



# High School Course Catalog 2023-2024



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# Registration Guidelines

At HOPE Community Academy High School, students are given the responsibility of choosing their classes for the upcoming term. After a student registers for their classes, they may schedule an individual meeting with a counselor to review their course selections. Before the end of the term, students are given a copy of their upcoming schedule to review for a second time. During the review process, students are able to make changes/drop classes.

A week before school starts, students are able to view their schedule online and email the counselor with any errors. Once the school year begins, the following policy is in place:

*If a student would like to drop a class, it will only be approved for very limited reasons. Exceptions may be made with administrative and teacher approval only for the following reasons:*

- *Medical reasons*
- *Inappropriate academic placement*
- *Mandated by a student's IEP*

*If approved, students must complete the "Drop/Add Form" which can be picked up in the Counseling Office. Parent signature is required.*

Even though classes are graded quarterly, credits are awarded as the sum total of the percentage of both quarter grades (ex. Quarter 1- 92 %, Quarter 2 76 % for an average of 84%, therefore the students final semester grade would be a B, and the student will be awarded 2 credits) . Classes are scheduled either semester-long or year-long. There are no classes that begin in Quarter 2 or Quarter 4, so students may not drop classes at the end of Quarter 1 or Quarter 3. Please check course descriptions in the Registration Guide for more information. Students may not drop a year-long class at the semester without teacher and parent approval.

# Graduation Requirements

Graduation Credits Required by Minnesota Department of Education and HOPE Community Academy		
English Language Arts	16	<b>4 credits per year x 4 years</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● 1 Year of English 9</li> <li>● 1 Year of English 10</li> <li>● 1 Year of English 11</li> <li>● 1 Year of English 12</li> </ul>
Social Studies	14	<b>4 credits per year x 3.5 years</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● 1 Year of World History</li> <li>● 1 Semester of Human Geography</li> <li>● 1 Year of US History</li> <li>● 1 Semester of Economics or</li> <li>● 1 Semester of Government</li> </ul>
Math	12	<b>4 credits per year x 3 years</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● 1 Year of Intermediate Algebra 1</li> <li>● 1 year of Geometry</li> <li>● 1 Year of Algebra 2</li> </ul> 1 Year of Algebra 2 may be substituted for Intermediate Algebra requirements if Algebra was taken in Middle School.
Science	12	<b>4 credits per year x 3 years</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● 1 Year of Elective Science</li> <li>● 1 Year of Biology</li> <li>● 1 Year of Chemistry <b>or</b> Physics</li> </ul>
Arts	4	<b>4 credits total</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● 2 Semesters of Performing or Visual Arts</li> </ul>
Physical Education	2	<b>2 credits total</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● 1 Semester of Physical Education</li> </ul>
Health	2	<b>2 credits total</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● 1 Semester of Health</li> </ul>
Hmong American Studies	2	<b>2 credits total</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● 1 Semester of Hmong American Studies</li> </ul>
Electives	26	<b>26 credits over four years</b> (7 Period Day Schedule)
<b>Total Required Graduation Credits</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>7 Period + Advisory Day Schedule</b>

<b>Recommended Elective Credits for College and Career Readiness</b>		
Math	4	<b>4 credits x 1 year</b> Additional coursework in math is encouraged and required for many colleges and career training programs
Science	4	<b>4 credits x 1 year</b> Additional coursework in science is encouraged and required for many colleges and career training programs
Indigenous or World Language	8	<b>4 credits x 2 years</b> or: <b>Achievement of the World Language Proficiency Certificate or the Seal of Biliteracy (Gold or Platinum)</b> There is no MDE requirement for indigenous or world language, however, many colleges require at least two years of an indigenous or world language.
<b>Assessment</b>		
<p>According to the Minnesota Department of Education (January 18, 2018), “Districts have a number of requirements to fulfill for students’ career and college planning for students first enrolled in grade eight in 2012–13 and later. This includes offering students in grades 11 and 12 an opportunity to participate in a nationally recognized college entrance exam (ACT or SAT) on a school day.” SPPS currently offers a school day ACT in the spring of each school year.</p>		

# English Language Arts

## English Language Arts 9

**Prerequisite:** None

**Course Length:** Year Long (4 Quarters/2 Semesters)

**Grade Level:** 9

**Course Description:** English 9 introduces students to the MN English Language Arts gr. 9-10 benchmarks for reading, writing, speaking, listening, media literacy, and language. This course establishes a foundation in the habits and skills for the critical thinking, analysis, argumentation, research, and writing types that will be expected of students throughout their high school years. Students will study collections of literature and informational texts, including voices from within and outside of the U.S. and MN American Indian perspectives, and write texts for a variety of purposes and audiences.

## Accelerated English Language Arts 9

**Prerequisite:** Teacher recommendation and completion of summer reading assignment

**Course Length:** Year Long (4 Quarters/2 Semesters)

**Grade Level:** 9

**Course Description:** English 9 Accelerated introduces students to the MN English Language Arts gr. 9-10 benchmarks for reading, writing, speaking, listening, media literacy, and language. This course establishes a foundation in the habits and skills for the critical thinking, analysis, argumentation, research, and writing types that will be expected of students throughout their high school years. Students will study collections of texts, including voices from within and outside of the U.S. and MN American Indian perspectives, and write texts for a variety of purposes and audiences. This accelerated course is distinguished by an expectation for a greater degree of outside reading, self-directed learning, student participation, and overall academic leadership. Students will be expected to complete a summer reading assignment prior to the beginning of the school year.

## English Language Arts 10

**Prerequisite:** English 9

**Course Length:** Year Long (4 Quarters/2 Semesters)

**Grade Level:** 10

**Course Description:** English 10 focuses on mastery of the MN English Language Arts gr. 9-10 benchmarks for reading, writing, speaking, listening, media literacy, and language. Students will refine their habits and skills for the critical thinking, analysis, argumentation, research, and writing types required in the upper grades of high school. Students will study collections of literature and informational texts, including voices from within and outside of the U.S. and MN American Indian perspectives, and write texts for a variety of purposes and audiences.

## Accelerated English Language Arts 10

**Prerequisite:** English 9 and teacher recommendation, or Accelerated English 9

**Course Length:** Year Long (4 Quarters/2 Semesters)

**Grade Level:** 10

**Course Description:** English 10 Accelerated focuses on the mastery of the MN English Language Arts gr. 9-10 benchmarks for reading, writing, speaking, listening, media literacy, and language. Students will refine their habits and skills for the critical thinking, analysis, argumentation, research, and writing types and processes required in the upper grades of high school. Students will study collections of literature and informational texts, including voices from within and outside of the U.S., and write texts for a variety of purposes and audiences. This course is distinguished by an expectation for a greater degree of outside reading, self-directed learning, student participation, and overall academic leadership.

### **English Language Arts 11**

**Prerequisite:** English 10

**Course Length:** Year Long (4 Quarters/2 Semesters)

**Grade Level:** 11

**Course Description:** English 11 introduces students to the MN English Language Arts gr. 11-12 benchmarks for reading, writing, speaking, listening, media literacy, and language. Students will practice the critical thinking, analysis, argumentation, research, and writing types required for college and career level reading and writing. Students will study collections of seventeenth-, eighteenth-, nineteenth-, and early-twentieth-century seminal U.S. documents and foundational works of American literature including those by Hmong artists and other diverse cultures.

### **Accelerated English Language Arts 11**

**Prerequisite:** English 10 and teacher recommendation, or Accelerated English Language Arts 10

**Course Length:** Year Long (4 Quarters/2 Semesters)

**Grade Level:** 11

**Course Description:** Students develop an understanding of the techniques involved in literary criticism and the ability to form independent literary judgments. They read works of world literature, maintain a literary journal, learn to write college-level essays, actively participate in and lead class discussions, and practice skills necessary for oral presentations and written critical analysis.

### **Read for Success**

**Prerequisite:** none

**Course Length:** Half year Long (2 Quarters/1 Semesters)

**Grade Level:** 9-11

**Course Description:** Read for Success focuses on explicit systematic instruction of phonics and phonemic awareness to refine students fluency. Students will use ReadLive and teacher instruction to work on phonics and phonemic awareness at their level. The goal is to have scholars reading independently and fluently.

# Mathematics

## Intermediate Algebra - Non-linear Algebra

**Prerequisite:** Algebra 1 or Linear Algebra

**Course Length:** Year Long (4 Quarters/2 Semesters)

**Grade Level:** 9

**Course Description:** This course is the second half of a two-part Algebra course focused on linear and quadratic relationships. Students will learn to represent linear and quadratic functions as verbal descriptions, equations, tables, and graphs, as well as solve linear and quadratic equations with real numbers. Students will perform basic polynomial operations, factor polynomials, and use statistics and probability to describe data sets and make predictions. Students will apply this learning to solve real world mathematical problems. This course prepares students to be mathematically literate, as well as prepare them for future math courses, the high school MN Math Standards, and MN standardized math tests.

## Geometry Essentials

**Prerequisite:** Intermediate Algebra

**Course Length:** Year Long (4 Quarters/2 Semesters)

**Grade Level:** 10

**Course Description:** This course is designed for those students who finished Intermediate algebra with a D or lower. It is a foundational course focused on the geometry of shapes, planes and space. Emphasis is placed on understanding, applying, justifying, and developing geometric properties in two and three dimensions. Students will engage in an in depth study of geometric reasoning, coordinate geometry, parallel and perpendicular lines, triangle congruence, properties of polygons and circles, similarity, right triangle trigonometry, area, and volume. Students will apply this learning to solve real-world mathematical problems. This course prepares students to be mathematically literate, as well as prepare them for future math courses, the high school MN Math Standards, and MN standardized math tests. This course will move at a

## Geometry

**Prerequisite:** Algebra 1 or Intermediate Algebra with B or better and/or teacher recommendation

**Course Length:** Year Long (4 Quarters/2 Semesters)

**Grade Level:** 9/10

**Course Description:** This course is a foundational course focused on the geometry of shapes, planes and space. Emphasis is placed on understanding, applying, justifying, and developing geometric properties in two and three dimensions. Students will engage in an in depth study of geometric reasoning, coordinate geometry, parallel and perpendicular lines, triangle congruence, properties of polygons and circles, similarity, right triangle trigonometry, area, and volume. Students will apply this learning to solve real-world mathematical problems. This course prepares students for the high school MN Math Standards and MN standardized math tests. The distinction between this course and Geometry is the pacing and depth at which the above content is covered.

### *Algebra 2 Essentials*

**Prerequisite:** Geometry Essentials or D or lower in Geometry

**Course Length:** Year Long (4 Quarters/2 Semesters)

**Grade Level:** 10/11

**Course Description:** Algebra 2 Essentials is an alternative course to the regular Algebra 2. The course will help those students who struggle with math or those who benefit from more repetition. The course emphasis is placed on building conceptual foundation and essential skills of Algebra 2. This course prepares students to be mathematically literate, as well as prepare them for future math courses, the high school MN Math Standards, and MN standardized math tests.

### *Algebra 2*

**Prerequisite:** Geometry

**Course Length:** Year Long (4 Quarters/2 Semesters)

**Grade Level:** 10/11

**Course Description:** Algebra 2 reviews what students learned in Algebra 1 and extends the insights into advanced concepts. The course emphasis is placed on graphing and solving functions. The topics include linear functions, systems, inequalities, quadratic functions, polynomials, radical functions, exponential and logarithmic functions, rational functions, trigonometry, and statistics. This course prepares students to be mathematically literate, as well as prepare them for future math courses, the high school MN Math Standards, and MN standardized math tests.

### *Pre-Calculus*

**Prerequisite:** Algebra 2

**Course Length:** Year Long (4 Quarters/2 Semesters)

**Grade Level:** 11/12

**Course Description:** Precalculus is designed to prepare students for Calculus, either in high school or college. The course emphasis is placed on the concepts in Algebra and Trigonometry. The topics include polynomial and rational functions, exponential and logarithmic functions, and trigonometric and polar functions. Vectors, systems of equations, and matrices are also covered.

# **Social Studies**

## **Grade 9- World History**

**Prerequisite:** None

**Course Length:** Year Long (4 Quarters/2 Semesters)

**Grade Level:** 9

### **Course Description:**

Students in grade 9 will study patterns of human behavior across time within the historical context of global society. Students will discover commonalities and differences among peoples from past to present. They will examine and evaluate evidence to understand the social, political, environmental, technological, economic, and spiritual factors of human development. The course will draw upon a number of historical periods (prehistory, ancient civilizations, world religions, revolutions, world wars, etc.) using chronological, thematic, and regional approaches.

## **Grade 10- United States History**

**Prerequisite:** None

**Course Length:** Year Long (4 Quarters/2 Semesters)

**Grade Level:** 10

### **Course Description:**

Students in 10<sup>th</sup> grade will learn the development and history of the United States from Precontact-to present. Students will study the concepts of civics, economics, geography and history in relation to American history. Over the course of the year we will journey from the first contact with the indigenous peoples to the 21<sup>st</sup> Century. We will cover topics such as the creation of the United States, Westward Expansion, the Civil War, WWI, WWII, Civil Rights, and the Cold War.

## **Grade 11- Human Geography**

**Prerequisite:** None

**Course Length:** Half a Year Long (2 Quarters/1 Semester)

**Grade Level:** 11

### **Course Description:**

Students in grade 11 will focus on the various regions of the world. Students will apply geographic concepts such as population, agriculture, natural resource distribution and management, industry, political geography, cultural geography and organization to their lives. Students will also examine the impact of the physical environment on people and cultures from around the world. Maps will be frequently used to study various regions at different scales.

### **Elective- Criminal Justice**

**Prerequisite:** None

**Course Length:** Half a Year Long (2 Quarters/1 Semester)

**Grade Level:** 9, 10, 11

**Course Description:**

Students in Criminal Justice will focus on the development of justice and law, crime and punishment, the administration of laws, the agencies' functions, and different career options related to criminal justice. Students will gain a better understanding of the local, state, and federal criminal justice systems and explore jobs related to the criminal justice system. This course will also educate the students on current real-life issues facing the United States in regards to the criminal justice system.

### **Elective- Sociology**

**Prerequisite:** None

**Course Length:** Half a Year Long (2 Quarters/1 Semester)

**Grade Level:** 10, 11

**Course Description:**

Students in Sociology will study the social and cultural aspects of human individual and group behavior. Topics include society and culture, roles, norms, taboos, groups and organizations, deviance and punishment, inequality, social and cultural change, and current societal issues.

# Science

Students must successfully complete the following high school level credits: three credits of science, including at least **one credit of biology, one credit of chemistry or physics, and one elective credit** of science.

## Biology

**Prerequisite:** None

**Course Length:** Year Long (4 Quarters/2 Semesters)

**Grade Level:** 9

### **Course Description:**

This laboratory course studies living things and how they interact with each other. Students will learn about the chemistry of life, cells, genetics/DNA, evolution, ecology, and disease and human body systems while learning the skills of science and engineering. Students will participate in laboratory activities that promote scientific thinking. Successful completion of this course fulfills the state graduation requirement for biology and prepares students for future science courses.

## Chemistry

**Prerequisite:** Biology

**Course Length:** Year Long (4 Quarters/2 Semesters)

**Grade Level:** 10, or 11

**Course Description:** Students will learn about chemical and physical properties, atomic structure, periodicity, bonding, chemical reactions, the Mole, stoichiometry, solutions, and kinetic molecular theory while learning the skills of science and engineering. Successful completion of this course fulfills the state graduation requirement for chemistry OR physics.

## Physics

**Prerequisite:** Biology

**Course Length:** Year Long (4 Quarters/2 Semesters)

**Grade Level:** 10, or 11

**Course Description:** Students will learn about basic topics such as motion, forces, energy, momentum, heat and heat transfer, waves, electricity, and magnetism. Students will be engaged in scientific inquiry, investigations, and labs so that they develop a conceptual understanding and basic scientific skills. Successful completion of this course fulfills the state graduation requirement for chemistry OR physics.

## Elective - Forestry and Natural Resource Management

**Prerequisite:** Biology

**Course Length:** Year Long (4 Quarters/2 Semester)

**Grade Level:** 10, or 11

**Course Description:** Students will learn to plan, implement, and research the management, protection, and sustainable use of forest and related resources, including timber, water, wildlife, recreation, and aesthetic resources. Hands-on learning in the neighboring park, Swede Hollow, will

be a large part of the coursework. Students will get to collaborate with city leaders and other stakeholders to address current projects in the park.

**Earth and Environmental Science**

**Prerequisite:** Biology

**Course Length:** Year Long (4 Quarters/2 Semesters)

**Grade Level:** 10, or 11

**Course Description:** Students will learn about interrelationships of the natural world through inquiry-based lab investigations and field work as they explore concepts like energy transfer, interactions between earth systems..

# Physical Education

## 9th Grade

**Prerequisite:** None

**Course Length:** 2 Quarters (1 Semester)

**Grade Level:** 9

**Course Description:** Classes in the physical education department emphasize health-related fitness and developing skills and habits necessary for a lifetime of activity and wellness. This coeducational program includes skill development, application of rules, and strategies of various activities leading to lifelong fitness.

# Health Education

## 10th Grade

**Prerequisite:** None

**Course Length:** 2 Quarters (1 Semester)

**Grade Level:** 9

**Course Description:** This course will provide students with knowledge, attitudes, and skills to make health-promoting decisions while incorporating the physical, mental, emotional, social, and spiritual dimensions of health. In some form this course will also address the six major categories of risk behaviors that teens face today as identified by the United States Center for Disease Control (CDC.) Units of study will include topics in mental wellness, nutrition, suicide and depression, family life, drugs and alcohol, cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR), first aid, and the use of automated external defibrillator (AED).

# Hmong Language & Culture

## *Hmong American Studies - Required for graduation*

**Prerequisite:** None

**Course Length:** 2 Quarters (1 Semester)

**Grade Level:** 9-12

**Course Description:** This course will review the Hmong Romanized Popular Alphabet (RPA) writing system, introducing themselves to one another, using simple phrases to communicate, learn how to count, express emotions, state their likes and dislikes, and students will learn more in depth about Hmong Culture and History. This course prepares students to learn how to read, write and speak in Hmong, as well as prepare them for future Hmong courses.

*( Hmong history, culture, and traditions through stories, films, and poetries.)*

## Music

### *High School Choir*

**Prerequisite:** None

**Course Length:** 4 Quarters/2 Semesters

**Grade level:** 9-11

**Description:** The high school concert choir class is designed to teach students how to sing, read, and perform music at a higher level. Students will refine their singing technique in a variety of styles within a musical ensemble. Students will continue reading more complex rhythms and melodies and begin to work with larger harmonies. They will dig deep into connecting music and meaning and how musical expression and lyrics affect the feeling and message of a song. As a group, they will explore musical styles and folk songs from around the world. Students will display all their advanced reading and singing skills, musical expression, and performance etiquette skills in performances and concerts throughout the year.

### *Music Composition*

**Prerequisite:** None

**Course Length:** 2 Quarters/1 Semester

**Grade level:** 9-11

**Description:** Music composition class is designed to help students create and explore music. They will learn the basics of music theory and how to use this to create their own song or piece. This class will not be limited to one style of music. Students will explore techniques used in music from around the world (Europe, East Asia, Middle East, etc) and from several time periods (from the beginning of music to modern day electronic music). They will learn to use staff paper and software to efficiently write and save their own compositions.

# Art

## Intro to Art

**Prerequisite:** None

**Course Length:** 2 Quarters (1 Semester)

**Grade level:** 9-11

**Course Description:** This course will cover the basics of drawing. Students will use a variety of materials to complete drawing exercises and assignments. The art elements of line, shape, form, value, texture and pattern will be emphasized in this class.

## Painting 1

**Prerequisite:** Intro to Art

**Course Length:** 2 Quarters (1 Semester)

**Grade level:** 9-11

**Course Description:** Students must have taken and passed Intro to Art. This course will explore elements learned from “Intro to Art” through painting. Students will learn about painting techniques while applying various forms of paint such as tempera, acrylic and watercolor.

## Painting 2

**Prerequisite:** Intro to Art & Painting 1

**Course Length:** 2 Quarters (1 Semester)

**Grade level:** 10-11

**Course Description:** Students must have taken and passed both Intro to Art and Painting 1. Painting 2 explores learned techniques from Painting 1. Set up as a Studio class, students will work on large canvases to create semester long

# Drama

## Drama 1

**Prerequisite:** None

**Course Length:** 2 Quarters (1 Semester)

**Grade Level:** 9-11

**Course Description:** This course will explore the fundamentals of drama and the world of theater. Students will learn about theater etiquette, theater terminology and perform monologues and dialogues. This class will touch base on improvisational work, musical theater and explore and read plays through a critical lens.

## Drama 2

**Prerequisite:** Drama 1

**Course Length:** 4 Quarters (2 Semesters)

**Grade Level:** 10-11

**Course Description:** Open to students who have taken and passed Drama 1 and completed a monologue audition. This class will be a building block from Drama 1. Students will continue to build their craft in monologue and dialogue work. Students will explore character development through language and dialects as well as through storytelling. Students will read plays written by BIPOC playwrights throughout history as well as read works from local Southeast Asian Playwrights such as May-Lee Yang and Saymoukda Vongsay.