

**2009-2010**  
**Crossroads Charter Academy**  
**Course Descriptions by Department**

**English Language Arts**

In accordance with the Michigan Department of Education the New English Language Arts Requirements at Crossroads Charter Academy will be as follows:

**4 Credits**

Aligned with subject area content expectations developed by the Department and approved by the State Board of Education

English elective courses will be offered to enhance and supplement the curriculum for students, however, they may not be a substitute for the required sequence of ELA courses as outlined by the State.

**English 9 – Literature Survey**

**Grades: 9-12**

**Trimesters: 2**

**Prerequisites: None**

**Credit: 1**

This course is a survey course that develops language skills through an integrated curriculum of literature, vocabulary development, writing, grammar, speaking, and listening skills. The literature component will cover various genre and time periods and concentrate on plot development, characterization, theme, use of figurative language, and examination of social issues. Writing skills will stress writing as a process in theme, research, summary, narrative, descriptive and business styles. Students will also prepare and present speeches and debates.

**English 10 – American Literature**

**Grades: 10-12**

**Trimesters: 2**

**Prerequisites: English 9**

**Credit: 1**

This course develops communication skills through an integrated curriculum of literature, vocabulary development, writing, grammar, and speaking skills. The literature component will consist of American works and concentrate on plot development, characterization, theme, figurative language, and examination of historical issues. Writing skills will be developed through writing as a process and focus on research papers, persuasive essays, business writing, expository, and creative writing projects. Students will also prepare and present speeches and debates.

**English 11 – British Literature**

**Grades: 11-12**

**Trimesters: 2**

**Prerequisites: English 9 & English 10**

**Credit: 1**

This is a course that develops language skills through an integrated curriculum of literature, vocabulary development, writing, grammar, and speaking skills. The literature component will focus on English literature. The evolution of the English language and an examination of social/historical issues through literature will be emphasized. Writing skills will be developed emphasizing writing as a process in research papers, literary critiques, persuasive, business and creative writing. Students will also prepare and present speech and debates.

## **English 12 – World Literature**

**Grades: 12**

**Trimesters: 2**

**Prerequisites: English 9, English 10 & English 11**

**Credit: 1**

This course introduces students to various genre of World Literature including Classics, American Literature, and European Literature. Students will write a research paper, informative essays, persuasive essays, expository, and business style writings. Students will also focus on grammar, vocabulary and speaking skills.

## **Language Arts– Elective Courses**

*The following courses will be offered as needed and as staffing allows.*

### **Speech**

**Grades: 11-12**

**Trimesters: 1**

**Prerequisites: Successfully completed English 9**

**Credit: .5**

Speech is a course where students learn a variety of public speaking techniques and then apply these to the areas of Forensic speaking: demonstrative, informative, social-ritual, and persuasive. The students write and present original speeches. When creating impromptu speeches the students select a topic, have a short amount of time to prepare, and then deliver a speech.

### **Religious Literature I**

**Grades: 9 - 12**

**Trimesters: 1**

**Prerequisites: None**

**Credits: .5**

The purpose of this course is for students to gain an understanding of the history within the Old Testament and the impact of that history upon America and the global culture in the areas of religion, art, literature, and law. Students will examine the literary forms of allegory, allusion, symbolism, and metaphors, as they gain knowledge of Biblical history, religion, geography, and politics.

### **Religious Literature II**

**Grades: 9 -12**

**Trimesters: 1**

**Prerequisites: None**

**Credits: .5**

The purpose of this course is for students to gain an understanding of the history within the Bible and the impact of that history upon America and the global culture in the areas of religion, art, literature, and law. Students will examine the literary forms of allegory, allusion, symbolism, and metaphors as they gain knowledge of Biblical history, religion, geography and politics.

### **Creative Writing**

**Grades: 9 -12**

**Trimesters: 1**

**Prerequisites: English 9**

**Credits: .5**

This course will explore the realm of creative writing and may include poetry, short stories, drama, and expressive essays. Techniques in pre-writing, plot mapping, character development, use of figurative language, and editing will be promoted. There will be extensive use of self-editing, peer-editing, and critiquing skills throughout the course. Each student will produce at least two pieces of writing to be included in a class "school newsletter" at the end of each trimester.

### **Strategic Language Arts Lab**

**Grades: 9-12**

**Trimesters: 1**

**Prerequisites: Teacher Recommendation**

**Credits: .5**

This course is a new class designed to allow adolescents to develop the reading and writing skills they need to pass required classes, graduate from high school, and prepare for the future. Extreme Reading and Writing teaches skills - called Learning Strategies - which students need now and in the future. Students will be selected for this class based on their MAP testing in the spring. Student's scoring 2 years or below grade level will be considered for this class

### **Debate**

**Grades: 9 -12**

**Trimesters: 1**

**Prerequisites: None**

**Credits: .5**

Debate is the sport of the mind and voice, giving students the power to influence change. This class will cover both value and policy debates. Students will learn the form and order, and preparation of debate. Emphasis will be placed on research, argumentation strategies, organization, and presentation skills.

### **Mass Media Literacy**

**Grades: 9 -12**

**Trimesters: 1**

**Prerequisites: English 9**

**Credits: .5**

"Media literacy" is the ability to critically consume and create media. Media literate individuals are better able to decipher the complex messages they receive from television, radio, newspapers, magazines, books, billboards and signs, packaging and marketing materials, video games and the Internet. Mass Media Literacy is an introductory course that seeks to give students greater freedom by teaching them to analyze, access, evaluate and produce media. To accomplish this, students will examine the history, theory, functions, processes, and psychological, social, and cultural effects of print, broadcast, and digital media.

### **Research Skills**

**Grades: 9 -12**

**Trimesters: 1**

**Prerequisites: English 9**

**Credits: .5**

This course focuses on learning to apply research techniques to a variety of media ensuring a well-rounded source of information for any research project. Students will start using basic information-gathering techniques and progress to focused, in-depth searches of both online and print resources. The research methods taught in this class will be useful in all content areas. This course is especially useful for those students interested in attending college. Prerequisite: A signed Internet Usage Agreement must be on file.

### **Drama**

**Grades: 9 -12**

**Trimesters: 1**

**Prerequisites: English 9**

**Credits: .5**

Providing instruction and practice in the basic techniques of stage presence and characterization, this class consists of exercises in concentration, body movement, improvisation, characterization, voice control and projection. In addition to creative dramatics, students work on various monologues, scenes, and one-act plays that are formally judged outside the community. These pieces are showcased at the school several times during the year. Students also have the opportunity to participate in duet and solo competitions in the greater Big Rapids area and to attend various theatrical productions.

### **Sports Literature**

**Grades: 10 -12**

**Trimesters: 1**

**Prerequisites: English 9**

**Credits: .5**

This class will focus on writings from professional or college coaches and/or players. Most of the emphasis will be on leadership and what traits make a good leader. Leadership traits that will be included: building trust, preparing to succeed, developing a routine, and others will be included as the class proceeds. The readings will also deal with how to overcome diversity, building character, and being a positive role model. Current events from the world of sports will also be included.

### **Mythology**

**Grades: 10-12**

**Trimesters: 1**

**Prerequisites: English 9**

**Credits: .5**

The purpose of this course is for students to gain an understanding of classical myths' contributions to Western culture. The course will primarily cover Greek and Roman myths with some comparison of common themes with other mythology. Students will read literature, identify themes, and focus on patterns in stories of mythic heroes. Course evaluation will make use of individual and in-class reading, small group discussion, study guides, dramatization, and expository composition.

### **Early British Literature**

**Grades 11-12**

**Trimesters: 1**

**Prerequisites: English 9 & English 10**

**Credits: .5**

This course is a reading intensive class involves the reading of British literature, History, and the culture that surrounds it. Students will explore literary legends such as King Arthur, Robin Hood, and Lancelot, etc. Students will also be expected to give oral presentations and write critiques connected with the content studies.

### **Yearbook Design & Creation**

**Grades: 11-12**

**Trimesters: 1**

**Prerequisites: English 9 & English 10 or (3.0 G.P.A.) or Teacher Recommendation**

**Credits: .5**

In this course students will develop their writing and communication skills through the use of various journalism assignments and two main projects; the school yearbook and the weekly school newsletter. Due to the nature of this course, students will be required periodically, to participate in assignments that will make it necessary for them to stay after school or to leave during school hours. This class will be based on the aspects of journalism, and students will be required to act as journalists.

### **Advanced Literature**

**Grades: 12**

**Trimesters: 2**

**Prerequisites: English 9, English 10 & English 11 or (3.0 G.P.A.)**

**Credits: 1**

In this course students will develop their writing and communication skills through the use of various journalism assignments and two main projects; the school yearbook and the weekly school newsletter. Due to the nature of this course, students will be required periodically, to participate in assignments that will make it necessary for them to stay after school or to leave during school hours. This class will be based on the aspects of journalism, and students will be required to act as journalists.

## Mathematics

In accordance with the Michigan Department of Education the New Mathematics Requirements at Crossroads Charter Academy will be as follows:

### 4 Credits

- Algebra I
  - Geometry
  - Algebra 2
  - 1 additional math or math-related credit
  - Math or math-related credit in the final year
- All students complete at least 3.5 math or math-related credits
- Complete a math or math-related credit in the final year
- OR
- Complete a two year Career and Technical education curriculum which includes .5 credit of Algebra 2 content

### Algebra I

Grades: 9 - 12

Trimesters: 2

Prerequisites: None

Credits: 1

This course covers algebraic topics including variables, rational numbers, solving equations and inequalities, graphs, functions, systems of equations, exponents and exponential functions, polynomials and factoring, quadratic equations, and rational expressions.

### Geometry I

Grades: 9 - 12

Semesters: 2

Prerequisites: Algebra I

Credits: 1

This course builds on key geometric topics introduced in previous math classes. Students will study two-dimensional and three-dimensional figures in real world applications through constructions and through deductive reasoning and formal proofs.

### Algebra II

Grades: 10 - 12

Trimesters: 2

Prerequisites: Algebra I & Geometry I

Credits: 1

This course covers more algebraic topics including functions, systems of equations and inequalities, matrices, quadratic equations and relations, complex numbers, polynomials and polynomial functions, radical functions, rational exponents, exponential and logarithmic functions, rational and trigonometric functions.

## **Mathematics – Elective Courses**

*The following courses will be offered as needed and as staffing allows.*

### **Pre-Algebra**

**Grades: 9**

**Trimesters: 1**

**Prerequisites: Teacher Recommendation**

**Credits: .5**

This course is designed to aid students in their transition from arithmetic to algebra and geometry. Topics include integers, decimals, ratios, proportions, percents, algebraic expressions, equations, inequalities, area volume, surface area, and graphing.

### **Pre-Calculus**

**Grades: 11 - 12**

**Trimesters: 2**

**Prerequisites: Algebra II**

**Credits: 1**

This calculus course begins with a review of those mathematical concepts and skills necessary for this course. The problem sets contain multiple-choice and conceptually oriented problems similar to those found on the Advanced Placement Examination. Students are provided an intuitive introduction to concepts prior to a rigorous examination of them. Proofs are provided for all-important theorems. Theorem of calculus, numerous applications to physics, chemistry, engineering, and business are also treated in both lessons and problem sets.

### **Personal Finance I**

**Grades: 11 - 12**

**Trimesters: 1**

**Prerequisites: Successful completion of Algebra I & Geometry I**

**Credits: .5**

This course emphasizes the basics of personal finance. Students are introduced to topics such as taxes, inflation, social security, retirement planning, budgeting, credit, borrowing, and compound interest. The class is divided into four units: Income, Money Management, Spending and Credit, and Saving and Investing. Each unit uses video lessons, workbook activities, and class discussion to explore new concepts.

### **Personal Finance II**

**Grades: 11 - 12**

**Trimesters: 1**

**Prerequisites: Successful completion of Algebra I & Geometry I**

**Credits: .5**

This course applies the principles of personal finance. Concepts from Personal Finance (A) are applied in a practical way through simulations and real-life situations. Students learn how financial forms are filled out through first-hand experience and learn how decisions have a direct impact on their future. Outside speakers reinforce the classroom lessons through their personal knowledge and experience. Personal Finance (A) is helpful though not required for this class.

### **Statistics & Probability I**

**Grades: 11 - 12**

**Trimesters: 1**

**Prerequisites: Algebra II**

**Credits: .5**

This course is equivalent to a two-trimester introductory course. A wide range of topics is covered including exploration of data, study design, anticipation of patterns through probability and simulation techniques, and statistical inference and hypothesis testing. Students are expected to complete several investigations and projects throughout the year.

### **Statistics & Probability II**

**Grades: 11 - 12**

**Trimesters: 1**

**Prerequisites: Statistics & Probability I & Algebra II**

**Credits: .5**

The purpose of this course is to introduce students to the major concepts and tools for collecting, analyzing, and drawing conclusions from data. Each student will explore descriptive statistics, probability, sampling distributions, statistical inference and regression.

## Science

In accordance with the Michigan Department of Education the New Science Requirements at Crossroads Charter Academy will be as follows:

### 4 Credits

- **Biology**
- **Chemistry or Physics**
- **1 additional Science credit**

### Conceptual Science

**Grades: 9 - 12**

**Trimesters: 2**

**Prerequisites: None**

**Credits: 1**

This course deepens the understanding of the world around us from a nonliving standpoint. Students will make the connection from the science they read to the science they experience everyday through exploration and hands on activities.

### Biology I

**Grade: 10 - 12**

**Trimesters: 2**

**Prerequisites: None**

**Credits: 1**

Organization and development of living systems will be covered in this course with an in depth look at the structure and function of cells. Students will learn that all living systems are composed of cells and that organisms may be unicellular or multi-cellular. They will understand that cells are composed of biological macromolecules and that the complex process of the cell allows it to maintain a stable internal environment necessary to maintain life. The second segment of this class will cover genetics. Students will recognize that the specific genetic instructions for any organism are contained within genes composed of DNA molecules located in chromosomes. They will explain the mechanism for the direct production of specific proteins based on inherited DNA. Students diagram how occasional modifications in genes and the random distribution of genes from each parent provide genetic variation and become the raw material for evolution.

### Chemistry

**Grade: 11 - 12**

**Trimesters: 2**

**Prerequisites: Conceptual Science & Biology I**

**Credits: 1**

Chemistry is the study of the composition, structure and properties of matter and the changes that it may undergo. This course is designed to be a strong academic course of study of chemistry in which it is understood that the students have some prior background in the physical sciences. Emphasis is placed on laboratory experiences, making observations, and recording and analyzing data. It is suggested that students enrolling in this class have a strong math background, as many calculations will be performed. Junior & Seniors may choose between Chemistry & Introduction to Physics as their third required science class.

### Introduction to Physics

**Grade: 11 - 12**

**Trimesters: 2**

**Prerequisites: Conceptual Science & Biology I**

**Credits: 1**

Physics is a course designed to give the student an awareness of the many basic natural properties which he/she confronts daily. The concepts are discussed and presented in mathematical formulas. The student has ample opportunity to show their mathematical prowess in the solving of many problems concerning forces, work, torque, power, light, waves, heat, sound and electricity. Junior & Seniors may choose between Introduction to Physics & Chemistry as their third required science class.

## **Science– Elective Courses**

*The following courses will be offered as needed and as staffing allows.*

### **Ornithology**

**Grades: 9 - 12**

**Trimesters: 1**

**Prerequisites: None**

**Credits: .5**

This course will explore the natural history of native birds of Michigan. Michigan has a wide variety of birds, ranging from the large bald eagles and sand hill cranes to very small humming birds. Students will use field guides and binoculars to identify birds in the field. The course will develop a banding program to track and monitor birds in the area. Numerous trips will be taken to explore the varying species living in different habitats. Students enrolled in the course will become familiar with bird anatomy and physiology as well as feeding and nesting behaviors of birds.

### **Human Anatomy & Physiology**

**Grade: 10 - 12**

**Trimesters: 2**

**Prerequisites: Biology I**

**Credits: 1**

Few topics are as universally engaging to people as the study of their own bodies. This course will include study of all twelve-organ systems: integumentary, skeletal, muscular, circulatory, respiratory, excretory, nervous, digestive, endocrine, lymphatic, immune and reproductive. The relationship of structure and function is a unifying theme.

### **Pathology**

**Grades: 10 - 12**

**Trimesters: 1**

**Prerequisites: Biology I**

**Credits: .5**

This course will raise student awareness, curiosity, and sometimes fear, regarding the immune systems and infectious diseases. Viruses and bacteria will be introduced as the basic foundation of this course. This organization helps clarify the ways in which viruses are similar to living organisms, and how they are different. Grouping the two together also makes it easier to emphasize the different treatments required for bacterial and viral diseases. Many diseases will be explored, for example, the bubonic plague, malaria, influenza, Ebola, West Nile Virus, and HIV

### **Advanced Biology**

**Grades: 10-12**

**Trimesters: 2**

**Prerequisites: Biology I**

**Credits: 1**

This course begins with an exploration of the diversity of life. Evolution and biodiversity themes will introduce the relationships between the taxonomic groups. The study of the major groups of organisms will reinforce many of the themes presented in Biology I. Students will be introduced to viruses and prokaryotes. This course will explore the six-kingdoms of life: Archaeobacteria, Eubacteria, Protista, Fungi, Plantae and Animalia. Comparative anatomy will also be explored with various dissections.

# Social Studies

In accordance with the Michigan Department of Education the New Social Studies Requirements at Crossroads Charter Academy will be as follows:

## 3 Credits

- .5 Civics
- .5 Economics
- U.S. History & Geography
- World History & Geography

No modification of Civics

### World History & Geography

Grades: 9 - 12

Trimesters: 2

Prerequisites: None

Credits: 1

This course will examine the various regions of the world in terms of their physical geography and major historical developments. Connections between physical geography, human geography, historical events, and social patterns will be explored in order to promote greater understanding of the world in which our students live. Examples of topics studied will be: the Roman Empire, Chinese Empires, European, development and colonization, pre-Columbian American civilizations, and the Indian sub-continent.

### United States History & Geography

Grades: 10-12

Trimesters: 2

Prerequisites: None

Credits: 1

Students will learn the major political, economic, social, cultural, and technological events and understand how they have shaped our nation. The physical and political geography of North American will be studied to provide a broader basis for understanding these forces developed.

### Economics

Grades: 11-12

Trimesters: 1

Prerequisites: World History & Geography & U.S. History & Geography

Credits: .5

The economic portion of this course will study the basic tenants of economics (supply and demand, gross national product, taxes, production costs, assets/liabilities, etc.) from a national perspective. The focus will include our nation's economy, local economy and personal economy. The civics portion will study citizenship and people's responsibility within the government, the 3 branches of government, the layers of government (e.g. federal, state, local), the division of powers, voting rights, representation, and the importance of the students' voice.

### American Government/Civics

Grades: 11 - 12

Trimesters: 1

Prerequisites: U.S. History & Geography

Credits: .5

In this course students will learn the basic of the American political system including the three branches of government, the major documents, and the philosophies upon which it was founded. The students will learn the roles of federal, state, and local government. They will also learn about the rights and responsibilities of citizenship.

### **Leadership**

**Grades: 10**  
**Trimesters: 1**  
**Prerequisites: None**  
**Credits: .5**

This class gives students an opportunity to be involved in consistent core leadership practice. Leadership skills, parliamentary procedure, and organizational skills will be the major focus. Students will be required to work on committees and projects. The projects will pertain to community service, school spirit, and faculty/student relations. Students participating in this class must show responsibility and good attendance.

### **Life After High School**

**Grades: 12**  
**Trimesters: 1**  
**Prerequisites: None**  
**Credits: .5**

This class investigates the social, community service, financial and educational changes that graduating seniors will face in the world outside of high school.

## **Social Studies – Elective Courses**

*The following courses will be offered as needed and as staffing allows.*

### **African American History**

**Grades: 9 -12**  
**Trimesters: 1**  
**Prerequisites: None**  
**Credits: .5**

This course will provide a survey of African-American history from the beginning of the European slave trade to the modern Civil Rights era. The focus of the course will be to create awareness and an understanding of the history, culture, and contributions of the people of African descent within the American experience. This course will emphasize the use of scientific methods of inquiry and will help students to develop effective reading, writing, research, discussion, and thinking skills.

### **50's/60's Survey**

**Grades: 9 -12**  
**Trimesters: 1**  
**Prerequisites: None**  
**Credits: .5**

The 50s and 60s is an investigation into the changes that have shaped United States history since that era. While the politics and economics of the era are woven into class content, the course will emphasize the cultural traditions that emerged as the baby boomers took America by storm. While postwar America is often viewed as an idyllic time period in our history, we also experienced political assassination, deep racial inequality, cultural revolution, nuclear paranoia, and a new world of espionage. This course examines America since WWII. We will explore cultural and social trends, including feminism, Vietnam, consumerism and advertising, the new right and the new left, the counterculture, religious and ethnic revivals, poverty, and the "me" generation. Students will investigate related topics through the use of primary source documents, magazines, books, videos, music, text excerpts and interviews.

### **World War II**

**Grades: 10 -12**  
**Trimesters: 1**  
**Prerequisites: None**  
**Credits: .5**

This project-based course will allow students to conduct an in-depth study of the causes of the war, major events, weapons and tactics, leadership, and long-lasting effects of the war. Literature (both fiction and non-fiction), primary sources, video resources, and internet resources will be used to gain an understanding of the conflict from grand strategies to the lives of the common soldier and civilian. A series of projects will form the basis of the grading assessment and a final research paper will be required as the final exam.

## **Psychology**

**Grades: 11 -12**

**Trimesters: 1**

**Prerequisites: None**

**Credits: .5**

Man's fascination with the study of human behavior is well documented. Along with literature, philosophy, science, and history, the field of psychology is vital to the understanding of human behavior. The study of psychology (from the Greek word, *psyche*, for soul and mind) offers a way to learn about why people, including you, do what they do. This course is designed to stimulate your interest and expand your knowledge of the field of psychology. The course is designed to give the student an overview of the field of psychology, to gain an understanding of the multiple causes of behavior, and to apply that knowledge to both historical and everyday issues. While primarily a lecture and a discussion course, other methods such as case studies, student projects, films, and on-line exercises may be used to develop a more comprehensive understanding of human behavior.

## **History Through Cinema**

**Grades: 11 -12**

**Trimesters: 1**

**Prerequisites: None**

**Credits: .5**

In this course various events, eras, and people in history will be examined using movies as the medium of study. A different subject will be studied each week with a preview session, film viewing, and evaluation assignment. Each film will be analyzed in terms of its content and reliability as a historic vehicle. Examples of films which may be included are: Lawrence of Arabia, The Longest Day, Gandhi, Cry Freedom, Hotel Rwanda, Last Samurai, Matewan, Kingdom of Heaven, Gettysburg, Gallipoli, Schindler's List, Tora!Tora!Tora!, Danced With Wolves, Jeremiah Johnson, Elizabeth, Glory. Students will use written and internet sources to research the historic background information necessary for viewing the film. Following the film, a written evaluation will be done by each student, which compares the film to the previous research. Each student will prepare a final project that will feature a film not shown in class and evaluate the film in terms of historic content and the effectiveness of its presentation.

## **Contemporary World Issues**

**Grades: 11 -12**

**Trimesters: 1**

**Prerequisites: U.S. History & Geography**

**Credits: .5**

In this course students will be given a list of issues that face our society and, as a class, will select six issues to study. Through newspaper and magazine articles, internet research, and selected videos, students will explore the causes and impact of these issues. Students will be expected to participate in class discussions, complete projects, and stay current on news that may be relevant to classroom studies.

# **Physical Education and Health**

In accordance with the Michigan Department of Education the New Physical Education and Health Requirements at Crossroads Charter Academy will be as follows:

## **1 Credit**

### **Physical Education I – Personal Fitness**

**Grades: 9 - 12**

**Trimesters: 2**

**Prerequisites: None**

**Credits: 1**

This is a course with emphasis on developing and maintaining personal health through physical fitness. Students will also participate in team related sports. Physical fitness testing and participation are requirements of this course.

### **Physical Education II – Activities**

**Grades: 9 - 12**

**Trimesters: 2**

**Prerequisites: Physical Education I – Personal Fitness**

**Credits: 1**

This class is for the student that is serious about improving his/her fitness, strength, and cardio-respiratory endurance. Team related sports will be a component of this class. Physical fitness testing and participation are requirements of this course.

### **Health**

**Grades: 9 -12**

**Trimesters: 1**

**Prerequisites: None**

**Credits: .5**

This course will provide information in such a way that it influences students to take positive action regarding their own health. Topics to be covered will include: wellness and your total health, social and consumer health, fitness and nutrition, physical health, avoiding substance abuse, safety and the environment. In the program, students learn that good health habits can prevent illness. As they acquire knowledge and responsibility for their own health they also learn that good health habits can improve the way they look, the way they perform in school and sports, the way they interact with others, and the way they feel about themselves.

## **Physical Education – Elective Courses**

*The following courses will be offered as needed and as staffing allows.*

### **Weight Training and Conditioning**

**Grades: 10 - 12**

**Trimesters: 1**

**Prerequisites: Physical Education I – Personal Fitness**

**Credits: .5**

In this course students will be involved in a 3 to 4 day lifting program that will help them make personal improvements towards athletics and to personal improvements. Off days will include: speed ladder, jumping rope, agility training, and other activities that are geared towards athletics and physical fitness performance.

### **Life Long Sports**

**Grades: 10 - 12**

**Trimesters: 1**

**Prerequisites: Physical Education I – Personal Fitness**

**Credits: .5**

This class will have two focuses: current popular exercise activities and proper nutrition. Possibilities for activities include, but are not limited to the following: walking, biking, weight lifting, ice-skating, bowling, golfing, skiing, and swimming. There will be some instruction time for proper nutrition and health trends. This class will require use of some personal equipment (e.g. golf clubs or bicycles) and possibly a small daily or weekly expense for certain activities.

# **Technology/Business**

In accordance with the Michigan Department of Education the New Technology/Business Requirements at Crossroads Charter Academy will be as follows:

## **1 Credit**

### **ACT Prep On-Line**

**Grades: 11 - 12**  
**Trimesters: 1**  
**Prerequisites: None**  
**Credits: .5**

This online course gives students the practice they need to reach their full potential on the ACT and MME. Bridges adapts to each students needs by targeting their areas of weakness and providing students with learning modules that aim for their academic deficiencies. It assigns practice tests to build each students confidence and to develop newly acquired skills in the areas they are weakest in.

## **Technology/Business – Elective Courses**

*The following courses will be offered as needed and as staffing allows.*

### **Microsoft Office I**

**Grades: 9 - 12**  
**Trimesters: 1**  
**Prerequisites: Keyboarding experience is recommended**  
**Credits: .5**

This course is an introduction to computer applications. Topics covered in the course include word processing, database, spreadsheet, and integration of these programs with Power Point. This course requires a great deal of keyboarding with some time given to refreshing keyboarding skills. The semester is fast-paced and coursework is primarily computer applications, therefore, excellent attendance is imperative.

### **Web Design I**

**Grades: 9 - 12**  
**Trimesters: 1**  
**Prerequisites: None**  
**Credits: .5**

Web Design I will give students a basic knowledge of web site design and development. It will cover the very basic features of web design. Students will develop an understanding of how to use the Internet. Compare and contrast the Internet and the Web, learn what the different URL's are, describe web site development stages, create storyboards, identify and apply web design when they create a simple personal web site using Microsoft Front Page.

### **Desktop Publisher**

**Grades: 9 - 12**  
**Trimesters: 1**  
**Prerequisites: None**  
**Credits: .5**

This class covers the basic features of Publisher. Students will create a personal portfolio by completing the following projects: newspapers, business cards, brochures, flyers, letterheads, customer surveys, catalogs and coupon

### **Intro. to Business Management**

**Grades: 10 - 12**  
**Trimesters: 1**  
**Prerequisites: None**  
**Credits: .5**

Throughout American history, small businesses and entrepreneurs have fueled innovation, created new jobs and satisfied the wants and needs of the marketplace. In this course students will have the opportunity to discover what an entrepreneur is and learn about small business management, do a market analysis, plan the layout of a business site, and create a beginners business plan

## **Business Law**

**Grades: 10 - 12**

**Trimesters: 1**

**Prerequisites: None**

**Credits: .5**

Business Law is a business court that provides the basic foundation of our legal system. This course will cover consumers' rights and obligations, contractual agreements, business rights and obligations, torts laws, for minors, and criminal and civil trials. Instructional strategies may include debates, case studies and mock trials.

## **Legal Issues**

**Grades: 10 - 12**

**Trimesters: 1**

**Prerequisites: None**

**Credits: .5**

Personal law is a course that provides the very basic foundation of our legal system and how it pertains to your personal life. This course will look at the law and how it impacts a consumer. Students will learn about consumer law, your money and the law, contractual law and family law. Instructional strategies include debates, case studies and mock trials. This is a great course for any consumer.

## **Accounting I**

**Grades: 11 - 12**

**Trimesters: 1**

**Prerequisites: None**

**Credits: .5**

Accounting I is for students who have a desire to begin preparation for a career in accounting, college bound students and/or for students who wish to learn accounting for their own personal use. Students should like to work with numbers in a neat and organized manner. The course will give students a background in basic accounting procedures used to operate a business. Accounting I provides students with the skills for employment as a general clerk and/or entry-level accounting clerk. Curriculum includes manual and some computerized accounting

## **Accounting II**

**Grades: 11 - 12**

**Trimesters: 1**

**Prerequisites: Accounting I**

**Credits: .5**

This course is an expansion and in-depth examination of the field of accounting. An introduction to automated accounting is included. The student studies the accounting cycle, partnership accounting, departmentalized accounting, automated departmentalized accounting, general accounting adjustments, corporate accounting, cost accounting, and management accounting. This is an excellent course for those entering the job market after high school as well as those who intend to major in accounting in college.

## **Independent Study – Virtual H.S. Classes**

**Grades: 11 - 12**

**Trimesters: 1**

**Prerequisites: Must have a 3.0 GPA**

**Credits: .5**

A student with permission from the Guidance Department may take an on-line computer class either for Advanced Placement or high school credit.

## Foreign Language

In accordance with the Michigan Department of Education the New Foreign Language Requirements at Crossroads Charter Academy will be as follows:

### 2 Credits

#### Spanish I

Grade: 9 – 12

Trimesters: 2

Prerequisite: B or better in 8<sup>th</sup> Grade English

Credits: 1

Spanish I is an introduction to the language and culture of Spanish-speaking countries. The lessons will be presented thematically on subjects such as friendship, school, sports, and leisure activities, food, family, clothing, vacation, and home.

#### Spanish II

Grades: 9 - 12

Trimesters: 2

Prerequisite: C or better in Spanish I or teacher recommendation

Credits: 1

Spanish II is a course that will review materials presented in Spanish I and continue adding to students' working knowledge of the language, and culture. More thematic lessons will expand students' knowledge to include health, community, movies and TV, restaurants, the environment, parties, and celebrations.

#### Spanish III

Grades: 10-12

Trimesters: 2

Prerequisite: C or better in Spanish II or teacher recommendation

Credits: 1

Spanish III is a course that will review and continue building on the groundwork already laid in Spanish I and II. Thematic lessons will continue on various topics such as travel, cultural life in the city, the news, "When I was Young," a love story, a night out, health and exercise, a trip to the ocean, and the body. The class will be conducted mostly in Spanish.

#### Spanish IV

Grades: 11-12

Trimesters: 2

Prerequisite: C or better in Spanish III or teacher recommendation

Credits: 1

Spanish IV is a course that will be conducted mostly in Spanish and will build on previous knowledge. More emphasis will be placed on reading and writing. Students will have the opportunity to take the AP exam in May of their senior year.

# Visual Arts

In accordance with the Michigan Department of Education the New Fine Arts Requirements at Crossroads Charter Academy will be as follows:

## 1 Credit

### Ceramics

Grades: 9 - 10

Trimesters: 1

Prerequisites: None

Credits: .5

This course offers students a comprehensive understanding of Clay and methods used to create in this medium. Hand building techniques and the wheel are the main focus to create functional and expressive pieces. Glazing techniques and firing are covered. An element of Art History will help to bridge the gap between your work and that of cultures past.

### Color & Theory

Grades: 9 - 12

Trimesters: 1

Prerequisites: None

Credits: .5

This offers students a foundational understanding of color. Studio projects are based on characteristics of color. Color is an extraordinary rich tool for artists. Mediums include Tempera, Acrylic, cut paper and more. Color schemes and optical illusion are just a few topics addressed.

### Introduction to Art

Grades: 9 - 12

Trimesters: 1

Prerequisites: None

Credits: .5

In this course it offers students a foundation of creative tools and experiences. Studio projects are based on the elements and principles of design. Major artists serve as a source for analysis and inspiration through a series of Art History projects. This course requires flexible thinking skills and imagination. Each student will have a portfolio of their work, which is the result of the process and product. No special drawing skills are necessary

### 2-Dimensional Art

Grades: 9 - 12

Trimesters: 1

Prerequisites: None

Credits: .5

In this course students will further their experience with art materials and techniques by focusing on drawing and painting skills on paper and canvas. Pen and ink, pencil, printmaking, acrylic painting, multimedia art and watercolor painting are just a few projects explored. Students will learn about important events in the history of printmaking, drawing and painting, and they will explore the art of other cultures.

### 3-Dimensional Art

Grades: 10 - 12

Trimesters: 1

Prerequisites: None

Credits: .5

In this course students will use materials such as clay, papier-mâché, wire, plaster and found objects to create sculpture. Students will explore sculpture and three-dimensional art forms in history and learn about their uses in modern life.

### **Advanced Two-Dimensional Art**

**Grades: 11 - 12**

**Trimesters: 1**

**Prerequisites: 2 Dimensional Art**

**Credits: .5**

Skills and concepts learned in the prerequisite, Two-Dimensional Art, will be explored in greater depth. In this course students will study important movements in printmaking, drawing, painting, and modern art and further develop their ability to portray visual images with accuracy and care.

### **Advanced Three-Dimensional Art**

**Grades: 11 - 12**

**Trimesters: 1**

**Prerequisites: 3 Dimensional Art**

**Credits: .5**

Skills and concepts learned in the prerequisite, Three-Dimensional Art, will be explored in greater depth. In this course students will study important movements in architecture, sculpture, and pottery and further develop their ability to carry out personal ideas and concepts with three-dimensional materials.

## **Musical Arts**

### **Band**

**Grades: 9 - 12**

**Trimesters: 3**

**Prerequisite: Audition and/or teacher recommendation**

**Credit: 1.5**

Wind Ensemble consists of high school level students with prior instrumental music training. This is designed to enrich the growth and musical experience of its members. Exploring and performing challenging advanced levels of literature styles, students will have the opportunity to perform as a soloist and/or in small groups at local Solo and Ensemble festivals. This group will attend MSBOA District band festivals and perform annual concerts and other events. All students enrolled in this course are expected to provide and maintain their instruments in playing condition and practice to prepare materials on a regular basis, outside of class. Auditions, performances, and written musical tests will be used to determine the placement of students in this performing ensemble.

**Attendance at rehearsals and performances is a requirement for this course.**

### **Choir**

**Grades: 9-12**

**Trimesters: 1**

**Prerequisites: Audition and/or teacher recommendation**

**Credits: .5**

In this course choir is designed to introduce students to the fundamentals of music theory, sight-singing skills, and vocal music literature. Membership is open to male and female students to enhance the potential performance level of the chorus. This group will perform at concerts and other events throughout the year. By learning various types of vocal warm-ups and articulators needed to develop better vocal skills, the students will have the opportunity to sing and perform with a group and by themselves. Future plans for school membership in MSVMA (Michigan School Vocal Music Association) will enable vocal students to compete at district solo and ensemble festivals as well as group festivals.

**Attendance at rehearsals and performances is a requirement for this course.**

## Other Electives

### Math/Science Technology Center (10-12<sup>th</sup> Grade a.m. only)

**Grades:** 9 – 12 (9<sup>th</sup> Grade p.m. only)

**Trimesters:** 3

**Credits:** 3

The Math/Science Technology Center is a four-year program that is offered through the Mecosta-Osceola Intermediate School District (MOISD). The students that are selected to attend will take their high school mathematics, science, and computer classes at the Math/Science Technology Center. They will take their other classes and sports in the 'home' school. Students will attend the MSTC approximately two and one-half hours per day. MSTC courses will be accelerated and integrated, meaning various math and science subjects will be studied under a single theme (such as the hydrosphere). Instructors will be Ferris State University professors, rotating high school teachers, and professionals from business and industry. Classes will feature hands-on lab work and will make full use of emerging technology.

### Dual Enrollment at Ferris State University

**Grades:** 11 - 12

**Prerequisites:** 3.5 G.P.A.

### Mecosta Osceola Career Center

#### GENERAL INFORMATION

The Mecosta-Osceola Career Center is an area career and technical educational (CTE) facility serving high school students from the districts of Big Rapids, Chippewa Hills, Crossroads Charter Academy, Ewart, Morley-Stanwood and Reed City. Career Center students spend two and one-half hours each school day in their chosen CTE program and the remainder of each day at their home high schools. Students must be enrolled in their home high schools prior to being admitted to Career Center programs.

#### HOW TO ENROLL

All students enroll for CTE programs at the Career Center through school counselors. Local counselors can supply detailed information about all programs available.

#### CREDIT – CERTIFICATE

Credit for CTE courses successfully completed at the Career Center will be awarded by the local high schools. A competency certificate will include a list of the skills the students has mastered, as well as the number of hours completed in the program.

#### STUDENT SERVICES & PLACEMENT SERVICES & ARTICULATION

The Mecosta-Osceola Career Center offers special services to individuals with specific needs. These services can consist of program modifications, intermediate school specialists, paraprofessionals and other agency personnel when needed. Career counseling services are also available through the Career Center staff.

All students are exposed to job-seeking skills through employability instruction. These skills include tips on finding job leads, filling out applications, resume writing, portfolio maintenance and interview techniques. These services are available to students beyond graduation and into adult career transitions. Many programs have articulation agreements in place to allow college credits for program participation. Student organizations are available for skill competitions.

### Allied Health Nursing

**Grades:** 11 - 12

**Trimesters:** 3

**Credits:** 3

This is a one-year program for students focused on health care services specifically related to nursing services. The student will prepare for Certified Nurse Aide State Boards. This is an excellent pre-nursing or other pre-medical preparation.

### **Allied Health Therapeutics**

**Grades: 11 - 12**

**Trimesters: 3**

**Credits: 3**

This program is designed as a one-year introduction to the various allied health care fields and current technologies. Major components include anatomy, physiology, medical terminology, and professional clinical experience in the field. The student may explore studies in phlebotomy, EKG's, respiratory treatments, veterinary medicine, and dental applications, just to name a few. All students will have an opportunity to job shadow a professional in the field.

### **Automotive Technology**

**Grades: 11 - 12**

**Trimesters: 3**

**Credits: 3**

The Automotive Technology program is NATEF (National Automotive Technician Education Foundation) certified in four areas of automotive repair: Engine Repair, Brakes, Electricity/Electronics and Suspension/Steering Systems. This two year program also covers safety, preventive maintenance, business knowledge (i.e. writing repair orders and estimates), and automotive electricity/electronic systems. Students are prepared to take the State of Michigan Mechanic Certification Tests in each of the three NATEF certified repair areas. The program includes theory and hands-on practice. Articulation with college programs is available for successful students.

### **Building & Grounds Maintenance**

**Grades: 11 - 12**

**Trimesters: 3**

**Credits: 3**

This program instructs individuals in the operation of power equipment and tools; use of cleaning agents and protective coatings; sanitation and disinfectants; care and cleaning of buildings, fixtures and furnishings including a variety of floor surfaces and wall coatings; performing building repairs; performing minor electrical repairs; basic grounds maintenance, and laundry. Potential employment opportunities include but are not limited to: painters apprentice, facilities technician, maintenance supervisor, custodian, custodian helper, landscaping, construction, and lawn care.

### **Building Trades**

**Grades: 11 - 12**

**Trimesters: 3**

**Credits: 3**

The two-year building trades program is designed to provide preparation for job entry in the building construction industry. Students will receive varied experiences in residential construction by building a residential home with the second year used to gain proficiency in the use of tools and equipment. Instruction includes: shop safety, reading blueprints, using hand and power tools, concrete footings, walls and flat work, framing, roofing, chimneys and fireplaces. Some students will be able to select interior and exterior painting and finishing, dry walling and plastering. Building trades students complete a residential home that is offered for sale to the public.

### **Cosmetology**

**Grade: 12**

**Trimesters: 3**

**Prerequisite: Seniors Only**

**Credits: 3**

The cosmetology course offers students a chance to learn the skills necessary to become a licensed cosmetologist. Students' work and study in a model beauty salon that is open to patrons. You must be a senior in high school to enter the program and complete a 13<sup>th</sup> year to meet state guidelines of 1,500 hours of instruction. The first 350 hours of instruction is devoted to theory and practical work on mannequins. Approximately half of this time is spent in the classroom. After completing 350 hours, students learn theory as well as work on patrons in the salon setting.

### **Culinary Arts**

**Grades: 11 - 12**

**Trimesters: 3**

**Credits: 3**

The Culinary Arts program will provide experience in a wide variety of occupations available in the commercial foods and hospitality industry. This may be either a one or two-year program with the first year stressing the techniques of preparing and serving food, health standards and sanitation. An individual with technical or management goals should plan on two years of attendance in culinary arts. The second year of the program will include advanced food preparation and time management techniques. The Career Center operates a model restaurant as part of the Culinary Arts program.

### **Diesel Technology**

**Grades: 11 – 12**

**Trimesters: 3**

**Credits: 3**

The Diesel Technology program is NATEF (National Automotive Technician Education Foundation) certified in two areas of diesel repair: Preventative Maintenance and Diesel Engine Repair. This two year program is designed to equip students with entry level skills in the repair and maintenance of large and small engines. This is a rotating program involving "hands on" training in safety, rebuilding gas and diesel engines, hydraulics, welding, electrical systems and tune ups on gas, diesel and LP engines. Many employers require advanced training, so this program is designed so the graduate can acquire more advanced training at the college level or trade school leading to a 2 or 4 year degree. Advanced placement is available through articulation with related college programs.

### **Digital Media Production (p.m. only)**

**Grades: 11 – 12**

**Trimesters: 3**

**Credits: 3**

MOCC boldly ventures into the 21<sup>st</sup> Century with a new Digital Media Production Class. Lights, camera, action! Starting this fall afternoon students will be able to create a new spin on television media as they learn the art of digital production. Discover what it takes to create a short production, learn basic editing techniques, run a sound board, edit film, write copy, interview subjects, put a story board together, and create multi-media productions by using basic film concepts and special effects. Techies who like to work behind the scenes and those who enjoy a little creative theatrical flare are invited to put it all together in Digital Media Production.

### **Early Childhood Careers**

**Grades: 11 - 12**

**Trimesters: 3**

**Credits: 3**

This program is designed to meet the needs of students who plan to work in childcare at an entry-level position. It also offers training for those who plan on a college education to become teachers, librarians, pediatricians, psychologists, social workers, etc. The program emphasizes national standards for early childhood education. The curriculum includes: planning, organizing, teaching activities, assisting children's needs in an actual preschool setting, emergency care (CPR and first aid) and audiovisual presentation skills. In addition, students develop professional work ethics and teamwork skills as part of the grading process. Advanced students are exposed to work explorations and cooperative education experiences.

### **Engineering Academy/Engineering CAD/Drafting Program (a.m. only)**

**Grades: 11 – 12**

**Trimesters: 3**

**Credits: 3**

This is a two-year program in technical drafting and CAD (Computer-Aided-Design). The first year of the program consists of manual drafting/CAD with the development of basic drafting skills. Students are also exposed to three-dimensional solids modeling using Solid works, Inventor and Mechanical Desktop. The MOISD CAD/Drafting course has designed a new method of delivering the foundational skills including geometrid construction using a wider range of software that students can relate to. 3-D animation software is also used to give the advanced student a more in-depth understanding of form and design. Students gain exposure to all facets of architectural drafting careers and learn how to apply their skills by creating a DVD portfolio project that combines traditional methods with project-based delivery. The second year o the program consists of CAD with emphasis on student design of tools, jigs, fixtures and sheet metal stamping dies for manufacturing and advanced three-dimensional CAD modeling. Additional drafting career training opportunities may be available upon instructor approval.

### **Engineering Academy/Engineering and Precision Technology (a.m. only)**

**Grades: 11 – 12**

**Trimesters: 3**

**Credits: 3**

Today's world of Engineering and Precision Technology is high tech and always expanding with new technology. Companies seek employees with high-level technical skills to remain competitive. Students learn with hands on experience in a variety of industry trades. Students in the engineering and precision technology class will build on basic and intermediate skills in all areas and continue through 2<sup>nd</sup> year projects. New and emerging forms of fuel and energy forms will also be explored as well as discoveries in engineering and innovative design. Apprenticeships and co-op positions are available to students. Students will gain life long knowledge and skills applicable to plastics, machining, CAD/CAM, robotics, pneumatics, hydraulics, quality control and electrical systems as well as develop strong work ethic principles such as dependability, attitude and initiative.

**Engineering and Precision Technology (p.m. only)**

**Grades: 11 – 12**

**Trimesters: 3**

**Credits: 3**

Engineering & Precision Technology will prepare students for employment or future education related to many jobs in modern high production facilities. Students will work in teams, design products, solve problems and produce finished goods in a simulated manufacturing laboratory. Seven major areas of study in this program include: product design, manufacturing processes, quality control, automated materials handling, fluid power, and electrical systems. Local employment opportunities for students completing this program include: assembly worker, production team worker, general maintenance, machine operator, packaging and other material handling. College programs related to manufacturing technology include: Mechanical Engineering, Plastics Technology, Drafting/Tool Design and Manufacturing.

**Graphic Communications**

**Grades: 11 - 12**

**Trimesters: 3**

**Credits: 3**

This is a two-year program designed to give students an overview of the entire graphic/visual communication industry. First year students are exposed to all phases of the industry as they develop skills in producing printed products. Second year students participate in a self-paced study of more advanced graphics processes. This program is designed to include instruction on computer imaging, electronic publishing, graphic layout and design, photography, image assembly, offset printing, customer service, teamwork and problem solving.

**Heating, Ventilation, Air Conditioning and Refrigeration (HVACR)**

**Grades: 11 - 12**

**Trimesters: 3**

**Credits: 3**

Students in the Heating, Ventilation, Air Conditioning, and refrigeration program learn the installation, maintenance and repair of refrigeration, heating and air conditioning systems for residential and commercial buildings. This program is run in conjunction with the Ferris State University HVACR Department. It is offered in the afternoon only at the FSU Granger Center.

**Public Safety**

**Grades: 11 – 12**

**Trimesters: 3**

**Credits: 3**

The Public Safety program will introduce high school juniors and seniors to various job possibilities within the Public Safety field. The focus of the program will include lecture materials, hands on experiences, job shadowing and wellness training. Public Safety encompasses police work, firefighting, EMS, courts, corrections, and emergency dispatch.

**Welding and Fabrication**

**Grades: 11 - 12**

**Trimesters: 3**

**Credits: 3**

This is a "hands-on" class that trains students in a number of welding and cutting processes such as stick, mig, tig, spot, oxy fuel, flux core, brazing, plasma cutting, and carbon arc gouging. Fabrication tools used could include drill press, shears, power shears, benders, brakes, and optically guided cutters. Students also use metal working processes to fabricate projects. Advanced students may work with CAD programs in the design of projects.