

**USD 248**

# **Girard High School**

*2006-2007  
Course Guide*

# COURSE GUIDE

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## GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

24 Credits are Required to Graduate, and must include the following:

1. English: Four (4) English credits. Students must take one each year to meet the minimum requirements. English I; English II; English III or English III (honors); and English IV or English IV (AP).
2. Natural Science: For students graduating in May 2007, two (2) science credits are required; for students graduating thereafter, three (3) science credits are required. Courses offered in 2006 – 2007 include Life Science (formerly Applied Science), Physical Science (formerly General Science), Topics in Science, Biology, Advanced Biology, Chemistry, Anatomy & Physiology, Principles of Technology I, Principles of Technology II, Physics, and Advanced Topics in Chemistry. Course selection will depend upon factors such as the student’s abilities, past achievement, post-secondary plans, and interest in the science area.
3. Mathematics: For students graduating in May 2007, two (2) math credits are required; for students graduating thereafter, three (3) math credits are required. Courses offered in 2006 – 2007 include Applied Math, Pre-Algebra, Consumer Math, Algebra I, Geometry, Algebra II, Functions (formerly Pre-Calculus), Calculus, and Probability & Statistics (AP). Course selection will depend upon factors such as the student's math abilities, past achievement, post-secondary plans, and the student's motivation toward learning.
4. Social Science: Three (3) social science credits. Students must take World History/Geography, American History, and American Government.
5. Computer Technology: One (1) credit of Information Processing is required.
6. Physical Education & Health: One (1) credit is required.
7. Fine Arts: One (1) credit is required for students graduating May 2008 or later.

**NOTE: STUDENTS WHO WILL PLAY SPORTS AT A DIVISION I OR DIVISION II COLLEGE ALSO HAVE REQUIREMENTS THAT MUST BE MET AND SHOULD SCHEDULE A MEETING WITH THE COUNSELOR TO MAKE A PLAN TO MEET THESE REQUIREMENTS.**

| <p><b>GHS Graduation Requirements</b><br/><i>24 credits are required</i></p>                     | <p><b>Kansas Board of Regents Qualified Admissions Curric.</b><br/><i>(a minimum 2.0 GPA in the Qualified Admissions Curriculum Courses is required)</i></p>  | <p><b>Kansas Board of Regents Kansas Scholars Curriculum</b><br/><i>(required for State Scholarship, as well as Ethnic Minority and Teachers Scholarship Programs)</i></p>   |
|--|---|--|
| English - 4 credits  | English - 4 credits (English I – IV).   | English - 4 credits (English I – IV).  |
| Math - 2 credits (2007 grads) 3 credits (2008 - 2010 grads)                                      | Math - 3 credits at or above the Algebra I level (Algebra I in middle school will not count). At GHS, can include Alg. I, Geometry, Alg. II, Functions (formerly Pre-Calculus), Calculus, and Probability & Statistics. | Math - an additional credit (above the 3 credit requirement for Qual. Adm.) is required, and at GHS must include either Probability & Statistics or Calculus. We are also seeking approval for Functions (formerly Pre-Calculus) |
| Science - 2 credits (2007 grads) 3 credits (2008 - 2010 grads)                                   | Science - 3 credits. At GHS, can include Biology, Advanced Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Anatomy & Physiology, PT I and PT II, but <b>at least one credit must be in Chemistry or Physics.</b>                           | Science - 3 credits, which must include Biology, Chemistry and Physics. It is recommended students have a 4th science credit.  |
| Social Science - 3 credits (World History/Geography, American History, and American Government). | Social Science - 3 credits (GHS graduation requirements fulfill this requirement).  | Social Science - 3 credits (GHS graduation requirements fulfill this requirement).   |
| Computer Technology - Requires one credit of Information Processing.                             | Computer Technology - Requires one credit of Computer Applications.   | Computer Technology - Requires one credit of Computer Applications.  |
| Physical Education and Health - one credit required.   |   |  |
| Fine Arts - one credit required.   |   |  |
|  | Foreign Language - two credits of the same foreign language is recommended.   | Foreign Language - two credits of the same foreign language is required.   |

# COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

**LANGUAGE ARTS:** *(At least one unit of English must be taken each year of high school - 4 Credits Required for Graduation)*

**English I (QA)** - In this freshman class, students will concentrate on literature and writing. Vocabulary will also be studied throughout the year. During the literature segments, students will thoroughly study and analyze a drama, a novel, short stories, a poem, and an excerpt of a novel in terms of literary techniques to gain an appreciation of different types of literature. During the writing segments, students will review grammar and mechanics and work on the writing process from the different types of paragraphs to a research report.

**English II (QA)** – In this sophomore class, students will concentrate on literature and writing, along with improving vocabulary skills. In the literature section, students will study and analyze short stories, a drama, a novel, and poetry, in terms of literary techniques in order to gain an appreciation in these areas. In the writing section, students will practice skills and techniques in order to improve on the writing process in compositions and journals.

**English III (QA)** - By design, it is an integrated junior level English course with study directed toward students understanding and appreciating literature; developing descriptive, expository, narrative, and persuasive writing skills; and enhancing vocabulary. PREREQUISITE: Successful completion of English I and English II.

**English III (Honors) (QA)** - By design, it is an advanced, integrated junior level English course for upper level language arts students with study directed toward students understanding and appreciating literature; developing descriptive, expository, narrative and persuasive writing skills; and enhancing vocabulary. PREREQUISITE: Successful completion of English I & II, with an A in English II for at least one semester. Students enrolling in this course are also required to complete a writing assessment for composition skills evaluation to determine appropriateness of placement.

**English IV (QA)** - A senior level class designed to prepare students for introductory college English courses. This course will focus on structural techniques for composition writing; research and reference skills necessary in writing a major research paper; basic mechanical and vocabulary skills necessary for developing narrative, expository, descriptive, and technical writing; and short assignments representing critical thinking and analysis skills used in examining literary works. PREREQUISITES: Successful completion of English I, English II, and English III.

**English IV-AP (QA)** - An advanced senior level class, designed to prepare the college-bound student for introductory college English. This course will focus on structural techniques for composition writing; research and reference skills necessary in writing a major research paper; basic mechanical and vocabulary skills necessary for developing narrative, expository, descriptive, and technical writing; and short assignments representing critical thinking and analysis skills used in examining literary works. PREREQUISITES: Successful completion of English I, English II, and an A for at least one semester of English III.

**Modern Literature** - Students will analyze significant modern literature with universal themes, including writings by women, ethnic minorities, young adults, and literature translated from foreign languages. Students will be challenged to write frequently on related topics in the form of analytical essays, creative writing, and short assignments representing critical thinking. PREREQUISITES: Successful completion of English III for seniors; an A average in English II for juniors. Open to students in grades 11 and 12 who meet the prerequisites.

**Communication** - Students enrolled in Communication will write and edit news for publication weekly in the *Girard Press*, on the *Trojan Tribune* page and for the online edition on the girard248.org web site. Students should have strong writing skills, be self-directed, and be above average and college bound. Enrollment is limited, open to seniors only, and must have prior approval of the instructor.

**SCIENCE:** (2 Credits Required for Class of 2007 for Graduation) (3 Credits Required for Class of 2008 – 2010 for Graduation)

| Course Sequence                     | 9th | 10th | 11th | 12th | Prerequisites                 |
|-------------------------------------|-----|------|------|------|-------------------------------|
| Life Science (formerly Applied)     | X   |      |      |      |                               |
| Physical Science (formerly General) | X   |      |      |      |                               |
| Topics in Science                   |     |      | X    |      | Staff Recommendation          |
| Biology                             | X   |      |      |      |                               |
| Principles of Technology I          | X   |      |      |      | Algebra I                     |
| Principles of Technology II         |     | X    |      |      | Principles of Technology I    |
| Chemistry                           |     | X    |      |      | Algebra I, and Biology or PTI |
| Advanced Biology                    |     | X    |      |      | Biology                       |
| Anatomy and Physiology              |     |      | X    |      | Biology                       |
| Physics                             |     |      | X    |      | Algebra II                    |
| Advanced Topics in Chemistry        |     |      | X    |      | Chemistry                     |

**X - earliest recommended enrollment**

**Life Science** (formerly Applied Science) - An introductory class designed for the freshman or sophomore student. Topics to be covered include: methods of science, scientific inquiry, introduction to chemistry and basic life science. Open to students in grades 9 – 12.

**Physical Science** (formerly General Science) - An introductory class focusing on physical science intended to satisfy one of the three science requirements for graduation. The course will consist of application of the scientific method, use of the SI system of measurement, working problems using the basic laws of physics, an introduction to chemistry, and a study of the different forms of energy. Open to students in grades 9 – 12.

**Topics in Science** - This general science course is offered to Junior and Senior students only. Successful completion will allow students to earn credit towards high school graduation requirements. The course will explore science in personal and environmental perspectives. Topics to be addressed include: the human body, health and wellness, nutrition, ecology and the environment. Emphasis will be placed on current events in science and the relationship between science and society. PREREQUISITES: Open to students in grades 11 and 12, **but only with staff recommendation**.

**Principles of Technology I (QA)** - An applied physics course consisting of five units of study, targeting the principles of force, work, rate, resistance and power. Each of the unifying concepts is applied to mechanical, fluid, thermal, and electrical energy systems. Each unit includes the mathematics to understand and apply scientific principles. Format is varied to include video, lecture, guided practice, and laboratory exercises. Special projects in bridge building, car design, and rocketry are incorporated throughout the year. PREREQUISITES: Sophomore or above standing & minimum “C” in Algebra I. (Freshman can obtain teacher approval to enroll in PTI with an “A” in 8th grade science and “B” or above in Algebra I). Open to students in grades 9 – 12 who meet the Prerequisites.

***Principles of Technology II (QA)*** - An extension of the Principles of Technology I course. This upper level applied physics course includes the study of five additional concepts: energy, force transformers, momentum, waves and vibrations, and energy converters. The format follows the guidelines outlined in the Principles of Technology I course, with special projects designed each year to meet the needs and interests of those enrolled. PREREQUISITE: Successful completion of Principles of Technology I. Open to students in grades 10 – 12 who meet the Prerequisites.

***Biology (QA)*** – Typically, a sophomore course on fundamental principles and processes of life as found in animals and plants, particularly the cell and its functions. Recommended for the college bound student, especially for those having an interest in career choices in a related field. This class will be taught on an upper-biology level. Freshman may obtain approval to enroll in this course with an “A” in 8th grade science, “B” or better in Algebra I, and if class openings are available. Otherwise, open to students in grades 10 – 12.

***Chemistry (QA)*** – The study of the composition, structures, properties of matter and the changes it undergoes. Chemistry is primarily a laboratory science. Students spend a great deal of time observing chemical and physical phenomena, lab investigations, research, and discovery experiences. Major topics include: matter and change, measurements and calculators, atomic theory, electron arrangement, periodic law, chemical bonding, chemical formulas and reactions. Highly recommended for the college bound sophomore, junior or senior. PREREQUISITES: minimum “C” in Algebra I and either Biology or P.T. I. Open to students in grades 10 – 12 who meet the Prerequisites.

***Physics (QA)*** - A physical science dealing with matter and energy and their transformations. The principles and laws of force, motion, heat, and electricity will be studied. The theory of matter and wave motion will also be presented. PREREQUISITES: Algebra II and proficiency with either the TI-81 or TI-85 calculator. Open to students in grades 11 and 12.

***Advanced Biology (QA)*** – An advanced lecture and laboratory course involving a study of the major areas of Biology. Topics include advanced cell biology, genetics, microbiology, virology, biotechnology, field biology and botany. PREREQUISITES: minimum “C” in Biology. Open to students in grades 10 – 12 who meet the Prerequisites.

***Anatomy and Physiology (QA)*** - An advanced level biology course that involves a detailed study of the structure and function of the human body. Emphasis is placed on the increasing complexity of cells, tissues, organs, and organ systems. Class time is divided between lecture and laboratory activities, including dissection of specimens. This class is for serious students, especially those who are college bound and interested in pursuing careers in the health fields. PREREQUISITES: Open to students in grades 11 and 12 who have successfully completed Biology and Chemistry (or are concurrently enrolled in Chemistry).

***Advanced Topics in Chemistry*** – Advanced lecture and laboratory course involving a study of the major areas of Chemistry. Topics include acid-based titrations, reaction energy and kinetics, chemical equilibrium, oxidation reduction reactions, and intermediate organic chemistry. PREREQUISITES: minimum “C” in Chemistry. Open to students in grades 11 and 12 who meet the Prerequisites.

**MATHEMATICS:** (2 Credits Required for Class of 2007 for Graduation) (3 Credits Required for Class of 2008 – 2010 for Graduation)

| Course Sequence            | 8th | 9th | 10th | 11th | 12th | Prerequisites             |
|----------------------------|-----|-----|------|------|------|---------------------------|
| Applied Math               |     | X   |      |      |      |                           |
| Pre-Algebra                |     | X   | X    |      |      |                           |
| Consumer Math              |     |     |      | X    | X    | Staff Recommendation Only |
| Algebra I                  | X   | X   | X    |      |      |                           |
| Geometry                   |     | X   | X    | X    |      | Algebra I                 |
| Algebra II                 |     |     | X    | X    | X    | Algebra I and Geometry    |
| Functions (Pre-Calculus)   |     |     |      | X    | X    | Geometry and Algebra II   |
| Calculus                   |     |     |      |      | X    | Functions (Pre-Calculus)  |
| Probabilities & Statistics |     |     |      |      | X    | Algebra II (Seniors Only) |

Note 1: If a student fails either semester of any math class, they will be required to repeat the entire year of that class before taking the next sequential math class.

Note 2: If a student has passed Algebra I, then that student may NOT enroll in Applied Math, Pre-Algebra or Consumer Math without teacher recommendation and administration approval.

Note 3: Incoming Freshman may only take Applied Math, Pre-Algebra, Algebra I or Geometry so long as they have met the prerequisites.

Note 4: A Sophomore, Junior or Senior may enroll in Geometry and Algebra II in the same year ONLY with permission of the instructors.

**Applied Math** - Designed to strengthen math skills for success in upper level mathematics. A study of arithmetic, with attention to basic skills and structure, as well as development of the real number system. ITEMS REQUIRED: Scientific Calculator, Protractor and Compass.

**Pre-Algebra** - This course prepares students to enter the study of Algebra I. The focus of the course is building the foundation necessary for success in the study of algebra and is designed to move the student from concrete thinking with numbers to more abstract thinking with variables. Topics include evaluation of expressions, operations with integers, decimals, operations with rational numbers, equations and inequalities, graphing of linear equations, and area and volume formula. ITEMS REQUIRED: Scientific Calculator.

**Consumer Math** - The Purpose of this course is to equip the student with the basic mathematical skills necessary to function in a modern society. The course will include practice with fractions, decimals and percents, basic computation, estimating, solving simple equations, measurement, area and volume, income, record keeping, checking and savings accounts, charge accounts, loans, insurance, investments, sales, marketing, accounting, and financial management. Enrollment in this class will be by staff recommendation only. ITEMS REQUIRED: Scientific Calculator.

**Algebra I (QA)** - Study of basic arithmetic combinations, patterns and problem solving as they are apply to unknown values, with emphasis on graphing as a visual connection. Develops the basic algebraic skills necessary for advanced math classes. ITEMS REQUIRED: Scientific Calculator

**Geometry (QA)**- Study of basic geometrical properties and their logical application to geometrical figures. Further development of logic in both mathematical and non mathematical situations to understand geometric figures and their uses and to develop powers of spatial visualization. PREREQUISITE: Algebra I. ITEMS REQUIRED: Scientific Calculator, Protractor and Compass

**Algebra II (QA)**- Advanced study of Algebra I and Geometry concepts with emphasis on graphic representation. Includes analytic geometry, trigonometry and advanced problem solving skills. Recommended for the college bound student. PREREQUISITES: Algebra I and Geometry (students who have not completed Geometry but want to take Algebra II must obtain written permission from the Math Department).

**Functions (formerly Pre-Calculus) (QA)** - Study of problem solving using analytic geometry and the trigonometric functions. Continuation of previously studied topics and introduction to limits and other calculus concepts. Students must routinely use a graphing computer to explore and solve real world problems. PREREQUISITES: Algebra I, Algebra II, and Geometry.

**Calculus (QA)** - Study of differential and integral calculus emphasizing concepts and applications to real world situations, review of functions, analytic geometry, and limits. Seniors Only. PREREQUISITES: Algebra I, Algebra II, Geometry, and Pre-Calculus (now known as Functions).

**Probability & Statistics (AP) (QA)** - A senior introductory course studying data collection, analysis and methods of statistical inference. Topics will include frequency distributions, measures of central tendency, probability, sampling distributions, t-test and chi-square tests, and correlation coefficients. PREREQUISITES: Algebra II and competency with a TI-85 calculator. Open to seniors only.

## **SOCIAL SCIENCE: (3 Credits Required for Graduation)**

**World History/Geography (QA)** - Designed for freshmen or sophomores, this course is a combination of World History and Geography with emphasis placed on physical, cultural, and historical significance of all world countries. REQUIRED.

**American History (QA)** - Study in chronological record, major events shaping United States' post-Civil War development, particularly the development of political, economic, industrial and social institutions comprising American culture. REQUIRED for juniors.

**American Government (QA)** - The study of American government's organization and functions emphasizing the fundamentals in the U.S. Constitution and citizen participation in the political process. American and world economics will also be studied. REQUIRED for seniors.

**American Government AP (QA)** - The study of American government's organization and functions emphasizing the fundamentals in the U.S. Constitution and citizen participation in the political process. American and world economics will also be studied. This course is for students who are college bound and are willing to do more reading and research. Students must have teacher's permission before enrolling in this course.

## **BUSINESS AND COMPUTER TECHNOLOGY: (1 credit of Information Processing Required for Graduation)**

**Information Processing** – Students will continue to improve previously acquired keyboarding techniques. Introduces business formatting of letters, memos, reports, tables, desktop publishing, and various software applications on word processors. Proofreading/editing documents, improving listening skills, reviewing basic grammar rules, following directions, word processing for speed & accuracy, and checkbook and career units are included. REQUIRED FOR ALL FRESHMEN.

**Computer Applications I/II (QA)** - Students will learn to use the computer as a tool for many tasks they may encounter in a business setting. Areas to be taught include ethics, operating systems, word processing review, and creating and presenting PowerPoint presentations. In the second semester, students use advanced computer technology that may be encountered in business. Database, spreadsheets, graphs, desktop publishing, internet research, and multimedia are introduced. PREREQUISITES: minimum "C" in Information Processing. Open to students in grades 10 – 12 who meet the Prerequisites.

**Multimedia** - Students work with digital cameras and camcorders to produce school videos, sports rosters, and sports pictures with advanced software such as PhotoShop and iMovie. Requires written permission from instructor. PREREQUISITES: Minimum "B" in Computer Applications I & II and English II. Open to Juniors and Seniors only who meet the Prerequisites.

**Advanced Multimedia** - A second year course designed to expand beyond the beginning level of Multimedia. Students will work more with design and special projects. Requires written permission from instructor. PREREQUISITES: Minimum "B" in Multimedia. Open only to students in 12<sup>th</sup> Grade who meet the Prerequisites.

**Accounting I** - Students will study entry level accounting, handle personal business applications, be introduced to accounting terms, and learn more about careers in the area of finance. PREREQUISITES: Minimum "C" in Algebra I. Open to students in grades 11 and 12 who meet the Prerequisites. Workbook \$10-\$20 charge.

**Computerized Accounting II/III** - This course will prepare students to study accounting at a post secondary level or enter the job force in beginning levels. Students will complete one review cycle of accounting by hand during the first semester. The second semester will be devoted to automated activities. PREREQUISITES: Accounting I. Workbook \$15 - \$20 charge. Open to students in 12<sup>th</sup> Grade who meet the Prerequisites.

**Desktop Publishing (Yearbook) I (Jr's) II (Sr's)** - Students will learn and demonstrate desktop publishing techniques and complete a style manual and a senior memory book, complete with printouts, duplication and assembly. The high school yearbook will be sent to the Josten's plant for assembly. Scanning photos and negatives and placing them into professional layouts are a part of this class. Requires written permission from instructor. PREREQUISITE: minimum "B" in Computer Applications I/II and English II (for Juniors) and English III (for Seniors). Open to students in grades 11 and 12 who meet the Prerequisites.

**In-House Training** - Designed to let the students perform duties as employees in live production work from community and school based projects in a company simulated setup within the classroom. Required written permission from Instructor. PREREQUISITE: Computer Applications I/II, and Accounting I or Multimedia.

## **PHYSICAL EDUCATION:** *(1 Credit of Physical Education & Health Required for Graduation)*

**Physical Education & Health (P.E.)** - A freshman level course in the development of physical fitness and maintenance through participation in various activities: rhythms unit, movement skills, team activities, fitness concepts, exercise program with calisthenics, weight training, and skill testing. Emphasis is placed on understanding the importance of physical health and hygiene. Units of instruction include first aid, CPR training, and a Healthy Living Curriculum. REQUIRED for Graduation.

**Strength and Conditioning** - Designed specifically for female athletes in grades 10-12 to develop muscular strength, endurance, power, speed, and flexibility through plyometrics, weight training, agility drills, and endurance activities. Enhances performance and will improve physical development. Will not replace Physical Education & Health credit.

**Sports Fitness** - This course is designed for male students and male athletes grades 10-12 receiving extensive weight training, plyometrics, and other conditioning skilled areas. The importance of physical training and positive health awareness will be stressed. Will not replace Physical Education & Health credit.

**Lifetime Sports** - This course is open to students in grades 10-12 only. Emphasis will be placed on fitness and team, dual and individual sports with carryover value and lifetime benefits. Activities may include bowling, tennis, table tennis, fencing, archery, CPR instruction, outdoor sports, and rules and officiating of various sports. This course does not replace the credit requirement for Physical Education & Health.

## **FINE ARTS:** *(1 Credit Required for Graduation Beginning with the Class of 2008)*

**Art I** - An introduction to art as a process and form of communication. Students will learn composition through the elements and principles of design. Class projects will include but not be limited to intensive drawing, painting, sculpture/ceramics and printmaking. Open to students in grades 9 – 12.

**Art 2-D** – In Semester one, students will concentrate on the study of 2-dimensional art forms. Projects will include but will not be limited to drawing, painting, and printmaking. Students will be responsible for an active sketchbook and research projects. In Semester two, students will concentrate on improving technique and skill levels in drawing and painting. Students will be dealt with on more of an individual basis focusing on a higher level of achievement in drawing, painting, and printmaking. PREREQUISITES: Art I; open to students in grades 10 – 12 who meet the Prerequisites.

**Art 3-D** – In Semester one, students will work on intermediate clay projects, beginning assignments in wood carving, sculpture through wire, paper mache, plaster of paris and found objects. Although the primary focus for this class is on building sculptures, sketchbooks and research reports will be incorporated into the grade. In Semester two, students will become further involved in the hands on experience of sculpture making. Students will be given choices of carving materials, jewelry techniques, furniture design and advanced clay projects. PREREQUISITES: Art I; open to students in grades 10 – 12 who meet the Prerequisites.

**Advanced Art** - For serious Art students willing to work more intensely on improving their artistic skill and personal style. Students will be expected to display their work publicly and to have an involvement with the art world around them. The focus of this class will be to create a strong portfolio that may be used in the future. PREREQUISITES: Art 2-D or Art 3-D, no Art grade lower than a B, and instructor's permission. Open to students in grades 11 – 12 who meet the Prerequisites.

**Band** - A performance class combining concert, pep, and marching band with emphasis on daily participation and performance participation. Students must be able and willing to play a woodwind, brass, or percussion instrument. Progress is evaluated through performances (football games, basketball games, parades, marching festivals, concerts, and contests). Accommodations are made for students participating in athletic events at which the band performs. Special Note: Twirling & Flag members are assigned to squads during marching season, afterwards they are required to play an instrument. Open to students in grades 9 – 12.

**Chorolation** - A select ensemble with admission by audition only. Selected students will have the opportunity to experience high quality choral music in a wide variety of musical styles. This ensemble will have multiple outside of school engagements and performances throughout the year. Some overnight trips may be required. Students who are successful in this ensemble are highly creative, energetic, independent, and committed to preparing and executing excellent performances. Students will also possess advanced skills in vocal technique, sight singing, ear training, and some music theory and history. All rehearsals take place before or after school. Credit awarded on an A-F scale. Students in grades 9 – 12 may audition. Preferred Corequisite: Enrollment in Chorus.

**Chorus** - Open to students who enjoy singing. The class provides opportunities to improve singing technique, work one-on-one with the director on vocal skills, perform in a group ensemble, and learn basic music reading skills. A few before/after school rehearsals may occur for performance preparation. Most music will be learned in class. Open to students in grades 9 – 12.

**Introduction to Drama** – This class provides the student with the basic fundamentals of the theatre and acting. Students will develop skills to overcome stage fright and learn how to perform in front of an audience. To do so, they will learn acting techniques including improvisation, characterization, stage movement, verbal and nonverbal delivery skills, and auditioning tips. Students will also learn about the history of theater, technical theater (lights, sound, scenery), types and genres of drama, and how to critique dramatic performances. Students will attend plays and assist with Girard High School theater productions. This is an introductory course for students who are hesitant about speaking or performing in front of others and would like to learn about drama without performing in competitions. Open to students in grades 9 – 12.

**Drama and Forensics** – In the Fall Semester, students will prepare for Spring Forensics competition by developing performances in each of the Forensics events. This includes informative speaking, persuasive speaking, duet acting, humorous and/or serious solo acting, prose and/or poetry, and improvisation. This is accomplished through theatre games, research of materials, critical thinking skills, and creative abilities. Participants must have a strong desire to perform before a group and be judged. Students are required to compete in Friday and/or Saturday Forensics Tournaments, attend practice work times, help host the local tournament, and prepare at least one memorized and one non-memorized event. Open to students in grades 9 – 12. (May be repeated with consent of the instructor.)

**Debate and Forensics** – In the Fall Semester, students will study debate theory and practice, with emphasis on research, debate skills, and tournament management. In the Spring semester, students will use critical thinking skills and their creative abilities to polish performances for interscholastic competition. Students will be required to attend debate and forensics tournaments. Designed for the serious student willing to put in extra time in the evenings and Saturdays. Students must be willing to perform before a group and be judged. Open to students in grades 9 - 12. (May be repeated for credit with permission of instructor.)

## FOREIGN LANGUAGE:

**Spanish I** - This class is designed to meet the needs of students who have had little or no experience in learning Spanish as a foreign language. Students comprehend, read, write, and memorize vocabulary dealing with daily experiences. Students participate in basic conversations in Spanish and respond to classroom instruction in Spanish. Students study the organizational structure of language, identify relationships between cultures and demonstrate an increasing awareness of civilization and customs of the target culture. Most of the instruction is in Spanish. Open to students in grades 10 – 12.

**Spanish II** - Students expand their language skills, vocabulary and knowledge of culture. A greater emphasis is placed on exposure to authentic materials found in the target culture and building vocabulary. Student's knowledge of grammar concepts in the target language includes more verb tenses and complex sentence structures. Geography, civilization and current events of the target culture are included in this class. Most of the instruction is in Spanish. PREREQUISITES: Spanish I. Open to students in grades 10 – 12 who meet the Prerequisites.

## TECHNOLOGY EDUCATION:

**Technology Investigations** – This class engages students in a variety of simulated business and real world, career oriented experiences using computers, video instruction and hands-on tools. The student experiences internet web page design, graphics editing, power point presentations, and AutoCad design, CNC mill programming, materials testing, stock market speculation, business management, and team problem solving using technology. Open to students in grades 9-12.

The **Construction Technology Education** curriculum is designed to provide a four-year continuum for students interested in construction related careers, which includes (1) Basic Construction Technology, (2) Construction Technology I, (3) Construction Technology II, and (4) Project Management. Completing the Construction Technology Program will prepare students to enter the work force or continue their education at an institution of higher learning.

**Basic Construction Technology** – This class provides students with the basic fundamentals of the construction industry. Students will learn and practice construction safety, construction math, hand tools, power tools, and blueprint reading. Students will also engage in basic hands-on construction projects related to course content. Students also have the opportunity to receive National Center for Construction Education and Research (NCCER) certification. Open to grades 9-12.

**Construction Technology I** – The class provides students the opportunity to learn and practice concepts relating to concrete construction and finishing, carpentry and residential construction, and masonry. Students also have the opportunity to receive NCCER certification. Students are required to provide a tool belt, hammer, tape measure, work cloths, and safety glasses. PREREQUISITES: Basic Construction Technology. *Open to students in grades 10–12 who meet Prerequisites.*

**Construction Technology II** – *This class will be available in the fall of 2007. PREREQUISITES: Successful completion of Basic Construction Technology and Construction Technology I. Open to students in grades 11–12 who meet Prerequisites.*

**Project Management** - *This class will be available in the fall of 2008. PREREQUISITES: Successful completion of Basic Construction Technology, Construction Technology I, and Construction Technology II. Open to students in grade 12 who meet Prerequisites.*

The **Engineering Technology** curriculum is designed to provide a three-year continuum for students interested in drafting/engineering/design related careers, which includes (1) Industrial Drafting, (2) Architectural Drafting, and (3) Mechanical Drafting. Completing the Engineering Technology Program will prepare students to enter the work force or continue their education at an institution of higher learning.

**Industrial Drafting** - Introductory course designed to provide basic drafting skills along with the knowledge necessary for understanding the principal ideas behind drafting communication. It presents basic instruction in preparing industrial working drawings using both traditional and computer-based methods. Will gain technical skills to communicate ideas in an understandable, efficient, and accurate manner. Learning activities include experimentation with designing, constructing, and testing industrial ideas. PREREQUISITES: Geometry (previous or concurrent enrollment). Open to students in grades 9 – 12 who meet the Prerequisites.

**Architectural Drafting (CADD)**- A second-year drafting course providing basic drafting skills along with information necessary for planning and designing various types of structures and dwellings. It presents basic instruction in preparing architectural working drawings using both traditional and computer-based methods. Learning activities include experimentation with designing, constructing, and testing architectural ideas. PREREQUISITES: Industrial Drafting. Open to students in grades 10 – 12 who meet the Prerequisites.

**Mechanical Engineering (CADD)** - A third-year drafting course designed to teach advanced drafting skills along with the knowledge necessary for understanding the more complex ideas behind drafting communication. Drawings are of mechanical parts, including gears, pulleys, shafts, bolts, and mechanical drive trains, in three-dimensional and exploded views. PREREQUISITES: Industrial and Architectural Drafting. Open to students in grades 11 – 12 who meet the Prerequisites.

## **BUILDING TRADES:**

**Building Trades I/ II** - A study of hands-on applications of various trades required in construction industries. Offered in three-hour blocks in mornings and afternoons. Open only to juniors and seniors interested in construction technologies. Projects include garages, storage buildings, and possibly a house.

## **CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION PROGRAMS**

### **AGRICULTURE TECHNOLOGY EDUCATION:**

The Agriculture Technology Education curriculum is designed to provide a four-year continuum of training for students interested in production agriculture or agribusiness, although enrollment in Ag Tech Exploration is acceptable any year. Completing the Ag Ed program will prepare students to enter the work force or continue their education at an institution of higher learning. Ag Ed students are expected to be active members of the National FFA, an organization stressing development of premier leadership, personal growth, and career success through agricultural education.

**Ag Tech Exploration** (formerly Ag Ed I) (Classroom/shop) - Introduction of agriculture, the National FFA organization, and hands-on application of basic shop skills. Student notebook and record book for the agriculture production or agribusiness program is required. Safety glasses, shop clothes, and tape measure required last nine weeks. Open to students in grades 9 – 12, but recommended interested students start the agriculture program their freshman year.

**Animal Science** (formerly Ag Ed II) - The study of breeds, selection, care, management, and processing of different livestock and wildlife species. A notebook for class notes and a record book for the student's Supervised Agricultural Experience (SAE) program are required. PREREQUISITE: Ag Tech Exploration. Open to students in grades 10 – 12 who meet the Prerequisites.

**Ag Construction** (Shop) – A study of different types of welding, including Arc, MIG, and TIG. Other skills will include plasma cutting and electricity. Students will apply these skills in designing and building their own projects. Safety glasses, shop clothes, pliers, and tape measure are required. PREREQUISITES: Successful completion of Ag Tech Exploration and prior or concurrent enrollment in Animal Science. Open to students in grades 10 – 12 who meet the Prerequisites.

**Ag Project Construction** (Shop) - A study of the various types of equipment and machinery necessary in shop operations. Student projects include the construction of gates, feeders, crates, etc. Students are required to have a tape measure, safety glasses, pliers, and shop clothes. PREREQUISITES: Successful completion of Ag Tech Exploration and previous or concurrent enrollment in Animal Science. Open to students in grades 10 – 12 who meet the Prerequisites.

**Crop and Soil Science** (formerly Ag Ed III) - A study of soil and water conservation and crop production including the nature and importance of soil; the properties, uses, and application rates of fertilizer; and the growth, reproduction, and identification of plants, seeds, and field crops in this area. PREREQUISITES: Ag Tech Exploration and Animal Science. Open to students in grades 11 and 12 who meet the Prerequisites.

**Ag Business Management** - The management of any agriculture or agri-related business enterprise, including budgeting, financial management, business arrangements, credit management, marketing, and income tax. PREREQUISITES: Ag Tech Exploration and Animal Science. Open to students in grades 11 and 12 who meet the Prerequisites.

**Small Engines** (Shop) - The theory, operation, and hands-on experience of small gas engines. Students will be able to apply hands-on experience in disassembling, measuring, and diagnosing problems concerning small engines. Students must have safety glasses and shop clothes. Open to students in grades 11 and 12.

**Horticulture** - An introductory course in horticulture. Information on careers in the industry, plant classification, plant growth and development, greenhouse operations, vegetable and plant problems, and controls will be discussed, and many greenhouse lab experiments will be conducted. An introduction to landscape design is also covered. Open to students in grades 11 and 12.

**Welding/Electricity** - An introductory course to welding and electricity. Welding skills covered include: Arc, MIG, TIG, and oxyacetylene welding; brazing; using the cutting torch and plasma cutting. Electricity will be covered as to general house wiring. Safety glasses, shop clothes, pliers, and tape measure required. Open to students in grades 11 and 12.

## **FAMILY AND CONSUMER SCIENCE:**

**Family and Consumer Science** – An introductory course on the basic skills necessary to improve the quality of personal and family life. Study will be in the areas of personal development, clothing, housing and interpersonal relationships. Open to students in grades 9 – 12.

**Nutrition and Wellness** - A first semester course taken concurrently with the second semester course Parenting. In this course, students have the opportunity to be involved in making decisions concerning personal nutrition and wellness, applying consumer skills, meal management activities, and food preparation techniques. The purpose of this course is to enable students to develop nutrition and wellness habits that will become a part of their everyday life as a lifestyle choice.  
PREREQUISITES: Family and Consumer Science. Open to students in grades 10 – 12 who meet the Prerequisites.

**Parenting** - A second semester course taken concurrently with Nutrition and Wellness. The class provides basic knowledge of how a child develops physically, emotionally and intellectually. Students will be given the opportunity to experience the role of a parent by participating in the “Baby Think It Over” simulation as well as other hands-on activities. In addition, students will examine the changing roles and relationships that are a part of the family in today’s society. PREREQUISITES: Family and Consumer Science. Open to students in grades 10 – 12 who meet the Prerequisites.

**Adult Living** – Students will develop critical thinking skills concerning issues involving work and its impact on family. They will also study money management, housing concerns and consumer responsibilities that will enable them to handle the multiple roles of wage earner and family member in the adult world. Open to students in grades 11 and 12.

## **“JUNIOR AND SENIOR ONLY” ELECTIVES:**

**GHS Mentor** - Juniors and Seniors wishing to be considered as mentors must have at least a 3.0 GPA, demonstrate good responsibility, have a good attendance record, pass YouthFriends screening, must receive a recommendation from two teachers and must obtain administrative approval. Any exceptions to these requirements must receive unanimous recommendation from the mentoring committee. Applications must be picked up from the counselor prior to enrollment.

**Student Aide** – Juniors and Seniors in good standing may seek permission from the Principal to be aides for a department, teacher, library, or office, as an elective with no credit. Permission forms signed by the appropriate school staff member (staff member who you will be helping) must be submitted by the student with the pre-enrollment form. Juniors must have at least a 3.0 cumulative GPA.

**Health Career Science I** - available to 11th and 12th grade students and lasts two class periods. Health Career Science introduces students to the rapidly growing field of Health Careers. The course includes career information, medical terminology, introductory anatomy and physiology, discussion of the disease process, communication skills, basic patient care skills and observation/on-the-job training experiences in community health care facilities. All students enrolling in Health Career Science I should have completed two science and two math credits with a grade of C or better. Cost: approximately \$140 for uniforms and books.

**Health Career Science II** - available to students who have successfully completed Health Career Science I with the instructor’s and sending school counselor’s recommendation, will continue to expand didactic and clinical competencies. Health Career Science II will include a combination of healthcare related courses and/or on-the-job training in a related clinical area.

***Harley Davidson Program (Seniors only)*** – available to Seniors with permission from the Principal. Students who participate in this Fort Scott Community College program will attend courses at the Harley Davidson educational facility in Frontenac in the morning during 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> periods only. Students are responsible for all costs (tuition, books, tools and incidentals) associated with this program. Tuition will cost approximately \$360.00 per semester, or \$720.00 per year, subject to a change in Fort Scott Community College’s tuition rates. Tools for the first semester will cost approximately \$300.00. Additional tools may be expected for the second semester.

## **COLLEGE CREDIT COURSES:** (not for High School Credit)

Girard High School will host college courses for Seniors across the Interactive Distance Learning (IDL) system. Seniors who participate in this program typically meet on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 8:00 a.m. to 8:55 a.m. and on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 7:30 a.m. to 8:55 a.m. Courses offered are generally English (both semesters), College Algebra (one semester) and either Sociology or Psychology (one semester). Students are responsible for all costs (tuition, books and incidentals) associated with these classes. During the 2005 – 2006 school year, costs were approximately \$850.00, but this amount is subject to change. See the Counselor for additional details.