

# Petal High School



## Course Catalog 2016-2017

## English

**English I (9<sup>th</sup> Grade)** – This class is designed to prepare students for the demands of English II, which is a state subject area tested course. Students write essays that reflect current curriculum shifts to Common Core State Standards. In addition, they complete reading units that require them to read independently, explore topics related to the primary text, and learn to answer essay questions demonstrating a deep understanding of the reading. Students also complete six units that combine related English I Reading/Writing/Vocabulary benchmarks in order to help students see the connections within them and begin building a deep grasp of the concepts these benchmarks encompass. In addition, students study every grammar objective listed under Competency 4 of the MLAF.

**1 Credit**

**Prerequisite: None**

**English II (10<sup>th</sup> Grade)** – This class is designed to prepare students for the English II Mississippi Subject Area Test. Students write essays that reflect current curriculum shifts to Common Core State Standards. In addition, they complete reading units that require them to read independently, explore topics related to the primary text, and answer essay questions demonstrating a deep understanding of the reading. Students also complete six units that combine related English II Reading/Writing/Vocabulary benchmarks in order to help students see the connections within them and build a deep grasp of the concepts these benchmarks encompass.

**1 Credit**

**Prerequisite: English I**

**English III (11<sup>th</sup> Grade)** – Students write essays that reflect current curriculum shifts to Common Core State Standards. In addition, students write journals, writer's notebooks, explications, précis, and short essay responses to various literary selections. Reading units require students to read independently in order to prepare for class work and discussion and are tested with essay questions that require a deep understanding of the reading as well as with weekly quizzes that test plot and general understanding of each work. Necessary language convention skills are developed through the various forms of writing completed during the course.

**1 Credit**

**Prerequisite: English I and English II**

**Advanced Placement English III Language and Composition (11<sup>th</sup> Grade)** – According to the College Board AP English Language and Composition Course Description Handbook (2007/2008), “an AP course in English Language and Composition engages students in becoming skilled readers of prose written in a variety of periods, disciplines, and rhetorical contexts, and in becoming skilled writers who compose for a variety of purposes.” With that in mind, by the end of this course students will have completed course work at the level of most college freshmen English classes. Writing well is necessary for success in college and is the primary objective of the course; students will complete expository, reflective, literary analysis and persuasive argument essays. Reading well is another indicator that a student is able to successfully complete college level work and in AP English Language and Composition students read to understand multiple meanings in diverse texts. Students will have the opportunity to take a course ending exam for college credit. A summer assignment is also required.

**1 Credit**

**Prerequisite: English I, English II and AP Contract**

**English IV (12<sup>th</sup> Grade)** – Students write essays that reflect current curriculum shifts to Common Core State Standards. Necessary language convention skills are developed through writing as well as through individualized instruction. Reading units require students to read independently in order to prepare for class work and discussion and are tested in a variety of ways: essays, projects, and comprehension tests. Time spent on senior project in class will only include those aspects that directly address the Mississippi English IV framework.

**1 Credit**

**Prerequisite: English I, English II & English III**

**Advanced Placement English IV Literature and Composition (12<sup>th</sup> Grade)** - An AP English Literature and Composition course engages students in the careful reading and critical analysis of imaginative literature. Through the close reading of selected texts, students deepen their understanding of the ways writers use language to provide both meaning and pleasure for their readers. Writing is an integral part of the AP English Literature and Composition course and exam. Writing assignments focus on the critical analysis of literature and include expository, analytical, and argumentative essays; but students also complete well-constructed creative writing assignments. The goal of both types of writing assignments is to increase students’ ability to explain clearly what they understand about literary works and why they interpret them as they do. To that end, writing instruction includes attention to developing and organizing ideas in clear, coherent, and persuasive language. Throughout the course, emphasis is placed on helping students develop stylistic maturity. Students have the opportunity to take a course ending exam for college credit.

**1 Credit**

**Prerequisite: English I, English II, English III & AP Contract**

**USM Freshmen Composition 12<sup>th</sup> Grade** – USM Freshman Composition: 12<sup>th</sup> grade (includes Senior Project) *Students who enroll in this course will receive credit for English 101 (Composition I) through USM. Therefore, no student who has maintained lower than a B yearly average in English I, II, and III will be allowed to enroll. In addition, students who enroll must have taken the ACT and scored at least a 20 on the English portion. STUDENTS WHO TOOK THE ENGLISH III AP EXAM AND EARNED COLLEGE CREDIT SHOULD NOT ENROLL IN THIS CLASS.* There will be a required parent meeting with USM officials to further explain the commitment required of students receiving credit.

The Composition Program at Southern Miss has identified specific learning outcomes for each of its first-year writing courses. At the completion of ENG 101, students will be able to:

- See that writing is a form of social interaction;
- Analyze rhetorical situations and make effective choices based on audience and context;
- Responsibly synthesize material from a variety of sources;
- Make claims and support them with appropriate evidence;
- Use writing to critically explore, explain, evaluate, and reflect on their experiences and on those of others;
- Understand and effectively use a range of genres/forms;
- Use conventions of expression appropriate to situation and audience;
- Effectively revise and provide substantive feedback to others on their writing;
- Articulate a revision strategy based on an understanding of their own writing processes;
- Recognize the importance of technology in research, writing, and other forms of social interaction.

Students will complete three major writing requirements, a final portfolio project, a response log, and diverse reading assignments.

**Reading Focus (9<sup>th</sup> Grade)** – This class is designed to remediate students who scored mid-range Basic or below on their 8<sup>th</sup> grade MCT2 Language Arts test. Students read for enjoyment as well as for information; they engage in strategies designed to support their success in all disciplines.

**1 Credit**

**Prerequisite: None**

**ACT Prep (Grades 10-12)** – This course is designed to prepare students for the ACT. Students taking this class will be taught testing taking strategies.

**1 Credit**

**Prerequisite: None**

## Math

**Foundations to Algebra (Grade 9)** – This is companion course to Algebra I. This course is only available to rising 9<sup>th</sup> grade students. By enrolling in Foundations to Algebra, freshmen are given more time to complete hands-on activities and develop their problem-solving skills through challenging real-world tasks. Topics covered in Foundations to Algebra are (1) the language of Algebra and number sense, (2) solving multi-step equations and inequalities, (3) an introduction to functions and their features with strong emphasis on linear functions, and (4) operations with polynomials and factoring. These four topics lead directly into the Algebra I course where non-linear functions are given emphasis.

**1 Credit**

**Prerequisite: 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Math**

**Algebra 1** - In Algebra 1, the fundamental purpose of this course is to formalize and extend the mathematics that students learned in the middle grades. The instruction will focus on five critical areas: (1) analyze and explain the process of solving equations and inequalities; (2) learn function notation and develop the concepts of domain and range; (3) use regression techniques; (4) create quadratic and exponential expressions; and (5) select from among these functions to model phenomena.

**1 Credit**

**Geometry** - The fundamental purpose of the course in Geometry is to formalize and extend students' geometric experiences from the middle grades. Students explore more complex geometric situations and deepen their explanations of geometric relationships, moving towards formal mathematical arguments. The six critical areas of this course include: building a thorough understanding of translations, reflections, and rotations; developing the understanding of similarity and several theorems; extension of formulas for 2-dimensional and 3-dimensional objects; extension of 8<sup>th</sup> grade geometric concepts of lines; prove basic theorems about circles; and work with experimental and theoretical probability.

**1 Credit**

**Prerequisite: Algebra I**

**Advanced Geometry** - This course provides students with the opportunity to extend geometric experiences from the middle grades. Students explore more complex geometric situations, deepen their explanations of geometric relationships, and construct formal mathematical arguments. This course differs from Geometry in that the concepts covered are investigated to a greater depth and it requires more time and energy outside of class. All students who intend to take Advanced Mathematics Plus and AP Calculus should take Advanced Geometry.

**1 Credit**

**Prerequisite: Algebra I, A or B in Algebra I**

**SREB: Math Ready Course** - This course is best suited for students who have not mastered skills needed for Advanced Placement courses, but need to further prepare to enter college. The course targets students with weaknesses and college-ready skill gaps and re-educates them in new ways to ensure they are prepared for postsecondary-level mathematics. This course consists of units which include skills such as algebraic expressions, equations, measurement and proportional reasoning, linear functions, linear systems of equations, quadratic functions and, exponential functions.

**1 Credit**

**Prerequisite: Geometry**

**Algebra 2** - The students will build on their Algebra 1 skills by continuing to work with linear, quadratic, and exponential functions. The students will extend their knowledge of functions to include polynomial, rational, and radical functions. The course will focus on solving equations, including quadratic equations, and exponential equations. The students will continue to model situations throughout the course.

**1 Credit**

**Prerequisite: Geometry**

**Advanced Mathematics Plus** - This course serves as an extension of the algebraic and geometric skills covered in Geometry and Algebra II and is designed to be a fourth year math course. Students continue to study complex numbers, polynomial functions and identities, matrices, trigonometric functions, probability, and vectors among other concepts. These topics will help students to be successful in AP Calculus.

**1 Credit**

**Prerequisite: Algebra II**

**Algebra III (Grade 11)** – This course includes content standards from the 2007 Mississippi Mathematics Framework Pre-Calculus course and the Mississippi College and Career Readiness Standards for Mathematics; and covers those skills and objectives necessary for success in courses higher than Algebra II and Integrated Mathematics III. Topics of study include sequences and series, functions, and higher order polynomials. Polynomial functions provide the context for higher-order investigations. Topics are addressed from a numeric, graphical, and analytical perspective. Technology is to be used to enhance presentation and understanding of concepts. The instructional approach provides opportunities for students to work together collaboratively and cooperatively as they solve routine and non-routine problems. Communication strategies should include reading, writing, speaking, and critical listening as students present and evaluate mathematical arguments, proofs, and explanations about their reasoning.

**1 Credit**

**Prerequisite: Advanced Geometry & Algebra II**

**Calculus / AP Calculus** - Calculus is the mathematics of change. The major focus is on differential and integral calculus. This course is comparable to calculus courses in colleges and universities. It is expected that students who take an AP course will seek college credit, college placement, or both from institutions of higher learning.

**2 Credits**

**Prerequisite: Advanced Math Plus**

## **Science**

**Physical Science** – This course provides opportunities for students to develop and communicate an understanding of physics and chemistry through lab-based activities, mathematical expressions, and concept exploration. Concepts covered in this course include structure of matter, chemical and physical properties and changes, kinematics, dynamics, energy, waves, electromagnetic spectrum, electricity, and magnetism. Laboratory activities, the use of technology, and the effective communication of results through various methods are integral components of this course.

**1 Credit**

**Prerequisite: None**

**Physics** – This course provides opportunities for students to develop and communicate an understanding of matter and energy through lab-based activities, mathematical expressions, and concept exploration. Concepts covered in this course include kinematics, dynamics, energy, mechanical and electromagnetic waves, and electricity. Laboratory activities, research, the use of technology, and the effective communication of results through various methods are integral components of this course.

**1 Credit**

**Prerequisite: Passed Algebra II or currently enrolled in Algebra II or principal recommendation**

**Chemistry** – This course provides opportunities for students to develop and communicate an understanding of structure, physical and chemical properties, and chemical change. Concepts covered in this course include properties of matter, measurement and use of the International System of Measurement applied to mathematical operations, atomic theory, bonding, periodicity, nomenclature, equations and reactions, stoichiometry of aqueous solutions, thermodynamics, kinetics, equilibrium, oxidation-reduction and electron chemistry, nuclear chemistry, and organic chemistry. Laboratory activities, research, the use of technology, and the effective communication of results through various methods are integral components of this course.

**1 Credit**

**Prerequisite: None**

**Forensic Science (Grades 11 & 12)** – The goal of this course is to expose students to an introductory level course on forensic science, allowing them to sample the various disciplines to gain a better understanding of the investigative and analytical side of the criminal justice system. The Forensic Science Core Curriculum will focus on the analysis of evidence (collection, testing, and reporting), crime scene investigation, trace analysis, toxicology, biological analysis (serology, DNA), and document analysis (forgery and handwriting). Students will be presented with various case studies and scenarios to supplement content and promote achievement and understanding for all students.

**1 Credit**

**Prerequisite: 80 or above in Biology; completion or concurrent enrollment in Chemistry; or principal recommendation**

**AP Chemistry** – The AP Chemistry course is designed to be the equivalent of the general chemistry course usually taken during the first year of college. It encompasses the six main ideas which are the foundation of a good understanding of chemistry. These include fundamental structure of the atom, bonding, intermolecular forces, the arrangement and rearrangement of atoms in chemical reactions, kinetics, thermodynamics, and chemical equilibrium. Students are required to spend one fourth of their time in laboratory experiences designed to increase their ability to think critically and solve problems.

**1 Credit**

**Prerequisite: AP application required, 85 or higher in Chemistry I strongly recommended or principal recommendation**

**Biology I** – This is a laboratory-based course designed to study living organisms and their physical environments. Students should apply scientific methods of inquiry and research in the examination of the chemical basis of life, cell structure, function and reproduction, energy, natural selection and diversity, and ecology. Laboratory activities, the use of technology, and the effective communication of results through various methods are integral components of this course.

**1 Credit**

**Prerequisite: None**

**Botany** – This course is a laboratory-based course applying basic biological principles to the study of plants. Topics studied include morphological characteristics of each division and variation in their reproduction, taxonomy, and physiology. Laboratory activities, research, the use of technology, and the effective communication of results through various methods are integral components of this course.

**½ Credit**

**Prerequisite: None**

**Environmental Science** – This is a laboratory-based or field-based course that explores ways in which the environment shapes living communities. Interactions of organisms with their environment should be emphasized along with the impact of human activities on the physical and biological systems of the Earth. Laboratory activities, research, the use of technology, and the effective communication of results through various methods are integral components of this course.

**½ Credit**

**Prerequisite: None**

**Zoology** – This is a laboratory-based course that surveys the nine major phyla of the Kingdom Animalia. Morphology, taxonomy, anatomy, and physiology should be investigated. Comparative studies may be addressed during laboratory observations and dissections. Laboratory activities, research, the use of technology, and the effective communication of results through various methods are integral components of this course.

**½ Credit**

**Prerequisite: None**

**Marine and Aquatic Science** – This laboratory and field based course investigates the biodiversity of salt water and fresh water organisms, including their interactions with the physical and chemical environment. The special characteristics of aquatic resources should also be examined. Laboratory activities, research, the use of technology, and the effective communication of results through various methods are integral components of this course.

**½ Credit**

**Prerequisite: None**

**Human Anatomy & Physiology** – This course is a laboratory-based course that investigates the structure and function of the human body. Topics covered include the basic organization of the body, biochemical composition, and major body systems along with the impact of diseases on certain systems. Laboratory activities, research, the use of technology, and the effective communication of results through various methods are integral components of this course.

**1 Credit**

**Prerequisite: 80 or above in Biology, application or principal recommendation**

**Genetics** – Genetics is a lab-based course that will explore the principles of classical and molecular genetics including the relationship between traits and patterns of inheritance within organisms. Population genetics, genetic variations among individuals, and applications of modern advances in genetics will be investigated. Lab activities, research, the use of technology, and the effective communication of results through various methods are integral components of this course.

**½ Credit**

**Prerequisite: 80 or higher in Biology I, application or principal recommendation**

**Microbiology** – Microbiology is a lab-based course that involves investigating microorganisms and the various roles they play in the living world. Topics explored in this class include identifying common microbes, culturing and staining microorganisms, exploring host-microbe relationships and disease processes, and researching microbiology used in industry. Lab work involving microscopic investigations and aseptic techniques are emphasized in this course as well as critical thinking, problem solving, and research.

**½ Credit**

**Prerequisite: 80 or higher Biology I, application principal recommendation**

## **Social Studies**

**Introduction to World Geography** – Student learning will focus on understanding the systems and processes that produce the features and patterns that lie on Earth's surface and appear on maps and globes. Identification of map features and place locations carries little value unless it facilitates student learning of these underlying systems and process. The primary purpose of the course is to build systematic understanding of how Earth's physical and human geography came to be and continues to evolve. This class also develops a solid command of major geographic features by interpreting physical and political maps of Mississippi, the United States, and the world's continents.

**½ Credit**

**Prerequisite: None**

**Mississippi Studies** – This class fosters appreciation for the state, its history, and its culture. The content will include the geographic, historic, economic, political, and social events that have contributed to the state’s development. This course traces Mississippi’s economic transition from agriculture to industry and its effort to expand participation of all its citizens in the political process. The course includes the study of the diverse contributions of the citizens of the state. There is also a large amount of Civil Rights information taught throughout the class. Other aspects of the class consist of examining Mississippi’s involvement in world conflicts such as the Civil War, World War I and World War II. The importance of Mississippi citizens’ contributions on a global scale are also examined as we identify how Mississippians have helped shape the history of our country.

**½ Credit**

**Prerequisite: None**

**Problems in American Democracy and Sociology (Grade 9)** – As a prerequisite for the United States History course and its associated Mississippi United States History Subject Area Test, ninth grade students will be required to take these courses. The content is expected to be taught by infusing social studies skills into the pedagogy of the course. These skills should include, but are not limited to: acquiring an understanding of change over time, distinguishing between primary and secondary sources, the analysis of primary sources, reading different sources critically, making arguments in written and oral form based on evidence in support of a clearly defined thesis, and developing a solid command of major geographic features by interpreting physical and political maps. The skill-based courses offer development in the areas of, but not limited to, the interpretation and application of maps, graphs, charts, political cartoons, primary documents, and other social studies tools. The avenues for these concepts are developed through the social studies strands listed below that are taught in all social studies classes, grades K-12. The curriculums for these two courses will be chronologically taught in a developmental sequence. Students will be introduced to historical themes and content taken from the United States History course and taught reading and writing skills through focused strategies that are document-based. The courses will also focus on the student’s ability to synthesize information and answer questions that are found on common standardized tests such as the ACT.

**½ Credit each**

**Prerequisite: None**

**World History (10<sup>th</sup> Grade)** – This course focuses on the development, connection, global influences of the Western World, Europe, and the United States, and historic global activity and how that activity has characterized the development of the rest of the world are emphasized. Students will complete World History Portfolios in this course. Portfolios are planned, continuously developing collections of work that serve as a basis to measure student growth, evaluate student activities, and assess student strengths and weaknesses. Students in World History will be required to construct a cumulative portfolio that covers events surrounding the Cold War era from 1945 until the collapse of communism.

**1 Credit**

**Prerequisite: None**

**Advanced Placement World History (10<sup>th</sup> Grade)** – The purpose of the AP World History course is to develop greater understanding of the evolution of global processes and contacts on different types of human societies. This understanding is advanced through a combination of selective factual knowledge and appropriate analytical skills. The course highlights the nature of changes in global frameworks and their causes and consequences, as well as comparisons among major societies. AP World History introduces itself in 8000 BEC to 600 CE as the foundation era and proceeds chronologically and thematically to the present. Students are introduced to cultural, economic, political, and social developments that played a fundamental role in shaping the world in which we live. Students have the opportunity to take an end of course exam that could give them college credit, depending on exam score. All students should develop an impeccable work ethic and become responsible for his or her success in this course. Time should be set aside daily to review and prepare course material.

**1 Credit**

**Prerequisite: Mississippi Studies and Intro to World Geography. Admission depends on the student's commitment to the subject as well as high aptitude scores or outstanding grade records. AP Contract**

**Advanced Placement European History (10<sup>th</sup> Grade)** – The study of European history since 1450 introduces students to cultural, economic, political, and social developments that played a fundamental role in shaping the world in which we live. In addition to providing a basic narrative of events and movements, the goals of the AP European History course are to develop (a) an understanding of some of the principal themes in modern European history, (b) an ability to analyze historical evidence and historical interpretation, and (c) an ability to express historical understanding in writing. Students have the opportunity to take an end of course exam that could give them college credit, depending on exam score. All students should develop an impeccable work ethic and become responsible for his or her success in this course. Time should be set aside daily to review and prepare course material.

**1 Credit**

**Prerequisite: Mississippi Studies and Intro to World Geography. Admission depends on the student's commitment to the subject as well as high aptitude scores or outstanding grade records. AP Contract**

**United States History (11<sup>th</sup> Grade)** – This course requires students to examine the major turning points in American history from the period following Reconstruction throughout the Twentieth Century and entering into the new millennium. Specific themes should be emphasized throughout the course focusing on the expanding role of the federal government and federal courts; the continuing tension between the individual and the state and between minority rights and majority power; the emergence of a modern corporate economy; the role of the federal government and Federal Reserve System in the economy; the impact of technology and industry on American society and culture; change in the ethnic composition of American society; the movements toward equal rights for racial and ethnic minorities and women; and the role of the United States as a major world power. Students will be required to construct a cumulative portfolio that covers events surrounding the Civil Rights Era.

**1 Credit**

**Prerequisite: None**

**Advanced Placement United States History (11<sup>th</sup> Grade)** – The AP program in United States History is designed to provide students with analytic skills and factual knowledge necessary to deal critically with the problems and materials in United States history. The program prepares students for intermediate and advanced college courses by making demands upon them equivalent to those made by full-year introductory college courses. Students should learn to assess historical material – their relevance to a given interpretive problem, their reliability, and their importance – and to weigh the evidence and interpretations presented in historical scholarship. An AP United States History course develops the skills necessary to arrive at conclusions on the basis of and informed judgment and to present reasons and evidence clearly and persuasively in essay format. Students have the opportunity to take an end of course exam that could give them college credit, depending on exam score. All students should develop an impeccable work ethic and become responsible for his or her success in this course. Time should be set aside daily to review and prepare course material. Students will be required to construct a cumulative portfolio that covers events surrounding the Civil Rights Era. Students are required to complete a summer assignment.

**1 Credit**

**Prerequisite: Mississippi Studies, Intro to World Geography, World History, and AP Contract**

**United States Government (12<sup>th</sup> Grade)** – Government and Civic Engagement should provide students with an understanding of civic life, politics, and the constitutional process. It should also provide a basis for understanding the rights and responsibilities of citizens and a framework for competent and active participation. The formal curriculum should be augmented by related learning experiences in both school and community.

**½ Credit**

**Prerequisite: None**

**Advanced Placement United States Government and Politics (12<sup>th</sup> Grade)** – This course will give students an analytical perspective on government and politics in the United States. This course includes both the study of general concepts used to interpret U.S. government and politics and the analysis of specific examples. It also requires familiarity with the various institutions, groups, beliefs, and ideas that constitute U.S. government and politics. While there is no single approach that an AP United States Government and Politics course must follow; students should become acquainted with the variety of theoretical perspectives and explanations for various behaviors and outcomes. Certain topics are usually covered in all college courses. Students will have an opportunity to take an end of course exam to receive college credit.

**½ Credit**

**Prerequisite: Mississippi Studies, Intro to World Geography, World History, and US History**

**Economics (12<sup>th</sup> Grade)** – This course focuses on an awareness of the relationship of world economic systems. The student should trace the American economic system and the impact of that system in a global setting. The student should also develop an understanding of microeconomics and macroeconomics from individual finances to world economic organizations.

**½ Credit**

**Prerequisite: None**

## **Career and Technical Education (Applications required)**

**Agriculture and Natural Resources I & II (Grades 9 - 12)** – This program introduces students to the broad field of agriculture and natural resources, including the production of plants and animals and the management of natural resources. The program includes instruction in the applied sciences related to plant and animal production and natural resource conservation and management, as well as introducing the student to agribusiness management practices and maintenance of facilities and equipment.

**2 Credits each**

**Prerequisite: You must take the first year class prior to taking the second.**

**Business & Marketing I & II (Grades 9 - 12)** – This program provides instruction in basic marketing skills. Courses in the program provide a foundation of skills and knowledge related to basic principles of marketing, related economic fundamentals, marketing planning, and sales and distribution. Instruction is also provided on special topics related to fashion marketing, international marketing, and sports, special events, and entertainment marketing.

**2 credits**

**Prerequisite: You must take the first year class prior to taking the second.**

**Construction Technology I & II (Grades 9 - 12)** – This program is an instructional program that prepares students for employment or continued education in the occupations of carpentry, electrical wiring, masonry, or plumbing. Second year students gain advanced knowledge and practical applications in the carpentry area.

**2 Credits each**

**Prerequisites: You must take the first year class prior to taking the second.**

**Culinary Arts I & II (Grades 10-12)** – The Culinary Arts program includes classroom and hands-on experiences that will prepare students for employment or continuing education in the food service industry. Students have a unique opportunity to enhance their knowledge through the operation of our student-run restaurant, Café Outback. We serve many members of the community, school district personnel, teachers, and students. Students discover what is involved in building a successful career in the culinary industry.

**2 Credits each**

**Prerequisite: You must take the first year class prior to taking the second.**

**Digital Media Technology I & II (Grades 9 - 12)** – DMT is designed for students who wish to develop, design, and implement projects in Photoshop, Logic, Final Cut Pro, and Motion. DMT focuses on the basic areas of computer graphics, audio production multimedia, and animation.

**2 Credits each**

**Prerequisite: You must take the first year class prior to taking the second.**

**Health Science I & II (Grades 10-12)** – Health Science provides a foundation of medical terminology, anatomy, physiology, and gives students a general overview of the health care field. Students gain basic skills and understanding of medical, legal, and ethical issues, as well as professional organizations. This course provides exposure to a variety of medical careers and provides the education required for these careers, skills, and knowledge base to make an informed decision to choose one of these as a future career, as well as over 100 hours of clinical experience in a variety of medical settings in the community.

**2 Credits each**

**Prerequisite: You must take the first year class prior to taking the second. You also must have a C average in core classes (English, math, science and history) the previous year. This applies to both the first and second year classes.**

**Information Technology I & II (Grades 9 - 12)** – IT allows students to explore many facets of technology, ranging from computer hardware to networking to operating systems. Students learn about the history behind current technology and explore emerging technologies. Students also work with the district technology staff and assist in installing, maintaining, troubleshooting, and repairing district-owned technology equipment.

**2 Credits each**

**Prerequisite: You must take the first year class prior to taking the second.**

**Law & Public Safety I & II (Grades 9 -12)** – Law & Public Safety is an introductory level program into the fields of public safety. Prevention, response, and responder safety are stressed as paramount and a strong understanding of Constitutional and Individual rights is necessary. We extensively cover Constitutional and Individual rights and responsibilities during the first year.

**2 Credits each**

**Prerequisites: You must take the first year class prior to taking the second.**

**Polymer Science I & II (Grades 10-12)** – Polymer Science encompasses the study of solid materials, focusing on giant molecules, plastics, and naturally occurring polymers. We study matter from creation to the production of usable products to recycling and disposal. In order to better compare the properties of these materials that are important to everyday life, we also dive briefly into the study of other branches of materials science, such as metals, ceramics, and composite materials.

**2 Credits each**

**Prerequisite: You must take the first year class prior to taking the second.**

**Teacher Academy I & II (Grades 10 – 12)** – Teacher Academy is a two year program designed to introduce high school students to the field of education and provide them with hands-on experiences, as well as curriculum that will help them determine if a career in education is right for them.

**2 Credits each**

**Prerequisite: You must take the first year prior to taking the second.**

**STEM -** STEM Applications is a course that introduces students to concepts and careers in the areas of science, technology, engineering and mathematics. It is an innovative instructional program that prepares students to engage in future academic and vocational courses of study in high school, community college, and institutions of higher learning. During the course, the students will become aware of current topics in several sciences, emerging technology, computer aided design, robotics, and financial literacy. This course is intended to provide an overview of the topics covered in the growing STEM field and to give students the opportunity to investigate careers in this area. Students will develop academic and technical skills, 21st Century Skills, and human relations competencies that accompany technical skills for job success and lifelong learning. This course will satisfy the computer credit required for graduation.

**1 Credit**

**Prerequisite: None**

**Family Dynamics (Grades 9-12)** – Exploration in the challenges involved in creating and maintaining a healthy family in today’s society.

**½ Credit**

**Prerequisite: None**

**Child Development (Grades 9-12)** – Explores the joys and challenges of parenthood and child-related careers.

**½ Credit**

**Prerequisite: None**

## **Foreign Languages**

**French I/Spanish I** – These courses are an introduction to the study of the target language and its culture. They allow students to perform the most basic functions of the language and to become familiar with some elements of the culture. The emphasis is placed on the development of the skills of listening, speaking, reading, and writing at a basic level and within a given context, extending outside of the classroom setting when possible.

**1 Credit Each**

**Prerequisite: None**

**French II/Spanish II** – These courses provide students with opportunities to continue the development of their listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills. Students participate in simple, real-life conversational situations that incorporate learned elements of the language and culture. Students compose sentences, which narrate, describe, compare, and summarize familiar topics from the target culture. Students develop a better understanding of the similarities and differences between cultures and languages and examine the influence of the beliefs and values of the target culture.

**1 Credit Each**

**Prerequisite: French I/Spanish I**

**French III/Spanish III** – These courses provide students with the opportunities to continue to expand their listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills as they access short literary texts, authentic materials, and media on familiar topics. Students are able to initiate and maintain face-to-face communications in the target language. Students continue to refine their knowledge and understanding of the target language and culture.

**1 Credit Each**

**Prerequisite: French I, II/Spanish I, II**

## Fine Arts

**Art I (Grades 9-12)** – This course is a survey of drawing, design, painting, and art history from Prehistoric to Renaissance.

**1 Credit**

**Prerequisites: Must submit a drawing of an eye.**

**Art II (Grades 10-12)** – This course covers advanced drawing, design, painting, and art history from the Baroque to Post Modern.

**1 Credit**

**Prerequisite: Art I and permission of the teacher**

**Art III, Advanced Art (Grades 11-12)** – Emphasis will be on American art history and painting

**1 Credit**

**Prerequisite: Art II and permission of the teacher**

**Art IV, Advanced Art (Grades 11-12)** – Emphasis on Mississippi artists, public art, and painting

**1 Credit**

**Prerequisite: Art II and permission of the teacher**

**Ceramics I & II (Grades 9 -12)** – This course is designed to introduce students to various ceramic hand building processes and a working knowledge of wheel thrown pottery.

**½ Credit each**

**Prerequisite: None**

**Women's Choir or Men's Choir** – The Petal High School Choral program is a comprehensive music program that excels in teaching young singers the techniques of vocal production, vocal health, ear-training, sight-reading, and music theory. The Women's Choir and Men's Choir have the opportunity to perform in many venues and present concerts throughout the year, as well as competing in the District and State Choral Festivals. Students will discuss, rehearse, and perform a wide variety of music, including classical choral works, modern modes of music, and current popular songs. Each student will be responsible for purchasing his/her uniform or concert attire. An activity fee is required and all students must purchase the choral uniform. This class fulfills the Fine Arts requirement for graduation. Taking it a second year will fulfill the PE requirement.

**1 Credit**

**Prerequisite: None**

**Performing Arts: Women (Grades 9-12)** – INNOVATIONS, the women’s show choir at Petal High School, is an advanced select group of singers/dancers. A student must audition each year. INNOVATIONS performs in the Fall Fling, Fall Showcase, Fall Sampler, Christmas Concert, Dinner Theater, and Spring Show. INNOVATIONS compete nationally in major show choir competitions. After school rehearsals are mandatory and on a weekly basis, and students must pay a fee to be involved. Opportunities for fundraising are available to offset the show choir fee. This class fulfills the Fine Arts requirement for graduation. The second year will fulfill the PE requirement.

**1 Credit**

**Prerequisite: Audition**

**Performing Arts: Mixed (Grades 9-12)** – SOUNDSATIONS, the mixed show choir at Petal High School, is an advanced select group of singers/dancers. A student must audition each year. SOUNDSATIONS performs in the Fall Fling, Fall Showcase, Fall Sampler, Christmas Concert, Dinner Theater, Spring Show, and area civic events. SOUNDSATIONS competes nationally in major show choir competitions. After school rehearsal are mandatory and on a weekly basis, and students must pay a fee to be involved. Opportunities for fundraising are available to offset the show choir fee. Audition required. This class fulfills the Fine Arts requirement for graduation. The second year will fulfill the PE requirement.

**1 Credit**

**Prerequisite: Audition**

**General Music (Grades 9-12)** – This course will introduce students to music appreciation, music literature, and music in relation to other disciplines. This course includes lecture, cooperative learning group activities, aural observations, and use of technology to research music as an art form.

**1 Credit**

**Prerequisite: None**

**Jazz Lab (Grades 9-12)** – This class is for band students with an advanced playing ability on their instrument that wish to explore the genre of jazz.

**1 Credit**

**Prerequisite: Audition required and must be enrolled in 1<sup>st</sup> period Band**

**Band (Grades 9-12)** – It is the purpose of this course to develop and improve performance skills. Quality music from different time periods will be studied each quarter. This elective is offered for those band and color guard members interested in performing concerts, festivals, football games, parades, and marching band competitions. Emphasis will be placed upon fundamentals of musicianship, marching and maneuvering, musical expression, showmanship, physical coordination, and development of discipline and character.

**1 Credit**

**Prerequisite: Audition/Band Director Recommendation**

**Introduction to Music (Grades 9-12)** – This course is a general introductory course to enhance understanding of music and music appreciation. This course includes basic music theory, musical notation, listening to a variety of styles of music, film music, music in other cultures, music composers, musical time periods, musical theater, and how music enhances our lives.

**½ Credit**

**Prerequisite: None**

**Oral Communication I (Grades 9-12)** – Oral Communication I is a course designed to improve students verbal communications skills. In this course students prepare and deliver a variety of public speeches, debates, and drama presentations. This course is mandatory for first year competitors of the Petal High School Forensics Team. All students enrolled in this course are expected to assist with speech and debate functions held at Petal High School (i.e. The Petal Fall Invitational Forensics Tournament). However, they do not have to compete in forensics if they are in a non competition class.

**1 Credit**

**Prerequisite: None**

**Oral Communication II (Grades 9-12)** - Oral Communication II is an advanced communications course designed for varsity members of the Petal High School Forensics Team. This course places an emphasis on the communicative arts as they apply to public address, debate, and oral interpretation.

**1 Credit**

**Prerequisite: Oral Communication I**

**Debate (Grades 9-12)** – This course is designed to give students who plan to participate in extracurricular speech and debate activities a more in depth knowledge of all types of debate such as Lincoln Douglas, Policy, Public Forum, and Congressional debate. They students participate in Mock congress, Mock Trial, and Academic Debate Tournaments.

**1 Credit**

**Prerequisite: Audition**

**Theater (Grades 9-12)** - This course is designed for students who want a working knowledge of theater. Students are expected to participate in school plays and other extracurricular drama activities. Most of the assignments in this course are performance based activities. Students in this course participate in solo and duo acting, play writing and directing, scene design and set building.

**1 Credit**

**Prerequisite: None**

**Introduction to Theater (Grades 9-12)** – This course is designed for students that want to know more about the world of live theater. In this course students learn the basic of theater without having to participate in any after school rehearsals. This course is a general drama course where the students learn about the history of theater and basic theater vocabulary. Student performances are limited in this course.

**½ Credit**

**Prerequisite: None**

## Electives

**Computer Science & (Grades 11-12)** – Computer Science is a broad science and technology. In this class, we will cover the history, development, and implementation of programming and its concepts such as web-based languages HTML5, CSS, and JavaScript. We will cover server side and object oriented languages such as PHP, Python, and c++. In all of these languages, we will cover the history and development of the language and how it has evolved to meet the needs of our rapidly growing technological world and infrastructure. This is an introductory course so no prior knowledge is needed.

**1 Credit**

**Prerequisite: None**

**Entrepreneurship I/II (Grades 11-12)** – Entrepreneurship is a hands-on, interactive learning program that includes the use of technology, field trips to local businesses and activities such as the SWOT Analysis and the Business Plan Competition. The curriculum covers a wide range of topics such as return on investment, supply and demand, opportunity recognition, personal finance, sales and marketing, and business ethics. The class emphasizes the connection between personal motivation and succeeding in the real world. The class teaches students to think like entrepreneurs; that is to calculate risks and to be open to learning.

**1 Credit**

**Prerequisite: Application to class**

**Entrepreneurship III/IV (Grades 11-12)** – This class is a continuation of the principles learned in the first year course and application of those principles to design, promote, sell and distribute the PHS Yearbook. Students will engage in professional selling to sell advertising space to area businesses, learn digital publishing techniques, and work with a budget in excess of \$40,000 to produce the finished product.

**1 Credit**

**Prerequisite: Application to class**

**Physical Education (Grades 9-12)** – This course will cover basic physical fitness activities that will include, but not limited to exercises that will focus on life-long fitness activities, sports appreciation, games, and other activities designed to enhance coordination, strength endurance, speed, and flexibility.

**1 Credit**

**Prerequisite: None**

**9<sup>th</sup> Grade Boys PE (Grade 9)** – 9<sup>th</sup> grade boys participating in football and basketball will need to sign up for this class.

**1 ½ credits**

**Prerequisite: Tryout for the team**

**Boys Athletics (Grades 9-12)** – Students participating in football, boys’ basketball, baseball and boys’ soccer need to enroll in this course.

**1 Credit**

**Prerequisite: Tryout for team**

**Girls Athletics (Grades 9-12)** – Students participating in girls’ basketball, girls’ soccer, fast-pitch softball, and cheerleading need to enroll in this course.

**1 Credit**

**Prerequisite: Tryout for team**

**Weightlifting (Grades 10-12)** – Students participating in football, baseball, and boys’ basketball need to enroll in this class.

**1 Credit**

**Prerequisite: Tryout for team**

**JROTC (Grades 9-12)** - The purpose of Junior Reserve Officers’ Training Corp is to instill in students the value of citizenship, service to the United States, personal responsibility, and a sense of accomplishment. Character building and civic responsibility is also presented in every JROTC class.

**1 Credit**

**Prerequisite: None**

**Driver’s Education (Grades 10-12)** – In this class, students are introduced to various aspects of the Highway Transportation System and their role and their responsibilities within that system. Students receive classroom instruction as well as in-car instruction.

**½ Credit**

**Prerequisite: Learner’s permit**

**Contemporary Health (Grades 9-12)** – This course includes all dimensions of health, including, but not limited to, community/environmental health, consumer health, disease prevention and control, human growth and development, nutrition, family life, safety and first aid, personal health, mental health, and drug abuse prevention.

**½ Credit**

**Prerequisite: None**

**Personal Finance (Grades 9-12)** – Personal Finance allows the student to explore financial decision-making and utilize skills in money management, record keeping, and banking through basic concepts of economics, insurance, credit, and other related topics.

**½ Credit**

**Prerequisite: None**