

PITTSBURG HIGH SCHOOL 2018-19 YEAR COURSE CATALOG

The logo is a circular emblem for Pittsburgh High School Pirates. It features a central figure of a pirate with a skull for a face, wearing a black bandana and holding a cut-throat razor. To the left of the pirate is a profile of a man's head, and to the right is a stack of books. The word "PIRATES" is written in a stylized font across the bottom of the circle. The letters "H" and "S" are on the left and right sides of the circle, respectively. There are two stars on the left and right sides of the circle. The background of the logo is a light gray.

PITTSBURG HIGH SCHOOL MISSION STATEMENT

**“Working in partnership with our
staff, students, parents, and the community,
We will meet every child’s level of academic need”**



PHS GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

SUBJECT	UNITS	GRADE 9	GRADE 10	GRADE 11	GRADE 12
ENGLISH	40	English 1	English 2	English 3	English 4 (<i>and ELD 4 for English Learners</i>)
SOCIAL STUDIES	30		World History	U.S. History	American Government/Economics
MATHEMATICS	20	Students must pass 2 years math (<i>1 year must be Algebra IP</i>)			
FINE ARTS/FOREIGN LANGUAGE	10	Foreign Language OR two semesters of any course from the following areas: <i>a. Instrumental Music, Vocal Music, Drama, Art, Photo, TV-Video Production, The Art of Video Production, Computer Graphics, Architectural Design</i>			
PHYSICAL SCIENCE	10	Physical Science includes <i>Chemistry, Honors Chemistry, Chemistry AP, Physics, Physics AP</i>			
LIFE SCIENCE	10	Life Science includes <i>Biology, Biology AP, Anatomy & Physiology, Environmental Science AP</i>			
PHYSICAL EDUCATION	20	Physical Education includes <i>Ninth Grade PE, Team Sports, Weight Training, Advanced Sports Conditioning</i>			
ELECTIVES	80				
* COMMUNITY SERVICE	35 HOURS	35 hours must be completed in the duration of four years and completed by May of senior year			
TOTAL	220 credits <i>*(35 community service hours completed)</i>				

STUDENTS MUST COMPLETE THE FOLLOWING COURSE AND CREDIT REQUIREMENTS:

- **Successful completion of a minimum of 220 credits in grades 9 - 12**
- **Successful completion of courses worth five semester credits that meet five days per week for an eighteen week semester**
- **Registration of six periods per day**
- **IWE- Maximum 20 credits (limit 5 per semester)**

GRADUATION

The graduation ceremony and Pittsburg High School diplomas are reserved for students who have completed all the credit and subject requirements for graduation by June of their senior year and who have been enrolled at Pittsburg High School for their last semester of attendance. State law provides that students who have failed to earn a diploma by ten credits or less must be offered the opportunity to make up their deficiency in a summer school program designed for that purpose. Students who qualify for this consideration may be granted a diploma at the end of the summer school program. However, such students **may not participate in the graduation ceremony**. Normally, all senior students, regardless of graduation status may participate in the senior activities, such as parties and dances providing they are not banned from an activity for disciplinary reasons or ineligibility (*GPA less than 2.0*).

COUNSELING AND GUIDANCE SERVICES

The goals of the counseling staff include assisting students with completing high school successfully and start planning for the future. Counselor staff help students make educational, college, and career plans and assist with personal and family issues that affect their school progress. Students are urged to take advantage of the excellent opportunities available through the Counseling Office and our College & Career Center. It is easy to make an appointment. A student must first sign up in the counseling center with the counseling secretary at brunch, lunch or after school. However, counselors are available for emergency conferences the same day, and are also available for drop in visits before and after school, and at brunch and lunch. Parents are welcome to contact the counseling staff/Administration staff by calling the extensions below.

COURSE SCHEDULING PROCEDURE

All students will be computer scheduled for the year. The goals of the counseling staff are to help students' complete high school successfully and start planning for the future. Students are urged to take advantage of the excellent opportunities available through the counseling center.

Student Case Load	Counselor A	Phone Ext.	Counselor B	Phone Ext.	Administrator	Phone Ext.
<i>Pet-Z</i>	<i>Jasreen Jawanda</i>	<i>7525</i>	<i>Leidi Arias</i>	<i>2390</i>	<i>Ted Alfaro</i>	<i>2459</i>
<i>Mao-Per</i>	<i>Danni Le</i>	<i>7524</i>	<i>Lisa Spitz</i>	<i>2551</i>	<i>Connie Spinnato</i>	<i>2396</i>
<i>A-Flo</i>	<i>Akeem Ajani</i>	<i>7522</i>	<i>Synitha Walker</i>		<i>Veronica McLennan</i>	<i>2395</i>
<i>Fm-Man</i>	<i>Tanya Voqui</i>	<i>7526</i>	<i>Mariel Duran</i>		<i>Jennifer Clark</i>	<i>2398</i>
	<i>Bonnie Ceballos</i>	<i>7842</i>			<i>Todd Whitmire</i>	<i>2392</i>
	<i>Manuel Rodriguez</i>	<i>2390</i>			<i>Rajnesh Naicker</i>	<i>2393</i>

The Counseling Center also has applications for the following items:

- Admissions Information to California's many public state colleges, universities, and community colleges. The names and addresses of nearly every accredited college and vocational school in the United States are also available.
- Information regarding admission to private universities and colleges
- Financial aid and scholarships
- Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT) and the American College Test (ACT)
- Early Academic Outreach Program (EAOP), sponsored by the University of California

SCHOLARSHIP AND FINANCIAL AID:

Information on college scholarships and federal and state financial aid programs is available in the counseling center. Many special programs and scholarships are announced in the daily bulletin. A resource binder on financial aid is also available. Scholarship and career resource books plus college and career computer software are available in the PHS library. Ms. Voqui is our scholarship counselor.

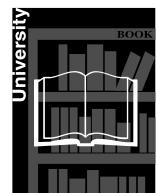
Note → **November 1st - March 2nd is the priority deadline for federal and state aid.** Seniors and parents are encouraged to apply during the priority period to assure maximum eligibility of financial aid. Federal and state deadlines may not be consistent with public and private university deadlines. Therefore, students are advised to contact each school's financial aid office to assure they have met the specific deadline(s) and have submitted the appropriate required documents and forms.

IMPORTANT: To be considered for federal and state financial aid, parents and students must complete the **Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)** and the GPA Verification Form. Students can obtain the GPA verification form from the counseling office and access the FAFSA through: www.fafsa.gov.

College and Other Representatives: Military recruiters and representatives from various colleges and occupational areas are scheduled throughout the year to speak with all interested students. Students should listen carefully to the daily bulletin, and/or check office postings for important information. Presentations are held in our library. Students may sign up for presentations in our College & Career Center which is located in our library.

Transcripts: If students need to send a copy of their grade record (transcript) to a college, scholarship agency, or an employer, they must complete a Transcript Request Form in the Student Records Office. Marisa Moss is our transcript technician.

NOTE: Students must be sure to inform Marisa Moss (located in Mr. Whitmire's office) to send a copy of their transcripts to the colleges of their choice.



UC/CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY REQUIREMENTS; a – g courses

a. History/Social Science:

3 years required

Three years of history/ social science, including one year of U.S. History, one-half year of economics and one-half year of civics or American government and one year of world history.

b. English:

4 years required

Fours years of college preparatory English that include frequent and regular writing, and reading of classic and modern literature. Not more than two semesters of ninth grade English can be used to meet this requirement.

c. Mathematics:

3 years required, 4 years recommended

Eligible courses include: *Algebra I, Geometry, Algebra 2, Pre-Calculus, Calculus, and Statistics. Three years of college preparatory mathematics that include the topics covered in elementary and advanced Algebra and two and three dimensional geometry.*

d. Laboratory Science:

2 years required, 3 years recommended

Eligible courses include: *Two years of laboratory science providing fundamental knowledge in at least two of these three disciplines: Life Science (which includes, Biology, Anatomy/Physiology, Environmental Science AP and Biology AP) Physical Science (including Chemistry, Chemistry H, Chemistry AP, Physics and Physics I AP and Physics C AP.*

e. World Languages:

2 years required, 3 years recommended

Eligible courses include:

Two years of the same language other than English. Courses should emphasize speaking and understanding, and include instruction in grammar, vocabulary, reading, and composition. These courses include Mandarin I, French 1, 2, and 3; Italian 1, 2, and 3; Spanish 1, 2, 3 and 4; AP Spanish Language and AP Spanish Literature, and Spanish for Spanish Speakers 1 through 4.

f. Visual and Performing Arts

1 year required

Eligible courses include: *Beginning and Intermediate Art, Beginning and Advanced Photography, Concert Choir, Art of Video Production, Broadcast Journalism, Acting Workshop, Jazz Ensemble, Concert Band, Marching Band, Wind Ensemble, Architectural Design (ROP), Web Design and Computer Graphic Arts (ROP).*

g. Elective courses:

1 year required

Eligible courses include: *AVID Senior Seminar, Economics, AP Psychology, Robotics Engineering Technology, Introduction to Design, Principles of Engineering, Sports Medicine (ROP), Beginning and Advanced Auto Technology, Construction Technology, Beginning and Advanced Woodshop, Digital Electronics, Engineering Research & Design.*



CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY SCHOLARSHIP AND EXAMINATION REQUIREMENT

1. Grade Point Average (*GPA*) for final three years of high school, not counting physical education or military sciences is calculated. Up to four courses (*or eight semesters*) of honors courses in the last 2 years of high school will be given an extra grade point for grades of C or better.
2. Scores of either the American College (*ACT*) or the Scholastic Aptitude (*SAT*) Test. UC requires **BOTH** the SAT Reasoning **AND** Subject Tests.
3. The GPA and test score are combined yielding an eligibility index score. The lower the GPA, the higher the test score required, and, conversely, the higher the GPA the lower the test score required.

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA SCHOLARSHIP REQUIREMENT

In calculating your GPA for admission, the University uses only the grades you earned in **a – g courses** taken in the tenth through twelfth grades. If your GPA is 3.3 or higher in the a - g courses taken after the ninth grade, you are eligible for comprehensive review by the university, regardless of the scores you earn on the standardized tests used for the Examination Requirement (*described below*). If your GPA is below 3.3 but above 2.81, you are eligible for admission if you achieve the composite or total test score specified on the Eligibility Index. You must also have completed all a - g courses with a C or better grade.

EXAMINATION REQUIREMENT

You **must take** the **SAT I** (*reasoning test*) and **or** the **ACT** (*American College Test*) with writing. The ACT composite score must be submitted. The SAT I tests your verbal and mathematical reasoning abilities. The verbal and mathematics scores must be from the same sitting. The SAT II exams are subject tests which measure your skill in a particular subject. Which, some majors may still require please check major requirement before registering for test. SAT Subject Tests are one-hour, multiple-choice tests that measure how much you know about a particular academic subject and how well you can apply that knowledge. Subject Tests fall into five (5) subject areas: **ENGLISH, HISTORY, MATHEMATICS, SCIENCES, and LANGUAGES**. * Each campus of the university makes every effort to provide a place for all California resident applicants who meet the minimum admissions requirements, and who file an application during the appropriate filing period. **Meeting the minimum requirement is not enough to gain admission to many UC campuses and programs.**

ELIGIBILITY IN THE LOCAL CONTEXT- ELC

Under the Eligibility in the Local Context (*ELC*) pathway, the top 12.5 percent of students at each participating California high school are designated UC eligible and guaranteed admission to one of UC's eight general campuses.

To be considered for ELC, students must complete 11 specific units of the Subject Requirement by the end of their junior year. With the assistance of each participating high school, the University will identify the top 12.5 percent of students on the basis of GPA in the required course work.

The 11 units include: 1 unit of history/social science, 3 units of English, 2 units of mathematics, 1 unit of laboratory science, 1 unit of language other than English, and 3 units chosen from among the other subject requirements.

[Eligibility in the Local Context (ELC), continued:]

If students are designated UC eligible through ELC, they must submit the University's undergraduate application during the November filing period and complete remaining eligibility requirements - including the Subject and Examination Requirements - to enroll.

ELC students are guaranteed a spot at one of UC's eight undergraduate campuses, though not necessarily at their first choice campus.

The California State University Trustees have approved **Executive Order 665**, which governs English (EPT) and Math Placement requirements for incoming students.

The following are two key elements to the Executive Order which will affect students who plan to enroll at a CSU campus:

- 1) All new students who are not exempt from the English Placement Test (EPT) and/or Entry Level Math Test (ELM), must take these placement tests before they enroll in their first semester.
- 2) Students who do not demonstrate college-level competence in English and/or Math as measured by the placement tests, must enroll in appropriate remedial or developmental courses in their first term of enrollment and each subsequent term until such time as they demonstrate competence.

ENGLISH PLACEMENT TEST (EPT)...WHO MUST TAKE IT?

The **CSU English Placement Test (EPT)** must be completed by all entering undergraduates, with the exception of those who present proof of one of the following:

- *Placement in the "Ready for CSU college-level English courses" category on the Early Assessment Program (EAP) English taken in conjunction with the 11th grade CAASPP in English Language Arts.*
- *A score of 550 or above on the verbal section of the College Board SAT I: Reasoning Test*
- *A score of 550 or above on the critical reading section of the College Board SAT Reasoning Test taken March 2005 or later*
- *A score of 680 or above on the College Board SAT II: Writing Test*
- *A score of 24 or above on the ACT® English Test taken October 1989 or later*
- *A score of 3, 4, or 5 on either the Language and Composition, or Literature and Composition exam of the College Board Advanced Placement Program (AP)*
- *Completion and transfer to the CSU of a college course that satisfies the CSU General Education requirement in English Composition, provided such a course was completed with a grade of C or better.*





ENTRY LEVEL MATHEMATICS (ELM) TEST...WHO MUST TAKE IT?

All entering undergraduates must take the ELM exam before enrolling in a course that satisfies the college-level math requirement of the General Education-Breadth program. Exemptions from the test are given only to those students who can present proof of one of the following:

- *Placement in the “Ready for CSU college-level math courses” category on the Early Assessment Program (EAP) Math test taken in conjunction with the 11th grade CAASPP Test in High School Math or Algebra II*
- *Placement in the “Ready for CSU college-level math courses – Conditional” category on the Early Assessment Program (EAP) Math test taken in conjunction with the 11th grade CAASPP test in High School Math or Algebra II*
- *A score of 550 or above on the math portion of the College Board SAT Reasoning Test **
- *A score of 550 or above on a College Board SAT Subject Test in Math (level 1 or level 2) **
- *A score of 23 or above on the ACT Math Test taken October 1989 or later*
- *A score of 3 or above on the College Board Advanced Placement Calculus AB or Calculus BC exam*
- *A score of 3 or above on the College Board Advanced Placement Statistics exam*
- *Completion and transfer to the CSU of a college course that satisfies the requirement in Quantitative Reasoning, provided such a course was completed with a grade of C or better*

* **NOTE:** *The College Board SAT I and SAT II were renamed **SAT Reasoning** and **SAT Subject Tests**, respectively, beginning March 2005.*



COMPARISON OF REQUIREMENTS FOR PHS GRADUATION and COLLEGE A-G COURSES



U.C. a-g courses	Subject	PHS Graduation Requirement	UC/CSU	PHS, UC/CSU Courses, and College Preparatory Electives
A	Social Science	3 years	2 years College Prep	US History P (and sheltered), US History (AP)
				1 SEMESTER AMERICAN GOVERNMENT or AMERICAN GOVERNMENT AP/ 1 SEMESTER ECONOMICS
				World History P (and sheltered), World History (AP)
B	English	4 years	4 years College Prep	English 1 P-IVP English 3-4 AP
				ELD 3P and 4P (<i>UC/CSU grants only one year's worth of ELD credit</i>) - ELD Students must also have four years of English credit. This requirement can be met by completing ELD 4 P in grade nine AND 3 college prep English classes
C	Math	2 years	3 years College Prep - 4 years recommended	*Algebra 1P (and sheltered)* Geometry 1P (and sheltered)*, Algebra 2P, Statistics P
				Pre-Calculus , Pre-Calculus (H), Calculus AB & BC (AP)
				Statistics (AP) * (<i>May be used only for the C requirement</i>)
D	Lab Science/ Science	2 years	2 years 3 years recommended	Biology P and Biology AP
				Chemistry P, Chemistry (H), Chemistry AP Physics P, Physics I AP and Physics C AP
				Anatomy & Physiology P, Environmental Science AP
E	Foreign Language	1 year OR 1 year of Fine Arts	2 years 3 years recommended	Mandarin I French 1P – 3P, Italian 1P-3P Spanish 1P- 4P Spanish for Spanish Speakers 1P-4P Spanish Language AP or Spanish Literature AP
F	Visual and Performing Arts	2 semesters OR 1 year Foreign Language	1 year of visual performing arts	Concert Choir P, Vocal Ensemble P, Concert Band P, Marching Band P, Jazz Ensemble P, Wind Ensemble P, Piano P, Intermediate Art P, Beginning Art P, Advanced Art Techniques P, Independent Study, Acting Workshop P, Studio Art AP, Advanced Photo P, and Art of Video Production P
	Electives (College Prep for UC/CSU)	80 Credits	1 yr. college prep electives from one of the following areas; English, Math, History, Social Science, Lab Science, Foreign Lang., Visual and Performing Arts	All courses above, including Physical Science P, (& Sheltered, Economics P (& Sheltered Economics AP
G				

("P" after the course title indicates *College Prep*)

HIGH SCHOOL CREDIT

*** ONLY EIGHTY (80) TOTAL CREDITS CAN BE EARNED PER ACADEMIC YEAR.**

EARLY GRADUATION:

1. Students must file with their counselors no later than the first week of their senior year an **“Intent to Graduate Mid Term Request”** form.
2. They must complete the second semester English 4 P course in any one of the following ways:
 - *Obtain course approval from administrative and/or counseling staff.*
 - *Complete Adult School course work.*
 - *Los Medanos College (Summer/Fall); Diablo Valley College course work.*
 - *UC or other accredited Extension Correspondence Course*

ADULT SCHOOL CREDIT:

Adult Education credits will be accepted as high school credit toward graduation up to **two week prior to graduation**. **AFTER THIS, NO CREDITS WILL BE ACCEPTED FOR GRADUATING SENIORS.** Adult Education courses do not meet the UC/CSU entrance requirements.

SUMMER SCHOOL CREDIT:

Summer school offers students the opportunity to make up credits or earn extra credits. The summer school course of study is available in April from each counselor. Students are held to a maximum limit of credits which may be earned during the summer. This would be (10) ten at Pittsburg High School, plus (5 credits x 3.5 =) 17.5 credits at community college, for a total of 27.5 possible credits.

RECOMMENDED ACADEMIC COURSE OF STUDY:

The recommended academic course of study is planned to provide students with expanded options upon graduation. Important to note is that community colleges, state colleges, and universities do not accept courses with a **D** letter grade. To have all college-preparatory courses accepted, students receiving a **D** in any college preparatory course must retake the course for a higher grade. Students with a 3.3 GPA and above in the recommended courses will be eligible to be considered for comprehensive review by the university regardless of scores on standardized tests. Students should check with their counselors no later than the end of their sophomore year for the requirements of any specific college. Students are also encouraged to choose electives that allow them to pursue interests, develop specialty skills, and explore careers.

<p>Grade 9 Physical Education (1 year) English 1 P OR English 1 H (1 year) Algebra 1 P OR Geometry 1 P (1 year) Foreign Language P (1 year) Lab Science (Biology) Elective (2 semester length electives)</p>	<p>Grade 10 Physical Education (1 year) English 2 P or H (1 year) Geometry P, or Advanced Math (Alg. II or Pre-Calc) Science (Chemistry P or Chemistry H P) World History P (1 year) Foreign Language (1 year)</p>
<p>Grade 11 English 3 P (1 year) Algebra 2 P, Pre-Calculus P, Statistics P (1 year) United States History P (1 year) Science (Physics, AP Biology,) Foreign Language (1 year), OR Fine Arts (1 year)</p>	<p>Grade 12 English 4 P (1 year) Pre-Calculus P, Pre-Calculus H P, Calculus (1 year) American Government (sem) & Economics (sem) Science (Anatomy & Physiology, AP Chemistry)</p> <p style="text-align: right;">P = College Prep H = Honors</p>

Remember: The University of California **recommends four years** of math, beginning with Algebra 1P, three years of laboratory science, and three years of foreign language. Also, keep in mind the UC/CSU electives requirements.



ADVANCED PLACEMENT (AP) COURSES:

Advanced Placement classes are college courses for students planning to attend a four-year college or university. They are for tenth, eleventh, and twelfth grade students who are capable of doing college work with a difficult college curriculum.

In order for students to receive college credit, they must take and pass a rigorous three-hour national College Board advanced placement final exam. The cost of the exam is \$95.00. Currently, the cost of each Advanced Placement exam is paid for by our school district. If the student does not take the test, **AP does not appear on the student's transcript. Once students enroll in Advanced Placement courses, they must remain.** *(For additional AP criteria and information, see page one and additional departmental pages.)*

Higher education provides more options and significantly higher wages. Therefore, Pittsburg High School is committed to providing all students with college preparation, career exploration, and student academic and emotional assistance to expand options upon graduation.

Students are encouraged to explore careers options and acquire specialized skills by enrolling in classes such as robotics, architectural design and computer graphics. As students work to meet Pittsburg High School graduation and college entrance requirements, they are encouraged to complete courses from our career pathways program (including Engineering and Biomed).

- *For more information, please visit our Counselor Office and College & Career Center.*
- *To broaden career exploration opportunities, PHS endeavors to expand elective offerings as master scheduling, funding, and enrollment allow.*

Pittsburg High School is committed to providing equitable access to **Advanced Placement (AP)** and **Honors** courses. **Honors** courses are for students who wish to be more academically challenged and who wish to prepare for future AP courses. **AP** courses are freshmen college courses that provide students with the opportunity to pass the corresponding AP exams. They are designed for tenth, eleventh and twelfth grade students capable of doing college work. Students who pass the AP test receive college credit. The extent of college credit depends upon the specific college and passing advanced placement test score (3, 4, or 5). Recommendations for enrollment are determined by the College Board advanced placement curriculum and content-area tests. They are also determined by the motivation to acquire college level skills and pass the advanced placement test. For additional information, see the teacher's **AP Parent-Student Course Agreement**.

PARTICIPATION IN AP COURSES REQUIRES:

- *Student interest*
- *Students self-select their advance placement courses during the February course selection process*
- **Please Also Note:** Students may take an advance placement exam in any course they are interested in. However, if they are not currently enrolled in the advance placement course for that particular exam they are required to pay for the exam. Once students enroll in an advance placement course, they must remain for the school year. Summer homework is not required. Teachers' summer homework grading policies may vary.

AP STUDENTS SHOULD TAKE THE AP EXAM

Pittsburg High School is committed to providing equitable access to Honors and AP courses. Honors courses are for students who wish to be more academically challenged and who wish to prepare for future AP courses. AP courses are freshmen college courses that provide students with the opportunity to pass the corresponding AP exams. They are designed for ninth (AP Human Geography), tenth, eleventh and twelfth grade students capable of doing college work. Students who pass the AP test with a 3 or higher typically receive college credit. The extent of college credit depends upon the specific college and passing advanced placement test score (3, 4, or 5). Recommendations for enrollment are determined by the College Board advanced placement curriculum and content-area tests. They are also determined by the motivation to acquire college level skills and pass the AP test.

CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION

Career Technical Education Courses	Length	Grade Level	Recommendations For Enrollment
Wood 1 - 4	Semester/Year	9 - 12	None; students earning a “D” or “F” may retake the class upon approval.
Computer Aided Drafting (CAD)	Semester	10 - 12	Introduces computer aided drafting teacher permission required.
Computer Skills	Semester/Year	9 - 12	None.
Computer Graphics ROP	Year	10 - 12	Teacher permission required.
Web Design	Year	10 - 12	Completion of Computer Skills with a passing grade.
Health	Semester	9 - 12	None.
IWE/Inside Work Experience	Semester/Year	11 - 12	An IWE/OWE/Peer Tutor Request Form and IWE/OWE/Peer Tutor Contract must be signed by parent and on file. Must be on track for graduation, maintain a minimum 2.0 GPA, have passed both English and Math CAHSEE. Good attendance must also be maintained.
Peer Tutoring	Semester/Year	11 - 12	An IWE/OWE/Peer Tutor Request Form and IWE/OWE/Peer Tutor Contract must be signed by parent and teacher, and on file. Previous completion of the tutored course with a “B” or higher.
Construction Technology	Year	10 - 12	Minimum of 16 years of age (younger than 16 with permission from the principal) and maintain good attendance.
Advanced Web Design	Year	9 - 12	Web Design



COURSE DESCRIPTIONS **- CAREER and TECHNICAL EDUCATION**

Drafting: Students are introduced to drafting as a communication tool through projects requiring the actual creation of technical drawings. Efficiency of design, neatness, accuracy, quantity, and quality of projects completed are stressed.

Beginning Woodshop and Advanced Woodshop: A Variety of hand tools and machines are used to build projects such as tables, lamps, speakers, boxes, and shelves. Planning materials, cutting, joining, and finishing wood projects are emphasized.

Construction Technology: Students have hands-on opportunities to learn all phases of basic residential construction, including carpentry, drawing and reading blueprints, drywall, electrical, flooring, painting, plumbing, roofing, tile setting, and welding. Students will make a practical application at a field-site construction project.

Computer Skills: Students will create documents using Microsoft Office applications for their classroom work. Students will learn how to use the Internet to research topics and download graphics and information. Computer Applications 11 (Spring): Students will create presentations using PowerPoint. Students will learn to insert graphics, transitions, custom animations, and add sounds and create a music video.

Computer Graphics (ROP): Students learn hands-on skills using the same computer equipment and software applications found in professional production shops and design studios. Software includes Adobe Photoshop. Student desktop publishing skills including PostScript Illustration, scanning, digital photo retouching and advanced composition techniques. Students create business cards, flyers, brochures, magazine layouts, and newspaper advertisements.

Web Design: Focus on Web page planning, basic design, layout and construction, setup and maintenance of a Web site, HTML, DHTML, CSS, JavaScript, and various Web page and image creation tools.

Advanced Web Design: an in-depth focus on Web page planning, basic design, layout and construction, setup and maintenance of a Web site, HTML, DHTML, CSS, JavaScript, and various Web page and image creation tools.

Health and Life Skills: The course focuses on helping students acquire four major competencies: self-discipline; responsibility; good judgment; and an ability to get along with themselves and others. The four competencies are broken into many inter-related skills: developing a positive self-concept, goal setting, an ability to see alternatives, and sharing, cooperating, and empathizing. *(Unless a parent or guardian objects, all freshmen are required to take this course)*

Inside Work Experience (IWE): Skill-oriented duties are assigned by the teacher or office supervisor. A maximum of five credits can be earned per semester, and a maximum of twenty credits can be earned toward graduation. Student must be on track for graduation, maintain a 2.0 GPA, and have passed both parts of the CAHSEE. Satisfactory attendance must also be maintained.

Peer Tutoring: This course provides the opportunity for eleventh and twelfth grade students to assist their peers in a classroom setting. They work under the guidance of the teacher. Students requesting to participate in the peer tutoring program must have demonstrated a mastery of the subject being taught in the selected class. They must also be 16 years of age or older and be on track for graduation, maintain a 2.0 GPA, and have passed both parts of the CAHSEE. Satisfactory attendance must also be maintained.

ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS DEPARTMENT

ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS COURSES	LENGTH	GRADE LEVEL	RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ENROLLMENT
English I P	Year	9	None.
English 1 P	Year	9	PUENTE Counselor-student interview.
English 2 P	Year	10	None.
English 2 P PUENTE	Year	10	PUENTE Counselor, student interview.
English 3 P	Year	11	None.
English 3 AP	Year	11	Student interest
English 4 P	Year	12	None.
English 4 AP	Year	12	Student interest
Creative Writing	Semester	10-12	None.



COURSE DESCRIPTIONS - ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS

English 1 P: A thematically organized, college-preparatory course that develops specific listening, speaking, reading writing, and dramatic skills through the study of great works of literature. Literary comprehension and interpretation, vocabulary development, language mechanics and expression, and expository writing are emphasized.

English 1 P PUENTE: Same as English IP; Latino literary works are emphasized.

English 2 P: a thematically organized, college-preparatory course that further develops specific listening, speaking, reading, writing, and dramatic skills through the study of great works of world literature. Literary comprehension and interpretation, vocabulary development, language mechanics and expression, and expository writing are emphasized.

English 2 Honors: Same as English 2, above, with the exception that students need to have scored at least a 3 on the CST, and also be willing to work harder.

English 2 P PUENTE: Same as English II P; Latino literary works are emphasized.

English 3 P: a thematically organized, college-preparatory course that develops specific listening, speaking, reading, writing, and dramatic skills through the study of great works of American Literature. Literary comprehension and interpretation, vocabulary development, language mechanics and expression, and expository writing are emphasized.

English 4 P: a thematically organized, college-preparatory course that develops specific listening, speaking, reading, writing, and dramatic skills through the study of great works of British and world literature. Literary comprehension and interpretation, vocabulary development, language mechanics and expression, and expository writing are emphasized.

English 3 AP (Advanced Placement): an English AP course in language, composition, and American literature that is designed to prepare juniors for the AP exam, administered in May each year. This college-level course is designed to provide students with the skills necessary to read critically and respond rhetorically to literature. The readings are taken from the list provided by the College Board which also writes and administers the Advanced Placement examination. An A, B, or C grade receives an elevated grade point.

English 4 AP (Advanced Placement): This college level course is designed to prepare seniors for the Advanced Placement examination administered in May of each year. The course is thematically designed around classic and modern fiction and poetry, primarily written originally in the English Language. The

freshman college level readings have been taken from the list provided by the College Board which writes and administers the AP examination. An A, B, or C grade receives an elevated grade point.

Creative Writing The purpose of this course is to assist students with developing and improving their writing skills. This course counts as 12th grade English. Particular emphasis is placed on story development, writing structures, editing and proofreading and understanding difference writing genres.

Four years of English (levels 1- 4) are required for high school graduation.

Note: • **Four-year college admission offices specify that college preparatory courses be completed with a grade of C or better. Colleges will not accept courses with a D grade. A semester grade of D should be made up before graduation.**

SCIENCE DEPARTMENT

P = College Prep H = Honors AP = Advanced Placement

COURSE TITLE	LENGTH	GRADE LEVEL	RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ENROLLMENT
EARTH SCIENCES:			
Chemistry P	Year	10-12	Completion of Biology P; concurrent enrollment in Algebra 1 or higher math class
Chemistry H (Honors) or Chemistry AP	Year	10-12	Completion of Biology P with a “C” or better; concurrent enrollment in Geometry or higher math
Physics P	Year	10-12	Concurrent enrollment in Algebra 1 or higher level math
Physics AP (Physics I and Physics C)	Year	10-12	Concurrent enrollment in Algebra II or higher level math
LIFE SCIENCES:			
Anatomy and Physiology P	Year	11-12	Completion of Biology P
Biology P	Year	9-12	Required for graduation; 9 th grade students may elect to be enrolled in Algebra I or higher level math
Biology AP	Year	11-12	Completion of Biology P and Chemistry P, OR Chemistry H.
Environment Science AP	Year	10-12	None.

* **Four-year college admission offices specify that college preparatory courses be completed with a grade of C or better. Colleges will not accept courses with any D grade. A semester grade of D should be made up before graduation.**

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS - PHYSICAL SCIENCES

Chemistry P: A year long college-preparatory course that examines inorganic chemistry and the principles that govern it. There is an emphasis on problem solving and lab work. A scientific calculator is required. Concurrent enrollment in Algebra 2 or higher is required. Students must pass the first semester to continue on to the second semester. **This course meets the U.C. laboratory requirement.**

Chemistry H (Honors): A year course that is designed for a student planning on pursuing a career in a science related field in college. This course will teach the same topics as in Chemistry P but in more depth. Emphasis is on problem solving and lab work. A grade of “B” or better in math and concurrent enrollment in Algebra 2 or higher is recommended. An advanced grade point will be given for this course. ***This course meets the U.C. laboratory requirement.***

Physics P: A one year course that introduces students to the physical world and the laws that govern it. Topics include measurement, motion, forces, energy, thermal processes, sound and light, electricity and magnetism, and nuclear physics. ***Also; a student who earns a “C” or higher in this course will remediate for a “D” grade in Chemistry (solely for the purposes of attending a four year college). This course meets the U.C. laboratory requirement.***

Physics AP (either Physics I AP or Physics C AP): A year long, advanced placement course that teaches about Newtonian Mechanics, electricity and magnetism, waves, light and optics, and Modern Physics topics. A strong mathematical background is necessary so students should to be enrolled in Pre-Calculus or higher concurrently. This course also lays a foundation for other science and applied math courses. It is an intensive AP level course and students receiving an A, B, or C grade will receive an elevated GPA. ***This course meets the U.C. laboratory requirement.***

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS **- LIFE SCIENCES**

Biology P: A college preparatory course that fulfills one year of laboratory life science. Topics include cells, genetics, evolution, ecology, and physiology. ***This course meets the UC a-g requirements.***

Biology AP: This course is the equivalent of a two-semester college Biology course usually taken by Biology majors during their first year. It is taken after successful completion of High School Biology and Chemistry. The course emphasizes three overarching topics: molecules and cells, heredity and evolution, and organisms and population. ***This course meets the UC a-g requirement.***

Environmental Science AP: this is new to Pittsburg High this year. One year course that is designed for a student planning a career in a science related field in college with a focus on ecology/environmental related technologies.

Human Anatomy and Physiology P: A year long course that is generally taken by anyone who is interested in a career in Life Science. Students will be introduced to some basic concepts of biochemistry and cytology as a precursor to the study of the human organ systems. It is recognized as a Life Science, laboratory course that ***meets the U.C. laboratory requirement. Also; a student who earns a “C” or higher in this course will remediate for a “D” grade in biology (solely for the purposes of attending a four year college).***

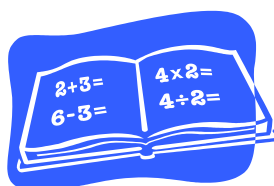
MATHEMATICS DEPARTMENT

P = College Prep H = Honors AP = Advanced Placement

COURSE TITLE	LENGTH	GRADE LEVEL	RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ENROLLMENT
Algebra 1 P	Year	9-12	None.
Geometry 1 P	Year	9-12	Recommended completion of Algebra 1 P with a passing grade. Not required, however
Algebra 2 P	Year	9-12	Recommended completion of Geometry 1 P with a

			passing grade. Not required, however
Pre-Calculus P	Year	10-12	Recommended completion of Algebra 2 P with a “C” or better.
Pre-Calculus H	Year	10-12	Completion of Algebra 2 P with a “C” or better
Calculus AB AP	Year	11-12	Completion of Pre-Calculus P with a “C” or better
Calculus BC AP	Year	11-12	Completion of Calculus AB with a “C” or better
Statistics AP	Year	10-12	Completion of Algebra 2 with a “C” or better
Statistics	Year	10-12	Completion of Algebra 2 with a “C” or better

Four-year college admission offices specify that college preparatory courses be completed with a grade of C or better. Colleges will not accept courses with a D grade. A semester grade of D should be made up before graduation.



COURSE DESCRIPTIONS **- MATH DEPARTMENT**

Algebra IP: A one year college-preparatory course teaching the topics normally covered in first-year Algebra, such as ratios, writing equations from words or diagrams, solving various types of equations, and understanding the relationships among equations, graphs, and solutions to equations. An emphasis is placed on group problem-solving. This course is designed to focus on these understanding and use them as natural places to practice the more traditional algebraic skills.

Algebra 1P (sheltered): A one year college-preparatory course for English Learners (ELD level 2) teaching the topics normally covered in first-year Algebra, such as ratios, writing equations from words or diagrams, solving various types of equations, and understanding the relationships among equations, graphs, and solutions to equations. An emphasis is placed on group problem-solving. This course is designed to focus on these understanding and use them as natural places to practice the more traditional algebraic skills. The curriculum utilizes 2nd language acquisition strategies.

Geometry 1P: A one-year college-preparatory course, which emphasizes several big ideas in an integrated algebra/geometry context. Group problem solving is emphasized. The key ideas covered are conjecture; explanation and proof; spatial visualization; problem solving; properties of plane and solid figures; ratios; graphing; and algebra. Problem-solving strategies are taught and utilized to help students develop the course’s core ideas.

Algebra 2 P: This is the standard one-year college preparatory Advanced Algebra course. The topics will include extensions of the topics covered in Algebra IP and an emphasis on functions and their applications. Students will be expected to apply concepts at a more advanced level than applied in Algebra IP, and draw conclusions based upon their observations.

Pre-Calculus P: A one year pre-advanced placement course that prepares students for Calculus AB and BC (AP) or college calculus. This course emphasizes extensions of the topics covered in Algebra II and an in-depth exploration of trigonometric functions and their applications. The pace is rigorous and a high level of mastery is expected. Enrichment topics and projects are incorporated as appropriate. For the purposes of going to a 4 year college “ a grade of a **C** or better in **pre-calculus** will remediate for Algebra 1, Geometry, and Algebra II if the student received a D”.

Calculus AB /and BC AP: Intended for students who have a thorough knowledge of college preparatory mathematics, including algebra, axiomatic geometry, trigonometry, and analytic geometry (rectangular and polar coordinates, equations and graphs, lines, and conics). An A, B, or C grade receives an elevated grade point.

Statistics: Statistics introduces students to the major concepts and tools for collecting, analyzing, and drawing conclusions from data. Using real life examples and cases, students will explore data, plan a study, produce statistical models, and draw inferences.

Statistics AP: Statistics AP continues and expands major concepts and tools for collecting, analyzing, and drawing conclusions from data. Using real life examples and cases, students will explore data, plan a study, produce statistical models, and draw inferences.

SOCIAL SCIENCE DEPARTMENT



P = College Prep *H* = Honors *AP* = Advanced Placement

COURSE TITLE	LENGTH	GRADE LEVEL	RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ENROLLMENT
World History AP	Year	10-12	None (must complete application)
World History P	Year	10	None
US History P	Year	11	None
US History AP	Year	11	None (must complete application)
American Government P	Sem	12	None
American Government AP	Sem	12	None (must complete application)
Economics P	Sem	12	None
Psychology AP	Year	10-12	None (must complete application)

Four-year college admission offices specify that college preparatory courses be completed with a grade of C or better. Colleges will not accept courses with a D grade. A semester grade of D should be made up before graduation.



COURSE DESCRIPTIONS - SOCIAL STUDIES DEPARTMENT

World History P: A year-long college preparatory course required for graduation. It focuses is the recent and contemporary cultural, economic, political, social and economic histories of Europe, Africa, Asia and the Americas, and how they evolved to their current state of global interdependence.

World History AP: While surveying ancient times, this college-preparatory course’s primary focus is recent and contemporary cultural, economic, political, social, and economic histories of Europe, Africa, Asia, and the Americas, and how each has evolved into the current state of global interdependence.

US History P: This college-preparatory course focuses on recent and contemporary cultural, economic, political, social, and economic histories of the United States, and how cause and effect relationships impact ethnic, gender, and political minorities, the development of the nation into a global power, and stability of the nation.

US History AP (Advanced Placement): This course satisfies the PHS one year requirement for graduation. It emphasizes the period 1492-1990 and is equivalent to a full-year introductory college course. Utilizing a college-level text, it demands proportionally more effort and time than the U.S. History P course. Students are expected to read and write, analyze historical materials, synthesize their ideas, and evaluate those of others. Students will learn the subject in greater detail and develop skills critically important to successful college study. An A, B, or C grade receives an elevated GPA.

American Government P: This semester college-preparatory course surveys the principles, functions, and structure of the American governmental system. Primary concerns are the understanding of primary documents, court decisions, and the responsibility of the ordinary citizen in participating, influencing, making, and accepting policy decisions at all levels of our society. ***This course meets the UC electives requirement (combined with 1 semester economics class).***

American Government AP(Advanced Placement): These courses satisfy the PHS graduation requirement. They are intended for qualified students who wish to complete college introductory studies. They aim to provide a learning experience equivalent to college introductory U.S. Politics/Economics courses. Extra time and reading and a much larger number of written assignments than assigned in American Government P. An A, B, or C grade receives an elevated GPA.

Economics P: This semester college-preparatory course is designed to create an understanding of our economic system as well as other economic systems. A major goal is to create an awareness of economic decisions which students must face in our technological age. ***This course meets the UC electives requirement (combined with 1 semester government class).***

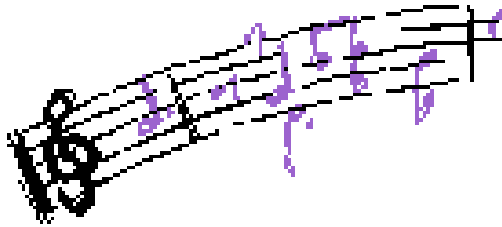


PERFORMING ARTS DEPARTMENT



COURSE TITLE	LENGTH	GRADE LEVEL	RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ENROLLMENT
Marching Band P/Concert Band P	Year	9-12	At least one year in private or school study on a band instrument OR teacher permission
Marching Band/Wind Ensemble P	Year	9-12	At least one semester of study on a band instrument
Jazz Band	Year	9-12	At least one year of study on a jazz band instrument AND concurrent enrollment in one of the band classes listed above.
Jazz Ensemble P	Year	9-12	Teacher permission (audition) and concurrent enrollment in one of the classes listed above
Digital Recording Studio	Sem	9-12	None.
Vocal Ensemble	Year	9-12	None.
Concert Choir P	Year	9-12	Teacher permission (audition)
Acting 1	Sem – fall & spring	9-12	None.
Acting 2	Sem – fall & spring	9-12	Completion of Acting 1 with a passing grade OR teacher permission
Acting Workshop P	Year	10-12	Teacher permission required
Stagecraft	Year	10-12	Teacher permission required

Four-year college admission offices specify that college preparatory courses be completed with a grade of C or better. Colleges will not accept courses with a D grade. A semester grade of D should be made up before graduation.



COURSE DESCRIPTIONS **- PERFORMING ARTS**

Marching Band P (*fall only*): This is a performance group for students who play band instruments, read music, and enjoy marching. This intermediate and advanced course is designed to provide marching and musical experience for students who play brass, woodwind, percussion, or other needed band instruments, including various auxiliary groups, with public performance as the final result. Outside-of-class-time performances are required. Junior varsity and varsity football players may not enroll. **This course meets the U.C. electives requirement.**

Concert Band P: a minimum of successful experience on the specific instrument for one semester in private or school study. An intermediate and advanced course designed to provide musical experience for students who play brass, woodwind, and percussion instruments in a concert situation with public performance as the final result. **This course meets the U.C. electives requirement**

Wind Ensemble P (*spring only*): An advanced performance group of students who play band instruments, read music, and enjoy all types of concert music. Outside-of-class-time performances are required. Teacher permission is required (audition). **This course meets the U.C. electives requirement.**

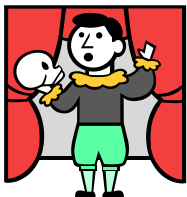
Jazz Band: An intermediate performance group for students who play sax, trumpet, trombone, piano, bass, guitar, or a drum set. Students must also read music and wish to study all types of popular music, including jazz, rock, and show. Outside-of-class-time performances may be required. Concurrent enrollment in Marching Band, Concert Band, or Wind Ensemble is required. Teacher permission is also required (audition).

Jazz Ensemble P: An advanced performance group for students who play sax, trumpet, trombone, piano, bass, guitar, or drum set, and wish to study all types of popular music, including jazz, rock, and show. Outside-of-class-time performances are required. Concurrent enrollment in Marching Band, Concert Band, or Wind Ensemble is required. Teacher permission is also required (audition). **This course meets the UC course electives requirement.**

Digital Recording Studio: A class designed for students who are interested in learning how to record music using the latest recording technology.

Vocal Ensemble P: A training group for students who love to sing and want to improve their skills. Students work on proper vocal technique, pitch matching, harmony parts, intonation, music reading skills, music vocabulary, listening skills, rehearsal techniques, and a wide variety of repertoire. Outside-of-class-time performances are required. This class may be repeated as many times as desired. A \$10.00 donation fee per semester is requested. **This course meets the U.C. course electives requirement.**

Concert Choir: Training and performance group for experienced vocalists who love to sing and want to improve their skills. Students work on proper vocal technique, harmony parts, intonation, music reading skills, music vocabulary, listening skills, rehearsal techniques, and a wide variety of repertoire. Outside-of-class-time performances are required. Membership is by audition only. This is a semester class which may be repeated as many times as desired, but a full year of involvement is encouraged. To repeat, teacher permission and previous passing grades are required



Acting 1 (*fall & spring*): This semester course is an introduction to theater through exercises in stage movement and oral interpretation. Students learn basic acting techniques through the use of improvisation, mime, and selected scenes. This course may not be repeated for credit.

Acting 2 (*fall & spring*): This semester course is a continuation of Acting 1. Students place more emphasis on acting scenes from contemporary plays and improvisation. Drama history is studied in relation to styles of acting.

Acting Workshop P: This is a year long, advanced course for serious acting students. Scene study, audition preparation, basic makeup, and an in-depth method acting preparation are included in this course which will also involve public competitions and performances. Outside-of-class-time performances

are required. Teacher permission is also required (audition). ***This course meets the U.C. course electives requirement.***

Stagecraft: An introduction to backstage aspects of theatrical productions, including set construction, painting and rigging, stage lighting, stage sound, properties, makeup, costumes, and theater management. Students who desire to work backstage on school productions should take this class. Outside-of-class-time performances are required. Teacher permission is also required.

FINE ARTS / VISUAL ARTS

Four-year college admission offices specify that college preparatory courses be completed with a grade of C or better. Colleges will not accept courses with a D grade. A semester grade of D should be made up before graduation.

COURSE TITLE	LENGTH	GRADE LEVEL	RECOMMENDATION FOR ENROLLMENT
Beginning Art P	Sem	9-12	None.
Intermediate Art P	Year	9-12	Completion of Beginning Art P with a passing grade OR teacher permission; <i>meets the U.C. course fine arts requirement.</i>
Photo 1	Sem	9-12	None; preference, however, will be given to eleventh and twelfth grade students who must meet their Fine Arts graduation requirement.
Adv. Photo P	Year	10-12	Passing grade in Photo I OR teacher permission; <i>meets U.C. Fine Arts requirement</i>
TV/Video Productions	Sem	9-12	None
Art of Video Productions	Year	10-12	Completion of TV/Video Productions with a passing grade OR teacher permission; <i>meets U.C. Fine Arts requirement.</i>



COURSE DESCRIPTIONS - FINE ARTS DEPARTMENT

Beginning Art P and Intermediate Art P: Designed to provide students with experiences in two dimensional art production. The students will research various techniques of handling media and will be directed to explore in detail poster paint, watercolors, ink, charcoal, pastels, and acrylics. An emphasis is placed on their artistic perceptions and the students' ability to write evaluations of others' and their own work. The historical importance of the various media with which the students work will be researched. Students will also write evaluations demonstrating their understanding of aesthetic appreciation. ***This (Intermediate Art) meets the UC electives requirement.***

Photo 1: The basic principles of photography, mechanics of camera handling, and darkroom developing and printing are taught. The student will also learn to obtain the most from single lens reflex cameras and be introduced to darkroom equipment. Students will develop and print their own photographs and participate in a variety of group projects.

Advanced Photo P: An advanced course that follows Photo 1. This is a year-long course that incorporates skills acquired in the first two levels of photography into an advanced curriculum. This Advanced Photo course meets the UC electives requirement.

Computer skills – this is a semester long introductory course for students to acquire basic computer skills in such areas as; 1) microsoft office software, 2) web based search, 3) using computer technology as a form of communication (email and social mediums).

Web Design – this is a year long introductory level course for students interested in learning how to design web pages. Students will learn how to use several software programs and complete a number of web pages/projects over the course of the semester.

Advanced Web Design – this is a year long class for students who have taken the computer skills and web design classes. Student learn advance skills in web design including programming and the Adobe CS5 suite of software. ***This meets the UC electives requirement.***

TV/Video Production: introductory course to video editing and basic video camera techniques.

Art of Video Production: This course teaches how to create TV programs and individual shows. Picture composition, lighting, audio recording, script writing, editing, media aesthetics, team work, leadership and critical evaluation skills are developed. Student creativity and originality are encouraged in both structured and unstructured experiences. Outside-of class-time tapings are not required but are encouraged.

FOREIGN LANGUAGE DEPARTMENT

P = College Prep H = Honors AP = Advanced Placement

COURSE TITLE	LENGTH	GRADE LEVEL	RECOMMENDATION FOR ENROLLMENT
Mandarin 1 P	Year	9-12	None.
French 1 P	Year	9-12	None.
French 2 P	Year	10-12	Completion of French 1P with a “D” or better
French 3 P	Year	11-12	Completion of French 2 P with a “D” or better
Italian 1 P	Year	9-12	None.
Italian 2 & 3 P	Year	10-12	Completion of Italian 1 or 2 P with a “D” or better
Spanish 1 P	Year	9-12	None.
Spanish 2 P	Year	10-12	Completion of Spanish 1 P with a “D” or better
Spanish 3 P	Year	11-12	Completion of Spanish 2 P with a “D” or better
Spanish 4 P	Year	12	Completion of Spanish 3 P with a “D” or better
Spanish for Spanish Speakers 1 P thru 4 P	Year	9-12	Screening test; Native Spanish speakers who would benefit from focused instruction in reading and writing in Spanish
Spanish Language AP	Year	9-12	Spanish Speakers 2 or Spanish 4 P is recommended
Spanish Literature AP	Year	9-12	Spanish Speakers 2 or Spanish 4 P is recommended

Note: a “D” grade is only for the PHS graduation requirement. Seniors may take beginning courses. Colleges will not accept courses with a “D” grade; therefore, a semester grade of “D” should be made up **before graduation.**



COURSE DESCRIPTIONS **- FOREIGN LANGUAGE**

The courses listed below are offered in **FRENCH, ITALIAN, and SPANISH**. Although variations may occur in each language, the general descriptions of the courses fit the general content in all languages. For further information, see the teacher who instructs the specific course. A student must take two years of the same language to be eligible for the University of California admissions requirement. Three years of the same language is strongly recommended.

Foreign Language 1 P: An elementary course with emphasis on vocabulary, pronunciation, basic grammar, verb conjugations, conversation and typical speech patterns. This also includes learning to speak the language clearly and be well understood. In addition, learning to comprehend the written language and write it correctly is continually stressed. One of the great advantages to studying any foreign language is that the student will acquire a new awareness and appreciation of other cultures and lands. As a result, he/she will develop increased knowledge and awareness of English and the American Culture. Students must have a passing grade at the end of the semester to continue. ***This course meets the UC admissions requirement.***

Foreign Language 2 P: A continuation of the first year of a foreign language with an increased focus on pronunciation, intonation, the patterns of speech and oral fluency. This course will have a greater stress on grammar, verb tenses, and vocabulary. There will be a greater emphasis on reading, writing, and communicating in the foreign language. ***This course meets the UC admissions requirement.***

Foreign Language 3P: Proficiency in the four skills: listening, speaking, reading and writing will continue to be developed. Communications will be of utmost importance. Grammar, particularly the verb tenses, will be reinforced. Students will be given more authentic texts to read and comment on, both orally and written. A variety of activities will be given to promote proficiency and cultural appreciation of the language and speaking nations. ***This course meets the UC admissions requirement.***

Foreign Language 4P: Level IV reviews and expands the essential points of grammar with exercises and a variety of activities intended to stimulate conversation and perfect writing skills. It also presents a variety of culturally-related topics. The approach is thematic, offering a variety of exercises to reinforce reading skills and vocabulary. A third objective is to introduce the students to literary works by writers of the target language. Teacher-prepared activities are also utilized to increase student proficiency and cultural appreciation. ***This course meets the UC admissions requirement.***

Spanish for Spanish Speakers 1P through 4P: All four courses are for Spanish speakers who need assistance in their own language. Students will develop their reading, writing, and speaking skills. Also, they will read and analyze Spanish literature. Students will transfer these skills while learning English as a second language. ***These courses meet the UC admissions requirement.***

Spanish Language AP: This advanced placement Spanish language course covers the equivalent of a first-year college course in advanced Spanish writing and conversation. It encompasses aural/oral skills, reading comprehension, grammar, and composition. ***This course meets the UC admissions requirement.***

Spanish Literature AP: A course designed for the serious minded, college-bound student, interested in gaining an increased proficiency and fluency in writing and reading in Spanish. Skills in listening, speaking, reading and writing will be fine-tuned through a variety of academic activities. The ultimate goal is to take the Spanish Literature AP exam in the spring with a score of 3 or better to earn possible college credit. Consequently, the studies will be more intense and the homework load will be greater. Besides exercises in writing, grammar and vocabulary, the students will be given an introduction to literary works by writers of the language. ***This course meets the UC admissions requirement.***

PHYSICAL EDUCATION DEPARTMENT



COURSE TITLE	LENGTH	GRADE LEVEL	RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ENROLLMENT
9 TH Grade Physical Education	Year	9	None; an introductory course for all students entering PHS and meets the district requirement P.E.
Team Sports	Sem	10-12	None; meets the second year of the district graduation requirement for P.E.; may also be used as elective credit toward graduation.
Theory of Sports: Advanced Skills for Athletes	Year	10-12	Permission of the Varsity Coach of that specific sport.
Weight Training	Sem	10-12	None; meets the second year of the district graduation requirement for P.E., OR may be used for elective credit toward graduation.

*** Please note that each student must wear a physical education uniform during their physical education class which includes the following:**

* **Black shorts**, \$10.00 (S-XL); \$12.00 (2XL & 3XL) (purchase is optional from the P.E. dept)

* **Gray T-shirt**, \$10.00 (S-XL); \$12.00 (2XL & 3XL) (purchase is optional from the P.E. dept)

* **Tennis shoes** (athletic, laced shoes) are required to participate in all Physical Education activities.

The department's objective is to develop and maintain the best possible level of performance, understanding, and appreciation for physical fitness, sportsmanship, personal hygiene, skill development, strategy, rules, safety, positive social traits, carry-over activities, and co-educational activities. Unless a student requires an additional physical education class to graduate, all students may take only one physical education class per semester.



COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

- PHYSICAL EDUCATION

9th Grade Physical Education: 9th grade physical education meets the first year of the district graduation requirement for P.E. It is an introductory, mandatory course for all 9th grade students. This course emphasizes the development of movement skills and movement knowledge, self image, personal growth, and social development. Students will be introduced to various individual, dual, and team sports and activities. The state physical fitness test will also be included in this course. Instructional and assessment strategies will include cooperative learning, guided practice, interactive learning, demonstration, lecture, performance based assessment, authentic assessment tests, and projects.

Theory of Sports: Advanced Skills for Athletics: To participate in this course student must have teacher approval and permission from the Varsity Coach of the sport. This course meets the second year of the district graduation requirement for P.E., or it may be used as elective credit toward graduation. It focuses on increasing cardiovascular fitness, muscle strength, and muscular endurance. The students will be taught the application of sports theory concepts and skills. It also focuses on understanding and mastery of the rules, game situations, offensive and defensive strategies, nutrition, and physical performance.

Weight Training: This course meets the second year of the district graduation requirement for P.E. or it may be used as elective credit toward graduation. It is designed to help students achieve muscular strength and cardiovascular fitness. Students will be involved in a combination of lifting weights and basic fitness training. Daily participation in exercises that improve flexibility, muscle strength, and cardiovascular endurance will emphasize the benefits of lifetime health and fitness. This course also

focuses on the development of movement skills and movement knowledge, self image, personal growth and social development. Instructional and assessment strategies will include cooperative learning, guided practice, interactive learning, demonstration, lecture, performance based assessment, authentic assessment, tests, and projects.

REGIONAL OCCUPATIONAL PROGRAM/ROP

COURSE TITLE	LENGTH	GRADE LEVEL	RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ENROLLMENT
Advanced TV/Video Productions ROP	Year	11-12	Must be 16 years of age or older
Auto Technology ROP	Year	11-12	Must be 16 years of age or older
Architectural Design ROP	Year	11-12	Must be 16 years of age or older
Construction Technology ROP	Year	11-12	Must be 16 years of age or older
Graphic Design ROP	Year	11-12	Must be 16 years of age or older
Robotics ROP	Year	11-12	Must be 16 years of age or older
	Year	11-12	Must be 16 years of age or older

*The Regional Occupational Program (ROP) is operated by the Contra Costa County Office of Education. It offers a wide variety of courses to prepare students for a job or to give them a head start on their college education. The ROP courses at Pittsburg High School are listed below. Elective credits are earned in these classes. **To enroll in an ROP course, students must be sixteen years or older by the first day of class, to a junior or senior in high school.***



COURSE DESCRIPTIONS **- REGIONAL OCCUPATIONAL PROGRAM/ROP**

Advanced TV/Video Productions: This course includes hands-on experience in an on-campus TV studio with color cameras, editing equipment, remote production facilities, and IBM-based computer graphics. Students create actual TV programs which are shown on cable TV. This course prepares students for jobs in cable, educational, industrial, public, and commercial TV. **IT MEETS THE PHS FINE ARTS GRADUATION REQUIREMENT** but not the UC entrance requirements.

Architectural Design – In this year long course students explore careers related to the field of architecture. Students incorporate drafting, CAD and basic design skills into projects that focus on architectural design. Pittsburg High has entered into an articulation agreement with Diablo Valley College (DVC) whereby students who complete this class are recognized as having completed the equivalent class at DVC and may enter the next required course in this pathway. **This course meets the UC electives admissions requirement.**

Construction Technology – this is a year long course designed for students interested in a career in the construction industry. Skills taught include framing, basic carpentry and other skills (drafting and CAD) which would allow a student to enter an apprenticeship program following high school in the construction industry.

Auto Technology – this is a year long course designed for students interested in a career as an auto mechanic. Students learn a variety of skills ranging from simple repairs (brakes) to complex troubleshooting and replacement. Our auto program has an articulation agreement with Los Medanos College whereby students who complete two years of auto technology at Pittsburg High are able to enter year #2 of the auto program at the college.

Graphic Design – this is a year long class where students learn how to use the Adobe CS5 suite of software including Photoshop and Illustrator to create a variety of projects including magazine covers and websites. This class is designed for students who have a basic knowledge of computer technology and are

interested in learning specific software programs that focus on graphic design. ***This course meets the Fine Arts UC admissions requirement.***

Robotics – This course includes hands-on experience in the field of robotics. Students design and build robots using a variety of materials and equipment. Students incorporate CAD, drafting and architectural design skills into their projects. ***This course meets the UC elective admissions requirement.***



OTHER EDUCATIONAL OFFERINGS

COURSE TITLE	LENGTH	GRADE LEVEL	RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ENROLLMENT
Student Leadership	Year	9-12	Application, interview, and teacher permission are required; may also be elected by the classes as representatives. Students must be academically eligible.
Yearbook	Year	10-12	Teacher permission
AVID 1	Year	9	Teacher permission; a written and verbal interview is required. Enrollment is voluntary.
AVID 2	Year	10	Completion of AVID I. Enrollment is voluntary.
AVID 3	Year	11	Completion of AVID 2. Enrollment is voluntary.
AVID 4	Year	12	Completion of AVID 3. Enrollment is voluntary.



COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

- OTHER EDUCATIONAL OFFERINGS

Student Leadership: Designed so that students learn basic concepts of democratic government; leadership skills; parliamentary procedures; group processes; leadership planning; and practices in a lab of practical school situations. Students plan and implement student activities.

Yearbook: designed to teach students all aspects of creating the Pittsburg High School Yearbook. Marketing, advertising, journalism, and graphic arts are emphasized.

AVID 1: a frosh elective course that provides academic support to complete rigorous college preparatory course work for C.S.U./U.C. eligibility. Tutors, college field trips, career exploration, financial aid information, and guest speakers are components of this course.

AVID 2: A sophomore elective course that provides academic support to complete rigorous college preparatory course work for CSU/UC eligibility. Tutors, college field trips, career exploration, financial aid information, and guest speakers are components of this course.

AVID 3: a junior elective course that provides academic support to complete rigorous college preparatory course work for CSU/UC eligibility. Tutors, college field trips, career exploration, financial aid information, and guest speakers are components of this course.

AVID 4: A senior elective course that provides academic support to complete rigorous college preparatory course work for CSU/UC eligibility. Tutors, college field trips, career exploration, financial aid information, and guest speakers are components of this course. ***This course meets the UC elective admissions requirement.***

PLEASE NOTE: Community, CSU, and UC colleges take note of student transcripts with AVID courses because of the AVID students' high success rate in college. Therefore, ***AVID courses are a very prestigious addition to one's transcripts.***