

USD 248

**Girard High
School**

2008-2009
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: Three (3) science credits. Courses offered in 2008 – 2009 include Life Science, Physical 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: Three (3) math credits are required. Courses offered in 2008 – 2009 include Applied Math, Pre-Algebra, Consumer Math, Algebra I, Geometry, Algebra II, Functions (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.

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

GHS Graduation Requirements <i>24 credits are required</i>	Kansas Board of Regents Qualified Admissions Curric. <i>(a minimum 2.0 GPA in the Qualified Admissions Curriculum Courses is required)</i>	Kansas Board of Regents Kansas Scholars Curriculum <i>(required for State Scholarship, as well as Ethnic Minority and Teachers Scholarship Programs)</i>
English - 4 credits	English - 4 credits (English I – IV).	English - 4 credits (English I – IV).
Math - 3 credits	Math - 3 credits at or above the Algebra I level (Algebra I in middle school will not count). At GHS, can include Algebra I, Geometry, Algebra II, Functions, Calculus, and Probability & Statistics.	Math - an additional credit (above the 3 credit requirement for Qualified Admissions) is required, and at GHS must include Functions, Calculus or Probability & Statistics.
Science - 3 credits	Science - 3 credits. At GHS, can include Biology, Advanced Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Anatomy & Physiology, PT I and PT II, but at least one credit must be in Chemistry or Physics.	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 study literature and composition while also improving vocabulary skills. In the literature section, students will improve reading comprehension skills and analyze short stories, dramas, novels, and poems by using literary concepts to interpret literature. In the writing section, students will improve grammar and mechanics and will write effectively for a variety of audiences, purposes, and contexts.

English II (Honors) (QA) – In this advanced sophomore class, students will study literature and composition while also improving vocabulary skills. In the literature section, students will enhance comprehension and critical thinking skills and analyze short stories, dramas, novels, and poems by using literary concepts to interpret literature. In the writing section, students will improve grammar and mechanics and will write effectively for a variety of audiences, purposes, and contexts. **PREREQUISITE:** Successful completion of English I with an A at least one semester. Students enrolling in this course must have instructor's written approval.

English III (QA) - By design, it is an integrated junior level English course with study directed toward students understanding, analyzing and appreciating literature; developing descriptive, expository, narrative, and persuasive writing skills; and enhancing vocabulary. **PREREQUISITE:** Successful completion of two English credits or, if student has not completed two English credits, instructor's written permission.

English III (Honors) (QA) - By design, it is an advanced, integrated junior level English course for exemplary language arts students with study directed toward students analyzing and appreciating literature, developing writing skills, and enhancing critical thinking and vocabulary skills. **PREREQUISITE:** Successful completion of English I and either English II or English II (Honors), with an A in English II or English II (Honors) at least one semester. Students enrolling in this course must also complete a required writing assessment to determine appropriateness of placement.

English IV (QA) - A senior level English class. 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 analytical 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 English class. 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 analytical 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:** Open to students in grades 11 and 12 who are on track with their English credits.

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 website. Students should have strong writing skills, be self-directed, and be above average and college bound. Enrollment requires prior approval of the instructor. Preference will go to seniors, but juniors may also request permission to enroll in Communication.

SCIENCE (3 Credits Required for Graduation)

Course Sequence	9th	10th	11th	12th	Prerequisites
Life Science	X				
Physical Science	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. 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-84 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 (3 Credits Required 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				X	X	Geometry and Algebra II
Calculus					X	Functions
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 (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 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.

Historical Research – This course is open to students in 10th, 11th and 12th grades with an interest in special topics research and investigation in areas of local, state and national history using primary sources such as photographs, paintings, letters, journals, diaries, official documents, oral histories, and artifacts. The class will utilize area museums, special collections curators at city and university libraries, archives, etc. Students in this class will serve as an investigative and verification team in conjunction with students in GHS's other historical elective course, Historical Preservation and Restoration. In both classes, students will play a major role in the choice of project topics. In addition to traditional classroom instruction techniques, field trips and guest speakers will be utilized. Instructor permission is required.

Historical Preservation and Restoration – This course is open to students in 10th, 11th and 12th grades with an interest in creating museum-style exhibits, audio-visual presentations, preservation and/or restoration of local, state, and national historical artifacts. Students will learn about and have opportunities to use techniques related to museum exhibits, AV presentations, and artifact preservation and restoration and will utilize area museums, special collections curators at city and university libraries, and archivists. Students in this class will work in conjunction with students in GHS's other historical elective course, Historical Research. In addition to traditional classroom instruction techniques, field trips and guest speakers will be utilized. Instructor permission is required.

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 basic applications of the computer and how they relate to a business setting. The course will include instruction in the following areas: word processing, spreadsheets, internet, and multimedia presentations. Other areas such as photo editing and web design may also be introduced as exploratory units. PREREQUISITE: successful completion of Information Processing. Open to students in grades 10 – 12 who meet the Prerequisite.

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 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, Computer Applications I and II, and English III. Open only to students in 12th Grade who meet the Prerequisites.

Business and Personal Finance – A one-year course focusing on the basics of finance. Students will gain valuable knowledge in areas such as banking, credit, investing, taxes, insurance, stocks, and many other areas that will be relevant throughout life. This course will present financial planning with a fresh view using real life scenarios and cases. PREREQUISITES: successful completion of Algebra I and Computer Applications I/II. Open to students in grades 11 and 12 who meet the Prerequisites.

Accounting I – Students will study entry-level accounting using real accounting forms and business concepts. Personal finance principles as well as careers in the field of finance will be examined. This is an ideal class for any student interested in pursuing a business degree. PREREQUISITES: successful completion of Algebra I and Computer Applications I/II. Open to students in grades 11 and 12 who meet the Prerequisites.

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 work independently at a pace agreed upon with the instructor. All work will be computerized using QuickBooks Software. PREREQUISITES: successful completion of Accounting I. Open to students in 12th grade who meet the Prerequisites.

Desktop Publishing (Yearbook) I (Jr's) II (Sr's) – This course is devoted to the production of the high school yearbook and senior memory book. Students will use Adobe CS2 software to produce pages of the yearbook. Applicants are expected to be responsible, self-motivated, and prompt juniors and seniors. Summer workshop required. PREREQUISITE: Completed Application, minimum "B" in both semesters of 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. See Mrs. Taylor with any questions.

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. PREREQUISITES: Computer Applications I/II, and Accounting I, Business and Personal Finance, 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)

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 woodcarving, 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.

Wearable Art – this class will focus on designing and creating art pieces that can be worn. Projects will include a variety of jewelry making, weaving, fabric painting, alterations, and much more. Students will be responsible for keeping a sketch journal and art critiques as part of the class. PREREQUISITES: Art I with no grade lower than a B in Art I.

Advanced Art – this class is for students who want to do intensive work on individualized projects in the areas of 2-D and/or 3-D. Students will be able to choose media they would like to develop at a higher level, similar to an Independent Study through a contract with the instructor for specific assignments in regards to project work and research. Sketchbooks and artist reports will have significant weight in the final grade, as well as high caliber completed artworks. PREREQUISITE: Art 2-D or Art 3-D.

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.

Chorus - This class provides opportunities to improve classical singing technique, perform in large and small ensembles and/or solos, and learn basic music understanding. Chorus students will sing in class daily to prepare for evening concerts, the fall musical, and regional/district/state music contests held in the spring. Students will also participate in preparation/production of the school musical in the fall. This can be done in one or more ways: performing in the chorus of the musical, playing a lead role, or by working with backstage crew, sets, props, costumes, tickets, programs, posters, or advertising. Before and/or after school time will be required for concerts and the musical. Open to students in grades 9 – 12.

Speech Communication – This class will explore various elements of communication and theatre, including public speaking, argumentation, debate, mass media, broadcasting, oral interpretation, storytelling and acting. Students will be expected to demonstrate their learning in front of the class. The class also includes required attendance at plays and other outside activities. Open to students in grades 10 – 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. Competition in Forensics includes informative speaking, persuasive speaking, duet acting, humorous and/or serious solo acting, prose and/or poetry improvisation. 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.

CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION PROGRAMS – students are encouraged to enroll in any of the Career and Technical Education Programs at GHS regardless of the student's gender.

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 (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 - 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. PREREQUISITE: Successful completion of Ag Tech Exploration. Open to students in grades 10 – 12 who meet the Prerequisite.

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. PREREQUISITE: Successful completion of Ag Tech Exploration. Open to students in grades 10 – 12 who meet the Prerequisite.

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. 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. PREREQUISITE: Ag Tech Exploration. Open to students in grades 11 and 12 who meet the Prerequisite. **NEXT OFFERING WILL BE DURING THE 2009 – 2010 SCHOOL YEAR.**

Ag Communication/Ag Leadership - This class is designed to further develop the students' communication and leadership skills. Leadership skills will be heightened through lessons on leadership in agriculture, leading teams and groups, problem solving and decision making, and group and individual efficiency. Communication skills will be sharpened through lessons on communication, effective group and individual communication and public speaking. The importance of the agricultural communications industry will also be covered in this course. Units on fact gathering, journalistic writing, photography, and page layout will be covered. Emphasis will be given to FFA activities that will test the students gained skills with authentic assessments, for instance, Ag Issues Forum, PALS, and writing the National Chapter Award Application. This class is for any student interested in promoting the agriculture education department and FFA chapter while developing their leadership and communication skills. PREREQUISITE: Successful completion of two Agriculture Education classes.

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.

CONSTRUCTION TECHNOLOGY EDUCATION

The **Construction Technology Education** curriculum is designed by GHS and Crossland Construction 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. Successful completion of the Construction Technology Program will prepare students to enter the work force or continue their education at an institution of higher learning. The demand for skilled craftsmen in construction related fields has never been greater and is projected to grow. Crossland Construction is currently working with local colleges whereby students who successfully complete this construction sequence may be eligible to receive 6 - 9 college credit hours. This is not final and should not be relied upon in choosing your classes. Construction education students are expected to be active members of *SKILLS USA*, an organization stressing the development of leadership, personal growth, and career success through vocational education.)

Basic Construction Technology – This class provides students with the basic fundamentals of the construction industry. Students will learn and practice Basic Construction Safety, Construction Math, Hand Tools, Power Tools, Blueprint Reading, Basic Rigging, Basic Communication Skills, and Basic Employability Skills. 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 – This is a second year course which provides students the opportunity to learn and practice concepts relating to Concrete Construction and Finishing, Carpentry and Residential Construction, and Masonry Construction. Students also have the opportunity to receive **NCCER Certification** in each of these areas. **PREREQUISITE:** Basic Construction Technology. Open to students in grades 10–12 who meet the Prerequisite.

Construction Technology II – This is a third year course which provides students the opportunity to learn and practice concepts relating to HVAC (Heating and Air Conditioning), Electrical, Plumbing and Finish Carpentry. Students will also engage in hands-on construction projects related to course content. Students also have the opportunity to receive **NCCER Certification** in each of these areas. **PREREQUISITE:** Successful completion of Construction Technology I. Open to students in grades 11–12 who meet Prerequisites.

Project Management – This is a fourth year course which provides students the opportunity to use the skills they have learned in the prior construction technology courses in constructing projects. **PREREQUISITES:** Successful completion of Construction Technology II or, with instructor permission, students may take Project Management and Construction Technology II concurrently. Open to students in grade 12 who meet Prerequisites.

ENGINEERING TECHNOLOGY EDUCATION

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 Design, and (3) Mechanical Engineering. Completing the Engineering Technology Program will prepare students to enter the work force or continue their education at an institution of higher learning. Engineering education students are expected to be active members of *SKILLS USA*, an organization stressing the development of leadership, personal growth, and career success through vocational education.)

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: Algebra I (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.

ADDITIONAL TECHNOLOGY COURSE

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.

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 and on track to graduate with their class 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.

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 \$150 - \$200 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 1st and 2nd periods only. Students are responsible for all costs (tuition, books, tools and incidentals) associated with this program. Students may contact Fort Scott Community College to determine exact costs. See the Counselor for additional details.

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 – 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. Students may contact Fort Scott Community College to determine exact costs, which were approximately \$1,100.00 during the 2007 – 2008 school year. See the Counselor for additional details.