



Program of Studies

2011-2012

Wisdom High School
2011-2012
PROGRAM OF STUDY HANDBOOK

“Chart your course and choose your destiny”

Statement of Intent

It is the intent of MSAD #33 to pursue policies of nondiscrimination and equal opportunity in all of its departments, programs, and activities. To this end, MSAD #33 has taken affirmative action to insure that all applications receive fair consideration for employment and that employees are treated fairly during employment. Such affirmative action applies to, but is not limited to employment, appointment, selection, upgrading, demotion, transfer, recruitment, advertisement, lay-off, termination, rates of pay and fringe benefits of other forms of compensation, and selection for training or academic leave. MSAD #33 has also established procedures to ensure that the effects of any action upon students, parents, citizens, local educational authorities, schools, libraries, towns and other organizations and persons are nondiscriminatory.

Policy Statement

It is the policy of MSAD #33 to ensure equal employment/educational opportunities (affirmative action) regardless of race, sex, color, national origin, marital status, religion, age, or handicap in accordance with all federal and state legislation relative to discrimination. Inquiries and grievances can be made to Tammy LeBlanc, Affirmative Action/Title IX/Section 504 coordinator, at 543-7717, or to the Affirmative Office, State Department of Education, and Augusta, Maine, 04330.

The MSAD #33 policies that reflect on Affirmative Action/Title IX/Section 504 can be found in the Principal's Office.

To The Parents

If you would like a French translation of this Program of Study Handbook, please contact the principal or Director of Guidance at 543-7717 at Wisdom Middle/High School to make arrangements for a translation.

Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act

Parents of students under 18 years of age attending any school have the right to inspect and review any and all official records, including all material that is incorporated into each student's cumulative record folder, and intended for school use or to be available to parties outside the school or school system, and specifically including, but not necessarily limited to, identifying data, academic work completed, level of achievement (grades, standardized test scores, etc.) attendance data, aptitude and psychological tests, interest inventory results, health data, family background information, teacher or counselor ratings and observations, and verified reports of serious and recurrent behavior patterns.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

PRINCIPAL’S MESSAGE	3
FACTORS FOR CHOOSING A PROGRAM OF STUDY	3
PROCEDURE FOR COURSE CHANGE	4
SCHOOL PROMOTION	4
GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS	4
STUDENT PROGRAMS	4
Four-Year Plan Form	5
EARLY COLLEGE	6
AP COURSES	6
ST. JOHN VALLEY TECHNOLOGY CENTER	6
COURSES AVAILABLE AT WISDOM HIGH SCHOOL:	
ENGLISH	7
FRENCH	8
MATH	10
SCIENCE	11
SOCIAL STUDIES	13
FINE ARTS	15
PHYSICAL EDUCATION	15

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

This Program of Study Handbook includes graduation requirements, our course change policy, and various programs of study and course descriptions. As you develop your personal program of studies, please keep in mind the number of credits needed to graduate are mandatory by the State Board of Education as well as by our local Board. Life can take you in many directions and only you will know the right one.

As a school, our business is not to limit educational opportunities. Our goal is to offer you the most up-to-date and applicable courses that we can possibly offer. We want you to gain the skills necessary to move on to your post secondary school and the job market with varied and applicable coursework. I encourage you to review this handbook very carefully before selecting a program. Discuss this information with your parents and teachers and the Guidance Counselor and be sure to have all questions answered prior to selecting a program. By doing so, your chance of a successful high school experience will significantly increase.

Again, I stress that your choice of courses should enable you to get into the very best colleges, universities, tech schools, or work fields you desire upon graduation. What you must avoid is a sudden realization that you might not be adequately prepared for your future course of study. Plan well to improve your chances of success! ~Ms. LeBlanc

FACTORS FOR CHOOSING A PROGRAM OF STUDY

- What are your strengths and/or weaknesses as indicated by achievement, intelligence, and aptitude tests as well as interest inventories? What is your passion?
- In classes you have already taken, for which subjects have you received the highest grades?
- What type of adult employment might you enjoy?
- Does this type of employment require education beyond high school?
- If formal education is a priority beyond high school, which subjects should you consider taking to build an adequate foundation for a particular field of study?
- If formal education is not a priority beyond high school, what program of study would be most valuable in preparing you to live and work on your own?
- If your plans include joining a branch of the Armed Services after high school, getting accepted is no longer automatic. The Military not only requires earning a diploma, certain levels of basic language and math skills are prerequisite. Minimum test scores for admittance have risen significantly in the last few years.
- Remember that choosing a program of study requires serious consideration. A course should never be selected on a whim or just because a friend is taking the class. Courses must be chosen on the basis of sound information and careful thought.

PROCEDURE FOR COURSE CHANGE

Students will not be permitted to make any course changes after the first two weeks of the new school year unless special circumstances exist. Students may only add or withdraw from courses pending signatures of all parties. Should there be any disagreement; a meeting with all parties must be arranged. If approval is granted, the official transcript will indicate a withdrawal (WD).

SCHOOL PROMOTION

Students are promoted from one grade to the next according to the number of credits earned at the end of each academic year. A student must have earned (6) credits to be classified as a sophomore, (12) credits to be classified as a junior and (18) credits to be classified as a senior.

CREDIT REQUIREMENTS FOR GRADUATION

In order to graduate from Wisdom High School, a student must have acquired the following credits:

Academic Subject	Number of Credits
English	4
Social Studies	4
Mathematics	4
Science	4
Health	1
Fine Arts	1
Physical Education	1
Foreign Language	1*

*(*most colleges require 2)*

25 credits are required to graduate

GENERAL REQUIREMENTS OF POST-SECONDARY SCHOOLS

All post-secondary institutions have individual entrance requirements which may exceed the state minimum. For specific entrance requirements at any school of higher education, you should consult with the guidance counselor.

STUDENT PROGRAMS

The master schedule is designed to meet the needs of as many students as possible. Conflicts can develop, and it may be necessary to postpone scheduling a course. If a student wishes to take a course which does not seem to fit into a particular program, s/he should consult with the guidance counselor. We will remain as flexible as possible in scheduling, and we will attempt to meet each student's individual needs to the best of our ability.

WISDOM MIDDLE/HIGH SCHOOL

Four-Year Plan

Name: _____

Grade 9	Grade 10
1. ____ English I 2. ____ World Geography 3. ____ Algebra I / Geometry 4. ____ Physical Science 5. ____ French 6. ____ Physical Education 7. ____ Fine Arts ____ Elective ____ TOTAL CREDITS	1. ____ English II 2. ____ World History 3. ____ Geometry / Algebra II 4. ____ Biology 5. ____ French II 6. ____ Health 7. ____ Fine Arts ____ Elective ____ TOTAL CREDITS
Grade 11	Grade 12
1. ____ English III / Adv. Eng III 2. ____ US History 3. ____ Algebra II / Pre Cal 4. ____ Chemistry w/Lab 5. ____ Tech 6. ____ Elective 7. ____ Elective 8. ____ Elective ____ TOTAL CREDITS GRADE 11	1. ____ English IV / Adv. Eng IV 2. ____ Social Studies Elective 3. ____ Precal/ Calc/ Business Math/Senior Math 4. ____ Science Elective 5. ____ Tech 6. ____ Elective 7. ____ Elective 8. ____ Elective ____ TOTAL CREDITS GRADE 12
_____ TOTAL CREDIT GRADES 9-11	_____ FINAL TOTAL CREDITS

Graduation Requirements: 4 English, 4 Social Studies, 4 Math, 4 Science, 1 Foreign Lang., 1 PE, 1 Health, 1 Fine Art,

5 Electives – 25 Total Credits

NOTES:

EARLY COLLEGE

Students may choose to take advantage of the St. John Valley Early College Partnership served by the University of Maine at Fort Kent. This is an exciting opportunity for students to attend classes at UMFK while still attending high school. Courses can also be taken through the Northern Maine Community College's High School Aspirations Program and the Academ-e online program through the University of Maine at Orono. Please see the guidance counselor for details.

AP COURSES

Students may enroll for AP courses to count towards college credit when available. See the guidance counselor for details.

ST. JOHN VALLEY TECHNOLOGY CENTER COURSES

Programs at the Saint John Valley Technology Center are listed in their handbook and online at <http://sjvtc.mainecte.org> If you have questions or would like to participate in this program, please see the guidance counselor.

COURSES AVAILABLE AT WISDOM HIGH SCHOOL

ENGLISH COURSES

English I: **Grade 9** **1 Credit**

Students in English I will study a wide variety of literary types including the short story, poetry, drama, essays, and novels. Students will be introduced to Shakespeare and Elizabethan English through the study of *Romeo and Juliet*. They will also be introduced to different levels of journaling, both personal and formal. They will use the complete writing process to compose personal narratives, short stories, poems, essays as they respond to different readings.

Students will also complete an MLA Research Paper. A classroom novel will be read and analyzed together. Other required readings will be taken from the *Glencoe Literature, Course 4* text. Students will be expected to develop, refine and utilize critical thinking skills to draw strong connections between themselves and course content.

English II: **Grade 10** **1 Credit**

As a means of better understanding themselves and others, students will study various short stories, plays, and novels. To refine grammar skills and demonstrate clear, concise thinking, students will write proper and personal essays, as well as at least one research paper.

English III: **Grade 11** **1 Credit**

Students in English III will learn about their world both past and present through the study of American literature. Critical and analytical thinking will be emphasized both in their reading and their writing curriculum. Students will polish their skills as independent thinkers as they communicate, reflect and understand their stories. Required readings will be taken from the *Glencoe Literature, American Literature* text. Students will be responsible for their reading and writing. They will also be responsible for informal and formal reader responses and varied writing prompts. Students will complete a formal MLA Research Paper.

Advanced English III: **Grade 11** **1 Credit**

Students in Advanced English III will follow the same format as English III, however, content will be covered in more depth. There will be more reading, writing and presentations. Students will be expected to develop, refine and utilize critical thinking skills to draw strong connections between themselves and course content.

English IV:**Grade 12****1 Credit**

Since English IV is a study of English Literature, the reading portion of the course covers various British authors as well as cultures from the Middle Ages to modern times. The writing portion of Senior English concentrates on helping the student become a more successful communicator through the techniques of effective reading, writing, and public speaking.

Advanced English IV:**Grade 12****1 Credit**

Since English IV is primarily a study of English Literature, the reading portion of the course covers various British authors. The readings are mostly novel based. The writing portion of Senior English concentrates on helping the student become a more successful communicator through the techniques of effective reading and writing, and public speaking.

English Composition & Creative Writing:**Grades 10- 12****1 Credit**

Students will be provided with additional opportunities to sharpen their writing skills in preparation for college/university studies. Various forms of formal essays are written and closely critiqued. Students also practice writing creatively and thinking “outside the box.” It is highly advised that this course be part of a student’s academic schedule if he/she plans on pursuing a two- or four-year college or university. Students will leave will polished skills as independent thinkers and they will be able to express themselves through writing.

FRENCH COURSES

French I:

Grade 9

1 Credit

French I is a required course designed for freshmen pursuing the college preparatory program. The stress is on learning to use the language fully, involving oral comprehension, speaking, reading, and writing. This will be accomplished through the use of the cultural aspects of our Acadian origin as well as through the use of standard French conversations on topics that are meaningful to students. Class will be conducted in both French and English.

French II

Grade 10

1 Credit

Prerequisites: French I

French II is a continuation of French I and involves basically the same components at a more advanced level. We will continue with dialogs, writing, listening comprehension, and have a bigger focus on the French culture around The World. Class will be conducted often in French.

French III:

Grade 11

1 Credit

Prerequisites: French II

French III is when we take the French foundation and really examine how and why things happen. Every quarter you will be required to create a project on a given topic. We will read daily articles in French and learning how to navigate French websites. A major French essay is part of this course. Class will be conducted mostly in French.

French IV:

Grade 12

1 Credit

Prerequisites: French III

In this course, participants will learn to become more fluent in speaking French through a variety of activities. Students will be able to read a novel by the end of the year as well as identify more than seven tenses in written and spoken French. There is a major written component in this course as well. Students will also create their own French book, which they will write and illustrate. Class will be conducted entirely in French.

MATH COURSES

Algebra I: **Grade 9** **1 Credit**

Students will cover units in the rules and applications of algebra, linear equations, and inequalities, probability and statistics, properties of polynomials, factoring, rational and irrational numbers, radical expressions. Some geometry and quadratic equations will also be covered. This course expects students to have a working knowledge of decimals and fractions.

Geometry: **Grade 9-11** **1 Credit**

Prerequisite: Algebra I

Students will discover a whole new way of doing and viewing math. Hands-on activities will include building scaled projects, using manipulatives, and rediscovering the value of pi. The familiar formulas of perimeter, area, and volume will be covered, as well as the basics of triangle-based trigonometry. Applications of algebra skills will help students understand the connectedness of underlying math principles.

Algebra II: **Grade 10-11** **1 Credit**

Prerequisites: Algebra I, Geometry

Students will study sets of numbers, the solution of linear equations and inequalities in two variables, solving verbal problems, matrices, properties of polynomials, rational expressions and factoring. Students will also develop concepts in quadratic relations and functions. A scientific calculator is highly recommended.

Business Math I and II: **Grade 10-12** **1 Credit**

Students will apply mathematic principles to business and consumer situations. Topics to be introduced include: banking services, consumer credit, home equity loans, insurance and investments, owning a home and/or vehicle, business data analysis, sales and marketing, business costs including profit and loss, and international business. *A calculator is required. Business Math II is the continuation for students interested in the business career.

Pre-Calculus: **Grade 11-12** **1 Credit**

Prerequisites: Algebra II and Geometry

Students will be continuing from Algebra II. Further understanding of functions and their analysis will be stressed. Students will cover polynomial functions, circular functions, inverse functions, inequalities, linear programming, analytic geometry, exponential and logarithmic functions, matrices and trigonometry. A graphing calculator is required for this course, as it will be used weekly.

Calculus: **Grade 12** **1 Credit**

Prerequisites: Pre-calculus

This course will include the traditional topics of introductory Calculus, including: Functions and Models, Limits and Rates of Change, Derivatives, Applications of Derivatives, and Integration. Additional topics may be covered if time allows. Students should expect and be prepared for a rigorous course involving college level lectures and lengthy problem solving homework assignments. Each student must have a graphing calculator. The TI 84 Plus is highly recommended.

Senior Math:**Grade 12****1 Credit**

According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, 80% of the fastest-growing jobs in the United States require some training after high school and many of these jobs require a strong basis in math. This course will engage students in mathematical reasoning, critical thinking, abstract reasoning, critical thinking, and problem solving that will reinforce skills for higher learning in many different careers. Other topics will include: the art of problem solving, concept of set theories, logic, numeration and math systems, concepts of algebra, graphs and functions, statistics, and personal financial management.

SCIENCE COURSES**Physical Science:****Grade 9****1 Credit**

Students will study many topics from many fields including physics, earth and space science, and chemistry. Lab experiences and practicals will be a major emphasis of the course, and students will be expected to solve problems based upon hands on learning.

Biology I:**Grade 10****1 Credit**

Students will study life with some emphasis on labs covering units in cell biology, heredity, human physiology, ecology, and evolution. Throughout the course students will learn how biology relates to the world around them and advances in technology. Students will be using problem solving, scientific reasoning and will be expected to communicate effectively in the applications of biology and technology. Lab work will include dissections. Individual research and a major project will be required.

Human Anatomy & Physiology I:**Grade 11-12****1 Credit****Prerequisite: Biology W/ Lab or permission of Instructor**

Students will study the human body's structure and function of its parts along with the relationship of these parts. It is a continuation from Anatomy and Physiology I that finalizes the body systems remaining along with the pathophysiology of organisms. The dissection of organisms is the principle technique used to isolate and study the structural components of living organisms and their parts, therefore this is a course designed with many labs that require dissecting.

Earth Science:**Grade 9-12****1 Credit**

This course explores in a holistic fashion the major components of the earth sciences, including Geology, Astronomy, Oceanography, and Meteorology. Special emphasis is given to looking at the earth in a holistic fashion, stressing the inter relationships of earth processes.

Environmental Science: **Grade 11-12** **1 Credit**

Prerequisite: Biology

An overview course where students will learn about many of the systems most of us take for granted. Field experience will often be included. A major emphasis will be on our local area and what each of us can do to protect and preserve our natural heritage.

Forensic Science: **Grade 11-12** **1 Credit**

Students will focus on an overview of current concepts and techniques associated with the investigation of crime. Emphasis will be placed on scientific methodologies and on issues associated with biology, chemistry, and lab work.

Chemistry W/Lab: **Grade 11-12** **1 Credit**

Students will learn the concepts of chemistry needed to prepare a student for a college-level course. Covered topics include the atomic model, chemical reactions and equations, stoichiometry, kinetic theory, and thermochemistry. A strong emphasis is placed on problem solving skills, laboratory experimentation, and observation.

Kinesiology: **Grades 10-12** **1 Credit**

This course will cover the study of kinesiology. Students will study body movement and physiology, while incorporating fitness labs. This course will aim to encourage lifelong fitness and health.

Recreational Science: **Grades 10-12** **1 Credit**

(Elective- not to be counted towards PE credit or science requirements)

This program emphasizes the study of recreation and its many entities. Students will become familiar with various types of recreation and sports. This course will include readings, reports, exams, and field experiences which will give students an opportunity to develop skills through gained knowledge and by participation in various individual sports. An emphasis will be placed on lifelong fitness and health.

NOTE:

*S.A.D. #33 recognizes that students who show a legitimate, conscientious, and ethical reason not to do dissection will be offered an alternative assignment to dissection which meets the students needs while at the same time preserves the integrity of science courses. Refer to the **Alternatives to Dissection Policy** found in the District's policy manual est. 4/30/90.*

Health: **Grade 10** **1 Credit**

(To be used as a Health Credit - not a science elective)

Health is a quality of life that includes the physical, mental, and social well-being of a person. This course will cover topics such as: the human body, growth and development, nutrition, exercise and fitness, drugs/alcohol, safety & first aid, disease and disorders, mental health, consumer and personal health, and decision-making.

SOCIAL STUDIES COURSES

World Geography: **Grade 9** **1 Credit**

Students will examine the physical features of the earth, land masses, bodies of water, climate, natural resources and ecosystems. Human geography is also covered as well as the division of the globe into regions and nations and considers the interaction of various cultures with each other and with the environment.

Students will learn mapping skills and will do in-depth studies of physical and human geography for locations on all the continents. Instruction in this course will be designed to implement the Maine State Learning Results for geography and economics courses (comparative systems).

World History: **Grade 10** **1 Credit**

Students will study the development of civilization from prehistory to modernity by studying how historical events, people, cultures and ideas relate to our own society. Particular emphasis will be placed on the development of the Western tradition. Islamic and East Asian cultures will be studied as well. In addition to a survey of the chronology of cultural development, students will take an in-depth look at selected historical topics, including interactions and clashes between cultures, the historical roots of democracy, the historical problem of prejudice, and the development of concepts of human rights and human dignity. Instruction in this course will be designed to implement the Maine State Learning Results for civics, history, and economics.

U.S. History: **Grade 11** **1 Credit**

This course explores the major themes of US History from the Colonial Period to the present. The course will include chronology of important political, legal, cultural, and economic events, as well as foreign affairs. It will explore the rights and responsibilities of free citizens living in a democracy, with an emphasis on the ideas incorporated in the Declaration of Independence and the Bill of Rights. The development of constitutional government will be traced. Contemporary issues and problems will be considered in their historical perspectives. Students will do in-depth research on selected events, presidents, and other individuals. Instruction in this course will be designed to implement the Maine State Learning Results for history, civics, and economics.

AP US History: **Grade 11-12** **1 Credit**
(with option to earn college credit)

Students will be provided with the analytical skills and enduring understandings necessary to deal critically

with the problems and materials in United States history. The program prepares students for intermediate and advanced college courses by making demands upon them equivalent to those made by full-year introductory college courses. Students should learn to assess historical materials—their relevance to a given interpretive problem, their reliability, and their importance—and to weigh the evidence and interpretations presented in historical scholarship. An AP United States History course should thus develop the skills necessary to arrive at conclusions on the basis of an informed judgment and to present reasons and evidence clearly and persuasively in an essay format.

Psychology

Grade 11-12

1 Credit

This course examines human cognition and behavior. Through this course, the student will better understand human thought and emotions, and the relationship between the self and others. Topics include the theories of leading psychologists, developmental psychology, abnormal psychology, therapies, conditioning and motivation, educational psychology, intelligence theory, personality, and psychological testing.

Students and the Law:

Grade 9-12

1 Credit

Students will be exposed to a variety of legal issues. Students will study the historical roots of the American legal system, the sources of law, and the principals of Constitutional interpretation and contemporary legal issues that are in the news or impact their own lives. Students will learn how trials are conducted by watching actual court proceedings and by conducting mock trials. Instruction in this course will be designed to implement the Maine State Learning Results for Civics and History.

competitive, recreational, and leisure time activities.