

Wisdom High School

2008-2009

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, 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	5
FACTORS FOR CHOOSING A PROGRAM OF STUDY	5
PROCEDURE FOR COURSE CHANGE	5
SCHOOL PROMOTION	6
GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS	6
STUDENT PROGRAMS	7
EARLY COLLEGE	9
COMMUNITY SERVICE	9
CYBERSCHOOL	9
ATM	11
ST. JOHN VALLEY TECHNOLOGY CENTER	11
COURSES AVAILABLE AT WISDOM HIGH SCHOOL	12-24
ENGLISH COURSES	
FRENCH COURSES	
MATH COURSES	
SCIENCE COURSES	
SOCIAL STUDIES COURSES	
FINE ARTS COURSES	
PHYSICAL EDUCATION	

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 keep in mind credits needed to graduate are mandatory by the state board of education as well as by our local school board. Just like the cover indicates, there are many directions to head 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 study this handbook very carefully before selecting a program. Discuss this information with your parents and teachers and the Director of Guidance. 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

- 1. What are your strengths and/or weaknesses as indicated by achievement, intelligence, and aptitude tests as well as interest inventories?*
- 2. In classes you have already taken, for which subjects have you received the highest grades?*
- 3. What type of adult employment might you enjoy?*
- 4. Does this type of employment require education beyond high school?*
- 5. 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?*
- 6. 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?*
- 7. 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, yet 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 grade (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 after 2009, a student must have acquired the following credits:

<u>Academic Subject</u>	<u>Number of Credits</u>
English	4
Social Studies	4 (1-U.S. History)
Mathematics	4
Science	4
Health	½
Fine Arts	1
Physical Education	1
Computer Applications	1 (through Class of 2009)
*Foreign Language	1 (Class of 2008+)

25 credits are required to graduate

The graduation requirements for the Class of 2009 are 3 math, 3 science (including one lab science), 3 social studies (including one US History) with the remainder of credits the same. Wisdom does strongly recommend following the 2010 guidelines as this is already the expectation of most post secondary schools.

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 Director of Guidance.

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.

**WISDOM MIDDLE/HIGH SCHOOL
Four-Year Plan**

Name: _____

Grade 9	Grade 10
1. ____ English I / Adv. Eng I	1. ____ English II / Adv. Eng II
2. ____ World Geography	2. ____ World History
3. ____ Algebra I / Geometry	3. ____ Geometry / Algebra II
4. ____ Physical Science	4. ____ Biology
5. ____ French	5. ____ French II
6. ____ Health / Physical Education	7. ____ Computer Applications
7. ____ Fine Arts	8. ____ Fine Arts
____ Elective	____ Elective
____ TOTAL CREDITS	____ 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/ Other 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, .5 Health, 1 Fine Art, 5.5 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 a new and exciting opportunity for students to attend classes at UMFK. Please see the Director of Guidance for details.

COMMUNITY SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES

Students may choose to take advantage of some of the community service opportunities available at Wisdom High School. Credits will be issued based on the number of hours of community service a student completes by the end of the school year. See the principal or the guidance counselor for more information about community service.

CYBER SCHOOL COURSES

Interested students may take exciting and challenging courses through our CYBER school

program sponsored by ECO 2000. Please see the Director of Guidance for course titles and registration forms. Courses normally run from November to April.

ATM COURSES

Students may enroll for courses offered in the ATM program. See the Director of Guidance for details.

ST. JOHN VALLEY TECHNOLOGY CENTER COURSES

Programs at the Saint John Valley Technology Center are listed in their handbook. See the Director of Guidance for a copy.

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, dramas, essays, and novels. Students will be introduced to Shakespeare and work on an intensive poetry unit. 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, and they will respond to different readings. A classroom novel will be read and analyzed together. Other required readings will be taken from the Glencoe Literature, Course 4 text. Students will also complete an MLA Research Paper.

Advanced English I: Grade 9 1 Credit

Students in Advanced English I will follow the same format as English I, however, content including reading, writing and presentations will be covered in greater depth. 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.

Advanced English II : Grade 10 1 Credit

Students in Advanced English will follow the same format as English II. However, the content will be covered in greater depth and students will work more independently. Students will be expected to develop, refine and utilize critical thinking skills to draw connections between themselves and course content.

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 the reading and the writing curricula. 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 on a topic of their choice.

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 greater depth. There will be additional reading, writing and presentation assignments. 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 and writing, and public speaking.

Advanced English IV: Grade 12 1 Credit

Students in Advanced English IV will follow the same format as English IV. However, the content will be covered in greater depth and students will work more independently. Students will be expected to develop, refine and utilize critical thinking skills to draw connections between themselves and course content.

English Comp/Creative Writing I:

Full-Year Grades 9-10 1 Credit

Students will be introduced to a variety of writing genres. They will be expected to write and critique formal essays and creative writing.

English Comp/Creative Writing II:

Full-Year Grades 11- 12 1 Credit

Students will perfect different forms of written expression with an emphasis on critical and analytical thinking. Students will practice different forms of essay writing, an APA research paper, and personal narrative writing and polish skills as independent thinkers as they learn 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 standard French conversations utilizing topics that are meaningful to students.

French II: Grade 10 1 Credit

French II is a continuation of French I and involves basically the same components, yet at a more advanced level.

MATH COURSES

Algebra I: Grades 9-12 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: Grades 9-12 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: Grades 9-12 1 Credit

Prerequisites: Algebra I, Geometry

This course is a continuation and review of Algebra I. Topics include sets of numbers, the solution of linear equations and inequalities in two variables, solving verbal problems, matrices, properties of polynomials, rational expressions and factoring. It also develops concepts in quadratic relations and functions and the exponential and logarithmic functions.

Pre-Calc/Trig: Grades 11-12 1 Credit

Prerequisites: Algebra II and Geometry

This course is designed as a fourth-year mathematics course continuing from Algebra II. The course generally includes trigonometry, rectangular coordinates, circular functions, inverse functions, inequalities, linear programming, analytic geometry, exponential and logarithmic functions, matrices and sequences. Trigonometry and its functions will be an integral part of this course.

BUSINESS/MATH COURSES

Business Math I and II: Grades 10-12 1 Credit

This course is recommended for students who are interested in the business careers. It is designed to 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.

Senior Math: Grades 11-12 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.

SCIENCE COURSES

Physical Science: Grade 9 1 Credit

This course is comprised of 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: Grade 10 1 Credit

This course is the study of life, and it is a laboratory oriented course. Students will cover units in cell biology, heredity, human physiology, ecology, and ecology. They will compare organisms from the simplest to the most complex. 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.

College Biology: Grade 10 1 Credit

This course is a laboratory oriented course covering units in cell biology, heredity, microbiology, botany, zoology, human physiology, and ecology. 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.

Forensics: Grades 11-12 1 Credit

This course 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: Grades 11 & 12 1 Credit

This course introduces the concepts of Chemistry needed to prepare a student for a college level Chemistry 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.

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.

Human Anatomy & Physiology:*

Full-Year Grades 11 & 12 1 Credit

Prerequisite: Biology W/Lab or Permission of Instructor

This course covers in detail the human body's structure and function of its parts along with the relationships of these parts. 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.

Physics W/Lab: Full-Year Grades 11 & 12 1 Credit

Prerequisite: Algebra I, Algebra II, and Geometry

This course will prepare a student for college-level physics courses (w/o calculus). Topics include: Motion, Heat, Forces, Sound, and Light. Students are required to complete a laboratory journal and maintain a daily homework notebook. Emphasis will be placed on developing good problem-solving strategies.

Health (Not to be counted toward science credit):

Half-Year Grade 9 and 10 2 Credit

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 & development, nutrition, exercise & fitness, drugs & alcohol, safety & first-aid, disease and disorders, human sexuality, mental health, consumer and personal health, and decision-making.

SOCIAL STUDIES COURSES

World Geography: Grade 9 1 Credit

This course examines the physical features of the earth, land masses, bodies of water, climate, natural resources and ecosystems. Human geography is also covered. The course examines 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

This course provides a survey of the development of civilization from prehistory to modernity. Students will explore 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.

Sociology: Grades 10-12 1 Credit

This course offers a study of human relationships in society. It focuses upon the use of a sociological point of view to examine culture, social structure, and the individual in society, social institutions, and social inequality. The changing social world and its implications are presented and analyzed.

Students and the Law: Grades 10-12 1 Credit

This elective course will expose students 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.

Psychology: Grades 10-12 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, dysfunctional behavior, therapies, treatment of mentally ill in institutional settings, grief process, personality, and psychological testing.

FINE ART COURSES

Band: Grades 7-12 1 Credit

Band is considered a Fine Arts elective for beginners and advanced students. Working with the instructor, students design their individual goals with evaluations based on the individual's progress in attaining these goals. Grades are also determined by observing the student's willingness in following instructions, and commitment in performance activities such as games, graduations, concerts, etc. Students have the opportunity of earning an A by fulfilling their own objectives, performing at assigned functions, and preparing and completing a teacher approved audition. Other activities may be substituted with the consent of the student and the director.

High School Art Fundamentals I : Grades 9-12 1 Credit

This foundation course is structured to give students a broad experience in drawing, painting, computer and graphic design, as well as a continued examination of historical periods related to art. The curriculum for this class is based on the belief that each student needs to be grounded in the elements and principals of design, and in the development of their talent and creative energy inherent within each individual.

Yearbook (elective not to be counted for computer credit):

Full-Year Grades 9-12 1 Credit

This course is designed to create the yearbook.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION COURSE

Physical Education: Grade 9 1 credit

This course is designed and conducted in a manner as to provide both physical activities and knowledge of skills, games, and applicable rules and terminology. The curriculum consists of both team and individual sports, recreational and leisure time activities and is conducted both in and out of doors on a seasonal basis: soccer, physical fitness testing, floor hockey, team handball, basketball, volleyball, indoor lacrosse, badminton, paddleball, softball, palm ball, pickle ball, floor tennis, table tennis, shuffleboard, racquetball, and recreational games. Course Objectives: Through physical education, the student realizes the value of physical activities and fitness, and is able to apply the skills and knowledge in recreational form, thus leading to continued enhancement of social, mental, emotional, and physical development. This is achieved in the following progression: Grades 9-12 Continue development of individual skills and a progressive understanding of rules and terminology. Students utilize the abilities and knowledge learned from previous experiences and applies them to competitive, recreational, and leisure time activities.