

2026 | 2027

MIDDLE SCHOOL
COURSE CATALOG



SMITHTOWN
CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT



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New York State Diploma Requirements Applicable to All Students Enrolled in Grades 9-12

Credit Requirements

(Apply to all diploma types: local, Regents, Regents with advanced designation)

	Minimum number of credits
English	4
Social Studies <i>Distributed as follows:</i> <i>U.S. History (1)</i> <i>Global History and Geography (2)</i> <i>Participation in Government (½)</i> <i>Economics (½)</i>	4
Science <i>Distributed as follows:</i> <i>Life Science (1)</i> <i>Physical Science (1)</i> <i>Life Science or Physical Science (1)</i>	3
Mathematics	3
World Languages	1 ^(**)
Visual Art, Music, Dance, and/or Theater	1
Physical Education <i>(participation each semester)</i>	2
Health	½
Electives	3 ½
Total	22

(**)Students with a disability may be excused from the requirement for 1 unit of credit in World Languages if so indicated on their IEP, but they must still earn 22 units of credit to graduate.

1.) Pathways

A student must either:

- earn the Seal of Civic Readiness; or
- pass an additional Regents Exam or NYSED-Approved Regents Alternative in a different course (English, mathematics, science, or social studies); or
- pass a NYSED-Approved Pathway Assessment (Arts, CDOS, World Languages); or
- successfully complete a NYSED-approved CTE program, including the associated 3-part technical assessment; or
- successfully complete all the requirements for earning the CDOS Commencement Credential; or
- successfully complete the [Individual Arts Assessment Pathway \(IAAP\)](#).

Reference: [Multiple Pathways](#) and [NYSED-Approved Regents Examination Alternatives](#)

2.) Appeals

All appeals are subject to local district approval. Reference: [Appeals, Safety Nets, and Superintendent Determination](#)

3.) Exemptions from Diploma Assessment Requirements

- **Exemptions due to a Major Life Events:** Reference the [Exemptions for Major Life Events memo](#).
- **Exemptions from the Regents Exam in US History and Government (Framework):** Reference the [FAQ on Cancellation of Regents Exam in US History and Government \(Framework\)](#).
- **COVID Exemptions:** Reference the FAQs: [June/August 2020](#), [January 2021](#), [June/August 2021](#), and [January 2022](#)
- **Special Determination (June 2022 graduates only):** Reference the [Special Determination to Graduate with a Local Diploma in June 2022](#) memo.

4.) Special Endorsements

- **Honors:** A student earns a computed average of at least 90 on the Regents Exams applicable to either a Regents diploma or a Regents diploma with advanced designation. No more than 2 NYSED-Approved Regents Alternatives can be substituted for Regents Exams. The locally developed Checkpoint B examination in World Languages is not included in the calculation.
- **Mastery in Math and/or Science:** A student meets all the requirements for a Regents diploma with advanced designation AND earns a score of 85 or better on 3 math Regents Exams and/or 3 science Regents Exams.
- **Seal of Biliteracy:** A student meets the criteria for earning the [NYS Seal of Biliteracy](#).
- **Seal of Civic Readiness:** A student meets the criteria for earning the [NYS Seal of Civic Readiness](#).
- **Technical Endorsement:** A student meets the requirements for either a local diploma, a Regents diploma or a Regents diploma with advanced designation AND successfully completes a NYSED-Approved CTE program including the 3-part technical assessment.

Reference the [Endorsements and Seals webpage](#) or [NYS Diploma/Credential Requirements](#) for additional information related to awarding special endorsements to students with exam exemptions.

5.) Superintendent Determination of a Local Diploma

Students with a disability who are unable to attain a local diploma through the various safety net provisions may be eligible for a Superintendent Determination of a local diploma under certain conditions. Reference: [Appeals, Safety Nets, and Superintendent Determination](#)

6.) World Languages Exemption

Students with a disability may be excused from the required units of credit in World Languages if so indicated on their IEP, but they must still earn 22 units of credit to graduate. Such student who seeks a Regents diploma with advanced designation does NOT have to complete the 5-unit sequence in the Arts or CTE in lieu of the sequence in World Languages in order to meet the assessment requirements for the advanced diploma.

Assessment Requirements

	Regents Diploma for All Students		Regents Diploma via Appeal for All Students		Local Diploma via Appeal for All Students		Local Diploma for Students with a Disability		Local Diploma via Appeal for English Language Learners	
Regents Exam or passing score on a NYSED-Approved Regents Alternative	# of Exams	Passing Score	# of Exams	Passing Score	# of Exams	Passing Score	# of Exams	Passing Score	# of Exams	Passing Score
English Language Arts (ELA)	1	65 ¹	1	1 Regents Exam with a score of 60-64 for which an appeal has been granted by the district and all remaining Regents Exams with a score of 65 ¹ or above	1	2 Regents Exams with a score of 60-64 for which appeals have been granted by the district and all remaining Regents Exams with a score of 65 ¹ or above	1	55 ^{*^}	1	Either the ELA Regents Exam with a score of 55-59 for which an appeal has been granted by the district, and all remaining Regents Exams with a score of 65 ¹ or above, <u>OR</u> 1 Regents Exam with a score of 60-64 and the ELA Regents with a score of 55-59 for which appeals have been granted for both by the district, and the remaining Regents Exams with a score of 65 ¹ or above [†]
Math	1	65 ¹	1		1		1	55 ^{*^}	1	
Science	1	65 ¹	1		1		1	55 ^{*^}	1	
Social Studies	1	65 ¹	1		1		1	55 ^{*^}	1	
Pathway (See note 1 on reverse side)	1 or CDOS	65 ¹ if Regents Exam	1 or CDOS		1 or CDOS		1 or CDOS	55 ^{*^} if Regents Exam	1 or CDOS	
Compensatory Safety Net	Non-Applicable		Non-Applicable		Non-Applicable		Scores of 45-54 on any required Regents Exam (except ELA and Mathematics) can be compensated by a score of 65 ¹ or above on another required Regents Exam including ELA and Mathematics.		Non-Applicable	

Regents Diploma with Advanced Designation

Students seeking the Regents diploma with advanced designation must:
- Meet the credit and assessment requirements for a Regents diploma; and - Pass two additional Regents Exams or NYSED-Approved Regents Alternatives in mathematics; and - Pass one additional Regents Exam or NYSED-Approved Regents Alternative in science - students seeking advanced designation must pass at least one Regents Exam or NYSED-Approved Regents Alternative in both sciences (one life and one physical); and - Complete a sequence: - earn an additional 2 units of credit in World Languages and pass a locally developed Checkpoint B World Languages examination, or - complete a 5 unit sequence in the Arts, or - complete a 5 unit sequence in CTE.

Assessment Combinations for Advanced Designation

Traditional Combination	ELA, Global History and Geography, US History and Government, 3 mathematics, 2 science (1 life science, 1 physical science) = 8 assessments
Pathway Combination (other than STEM)	ELA, 1 social studies, 3 math, 2 science (1 life science, 1 physical science), 1 Pathway (other than science or math) = 7 (+Pathway) or 8 assessments.
STEM (Mathematics) Pathway Combination	ELA, 1 social studies, 4 math [‡] , 2 science (1 life science, 1 physical science) = 8 assessments.
STEM (Science) Pathway Combination	ELA, 1 social studies, 3 math, 3 science (at least 1 life science, at least 1 physical science) = 8 assessments.

* A student with a disability may appeal scores between 52 and 54 on up to two Regents Exams in any discipline and graduate with the local diploma. Reference [New York State Diploma/Credential Requirements](#): Local diploma for Students with Disabilities.

^ In the event a student with a disability is unable to attain a passing score on any Regents Exam, the student may be eligible for a Superintendent Determination of a local diploma. Reference [Appeals, Safety Nets, and Superintendent Determination](#).

† English Language Learners seeking an appeal for a score of 55-59 on the ELA Regents Exam are only eligible if they entered the United States in grade 9 or after and were classified as an English Language Learner when they took the test the second time. Reference [New York State Diploma/Credential Requirements](#): Local diploma for English Language Learners.

‡ The 4th mathematics examination can be selected from the list of [NYSED-Approved Regents Examination Alternatives](#).

¹ For the purposes of determining a student's diploma type, exemptions and Special Appeals should be considered passing scores. Both exemptions and [Special Appeals](#) may be applied to all diploma types.

INTRODUCTION

We are excited to offer our middle school parents and students the opportunity to begin making course selections for next school year. Please be sure to review the section of the course selection guide that relates to each student's current grade level.

CHALLENGE BY CHOICE

The Smithtown Central School District's educational program strives to provide all students with the fundamental academic skills and knowledge required for their maximum educational development and the opportunity to develop their interests and abilities to the fullest extent according to their potential. Taking advanced coursework is a valuable tool in preparing for life beyond high school. Students are encouraged to participate in AP, PLTW, college-level, and/or honors-level courses to develop essential skills and habits that will lead to increased critical thinking skills, analytical skills, time management, and independent study habits, which are valuable in any academic or career path. Additionally, taking advantage of advanced courses helps students to stand out in a competitive college admissions environment.

The district's Challenge by Choice initiative has been developed to assist our students in selecting courses that will help them to reach their highest potential. This course selection guide contains information on course offerings, specifying all prerequisites, difficulty levels, course content and course expectations. Students will receive departmental recommendations based on their academic record and current progress. Students interested in engaging in more challenging coursework by enrolling in accelerated course offerings and who have taken the prerequisite course(s) may make those selections during the scheduling session. Students who enroll in more challenging courses are encouraged to seek support through their school counselor, extra help with the classroom teacher(s), peer tutoring opportunities offered by applicable honor societies, and the Regents Review Academy.

Students are encouraged to discuss their interest in taking more challenging coursework with their current classroom teacher, parents/guardians and school counselor. Once a student has made his/her course selection(s), there is no guarantee that a future request for a course change can be accommodated.

We encourage students to pursue excellence and rigorous academic experiences. Should you have additional questions regarding course selections or program expectations, please remember that teachers, counselors, building administrators and departmental administrators are available to assist you.

PREREQUISITES AND DEPARTMENTAL RECOMMENDATIONS

To guide students in making course selections, each course in the program guide includes any prerequisites. Prerequisite courses must be completed to gain entrance into a course.

Departmental recommendations are intended to provide guidance to both parents and students as they consider enrolling in challenging coursework.

REGENTS/FLACS AND FINAL COURSE GRADES

The district encourages all students to strive for success on Regents and FLACS examinations. To support students in pursuing their personal best, those who completed coursed between the 2022-2023 and 2025-2026 school years may have their final course grades recalculated if they retake an exam in a future administration and earn a higher score. This policy applies only to Regents and FLACS examinations that were factored into final course grades, not locally developed final exams. Beginning in the 2026-2027 school year, Regents and FLACS examination scores will no longer be factored into final course grade calculations.



Grade 6 Parents/Students

Course Selections for Grade 7

Students will make course selections in two areas for seventh grade:

1) STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics)

- Project Lead the Way–FS/EE (Flight and Space/Energy and the Environment)
- Pre-Algebra

Students take an additional course in STEM in seventh grade. The district offers all students the ability to continue their Project Lead The Way (PLTW) experience from elementary school through our grades 6-8 Technology program. Students who are interested in experiencing an additional PLTW course will select PLTW - FS/EE. Students who are interested in accelerating their course of study in mathematics will select Pre-Algebra. Students will receive a departmental recommendation from their mathematics teacher based on the current level of performance and possible readiness to engage in accelerated mathematics coursework.

2) World Language

- French
- German
- Italian
- Spanish

In preparation for the language selection, students will receive presentations during the school day from our World Language teachers and Director of World Languages, ENL, and Library Media Services about the four language offerings. This decision is important as it results in at least a two-year commitment to the language. Students will make a first and second language choice. Students are not guaranteed their first language choice.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

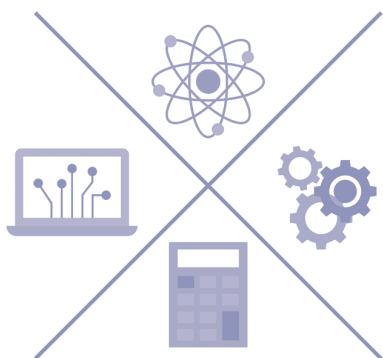
What are the high school graduation requirements for language?

- Students who successfully pass the seventh- and eighth-grade language courses along with the FLACS A Assessment are granted one unit of high school credit, the minimum requirement for graduation.
- Students who successfully complete three credits of a world language and pass the FLACS B Assessment meet the language criteria for a Regents Diploma with advanced designation.
- Students with specific language disabilities listed on their IEP are exempt from the language requirement.

Is one language easier than the other?

- No! Studying a language involves reviewing material each night and a considerable amount of time and dedication. Success may also be determined by natural talent, memory and listening ability. To a large extent, strategies and techniques can be learned to improve the language acquisition experience.

Once student course selections have been made, resources will be allocated and buildings will work to construct schedules that meet these requests. **Therefore, all selections should be considered final and requests to change courses will not be honored.**



STEM SELECTION

PRE-ALGEBRA (MS3160)

Grade 7 - Full Year (Alternate Days)

Prerequisite: Math 6

Students will focus on linear functions, polynomials and select topics in geometry. Pre-Algebra will be taken in addition to the regular Math 7 program that all seventh-grade students participate in. This is a rigorous course that investigates the topics necessary for successful participation in the accelerated mathematics course, Algebra 1, as eighth-graders. *Completion of this course is a mandatory prerequisite for participation in Algebra 1 in eighth grade.* All Smithtown students have the potential of reaching Introduction to Calculus by the end of their high school experience. Students who decide not to enroll in Pre-Algebra in seventh grade may also self-accelerate by taking two high school mathematics courses in one year (Algebra 1 with Geometry or Geometry with Algebra 2). To view the mathematics course pathways, please review the respective course flowchart on page 18.

PROJECT LEAD THE WAY-FS/EE (MS6355)

Grade 7 - Full Year (Alternate Days)

Prerequisite: None

Project Lead The Way is one of the nation's leading providers of STEM programs. Students enrolling in this PLTW course will engage in two units: Flight and Space and Energy and the Environment. In the Flight and Space unit, the exciting world of aerospace comes alive. Students explore the science behind aeronautics and use their knowledge to design, prototype and test model rocket fuel and a glider. Custom-built simulation software allows students to experience space travel. In the Energy and the Environment unit, students are challenged to think big and look toward the future as they explore sustainable solutions to our energy needs and investigate the impact of energy on our lives and the world. Students design and model alternative energy sources and evaluate options for reducing energy consumption.



WORLD LANGUAGE SELECTION

In all courses, listening, speaking, reading and writing skills are developed through a variety of activities that target both the language and the culture of the people who speak it. The seventh-grade language courses cover one-half of the Level 1/Checkpoint A curriculum. Students are granted one (1) unit of high school language credit, provided that they pass the FLACS A assessment at the end of grade 8.

FRENCH 7 (MS5300)

Grade 7 - Full Year

Prerequisite: None

French is the official language in 29 countries and is spoken by one of our largest trading partners, Canada. Approximately 45 percent of English vocabulary comes from French.

GERMAN 7 (MS5200)

Grade 7 - Full Year

Prerequisite: None

German is spoken by more than 200 million people worldwide and is the official language of five countries. Germany has the largest economy in Western Europe. English is a Germanic language and more than 25 percent of U.S. citizens are able to trace their heritage back to a German-speaking country.

ITALIAN 7 (MS5100)

Grade 7 - Full Year

Prerequisite: None

Italy represents the eighth-largest economy in the world and fourth-largest in Europe. Italy is also a leader in culinary arts, interior design, fashion, graphic design, furniture design, etc. Italian will open your mind to the world's most famous artists and writers.

SPANISH 7 (MS5000)

Grade 7 - Full Year

Prerequisite: None

Spanish is spoken by more than 350 million people in 21 countries on four continents and is the second most-used language in international communications. Latin American countries are experiencing strong economic growth.

Course Selection Planning Sheet for 2026 - 2027

Parents and students are encouraged to use this planning sheet when making course selections for next year.

GRADE 7 OPTIONS

STEM (select one):

☐

PLTW-FS/EE

☐

Pre-Algebra

World Language

(first choice – select one):

☐

French

☐

German

☐

Italian

☐

Spanish

World Language

(second choice – select one):

☐

French

☐

German

☐

Italian

☐

Spanish



Grade 7 Parents/Students

Course Selections for Grade 8

Students will make course selections in the following areas:

1) English

- English 8
- English 8 Honors

Students will receive a departmental recommendation for either English 8 or English 8 Honors based on current progress in English 7. Parents and students are encouraged to speak with their English teacher to help make the most informed selection possible.

2) Mathematics

- Algebra 1 (must have taken Pre-Algebra)
- Math 8

Students who are enrolled in Pre-Algebra will receive a departmental recommendation for either Algebra 1 or Math 8 based on current progress in Math 7 and Pre-Algebra. Parents and students are encouraged to speak with their Pre-Algebra and Math 7 teacher(s) to help make the most informed selection possible.

3) Science

- Life Science: Biology
- Science 8*

*Students who select Science 8 will also select one of two Project Lead The Way courses. Students enrolling in Life Science: Biology will have their lab portion on alternate days, so there will not be availability to select a PLTW course.

Project Lead The Way

- Project Lead The Way – AC/MD (App Creators/Medical Detectives)
- Project Lead The Way – GA/ME (Green Architecture/Magic of Electrons)

Students will select the PLTW course they are most interested in taking, but due to scheduling constraints, students may not receive their first choice.

Students will receive a departmental recommendation for either Life Science: Biology or Science 8 based on the course in which students may find the greatest level of success. Parents and students are encouraged to speak about the recommendation with their Science 7 teacher to help make the most informed selection possible.

4) Social Studies

- Social Studies 8
- Social Studies 8 Honors

Students will receive a departmental recommendation for either Social Studies 8 or Social Studies 8 Honors based on current progress in Social Studies 7. Parents and students are encouraged to speak with their Social Studies 7 teacher to help make the most informed selection possible.

Once student course selections have been made, resources will be allocated and buildings will work to construct schedules that meet these requests. **Therefore, all selections should be considered final and requests to change courses will not be honored.**



ENGLISH SELECTION

ENGLISH 8 (MS1200)

Grade 8 - Full Year

Prerequisite: English 7

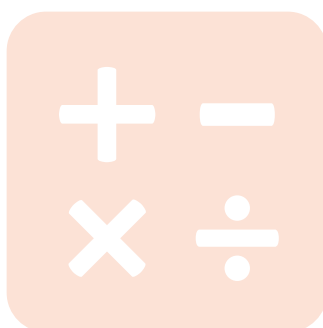
This course is aligned to the NYS Learning Standards and prepares students for success in high school ELA courses and success on the English Regents examination in eleventh grade. The curriculum instructs students on the skills they need to develop the competencies necessary for college and career readiness. The course builds on many of the skills and activities initiated in elementary school and developed in middle school. In addition to a rich literature program, which includes classic literature titles, nonfiction, and informational passages, reading skills and the writing process are emphasized. A sequential set of reading, writing, listening, and speaking objectives provides overall structure from grade to grade. Students will build grammar and vocabulary skills through direct instruction and a continual exposure to challenging terminology. To view the high school English course pathways, please review the course flowchart on page 18.

ENGLISH 8 HONORS (MS1210)

Grade 8 - Full Year

Prerequisite: English 7

This course introduces students to the rigor and expectations of honors and AP-level ELA coursework in middle school. Following both the College Board and NYS Next Generation ELA Learning Standards, students will study a variety of genres, authors, and themes in both fiction and non-fiction. The focus of this course will be on sharpening critical reading and writing skills through challenging ELA experiences. This course will have elevated expectations for independent reading and writing and will accelerate the acquisition of more sophisticated forms of writing and rhetoric. This course prepares students to engage in English 9 Honors and AP coursework at the high school level. To view the high school English course pathways, please review the course flowchart on page 18.



MATHEMATICS SELECTION

MATH 8 (MS3200)

Grade 8 - Full Year

Prerequisite: Math 7

The course content is guided by the NYS Learning Standards for eighth-grade mathematics. Instructional time will focus on three areas: (1) expressions and equations, (2) understanding the concept of a function and using them to describe quantitative relationships, (3) and analyzing two- and three-dimensional space and figures using distance, angle, similarity and congruence, and understanding and applying the Pythagorean Theorem. Students will take a local final examination at the end of the course. Students who select Math 8 may self-accelerate by taking two high school mathematics courses in one year (Algebra 1 with Geometry or Geometry with Algebra 2). To view the high school mathematics course pathways, please review the course flowchart on page 19.

ALGEBRA 1 (HS3170)

Grade 8 - Full Year

Summer Assignment Required

Prerequisite: Pre-Algebra and Math 7

This course is appropriate for students who have demonstrated success in both Math 7 and Pre-Algebra and can meet the demands of a rigorous course of study. The course content is aligned with the NYS Learning Standards for Algebra 1, the first course in the study of high school mathematics. This course is an accelerated offering as students will be engaging in ninth-grade coursework as eighth-graders. Students will take the Algebra 1 Regents examination at the end of the course. *This course will be the first mathematics course to appear on the high school transcript. Students who successfully complete the course will earn one credit toward their high school diploma.* All Smithtown students have the potential of reaching Introduction to Calculus by the end of their high school experience. Students who decide not to enroll in Algebra 1 in eighth grade may still self-accelerate by taking two high school mathematics courses in one year (Algebra 1 with Geometry or Geometry with Algebra 2). To view the high school mathematics course pathways, please review the course flowchart on page 19.



SCIENCE SELECTION

SCIENCE 8 (MS3200)

Grade 8 - Full Year

Prerequisite: Science 7

Science 8 provides a comprehensive exploration of the middle school life science standards, integrating core biological concepts with essential scientific practices. Students engage in hands-on investigations, model biological phenomena, and construct evidence-based arguments to understand life science principles, providing the fundamental knowledge and skills necessary for success in the high school Life Science: Biology Regents course. This class meets for a single period daily. Students will take a local final examination at the end of the course. Students who select Science 8 will also select one of two Project Lead The Way courses. Students who select Science 8 have the opportunity to engage in future honors and/or AP science courses. To view the high school science course pathways, please review the course flowchart on page 20.

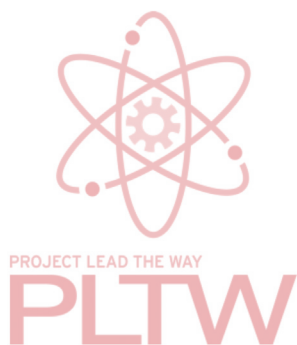
LIFE SCIENCE: BIOLOGY (4065)

Grade 8 - Full Year

Summer Assignment Required

Prerequisite: Science 7

This course is appropriate for students who have demonstrated success in Science 7 and can meet the demands of a rigorous course of study. The NYS Life Science: Biology course includes seven topics: Structure and Function, Matter and Energy in Organisms and Ecosystems, Interdependent Relationships in Ecosystems, Inheritance and Variation of Traits, Natural Selection and Evolution, Earth's Systems, and Engineering Design. Select honors topics will be added to further enrich this course and to prepare students for future high school honors and/or AP coursework. In addition, this course will address all of the required middle school Life Science Learning Standards, which are typically taught in Science 8. This class meets for a single period daily and an additional lab period on alternate days. Successful completion of 1200 minutes of lab work, which includes three hands-on investigations aligned to the NYS Science Learning Standards, is required for students to be eligible to take the NYS Life Science: Biology Regents examination. The examination, which will consist of nine to eleven exam clusters, will include multiple stimuli composed of reading passages, data tables, graphs, diagrams, and images that provide students with an interesting and relatable setting that drives the progression of the assessment storyline rather than stand-alone facts. *This course will be the first science course to appear on the high school transcript. Students who successfully complete the course will earn one credit toward their high school diploma.* Students who decide not to enroll in this course still have the opportunity to engage in future honors and/or AP science courses. To view the science course pathways, please review the course flowchart on page 20.



PROJECT LEAD THE WAY SELECTION

STUDENTS ENROLLING IN SCIENCE 8 WILL SELECT ONE OF THE FOLLOWING PLTW COURSES:

PROJECT LEAD THE WAY–AC/MD (MS6345)

Grade 8 - Full Year (Alternate Days)

Prerequisite: None

Students enrolling in this course will engage in two units: App Creators and Medical Detectives. Students in App Creators collaborate to create mobile apps that make a difference in people's lives. With a gentle introduction to programming, students learn how to make computers work together to put designs into practice. The course aims to develop computational thinking and build student excitement for programming. In Medical Detectives, students play the role of real-life medical detectives as they collect and analyze medical data to diagnose disease. Students solve medical mysteries through hands-on projects and labs, measure and interpret vital signs, examine nervous system structure and function, investigate disease outbreaks, and explore how a breakdown within the human body can lead to dysfunction.

PROJECT LEAD THE WAY–GA/ME (MS6365)

Grade 8 - Full Year (Alternate Days)

Prerequisite: None

Students enrolling in this course will engage in two units: Green Architecture and Magic of Electrons. Students in Green Architecture learn how to apply the concept of green choices to the fields of architecture and construction by exploring dimensioning, measuring, and architectural sustainability as they design affordable housing units using Autodesk Revit architectural software. Students in Magic of Electrons explore electricity through the creation of hands-on projects, such as electric motors and a Morse code device. In addition, with the use of SnapCircuits, students will explore current concepts used in modern electronics, such as the parts of atoms, behavior of atoms, and sensing devices used in security systems and cell phones. Students learn knowledge and skills in basic circuitry design and examine the impact of electricity on the world around them.



SOCIAL STUDIES SELECTION

SOCIAL STUDIES 8 (MS2200)

Grade 8 - Full Year

Prerequisite: Social Studies 7

This course continues to trace the development of the United States and New York State from 1865 to the present. The course examines major political, social, and economic events and themes that contributed to the development of the United States into an industrial world power during the late 19th and 20th centuries. Special attention is focused on relationships within the Western Hemisphere and post-World War II global concerns. Students will also continue developing historical thinking and reasoning skills aligned to the NYS Social Studies Framework. To view the high school social studies course pathways, please review the course flowchart on page 21.

SOCIAL STUDIES 8 HONORS (MS2210)

Grade 8 - Full Year

Prerequisite: Social Studies 7

This course introduces students to the rigor and expectations of honors and AP-level social studies coursework in middle school. Using advanced resources, students will study the history of the United States and New York State from 1865 to the present day. Course activities and assignments are designed to prepare students to work proficiently with college-level materials in high school. Emphasis will be placed on analyzing primary and secondary sources, and the development and application of social science research skills. This course prepares students to engage in Global History 1 Honors in ninth grade. Additionally, students who successfully complete this course can enroll in AP Human Geography as freshmen. To view the high school social studies course pathways, please review the course flowchart on page 21.

Course Selection Planning Sheet for 2026 - 2027

Parents and students are encouraged to use this planning sheet when making course selections for next year.

GRADE 8 OPTIONS

English (select one):

☐ **English 8**

☐ **English 8 Honors**

Mathematics (select one):

☐ **Math 8**

☐ **Algebra 1***

(must have taken Pre-Algebra)

Science (select one):

☐ **Science 8***

☐ **Life Science: Biology**

*Students who select Science 8 will select a PLTW course

PLTW (select one):

☐ **PLTW-AC/MD**

☐ **PLTW-GA/ME**

Social Studies (select one):

☐ **Social Studies 8**

☐ **Social Studies 8 Honors**

English

Grade 8

English 8 Honors *or* English 8



Grade 9

English 9 Honors *or* English 9



Grade 10

English 10 Honors *or* English 10



Grade 11

AP Capstone Seminar – English
or
 AP English Language and Composition *or* English 11



Grade 12

AP English Language and Composition
or
 AP English Literature and Composition
or
 AP Capstone Research – English
or
 College English 12 *or* English 12

Electives

Introduction to Journalism
& Media Literacy

Film and Literature 1

Creative Writing 1



College Journalism &
Media Literacy

Film and Literature 2:
The Sequel

College Creative Writing 2

20th-Century
American Pop Culture

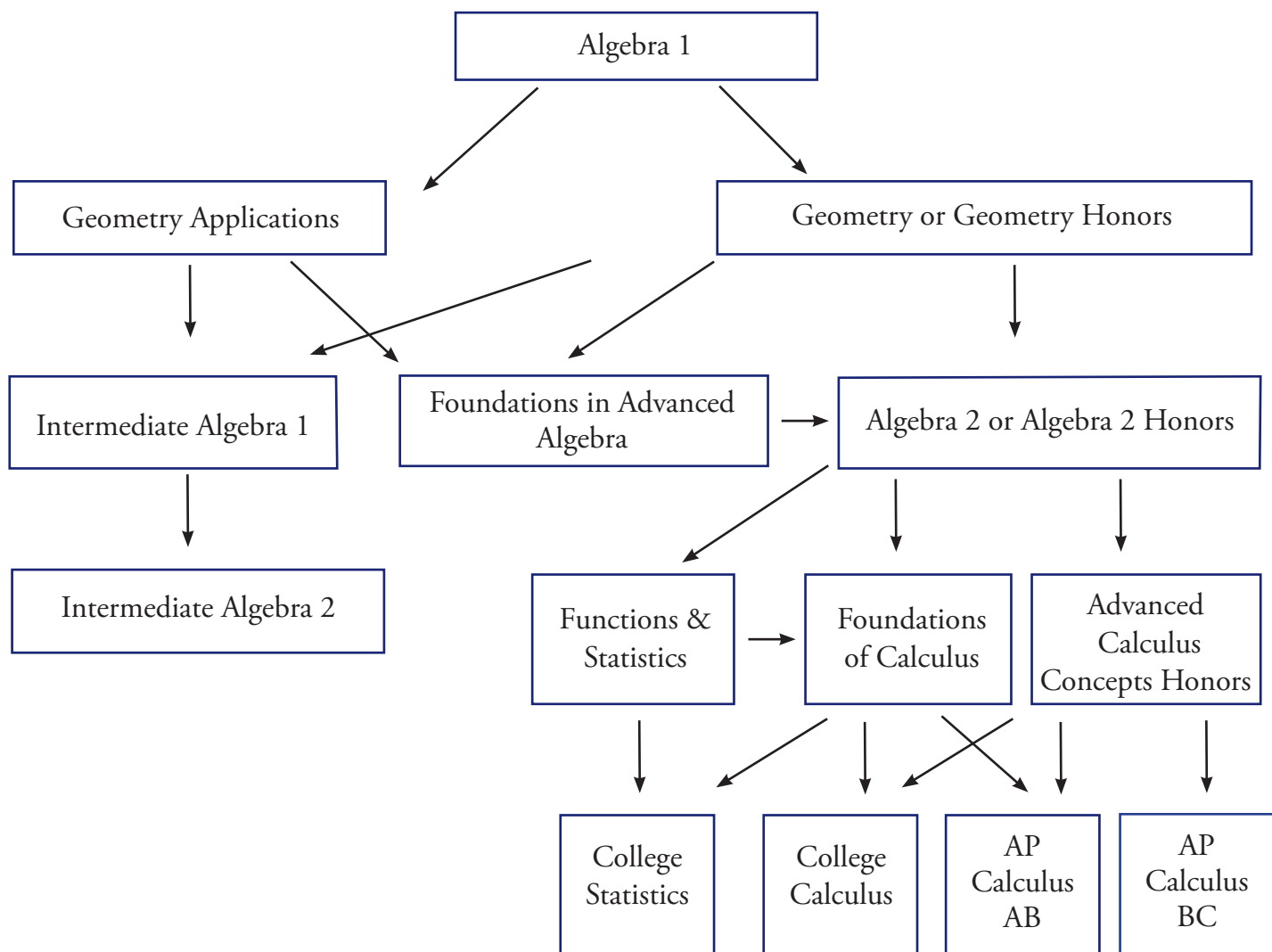
Speak Up!

Theatre Arts

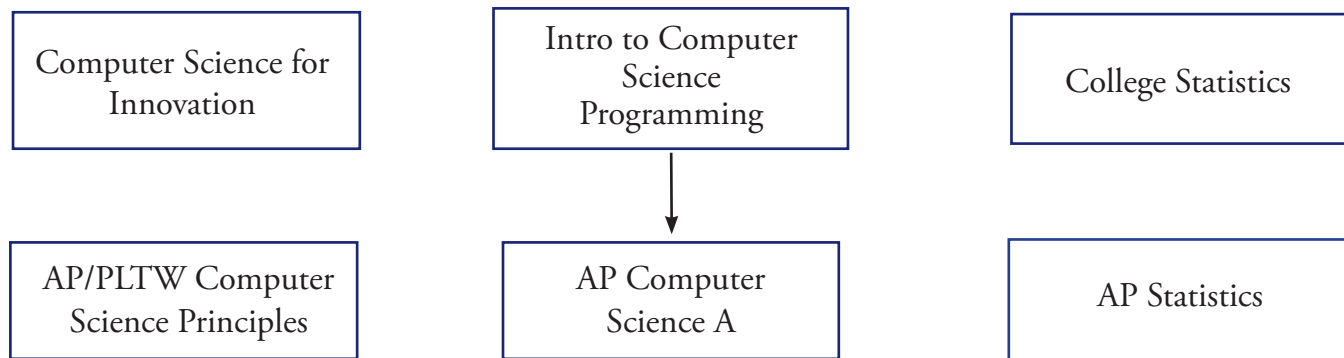
College Advisory

True Crime Literature

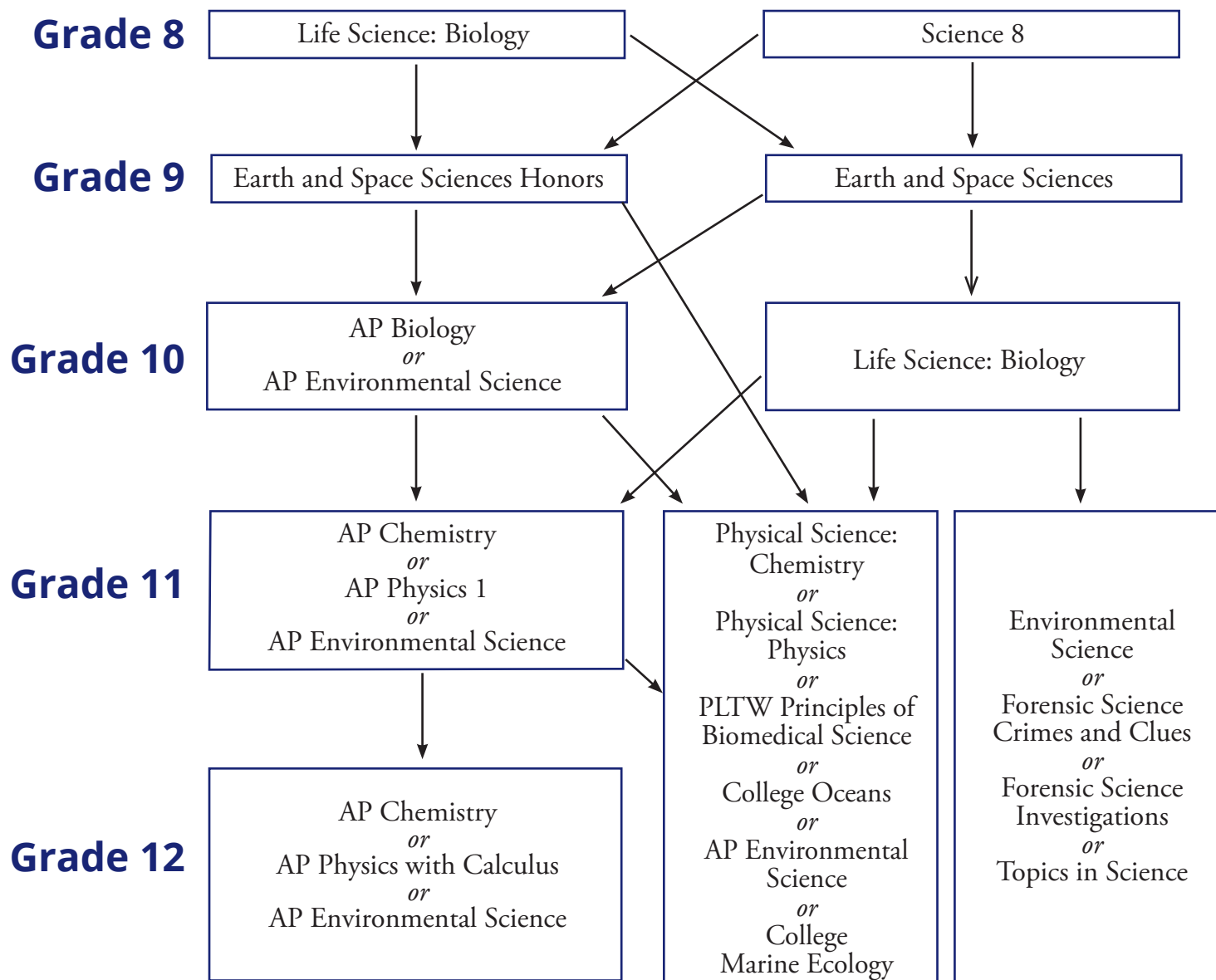
Mathematics



Electives



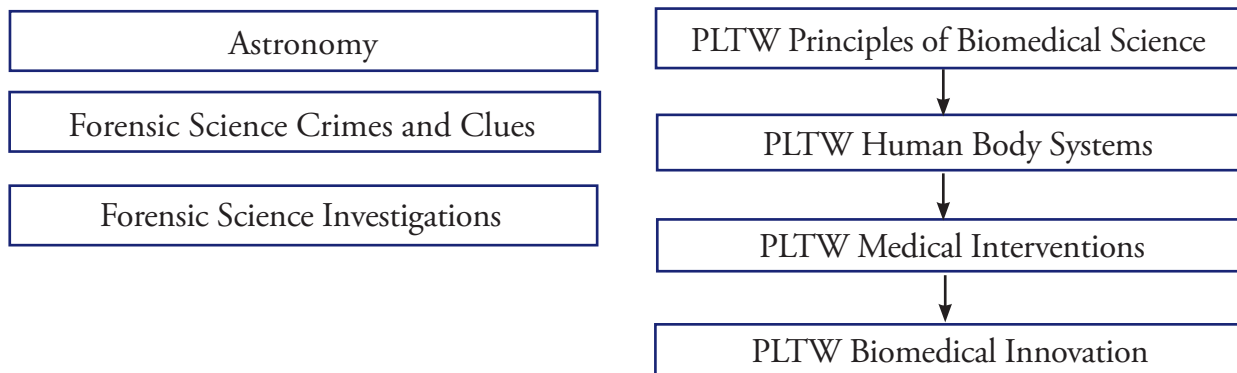
Science



Science & Technology Research Program

9th Grade / 10th Grade / 11th Grade / 12th Grade

Electives



Social Studies

Grade 8



Grade 9



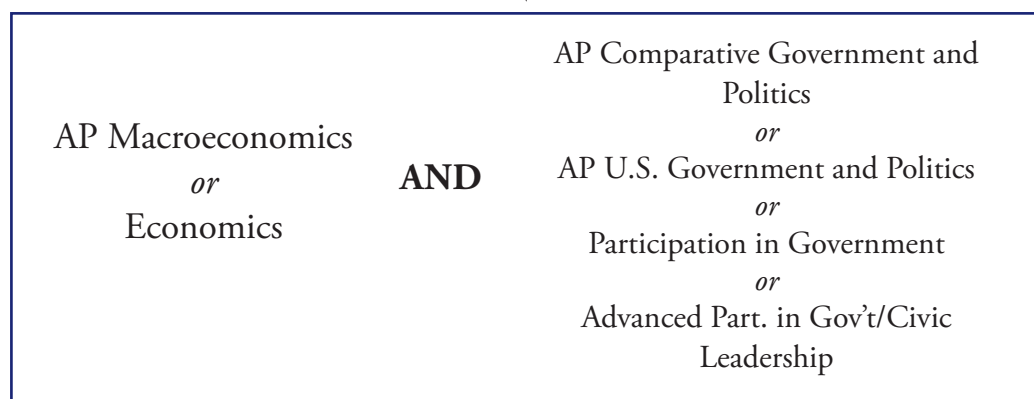
Grade 10



Grade 11



Grade 12



Electives

