNet. Each class is personalized to meet the needs of the student through a diagnostic and prescriptive approach to each lesson. Some classes may require offline projects which must be completed with an 80% overall grade. Students may recover more than one credit per semester. This is possible by checking out disks and directions and loading the program on a home computer with Internet access. Students are therefore capable of working at home in addition to class time. All tests must be taken at school to insure the validity of student's learning.

### Before or After School

Students with full schedules can access NovaNet either before or after school. The morning session, meeting from 7:30 am to 8:00 am, or the afternoon session, meeting from 2:45 pm to 3:15 pm accommodates the students' busy schedules. Students **must** attend three half hour sessions weekly in addition to working from home. Disks are available to work on at home, **in addition** to working at school. Students signing up for this program must be self-motivated and determined to recover credit.

## Ridgefield High School Policies

### ALTERNATIVE VOCATIONAL CREDIT

Students who are enrolled every year (9-12) in the same fine arts curriculum and **do not** have room in their schedule to take vocational classes may apply for a graduation requirement waiver.

Students must take four years (4 credits) in the same fine arts curriculum (Band, Choir, or Visual Arts). Three Dimensional, Advanced Three Dimensional, Percussion, Calligraphy, and Music Theater do not qualify. Students interested in having the fine arts curriculum take the place of vocational credit need to discuss this possibility with a counselor.

1. During the senior year, the student would complete a Request for Waiver Of Graduation Requirement form.
2. The music or art department chair should also sign the waiver to verify completion.
3. The principal determines final approval.
4. These courses cannot receive a Fine Arts credit and count toward Vocational credit.

### PASS/FAIL GRADE POLICY

Students wanting to receive credit for a class but receive a Pass/Fail grade instead of the traditional letter grade must:

1. Make this decision within the first two weeks of the semester.
2. Complete the Pass/Fail form in the counseling office.

### **INDEPENDENT STUDY POLICY - LIMITED NUMBER AVAILABLE**

Independent Study is a program for highly self-motivated students who wish to pursue long-term independent study on a topic of interest to them. Students need to work with a teacher from the department they are seeking an Independent Study from (i.e., creative writing from an English teacher)

The following guidelines need to be followed to receive an Independent Study approval:

- 1) Available mainly for Juniors and Seniors. No Freshmen.
- 2) Students requesting an Independent Study course must be enrolled in a full schedule: 5 or more classes each semester for seniors, 6 classes for juniors and sophomores. The Independent Study course is not considered a part of a full schedule.
- 3) Students can take only one independent study course per semester.
- 4) Students can take no more than four credits through Independent Study courses in their Ridgefield High School career.
- 5) Students can take Independent Study Courses for the following reasons:
  - It is not offered in the regular schedule.
  - The course conflicts with a course the student is taking.
  - The student is short credits to graduate.
  - The student has taken the course and failed it.
- 6) Independent study enrollment forms must be completed and approved by the 2nd week of the semester.

Students must complete the Independent Study Enrollment Form with instructor for the Independent Study Course. The final approval comes from the principal.

### **ALTERNATIVE COURSE OF STUDY**

Any courses, elective or required, taken outside of Ridgefield High School need **prior** approval from the counselor **and** the principal. Alternative Course of Study forms may be picked up in the counseling center.