



Grade 9 Academic Courses 2020-2021

English 9 (CP, ACP, H)

Algebra I (CP, ACP, H)

Geometry (H)

World History (CP, ACP, H)

Biology I (CP, ACP, H)

Spanish I (CP, ACP)

BOLD denotes required content course.

**Term length is semester based*



English Grade 9

Course #: 1102, 1101, 1100

Level: Honors, ACP, CP

This course begins the four-year English Language Arts curriculum aligned with *The Massachusetts Curriculum Framework for English Language Arts and Literacy*. Students experience a broad range of literature, including non-fiction informational texts, fiction, drama, and poetry with an emphasis on critical thinking and analysis. Each unit is anchored by a text that allows students to learn critical reading and various writing modes to establish a foundation for success in all subsequent years. Students will be expected to participate in class discussion, respond to daily, in-class writing-to-learn activities, and deliver frequent oral presentations. MCAS close reading sets and test taking strategies are embedded into the curriculum and students will complete a series of common formative and summative assessments throughout the year. **Credits: 4**

Algebra I

Course #: 2102, 2101, 2100

Level: Honors, ACP, CP

This course addresses the Common Core Standards for Algebra 1. Algebra I focuses on four critical areas: (1) deepen and extend understanding of linear and exponential relationships; (2) contrast linear and exponential relationships with each other and engage in methods for analyzing, solving, and using quadratic functions; (3) extend the laws of exponents to square and cube roots; and (4) apply linear models to data that exhibit a linear trend. **Credits: 4**

Geometry

Course #: 2122, 2121

Level: Honors and ACP

This course transitions capable students who have successfully completed Algebra I in Grade 8 to introduce students to the *Massachusetts Mathematics Curriculum Framework* (2017) learning standards for Geometry. Geometry focuses on six critical areas: (1) establish criteria for congruence of triangles based on rigid motions; (2) establish criteria for similarity of triangles based on dilations and proportional reasoning; (3) informally develop explanations of circumference, area, and volume formulas; (4) apply the Pythagorean Theorem to the coordinate plane; (5) prove basic geometric theorems; and (6) extend work with probability. As the year progresses, students explore more complex geometric situations and deepen their explanations of geometric relationships by presenting and hearing formal mathematical arguments. **Credits: 4**



World History Grade 9

Course #: 4102, 4101, 4100

Level: Honors, ACP, CP

This course examines the major changes that shaped the modern world, beginning with the Middle Ages through the eve of World War I. Major units include the Renaissance, the Age of Exploration, the Reformation and Counter-Reformation, Scientific Revolution and the Enlightenment, the Age of Absolutism, the French Revolution, the early Industrial Revolution, and Imperialism. The emphasis will be on the skills students need to become discerning historical thinkers: understanding geography; reading charts, graphs and tables; recognizing and understanding diverse viewpoints; comparing and contrasting information; conducting research, writing historical essays; working with primary and secondary source documents, and making presentations. Student learning will be assessed through homework, research, class participation, tests, quizzes, document-based questions, and historical analysis essays. **Credits: 4**

Biology I

Course #: 3102, 3101, 3100

Level: Honors, ACP, CP

This course introduces students to a two-year sequence in the study of biological sciences and the specific terminology and methodology relating to the basic concepts of life and its processes. The course begins with a short, standards-based, introductory unit: Scientific Skills and Metrics that will be used to review and enhance student understanding of scientific investigation. The remaining learning standards for Biology I provide the foundation for the following three units: Chemistry of Life; Cell Biology; DNA and Genetics and are based on the Massachusetts Science and Technology/Engineering Curriculum Framework. **Credits: 4**

Spanish I

Course #: 6100, 6101

Level: ACP, CP

This required course introduces students to the Spanish language by learning Spanish in preparation for the workplace. Students learn vocabulary and concepts of basic grammar acquisition, allowing them to communicate information about themselves and others using simple sentences, both orally and in writing. The practice of all four language skills: listening, speaking, reading, and writing, helps students solidify their acquisition of the Spanish language. Active participation in class activities and completion of homework assignments are required. Students placed in Spanish I ACP need to have successfully completed Spanish in middle school. **Credits: 4**