

REGISTRATION HANDBOOK

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NON-DISCRIMINATION

The Board of Trustees of Thompson Falls School District #2 is committed to a policy of non-discrimination in relation to race, religion, sex, age, marital status, national origin, handicap, and other human differences. This policy will prevail in all matters concerning the staff, students, the public, educational programs and services, and individuals with whom the Board does business.

In keeping with the requirements of federal and state law, this school district strives to remove any vestige of discrimination in employment, assignment, and promotion of personnel; in educational opportunities and services offered students, in their assignment to school and classes, and in their discipline; in location and use of facilities; in educational offerings and materials.

Letter to Parents and Student

Dear Parents and Student:

After reading through the course offerings in this booklet, students should select their classes for the **2016-17 School Year**. Careful consideration should be given to the student's career and educational goals – General Diploma graduation requirements for Thompson Falls High School don't necessarily equate to admissions requirements for post high school programs or athletics, colleges, and universities. College Prep Diploma graduation requirements for Thompson Falls High School meet admissions requirements for most postsecondary programs. Students who would like to complete the Montana Rigorous Core Curriculum should view the requirements in this handbook and visit with Mrs. Morgan. It is suggested that parents and students take time to review course offerings and how these courses relate to their goals.

SEVEN PERIOD DAY

Students at Thompson Falls High School will register for seven classes each semester. Seniors must be registered for a minimum of five ½ credit courses each semester and if they qualify for senior privilege (Skip period), may arrive up to one period later or leave up to one period early; or may choose to participate in dual enrollment course opportunities. Students must meet the requirements for senior privilege.

Thompson Falls High School Counseling

In partnerships with staff, parents and community, Mrs. Morgan, who serves as a proactive student advocate, is dedicated to providing a welcoming and safe environment as well as individual guidance in academic, career, social and personal development. The Counseling Office will support students in discovering their academic and personal potential to contribute at the highest level as productive members of society. Students and parents may make an appointment to see the counselor before school, during the school day, or after school. To contact Mrs. Morgan: 827-3561 or jmorgan@blackfoot.net

SCHEDULE & CHANGE POLICY

Students at Thompson Falls High School will register for seven classes and up to two alternates. The registration process and course selection will be reviewed with all students in the spring. It is the responsibility of the student to schedule a meeting with Mrs. Morgan to review graduation requirements and track progress. Schedules will be finalized over the summer; students are scheduled for the entire school year. Parents and/or guardians must sign the registration form.

Course Change Policy

- ✓ All schedule changes must be made **within the first five days** of the start of each semester.
- ✓ Students may not drop classes after the fifth day of classes of the semester otherwise the student will receive a WF – withdrawal fail grade on the transcript. This includes courses taken through the Montana Digital Academy.
- ✓ All changes are dependent upon class size limits and graduation requirements.

Schedule change deadlines will be announced each term. The schedule change process is as follows:

- ✓ Students are to pick up a schedule change form in the Counseling Office.
- ✓ Have the form filled out and signed by all teachers involved in the requested change **and the student's parent/guardian.**
- ✓ Return the form to the Counseling Office before the posted deadline.

At that point, the change request will be reviewed and the student will be contacted by Mrs. Morgan. **Students are expected to attend their given schedule until notified otherwise.**

ACADEMIC OPPORTUNITIES

There are a number of programs at Thompson Falls High School that students may choose to participate in to enrich their experience at TFHS or to recover graduation credit.

MONTANA DIGITAL ACADEMY (MTDA)

Montana Digital Academy is a Montana-based online school that offers core course opportunities, as well as elective and credit-recovery courses. The courses are on a typical school-year calendar and are taught by Montana teachers. There are seat limitations, so please be aware of the MTDA registration deadlines listed on their website. Courses offered through TFHS may not be replaced with MTDA courses without approval from the content teacher and administration. MTDA is used for credit recovery courses in the ALC for students who need to repeat a failed course. Check out their latest offerings at www.montanadigitalacademy.org.

DUAL ENROLLMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Juniors and seniors may take courses through various Montana colleges and receive both high school credit and college credit for those courses under the MTDA Dual Credit Program online. Thompson Falls High School grants 0.5 credit for each semester class that is two (2) or more credits on the college/university credit scale. Applicants may need to take a placement test and achieve a certain score in order to be admitted. Credits for students cost little more than half of the usual in-state rate for students. Classes required for graduation from Thompson Falls High School cannot be taken for dual enrollment.

To be eligible for **Dual Enrollment** students must:

- ✓ *Maintain the equivalent of a full-time course load between TFHS and MTDA/college/university*
- ✓ *Complete a non-degree application to college/university*
- ✓ *Be in good standing at TFHS for attendance and graduation requirements*

For more information on the **Running Start Program** see page 63 and for questions see Mrs. Morgan in the Counseling Office.

HONORS/ADVANCED PLACEMENT COURSES

Honors courses are offered in English, math, science, and social science at TFHS; the honors sections offered are Honors English IV, Pre-Calculus, Calculus, Anatomy & Physiology, Bio-Technology, Physics, AP Government, and AP Psychology. Selection for Honors/AP courses is based on the recommendation of the previous years' teacher and must be approved by the honors/AP teacher, grades and attendance history, and standardized test scores. Honors classes are not weighted any differently than regular sections for calculating grade point average, but are viewed with higher regard by many colleges/universities and scholarship donors as having participated in more rigorous coursework.

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

Diploma Options. Students may choose between two diploma tracks available at Thompson Falls High School. Students must earn a minimum total of twenty one (21) credits for a General Diploma and twenty four (24) credits for a College Prep Diploma. The requirements for each are listed below:

GENERAL DIPLOMA	CREDITS	COURSES SATISFYING REQUIRED CREDITS
English	4.0	English I, English II, English III, English IV 0.5, English Elective 0.5
Social Studies	2.0	9 th /10 th – World History, 11 th – U.S. History, 12 th – Government 0.5, SS Elective 0.5
Mathematics	2.0	Two math courses: Algebra I & Geometry Recommended
Science	2.0	Physical Science and Biology
Health Enhancement	1.0	9 th – HE 1 or HE 2, 10 th – HE 1 or HE 2; 0.5 each year
Fine Arts	1.0	Art or Music
Career & Technical Education	1.0	Business, Industrial Arts or Medical: Computer I Recommended
Electives	8.0	Foreign language and/or additional courses from areas where requirements have been fulfilled.
Total	21.0	

COLLEGE PREP DIPLOMA	CREDITS	COURSES SATISFYING REQUIRED CREDITS
English	4.0	English I, English II, English III, English IV 0.5, English Elective 0.5
Social Studies	3.0	9 th /10 th – World History, 11 th – U.S. History, 12 th – Government 0.5, SS Elective 0.5
Mathematics	3.0	Algebra I, Geometry, and Algebra II
Science	3.0	Physical Science, Biology, and 1.0 in another science course
Health Enhancement	2.0	9 th – HE 1 and HE 2 10 th – HE 3 and HE 4
Fine Arts	1.0	Art or Music
Career & Technical Education	1.0	Computer I 0.5 and Business, Industrial Arts or Medical 0.5
Electives	7.0	Foreign language and/or additional courses from areas where requirements have been fulfilled.
Total	24.0	

- ✓ Recommend 2 years of Foreign Language, a course beyond Algebra II, and an additional one half year of Social Studies
- ✓ Students who are considering an out of state four year college are required to take 2 years of the same Foreign Language.
- ✓ No more than 1.0 credit of Teacher Aide (.25 credit each) may apply towards graduation

Students earning a College Prep Diploma will meet the Montana University System College Preparatory Core requirements for students entering a four year campus. Be sure to check the admissions requirements for any colleges in which you are interested. The graduating class of 2010 or later must complete the Rigorous Core to be eligible for a Montana University System Honor Scholarship. Please visit with the counselor about the MUS Rigorous Core requirements. More information is available online at <http://mus.edu/asa/hscp/index.asp>. The Valedictorian and Salutatorian will be selected from among the College Prep graduates.

Montana University System Graduation Requirements

MSU-Bozeman & MSU-Billings 22 ACT or 1540 SAT or 2.5 GPA on a 4.0 scale or rank in the top half of graduating class and complete required college prep courses.	UM-Missoula & MT Tech of the University of Montana 22 ACT or 1540 SAT or 2.5 GPA on a 4.0 scale or rank in the top half of graduating class and complete required college prep courses.
MSU-Northern 20 ACT or 1440 SAT (4 year programs) or 960 SAT (2 year programs) or 2.5 GPA on a 4.0 scale or rank in the top half of graduating class and complete required college prep courses.	UM-Western Montana College 20 ACT or 1440 SAT (4 year programs) or 960 SAT (2 year programs) or 2.5 GPA on a 4.0 scale or rank in the top half of graduating class and complete required college prep courses.
Montana Community Colleges: Dawson Community, Flathead Valley Community, Miles Community High school transcript or GED certification; College placement scores (Compass, Asset or ACT scores for general placement).	Montana Colleges of Technology: UM Helena COT, UMT Missoula COT, MT Tech COT, MSU-Billings COT, MSU-Great Falls COT, Gallatin College Graduate from high school, present high school transcript or GED certification; College placement scores (Compass, Asset or ACT scores for general placement).

Montana University System Core Requirements*

Course	Core	Years
English	Content of courses should have emphasis upon the development of written and oral communication skills and literature.	4
Social Studies	The courses shall include Global Studies (such as World History, World Geography); American History; and Government, Economics, Indian History or other third year courses.	3
Mathematics	Courses shall include Algebra I, Geometry and Algebra II (or the sequential content equivalent of these courses). Students are encouraged to take a math course in their senior year.	3
Science	One year must be Earth or Physical Science, Biology, Chemistry, or Physics; the other year can be one of those sciences approved college preparatory laboratory science.	2 of laboratory science
Electives	Two years chosen from the following: world language (preferably two years), computer science, visual and performing arts, or vocational education units.	2

*Please Note: Admissions requirements vary from college to college, so be advised that the standards listed above are general admission guidelines. Please see the Montana University System website at <http://mus.montana.edu/admissions.htm> for college-specific admissions information.

Montana University System Rigorous Core Requirements

Course	Core	Years
English	Written and oral communication skills, literature, and a designated college-prep composition or research-writing course	4
Social Studies	Global Studies (such as World History, World Geography); American History; and Government, Economics, Indian History or other third year course. Recommendation: ½ year of other courses such as Psychology, Humanities	3
Mathematics	Algebra I, Geometry, Algebra II (or the sequential content equivalent) and a course beyond Algebra II (such as Trigonometry, Pre-Calculus, Calculus, Computer Math, or course equivalent)	4
Science	Full year each: General, Physical or Earth Science; Biology; Chemistry or Physics	3
Electives	Recommendation: Two years of second language, music, fine arts, speech/debate, career and technical education (such as Information Technology, Computer Science)	3

POST HIGH SCHOOL OPTIONS

University/College

- **Bachelor's Degree** (4-5 years)
- **Advanced Degree** (Master's 1-3 years, or Doctorate 4-8 years beyond a Bachelor's Degree)

Technical, Trade or Community College

- **Certificate Programs** (six months to one year programs)
Training programs in areas such as cosmetology, welding, dental assistant, EMT/Paramedic, real estate, auto body technology, heavy equipment operation, bookkeeping, medical transcription, etc.
- **Associate of Arts or Science Degree** (2 year program)
General studies degree that is transferrable to colleges or universities depending on entrance requirements.
- **Associate of Applied Science Degree** (2 year program)
This degree includes education training programs for specific careers, such as welding technology, diesel mechanics, nursing, medical assisting, computer information systems, etc.

Job Corps

Job Corps is a career technical training and education program for students ages 16 through 24 who meet income requirements. It offers hands-on training in more than 100 career technical areas, including welding, automobile technician, carpentry, office administration, clinical media assistant, culinary arts, computer technician and many more. All career technical training areas are aligned with industry certifications and are designed to meet the requirements of today's careers at no cost! Job Corps helps high school graduates launch their careers. For more information, go to <http://recruiting.jobcorps.gov>

Military

Students with a high school diploma may enlist in a branch of the military (Army, Marine Corps, Navy, Air Force, or Coast Guard), where training is available for many jobs. In addition, part-time activity in the military is available through the Reserves and National Guard. For more information, go to www.military.com

Reserve Officer Training Corps (ROTC)

This is a college-based, officer commissioning program designed as a college elective that focuses on leadership development, problem solving, strategic planning and professional ethics. Merit-based scholarships are available to ROTC students – often they cover a significant portion of college tuition.

Service Academies

These programs are considered to be among the best deals in higher education in that tuition, books, room and board, medical and dental expenses are paid in full for the four years a student is enrolled. Students graduate with a Bachelor of Science degree and a leadership job as a junior officer in the military. Competition for these programs is fierce, and graduates are obligated to serve in the military for a minimum of five years.

Apprenticeship

An apprenticeship is a training program where you can “earn while you learn” – earning money while you learn a skilled trade or craft from a seasoned and skilled workers. See the Montana Department of Labor and Industry website at <http://wsd.dli.mt.gov/apprenticeship/default.asp> for more information or call 406.444.3998.

AmeriCorps

This is a network of local, state and national service programs that serves more than 2,000 nonprofits, public agencies and faith-based organizations. Full-time members of AmeriCorps who complete their service earn a Segal AmeriCorps Education Award of \$4,725 to pay for college, graduate school or to pay back qualified student loans. Students may serve in a variety of areas including tutoring, improving health services, helping communities respond to disasters and more. To learn more about AmeriCorps, visit www.americorps.org.

Work Full Time

It is strongly suggested that employment be secured prior to graduation.

NCAA ACADEMIC ELIGIBILITY

www.eligibilitycenter.org

DIVISION I

In order to be classified as a qualifier for competition at a Division I college or university, a student is required to fulfill the 16 Core-Course Rule. Students must:

- ✓ Graduate from high school;
- ✓ Have a core-course grade-point average and a combined score on the SAT (Math + Critical Reading) or a sum score on the ACT based on the core GPA/test score index.

DIVISION II

In order to be classified as a qualifier, students must:

- ✓ Graduate from high school;
- ✓ Have a 2.00 GPA and complete the 16 Core-Course Rule;
- ✓ Have a combined score on the SAT of 820 or a sum score of 68 on the ACT.

DIVISION I 16 Core Courses	DIVISION II 16 Core Courses	DIVISION II 16 Core Courses (2018 and After)
4 years of English 3 years of mathematics (Algebra I or higher) 2 years of natural/physical science (including 1 year of lab science) 1 year of additional English, mathematics, or natural/physical science 2 years of social science 4 years of additional courses (from any area above, foreign language or comparative religion/philosophy)	3 years of English 2 years of mathematics (Algebra I or higher) 2 years of natural/physical science (including 1 year of lab science) 2 years of additional English, mathematics, or natural/physical science 2 years of social science 3 years of additional courses (from any area above, foreign language or comparative religion/philosophy)	3 years of English 2 years of mathematics (Algebra I or higher) 2 years of natural/physical science (including 1 year of lab science) 3 years of additional English, mathematics, or natural/physical science 2 years of social science 4 years of additional courses (from any area above, foreign language or comparative religion/philosophy)

NAIA ELIGIBILITY

www.naia.org

Students entering as college-level freshman must meet two of the three entry level requirements:

- ✓ A minimum score of 18 on the ACT or 860 (Math + Critical Reading) on the SAT;
- ✓ An overall high school grade point average (GPA) of 2.000 or higher on a 4.000 scale;
- ✓ Graduate in the upper half of your high school graduating class (top 50%).

The ACT/SAT test must be taken on a national testing date and certified to the institution prior to the beginning of the term in which the student initially participates.

*NOTE: Requirements for TFHS graduation, entry to Montana University System institutions, and NCAA/NAIA are different. If you plan to compete in athletics **and/or** attend a postsecondary institution, it is **your responsibility** to ensure that you meet the criteria required by ALL of the applicable institutions.*

TESTS TO TAKE AND WHEN

Throughout the year, there are numerous tests proctored both in and out of school. Please take the time to review the chart and familiarize yourself with both required and optional tests, as well as their timelines.

TEST	10	11	12
PLAN® - The PLAN® program helps 10th graders build a solid foundation for future academic and career success. It is a comprehensive guidance resource that helps students measure their current academic development, explore career/training options, and make plans for the remaining years of high school and post-graduation years.	X	Opt.	
PSAT/NMSQT® – Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifier Test. This test is given in early October at TFHS. It allows students to participate in a national scholarship competition, receive recognition, and practice for the SAT Reasoning® Test.	Opt.	X	
ASVAB (Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery) – This three hour test is given by the military at TFHS. Currently, this test is given once during the fall and once during the spring; participation is voluntary. This is a Career test that benefits students regardless of military entrance.		X	X
ACT® – College entrance exam. The ACT® is accepted by MT University System schools. It's recommended to take the test after completing Algebra II. Register online at www.act.org or by mail (packets are available in the Counseling Office). Beginning with the Class of 2013 and later, all juniors are required to take the ACT® in the spring.	Opt.	X	X
SAT REASONING® and SAT SUBJECT TESTS® – College entrance exam. The SAT Reasoning Test® measures verbal and math reasoning abilities and is accepted by the MT University System. The SAT Subject Tests® are designed to measure your knowledge and skills in particular subject areas, as well as your ability to apply that knowledge. Register online at www.sat.collegeboard.com or by mail (packets are available in the Counseling Office).	Opt.	X	X
COMPASS® – Placement test given and accepted at most community colleges and/or one- and two- year technical schools. Register for the test by making an appointment with Mrs. Morgan.	X	X	X

Test preparation websites:

- ✓ www.smartaboutcollege.org – free ACT and SAT practice up to 3x per year
- ✓ www.sat.collegeboard.com – practice and registration for the PSAT and SAT
- ✓ www.act.org – practice and registration for the ACT
- ✓ www.act.org/compass -- practice for the Compass

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

COMMUNICATION ARTS (ENGLISH)

General Requirements and Guidelines:

1. A minimum of eight semesters of Communication Arts required for graduation.

1 Year long course of English I	Grade 9
1 Year long course of English II	Grade 10
1 Year long course of English III	Grade 11
1 semester long course of English IV & 1 English elective course	Grade 12
 2. Students will register for one year of Communication Arts (two semesters) at the time of registration or have completed the 4-year requirements.
-

COLLEGE WRITING I: Running Start Course (fee required)-Elective Credit 0.50, and meets English elective requirement; One Semester; Grades 10-12.

Prerequisites: score of 75 or better on COMPASS placement test or a grade of "C-" or better in WRIT 095. Instruction and practice in expository writing. Emphasizes specific writing and revision techniques to develop coherence, conciseness, clear and forceful style and voice, and thinking skills. Assignments range from short pieces to essays and a short research paper. Mastery of the basics of grammar and mechanics is assumed.

DRAMA A/B: Elective Credit 0.50, and meets English elective requirement; One Semester; Grades 11 or 12.

Drama A (Sem 1) & **B** (Sem 2) courses will be taught as **college preparatory** courses. The courses are conducted as an introduction to and history of drama, and include a research, analysis, and writing component. The focus is primarily on drama in language arts and not on theatrical or fine arts performances. As such there will be no set, costume, or production workshops. However, there is an intro to the production technical and physical properties of theater production. The course also includes a dramatic production during both the fall and spring semesters, as well as opportunities to demonstrate performance abilities during the fall and spring talent shows.

ENGLISH I: Required Credit 1.00; One Year; Grade 9.

This course is required, structured class for freshmen. It includes a study of the various aspects of grammar in order to prepare and enhance the student's level of reading and writing. A general introduction of literary forms will be covered through the presentation of stories. The program emphasizes the Tasks and Traits involved in the writing process.

ENGLISH II: Required Credit 1.00; One Year; Grade 10. **Prerequisite**--English I.

The skills of writing, reading, using precise words in speaking, and listening are important tools enabling students to become competent and successful members of society. Emphasis is on the writing process, which focuses on writing skills. World Literature and cultural writings will be emphasized through the use of short stories, poetry, plays and/or novels. Students will utilize a variety of media in the process of reading, viewing, listening, producing, and writing.

ENGLISH III: Required Credit 1.00; One Year; Grade 11. **Prerequisite**--English II.

The focus of this class will be on two major areas:

1) Persuasive and expository writing. The six traits will be emphasized. Students will polish skills in mechanics of writing. Organization, idea development, presentation, needs of the audience/reader, and purpose in writing will also be a strong focus on this course.

2) Integrated amongst the composition section of this course will be a study of American Literature. Literature will be traced through a historical development from colonial times to the present. Students will gain knowledge of the development of literature through journal writing, poetry, short stories, essays, dramas, and novels in America.

ENGLISH IV: Required Credit 0.50; One Semester; Grade 12. **Prerequisite**- English III.

This is a one-semester Senior course which reviews the mechanics and content of compositions. Extensive review will be emphasized in the various purposes of composition through essays, opinions, pro/con, letters, and research papers.

This section will prepare you for either directly entering the workforce or continuing your education. Assignments and discussion will relate more to the "world of work."

HONORS ENGLISH: Elective Credit 0.50, and meets English elective requirement; One Semester; Grade 11 - 12. **Pre-requisite:** Teacher Approval.

This is a one-semester Junior or Senior course which reviews the mechanics and content of compositions. Extensive review will be emphasized in the various purposes of composition through essays, opinions, pro/con, letters, and research papers. Class participation discussions and presentations are an expectation of students.

The class is geared for those who expect to continue learning beyond high school. The students will benefit from written assignments and discussions that tie in to the college level.

SPEECH: Elective Credit 0.25 or 0.50; 4 ½ or 9 weeks, and meets English elective requirement; 0 Grades 9 - 12.

Taking a speech class is similar to taking piano lessons; not everyone likes it at the time, but they do not regret the experience of having done so. This is one class that the rewards should be obvious. You will gain experience and confidence that pays off in future classes, job opportunities and college. It is also the class that people look back on and say "I should have done that."

NOVELS & FILM: Elective Credit 0.50, and meets English elective requirement but DOES NOT meet NCAA Eligibility; One Semester; Grades 10-12.

Learn and experience the outdoors and the West through magazines, novels and film. Class discussions, demonstrations, reading and viewing in a low-pressure setting are emphasized. However, falling asleep during a John Wayne film may result in beans and sourdough biscuits for a month.

FINE ARTS

All art & music courses, and media arts shall count towards meeting the one credit of fine arts required for graduation. These classes shall also fulfill the fine arts requirement in the college prep curriculum.

Any of the courses offered through the art and music departments may be taken more than once due to the changing nature of the projects presented and the broad range of the subject matter.

VISUAL ARTS

ART I: Elective Credit .50: One semester; Grades 9-12; **Prerequisite**—None.

You'll see the world differently. This class is designed to expose students to a wide variety of art and artists. There will be exploratory lessons in painting, drawing, printmaking, clay and sculpture along with research into the world of art; past and present. The topics and projects will be different each semester. Stimulate your senses with this art class experience!

CERAMICS: Elective Credit .50: One Semester; Grades 9-12: **Prerequisite-** None

Ready to start using your right brain? Interested in combining critical thinking with aesthetics? Do you have the ability to manage time, set goals and work under pressure? If you answer yes to all three this may be the class for you. Ceramics is designed to help you gain skills related to technique, learn terminology, and produce sculptural as well as utilitarian ceramic pieces. Students will utilize slab, coil, and pinch methods of hand building as well as wheel throwing and modeling to create ceramic art.

3-D FUNDAMENTALS: Elective Credit .50: One Semester; Grades 9-12; **Pre-requisite** - None

You'll *form* your own ideas in this three-dimensional art class. Students will have the opportunity to carve, model, construct and assemble art in this comprehensive introduction to sculpture. Lessons will include human form, kinetic art, site specific work, modern sculpture and more. Don't know what these terms mean? Take sculpture and find out. You can't get more *hands on* than this!

YEARBOOK:

Elective Credit 1.00; One Year, Grades 9-12; **Pre-requisite** - Must have a working digital camera (5 mega pixels or better) and instructor permission required.

Must have a good skill set in digital media, including but not limited to: *Photoshop, jpeg, altering pixel count, downloading and uploading images, layouts, and layering imagery*. Also teamwork, a positive attitude, willingness to do more than what is asked is important. You will need to be able to leave campus with a personal vehicle or ride with others, as well as attend sports events and special functions outside of the normal school day. Communication skills and an ability to adhere to strict timelines is critical!

PERFORMING ARTS

BAND: Elective Credit .5; Fall/Spring Semester; Grades 9-12

We perform for community concerts, District & State Music Festival, & sporting events. We play a variety of music on a variety of instruments. We work hard, we have fun, & we sound great!
Come join the family!

CHOIR: Elective Credit .5; Fall/Spring Semester; Grades 9-12

We perform for community concerts, District & State Music Festival, & an occasional talent show. We sing a variety of music; both old & new. If you love to sing or want to learn how, this is the place for you!

GUITAR: Elective Credit 0.25 or 0.50; 4 ½ or 9 weeks 5; Grades 9-12

We will learn how to read music, tune the guitar by ear, & play basic notes and chords. We will also learn a few strumming patterns and simple rhythms. By the end of the class, you will be able to play guitar along with some of your favorite songs! Recommended for beginning guitarists.

JAZZ BAND: Elective Credit .5; Fall Semester; Grades 9-12; **Pre-requisite:** Teacher Approval.

We will learn basic jazz music theory & technique. Instrumentation includes Sax, Trumpet, Trombone, Guitar, Bass, & Drums. We will perform for our Talent Show & Christmas Concert.

SELECT CHOIR: Elective Credit .5; Spring Semester; Grades 9-12; **Pre-requisite:** Teacher Approval.

We perform at community concerts, District & State Music Festival, and an occasional talent show. Music is selected by the students. An audition with Mr. Craw is required to join this group.

MUSIC VIDEOS: Elective Credit 0.25 or 0.50; 4 ½ or 9 weeks; Grades 9-12

We will learn about the music recording industry, acting, music in film, copyright law, etc... The goal will be to produce at least one music video that will be featured in the Talent Show. We will post our video on YouTube and see how long it takes to go viral!

WORLD LANGUAGE

SPANISH I: Elective Credit 1.00; One Year, Grade 9-12, Meets Rigorous Core requirement.

This is an introductory course in the Spanish language and culture. This is a rigorous academic course that aims to build basic skills in reading, writing, speaking and listening in the Spanish language. The basic vocabulary, fundamental grammar concepts, and verb conjugation provide a strong foundation for further language study. Students will also learn proper pronunciation and phonetics in Spanish. Exposure to the culture of Spanish-speaking countries is accomplished through media, technology, and projects.

SPANISH II: Elective Credit 1.00; One Year, Grade 10-12, Meets Rigorous Core requirement **Prerequisite** – Spanish I & Teacher Approval.

This rigorous academic course aims to enhance students' basic Spanish language skills. Students will become more proficient listeners, speakers, readers, and writers of the Spanish language. In this course the pieces of the language puzzle begin to fit together, and students gain confidence to utilize the language in creative ways. The students will also be exposed to a greater variety of the cultural aspects and authentic materials. Students will further their knowledge about language patterns. They will expand their vocabulary and learn more verb tenses in order to communicate about more complex situations.

– Offered on-line through MTDA

Please visit <http://www.montanadigitalacademy.org/program/course-catalog> to learn more about the World Languages offered on-line. If you choose to enroll in a World Language you will have a period scheduled into the school day for the course. World Language courses will be taken in the Learning Center.

World Language Offerings on-line:

French I; French II; French III

German I; German II

Latin I; Latin II

Chinese I

Irish Language I

MATHEMATICS

ALGEBRA 1A: Elective Credit 1.00; One year; grades 9 or 10; Meets graduation but not college prep diploma requirements. **Prerequisite-** Instructor Approval.

There will be two textbooks used for this class; Pre-Algebra by Holt, Rinehart and Winston, and Algebra I by Holt, Rinehart and Winston. The purpose of the class is two-fold. First, to provide a class which introduces pre-algebra, in preparation for the student studying more Algebra concepts the following year. Second, will be to look at mathematics from a perspective of how it fits in our world around us. We will focus on geometry, basic statistics (to include some probability), and Algebra topics. Basic topics include understanding the real number system, work on understanding how fractions, decimals and percentages are related, displaying data, basic geometry, and solving inequalities.

ALGEBRA IB: Elective Credit 1.00; One year; grades 9, 10 or 11; Meets graduation but not college prep diploma requirements. **Prerequisite-** Instructor Approval.

This class will follow Algebra IA. The textbook used for this class; Algebra I by Holt, Rinehart and Winston. This course will focus on a review of inequalities, linear and quadratic functions, systems of equations and inequalities, exponents, polynomials, factoring, data analysis, probability, and radical functions.

ALGEBRA I: Required Credit for College Prep Diploma 1.00; One year; grades 9-11; Meets graduation requirement. Meets college prep diploma requirements.

The Algebra I textbook used for this class is published by Holt, Rinehart and Winston. This book is designed to cover topics on Algebra, geometry, statistics and probability. This course will focus on the study of the foundations of Algebra, equations, inequalities, linear and quadratic functions, systems of equations and inequalities, exponents, polynomials, factoring, data analysis, probability, and radical functions. We will incorporate problem solving techniques as well as real world application to challenge the students.

ALGEBRA 2: Required Credit for College Prep Diploma 1.00; One Year. **Prerequisite:** Algebra 1; Meets Rigorous Core Requirements.

The basic concepts learned in Algebra 1 will be enriched and built upon. The focus will be on graphing, analyzing, and interpreting various kinds of functions, including quadratic, polynomial, rational, exponential, logarithmic, and trigonometric. Students will also study sequences and series and spend some time building their understanding of probability and statistics. If time permits, conic sections will be introduced. Graphing calculators and dynamic computer software programs will be implemented when appropriate to enhance instruction.

Textbook: *Algebra 2: Holt, Rinehart, & Winston, Copyright 2007*

CALCULUS: Elective Credit 1.00; One Year. **Prerequisite:** Algebra 1, Geometry, Algebra 2, Pre-calculus; Meets Rigorous Core Requirements.

This course is designed to be an introductory first year calculus course. Students will extend their experience with functions as they study the fundamental concepts of calculus: limiting behaviors, difference quotients and the derivative, Riemann sums and the definite integral, antiderivatives and indefinite integrals, and the Fundamental Theorem of Calculus. Students review and extend their knowledge of trigonometry and basic analytic geometry.

Textbook: *TBD*

CONSUMER MATH: Elective Credit 1.00; One Year; Grades 11-12; Meets graduation but not College Prep Diploma requirements; **Prerequisite** — Two years of math.

Many topics are investigated in this class, including not only "consumer" topics such as banking, insurance, home and car buying, and budgeting, but also various topics from mathematics such as reasoning, probability, statistics, topology, geometry, and number theory. The goal of the course is to not only to provide "practical" applications but to also present an introduction to higher mathematics in an interesting yet understandable and enjoyable manner.

GEOMETRY: Required Credit for College Prep Diploma 1.00; One Year. **Prerequisite:** Algebra 1; Meets Rigorous Core Requirements.

This course is designed to emphasize the study of the properties and applications of common geometric figures in two and three dimensions. It also includes the study of transformations and right triangle trigonometry. Inductive and deductive thinking skills are used in problem solving situations, and applications to the real world are stressed. It also emphasizes writing proofs to solve (prove) properties of geometric figures. Analytical reasoning skills are emphasized throughout the course. Dynamic computer software programs and hands-on activities will be implemented when appropriate to enhance instruction.

Textbook: *Geometry: Holt, Rinehart, & Winston, Copyright 2007*

PRE-CALCULUS: Elective Credit 1.00; One Year. **Prerequisite:** Algebra 1, Geometry, Algebra 2; Meets Rigorous Core Requirements.

Pre-calculus weaves together previous study of algebra, geometry, and functions into a preparatory course for calculus. The first semester covers trigonometric ratios and functions; inverse trigonometric functions; applications of trigonometry, including vectors and laws of cosine and sine; polar functions and notation; and polar form of complex numbers. These topics will be built upon in the second semester, and topics include exponential and logarithmic, functions; conic sections; sequences and series; and probability. Optional topics include statistics and a basic introduction to calculus concepts. Graphing calculators and dynamic computer software programs will be implemented when appropriate to enhance instruction. Textbook: *Advanced Mathematical Concepts: Glencoe, Copyright 2006*

HEALTH ENHANCEMENT

1 unit of H.E., with ½ unit each year for two years (College Prep 2.0 credits)

HEALTH ENHANCEMENT 1: Required Credit 0.50; One Semester; Grade 9. Required for graduation.

This course allows the student to learn basic concepts involved with team sports and health topics. The student will be assessed over; proper dress attire, appropriate behavior, having a positive attitude, actively participating/giving effort to improve skills, skill testing fitness testing, tests, quizzes, and homework. The team sports include; soccer, golf, volleyball, pickle ball, and badminton. The health units taught are: substance abuse, sex education, and body systems. The students will also gain the knowledge of how to plan a fitness life style.

HEALTH ENHANCEMENT 2: Required Credit 0.50; One Semester; Grades 9-10. Required for graduation.

This course allows the student to learn basic concepts involved with a variety of team sports, social activities, and individual games, along with health topics. The student will be assessed over; proper dress attire, appropriate behavior, having a positive attitude, actively participating/giving effort to improve skills, skill testing/presidential fitness testing, tests, quizzes, and homework. The activities in HE 2 include; badminton, pickle ball, tennis, croquet, horseshoes, ultimate frisbee, dance, and softball, while the health units taught are; mental wellness, you in the community, nutrition, and family roles.

HEALTH ENHANCEMENT 3: Required Credit 0.50 for College Prep Diploma – Grades 10-12.

This course allows the student to learn advanced concepts involved in team and individual sports, along with health topics. The student will be assessed over; proper dress attire, appropriate behavior, having a positive attitude, actively participating and giving effort to improve skills, skill testing, body composition work, tests, quizzes, and homework. The activities/games in HE 3 include; flag football, archery, buka ball, and team handball while the health units taught are; skeletal/muscular system, digestive system, eating disorders, and nutrition.

HEALTH ENHANCEMENT 4: Required Credit 0.50 for College Prep Diploma – Grades 10-12.

This course allows the student to learn advanced concepts involved in team and individual sports, along with health topics. The student will be assessed over: *proper dress attire, appropriate behavior, having a positive attitude, actively participating and giving effort to improve skills, skills testing, tests, quizzes, and homework.* The activities/games in HE 4 include: *Pickleball, Ultimate Frisbee, Softball, Lacrosse, Tennis, and Folf.* The Health Units taught are: *Health Career Discovery and Substance Abuse.*

WEIGHT TRAINING: Elective Credit .50; One Semester; Grades 9-12. **Pre-requisite** – None. This course does not fill a Health Enhancement credit.

This course will include extensive conditioning and weight training techniques. Each student will perform pre-fitness and post-fitness appraisal along with developing their own personalized fitness program during the length of the course. Concepts studied and experienced will include a cardiovascular, strength training, and flexibility programs. Grading will be based on personal improvement in the Workout Log, strength improvement, effort, and attitude during class.

SCIENCE

ANATOMY AND PHYSIOLOGY: Elective Credit 1.00; One Year; Grades 11-12. Meets Rigorous Core requirement; **Prerequisite** -- Biology 1.

This is a survey of the 9 major systems composing the human body: Cell structure, Histology, Genetics, and Diseases are also touched upon. Extensive dissection of cats as well as research and writing of papers dealing with health issues is required.

BIOLOGY I: Elective Credit 1.00; One Year; Grades 10-12. Meets Rigorous Core requirement; Prerequisites—None.

This course is a general survey of the life sciences. It includes the study of life at all levels, from the single cell to the entire community of living organisms interacting with each other and with their environment. Areas of biology which are covered include biochemistry, genetics, physiology, and ecology.

BIO-TECHNOLOGY: Credit 0.50; One Semester; Grades 10-12. Meets Rigorous Core requirement; **Prerequisite**-- Pre-Requisite: A "C" or better in Biology 1 AND Instructor Approval.

This semester class is designed to introduce students to the biotechnology revolution. Advances in molecular biology with the explosion of cutting edge technologies are shaping our society. The questions that arise demand solutions from a science and technology literate citizenry. This course will expose students to the biotechnology of genetic engineering, cloning, gene therapy and DNA analysis. Biotechnology is a lab intensive science course. The techniques and knowledge gained in this course will allow students to venture off into many different fields such as medicine, genetics, microbiology, virology and forensics.

CHEMISTRY: Credit 1.00; One Year; Grades 10-12. Meets Rigorous Core requirement; **Prerequisite**--Earth Science or Biology I. Instructor or counselor approval for sophomores. Offered alternating years with Physics.

This course covers a number of important concepts as outlined by the Montana Science Standards. Among these are the following: *Scientific Measurement, Matter and Energy, Atomic and Molecular Structure, Periodic Law, Chemical Mathematics and Reactions, Gas Laws, Equilibriums, Acids, and Bases, Energy Transformations, Organic Chemistry.* Laboratory investigations are conducted throughout both semesters to further develop these concepts experimentally and to demonstrate the connection to real life situations. A final exam will be given to evaluate the retention of learned concepts for each semester.

GENERAL & APPLIED SCIENCE: NOT OFFERED IN 2016-17 Elective Credit 1.00; One Year; meets Rigorous Core requirement; **Prerequisite** – Earth Science or Biology 1; grades 10-12.

This course is most accurately described as an environmental Biology class that emphasizes current issues through the use of technology and personal skills. Topics include a thorough forestry unit, an extensive look at species exploration (i.e. mammals, fish, and birds), soil and water quality, invasive species, botany and orienteering with the use of compasses and GPS technologies.

PHYSICAL SCIENCE: Elective Credit 1.00; One Year; meets Rigorous Core requirement; Grades 9-12. **Prerequisites**—None.

The class covers a number of important concepts as outlined by the Montana Science Standards. Among these are the following: *Scientific Methods and Measurement, Matter, Energy, Forces, and its' Transformations, Atomic Structure, Period Law, Gas Laws, Earth's Structure, Motion, Physical Features, Meteorology, Lunar Cycles and Astronomy.* Laboratory investigations are conducted throughout both semesters to further develop these concepts experimentally and to demonstrate the connection to real life situations. A final exam will be given to evaluation retention of learned concepts for each semester.

PHYSICS: NOT OFFERED IN 2016-17 Elective Credit 1.00; One Year; meets Rigorous Core requirement; Grades 11-12. **Prerequisites**--Junior standing and Algebra II. Recommend enrolling in Trigonometry and Pre-Calculus. Offered alternating years with Chemistry.

This course deals with a number of important concepts as outlined by the Montana Science Standards. Among these are: *Scientific Measurement, Newtonian Mechanics, Work, Energy, Power, Fluid Mechanics, Thermodynamics, Electricity, and Magnetism.* Laboratory investigations are conducted throughout both semesters to further develop these concepts experimentally and to demonstrate the connection to real life situations. A final exam will be given to evaluate the retention of learned concepts for each semester.

SOCIAL STUDIES

AP GOVERNMENT: NOT OFFERED IN 2016-17 Elective Credit 0.5; One Semester; meets Social Studies elective requirement; Grades 11-12. May be used in place of Government course. **Pre-requisite:** Teacher Approval.

The Advanced Placement course in United States Government and Politics is designed to give students a critical perspective on politics and government. This course involves both the study of general concepts used to interpret United States politics and an examination of the various institutions, groups, beliefs, and ideas that make up American politics. The course is taught with college-level texts. Preparation for the A.P. test will be an integral part of the course.

Students will be strongly encouraged to take the AP Exam in early May. The exam contains a multiple-choice section which students are given 45 minutes to complete. The exam also contains a written-response section in which students are given 100 minutes to write on four topics. Students earning a 3-5 on the exam will earn credit at most colleges.

AP PSYCHOLOGY: Elective Credit 1.0; One Year; meets Social Studies requirement; Grades 10-12. **Pre-requisite:** Teacher Approval.

This course is intended to prepare students to take the AP Psychology exam. As such, the curriculum of this course follows the recommendations of the College Board for a university level, introductory Psychology course. This course will approach the study of Psychology from a scientific point of view. Students will be introduced to the historical perspectives, research methods, biological basis of behavior, sensation and perception, states of consciousness, learning, cognition, emotion, motivation, lifespan and development, personality theories, abnormal psychology and the treatment of disorders, social psychology and testing and individual differences.

Students will be strongly encouraged to take the AP Exam in early May. The exam contains a 100 question multiple-choice section which students are given 70 minutes to complete. The exam also contains a written-response section in which students are given 50 minutes to write on two topics. Students earning a 3-5 on the exam will earn credit at most colleges.

GOVERNMENT: Required Credit for College Prep Diploma 0.50; One Semester; Grade 12.

This semester course is a study of the basic structures of local, state, and national government. It will also use past and present day examples to illustrate the functions of the United States Government. Students will also be introduced to the basic principles of a free enterprise economic system.

HOLOCAUST: NOT OFFERED IN 2016-17. Elective Credit 0.50; One Semester; meets Social Studies elective requirement; Grades 10-12; **Prerequisite** – None.

History of the Holocaust is an elective designed for students to more closely examine the collective actions of Hitler's Third Reich and the resultant human tragedies and horrors suffered by the many millions of its victims, especially Europe's Jews. Students will analyze the long-term factors that shaped German political culture and the more short-term economic and social developments that severely challenged a young, postwar German state and led to the swift rise to power of Adolf Hitler and his Nationalist Socialist party. Students will finish the course by examining the immediate and enduring consequences of the Holocaust, especially how they continue to impact the world we have today. Use of videos, handouts, novels and projects are in this class curriculum.

MONTANA HISTORY: Elective Credit 0.50; One Semester; meets Social Studies elective requirement; Grade 10-12; **Prerequisite** – None.

In this semester long course you will study topics that include pre-contact and Montana's Indigenous People, Exploration and Fur Trade, Mining/Timber, Cattle, Homesteading, Depression and World War II, and Post-World War II in Montana.

NATIVE AMERICAN STUDIES: Elective Credit 0.50; One Semester; Meets Social Studies elective requirement; Grade 10-12; **Prerequisite** – None.

The purpose of this class is to learn about the different Native American cultures in the western hemisphere. The class will focus on the following periods in Native American history: Colonization, Treaty Period, Allotment Period, Boarding School Period, Tribal Reorganization Period, Termination period, Self-determination. This class will be taught with the Native American Literature course.

U.S. HISTORY: Required Credit for College Prep Diploma 1.00; Grade 11.

This course covers the following periods of history in the United States:

- Before 1800-Colonization to a new government
- 1800-1860 Westward movement
- 1860-1890 Civil War and Reconstruction
- 1890-1920 Imperialism & World War I
- 1920-1930 Roaring 20's
- 1930-1950 Depression & World War II
- 1950-1980 Korean and Vietnam War
- 1980 - Present

Special individual projects will include oral history research.

WORLD HISTORY: Required Credit for College Prep Diploma 1.00; One Year; Grades 9-10.

This course will study significant people, places, and events that have shaped the history of the world. It will begin with the fall of the medieval Europe, Muslim civilizations, civilizations of East and Southeast Asia, the Renaissance and Reformation, the beginnings of our Global Age, and the World at War.

CAREER & TECHNICAL EDUCATION

All career & technical education classes shall count towards the one credit required as Vocational credit for a general diploma. The College Prep diploma requires 0.5 credit in Computer I in addition to 0.5 credit in another vocational course.

BUSINESS

BUSINESS MEDIA: CTE Elective credit, Semester 1 only, Prerequisite -Computer 1

Students will apply the principles of typography and graphic design to develop documents which combine text, graphics, and photographs on various media formats for personal and business use. Projects will include the use of various digital formats to include web design, video production, and operating a simulated business.

COMPUTER APPLICATIONS: Required Credit for College Prep Diploma 0.50; One semester; Grades 9-12. **Pre-requisite:** none.

The introductory computer class is designed to cover a brief history of computing and to learn various popular applications of computers. Skills acquired include Windows file management, beginning to advanced word processing, data base management, spreadsheets, presentations and telecommunications. The software is Microsoft Office Word, Excel, Access, PowerPoint, and Outlook. Introduction to Google Docs, sheets, slides, forms, and drawings will be explored.

CREATIVE CODING: Elective CTE .50 credit; Semester 2 only; Grades 9-12. **Pre-requisite:** none.

An introductory computer programming course that lays the foundation for understanding the principles and practices of computer science. Students learn how to code by working in a real software development environment to design, program and publish mobile applications and games.

PERSONAL FINANCE: Elective Vocational Credit .50; One semester; Grades 9-12. **Pre-requisite** – none.

Having basic financial knowledge is a skill needed by all individuals. This course emphasizes career awareness, money management strategies, consumer purchasing strategies, legal protection, banking, consumer credit, financing of housing, fundamentals of investing (stocks, bonds, and mutual funds), fundamentals of taxes, and forms of insurance protection.

INDUSTRIAL TECHNOLOGY

BUILDING TRADES 1/2: Elective Vocational Credit .50; One semester; Grades 10-12. **Pre-requisite** – none.

This is a project based class with an emphasis on community service and building construction. Students identify, prioritize, and take on projects for the school and community. Students are exposed to modern construction techniques including but not limited to landscaping, painting, carpentry, and cabinetry. Many aspects of the construction industry are included throughout the course. Proper planning, estimating, alternative building techniques, and project management will be discussed. Once projects are completed the class moves on to another team project. The focus of this class is to explore current building methods and experience different materials and processes. Grading is largely based on participation with some test and written assignments.

CAD 1 MECHANICAL DRAWING: Elective Vocational Credit .50; One semester; Grades 9-12. **Pre-requisite** – none.

The focus of this class is to teach beginning drafting students the fundamentals of computer-aided- drafting, (CAD). Students learn how to accurately create complex geometry using the programs AutoCAD and Rhino. They complete a series of 2-D mechanical drawings and 3-D models. New commands are learned with each new drawing. Students are required to complete a final project with is worth 25% of there grade. Grading is based on their final project, test and class work.

CAD 2 ARCHITECTUAL DRAWING: Elective Vocational Credit .50; One semester; Grades 9-12. **Pre-requisite** – CAD 1.

This is a one-semester course designed to give students a taste of planning and design aspects associated with home building and architecture. Students will create several working drawings. For example site plans, floor plans and elevations. Topics covered are: environmental impacts, passive energy systems, locating a building on a site, and elements of good design. Students will be required to complete a final project worth 25% of their grade. Grading is based on their final project, test and class work.

INDUSTRIAL TECHNOLOGY: Elective Vocational Credit .50; One semester; Grades 9-10. **Prerequisite**—none.

This course is designed to develop students' ability to design and manufacture projects using current manufacturing techniques. Concepts covered include technical sketch, computer aided drafting, cost estimation, metal and wood working equipment, technical writing, and job planning. This class will emphasize the use of the design process to create projects. The instructor will provide working criteria and assist students in selecting skill level appropriate projects with an artistic emphasis. The class will be centered around a hands-on approach to creating aesthetic pieces of various types and sizes. Through required projects and procedures, students will have the freedom to interpret and create metal or wood art with their own personal flair.

WELDING 1: Elective Vocational Credit .50; One semester; Grades 10-12.

A study of welding technology fundamentals. OFW OFC (Oxy-Fuel Welding and Cutting) and SMAW (Shielded Metal Arc Welding) are covered in this class. Students complete the five basic welds using OFW and SMAW processes. OFW is used to teach students the process of fusing metal together with a molten puddle. Students complete a series of welding task in the flat, horizontal, and vertical positions. Students learn how to safely interact in an industrial setting, select proper personal protective equipment, welding equipment set-up and shut-down, electrode classifications, and basic weld joints. Grading is based on test, class work, and participation.

WELDING 2: Elective Vocational Credit .50; One semester; Grades 10-12. Pre-requisite: Welding 1 and Instructor Approval.

This class is a continuation of Welding 1. Shop safety and equipment care are reviewed. Students take a deeper look at reading plans, welding symbols, and welding out of position. Students learn how to GMAW/MIG (Gas metal arc weld). Once students have completed the five basic welds using all of the welding equipment they apply what they have learned by completing individual or team welding projects. Grading is based on test, class work, and participation.

WOOD MANUFACTURING: Elective Vocational Credit .50; One semester; Grades 9-12.

This class familiarizes students with careers and procedures associated with the manufacturing industry. Students gain a working knowledge of tools, materials and manufacturing processes. This course includes shop safety, personal protective equipment, tool maintenance, and tool operation. Students follow the teacher through their first project, a nightstand. Each step is demonstrated to the students. Upon completion of the nightstand students plan and build another project approved by the instructor. Grading is largely based on participation with some test and written assignments.

WOOD MANUFACTURING 2: Elective Vocational Credit .50; One semester; Grades 9-12. Pre-requisite: Wood 1 and Instructor Approval.

This is a project-oriented class where students apply what they have learned by completing individual projects and working as a team on manufacturing projects. Emphasis is placed on proper planning and efficient work habits. Students learn how to order material, fill out plan sheets, and execute a plan. Students develop problem solving skills by utilizing current methods and processes to build projects. Students are required to read plans and learn to work in a safe efficient manner. Materials, design, production, and marketing are discussed. Grading is largely based on participation with some test and written assignments.

MEDICAL

MEDICAL TRAINING:

Elective CTE credit 0.25 or 0.50; 4 ½ or 9 weeks; Grades 9-12.

This course will provide extensive CPR/AED training. Basic and some advanced First Aid. Basic anatomy and physiology for a first responder. Obtaining and assessing vital signs and an exploration of health care careers.

OTHER ELECTIVES

COLLEGE NEXT STEPS:

Elective 0.5 credit; Semester. **Pre-Requisite** – Senior level course.

This course is designed to help senior students who are planning on attending a two or four year university. Topics include test prep, study habits, time management, applying to college, financial planning, searching for and applying for scholarships, career exploration, and decision making. The following competencies will be addressed: self-assessment; decision making, communication skills, goal setting, cultural competence, independence, college resources, learning styles, study skills, time management, research skills, utilization of technology. Upon course completion, students will feel ready to adjust to the college experience.

FRESHMEN ACADEMY: Elective Credit; 0.25 One Year Grade 9; **Prerequisite—**None.

The Student Academy is a highly structured study environment for the development of study skills and disciplined academic habits. In addition, students will have access to subject specific peer and teacher tutoring. Students will be required to demonstrate specific skills, strategies and habits applied to their studies in order to earn credit for the course.

Skills, strategies and habits include: organization (notebooks, binders, lockers); use of a planner and assignment book; effective note taking; study habits (i.e. time management, setting a conducive environment); study strategies (i.e. peer review, simulating assessments, "how do you know you know it?") and writing skills.

JOBS FOR MONTANA GRADUATES: Elective Credit; 0.25 or 0.50; 4 ½ or 9 weeks 0.50, Grades 9 - 12; **Prerequisite**—Instructor approval.

This course is designed to assist all students in preparing for the day they graduate and face the “real world”. Whether they are planning on going to a college/university, trade-school, military, or starting a job in the workforce, there is something for everyone to learn. Areas covered are: *individual needs, employment skills, communication, career research and career development with job shadowing, job survival skills, leadership skills, self-development skills, budgeting and finances, and teamwork. In addition to these areas, the course is supplemented with a club (Montana Career Association) and two state conferences.*

MENTORING: Elective Credit; 0.25 or 0.50; 4 ½ or 9 weeks 0.50, Grades 9 - 12; **Prerequisite**—Instructor approval.

Available for 10- 12th grade students and freshman 2nd semester with Teacher approval.

Generally, mentor activities include reading and classroom exercises and encompass both group and individual sessions. Mentors receive a myriad of benefits through their involvement, such as earning high school credit, developing a range of skills (e.g., relationship building, leadership, time management), and exploring postsecondary and career options based on interests and learned skills. Mentors will be signed to work with designated classes. Teachers and mentors will work together to complete activities, which may vary by classroom.

High school students will have the opportunity (with parent permission) to drive personal vehicles to and from the elementary 7th period or transportation will be provided.

LEARNING CENTER: Elective Credit; 0.25; One Semester Grades 9 - 12; **Prerequisite**—Instructor approval.

Thompson Falls High School has implemented a targeted assistance Title I program in grades 10-12. Student assessment data is collected to target student needs and diagnose areas of weakness and prescribe a plan of action. Students continue to receive instruction in their regular Math/Language Arts classes with support from a Title I teacher.

SENIOR PRIVILEGE (SKIP PERIOD): No Credit; One Period per Semester; **Grade 12 only.** **Pre-requisite** – Meeting graduation requirements and have approval of principal and parent/guardian.

The student handbook states “Seniors must be enrolled in a minimum of five ½-credit bearing classes. They may additionally choose from the following: Teacher Aide (.25 credit), or Office Aide, and seniors may request one unscheduled period (1ST or 7th period) and both student and a parent must sign a contract after a meeting with the building level administrator. The administration has the authority to grant exceptions to the number of credit-bearing classes required based on extraordinary circumstances.”

TEACHER AIDE: Elective Credit 0.25; Pass/Fail only; One Semester; Grades 10-12. **Prerequisite**--Instructor Approval.

This P/F elective provides the student an opportunity to work for a teacher, in the main office, library, Jr. High School or Elementary School. Students who work at the other campus must provide their own transportation. Students may apply **only 1.0 total credit** towards graduation. Seniors may request approval from the principal for up to two Teacher Aide positions per semester.

WORK EXPERIENCE: 0.5 elective Credit; Request each semester; Grades 11 or 12. **Pre-requisite:** below.

Students may be released from compulsory full-time attendance:

1. If, the student has employment or will be serving an internship. The student must remain employed or will be required to return to school (Learning Center).
2. Next, the student and parent/guardian must have the principal's approval (contract).

MONTANA DIGITAL ACADEMY (MTDA)

Located in The University of Montana's Phyllis J. Washington Education Center, MTDA is the state's publicly supported K-12 online school and is specifically designed to offer flexible education options to Montana students.

MTDA courses are delivered via the Web, and students can access them whenever and wherever they want. Content is taught by qualified Montana-licensed instructors and aligned to state educational standards, including Indian Education for All. MTDA teachers provide the final course grades, and the schools where the students are enrolled grant credit.

Students receive their assignments and submit their homework online. Courses are available 24 hours a day, seven days a week. MTDA can help reduce or eliminate the course conflicts that many students experience, allowing them to build a schedule that is right for them.

MTDA offer more than 50 high school courses. Students looking for a new academic challenge can take Advanced Placement courses, and a wide variety of elective courses expose students to subjects that may not be available in local schools. In the future, courses will be offered for middle and elementary school students.

For more information on MTDA please go online to:

<http://montanadigitalacademy.org/index.php>

MTDA Original Credit

Students may choose to enroll in Original Credit Courses through MTDA. To view the course catalog of Original Credit Courses please visit:

<http://montanadigitalacademy.org/program/course-catalog>

Original Credit courses are cohort-styled online courses. They begin and end on a set date, and most courses require a proctored final exam. Courses must be registered for in advance and students that do not withdraw by the set deadline take a W/F for the courses. On-campus students wanting to take an original credit course may choose from courses that are not offered at TFHS or courses that pose a conflict in the student's schedule. Many foreign language courses are offered through the MTDA. Students interested in taking an MTDA may register to take a course during the regular school day. Please discuss this option with Mrs. Morgan.

MTDA Connect Courses (Credit Recovery Courses)

Students who must repeat a course will do so in the Alternative Learning Center (ALC). Courses will be provided through the MTDA. These courses are referred to as Connect Courses. Credit recovery is an available online option for students that have failed a course, or are deficient of credits, which impede their ability to complete high school on time. Connect courses do not require a specific start or stop date aside from the general MTDA calendar. Students may work at their own pace.

MTDA Dual Credit Opportunities

MTDA offers dual enrollment in MTDA and MUS courses. Students may choose from courses offered at Dawson Community College, Gallatin College, Great Falls College MSU, Helena College, Miles Community College, Montana Tech, and MSU Northern. Students may take these courses at a 50% discount with mandatory fees waived. Some courses also qualify for high school as well as college credit (dual credit). For students seeking dual credit - both high school and college credit – please refer to the following website: <http://montanadigitalacademy.org/dual-credit-information>. Application deadlines vary from college to college.

GEAR UP funding is available on a first come first served basis to cover tuition for TFHS students taking dual enrollment courses. Tuition is charged by the college campus providing the course and will be the responsibility of the student. In addition, it is the responsibility of the student to submit invoices to Mrs. Beckman, GEAR UP Liaison, for reimbursement.

RUNNING START

Running Start is a dual credit program between Thompson Falls High School and Flathead Valley Community College where high school students earn credit simultaneously for high school graduation and toward a college degree. The Running Start program enables an eligible high school student to seek an expanded educational challenge. The student enrolls simultaneously in high school and college classes for the purpose of earning credit to be awarded both by TFHS and FVCC. Classes taken at TFHS as part of the Running Start program are limited to college level courses numbered 100 or above.

A student must take and pass the COMPASS test to be eligible to take FVCC classes. Students and parents will be responsible for all tuition and fees when GEAR UP funding is unavailable. Once students enroll under this program and begin attending FVCC, they will be considered regular college students. The college faculty will expect the same level of classroom participation, study habits, and homework as they expect from all other students in the class.

Running Start classes will be counted toward extra-curricular eligibility rules, and will be compiled as part of the GPA. Credits earned at FVCC will be accepted in the TFHS credit system as follows:

<u>FVCC Credit</u>	<u>TFHS Credit</u>
1.0	.25
2.0	.25
3.0	.50
4.0	.75
5.0	1.0

The COMPASS test is offered at TFHS at no cost to the student. Please see Mrs. Morgan for an appointment. It is also offered at FVCC, and appointments can be made by calling (406) 756-3880. Students should contact Mrs. Morgan for procedures to enroll in the Running Start program.