

MSSPA



MAIN STREET SCHOOL OF PERFORMING ARTS

2011-2012 Course Selection Guide

1320 Mainstreet • Hopkins, MN 55343
(952) 224-1340 • FAX (952) 224-2955
www.msspahs.org

Vision Statement

To cultivate and challenge each learner's intellectual and expressive potential in a rigorous academic and artistic setting.

Mission Statement

Through the creation and performance of theatre, music, and dance, learners will establish their unique personal signature. Rigorous academics and collaboration with professional artists will prepare learners for higher education and lifelong engagement in the arts.

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REGISTRATION INFORMATION

- A full time student at Main Street School of Performing Arts will take four classes per day.
- One credit is earned for each quarter long class.
- Throughout the four years of high school, a student must earn credits in the following areas:

English	8	credits
Mathematics	6	credits
Science	6	credits
Social Studies	8	credits
Physical Education	1	credit
Fine Arts	14	credits
<u>Electives</u>	<u>13</u>	<u>credits</u>
TOTAL CREDITS	56	credits

- Students planning to attend a **College or University** are strongly encouraged to complete a more rigorous course load. Post secondary institutions are becoming more competitive each year and students are being compared to one another, not to the minimums for application to the institution. A typical course load for admission is similar to the following:

English	8+	credits
Mathematics	8+	credits
Science	8	credits
Social Studies	8+	credits
Single Foreign Language	8	credits
Fine Arts	14	credits
Plus Additional Academics		

- Although 56 credits in four years is the minimum students must earn in order to graduate, most students earn more.
- Students must have earned a minimum number of credits to move on to the next grade level. The following are the minimum number of credits needed to be in the grade listed:

Sophomore (10th)	12	credits
Junior (11th)	26	credits
Senior (12th)	40	credits
- Some courses, including music, dance, theatre, math, and Advanced Placement courses require special placement criteria to be completed before registration.
- Students may choose to take a small number of courses on a Pass/Fail grading scale. These courses cannot be courses required for graduation or the student's art endorsement. If a student wishes to take a course Pass/Fail they must fill out a Pass/Fail request, available in the counselor's office, by the end of the second week of the course. This request form calls for the student's signature, the instructor's approval, and counselor's sign off.
- Many courses have a length of two quarters. Grades are awarded at the end of each quarter and these grades will appear on the student's transcript (the document that colleges will see).
- Students are required to take both quarters of a two quarter class, unless they have counselor or instructor permission to take only one.
- **Credit by Assessment (CbA)**
MSSPA provides students the opportunity to receive credit for previous learning in required academic courses. That Download the CbA policy document and the CbA application at:
<https://sites.google.com/site/msspagifted>

MSSPA Credit Check Worksheet

Each box equals ONE credit – check off one box for each credit you have earned (one for a one credit/quarter course and two for a two credit/quarter course). If specific course names appear, those courses are required.

1. Students must fulfill the following course requirements.

English (8 credits required)

- 9th Grade English
- 9th Grade English
- 10th Grade English
- 10th Grade English
- 11th Grade English *or AP Literature A*
- 11th Grade English *or AP Literature B*
- 12th Grade English *or AP Comp. A*
- 12th Grade English *or AP Comp. B*

Social Studies (8 credits required)

- Civics
- Early American History
- Modern US History
- Modern US History
- World History
- World History
- Geography
- Economics

Mathematics (6 credits required)

- Intermediate Algebra (or higher)
- Intermediate Algebra (or higher)
- Geometry (or higher)
- Geometry (or higher)
- Advanced Algebra (or higher)
- Advanced Algebra (or higher)

Science (6 credits required)

- Biology
- Biology
- Science
- Science
- Science
- Science

Physical Education (one credit required)

- Physical Education (courses that meet the PE requirements are noted in the Course Guide)

Arts Endorsement Requirements (14 credits)

See Arts Endorsement requirements below.

2. Students must ALSO earn a total of 56 credits.

Credits required for graduation: 56

Total Credits you have earned: _____ (see the bottom of your transcript for this number).

Credits you still need to earn: _____ (subtract the credits you have earned from the total needed- 56)

3. Students must pass the Reading and Writing GRAD Tests and either pass the Math GRAD or take it three times.

- Math GRAD
- Reading GRAD
- Writing GRAD

DANCE ENDORSEMENT

14 dance credits required for Dance Endorsement

You must pass the following courses to earn your Dance Arts Endorsement at Graduation:

- A total of six credits in dance technique (Beginning, Intermediate or Advanced), at least 2 of which are at Intermediate or Advanced level.
- Beginning Improvisation and Composition
- Intermediate Improvisation and Composition
- World Dance
- Dance Careers
- Senior Creation Dance
- Dance Wellness Lab
- Dance Elective: _____
- Dance Elective: _____

Electives Include:

- Introduction to Jazz Dance
- Show Choir
- Body Shop
- Special Topics in Ballet I
- Special Topics in Ballet II
- Special Topics: Dance for Film
- Dance Pedagogy
- Costume Design: DANCE

MUSIC ENDORSEMENT

14 music credits required for Music Endorsement

You must pass the following courses to earn your Music Arts Endorsement at Graduation:

- Music Fundamentals (If taken in lieu of Music Theory 1, must take another elective)
- Music Theory 1 A
- Music Theory 1 B
- Music Theory 2 A
- Music Theory 2 B
- Music & Technology
- Choir/Instrumental Ensemble/Chamber Singers/Advanced Ensemble
- Choir/Instrumental Ensemble/Chamber Singers/Advanced Ensemble
- Choir/Instrumental Ensemble/Chamber Singers/Advanced Ensemble
- Choir/Instrumental Ensemble/Chamber Singers/Advanced Ensemble
- Senior Creation - Music
- Music Elective: _____
- Music Elective: _____
- Music Elective: _____
- Music Elective: _____

Electives Include:

- Choir/Instrumental Ensemble/Chamber Singers/Advanced Ensemble (past required 4)
- Music Theory 3 A & B (2)
- Advanced Placement Music Theory A & B (2)
- World Music
- Music History
- Music Improvisation
- Composition
- Show Choir

THEATRE ENDORSEMENT

14 music credits required for Theatre Endorsement

You must pass the following courses to earn your Theatre Arts Endorsement at Graduation:

- Unscripted Theatre 1
- Voice and Diction 1
- Theatre Movement 1
- Acting 1
- Acting 2
- Acting 3
- Senior Creation and Performance
- Theatre Elective: _____
- Theatre Elective: _____
- Theatre Elective: _____
- Theatre Elective: _____
- Theatre Elective: _____
- Theatre Elective: _____
- Theatre Elective: _____

Electives Include:

- Unscripted 2
- Voice and Diction 2
- Theatre Movement 2
- Acting Ensemble
- Directing
- Acting 4
- History of Film
- Exploration on a Global Stage
- Costume Design: THEATRE

SCHEDULING OF CLASSES

Due to the small enrollment at MSSPA and our comparatively diverse course options, scheduling classes is challenging. The number of single section classes further complicates the scheduling process. Any student who is requesting more than one single section course (AP courses, many arts courses, etc) or who is “out of grade level” (i.e. a freshman taking Pre-Calculus) **will likely not be able to schedule all their first choice classes** in a single year. This is why it is important to consider different course options. A student will likely be required to make a choice between two single section courses.

SCHEDULE CHANGES

Once students complete the course selection process for the next school year, it will be difficult to make changes to schedules. Please carefully consider your course choices with this fact in mind. Teacher schedules, the hiring of teachers, the number of sections, section sizes, and the ordering of textbooks and supplies are determined by initial student selection and registration. For these reasons all non-substantive reasons for schedule changes such as: changing hours, “I prefer to take it next year,” or “I changed my mind,” etc. will not be considered. We are aware that occasionally circumstances change between the time of registration and the beginning of class that necessitates changing a schedule.

DROP/ADDING COURSES DURING THE YEAR

Changes to courses may be made during the first five days of each quarter. If a course is dropped, students must maintain a minimum of four credits. Courses dropped after the first five days will result in an “F” recorded on the student’s transcript for that course.

MSPA reserves the right to modify/cancel courses based on the number of students enrolled in individual courses.

TERMINOLOGY AND DEFINITIONS

Advanced Placement (AP) course: requires students to work at high levels of achievement and involves extra work outside of class. Students who take the national Advanced Placement examinations associated with these courses may receive college credit.

Elective course: A course chosen by students to fulfill the graduation requirements. **Prerequisite course:** A course that students must pass before registering for a higher-level course.

Required course: A course students must pass in order to graduate from MSSPA.

Technique course: A dance course in either the Ballet or Modern course progression.

REGISTRATION PROCEDURES

1. Course selection materials are distributed.
2. Study the course selection guide and know what courses are available.
3. Be aware of prerequisites, grade level requirements, etc.
4. Familiarize yourself with post-secondary options for after high school and the requirements for each institution. See appendix A for more information.
5. Students and parents should discuss elective course choices.
6. Complete the course selection form provided with the registration guide. Follow additional instructions on course selection form.
7. Get teacher to sign off on your course choices (signature required for each department you are choosing courses in and for all academic areas even if you don't plan to take any courses in those departments next year).
8. Your homeroom advisor will look over your selections for completeness and will provide feedback..
9. You will have a week to register on-line.
10. Contact the counselor if you have any additional questions.

2011-2012 COURSE DESCRIPTIONS BY DEPARTMENT

DANCE

Introduction to Jazz Dance and Musical Theatre

Technique course

Grades: 9-10

Length of course: 1 quarter

Prerequisites: None

Description: Introduction to Jazz Dance and Musical Theatre is a beginning-level technique class designed for non-dancers. Students will learn classical jazz technique, swing dance and excerpts from various Broadway musicals. This is a performance-based class; students will participate in daily warm-ups, across the floor phrases and center combinations. All students must have jazz shoes for this class. *(This course meets the Physical Education requirement).*

Beginning Dance: Ballet and Modern

Technique course

Grades: 9-10

Length of course: 4 quarters

Prerequisites: None

Description: This introductory level dance course teaches beginning-level students about both modern dance and ballet. Students will meet year long to learn ballet technique with an emphasis on correct alignment, developmental strength and an understanding of basic ballet vocabulary. Students will also learn modern technique; emphasis will be placed on vocabulary, anatomy and phrasing. This is a participatory class; students will dance everyday. *This course can be repeated for additional credit. (This course meets the Physical Education requirement).*

Intermediate Dance: Ballet and Modern

Technique course

Grades: 10-11

Length of course: 4 quarters

Prerequisites: Beginning Dance and/or instructor permission

Description: Students expand their foundation of ballet and modern technique with an emphasis on the exploration of the context, history and evolution of the art form. Continued emphasis will be placed on expansion of ballet/modern vocabulary, movement phrasing and human anatomy. Lessons will provide corrections in alignment and will increase developmental strength. *This course can be repeated for additional credit. (This course meets the Physical Education requirement).*

Advanced Dance: Ballet and Modern

Technique course

Grades: 11-12

Length of course: 4 quarters

Prerequisites: Intermediate Dance and/or instructor permission

Description: This course continues to focus on correct alignment, developmental strength, vocabulary, musicality, and artistry required in advanced-level technique. Emphasis will be placed on using ballet and modern as a vehicle for expression while developing physical stamina. Students will continue to explore the relationship of human anatomy to movement. *This course can be repeated for additional credit. (This course meets the Physical Education requirement).*

Beginning Improvisation and Composition

Grades: 10

Length of course: 1 quarter

Prerequisites: One dance technique class at MSSPA

Description: Students explore the idea that art is an expression of our time. Students learn about basic choreographic elements, including time/space/energy/structure. The course culminates in the creation and presentation of student developed studies.

Intermediate Improvisation and Composition

Grades: 11

Length of course: 1 quarter

Prerequisites: Beginning Improvisation and Composition

Description: Students further explore the components of dance creation, such as style, creative voice and rhythm. The course culminates in student created studies.

Special Topics in Choreography

Grades: 11-12

Length of course: 1 quarter

Prerequisites: Beginning Choreography

Special Topics in Choreography is a quarter-long course designed to provide students with an in-depth choreographic experience based on a contemporary issue in dance composition. Students will spend the entire quarter learning about and creating work in response to a specific issue or idea. Topics may include dance designed for the camera, musical theatre choreography or site-specific choreography.

Special Topics is designed as an upper-level course in the dance department.

Dance Careers

NOTE: This course is not offered in 2011-12; course will be offered again in 2012-2013.

Grades: 11

Length of course: 1 quarter

Prerequisites: None.

Description: An exploration of dance related career options. Students will learn how to write a resume and cover letter while also studying nonprofit management, arts administration, dance education, dance therapy and grant writing. Students will meet with several professionals working in various fields of dance. This course is primarily lecture-based.

Body Shop

Grades: 9 – 12

Length of course: 1 quarter

Pre-requisites: None

Description: This course emphasizes fundamental body wisdom and conditioning techniques needed to provide healthy bodies and safe practices in the performing arts. A basic introduction to the skeletal and musculature system, injury prevention, and other related health issues will be addressed. Students are expected to participate in daily yoga, Pilates, aerobic exercises and other somatic activities. (*This course meets the Physical Education requirement*).

Special Topics in Ballet 1

Technique course

Grades: 9 – 12

Length of course: 1 quarter

Pre-requisites: Audition and/or placement by the department and the student must be at an intermediate or higher ballet level.

Description: This course is designed to provide female students an opportunity to develop pointe work and male students an opportunity to develop movement specific to men such as pirouettes, batterie, ballone, and grand allegro. This class will be differentiated, so as accommodate the various skill levels and so that each student can make appropriate progress. This class is also designed to provide students with the opportunity to learn various ballet repertoire and variations, as well as the opportunity, when there is male participation, to learn basic-advanced partnering skills and variations. This is a participatory class, students will be physically active every day. (*This course meets the physical education requirements.*)

Special Topics in Ballet 2

Technique course

Grades: 9 – 12

Length of course: 1 quarter

Pre-requisites: Special Topics in Ballet I, or audition and/or placement by the department and the student must be at an intermediate or higher ballet level.

Description: This course designed to continue to build upon point and men's skills learned in Special Topics in Ballet I. This class will be differentiated, so as accommodate the various skill levels and so that each student can make appropriate progress. This class will also continue to provide students with the opportunity to learn various ballet repertoire and variations, as well as the opportunity, when there is male participation, to learn basic-advanced partnering skills and variations. This is a participatory class, students will be physically active every day. (*This course meets the physical education requirements.*)

Special Topics: Dance Pedagogy

NOTE: Course will be offered in 2011-12 and on an every-other-year basis thereafter.

Grades: 9 – 12

Length of course: 1 quarter

Pre-requisites: Dance majors only and must be at an Intermediate level or higher and/or placement by the department.

Description: Theory and practice of effective dance instruction; including planning and preparation, communication/ instructional skills, learning styles, levels, technique and methods. Students will be required to teach several classes to community members of various levels and ages youth to adult.

Dance Wellness Lab

NOTE: This course is not offered in 2011-12; course will be offered again in 2012-2013.

Grades: 9 – 12

Length of course: 1 quarter

Pre-requisites: Dance majors only with a minimum of two quarters of beginning dance at MSSPA, or Body Shop, and/or approval of instructor.

Description: A deeper examination of anatomy, nutrition, injury prevention, conditioning, somatics and other health related topics specific to dancers will be explored to increase the longevity of the dancer. This course will include lecture, exploratory movement activities and observations. This course will also include various projects and research that will culminate in the development of an individual and/or peer conditioning and wellness program.

Dance Senior Creation & Performance Lab

Grades: 12

Length of course: 1 quarter

Prerequisites: Dance majors only

Description: Students will create and prepare a final performance to be presented at an external venue, including all aspects of production. Students will work alone and in groups to create a performance synthesizing all elements of their artistic learning while at MSSPA.

World Dance Investigation

NOTE: Course will be offered in 2011-12 and on an every-other-year basis thereafter.

Grades: 12

Length of course: 1 quarter

Prerequisites: None.

Description: Exploration of dance forms from around the world, such as West African dance, kabuki, bharatnayam, capoeira, and others. Students will read about dance cultures, watch video and live representations of different dance forms, and participate in dance classes to learn about specific dance forms from around the world. This is an upper-level lecture-based class.

Dance Production and Design

Grades: 9=12

Length of course: 1 quarter

Prerequisites: None

Description: Research history of costume design, specific to dance students. Students will also have hands on experience of designing and constructing costumes for a dance concert.

Show Choir

(team taught by vocal instructor and dance instructor)

Grades: 9 – 12

Length of course: 2 quarters

Prerequisites: **By audition only with vocal and dance departments. Auditions in the Spring of 2011.**

Description: This course is an introductory class to the elements of show choir. In this class you will be combining vocal excellence with the visual aspects of choreography to create a musical dance ensemble. The music selection will include, but not is limited to, pop and Broadway show tunes. Please note this is a physical class and you will be stretching, doing aerobic activity to build stamina, as well as dancing. You are required to perform in a Music Concert and/or a *No Shame*. (*This course meets the physical education requirements.*)

HEALTH

Teen Health Issues (Elective)

Grades: 9-12

Length: 1 Quarter

Prerequisites: None

Description: This course will focus on health topics specific to the lives of teens. Topics covered will include: healthy relationships (friendship and dating), stress management, mental health, chemical health, nutrition, exercise, body image, disordered eating, sexuality, reproductive health, and healthy decision making. Students will have the opportunity to explore these topics through class discussion, activities, and speakers from community organizations.

LANGUAGE ARTS

9th Grade English (Required)

Grades: 9

Length of course: 2 quarters

Prerequisites: None

Description: English 9 is a semester long course that reviews and elaborates on elements of fiction. The first quarter places particular concentration on plot, characterization, symbol and theme with *Of Mice and Men*, *The Color Purple*, and a play by William Shakespeare. The second quarter emphasizes satire and social commentary with *The Crucible* and *1984*. Performance of literature is emphasized. Compositions are generally analytical and academic, focusing on the creation of an assertive thesis statement and the development of strong, focused support for the thesis. Grammar, vocabulary, spelling and academic writing, and conventions are studied and implemented into student writings.

10th Grade English (Required)

Grades: 10

Length of course: 2 quarters

Prerequisites: 9th Grade English

Description: Students enrolled in this course study literature from the United States, gathering multiple literary viewpoints to answer the question: “What does it mean to be an American?” Readings include *A Raisin in the Sun*, *The Glass Menagerie*, *The Catcher in the Rye*, *The Things They Carried*, *Lakota Woman*, *Their Eyes Were Watching God*, *The Great Gatsby* and many other passages, short stories, and poems by American writers. Students in this course will also study writing across a wide spectrum of composition types, including: the expository essay, the persuasive essay, essays that compare and contrast and the critical review essay. Grammar, vocabulary, spelling and writing conventions are reviewed and implemented into student writings.

11th Grade English (Required)

Grades: 11

Length of course: 2 quarters

Prerequisites: 9th and 10th Grade English

Description: 11th Grade English asks students to consider what it means to be a member of a global community. Students will improve their reading skills and their appreciation of the literature by reading short stories, poems, novels, and plays written by authors around the world with a humanities unit in 18th-19th century British Literature. Students are asked to engage in both creative and analytical writing connected to the literature as well as practicing effective communication skills and public speaking. Texts have been selected to engage students on a global level and may include *Night*, *The Odyssey*, *Things Fall Apart*, *House of Spirits*, *Warrior Woman*, and *A Tale of Two Cities*.

12th Grade English (Required)

Grades: 12

Length of course: 2 quarters

Prerequisites: 9th, 10th, 11th Grade English

Description: This course introduces students to “true life” nonfiction stories of current interest in the form of biographies, autobiographies, adventure and survival stories, and memoirs. Texts may include *In Cold Blood*, *Into the Wild*, *Me Talk Pretty One Day*, *What Becomes of the Broken Hearted*, *Memoirs of a Boy Soldier*, and *Funny in Farsi*. There will also be a focus on research writing where the students will be answering questions such as: Why research? How do I narrow my topic? How do I avoid plagiarism? Students will have the opportunity to explore various forms of nonfiction and be able to implement the learned skills and techniques into their own writing. This class asks for higher level understanding of the writing process.

Creative Writing (Elective)

Grades: 11-12

Length of course: 1 quarter

Prerequisites: 9th and 10th Grade English

Description: This course is designed to give students the opportunity to discover and develop the ability to write poems, stories, creative essays, and other types of writing. Students will participate in processes of writing, which require risk-taking and revision. Students will receive feedback from both classmates and the teacher. The focus will be on the development of the student’s voice as a creative writer and the implementation of creative writing techniques that will be learned throughout the quarter.

Interpersonal Communications (Elective)

Grades: 11, 12

Length of course: 1 quarter

Prerequisites: 9th and 10th Grade English

Description: This is a nine-week course that explores relationships – both personal and professional – through the lens of communication studies. Through exploration of the self, relationship dynamics and social influence, students will work to discover appropriate strategies for communicating the self, managing conflicts and building relationships. Students will also explore the professional realm of communication through speech-writing and performance.

Themes in Our Times (formerly Contemporary Studies) (Elective)

Grades: 9-12

Length of course: 1 quarter

Prerequisite: None

Description: When a nation is at war, how are its people—everyday citizens—affected? Students will explore this central question as it spans across modern and contemporary works from different cultural, historical and personal perspectives. Works include: *The Kite Runner*, *A Separate Peace*, *Persepolis*, as well as other novels, short stories, poems, documentaries, films and passages. Students will also write themed compositions in response to literature.

Playwriting 1 (Elective)

Grades: 9-12

Length of course: 1 quarter

Prerequisite: None

Description: Playwriting skills are explored in the context of performance theatre; specific focus is placed on scene building through action, conflict, character, dialogue and structure. This course culminates with the creation of a 20-30 minute one-act play.

Playwriting 2 (Elective)

Grades: 9-12

Length of course: 1 quarter

Prerequisites: Playwriting I

Description: Students in Playwriting II will continue to explore playwriting from multiple approaches. Basic skills are extended when students write within multiple genres, including Surrealism, Expressionism and Absurdism. Adaptation and screenwriting are also explored in this course.

Advanced Placement Literature & Composition (Offered in lieu of 11th or 12th grade English)

Grades: 11-12

Length of course: 2 quarters

Prerequisites: English 9, 10

Description: This is a literature course for juniors and seniors who are ready to be challenged intellectually and academically. Canonized works of literature will be studied with special emphasis on themes, style and rhetorical strategies. Students will learn strategies for planning and producing written responses to literature and will prepare for college level literature courses. Additionally, students will apply their understanding of styles and rhetoric to the study of Communications—both public and interpersonal. In order to fulfill graduation requirements, seniors in AP Literature will be required to complete a research paper. NOTE: You will be required to take the AP exam at the end of this course.

Advanced Placement Language & Composition (Offered in lieu of 11th or 12th grade English)

NOTE: Course will not be offered in 2011-2012; course will be offered again in 2012-2013.

Grades: 11-12

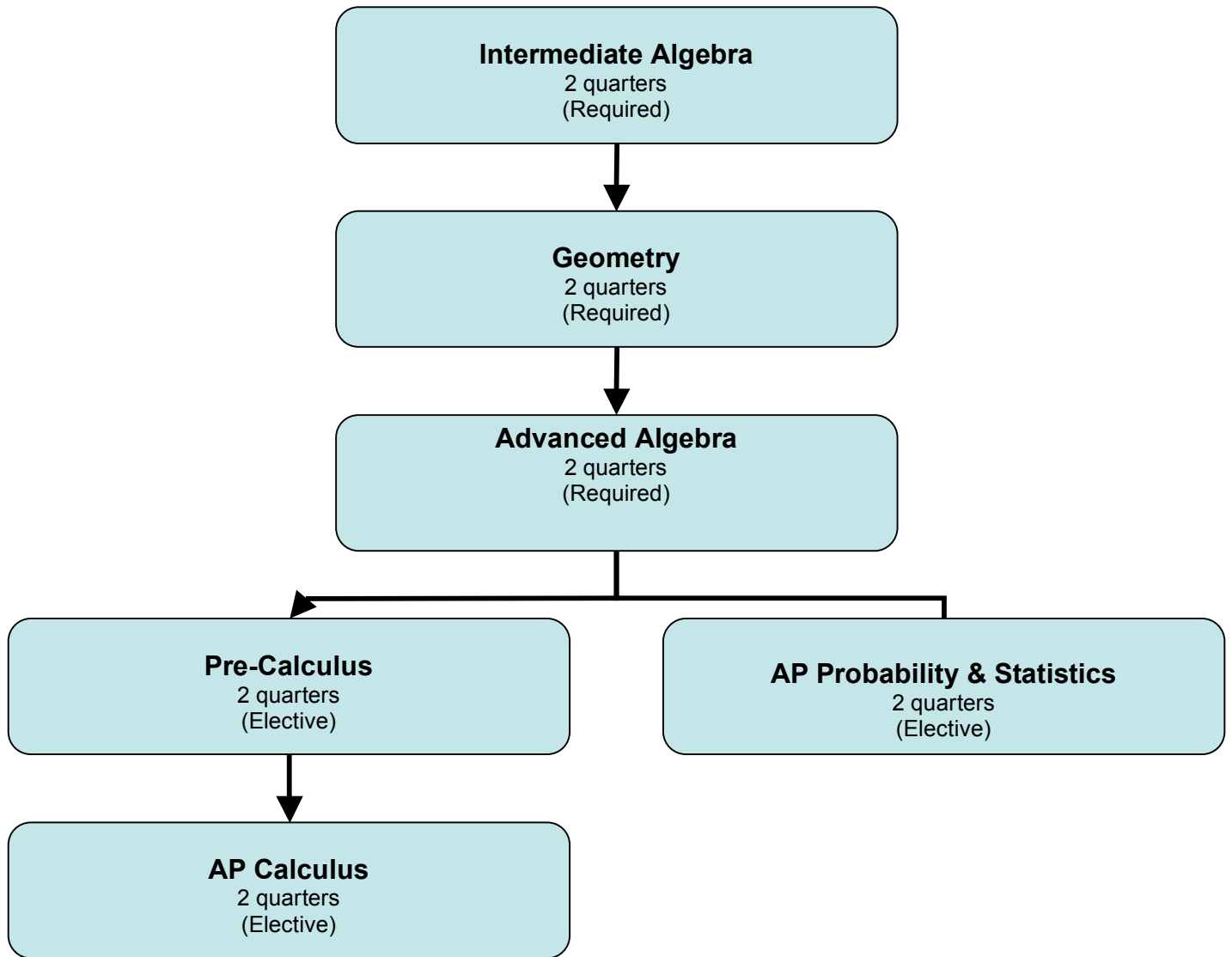
Length of course: 2 quarters

Prerequisites: 9th and 10th Grade English, signed AP Contract

Description: This is a writing course for juniors and seniors who are college bound and considering taking the Advanced Placement writing test. Centered on academic writing and analytical reading, this is an intensive course designed to improve your ability to organize, develop, revise and edit written work. Students will also be able to identify successful rhetoric in nonfiction writing and implement these techniques in their own writing. This class also includes the practice of writing essay responses to former test questions and mastering the vocabulary and critical reading skills required on the test. In order to fulfill graduation requirements, juniors in AP Composition will be required to complete a Communication component. NOTE: You will be required to take the AP exam at the end of this course.

MATHEMATICS

Mathematics Course Sequence
Courses must be taken in order.



Note:

All students must complete six credits of math beginning at the appropriate level for each student and covering Intermediate Algebra, Geometry, and Advanced Algebra.

Intermediate Algebra (Required)

Grades: 9

Length of Course: 2 quarters

Prerequisites: 8th Grade Linear Algebra

Description: This course is designed as a bridge course between the new state-required eighth-grade algebra course and Advanced Algebra. Students will be actively engaged in discovering algebraic principles, including function notation, exponents, radicals, and quadratic, exponential and polynomial functions. Other topics to be studied include probability, statistics, the Pythagorean Theorem, perimeter, area, and volume. A scientific calculator is also required although a graphing calculator is strongly recommended.

Geometry (Required)

Grades: 9 – 10

Length of Course: 2 quarters

Prerequisites: Algebra

Description: Students will be actively engaged in investigations which lead to discovery of geometric properties. Students will develop communication and logical reasoning skills in order to prove these properties. Concepts to be studied include properties of shapes, geometric constructions, and trigonometry. A compass, protractor, and straightedge are required tools. A scientific calculator is also required although a graphing calculator is strongly recommended.

Advanced Algebra (Required)

Grades: 10 -12

Length of Course: 2 quarters

Prerequisites: Algebra, Geometry

Description: This course provides further study in algebraic topics such as sequences and series, function transformation, and conic sections. The study of statistics and probability is a large part of the course and will include standard deviation and normal distributions, correlation and regression, combinations, and compound probability. A graphing calculator is required. MSSPA uses TI-83+ and TI-84 calculators.

Pre-Calculus (Elective)

Grades: 11-12

Length of course: 2 quarters

Prerequisites: Advanced Algebra

Description: This college preparatory course will prepare students for calculus by using technology and an investigative approach to problem solving in real-world situations. Topics include: inverse function, logarithmic functions, composite functions, trigonometric functions and identities, parametric functions, vectors, matrices, polar coordinates, complex numbers, polynomial and rational functions, conic section, and limits. A graphing calculator is required. MSSPA uses TI-83+ and TI-84 calculators.

Advanced Placement Calculus (Elective)

Grades: 11-12

Length of course: 2 quarters

Prerequisites: Pre-Calculus, signed AP Contract

Description: AP Calculus is a course in single-variable calculus that includes techniques and applications of the derivative, techniques and applications of the definite integral, and the Fundamental Theorem of Calculus. This course is equivalent to at least one semester of calculus at most colleges and universities. Algebraic, numerical, and graphical representations are emphasized throughout this course. Students will better appreciate the connection among various representations. Students are required to have access to graphing calculators in class and at home. These calculators are required on portions of the AP exam. MSSPA uses TI-83+ and TI-84 calculators. NOTE: You will be required to take the AP exam at the end of this course.

Advanced Placement Statistics (Elective)

Grade Level: 11-12

Length of course: 2 quarters

Prerequisites: Advanced Algebra, signed AP Contract

Description: AP Statistics focuses on descriptive statistics. Topics include exploring data, normal distributions, bivariate data, linear & non-linear regression, sample design, and probability. Students focus on inferential statistics. Topics include random variables, binomial and geometric distributions, sample distributions, tests of significance, and inference of means, proportions, two-way tables and regression. NOTE: You will be required to take the AP exam at the end of this course.

MUSIC

See Appendix C for Chamber Singers and Advanced Ensemble Audition Requirements

CHORAL AUDITION INFORMATION: Students who would like to be considered for Chamber Singers will need to audition in the spring for the next school year. Students will then be placed in either Choir and Chamber Singers based on the results of their audition. Students who would just like to be in Choir do not need to audition, just register for the class.

INSTRUMENTAL AUDITION INFORMATION: Students who would like to be considered for Steel Drum will need to audition in the spring for the next school year. Students will then be placed in either Steel Drum or Instrumental Ensemble based on the results of their audition. Students who would just like to be in Instrumental Ensemble do not need to audition, just register for the class. Students interested in Steel Drum Ensemble will need to demonstrate their music reading skill. Students should prepare a selection from a written source, and will also be required to sight read in the audition to assess reading skill.

Audition information for Chamber Singers and Advanced Ensemble is available at the end of the music course offerings listed. It will also be made and made available to all students prior to the auditions. (Students who are new to MSSPA will audition during their Arts Workshop).

HOW TO REQUEST CHAMBER SINGERS and ADVANCED ENSEMBLE

1. If you are planning to audition for Chamber Singers or Advanced Ensemble, you can request the courses on your selection sheet and then after auditions results are finalized, students will be placed in the correct course (Choir or Chamber Singers – Ensemble or Advanced Ensemble)
2. If you were enrolled in either course in 2010-2011 and would like to remain in the same course, you can enroll again for 2011-2012 without re-auditioning.
3. If you would eligible to enroll in both Chamber Singers and Advanced Ensemble (you were enrolled last year or plan to audition for both) you can request both, but match sections.
(ie. Request Chamber Singers AB and Advanced Ensemble AB)

Choir (AB=first semester and CD=second semester)

Open to all Majors, but **required for all Vocal Music Majors** (if not placed in Chamber Singers.)

Grades: 9-12

Prerequisites: None

Length: 2 or 4 Quarters. Students should register for either AB or CD OR BOTH.

Description: Students will rehearse daily in preparation for at minimum of two majors concerts. Students will study a variety of choral literature of all genres from Renaissance to the 21st Century. In addition, students will study sight-reading using solfege syllables to increase note-reading abilities. Attendance at all dress rehearsals and performances are mandatory.

Chamber Singers (AB=first semester and CD=second semester)

Open to all Majors. **Audition required - See Appendix C.**

Grades: 10-12*

Prerequisites: 1 year of Choir or comparable voice study.

Length: 2 or 4 quarters. Students are *strongly encouraged* to enroll in all 4 quarters if possible.

Description: Students will rehearse daily in preparation for at minimum of two majors concerts. Students will study a variety of advanced choral literature of all genres from Renaissance to the 21st Century. In addition, students will study sight-reading using solfege syllables to increase note-reading abilities. Attendance at all dress rehearsals and performances are mandatory. Students will also study some standard vocal jazz literature.

*Exceptions will be made for exceptional 9th grade male singers.

Instrumental Ensemble (A and/or B)

Grades 9-12

Prerequisites: Instrumentalist

Length: 1 or 2 quarters. Students should register for either A or B or both.

Description: Instrumental Ensemble is open to instrumentalists who have enough proficiency on their instrument to play effectively with other musicians. The ability to read music will be helpful, but not required. Students must provide their own instrument and any supplies necessary on a daily basis. Keyboards and pianos will be provided. Pre-existing groups are encouraged to apply for the class and will be allowed to work as a group throughout the class. Students will be required to prepare a solo selection to be performed during the first week of class which will determine further placement. Students who do not have the musical skills to work effectively in groups may be assigned solo projects designed to build basic skills on their instrument.

Advanced Ensemble (AB=first semester and CD=second semester)

Grades: 9-12

Prerequisites: Be able to read music. **Audition Required – See Appendix C.**

Length of Course: 2 or 4 Quarters. Students are *strongly encouraged* to enroll in all 4 quarters if possible.

Description: Students will rehearse daily in preparation for at minimum of two major concerts. Students will study the specific technique of authentic steel drumming. Students will develop part reading skills on their specific instrument. Attendance at all dress rehearsals and performances are mandatory.

Music & Technology

Grades: 9-12

Length of course: 1 quarter.

Prerequisites: None. Must provide headphones for class project time.

Description: Students will use music software, primarily *garageband* to create, edit, and record their own compositions. Students will also explore basic and advanced techniques in editing recorded material. No prior musical experience or computer experience necessary.

Music Theory 1

Grades: 9

Length of Course: 2 quarters

Prerequisites: None

Description: Entry level music theory course. Students will learn the basic language of western music. Students will study basic music theory, simple notation, basic composition skills, beginning ear training skills. Students will perform in small groups and alone on several performance projects.

Music Theory 2

Grades: 10

Length of course: 2 quarters

Prerequisites: Music Theory 1 (or Music Fundamentals taken before 2010-2011)

Description: 2nd Level of music theory study. Students learn the language of western music including notation, chord structure, composition, ear training and sight singing. Students may perform individually and in groups on their instruments and vocally.

Music Theory 3

Grades: 11

Length of course: 2 quarters

Prerequisites: Music Theory 1, Music Theory 2

Description: 3rd Level of music theory study. Students learn the advanced language of western music including notation, melodic, harmonic, and chord structures, composition, ear training and sight singing. Final projects include performance and composition. Students may perform individually and in groups on their instruments and vocally.

Advanced Placement Music Theory & Composition

Grades: 12

Length of course: 2 quarters

Prerequisites: Music Theory 1, Music Theory 2, Music Theory 3, signed AP contract.

Description: Fourth level of music theory study. Students learn the advanced language of western music including notation, chord structure, composition, sight singing and ear training. NOTE: You will be required to take the AP exam at the end of this course.

Senior Creation and Performance Lab

Grade: 12

Length of course: 1 quarter

Prerequisites: At least three music courses, including Music Theory 1, Music Theory 2, Music Majors only.

Description: Students will create and prepare a final performance to be presented at an external venue, including all aspects of production. Students will work alone and in groups to create a performance synthesizing all elements of their artistic learning while at MSSPA.

Composition

Grades: 11-12

Length of course: 1 Quarter

Prerequisites: Music Theory 1, 2, 3

Description: This course is for advanced theory students who already have a thorough and complete knowledge of basic compositional techniques. This course will go into more depth on the topics of instrumentation, transpositions, specific compositional techniques, arranging and the study of prominent composers of all time periods. Students are expected to arrange and compose their own pieces as well as critique and analyze their peers compositions. *Individual computer notation software

World Music

Grades: 10-12

Length of course: 1 quarter

Prerequisite: Music Theory 1

Description: World Music will introduce students to music of many cultures including but not limited to, Irish, Indian, African, Asian, and South American. Students will study typical performance techniques, instruments, and overall music unique to these specific cultures. Students will also create and perform music in each cultural style.

Music History

Grades: 10-12

Length of course: 1 quarter

Prerequisite: Music Theory 1, 2

Description: Students will study the several periods in music history starting with the early Renaissance through the Late Romantic and Modern era. Taught partially in a lecture format, students are also expected to listen and analyze various historically significant works and also create and perform music from a specific time period or in the style of specific composer.

Show Choir

(team taught by vocal instructor and dance instructor)

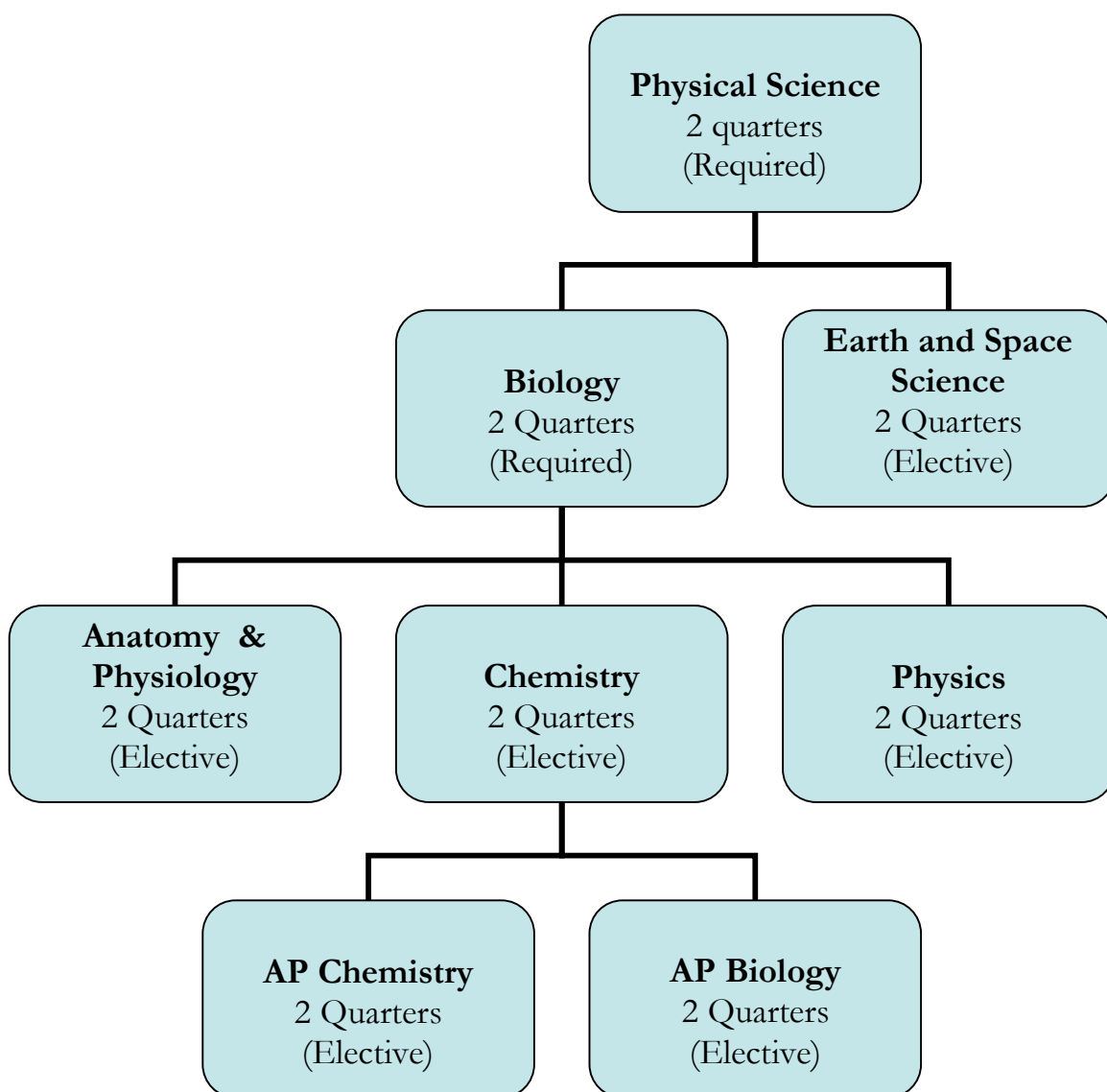
Grades: 9 – 12

Length of course: 2 quarters

Prerequisites: **By audition only with vocal and dance departments. Auditions in the Spring of 2011.**

Description: This course is an introductory class to the elements of show choir. In this class you will be combining vocal excellence with the visual aspects of choreography to create a musical dance ensemble. The music selection will include, but not is limited to, pop and Broadway show tunes. Please note this is a physical class and you will be stretching, doing aerobic activity to build stamina, as well as dancing. You are required to perform in a Music Concert and/or a *No Shame*. (*This course meets the physical education requirements.*)

SCIENCE



Physical Science (Required)

Grades: 9

Length of course: 2 quarters

Prerequisites: None

Description: Physical science is an introductory chemistry and physics course. The first quarter covers chemistry, which is the structure and properties of matter. The second quarter includes physics which is the study of the relationship between matter and energy. Students explore topics in measurement, properties of matter, elements, chemical reactions, motion, forces, simple machines, waves, light, etc. Students are involved in hands-on activities designed to link the concepts learned in class and lab to real life occurrences.

Biology (Required)

Grades: 9-10

Length of course: 2 quarters

Prerequisites: None

Description: What makes living things unique and how do they function? This course explores the interactions between living things and their environment, both internal and external. These interactions are studied by practical experience in the laboratory and class activities. Major areas investigated are: scientific method, ecology, cell structure and function, microscope use, cell respiration and photosynthesis, cell division, evolution, genetics, and diversity of life.

Chemistry (Elective)

Grades: 10-11

Length of course: 2 quarters

Prerequisites: Algebra

Description: Designed for college-bound students. Topics covered include: atomic theory, bonding, periodicity, solutions, chemical reactions, behavior of gases, interaction of energy and matter, and history/background of chemistry. The laboratory is an integral part of this course.

Physics (Elective)

Grades: 10-11

Length of course: 2 quarters

Prerequisites: Algebra

Description: The study of how and why objects move the way they do, fall down, spin, crash and revolve. Sound, electricity, light, waves, lenses, and the Universe's quantum reality are studied. This course is intended to finely tune your perceptions of your world.

Earth and Space Explorations (Elective)

Grades: 9-12

Length of Course: 1 quarter

Prerequisites: Physical Science or Instructor approval.

Description: Earth & Space Explorations is a quarter-long course focusing on the study of the structure and scale of the universe. Students analyze and describe Earth's interconnected systems through laboratory and field investigations. Students will understand the history and development of the earth and space sciences, explore the uses of earth and space science in various careers, and investigate earth and space science problems concerning personal needs and community issues.

Forensic Science (Elective)

Grades: 9-12

Length of course: 1 quarter

Prerequisites: None

Description: This course introduces students to some of the specialized fields of forensic science, the principles of science and technology upon which they are based, and the application of these principles to various analyses of crime scene evidence.

Anatomy & Physiology (Elective)NOTE: This course will not be offered in 2011-2012; course will be offered again in 2012=2013 and 2014-2015.

Grades: 10-12

Length of course: 2 quarters

Prerequisites: Biology or instructor approval

Description: Anatomy and Physiology investigates the structure and function of the human body and is designed to help students who are interested in gaining an in-depth understanding and appreciation of the human body. Emphasis is placed on the human systems including biochemistry, tissues, bones, muscles and the respiratory, circulatory, reproductive, nervous, digestive and renal systems.

Advanced Placement Biology (Elective)

NOTE: Course will be offered in 2011-12 and on an every-other-year basis thereafter.

Grades: 11-12

Length of course: 2 quarters

Prerequisites: Biology, Chemistry (or taking Chemistry concurrently with AP Biology) signed AP Contract

Description: AP Biology is a college-level survey course for motivated students who want to delve deeper into the mysteries of life. The course touches on all of the major topics of biology in more depth. Students apply biology and chemistry concepts to challenging laboratory experiences. Students are required to take the AP exam for possible college credit in May. NOTE: You will be required to take the AP exam at the end of this course.

Advanced Placement Chemistry (Elective)NOTE: Course will not be offered in 2011-2012; course will be offered again in 2012-2013

Grades: 11-12

Length of course: 2 quarters

Prerequisites: Biology, Chemistry, Advanced Algebra, signed AP Contract.

Description: The AP Chemistry course is a course designed for those who wish to pursue college credit in chemistry by taking the AP exam. Course topics include: Atomic theory, Chemical Bonding, Nuclear chemistry, Gas laws, kinetic-molecular theory, Solutions, Reaction types (oxidation-reduction, acid-base, precipitation), Equilibrium, Kinetics, Stoichiometry, Thermodynamics, and basic Organic chemistry. These topics will be learned at an enhanced level in the following regards: 1) Quantitative calculation of chemical quantities. 2) Quantitative laboratories. 3) Detailed recordkeeping of all labs in a laboratory notebook. Students must be prepared to devote substantial time and effort to this course outside of school. NOTE: You will be required to take the AP exam at the end of this course.

SOCIAL STUDIES

Civics (Required)

Grades: 9

Length of course: 1 quarter

Prerequisites: None

Description: The course is designed to offer students a comprehensive study of the United States governmental and political systems and will use the Declaration of Independence, the Constitution and the Bill of Rights as a framework to understand how American government is organized. The students will become familiar with political parties and the voting process, the historical foundations of American democracy, comparing political systems, the system of federalism, the rights of citizens, the federal legislative branch, the federal executive branch, the federal judicial branch and state and local governments. Also, through a variety of activities, students will become knowledgeable about current national and world events.

Early American History (Required)

Grades: 9

Length of course: 1 quarter

Prerequisites: None

Description: This course will provide students with the analytical skills and factual knowledge necessary to critically examine American History. Students will learn about the political, social, and economic history of the United States and will develop an appreciation for the many groups of people who have contributed to the rich history of our country through the nineteenth century.

Modern United States History (Required)

Grades: 10

Length of course: 2 quarters

Prerequisites: Civics & Early American History

Description: In this course the turning points in 20th century American History and civic participation are taught. Students will study: the United States' emergence as a world power, the Roaring 20's and the Great Depression of the 1930's, World War II, the Cold War, and the social and political changes from the 1950's to the present.

World Studies (Required)

Grades: 11

Length of course: 2 quarters

Prerequisites: Civics & Early American History and Modern United States History

Description: World studies students investigate areas of the world both past and present using interdisciplinary approaches. Students use concepts and methods from history, anthropology, sociology, political science, geography and economics to learn about cultures other than our own. Students will also be encouraged to analyze current international issues from a variety of view points using skills they learn and practice in the course.

Geography (Required)

Grades: 12

Length of course: 1 quarter

Prerequisites: Civics & Early American History and Modern United States History

Description: This course builds on global knowledge in three areas: political geography, physical geography, and human geography. The course centers on the five major themes of geography. Given that framework, students will develop an understanding of the influence the physical earth has on cultural and political structures as well as the impact of human behavior.

Economics (Required)

Grades: 12

Length of course: 1 quarter

Prerequisites: Civics & Early American History and Modern United States History

Description: This course emphasizes the definition of economics as the study of choices people make with their resources. In this class students will be exposed to the issues caused by a world full of unlimited wants and limited resources. Students will also recognize economics as a diverse field seen differently from all over the globe. In addition to core concepts of the discipline, students will learn basic, but often overlooked components such as: the importance of credit, how to balance a checkbook, and the significance of interest rates.

Sociology (Elective)

NOTE: Course will not be offered in 2011-2012; course will be offered again in 2012-13 in a 3-year rotation with Psychology and Art History thereafter.

Grades 11-12

Length of course: 1 quarter

Prerequisites: Modern United States History or World Studies

Description: This introductory elective course examines the ways people interact and relate to one another in society. Students will develop a sociological perspective as they analyze society through the three sociological paradigms. Specific topics covered will include: culture, socialization, social interaction, groups and organizations, deviance, race and ethnicity, relationships and gender.

Psychology (Elective)

NOTE: Course will be offered in 2011-12, then in a 3-year rotation with Sociology and Art History thereafter.

Grades 11-12

Length of course: 1 quarter

Prerequisites: none

Description: This course is designed to introduce the student to a survey of current topics in psychology: historical background, sensation and perception, emotions, learning, developmental psychology, motivation, personality and abnormal behavior.

Art History (Elective)

NOTE: Course will be offered in 2011-2012; then will be offered again in a 3-year rotation with Psychology and Sociology thereafter.

Grades 11-12

Length of course: 2 quarters

Prerequisites: World Studies or AP European History

Description: This elective course attempts to understand social, political, and cultural history as context for visual art. In contemplation, observation, and practice- students will learn to see the power of art, its impact on history, art's meaning, and art's legacy. Students will spend 8-9 weeks learning the history of art, then 8-9 weeks learning the artistic technique and developing works of art with a culminating art show at the end of the semester.

Advanced Placement European History (Elective)

NOTE: Course will be offered in 2011-12 and on an every-other-year basis thereafter.

Grades: 11-12

Length of course: 3 quarters

Prerequisites: Civics, Early American History, Modern United States History or Advanced Placement United States History, signed AP Contract

Description: The study of European history since 1450 introduces students to cultural, economic, political, and social developments that played a fundamental role in shaping the world in which we live. In addition to providing a basic narrative of events and movements, the goals of the AP program in European History are to develop a) an understanding of some of the principal themes in modern European history, b) an ability to analyze historical evidence and historical interpretations, and c) an ability to express historical understanding in writing. NOTE: You will be required to take the AP exam at the end of this course.

Advanced Placement United States History (Elective)

NOTE: Course will not be offered in 2011-2012; course will be offered again in 2012-2013.

Grades: 11-12

Length of course: 3 quarters

Prerequisites: Civics. Signed AP Contract.

Description: Advanced Placement U.S. History is the equivalent to an introductory college course in U.S. History. It will provide students with the analytical skills and factual knowledge necessary to deal critically with materials and challenges in U.S. history. Topics span colonization through society and culture at the end of the 20th century. In addition to learning historical content, students will be trained in analyzing and interpreting primary and secondary sources and expressing their historical understanding in writing. NOTE: You will be required to take the AP exam at the end of this course.

TEXTILES

Textile Sampler

Grades: 9-12

Length of Course: 1 quarter

Prerequisites: None

Description: Students will learn about concepts and technique in weaving, felting, dyeing and embroidery. They will study textiles from various cultures as well as traditional and contemporary materials through the use of hands-on samples, digital images, and books drawn from Textile Center's library. This segment will emphasize process rather than product and students will be encouraged to explore techniques, materials, and design elements. Students will be encouraged to share their sample works with one another and keep a design journal about ideas they tried and results they observed. Student's work will be presented at the culmination of grant in March of 2012 promoted through the Textile Center and MSSPA.

Costume Design: DANCE

Grades: 9-12

Length of Course: 1 quarter

Prerequisites: None

Description: Students will learn about the role of the costumer and the creative process that moves from concept to fitting a finished costume. They will discuss the role the designer, the choreographer and the choreography influencing the costume designs. Students will be introduced to the basic concepts of period costume and costume history. Students will also learn the four basic steps to costuming; concept, pattern, construction and fitting. They will design and make costumes for a piece in the fall dance concert. Other presentational events will also occur through promotion of the Textile Center and MSSPA.

Costume design: THEATRE

Grades: 9-12

Length of Course: 1 quarter

Prerequisites: None

Description: Students will learn about the role of the costumer and the creative process that moves from concept to fitting a finished costume. They will discuss the role the designer, script and director play in influencing the costume designs. Students will be introduced to the basic concepts of period costume and costume history. Students will also learn the four basic steps to costuming; concept, pattern, construction and fitting. They will design and make costumes to be used for several works presented in No Shame. Other presentational events will also occur through promotion of the Textile Center and MSSPA.

THEATRE

Unscripted Theatre 1

Grades: 9-11

Length of course: 1 quarter

Prerequisites: None

Description: Students learn and practice the fundamental rules of improvisation through a variety of improvisational experiences. The rules and styles of improvisation are discussed and practical applications are applied to work on stage.

Unscripted Theatre 2

Grades: 9-12

Length of course: 1 quarter

Prerequisites: Unscripted Theatre 1

Description: Students review and practice the fundamental rules of improvisation. Both short and long form improvisation is studied. Students explore how improvisation can be more than humor and jokes. This class will draw on those skills to create original sketches which will be used for a final performance.

Voice and Diction 1

Grades: 9-10

Length of course: 1 quarter

Prerequisites: None

Description: Students learn the basic foundation of how a performer's voice works, and why it doesn't. The connection between breathing, relaxation, physical health, and vocal production are explored. The mind/body connection is the key in how to use your body and not hurt your voice. Connections to all areas of performance are addressed.

Voice & Diction 2

Grades: 10-11

Length of course: 1 quarter

Prerequisites: Voice and Diction 1

Description: Voice and Diction 2 emphasizes dialect, verse and the actor's voice on stage. Proper technique, placement and care of the voice are the main focus. The student performs several monologues and scenes in Irish, Standard British, Cockney, American Southern and New York dialect, as well as the rhyming and blank verse of Shakespeare and Moliere.

Theatre Movement 1

Grades: 9-10

Length of course: 1 quarter

Prerequisites: None

Description: This course focuses on using the body to communicate. Students will heighten their observation skills, attention to detail, and their ability to work collectively as a group. This class also requires students to be physically active as they participate in daily physical exercises, such as running, and an occasional team sport. *(This course meets the Physical Education requirement).*

Theatre Movement 2

Grades: 10-11

Length of course: 1 quarter

Prerequisites: Theatre Movement 1

Description: Movement based theatre is explored. This class strives to connect a sense of control to the actor's body as they work through some of the more physically demanding things required from actor: Period Style Acting, Mime or Mask work and Stage Combat.

Precision and control are the goals and an open exploration and expansion of what an actor's body can do.

Acting I

Grades: 9

Length of course: 2 quarters

Prerequisites: None

Description: Script analysis, cold reading, character exploration, auditions, scene work, monologues, and making choices in theatre are the core of the acting curriculum. Acting one lays the ground work and vocabulary for the serious acting student. Self discovery and stage fundamentals lay the foundation of this class.

Acting 2

Grades: 10

Length of course: 2 quarters

Prerequisites: Acting 1

Description: A multi-dimensional look at scene study and relationships in theatre. Students will spend more time dissecting scripts and looking at multi-media performances. The students will begin to examine how the actor is simultaneously the character and ones self. We will use the tools we have gathered in Acting I to assist us in creating believable characters on stage.

Acting 3

Grades: 11

Length of course: 2 quarters

Prerequisites: Acting 1, Acting 2

Description: Using techniques and processes learned in Acting II, students create work using their unique artistic process which incorporates in depth scene study, monologue work and physical vocal and emotional connections. Students will create original works as well as strive to further their scripted repertoire as they prepare for college auditions.

Acting 4

Grades: 12

Length of course: 2 quarters

Prerequisites: Acting 1, Acting 2, Acting 3

Description: This is the capstone class for the serious actor. In Acting IV we deal with the other mediums actors work in such as film and television. Acting for the camera and how that differs from our work on stage is discussed. Serious attention is paid to audition technique, interview skills and getting the job. The serious students will gain insight from outside speakers and working professionals from Minneapolis Theatres. They will also create a showcase of material that will be presented to a public audience, including invited guests from the Minneapolis Theatre Community

Acting Ensemble

Grades: **By audition only. Auditions in the Spring of 2011. Audition Information:** Students will interested in this class will perform an original monologue about a social issue that is important to them. Issues can range from peer pressure and bullying to individuality and social justice. Monologues should be no longer than 90 second in length. Student should also write a short paragraph describing a point in their life when they performed a selfless act.

Length of course: 4 quarters

Prerequisites: Acting 1, Acting 2

Description: In this year long course the Acting Ensemble students will create a touring show that will travel to Middle Schools and High Schools to raise awareness of an issue facing teenagers. They will begin with researching a topic of importance, inviting guests from the community that deal with these issues to speak at our school, and then writing and rehearsing this 30 minute show. The Acting Ensemble will tour this show second and third quarters as well as organizing and participating in other MSSPA community events.

Directing

Grades: 12

Length of course: 2 quarters

Prerequisites: Acting 1, Acting 2, Acting 3

Description: In Directing, students begin to look at work onstage from the other side. Students learn how to create tension and emotion from blocking and tempo, how to dissect a script down intoactable moments, and the art of communication and collaboration. The Directing students will work in tandem with the Acting Ensemble students and be the guiding force, directing their tour and helping to book their performances.

History of Film

Grades: 9-12

Length of course: 1 quarter

Prerequisites: None

Description: How is a film put together to tell a story? What techniques are used to aid the storyteller that are only available in film? In History of Film, the student will learn how to take a film apart and critique it from both an artistic and technical point of view. Terminology and some basic hands-on work are addressed in working with a camera, angles, shots and digital editing. The course focuses on the art of visual communication and how we as performing artists can tell our stories through this medium.

Exploration on a Global Stage

Grades: 10-12

Length of course: 1 quarter

Prerequisites: None

Description: The theatre that a culture creates says something about its people's lives, how they lived and what they believed. Students explore theatre through a global lens. How does Eastern Theatre differ from Western Theatre? At what points are they the same? What can be brought into our craft by exploring how other cultures and communities express themselves in theatre, drama, ritual and ceremony?

Senior Creation and Performance Lab

Grades: 12

Length of course: 1 quarter

Prerequisites: Senior, Theatre majors only

Description: Students will create and prepare a final performance to be presented at an external venue, including all aspects of production. Students will work alone and in groups to create a performance synthesizing all elements of their artistic learning while at MSSPA.

WORLD LANGUAGES

Spanish I (Elective)

Grades: 9-12

Length of course: 2 quarters

Prerequisites: None

Description: Introduction to the study of the Spanish language and cultures through reading and storytelling. Focus on oral communication (speaking and listening), written communication (reading and writing), and the cultures of the Spanish-speaking world.

Spanish II (Elective)

Grades: 9-12

Length of course: 2 quarters

Prerequisites: Spanish I

Description: Continuing study of the Spanish language and cultures through reading and storytelling. Focus on oral communication (speaking and listening), written communication (reading and writing), and the cultures of the Spanish-speaking world.

Spanish III (Elective)

Grades: 10-12

Length of course: 2 quarters

Prerequisites: Spanish II

Description: Continuing study of the Spanish language and cultures through reading and storytelling. Focus on oral communication (speaking and listening), written communication (reading and writing), and the cultures of the Spanish-speaking world. NOTE: This course may be offered at the same time and in the same classroom as Spanish IV depending on demand.

Spanish IV (Elective)

Grades: 10-12

Length of course: 2 quarters

Prerequisites: Spanish III

Description: Continuing study of the Spanish language through the reading of different genres of literature and studying the history of various Spanish-speaking countries. Focus on oral communication (speaking and listening), written communication (reading and writing), and the cultures of the Spanish-speaking world.

Spanish V (Elective)

Grades: 10-12

NOTE: This course may be offered as an Independent Study with teacher agreement. Please speak to the Spanish teacher for details.

Prerequisites: Spanish IV

Description: Continuing study of the Spanish language through the reading of different genres of literature and studying the history of various Spanish-speaking countries. Focus on oral communication (speaking and listening), written communication (reading and writing), and the cultures of the Spanish-speaking world.

Appendix A: Admission requirements for Minnesota Colleges and Universities

The courses listed below are the **MINIMUM** entrance requirements for colleges and universities. Completion of these requirements does not guarantee entrance into any post-secondary institution. Other post-secondary applicants often exceed these requirements and are competing for entrance into the same colleges and universities. In order to remain competitive, MSSPA's students are **strongly encouraged** to surpass the minimum requirements. These requirements are a summary of college entrance requirements. Contact the individual college for specific requirements.

MINNESOTA STATE UNIVERSITIES

- **Four years of English** (8 credits)
- **Three years of Mathematics** (6 credits, through Advanced Algebra or Pre-Calculus)
- **Three years of Science** (6 credits, 2 credits of Physical Science, 2 credits of Biological Science, and 2 credits of another Lab Science such as Chemistry or Physics)
- **Three years of Social Studies** (6 credits, 2 credits of US History, 2 credits of Geography or a combination of courses incorporating geographic studies)
- **Two years of a single World Language** (4 credits)
- **One year of either World Cultures or Fine Arts** (2 credits)
- **ACT or SAT Required**

MINNESOTA TECHNICAL & COMMUNITY COLLEGES

- High school diploma is required with course work in English, Math, Science, and Social Studies
- Placement tests will be administered to all incoming students
- No ACT or SAT required
- Students planning to transfer to four year institutions need to meet the high school preparation requirements of these institutions before transferring

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA (TWIN CITIES, MORRIS, AND DULUTH)

- **Four years of English** (8 credits)
- **Three years of Mathematics** (6 credits, through Advanced Algebra or Pre-Calculus)
- **Three years of Science** (6 credits, 2 credits of Physical Science, 2 credits of Biological Science, and 2 credits of another Lab Science such as Chemistry or Physics)
- **Three years of Social Studies** (6 credits)
- **Two years of a single World Language** (4 credits, 6 credits recommended for CLA)
- **One year of Visual or Performing Arts** (2 credits)
- **ACT with Writing or SAT Required**

MINNESOTA PRIVATE COLLEGES

- **Four years of English** (8 credits)
- **Three years of Mathematics** (6 credits, through Advanced Algebra or Pre-Calculus)
- **Three years of Science** (6 credits, 2 credits of Physical Science, 2 credits of Biological Science, and 2 credits of another Lab Science such as Chemistry or Physics)
- **Three years of Social Studies** (6 credits, check individual college requirements)
- **Two years of a single World Language are strongly recommended** (4 credits, check individual college requirements)
- **Several courses in the arts**
- **ACT or SAT Required**

Students who are interested in going to a four-year school may consider taking:

- (1) The PLAN in their sophomore year
- (2) The PSAT (Preliminary Scholastic Aptitude Test) in their junior year; and
- (3) The ACT or SAT in spring of their junior year.

Note that a student's grade point average, regiment of rigorous courses taken, and ACT or SAT scores are considered in the final admission decision. If a student is missing an admission requirement, contact the admissions department of the specific college or university.

Appendix B: Advanced Placement Contract

MSSPA Advanced Placement Course Contract

- You must fill out separate contract for each Advanced Placement Course
- If a completed contract is not turned in, you will not be accepted into the course
- Each contract requires a student and parent signature
- All students are expected to take the AP exam for each course in which they are enrolled.

Name: _____

Advanced Placement Course: _____

The Advanced Placement (AP) program is a cooperative educational endeavor between secondary schools and colleges and universities. It gives high school students exposure to college-level material through involvement in an AP course, and then gives them an opportunity to show what they have learned by taking an AP Exam. Colleges and universities often grant credit, placement, or both, to these students.

Participation in AP courses is the best possible preparation for success in college. A record of AP courses on a student's transcript is an indication of the student's commitment to rigorous academics. The rigorous curriculum requires more effort and homework on the part of the student. The pace of the class is faster, covering more content and in greater depth. Typically, successful AP students are task-oriented, proficient readers, able to prioritize their time, and have parental support.

General Course Expectations

- AP courses typically require approximately six hours of individual study time per week.
- Students are required to take the AP exams for all AP courses in which they are enrolled
- Due to staffing concerns, students may exit an AP course only at the end of the quarter. A student desiring to exit an AP course must also meet the following requirements:
 - Attended tutorial sessions with the teacher.
 - Attended a student/parent/teacher conference.
 - Received a grade of D or F in the course

Student Agreement

I have read the requirements, am familiar with the course expectations and accept its academic challenges. I understand that my success in this AP course is primarily my responsibility.

Student Signature

Date

Parent Agreement

I have read the requirements for this course and agree to support and encourage my son/daughter in his/her endeavors in the course. I will notify the teacher immediately of any concerns I have relating to the AP class or my child's progress.

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date

Appendix C: Chamber Singers and Advanced Ensemble Audition Requirements

Chamber Singers: This performing ensemble is meant for those who would like a challenging, yet rewarding musical experience singing higher level, more difficult literature. We will also explore some different genres of choral/vocal singing including early music (renaissance), classical, romantic, jazz, gospel, folk, world music (possibly Indian, Japanese, African, etc), and contemporary.

Advanced Ensemble: This group is meant for those who would like a challenging, yet rewarding musical experience working with other upper level musicians. We will be working on a wide variety of repertoire over the course of the year. On alternating days, we will be working on steel drum repertoire. I'm hoping to use this ensemble as the "face of instrumental music at MSSPA." Expect to perform on a regular basis.

Expectations and Requirements:

- a. Dedication and Dependability
- b. Flexibility musically and personally
- c. Cooperation with peers and positive attitude
- d. Strong and developed ear (musically)
- e. Willingness to perform in the community outside of school (with this group)
- f. Be strong leaders and mentors to other singers with a strong understanding of humility, grace, and maturity.

AUDITION REQUIREMENTS

Chamber Singers:

1. Prepare and perform a 2 min. solo (either classical art songs, Broadway, or folksong)
Nothing Pop, please. If you're not sure, ask.
2. You will be asked to do some ear training and tonal memory exercises.
 - a. You will hear a melody and then you sing it back
 - b. You will hear a triad and then you will sing either the Root, 3rd, or 5th of the chord
3. You will sight read a piece of choral literature on your voice part on a neutral syllable (la, doo, da, etc)
4. You will do a vocal range evaluation to see where you are the strongest/most comfortable singing.

Advanced Ensemble:

1. Prepare and perform a 2 min. solo.
2. You will be asked to do some sight reading.

TO ALL WHO AUDITION: Please respond in a one-page TYPED essay and bring it to your audition.

1. How will you contribute musically to Chamber Singers and/or Advanced Ensemble?
2. What has been your musical experience so far at Main Street School of Performing Arts? (If you are a new student, what has been your experience at your previous school?)
3. Describe how you are a positive ambassador for MSSPA. Be specific.
4. What do you hope to learn and how do you hope to grow as a member of this ensemble?
5. Do you have any ideas of how this group (16-25 singers or instrumentalists) could be visible in our local community?