

Needville High School 2008-2009 Course Selection Catalog

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Overview

This course offerings book is intended to assist you in selecting courses that you will take while a student in high school. The programs are designed to allow each student, regardless of interest or ability, to pursue a course of study that is appropriate to meet present and future needs. Your high school education, whether you are preparing for work or college, is influenced by your selection of courses and by the application of your abilities. A major part of your school work consists of fundamentals that you will need all of your life.

Gaining admission to college or any post-secondary education institution is very competitive. Although colleges vary in their specific entrance requirements, admission is based on the student's class rank, courses taken, college admissions test scores, participation and involvement in school sponsored clubs and organizations, volunteer work, and recommendations. In order to be successful in college, students must gain the basic skills in high school, including reading, writing, mathematics, speaking and listening, and reasoning and study skills. It is also essential for students to have developed technical skills, mechanical skills, and skills that enable them to interact with others.

Students who are planning to enter the work force after high school should understand that the job market is very competitive. The more training that you are able to gain, the more likely you will be able to earn a higher level position in the work place. Students need to obtain competencies in reading, writing, mathematics, speaking and listening, reasoning, study skills, technical skills, mechanical skills, and interaction skills in order to be successful in finding and keeping a job.

Please use this handbook as a source of information and as an aid in preparing for your four years of high school. Your counselor can assist you in answering any other questions that you may have.

Course Load

Students must take seven courses each school year.

Semester System

Needville High School operates on a semester system. The school year is divided into two semesters. Each semester is approximately 90 days. The semesters will be as near the same length as the calendar permits.

- All courses being taught for 50 minutes per day for the entire year will have the value of one credit.
- All courses being taught for 100 minutes per day for the entire year will have the value of two credits.
- All courses being taught for 150 minutes per day for the entire year will have the value of three credits.
- All courses being taught for 50 minutes per day for one-half year (one semester) will have the value of 0.5 (1/2) credit.

Awarding of Credit

All courses passed with an average of 70 or above at the end of one semester (1st or 2nd) will earn one-half credit (0.5). A yearly average of grades for first and second semesters of 70 or above will receive full credit (1.0) for the course.

Dual Credit/Concurrent Enrollment Courses

Dual Credit courses offer college classes to junior and senior students. Students taking courses for dual credit receive credit for both high school and college. Concurrent enrollment courses receive credit for college only and do not affect high school credit or GPA in any way. Courses offered by NISD will vary depending on student demand.

Three Year Graduation Plan

Students may choose to complete all required high school course work in 36 months and receive a \$1,000 credit toward higher education in a Texas state-supported college or university. To be eligible to receive an award through the Early High School Scholarship Program, a person must: graduate from a Texas public high school in Texas; provide proof of eligibility; provide written approval of a parent or person standing in parental relation to the student; be a Texas resident; and not be a recipient of \$1,000 through the Tuition Credit Program in operation in 1993 and 1994.

The amount awarded a student through this program may not exceed the least of: the student's actual tuition charges for college credit courses; \$1,000; or the sum of \$1,000 minus the amount the student received through the Tuition Credit Program. Students attending eligible private institutions of higher education must receive an equal amount of institutional tuition gift assistance during the same enrollment period.

Contact your school counselor for more information.

Four Year Graduation Plan

Students will develop a four year plan with their counselor during the 9th grade. A student's course of study may include courses or selections from more than one level. Achievement level, attitude, initiative, interest and career plans, as well as teacher assessment, help determine placement in a level.

Academic Eligibility for Collegiate Athletics

Core courses required for the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) Certification

	<u>Division I</u>	<u>Division II</u>
English	4 years	3 years
Mathematics* (Algebra I or higher)	2 years	2 years
Natural/Physical Science (1 year of lab if offered)	2 years	2 years
Additional English, Mathematics, or Natural/Physical Science	1 year	2 years
Social Science	2 years	2 years
Additional Courses* (from any area above, Foreign Language, or Nondoctrinal Religion/Philosophy)	3 years	3 years
Total Core Courses Required	14	14

*Important Note: For students enrolling as college freshmen during 2008-2009 and thereafter, Division I certification requires 3 years of Mathematics and 4 years of the Additional Courses.

See counselor for other NCAA requirements or the NCAA website www.ncaa.org.

Classification of Students

For students entering the 9th grade 2006 – 2007 or before, 24 credits are required to graduate

Classification determines which class meeting a student attends and activities in which he or she may participate. A student is classified according to the number of credits successfully completed. Classification is decided by the number of credits on file at the beginning of each school year. Refer to the following chart to determine classification:

Freshman	0 to 4.5	Junior	10 to 15.5
Sophomore	5 to 9.5	Senior	16 and over

For students entering the 9th grade in 2007 – 2008, 26 credits are required to graduate

Classification determines which class meeting a student attends and activities in which he or she may participate. A student is classified according to the number of credits successfully completed. Classification is decided by the number of credits on file at the beginning of each school year. Refer to the following chart to determine classification:

Freshman	0 to 5.5	Junior	12 to 18.5
Sophomore	6 to 11.5	Senior	19 and over

Course Weight for Class Ranking for Students Entering 9th grade in 2006 – 2007 or Before

The following weight (points) will be added to a student's numerical final grades. Local courses will have a zero (0) weight; General courses will have a plus four (+4) weight; Advanced courses will have a plus ten (+10) weight; Pre AP/AP courses will have a plus fifteen (+15) weight.

Added weight applies only to class rank and does not apply to passing or failing a class or grade point average.

Course Weight for Class Ranking for Students Entering 9th grade in 2007 – 2008 or After

The following weight (points) will be added to a student's numerical final grades. Local courses will not be counted toward class rank. General courses will be multiplied by 1; Advanced courses will be multiplied by 1.05; Pre AP/AP courses will be multiplied by 1.1.

Added weight applies only to class rank and does not apply to passing or failing a class or grade point average.

Special Education Programs

Special education services are provided to students who are found to be eligible for such services by the Admission, Review and Dismissal (ARD) Committee. Eligibility is based on identified physical, mental and/or emotional difficulties that cause significant educational problems. Specialized instruction and related services to meet individual student needs are provided through both regular and special education courses. Whenever a regular course is significantly modified in the area of content, pacing, or mastery, the letter (S) denoting special education will appear on the transcript. Specialized instruction is provided along the following continuum:

- Regular class with adaptations
- Regular class with resource teacher assistance (Inclusion)
- Special class with special material and/or techniques (S)
- Special class with modified course objectives (S)
- Special class with different course objectives (S)

Requirements for Graduation

A special education student may be graduated when the student satisfactorily completes the minimum academic credit requirements for graduation applicable to regular education students, including satisfactory performance on the TAKS Test.

A special education student who does not meet the above requirements may be graduated upon determination by the Admission Review and Dismissal (ARD) Committee that the student has completed requirements specified in the Individual Education Plan (IEP) that have resulted in one of the following:

- Full-time employment, based on the student's abilities and local employment opportunities, in addition to sufficient self-help skills to enable the student to maintain the employment without direct and ongoing educational support of the local school district; or
- Demonstrated mastery of specific employability skills and self-help skills that do not require direct on-going educational support of the local school district.

Students enrolled in any special education class do not qualify for membership in the National Honor Society.

Graduation Requirements

Students enrolled in ninth grade prior to the 2007-2008 school year must follow this graduation program and graduate under the recommended or distinguished plan. Students are not allowed to graduate under the Minimum Plan unless the student, the student's parent or guardian, and the counselor/principal agree that the student may graduate under the Minimum Plan.

COURSE	Minimum	Recommended	Distinguished Achievement*
English	4	4	4
Mathematics	3	3	3
Science	2	3	3
Social Studies	2 ½	3 ½	3 ½
Academic Elective	1	0	0
Economics	½	½	½
Foreign Language	0	2	3
Physical Education	1 ½	1 ½	1 ½
Health	½	½	½
Technology Applications	1	1	1
Fine Arts	0	1	1
Speech	½	½	½
State Approved Electives	6 ½	3 ½	2 ½
Total Credits	23	24	24

Minimum Plan

Math – 3 credits to include Algebra I and Geometry
 Science – 2 credits to include Integrated Physics and Chemistry and Biology
 Social Studies - 2 ½ credits from U.S. History, Government, and either World Geography or World History
 Science/Social Studies Elective - 1 credit in World Geography or World History or 1 credit in Science
 Speech – ½ credit in Communication Applications

Recommended Plan

Math – 3 credits to include Algebra I, Geometry, and Algebra II
 Science – 1 credit must be Biology, other 2 credits may be Integrated Physics and Chemistry, Chemistry, or Physics
 Speech – ½ credit in Communication Applications
 3 ½ elective credits – These credits can be earned through completion of any course approved by the State Board of Education, including Driver Education

Distinguished Achievement*

Science – 1 credit must be Biology, other 2 credits may be Integrated Physics and Chemistry, Chemistry, or Physics
 Speech – ½ credit in Communication Applications
 Math – 3 credits to include Algebra I, Geometry, and Algebra II
 2 ½ elective credits – These credits can be earned through completion of any course approved by the State Board of Education, including Driver Education

*To be eligible for graduation under the Distinguished Achievement Program a student must also receive a combination of 4 of the advanced measures approved by the State Board of Education, which focus on demonstrated student performance at the college or professional level and which must be assessed through an external review process. (See counselor)

Graduation Requirements

Students enrolled in the 9th grade for the 2007-2008 school year and after must follow this graduation program and graduate under the recommended or distinguished plan. Students are not allowed to graduate under the Minimum Plan unless the student, the student's parent or guardian, and the counselor/principal agree that the student may graduate under the Minimum Plan.

COURSE	Minimum	Recommended	Distinguished Achievement*
English	4	4	4
Mathematics	3	4	4
Science	2	4	4
Social Studies	2 ½	3 ½	3 ½
Academic Elective	1	0	0
Economics	½	½	½
Foreign Language	0	2	3
Physical Education	1 ½	1 ½	1 ½
Health	½	½	½
Technology Applications	1	1	1
Fine Arts	0	1	1
Speech	½	½	½
State Approved Electives	6 ½	3 ½	2 ½
Total Credits	23	26	26

Minimum Plan

Math – 3 credits to include Algebra I and Geometry.
 Science – 2 credits to include Integrated Physics and Chemistry and Biology.
 Social Studies - 2 ½ credits from U.S. History, Government, and either World Geography or World History.
 Science/Social Studies Elective - 1 credit in World Geography or World History or 1 credit in Science
 Speech – ½ credit in Communication Applications.

Recommended Plan

Math – 3 of the credits must include Algebra I, Geometry, and Algebra II. The fourth credit may be selected from Mathematical Models with Applications, Pre Calculus, AP Calculus AB, or AP Computer Science. Students may not take Mathematical Models with Applications after taking Algebra II.
 Science – 4 credits, 3 of which must consist of a Biology credit, a Chemistry credit, and a Physics credit; a fourth credit from the following courses: IPC, AP Biology, AP Chemistry, and Engineering. IPC cannot be taken as the final or fourth year of science.
 Speech – ½ credit in Communication Applications.

Distinguished Achievement*

Math – 3 of the credits must include Algebra I, Geometry, and Algebra II. The fourth credit must be a course in which Algebra II is a prerequisite including: Pre Calculus or AP Calculus AB.
 Science – 4 credits which must consist of a Biology credit, a Chemistry credit, a Physics credit, and a fourth credit from the following courses: AP Biology, AP Chemistry, and Engineering. IPC cannot be used as one of the four science credits.
 Speech – ½ credit in Communication Applications.

*To be eligible for graduation under the Distinguished Achievement Program a student must also receive a combination of 4 of the advanced measures approved by the State Board of Education, which focus on demonstrated student performance at the college or professional level and which must be assessed through an external review process. (See counselor)

High School Course Offerings

All prerequisites specified for a course are to be met prior to registering for the course unless waived by the building principal.

All students who register for a year long course are required to stay in that course for the duration of the year. A student will not be dropped from a class because of low grades.

English Language Arts

English I

Credit – 1

Grade – 9

Prerequisite – none

Upon completion of this required course, students should be able to identify and utilize the proper grammatical mechanics applicable to written communication. Practical knowledge and application of these skills will be demonstrated through paragraph writing and theme writing. Students would also be able to effectively read, understand, and appreciate poems, myths, short stories, and novels demonstrating an analytical as well as a critical awareness of plot, setting, characterization, and theme.

English I Pre AP

Credit – 1

Grade – 9

Prerequisite – Students must have made an A in 8th grade Regular Language Arts, passed TAKS test, have teacher recommendation and met summer requirements.

Core curriculum is modified by including extended thinking skills, problem solving, and cultural study through primary and secondary research, literary study, analysis and discussion. Major units of differentiation include: mythology, research, college exam preparation, and works of literature, which reflect cultural and historical study. Project assignments reflect higher level thinking skills and creativity. **Any student with a failing 1st semester average in a Pre AP/AP class will be placed in a regular level class for the 2nd semester.**

English II

Credit - 1

Grade – 10

Prerequisite – English I

Upon completion of this required course, students achieve mastery in the fundamentals of grammar and increase vocabulary and spelling skills. In addition, students will learn to write paragraphs developed by various methods. Students progress to more complex compositions, culminating in a mini-research paper. Students will continue building on the previous year's work in literature by becoming more expert in critically viewing plays, novels, short stories, poems, and nonfictional material.

English II Pre AP

Credit – 1

Grade – 10

Prerequisite – Students must have made an A in English I or B in English I Pre AP, passed TAKS test, have teacher recommendation and met summer requirements.

English II Pre AP is designed to meet the needs of the highly motivated and/or more capable student. Core curriculum is modified by studying additional literary selections such as Lord of the Flies and The Taming of the Shrew, or other works of this quality. Enrichment activities such as oral presentations, research, and vocabulary development support and enhance literary selections. Additionally, the student is challenged to perform at the higher taxonomical levels: analysis, synthesis, and evaluation. **Any student with a failing 1st semester average in a Pre AP/AP class will be placed in a regular level class for the 2nd semester.**

English III

Credit – 1

Grade – 11

Prerequisite – English II

This required course is intended to provide grammar review, composition writing, research paper writing, and a survey of American Literature from 1620 to present. Survival skills for the world of work will be emphasized at the basic level.

English III AP

Credit – 1

Grade – 11

Prerequisite – Students must have made an A in English II or B in English II Pre AP, passed TAKS test, have teacher recommendation and met summer requirements.

English III AP is designed to meet the needs of the highly motivated and/or more capable student. In addition to containing the development of language arts skills, this course includes a survey of American Literature. Additionally, the student is challenged to perform at the higher taxonomical levels: analysis, synthesis, and evaluation. Emphasis is placed upon refinement of composition, including research and vocabulary development. The individual's creativity is encouraged through original and library research, problem solving, and other enrichment activities. **Students taking this course are highly encouraged to take the Advanced Placement Test upon completion. Any student with a failing 1st semester average in a Pre AP/AP class will be placed in a regular level class for the 2nd semester.**

English IV

Credit – 1

Grade – 12

Prerequisite – English III

This required course offers a brief, intensive review of grammar, stressing correct usage and diction. Students will write themes on both literary and nonliterary topics plus a fully documented research paper. The literature presented to the students will be a survey of English literature from the Anglo-Saxon to the Modern Age.

English IV AP

Credit – 1

Grade – 12

Prerequisite – Students must have made an A in English III or B in English III AP, passed TAKS test, have teacher recommendation and met summer requirements.

The emphasis in the 1st semester of English IV AP – Composition is on sophisticated critical writing. Resource materials provide a background for close reading or literary works. Individual study involves extensive research papers being one of the major activities of the course. Qualitative revision refines expression through sensitivity of nuances in the use of language and fluency in the conventions of grammar usage. This course is recommended for students planning to take the advanced placement test in English for college credit. **Students taking this course are highly encouraged to take the Advanced Placement Test upon completion. Any student with a failing 1st semester average in a Pre AP/AP class will be placed in a regular level class for the 2nd semester.**

English IV Dual Credit

Credit – 1

Grade – 12

Prerequisite – English III, Admission to Wharton County Junior College

This course will study English to improve students' abilities to think objectively and to communicate effectively. Stress on clarity and effectiveness in the sentence, paragraph, and whole composition. The composition is chiefly expository, and assigned material is designed to increase students' ability to read objectively, to develop skills in critical analysis, and to improve their style. Students must meet the deadlines for enrollment with Wharton County Junior College. Students must also meet the attendance requirements of Needville ISD and the WCJC Instructor.

Journalism I

Credit – 1

Grade – 9-12

Prerequisite – C average in previous English class

Journalism I focuses on the fundamentals of journalism, including various modes of writing (news, features, etc), photo composition, and essential computer skills. Students will learn and practice both newspaper and yearbook production skills.

Journalism II, III, IV (Newspaper)

Credit – 1

Grade – 10-12

Prerequisite – C average in previous English class and teacher recommendation

Members of the Blue Jay Chatter staff fill a page in the Gulf Coast Tribune almost every week of the school year. The staff's job is to inform parents, members of the community, and students about the activities at Needville High School. The staff is also responsible for a weekly column in the Herald Coaster. The articles on the school page include information about class projects, athletic events, clubs' news and activities, outstanding students, and special events that may occur during the school year.

Journalism II, III, IV (Yearbook)

Credit – 1

Grade – 10-12

Prerequisite – C average in previous English class and teacher recommendation

Students create a written and pictorial review of the school year. Each individual is responsible for the copy and picture layout of the pages, taking of photographs, and creative ideas for the overall book.

Communications I (S)

Credit – 1

Grade – 9

Prerequisite – ARD Placement

Fundamental skills in four areas: vocabulary, writing, language, and literature. Students learn to write a complete sentence, correctly punctuate sentences, discuss short stories and poetry, understand the concept and correct use of nouns and pronouns, follow written and oral directions for independent living, and spell functional words needed for independent living.

Communications II (S)

Credit – 1

Grade – 10

Prerequisite – Communication I and ARD Placement

Students use writing and language skills to write concise paragraphs, fill out various types of applications and write personal and business letters. Students read and identify the main idea from literary selections and identify the major differences among poems, short stories, and plays.

Communications III (S)

Credit – 1

Grade – 11

Prerequisite – Communication II and ARD Placement

Students use writing and language skills needed for everyday living situations such as writing letters and completing forms; improve vocabulary and comprehension skills; and increase reading enjoyment by identifying facts, main ideas, characters and themes of literary selections.

Communications IV (S)

Credit – 1

Grade – 12

Prerequisite – Communication III and ARD Placement

Students develop a sense of confidence in their oral communication abilities. Students learn proper communication skills, how those skills can benefit them in career opportunities and interpersonal situations and the fundamentals of preparing a speech for different audiences.

Functional Academics I, II, III, IV (S)

Credit – 1

Grade – 9-12

Prerequisite – ARD Placement

Students develop life skills using basic English Language Arts, Math, Social Studies, and Science skills.

Foreign Language

Spanish I

Credit – 1

Grade – 9-12

Prerequisite – none

Spanish I emphasizes the development of simple conversation skills based on the student's understanding of its meaning through translations and explanations of grammatical points.

Spanish I – Native Speakers

Credit – 1

Grade – 9-12

Prerequisite – none

Spanish I emphasizes the development of simple conversation skills based on the student's understanding of its meaning through translations and explanations of grammatical points. This class will serve those students in which Spanish is their home language.

Spanish II

Credit – 1

Grade – 10-12

Prerequisite – Spanish I

Spanish II emphasizes conversational Spanish combined with advanced grammatical understanding of the language structure. This is reinforced through compositional drills stressing the grammatical points. A small emphasis is also given to Spanish literature and history of Spain.

Spanish II – Native Speakers

Credit – 1

Grade – 10-12

Prerequisite – Spanish I

Spanish II emphasizes conversational Spanish combined with advanced grammatical understanding of the language structure. This is reinforced through compositional drills stressing the grammatical points. A small emphasis is also given to Spanish literature and history of Spain. This class will serve those students in which Spanish is their home language.

Spanish III (Advanced)

Credit – 1

Grade – 11-12

Prerequisite – A/B average in Spanish II

The main objectives of Spanish III include a continuation of the basic skills that were learned in Spanish I and II, which include: listening, speaking, reading, writing, and a study of culture. A great deal of emphasis is placed on listening and speaking the Spanish language.

Mathematics

Algebra I

Credit – 1

Grade – 9

Prerequisite – None

Students will be introduced to topics such as sets, number systems, equations, linear equations and graphing, various aspects of problem solving, polynomials, factoring, exponents, and radicals.

Geometry

Credit – 1

Grade – 9-10

Prerequisite – Algebra I

After a lengthy introduction to points, lines, and planes through definitions, the course will include topics such as formal proofs, parallel lines, congruent triangles, polygon, and quadrilaterals. This course will continue the concept of formal proof and will also include similar triangles, circles, area, inequalities, locus, and space geometry.

Geometry Pre AP

Credit – 1

Grade – 9-10

Prerequisite – Students must have made an A in 9th Grade Algebra I or a B in 8th Grade Algebra I, passed TAKS test, teacher recommendation, and pass entrance exam.

Geometry Pre AP is an introduction to plane, solid, and coordinate geometry as a deductive science. This course is designed to accelerate and provide greater depth to the students' understanding of triangle relationships, polygonal relationships, and measurement transformations. **Any student with a failing 1st semester average in a Pre AP/AP class will be placed in a regular level class for the 2nd semester.**

Algebra II

Credit – 1

Grade – 10-12

Prerequisite – Geometry or concurrently enrolled in Geometry

This course contains a review of many of the topics included in Algebra I. Topics such as operations on real numbers, properties of addition and multiplication, equality, and order are covered in greater detail. Other topics include linear equations and inequalities in one or two variables operations on polynomials, rational expressions, radical and complex numbers. Methods of solving systems of equations and inequalities are also studied. A review of relations and functions leads into the study of quadratic functions. Various topics such as logarithms, matrices, and determinants conclude the course.

Algebra II Pre AP

Credit - 1

Grade – 10-12

Prerequisite – Students must have made an A in Geometry or a B in Geometry Pre AP, passed TAKS test, teacher recommendation, and pass entrance exam.

This course is designed to accelerate, provide greater depth, and expand the basic objectives of the real number field. Rational, irrational, and complex number sets; matrices including polynomial functions; and conics are studied. **Any student with a failing 1st semester average in a Pre AP/AP class will be placed in a regular level class for the 2nd semester.**

Pre-Calculus (Advanced)

Credit – 1

Grade – 11-12

Prerequisite – must have made a B in Algebra II

This course is a one-year college preparatory course that prepares the student for AP Calculus at the high school level or college calculus upon graduation from high school. It includes the in-depth study of polynomial, exponential, logarithmic, and circular trigonometric functions; vectors; and parametric equations. The use of computer/calculator graphics technology enables the student to investigate the limit concept and characteristics of graphs of the functions studied.

Pre-Calculus Pre AP

Credit – 1

Grade – 11-12

Prerequisite - Students must have made an A in Algebra II or a B in Algebra II Pre AP, passed TAKS test, teacher recommendation, and pass entrance exam.

This course is an enhanced one-year college preparatory course that prepares the student for AP Calculus at the high school level, or college calculus upon graduation from high school. It includes the in-depth study of polynomial, exponential, logarithmic, and circular trigonometric functions including their graphs; vectors; parametric equations; polar and complex numbers; conics; linear regression; and sequences and series. The use of computer/calculator graphics technology enables the student to investigate the limit concept and characteristics of graphs of the functions studied. Students will also cover and/or review mathematical concepts necessary for success on the ACT or SAT test. **Any student with a failing 1st semester average in a Pre AP/AP class will be placed in a regular level class for the 2nd semester.**

Calculus AP

Credit – 1

Grade – 12

Prerequisite – Students must have made an A in Pre Cal or a B in Pre Cal Pre AP, passed TAKS test, teacher recommendation, and pass entrance exam.

This course is designed to prepare students to take the Advanced Placement Calculus test. Topics include derivatives, integration, and application-level problem solving requiring the use of trigonometry, algebra, elementary analysis concepts, derivatives, and definite integrals. More advanced calculus concepts are developed throughout the course, culminating with an introduction to differential equations. **Students taking this course are highly encouraged to take the Advanced Placement Test upon completion. Any student with a failing 1st semester average in a Pre AP/AP class will be placed in a regular level class for the 2nd semester.**

Applied Math I (S)

Credit – 1

Grade – 9

Prerequisite – ARD Placement

Review of basic computational skills: addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division of whole numbers, fractions, and decimals. Students also apply geometric properties and use addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division with whole numbers in practical and problem situations. Also included in this course are English and metric measurement, recognition of money, telling time, and computer assisted instruction.

Applied Math II (S)

Credit – 1

Grade – 10

Prerequisite – Applied Math I and ARD Placement

Students review addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division of whole numbers and apply concepts of checking and savings to paying bills, credit buying, insurance, and unit pricing. Course emphasizes sound financial management for successful day-to-day living. Business forms and recordkeeping systems are also studied. Students learn to find costs, discounts, and sale prices.

Applied Math III (S)

Credit – 1

Grade – 11

Prerequisite – Applied Math II and ARD Placement

Students will review Applied Math I and II. Course focuses on signed numbers, functional formulas, applications, exponents, roots, polynomials, and graphs.

Applied Math IV (S)

Credit – 1

Grade – 12

Prerequisite – Applied Math III and ARD Placement

Continuation of the essential elements developed in Applied Math I-III.

Science

Integrated Physics and Chemistry

Credit – 1

Grade – 9/10

Prerequisite – non-mastery of 8th grade Science TAKS, or following Recommended Graduation Plan, and/or teacher recommendation

This course is an overview of the concepts and principles pertaining to the interconnected nature of physics and chemistry. Key topics include the nature of science, properties and changes of matter, solution chemistry, motion, energy transformations, and waves. Many laboratory activities are included throughout the year.

This course does not meet the requirement for graduation for students graduating under the Distinguished Achievement Plan.

Biology

Credit – 1

Grade – 9/10

Prerequisite – passed 8th grade TAKS, or passed IPC

Biology is the study of all living things. Therefore, understanding life and life processes depends upon mastering the unifying principles and concepts applicable to life at all levels. Investigations into the methods of science will be made. Important topics are treated historically and logically. Experiments and lab investigations will be made as each chapter is studied.

Biology Pre AP

Credit – 1

Grade – 9/10

Prerequisite – Students must have made an A in 8th grade Science, passed 8th grade Science TAKS, and teacher recommendation.

Biology Pre AP is an intensive laboratory course that offers the student the opportunity to study fundamental biological and biochemical principles and relate them to advanced biological concepts. Higher order thinking skills, laboratory investigations, and independent projects are emphasized. The ability to understand basic chemical processes is necessary. Course emphasis will be on the study of life functions that are common to all organisms and an awareness of, and an appreciation for, the fact that all organisms with their specific adaptations carry out the same life functions. **Any student with a failing 1st semester average in a Pre AP/AP class will be placed in a regular level class for the 2nd semester. Any student with a failing 1st semester average in a Pre AP/AP class will be placed in a regular level class for the 2nd semester.**

Biology AP

Credit – 1

Grade – 11-12

Prerequisite – Students must have made an A in Biology or a B in Biology Pre AP, passed Science TAKS, teacher recommendation, and met summer requirements. Completion of Biology Pre AP and Chemistry Pre AP is recommended.

Biology AP is designed to be the equivalent of a college introductory biology course. The range and depth of topics covered, the kind of laboratory work done by students, and the time and effort required of students differs significantly from the high school biology course. This course aims to provide students with the conceptual framework, factual knowledge, and analytical skills necessary to deal with the rapidly changing science of biology. Students will be expected to accomplish these goals through many hands-on laboratory assignments and analysis of results. **Students taking this course are highly encouraged to take the Advanced Placement Test upon completion. Any student with a failing 1st semester average in a Pre AP/AP class will be placed in a regular level class for the 2nd semester.**

Chemistry (Advanced – enrolled in 9th grade in 06/07 and prior)

Chemistry (Regular – enrolled in 9th grade in 07/08 and after)

Credit – 1

Grade – 10-12

Prerequisite – Biology and Algebra I

This course addresses the fundamental concepts of chemistry including the chemical nature of solids, liquids, gases, atoms, elements, mixtures, compounds, solutions, acids, and bases. Students are introduced to properties and structure of matter, a brief history of chemistry, atomic theories, the development and use of the periodic table, and chemical bonding. Students learn to write and balance chemical equations, determine molar relationships, and use stoichiometry in calculations. The course provides opportunities to correlate hypotheses with observations of chemical phenomena through laboratory experiences.

Chemistry Pre AP

Credit – 1

Grade – 10-12

Prerequisite – Students must have made an A in Biology or a B in Biology Pre AP, and have teacher recommendation. Biology Pre AP is recommended.

This course addresses the fundamental concepts of chemistry including the chemical nature of solids, liquids, gases, atoms, elements, mixtures, compounds, solutions, acids, and bases. The course includes a brief history of chemistry, and a comprehensive study of atomic theories, the periodic table and trends, chemical nomenclature, formulas, chemical reactions and equations, stoichiometry, molar relationships, atomic structure, chemical bonding, kinetic molecular theory, and acid/base reactions. The course provides opportunities to correlate hypotheses with observations of chemical phenomena through laboratory experiences. **Any student with a failing 1st semester average in a Pre AP/AP class will be placed in a regular level class for the 2nd semester.**

Chemistry AP

Credit – 1

Grade – 11-12

Prerequisite – Students must have made an A in Chemistry or a B in Chemistry Pre AP, Algebra II or concurrently enrolled, passed TAKS Test, teacher recommendation, and met summer requirements. Chemistry Pre AP is recommended.

Chemistry AP is designed to be the equivalent of a college introductory chemistry course. The course includes a brief review of the fundamentals of chemistry, then focuses on the following area of chemistry: solution stoichiometry, predicting reactions, oxidation-reduction reactions, atomic bonding, kinetics, thermodynamics, equilibrium, acids, bases, electrochemistry, nuclear chemistry, and organic chemistry. The course provides opportunities to correlate hypotheses with observations of chemical phenomena through laboratory experiences and reporting. Critical thinking and problem solving skills are emphasized. **Students taking this course are highly encouraged to take the Advanced Placement Test upon completion. Any student with a failing 1st semester average in a Pre AP/AP class will be placed in a regular level class for the 2nd semester.**

Physics (Advanced)

Credit – 1

Grade – 11-12

Prerequisite - Algebra II and Chemistry or concurrently enrolled

This course involves the study of the relationship between matter and energy. Basically, the course includes the study of mechanics, heat, light, sound, magnetic, electric, and nuclear energy. Emphasis is based on proving basic principles through experimentation and application of such principles through problem solving. This is a college preparatory course.

Engineering: The Digital Future

Credit – 1

Grade – 11-12

Prerequisite – Students must have taken one lab science course and must have taken Algebra II or concurrently enrolled.

This is a high-tech, hands-on engineering course that focuses on the fundamentals of modern engineering and technology. It emphasizes the math, science, and basic digital technology behind engineering design. Students will analyze and design engineering systems through development of design objectives and design procedures utilizing block diagrams. Students will be exposed to a variety of current and future career opportunities in engineering and technology related fields. **Any student with a failing 1st semester average in a Pre AP/AP class will be placed in a regular level class for the 2nd semester.**

Geology, Meteorology, and Oceanography

Credit – 1

Grade – 11-12

Prerequisite – Biology and Chemistry

In Geology, Meteorology, Oceanography, students conduct field and laboratory investigations, use scientific methods during investigations, and make informed decisions using critical thinking and scientific problem solving. Students study a variety of topics that include: characteristics and conditions of the Earth; formation and history of the Earth; plate tectonics; origin and composition of minerals and rocks and the rock cycle; processes and products of weathering; natural energy resources; interactions in a watershed; characteristics of oceans; characteristics of the atmosphere; and the role of energy in weather and climate.

Aquatic Science

Credit – 1

Grade – 11-12

Prerequisite – Biology and Chemistry

In Aquatic Science, students conduct field and laboratory investigations, use scientific methods during investigations, and make informed decisions using critical thinking and scientific problem solving. Students study a variety of topics that include: components of an aquatic ecosystem; relationships among aquatic habitats and ecosystems; roles of cycles within an aquatic environment; adaptations of aquatic organisms; changes within aquatic environments; geological phenomena and fluid dynamics effects; and origin and use of water in a watershed.

Environmental Systems

Credit - 1

Grade – 11-12

Prerequisite – Biology and Chemistry

In Environmental Systems, students conduct field and laboratory investigations, use scientific methods during investigations, and make informed decisions using critical thinking and scientific problem solving. Students study a variety of topics that include: biotic and abiotic factors in habitats; ecosystems and biomes; interrelationships among resources and an environmental system; sources and flow of energy through an environmental system; relationship between carrying capacity and changes in populations and ecosystems; and changes in environments.

Astronomy

Credit - 1

Grade – 11-12

Prerequisite – Biology and Chemistry

In Astronomy, students conduct field and laboratory investigations, use scientific methods during investigations, and make informed decisions using critical thinking and scientific problem solving. Students study the following topics: information about the universe; scientific theories of the evolution of the universe; characteristics and the life cycle of stars; exploration of the universe; role of the Sun in our solar system; planets; and the orientation and placement of the Earth.

Anatomy and Physiology

Credit - 1

Grade – 11-12

Prerequisite – Biology and Chemistry or Biology and concurrently enrolled in Chemistry

In Anatomy and Physiology, students conduct field and laboratory investigations, use scientific methods during investigations, and make informed decisions using critical thinking and scientific problem solving. Students study the following topics: the energy needs of the human body and the processes through which these needs are fulfilled, the responses of the human body to internal and external forces, the body processes that maintain homeostasis, the electrical conduction processes and interactions, the body's transport systems, environmental factors that affect the human body, comparisons between anatomical structures to physiological functions, the process of reproduction, growth, and development.

Applied Science I-IV (S)

Credit – 1

Grade – 9-12

Prerequisite – ARD Placement

Students learn proper health and hygiene, earth science, life science, and simple domestic chemistry.

Social Studies

World Geography

Credit – 1

Grade – 9

Prerequisite – none

World Geography broadens a student's understanding of geographic concepts and their knowledge of people and places across the globe. Emphasis is placed on making students aware of their world through the study of places and how it affects the people living there.

World Geography Pre AP

Credit – 1

Grade – 9

Prerequisite – Students must have an A in 8th Grade Social Studies, passed 8th grade Social Studies TAKS, teacher recommendation, and met summer requirements.

This course provides students the opportunity to study the interaction of people and their physical environments in the major areas of the world. Content introduces the student to the world of geographers, their unique vocabulary, tools, the physical setting of the earth, locate and study different landforms and regions of the world, learn how people and geography impact each other, and are introduced to urban analysis. Content offers students the opportunity to put into practice the geographical concepts and skills they have accumulated throughout the social studies program beginning in the elementary grades and in the Texas and United States history courses. **Any student with a failing 1st semester average in a Pre AP/AP class will be placed in a regular level class for the 2nd semester.**

World History

Credit – 1

Grade – 10

Prerequisite – none

A survey of World History covers the period of time from the creation of the earth to present day. Upon completing this course, students should be able to understand the significance of the events, achievements, contributions, and mistakes of each historical period. Students should realize that our civilization is the sum total of what has gone before us. They should understand that our civilization can learn from the experience and mistakes of the past to prevent repetition of errors. Students should understand that many of today's world problems have historical origin.

World History Pre AP

Credit – 1

Grade – 10

Prerequisite – Students must have an A in World Geography or a B in World Geography Pre AP, and teacher recommendation.

This course will offer a more in-depth view of regular World History. Student expectations will include group and individual research activities along with problem-solving skills. Students will begin to develop an ability to analyze historical evidence and an ability to express that understanding in writing. This course will be an accelerated class and cover World History in much more detail. This course prepares students to take the College Board Advanced Placement exam. **Any student with a failing 1st semester average in a Pre AP/AP class will be placed in a regular level class for the 2nd semester.**

United States History

Credit – 1

Grade – 11

Prerequisite – World History or World Geography

The first four weeks are spent reviewing American History up to 1865. The remainder of the year includes a general study of American History to the present with special emphasis given to social, political, and economics ideas and events. Student goals include understanding how and why the present came to be; performing with greater wisdom the responsibilities of democratic citizenship; identify with institutions and traditions which have made our nation great; and an understanding of the role of capitalism in our society.

United States History AP

Credit – 1

Grade – 11

Prerequisite – Students must have made an A in World History or a B in World History Pre AP, passed 10th grade Social Studies TAKS test, have teacher recommendation and met summer requirements.

The AP program in United States History is designed to provide students with the analytical skills and factual knowledge necessary to deal critically with the problems and materials in United States history. The program prepares students for intermediate and advanced college courses by making demands upon them equivalent to those made by full-year introductory college courses. Students should learn to assess historical materials—their relevance to a given interpretive problem, their reliability, and their importance— and to weigh the evidence and interpretations presented in historical scholarship. An AP United States History course should thus develop the skills necessary to arrive at conclusions on the basis of an informed judgment and to present reasons and evidence clearly and persuasively in an essay format. **Students taking this course are highly encouraged to take the Advanced Placement Test upon completion. Any student with a failing 1st semester average in a Pre AP/AP class will be placed in a regular level class for the 2nd semester.**

United States History Dual Credit

Credit – 1

Grade – 11

Prerequisite – World History or World Geography, Admission to Wharton County Junior College

Course objectives include developing in the student critical thinking skills which would include a knowledge of, comprehension of, analysis of, synthesis of and an evaluation of the events of American History; enabling the student to identify the basic elements of the cultural heritage of the United States of America and to understand and appreciate its diversity; developing in the student an understanding of the uses of historical knowledge, to show how the past helps to explain the present and to assist the student in developing an historical perspective; and providing students with an adequate base of historical knowledge for the furtherance of their studies in other disciplines and as transfer students to other colleges. Students must meet the deadlines for enrollment with Wharton County Junior College. Students must also meet the attendance requirements of Needville ISD and the WCJC Instructor.

United States Government

Credit – ½

Grade – 12

Prerequisite – U. S. History

This course is designed to help students examine and understand the U.S. Constitution, its principles, and institutions of government at the national, state, and local levels. Students will analyze the political process and are encouraged to participate in it. The course explains how our government is organized, how it operates, and how it relates to the student's own lives and experiences.

United States Government AP

Credit – ½

Grade – 12

Prerequisite – Students must have made an A in US History or a B in US History AP, passed Exit Level Social Studies TAKS Test, teacher recommendation, and met summer requirements.

This course covers constitutional underpinnings of United States government, political beliefs and behaviors, political parties, interest groups and mass media, institutions of national governments, the Congress, the presidency, the bureaucracy, and the federal courts; public policy; and civil rights and civil liberties. This course will require students to dedicate themselves to study required by rigorous college-level standards. Students taking this course are highly encouraged to take the Advanced Placement Test upon completion.

Comparative Government and Politics AP (Spring)

Credit – ½

Grade – 12

Prerequisite – US Government AP, and teacher recommendation

This course introduces students to the fundamental concepts used by political scientists to study the processes and outcomes of politics in a variety of national settings. The Course aims to illustrate the rich diversity of political life, to show available institutional alternatives, to explain differences in processes and policy outcomes, and to communicate to students the importance of global political and economic changes. Comparison assists both in identifying problems and in analyzing policymaking. This course prepares students for and students are highly encouraged to take the College Board Advanced placement exam.

Economics (Fundamentals of Free Enterprise)

Credit – ½

Grade – 12

Prerequisite – U. S. History

This course deals with micro- and macroeconomics, economic organization, economic systems, decision making, competition and market structures, supply and demand, financial institutions, government spending, taxes, banking, the stock market, advertising, the world economy.

MicroEconomics AP (Fall)

Credit – ½

Grade – 12

Prerequisite – Students must have made an A in US History or a B in US History AP, passes Algebra II, passed Exit Level Social Studies TAKS Test, teacher recommendation, and met summer requirements

This course gives students a thorough understanding of the principles of economics that apply to the functions of individual decision makers, both consumers and producers, within the economic system. It places primary emphasis on the nature and functions of product markets, and includes the study of factor markets and the role of the government in promoting greater efficiency and equity in the economy. This course prepares students for and students are highly encouraged to take the College Board Advanced placement exam.

MacroEconomics AP(Spring)

Credit – ½

Grade – 12

Prerequisite – MicroEconomics AP, and teacher recommendation

This course gives students a thorough understanding of the principles of economics that apply to an economic system as a whole. It places primary emphasis on the study of national income and priceless determination, and also develops student familiarity with economic performance measures, the financial sector, stabilization policies, economic growth, and international economics. This course prepares students for and students are highly encouraged to take the College Board Advanced placement exam.

Sociology - Fall

Credit – ½

Grade – 11-12

Prerequisite – World Geography and World History

Students will have the opportunity to explore our culture, groups, and institutions. Students will analyze types of groups and interaction among groups. This course will also examine social institutions, their structure and formation. Students will develop an understanding of the role of beliefs, traditions, and folkways in a culture. Social problems, the impact of the media, propaganda, and cultural conflict will also be explored.

Psychology - Spring

Credit – ½

Grade – 11-12

Prerequisite – World Geography and World History

Students will examine the nature of psychology and analyze its tools and techniques. They will examine the stages of human growth and development and study the factors involved in learning and language development. They will also examine the thinking process, creativity, motivation, emotions, personality, theories, disorder therapies, and personality testing. Students will analyze the development of self-concept, study the relationships of individuals with others and groups and develop long- and short-range goals for themselves.

Community Citizenship I – World Geography Studies (S)

Credit – 1

Grade – 9-10

Prerequisite – ARD Placement

Broadens the student's knowledge of geographic concepts and the people of the world. Special attention is given to current social and political settings. The effects of environment and topography are also included.

Community Citizenship II – United States History (S)

Credit – 1

Grade – 11

Prerequisite – ARD Placement

A study of the United States' emergence as a world power; geographic influences on its historical development; its economic development and growth; and its social, cultural, and political development.

Community Citizenship III – United States Government (S)

Credit – ½

Grade – 12

Prerequisite – ARD Placement

A study of the foundations of the United States political system, including why governments are established, the difference between direct and representative democracy and U.S. political institution. Students also study the development of the U.S. governmental system; the purposes and philosophies of the Constitution, Bill of Rights, and Declaration of Independence; structures and functions of U.S. governmental systems; and participation and decision-making in civic affairs.

Community Citizenship IV – Economics (with emphasis on the Free Enterprise System and its Benefits) (S)

Credit – ½

Grade – 12

Prerequisite – ARD Placement

Provides an understanding of how the American economic system works, how it compares with other established economic systems and how the individual community and nation are involved in the system.

Speech

Communication Applications

Credit – ½

Grade – 10-12

Prerequisite – English I

Communication Applications seeks to develop skills targeted especially toward communication in the workplace. Students practice specific communication instances involving interpersonal communication with people who have different personal communication styles. Students explore professional communication experiences such as making introductions, using the phone for business, giving and receiving constructive criticism, writing a resume, interviewing, resolving conflicts, and developing leadership skills. Students also learn to prepare, develop, rehearse, and deliver oral presentations. The presentations range from informative and persuasive to impromptu and formal manuscript style speeches.

Public Speaking

Credit – 1

Grade – 9-12

Prerequisite – none

This elective course gives the student training in the basic speech techniques concentrating on facial expression, gesture, posture, voice modulation and variety, articulation, enunciation and breath control. Types of interpersonal communication such as telephone conversations, business interviews, group discussions and public speaking will be explored. Students will learn to use different types of public speaking such as demonstration speaking, informative speaking, persuasive speaking, oral poetry interpretation, and prose interpretation.

Debate I, II, III (Advanced)

Credit – 1

Grade – 9-12

Prerequisite – Debate instructor approval

Upon completion of this course, students are highly accomplished speakers, reasoners, researchers, and debaters. The major focus is in depth research skills and competitive debating. The class is heavily involved in U.I.L. competition, and students are required to attend several tournaments. They must be prepared to spend hours in research and organization of materials.

Oral Interpretation I, II, III (Advanced)

Credit – 1

Grade – 10-12

Prerequisite – Course instructor approval

This course is designed for students who wish to expand their Language Arts experience. Short selections of prose, poetry, and drama will be developed for performance in conjunction with the teacher. Areas of study will include literary selection and analysis, breath control, articulation, projection, physicalization, concentration, and evaluation. Contest participation outside of class is required and is an integral part of your evaluation in this course.

Independent Study in Speech (Advanced)

Credit – ½ to 1

Grade – 12

Prerequisite – 3 credits of speech/debate and instructor approval

This advanced level course allows the student to determine a special project in speech communications study that requires the use of research skills in addressing a specific problem/issue/question/topic. The student is required to establish a project proposal and then work through the proposal and present written and/or oral defensive/explanation. The policy can deal with a political, social, or literary question.

Creative Writing

Credit – ½ to 1

Grade – 9-12

Prerequisite – none

Creative writing is for the student who enjoys writing on his own and would like to develop his creativity and increase his output. Writing is concentrated on the genres of poetry, short story, and various types of essays. The course involves keeping a journal of observations and ideas to serve as a springboard to creative invention. Students will frequently work on a one-to-one basis with the instructor to develop individual projects. Students are encouraged to participate in writing workshops and contests.

Fine Arts

Art I

Credit – 1

Grade – 9-12

Prerequisite – none

The beginning art student explores a variety of concepts that provides a basic knowledge of art topics. Art Elements and Principles and perspective drawing are studied during the first semester. The second semester mainly deals with Art History.

Art II

Credit – 1

Grade – 10-12

Prerequisite – Art I

The second year art student applies the knowledge and skills learned in the first year class. Art elements and principles are applied to specific assignments. Students increase their understanding by accomplishing projects that result in physical and visual enhancement of their skills. Ceramics is offered to increase three-dimensional abilities.

Art III

Credit – 1

Grade – 11-12

Prerequisite – Art II

The third year art student is encouraged to apply skills and techniques from Art I and Art II courses to a wide range of self-study projects. The Art III class is self-paced and students work toward the completion of portfolio items.

Art IV

Credit – 1

Grade – 12

Prerequisite – Art III

The fourth year art student works on self-study projects designed to enhance specific skills. The main emphasis for Art IV students is the accumulation of portfolio work. Art IV stresses quality, not quantity.

High School Band I, II, III, IV

Credit – 1 each year

Grade – 9-12

Prerequisite – Director approval and audition

The High School Band is a continuation of the music education process started in the Middle School and continued through the Junior High School. The band is a competitive organization that participates in many contests and festivals. The band is also a service organization that provides music for pep rallies, football games, etc. It is a learning experience that cannot be equaled in any other course. The Needville High School Band emphasizes pride, dedication, and leadership.

Choir I

Credit – 1

Grade – 9-12

Prerequisite – Audition

This course contains rehearsal and performance of a variety of choral music and fundamentals of music theory. Students participate in several concerts each year and will participate in performances at school and at community events. You must audition and be accepted into this program.

Choir II

Credit – 1

Grade – 9-12

Prerequisite – Audition

This course is a continuation of Choir I. You must audition and be accepted into this program.

Theatre Arts I

Credit – 1

Grade – 9-12

Prerequisite – none

This course offers an introduction to both acting and to the technical aspects of theatre arts. Topics include a survey of the historical evaluation of the theatre, beginning voice and diction, movement techniques, acting techniques, mime, improvisation, application of stage makeup, use of properties and costuming, and backstage work including lighting and set construction. This course fulfills the Fine Art credit for the Recommended and Distinguished Graduation Plans.

Theatre Production I

Credit – 1

Grade – 9-12

Prerequisite – none

This course provides all the required elements of Theatre Arts I **with required participation in theatre production**. This course requires many hours of after school work. This course fulfills the Fine Art credit for the Recommended and Distinguished Graduation Plans.

Theatre Production II

Credit – ½-1

Grade – 10-12

Prerequisite – Theatre Production I

This course is a continuation of Theatre Production I.

Theatre Production III

Credit – ½-1

Grade – 11-12

Prerequisite – Theatre Production II

This course is a continuation of Theatre Production II.

Theatre Production IV

Credit – ½-1

Grade – 12

Prerequisite – Theatre Production III

This course is a continuation of Theatre Production III.

Health/Physical Education

Health Education

Credit – ½

Grade – 9-12

Prerequisite – none

Health education is a course designed to acquaint students with such subjects as (1) diseases – prevention, cure, and causes; (2) social health – emotional, mental, dating, and marriage; (3) nutrition and its value; (4) drugs, including a section on alcohol and cigarettes. This course also discusses the job opportunities and career developments in several areas of health education.

Introduction to Health Science Technology

Credit – ½

Grade – 10-12

Prerequisite – None

Introduction to Health Science Technology is designed to give an overview of the therapeutic, diagnostic, environmental, and information systems of the health care industry. The course focuses on health careers, exploration, leadership development, ethical and legal responsibilities, the history of health care and the economics of health care. Students will develop a concept of health and wellness from the perspective of a health consumer as well as a potential health professional.

Medical Terminology

Credit – ½

Grade – 10-12

Prerequisite – None

This course will develop knowledge and use of the medical language by building word skills, learning prefixes, suffixes, roots, and abbreviations necessary for entry-level or continued post-secondary education. Students will use related medical abbreviations, acronyms, and symbols; identify basic structure of medical words; practice word-building skills; use directional terms and anatomical planes related to body structure; accurately spell and define occupationally specific terms relating to body systems, surgical and diagnostic procedures, diseases, and treatments. Students will apply the appropriate verbal and written strategies; correctly pronounce medical terms; communicate; evaluate the verbal and written language in a variety of health care scenarios; and read and interpret technical material using medical and dental dictionaries. Students will use electronic multimedia, the Internet, and other telecommunication resources with appropriate supervision to research medical journal or information to develop medical terminology skills and understanding.

Physical Education

Credit – ½-1

Grade – 9-12

Prerequisite – none

In this course, major emphasis is placed on team sports such as volleyball, softball, and basketball, although some individual sports are played. Students will develop an understanding of the rules of the games and have the knowledge and skills necessary to participate in the games as a player or spectator. They will develop good sportsmanship habits and learn strategies necessary to participate in each of the team sports. Students will be encouraged to develop positive health and fitness attitudes, skills, and behaviors that will help them lead a long and healthy life. Students will also be given physical fitness tests.

Athletics

Credit – ½-1 (After a student has earned two P.E. credits, all additional credits become local)

Grade – 9-12

Prerequisite – Coaches' approval

The Needville Athletic Program is designed to build character in each student-athlete through a strong work ethic, perseverance, and a commitment to excellence in the arena and the classroom. Each student-athlete will be challenged physically and mentally in a variety of sports including the following:

Girls: Volleyball, Basketball, Cross Country, Softball, Track & Field, Tennis, Golf, and Powerlifting

Boys: Football, Basketball, Cross Country, Baseball, Track & Field, Tennis, Golf, and Powerlifting

Technology Applications

Desktop Publishing

Credit – 1 Technology Applications credit

Grade – 9-12

Prerequisite – Principal/Counselor Approval

Students will learn to utilize all components of desktop publishing software. Principles of layout and design will be practiced. Emphasis on creation of student projects including newsletters, brochures, promotional materials, etc.

Computer Science I (Advanced)

Credit – 1 Technology Applications credit

Grade – 9-12

Prerequisite – Algebra 1

Computer Science I is a beginning course in Visual Basic.Net and Java programming with an emphasis on problem solving and object oriented programming. Students will be expected to participate by solving problems, implementing those solutions on the computer, and then testing the problems using reasonable data to insure accuracy. The problems solved will include an introduction to graphical interfaces which will be incorporated throughout the curriculum. Students will also learn to build and program LEGO Mindstorm Robots. This course could be for students going into the work force or into the fields of computers, math, sciences, or engineering in college.

Computer Science I (AP)

Credit – 1 Technology Applications credit or 4th year Math credit

Grade – 10-12

Prerequisite – Algebra II or concurrently taking Algebra II for Technology Applications credit; Algebra II for 4th year math credit

Computer Science I AP is a beginning course of Java programming with an emphasis on problem solving in preparation for the Advanced Placement A exam to be given in May at a cost to the student. Students will be expected to participate by solving problems, implementing those solutions on the computer, and then testing the problems using reasonable data to insure accuracy. Students will apply the programming skills developed in this course to text processing, simulations, data analysis, data management, games, and graphics. Students will also learn to build and program LEGO Mindstorm Robots. Students will be eligible to compete in local programming contests, TCEA (Texas Computer Education Association) team computer contests, and UIL Computer Science. This course could be for students going into the work force or into the fields of computers, math, sciences, or engineering in college.

Computer Science II (Advanced)

Credit – 1 Technology Applications credit

Grade – 11-12

Prerequisite – Computer Science I AP

This course is intended as a preparation for advanced study in the discipline of computer programming. The focus will be on the programming language of Java. HTML and JavaScript will also be covered in the second semester. Students will continue to build and program LEGO Mindstorm Robots. Students will be eligible to compete in local programming contests, TCEA (Texas Computer Education Association) team computer contests, and UIL Computer Science.

Computer Science II (AP)

Credit – 1 Technology Applications credit or 4th year Math Credit

Grade – 11-12

Prerequisite – Computer Science I AP

This course is intended as a preparation for advanced study in the discipline of computer programming. The focus will be on the programming language of Java with an emphasis on problem solving in preparation for the Advanced Placement AB Exam to be given in May at a cost to the student. Students will continue to build and program LEGO Mindstorm Robots. Students will be eligible to compete in local programming contests, TCEA (Texas Computer Education Association) team computer contests, and UIL Computer Science.

Independent Study in Technology Applications – Computer Science III (Advanced)

Credit – 1 Technology Applications credit

Grade – 12

Prerequisite – Computer Science II or Computer Science II AP

This course provides opportunities for students desiring to continue their programming skills. Students will get to choose the language or software that they will learn.

Independent Study in Technology Applications – Computer Science IV (Advanced)

Credit – 1 Technology Applications credit

Grade – 12

Prerequisite – Computer Science III

This course provides opportunities for students desiring to continue their programming skills. Students will get to choose the language or software that they will learn.

OdysseyWare

OdysseyWare

Credit – Determined by individual student completion

Grade – 2nd year 9-12

Prerequisite – Failure of one or more semesters of a core class, or credit advancement

This is a self-paced curriculum for students that wish to restore credit in a class that was previously failed, or to obtain credit for advancement. Students may not use OdysseyWare to obtain credit in a TAKS tested area. Students must gain at least one semester of credit per semester to remain eligible for OdysseyWare. These courses may require an additional fee set forth by the school district. Courses that are completed in OdysseyWare will not be used in calculating class rank or GPA.

Local Electives

TAKS Skills (Remediation for TAKS)

Credit – none

Grade – 9-12

Prerequisite – Failing scores on more than one section of the TAKS Test

This course is designed to help students who have not mastered TAKS. The objectives tested are addressed in this class in preparation for the TAKS Test, which is a requirement for graduation from high school.

Senior Privilege

Credit – none

Grade – 12

Prerequisite – 18 credits, passed all parts of TAKS, parent approval, principal approval

Senior Privilege is designed for 12th grade students who have earned enough credits for graduation and do not need to take any extra courses. Students have the option of reporting to school at 2nd period or leaving school after 6th period.

Enrichment

Credit – none

Grade – 9-11

Prerequisite – failing score on one section of the TAKS Test.

This course is designed to help students who have not mastered TAKS. The objectives tested are addressed in this class in preparation for the TAKS Test, which is a requirement for graduation from high school. Any student that fails one section of TAKS will be placed automatically in enrichment.

Peer Assistance

Peer Assistance and Leadership (PALS) I

Credit – 1

Grade – 11-12

Prerequisite – Meet requirements

Students go through an application process for selection. Once selected, students are trained to interact with other students. Listening skills and other peer helper skills are developed. Students will work with high school, middle school, intermediate school, and elementary school students as needed.

Peer Assistance and Leadership (PALS) II

Credit – 1

Grade – 12

Prerequisite – PALS I

This course is a continuation of PALS I.

Vocational Preparation Programs

Occupational Preparation I, II, III (S)

Credit – 1

Grade – 10-12

Prerequisite – ARD Placement

Students learn fundamental steps in learning about career choices, finding employment and in succeeding on the job.

VAC (Vocational Experience) (S)

Credit – ARD Decision

Grade – 10-12

Prerequisite – ARD Placement, Occupation Preparation or concurrently enrolled

Students perform jobs off campus.

Community Based Training Instruction (CBTI) (S)

Credit – 4

Grade – 9-12

Prerequisite – ARD Placement

Students learn to perform tasks on the job site, such as custodial duties, restocking shelves and coolers, collating, filing, and organizing.

Activities of Daily Living I-VI (S)

Credit – 1

Grade – 9-12

Prerequisite – ARD Placement

Students learn to perform daily tasks for housekeeping, shopping, cooking, serving, crafts, and home decorating.

Personal Health and Hygiene I-VI (S)

Credit – 1

Grade – 9-12

Prerequisite – ARD Placement

This class is to help students develop proper hygiene and good health habits.

CAREER AND TECHNOLOGY EDUCATION

Needville Independent School District's Career and Technology Education program is designed to guide students into career pathways during high school that will provide a firm academic and technological foundation on which to build their future career plans and to take advantage of preparation opportunities. Because today's jobs require a blend of strong academic skills and thorough understanding of new technological equipment, a high school diploma is no longer enough to lead to a secure job. Increased use of computers has created new jobs that require a broad base of skills in math, science, and communication, combined with an understanding of mechanical operations and processes. In the future, employment will require retraining for new jobs that do not now exist, while many of today's jobs will no longer exist.

Career and Technology Education career paths lead to skills and/ or certifications required for certain types of jobs, two-year associate degrees and four-year bachelor's degrees. To guarantee that students who complete the program will have the skills needed for employment in current and future job markets, Career and Technology Education's varied curriculum designs have been developed jointly by representatives of secondary and post-secondary education, business, and industry.

Career and Technology Education courses in grades 9 and 10 share common elements and accommodate career pathway options. Students entering ninth grade can select a group of careers and begin to focus on one or more within that group as they proceed through high school. Courses in grades 11 and 12 are more specific in career focus and lead to post-secondary options. College credit is granted for several courses at specific community colleges through an articulation process.

While Needville ISD makes a concerted effort to avail Career and Technology Education programs to all students, all courses may not be available to every student in NISD because of transportation and facility demands.

Agricultural Science

Introduction to World of Agriculture 101 - Fall

Credit – ½

Grade – 9

Prerequisite – none

A comprehensive basic course designed to introduce beginning students to global agriculture. The course includes agriculture career development, leadership, communications, and personal finance.

Applied Agriculture 102 – Spring

Credit – ½

Grade – 9

Prerequisite – Ag 101

A comprehensive basic applied course designed to enhance the agriculture comprehension of beginning students. The course includes soils, plants, animals, agriculture construction, food science, supervised occupational experience programs, and leadership.

Introduction to Agriculture Mechanics 221 – Fall

Credit – ½

Grade – 10-12

Prerequisite – none

A cluster course designed to familiarize the student with basic theory and specialized skills. Skills will be developed in the areas of tool identification and safe use, carpentry, electricity, plumbing, masonry, fence building, painting, metalworking, and welding processes.

Agriculture Metal Fabrication 322 – Spring

Credit – ½
Grade – 10-12
Prerequisite – Ag 221

A technical course to develop skills in metal equipment assembly and joining processes.

Animal and Plant Production 231 – Fall

Credit – ½
Grade – 10-12
Prerequisite – none

A cluster course that includes principles of animal and plant production and the management of soils as related to agriculture.

Food Technology 241 – Spring

Credit – ½
Grade – 10-12
Prerequisite – none

A course that concern world food production; the processing, preparing, and packaging of foods; government regulations regarding foods; exploring occupational opportunities; and leadership development.

Wildlife and Recreation 381 – Fall

Credit – ½
Grade – 10-12
Prerequisite – none

A technical course designed to examine the importance of wildlife and outdoor recreation with emphasis on using wildlife and natural resources.

Exploring Aquaculture 282 - Spring

Credit – ½
Grade – 10-12
Prerequisite – none

This agricultural industry course familiarizes students with concepts and skills related to the production of aquaculture crops.

Introduction to Horticulture Sciences 261 – Fall

Credit – ½
Grade – 10-12
Prerequisite – none

This exploratory course is designed to introduce students to horticultural sciences with emphasis on technical skills, entrepreneurship, and occupational opportunities.

Horticultural Plant Production 362 – Spring

Credit – ½
Grade – 10-12
Prerequisite – none

This technical course prepares students to produce greenhouse/nursery plants and to maintain plant growth and propagation structures.

Animal Science 332 - Fall

Credit – ½
Grade – 11-12
Prerequisite – none

A technical course designed to develop knowledge and skills pertaining to the nutrition, reproduction, health, and management of domestic animals.

Equine Science 334 – Spring

Credit – ½

Grade – 11-12

Prerequisite – none

A technical course designed to develop knowledge and skills pertaining to the selection, nutrition, reproduction, health, and management of horses.

Agriculture Mechanics 422 - I and II

Credit – 2

Grade – 11-12

Prerequisite – Ag 221/322, Bennett Mechanical Comprehension Test, Seniors are given first choice

A pre-employment lab course that prepares students to: understand the importance of Agriculture mechanics; select tractors and equipment; diagnose engine conditions; service and repair small gas engines; perform electric and oxyfuel repair; construct agricultural structures; perform electrical wiring; and set up, adjust, operate, and maintain farm machinery.

Floral Design and Interior Landscape Development 363 – Fall

Credit – ½

Grade – 10-12

Prerequisite – none

This technical course prepares students to design and arrange flowers, foliage, and related plant materials for interior locations.

Landscape Design, Construction, and Maintenance 361 – Spring

Credit – ½

Grade – 10-12

Prerequisite – none

This technical course prepares students to design, construct, and maintain planted areas and devices for the beautification of home grounds and other areas of human habitation and recreation.

Home Maintenance and Improvement 222 – Fall

Credit – ½

Grade – 10-12

Prerequisite – none

The home maintenance class develops student's skill and knowledge needed to maintain and improve homes and adjacent buildings, including the analysis of repair needs and the use of approved safety techniques.

Agriculture Structures Technology 321 – Spring

Credit – ½

Grade – 10-12

Prerequisite – none

The structures class develops technical skills in the maintenance, evaluation, design, and completion of agriculture structures using contemporary construction techniques.

Diversified Career Preparation

Credit – 3

Grade – 11-12

Prerequisite – complete application

DCP education refers to an instructional arrangement, not a course or training area. This work-based instructional arrangement develops essential knowledge and skills through classroom technical instruction and on-the-job training in an approved career and technology specific training area that has already been approved and assigned a course number. Students will receive general employability skills as a group; however each student will have an individual training plan that will address their job specific knowledge and skills. Approved training sponsors will employ each student.

Business Education

Accounting

Credit – 1

Grade – 11-12

Prerequisite – None

The course is designed for students who have a variety of career objectives, not just accounting. The different steps in the accounting cycle for each form of business ownership (proprietorship, partnership, and corporation) are presented. Through actual use of accounting forms and records, students are able to gain practical experience in the world of business. Also some automated accounting may be introduced.

Business Computer Information Systems (BCIS) I

Credit – 1 Technology Application credit

Grade – 9-12

Prerequisite – none

Students implement interpersonal skills to strengthen individual performances in the work place and in society and to make a successful transition to the work force or education. Students will learn how to do word processing, spreadsheets, databases, publishing, presentations, and telecommunications. This class could be for students going into business, education, the work force, or college.

Business Computer Information Systems (BCIS) II (Advanced)

Credit – 1 Technology Application credit

Grade – 10-12

Prerequisite – BCIS I

This course will continue to develop the skills that were formed in BCIS I. More advanced features of MS Office will be covered. Students will also be working to earn their MOS (Microsoft Office Specialist) certification which is a testing program designed to validate desktop computer skills and measure proficiency and efficiency with Office applications. MOS certification is a recognized program in the business environment.

Business Image Management and Multimedia

Credit – 1 Technology Applications credit

Grade – 9-12

Prerequisite – none

This course is designed to provide students with opportunities to develop skills to meet the changing needs of businesses in the areas related to graphics and multimedia. Students will learn how to prepare presentations in a variety of formats. Develop proficiencies in designing, importing, and manipulating advanced text, graphics, audio, and video in presentation management, multimedia production, publishing systems, and emerging technologies.

Principles of Marketing – Fall

Credit – ½

Grade – 9-12

Prerequisite – None

An exploratory course designed to focus on each of the functions of marketing, their relationships, and the marketing process for goods, services, and ideas. Students will apply these principles and concepts in marketing and non-marketing careers. This course is an excellent choice for a college-bound or work oriented student who wishes to pursue a career in marketing and/or management.

Retailing – Spring

Credit – ½

Grade – 9-12

Prerequisite – None

This course focuses on the retail phase of marketing and addresses topics related to store operations, buying, selling, merchandising, advertising, display, credit transactions, merchandising math, inventory control, security, staffing ownership, and management. Retailing is an excellent choice for a college-bound or work oriented student who wishes to pursue a career in retail merchandising and/or management.

Family and Consumer Science

Personal and Family Development

Credit – 1

Grade – 9

Prerequisite – none

Family and Consumer Science education provides students with essential knowledge and skills for managing the challenges of living and working in a global society. Units of study will include: Personal development, family roles and functions, child development, apparel, consumer and resource management, housing and interior design, nutrition and food preparation, and career preparation.

Nutrition and Food Science - Fall

Credit – ½

Grade – 10-12

Prerequisite – none

Nutrition and food science provides students with essential knowledge and skills for making informed nutritional choices to promote overall good health and wellness. Food safety and sanitation, basic human nutrition, meal planning, and simple meal preparation are major topics. Students may use these skills to improve personal and career effectiveness or pursue a career related to nutrition, food science, or food service.

Food Science and Technology - Spring

Credit – ½

Grade – 10-12

Prerequisite – none

Food science and technology provides students with essential knowledge and skills for making nutritional choices to promote overall good health and wellness. The chemical and physical changes affecting food, evaluating food resources, and scientific research in food are major topics. Students may use these skills to improve personal and career effectiveness or pursue a career related to nutrition, food science, or food service.

Preparation for Parenting – Fall

Credit – ½

Grade – 10-12

Prerequisite – none

Preparation for Parenting provides students with essential knowledge and skills related to parenting and the growth of children. The course will address roles and responsibilities of caregivers, qualities needed for effective parenting, stages of growth and development, the importance of wholesome family relationships, and related careers.

Child Development – Spring

Credit – ½

Grade – 10-12

Prerequisite – none

Child Development is the study of children's development through early childhood. The course will provide activities and lessons that include pregnancy/prenatal development; genetics/birth defects; physical, emotional, intellectual, social and moral development; children's nutrition; and related careers.

Interior Design – Fall

Credit – ½

Grade – 10-12

Prerequisite – none

Interior Design provides students with essential knowledge and skills for selecting, designing, and utilizing interior spaces and furnishings. Students learn budgeting considerations, elements and principles of design, lighting, backgrounds and furnishing guidelines to create or evaluate the effect of environment on individuals. Students may use these skills to improve personal and career effectiveness or pursue a career related to the housing industry.

Apparel – Spring

Credit – ½

Grade – 10-12

Prerequisite – none

Apparel provides students with essential knowledge and skills for selecting, maintaining, and managing apparel and textiles. Students learn to budget, repair, and care for clothing. Elements and principles of design related to textiles and clothing are included in the course. Students may use these skills to improve personal and career effectiveness or pursue a career related to the apparel industry.

Ready, Set, Teach! I (Advanced)

Credit – 2

Grade – 11-12

Prerequisite – Preparation for Parenting/Child Development recommended

Ready, Set, Teach! I is a field-based internship class that focuses on child development and the principles of teaching. Students will observe classroom teachers at the elementary, intermediate, middle, and junior high levels. They will also plan and prepare instructional materials, assist with classroom activities, and complete other responsibilities of classroom teachers.

Ready, Set, Teach! II (Advanced)

Credit – 2

Grade – 12

Prerequisite – Ready, Set, Teach! I

Ready, Set, Teach! II is a field-based internship class that is a continuation of the first year course. Students will observe and work with classroom teachers at the elementary, intermediate, middle, or junior high levels. They will plan and direct individualized instruction and group activities, assist with record keeping, prepare instructional materials, and assist with other teacher responsibilities. Ready, Set, Teach! II students will apply principles/practices that are studied in the classroom.

Culinary Arts I (Advanced)

Credit – 2

Grade – 11-12

Prerequisite – Nutrition and Food Science/Food Science and Technology recommended

Culinary Arts I is a study of the fundamentals of food preparation and cookery. Cooking techniques, material handling, heat transfer, sanitation, safety, nutrition and professionalism will be taught in the classroom and practiced in the foods lab. This course will help prepare for a career in the food service industry. Students will be required to purchase an approved uniform for class.

Culinary Arts II (Advanced)

Credit – 2

Grade – 12

Prerequisite – Culinary Arts I and teacher recommendation

Culinary Arts II is the continuation of the study of food preparation and cookery. Advanced cooking techniques, material handling, heat transfer, sanitation, safety, nutrition and professionalism will be taught in the classroom and practiced in the foods lab. This course will help prepare for a career in the food service industry. Internship or community work site in the food service industry will be required. Students will be required to purchase an approved uniform for class.

Technology Education

Engineering Graphics

Credit – 1

Grade – 10-12

Prerequisites – Algebra I

This course emphasizes mechanical drawing with introduction to production. The students learn about machine design, fabrication, jigs, and fixtures. The students learn to use computer-aided drafting system and reproduction equipment to produce technical drawings. Some scale models are done. This is an introduction to architectural graphics.

Architectural Graphics

Credit – 1

Grade – 11-12

Prerequisites – Engineering Graphics

This course is an architectural drafting course. This course contains basic skills related to design and construction. Students learn to use computer-aided drafting and reproduction equipment systems to produce floor plans, pictorial/detail drawings, schedules, specifications, structural types and systems. They also use reproduction equipment to produce residential/commercial drawings. This class also includes model building.

Manufacturing Systems

Credit – 1

Grade – 9-12

Prerequisite – none

Students gain knowledge and skill in the application, design, production, and assessment of products, services, and systems. Knowledge and skills in the proper application of technology, the design of technology, the efficient production of technology, and the assessment of the effects of technology prepare students for success in the modern world. The study of technology allows students to reinforce, apply, and transfer their academic knowledge and skills to a variety of interesting and relevant activities, problems, and settings. In addition to their general academic and technical knowledge and skills, students gain an understanding of career opportunities available in technology and what employers require to gain and maintain employment in these careers.

Bluejay U

Needville High School will provide its students the opportunity to receive college level credit through its course offerings. These classes will include but will not be limited to AP classes, Dual Credit classes, and articulation agreement classes. These courses may be offered at Needville High School or at other locations such as Wharton County Junior College in Wharton or at the WCJC Tech Center in Richmond. Senior students that have earned enough credits to graduate may be allowed to concurrently enroll at a community or junior college. Students must receive prior approval from Needville High School before enrolling in any college class. Proof of enrollment must be provided to Needville High School. Enrollment and tuition and/or fees for any college course are the responsibility of the student. Failure to attend or withdrawal from these courses will result in the student being placed in courses at Needville High School.

The following courses will be offered at Needville High School:

AP Courses (may earn up to 36 hours of college credit)

Students may pay for and take AP test(s) that is/are written by the College Board and receive between 3 and 6 hours of college credit (depending upon the university or college) if a 3 or higher is scored on the test. AP tests cost approximately \$50 per test. Students with low economic status qualify for reduced prices on these exams.

English III AP	see description on page 8
English IV AP	see description on page 8
Calculus AP	see description on page 12
Biology AP	see description on page 13
Chemistry AP	see description on page 14
US History AP	see description on page 15
US Government AP	see description on page 16
Comparative Government and Politics AP	see description on page 16
Microeconomics AP	see description on page 16
Macroeconomics AP	see description on page 16
Computer Science I AP	see description on page 21
Computer Science II AP	see description on page 22

Dual Credit Courses (may earn up to 12 hours of college credit)

Students may enroll and take dual credit courses through Wharton County Junior College at Needville High School. Students must meet requirements for enrollment at WCJC prior to enrolling in these courses. One such requirement is the Texas Higher Education Assessment Exam (THEA). Students must pass the test or show proof of exemption from TAKS scores (2200 on ELA and 2200 on Math), Composite ACT score of 23 with at least a score of 19 in English and Math, or SAT Score of 1090 (CR + M) with at least a 500 in Critical Reading and Math. It is the student's responsibility for enrolling and payment of tuition according to deadlines set by WCJC. Failure to do so will result in student removal from the class. Students will receive 3 hours of college credit for each semester of dual credit successfully completed.

English IV Dual Credit (English 1301 and English 1302 at WCJC)	see description on page 8
US History Dual Credit (History 1301 and History 1302 at WCJC)	see description on page 15
Police Academy (CRJR 1000 and CJCR 1004 at WCJC)	see description on page 32

Police Academy

Grade – 12

Students that are enrolled in police academy classes at Needville High School may continue with classes at WCJC. WCJC offers an Associate's Degree in Criminal Justice, and certification as a Basic Peace Officer. Students must be 21 years of age or older at completion of the course and pass the criminal history check to enroll in the Basic Peace Officer Class. This is a one semester course and students receive 20 hours of college credit.

CRJR 1000 - Basic County Corrections Officer (Fall)

This is a non-credit college course. Students that complete this course are eligible to test to become a Certified Correction's Officer and are job ready.

One of the fastest growing employment opportunities is in the field of county corrections. This course will give the student the knowledge and skills to work in any county jail in Texas. The student who successfully completes this course will be eligible to take the Texas Jailer's Licensing Exam. This certification could assist the graduate in employment in a life-long career.

Criteria: the student must not currently be under indictment for any criminal offense, must be at least 18 years or older, have never been convicted of an offense above the grade of a Class B Misdemeanor or convicted of a Class B misdemeanor within the last ten years, and have never been convicted of any family violence offense.

CJCR 1004 – Basic Telecommunicator (Police Dispatcher) (Spring)

This is a non-credit college course. Students that complete this course are eligible to test to become a Certified Communications Operator and are job ready.

Trained police dispatchers are in demand. The police dispatcher serves as a vital link between the public and the police. The professional telecommunicator also has the job of coordinating other emergency services to scenes which require immediate attention. This person must be capable of handling both emergency and non-emergency situations in a calm and effective manner. The student must have basic typing or computer skills. The Basic Telecommunicator's course will give the student the knowledge and skills to perform these tasks. This course is sanctioned by the Texas Commission on Law Enforcement, which allows the student who successfully completes the course to take the Telecommunicator's Licensing Exam for certification.

Criteria: the student must not currently be under indictment for any criminal offense, must be at least 18 years or older, have never been convicted of an offense above the grade of a Class B Misdemeanor or convicted of a Class B misdemeanor within the last ten years, and have never been convicted of any family violence offense.

The following courses will be offered at Wharton County Junior College in Wharton. Times and attendance requirements for these courses are set by Wharton County Junior College.

Cosmetology (may earn up to 8 hours of college credit)

Grade – 12

These courses are offered from 12:30 – 4:30 Monday through Friday. Listed below are descriptions of the courses. Students that are enrolled in cosmetology classes while in Needville High School may continue with classes at WCJC after high school graduation to obtain a cosmetology certification.

CSME 1401 – Orientation to Cosmetology (Fall)

Prerequisite - None

Designed to teach the rules and regulations of the Cosmetology commission; classroom rules, equipment safety, professional image, bacterial decontamination and infection control are also covered.

CSME 1405 – Fundamentals of Cosmetology (Spring)

Prerequisite – None

This course is designed to teach skills in draping, shampooing, manicuring, and facials.

Heating, Air Conditioning, and Refrigeration Technology (may earn up to 36 hours of college credit) Grade – 12

These courses are offered in two formats. The first format (3 courses per semester) has students taking classes at WCJC on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday from 9:00 until 11:40 and 1:00 until 4:00. Students also take classes on Tuesday and Thursday from 1:00 until 4:00. This is a 3 semester program that includes a long summer session. Students in this format graduate in 1 calendar year with a Heating/Air Conditioning Certification. The second format (2 classes per semester) has students taking classes at WCJC Monday through Friday from 1:00 until 4:00. This is a 4 semester program that includes a long summer session. Students graduate from WCJC after 1½ years with a Heating/Air Conditioning Certification.

HART 1401 – Electricity Principles (Fall)

These courses are designed to teach the principles of electricity as required by HVAC technicians, including proper use of test equipment, AC and DC circuits, and component theory and operation.

HART 1403 – A/C Control Principles (Fall)

A basic study of electrical, pressure, and temperature controls, including motor starting devices, operating relays, and troubleshooting safety controls and devices. Emphasis on use of wiring diagrams to analyze high and low voltage circuits. A review of Ohm's Law as applied to AC circuits and controls.

HART 1407 – Refrigeration Principles (Fall)

An introduction to the mechanical refrigeration cycle, basic thermodynamics, heat transfer, temperature/pressure relationship, safety, refrigeration containment, and refrigeration components.

HART 1441 – Residential Air Conditioning (Spring)

Components, applications, and installation of mechanical air conditioning systems including operating conditions, troubleshooting, repair, and charging of air conditioning systems.

HART 2442 – Commercial Refrigeration (Spring)

The theory of and practical application in the maintenance of commercial refrigeration; high, medium, and low temperature applications and ice machines.

HART 1445 – Gas and Electric Heating (Spring)

A study of the procedures and principles used in servicing heating systems including gas-fired and electric furnaces.

The following courses will be offered at the WCJC Tech Center in Richmond. Times and attendance requirements for these courses are set by Wharton County Junior College.

Fire Safety Programs

Grade – 12

These courses prepare students for the Fire Certificate and allow students to be members of a volunteer fire department. Students enrolled in the Fire Safety Program at Needville High School may continue with classes at WCJC Tech Center in the Fire Academy. This Academy is a one semester class that meets 8:00 AM until 5:00 PM Monday through Friday. Students must be at least 18 years of age and pass the criminal history check to enroll in the Fire Academy. Students that complete the Fire Academy will earn 26 hours of college credit

FIRS 1001 LL42 – Firefighter Certification I (Fall)

This is the introduction course to the Fire Fighter Certification I – Introduction to fire fighter safety and development. Topics include Texas commission of Fire Protection Rules and Regulations, fire fighter safety, fire science, personal protective equipment, self-contained breathing apparatus, and Fire reports and records.

Criteria: the student must not have been convicted of any type of a felony offense, must not be on probation for any criminal offense above a grade of Class C Misdemeanor, have not been convicted of any grade offense for Family Violence, Class A or B Misdemeanor offense (including DWI or DUID) within the last 5 years, have been honorably discharged from the military, possess a valid Texas driver's license, must have physical endurance to lift a normal size human, and be accepted as a student at WCJC.

FIRS 1007 LL42 – Firefighter Certification II (Spring)

The study of basic principles and skill development in handling fire service hose and ladders. Topics include the distribution system of water supply; basic building construction; and emergency service communication, procedures, and equipment.

After completion of Fire Fighter Certification I and II the student will be completing the certification process, certification classes III – VII, online and weekends at the Fort Bend County Fire field, governed by the Texas commission on Fire Protection, the next semester after graduation.

Criteria: the student must not have been convicted of any type of a felony offense, must not be on probation for any criminal offense above a grade of Class C Misdemeanor, have not been convicted of any grade offense for Family Violence, Class A or B Misdemeanor offense (including DWI or DUID) within the last 5 years, have been honorably discharged from the military, possess a valid Texas driver's license, must have physical endurance to lift a normal size human, and be accepted as a student at WCJC.

Recommended Plan Credit Worksheet

Distinguished Plan Credit Worksheet