

McQueen High School Freshman Course Guide 2025-2026

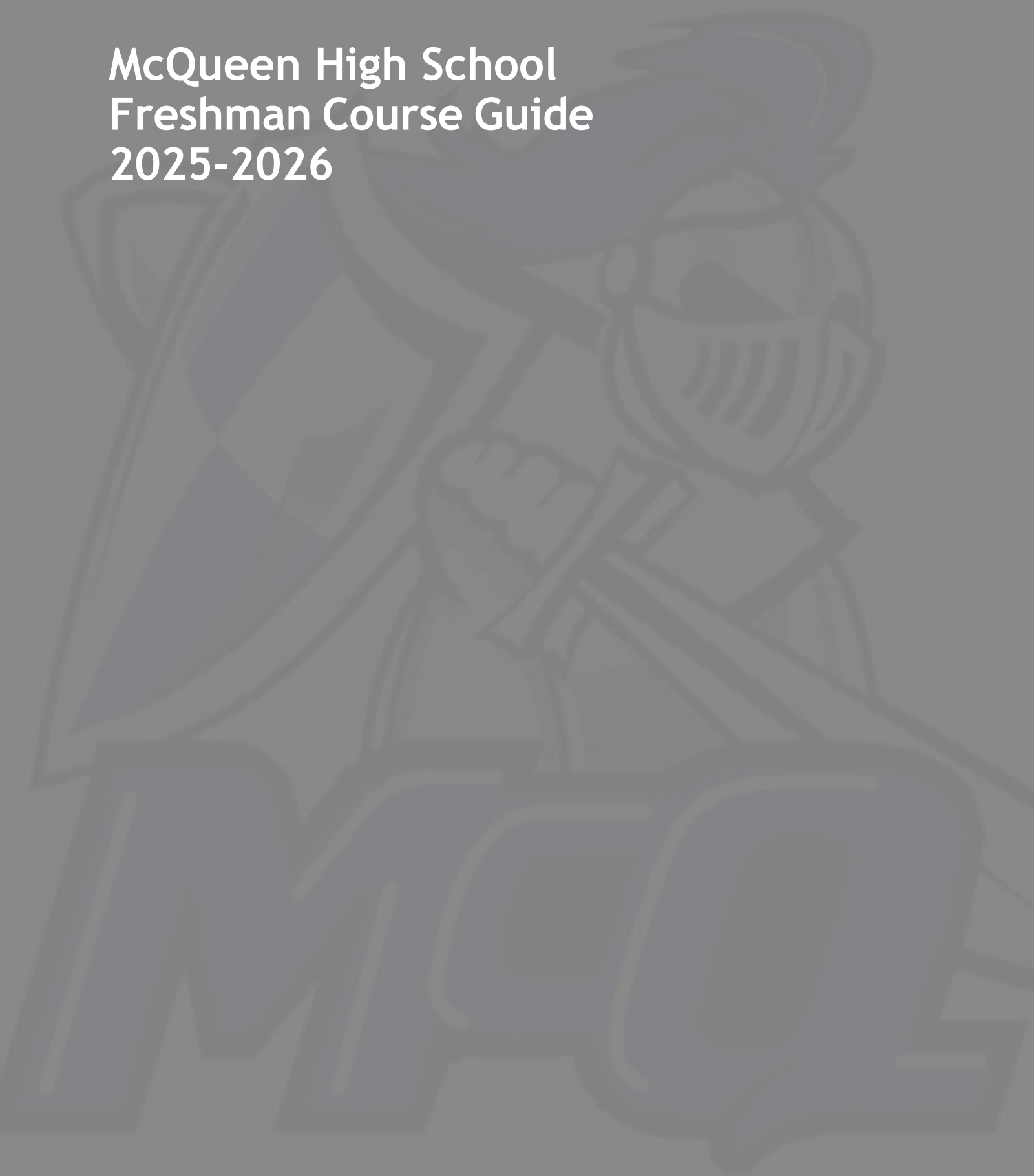


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ROBERT MCQUEEN HIGH SCHOOL ADMINISTRATION

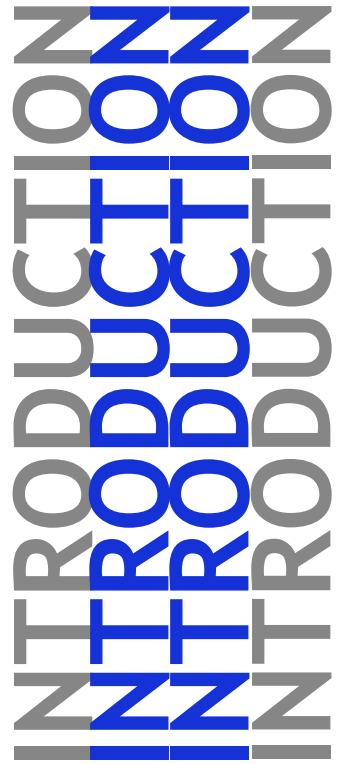
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MCQUEEN HIGH SCHOOL

WHAT FRESHMEN NEED TO KNOW...

How to Graduate from High School

1

Take the right classes

There are 4 diploma types: Standard, Advanced, College and Career Ready, and Honors. The classes you need to take are listed below, along with how many credits you have to earn in each area. When you take a class for a semester and pass it, you earn 1/2 credit. Pass both semesters of a full year course, you earn 1.0 credit. That means you have to take English all four years of high school and earn 4.0 credits in English. Three years of math are required, and so forth.

2

Course Title	WCSD Standard (2022 + grads)	State Advanced	State College and Career Ready+	WCSD Honors
English	4.0	4.0	4.0	4.0
Math (<i>Must include Algebra 1, Geometry & Algebra 2 or equivalent</i>)	3.0	4.0	4.0	4.0 ^A
Science	2.0	3.0	3.0	3.0 [†]
American Government	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5
Economics/Financial Literacy	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5
U.S. History	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0
World History/World Geography	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0
PE/HSROTC	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0
Arts/Humanities/CTE/HSROTC 5-6/7-8	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0
Computer Literacy	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5
Health	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5
World Language	-0-	-0-	-0-	2.0*
Electives	6.0	6.0	6.0	4.0
Flex Credit**	1.0	-0-	-0-	-0-
TOTALS	23.0	24.0	24.0	24.0
# of Honors Credits				8
Required Cumulative GPA		3.25 on a 4.0 scale (no rounding)	3.25 on a 4.0 scale (no rounding)	3.40 on a 4.0 scale (no rounding)

Pass the right classes

Which means all of them. GO TO SCHOOL EVERY DAY. Do your classwork and homework. TURN IN your classwork and homework. If you miss school, contact your teachers by email or talk to them as soon as you get back to school. Do your make up work. TURN IN your make work. Ask for help when you need it.

IT'S ACTUALLY NOT THAT HARD.

3

Take the right tests

Participate in the College and Career Readiness Assessment (currently the ACT) when you are a junior. Take the Civics Exam when you are a senior.

30%

One "F" in a year-long course in the ninth grade decreases the probability of eventually graduating by 30 percentage points (Gates Foundation, 2007)

MCQUEEN HIGH SCHOOL

WHAT FRESHMEN NEED TO KNOW...

...About Honors & AP Classes

Participating in honors-level programs clearly demonstrates to colleges your academic "chops." The classes proceed at a faster pace and cover material in more depth than regular classes. McQueen encourages students to challenge themselves with Honors and AP courses because advanced-level courses are worth the effort. **Studies show that students who take an AP course in high school are much better prepared for the challenging work in college, regardless of how they do on the AP test.**

However, the College Board advises, "Students should take a balanced load, one that allows them to devote the necessary time to each course. Colleges look for quality, not quantity."

Don't get in over your head!

Taking a lot of honors courses can backfire. Over-committing to honors courses leads to extreme stress, and your grades may suffer. If you have heavy extracurricular commitments or other obligations, think twice before taking on a heavy honors course load. Colleges will understand if you explain the situation in your application.



You'll have less time for other activities. Time spent on honors classes will take time away from other priorities. You may have to choose between your Honors English course and playing basketball.



Students and families must understand that the master schedule is designed to ensure that, as much as possible, students can be placed in the courses they choose in the spring. Dropping an AP or Honors course is not permitted. You can file to appeal this rule in extreme circumstances. Dropping an AP or Honors class should be a last resort, so students will be required to meet with their teacher to make a plan for success in the class, try interventions, and do everything that can be done to help you stay in the class. Appeals will not be reviewed until after the first week of school.

Students who are granted an appeal may not be guaranteed a spot in another class at McQueen. We will not overload a class to put in a student dropping an AP or Honors course. This may mean the student may have to take the class by correspondence or some other avenue at his/her own expense.

Students are advised to carefully consider their course selections in the spring.

MCQUEEN HIGH SCHOOL

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS FOR GRADE 9

Required Classes



SEMINAR

Freshman Seminar is a full-year required course for all 9th graders. This course focuses on the skills and strategies necessary for students to be successful in high school and beyond. The primary objective is to increase students' self-management, self-awareness, social awareness, relationship skills, and decision-making abilities.

Course Topics

- Goal Setting
- Academic Time
- Organization Positive
- Student Strategies
- Self-Understanding
- Proactive Behavior
- Management
- Attitude
- Character
- Education
- Leadership

Class Format

- Three days a week, students will have a period of silent reading, and then will be given a chance to work on assignments for their classes. Students MUST have something to work on quietly!
- One day a week will consist of Social and Emotional Learning (SEL) and school success lessons
- Seminar Support: Students in Algebra 1 may be pulled out of Seminar to receive support.

Social & Emotional Learning Core Competencies



Cell Phones in Seminar

Cell phones and other electronic devices are a huge distraction for students. In fact, a recent study found that students who had access to their phones (even if phones were not allowed in the class) scored a minimum of a half a letter grade lower on all assessments than their counterparts who did not have access to phones. Even if the student was not the one on the phone, the fact that her neighbor was on his phone was enough of a distraction to cause this effect. Therefore, all classes are phone-free zones! Students will be asked at the beginning of class to put phones and ear buds away. If students need to access the internet for an assignment, they will need to gain permission from their teacher and put the phone away as soon as they are done with it.

make the most of Seminar

Freshman teachers use Seminar to help students. They send make-up work, missed quizzes and tests, and missing work to the Seminar teacher for completion during Seminar. The object is to make learning mandatory, not optional!

MCQUEEN HIGH SCHOOL

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS FOR GRADE 9

Required Classes



For science, most Freshmen start in Biology, either honors or regular. A few 9th graders take Biology in Middle School and are ready for Chemistry. The course description and number for Chem can be found in the full catalog.

Biology 1-2

Course #3141-3142
Full Year = 1 credit

Course Fee: \$13

This one-year laboratory science course is intended to develop an understanding of the fundamental concepts of biological science. This course meets the Nevada Academic Content Standards for Science. The course is organized into five main topics: 1) *Interdependent Relationships in Ecosystems*; 2) *Matter and Energy in Organisms and Ecosystems*; 3) *Structure and Function*; 4) *Inheritance and Variation of Traits*; 5) *Natural Selection and Evolution*. The performance expectations for high school life science blend Disciplinary Core Ideas with both Science and Engineering Practices and Crosscutting Concepts to support students in developing an understanding of life science. In this course, students will use basic mathematical computations and read and write critically to analyze biological investigations. A common district final exam will be administered at the end of both semesters.

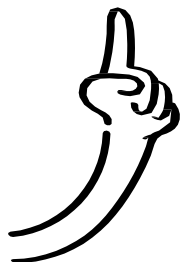
Biology 1-2 - Honors

Course #3143-3144
Full Year = 1 credit (Honors)

Course Fee: \$20

This one-year laboratory science course is intended to build a deeper understanding of the fundamental concepts of biological science. Emphasis is placed on developing critical-thinking skills through greater analysis, more complete explanations, using multiple sources when engaging in argument from evidence, and planning and carrying out advanced laboratory investigations. This course meets the Nevada Academic Content Standards for Science. The course is organized into five main topics: 1) *Interdependent Relationships in Ecosystems*; 2) *Matter and Energy in Organisms and Ecosystems*; 3) *Structure and Function*; 4) *Inheritance and Variation of Traits*; 5) *Natural Selection and Evolution*. The performance expectations for high school life science blend Disciplinary Core Ideas with both Science and Engineering Practices and Crosscutting Concepts to support students in developing an understanding of life science. Students will use advanced mathematical computations, critically read and analyze biological text, and learn from complex biological investigations. A common district final exam will be administered at the end of both semesters. In addition, students will take a constructed response assessment designed specifically for honors biology near the end of both semesters.

ADVICE FROM MCQUEEN BIOLOGY TEACHERS



- **Pay attention during class. Be respectful and courteous to your teacher and your classmates.**
- **Always ask for make-up work when you have been absent. Ask for make-up work before an absence if you know ahead of time that you will be absent.**
- **If you are having difficulty, ask your teacher for help. Tutoring is available if needed. Complete every assignment.**
- **Always try your best for all work. Accept responsibility for your grade.**
- **The midterm grade is a snapshot of your grade at that time. You can always improve that grade.**
- **The semester final is comprehensive. This means that it covers everything from the whole semester.**

MCQUEEN HIGH SCHOOL

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS FOR GRADE 9

Required Classes



All Freshmen start with English 1-2. Honors English 1-2 is for Freshmen with strong reading skills, high test scores in ELA, and good attendance. Foundations in English 1-2 is for Special Education students who can handle the regular curriculum, but need a smaller group setting. Placement in Foundations is made by the IEP team.

English 1-2

Course #1201-1202
Grade: 9
Full Year = 1 credit

Course Fee: \$5

This one-year course will provide the fundamentals of communication skills – reading, writing, speaking and listening-- using the Nevada Academic Content Standards (NVACS) to guide and focus instruction. Through the reading of a variety of high-quality contemporary works, classical literature, and literary nonfiction, students will continue to develop the reading comprehension skills and reading strategies required to be highly literate individuals. Students will engage in both short and long-term writing assignments in three main genres-- argument, informative/explanatory, and narrative--as well as use writing as a way to comprehend text. Language instruction will focus on the balance between rules and manipulating language for the purpose of craft. Research and technology will be embedded throughout the course. The course will be taught using a variety of teaching techniques from direct instruction to small group work with a focus on meaningful student discussion.

English 1-2 - Honors

Course #1203-1204
Grade: 9
Full Year = 1 credit (honors)

Course Fee: \$5

Prerequisite: Admission into English 1-2 (H) will be based on the student's previous performance in both reading and writing. Teacher recommendation, current reading level, writing samples, and standardized test scores may be considered; however, a student's motivation and desire to participate in upper level English courses should be the primary consideration.

This one-year course, designed for the highly motivated student, has strong compositional and critical thinking demands. The course will focus on reading for greater comprehension and pleasure, writing clearly and concisely for different purposes, refining grammar and fluency skills, and developing formal vocabulary. Basic skills in grammar and composition are assumed. Emphasis will also be placed on demonstrating presentation, research, and problem-solving skills through unit projects. Literature will include short text from a variety of sources as well as novels. The class stresses the writing process: writing for different purposes and audiences; grammar and sentence structure as tools for individual writing skills development; language usage; literary terms and genres; library research; vocabulary improvement; encouragement of creativity; and the development of critical thinking. Students are expected to demonstrate an above average maturity level, demonstrate a positive attitude toward education and work tasks, and be cooperative in-group learning situations.

Foundations in English 1-2

Course #7751-7752

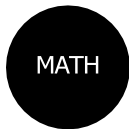
Full Year = 1 credit

This course is designed for Special Education students who have the skills to complete English 1-2, but need to be in a smaller class environment. This one-year course using the Nevada Academic Content Standards (NVACS) will provide the fundamentals of communication skills – reading, writing, speaking and listening-- necessary for college and career readiness in a twenty-first century, globally competitive society. Through close reading of a variety of high-quality contemporary works, classical literature, and literary nonfiction, students will continue to develop the reading comprehension skills and reading strategies required to be highly literate individuals. Students will engage in both short and long-term writing assignments in three main genres--argument, informative/explanatory, and narrative--as well as using writing as a way to comprehend text. Language instruction will focus on the balance between rules and manipulating language for the purpose of craft. Research and technology will be embedded throughout the course. The course will be taught using a variety of teaching techniques from direct instruction to small group work with a focus on meaningful student discussion. This course will be taught by a Special Education teacher who is HQ in English.

ADVICE FROM MCQUEEN FRESHMAN ENGLISH TEACHERS

- Come to school every day. Communicate with your teacher and the attendance office when you are absent.
- Turn in all assignments, even if they are late. Focus on learning as well as grades.
- Use Seminar time well.
- Be honest, trustworthy and kind.
- Be brave and talk with your teachers.





Most Freshmen begin with Algebra I. To support students with Algebra I, we have Lancers Excel and Seminar Support. Throughout a unit, the Algebra I teachers check to make sure that their students are getting the math. If you're struggling, you'll be pulled out of Seminar and will get help with the math you aren't understanding. You can also retake Algebra tests if you don't do well on them. Some students take Algebra I in Middle School and do really well. These students are ready for Formal Geometry. If you took Algebra I in Middle School, but don't feel confident about your Algebra skills, it's probably best to take Algebra I over again. We put 9th graders who are repeating Algebra I in the same class (we call it Algebra I X.) The teacher helps the students fill gaps in their Algebra skills, and gets them ready for Formal Geometry their sophomore year.

Algebra 1 Foundations in Algebra 1

Algebra 1 Course #2201-2202

Foundations in Algebra 1 Course #7769-7770 (for Special Education Students only - no course fee)

Course Fee: \$5

Full Year = 1 math credit

This is a one-year course designed to teach the fundamentals of elementary algebra. This course lays the foundation of knowledge and skills to meet the Nevada Academic Content Standards in Mathematics (NVACS) for high school students. A strong foundation in algebra is needed for subsequent mathematics courses. The NVACS studied include all 5 Domains: Relationships between Quantities and Reasoning with Equations, Linear and Exponential Relationships, Descriptive Statistics, Expressions and Equations and Quadratic Functions and Modeling. Throughout the year, students will be expected to develop the ability to reason and communicate mathematically, apply learned concepts to new problem-solving situations and exhibit increased confidence in their ability to solve mathematical problems.

Formal Geometry (Honors)

Course #2215-2216

Course Fee: \$5

Prerequisite: Successful completion of all semesters of Algebra 1. Admission into Formal Geometry will be based on the student's previous performance in addition to teacher recommendation, student's desire to learn and work ethic.

Full Year = 1 math credit (Honors)

This is a one-year course that will cover the following topics through emphasis on basic geometric proofs, axioms, postulates and theorems, plane geometric figures, right triangles with trigonometry (Law of Sine and Cosine), constructions, congruence and similarity, circles, coordinate and transformational geometry, inductive and deductive reasoning, three-dimensional geometry, and probability. Emphasis is on the development of deductive reasoning skills. Students will also review algebraic techniques, and work on realistic problems. An ability to think abstractly is critical for successful completion of this course.

ADVICE FROM MCQUEEN FRESHMAN MATH TEACHERS



- You will be expected to participate and experiment, share in class, and show your learning publicly - at the board, on posters, etc.
- Be open to thinking outside the box...math is **NOT** about following steps, it is about solving problems!
- Check Infinite Campus several times a week.
- Do homework.

MCQUEEN HIGH SCHOOL

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS FOR GRADE 9

Elective Classes

Electives can be a great way to explore the fine arts, career and technical education, physical education, etc. As you pick your classes, keep in mind that during your four years of high school, you have to take two years of physical education (read about PE waivers in the PE/Health catalog), one year of Humanities/Arts/CTE/JROTC 5-6, Health and Computer Literacy. There are a lot of ways to fulfill these requirements, and you can choose from various courses. Once you've completed a requirement, any additional courses you take in that area count as electives.

When you complete your course selection form, you'll be choosing three electives that would be your first choices, then listing three additional electives as alternates. There are some electives at McQueen that are very popular, like Culinary, and have limited enrollment. You may not get your first choice electives, so make sure that you list alternates that will work for you. If for some reason we cannot get a student into a first or alternate choice, we often place the student into PE or Health/Computers because we know the student will need to take these courses at some point during high school.

It's also REALLY important that you and your family understand the time required outside of the school day for some co-curricular classes. Students who participate in Marching Band, for example, spend as much as ten additional hours a week rehearsing and often travel to competitions on the weekends. Drama students are required to attend performances and rehearsals in the afternoon and evening. Choir and orchestra have required performances and rehearsals as well. All of these activities are required and count towards your grade. If you can't attend these after-school and evening activities, you shouldn't sign up for that course. Read the course descriptions carefully so that you understand what you're signing up for!

SOCIAL STUDIES ELECTIVES

World Geography

Course #4117-4118

Grade: 9, 10

Full Year = 1 credit

This course is an integrative discipline that brings together the physical and human dimensions of the world in the study of people, places, and environments. Designed within the guidelines set forth in the National Geography Standards, its subject matter is Earth's surface and the processes that shape it, the relationships between people and environments, and the connections between people and places. Students will analyze significant events, individuals, developments and demographics across the world from the perspective of multiple and varied voices for a vivid and complex picture of cultural geography. Students will be encouraged to examine and understand the inter-connectedness of the world around them. The course will focus on major world regions, including: the United States, Canada, Latin America, Europe, the former Soviet Union, Asia, Africa and Oceania. The content of this course meets the World History requirement for graduation.

Psychology 1-2

Course #4245-4246

Grade: 9-12

Full Year = 1 Humanities/Elective credit

Course Fee: \$10

This course begins with a review of the ways people have sought to explain human behavior from ancient times through today and provides an overview of the major principles and concepts of psychology, including the brain, human development, personality, learning, cognition, and the scientific method. Students will participate in dozens of activities and real-life situations designed to bring the content alive and help them apply the material to their own lives. Magazines, book excerpts, and movies will also play a role in our search for knowledge. Emphasis will be placed upon fostering feelings of empathy for others—particularly those who are mentally ill. A sociocultural approach will be explored as a means for understanding a variety of cultures and how social aspects impact us as individuals. Students will leave the class with insights into the causes of human behavior as well as a better understanding of themselves.

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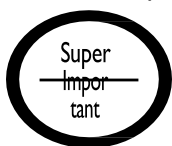
COURSE DESCRIPTIONS FOR GRADE 9

PE/HEALTH

PE classes are open to students in all grade levels. Students are expected to run in all PE classes, as cardiovascular endurance is a crucial aspect of health.

FITNESS CLASS CLOTHING REQUIREMENTS:

Students in physical education classes held at McQueen High School will receive a class t-shirt upon payment of the lab fee. Students are expected to be prepared to dress for cold weather when appropriate. In addition to wearing the McQueen PE shirt every day, students must have a pair of shorts, sweats, a sweatshirt, socks, and tennis shoes with non-marking soles in their lockers at all times. Shorts, sweat pants, and the sweat shirt must be dress code appropriate and in black or blue. Shorts must be mid-thigh or longer in length. Students may purchase shorts for \$10. It is recommended that each student have a towel in their locker. In order to register and use a gym locker, students must supply their own combination lock or purchase one from their teacher for \$10. Locks that are put on a locker that have not been registered with the teacher will be removed and the contents of the locker will also be removed. Some specialized classes may require additional uniforms (see course descriptions).



Success in PE classes is all about showing up, dressing out, and working hard. If you are absent, you'll be expected to make up that absence by participating in a physical activity, attending a game, or doing a make up during Lancers Excel.

PE (for 9th-10th graders)

Course #5101-5102
One Semester = 0.5 credit

Course Fee: \$15

This course is designed for students in grade 9 in which students are introduced to a variety of sports in three to five-week units. These sports are divided into three categories: lifetime, team, and individual. Activities may include aerobics, badminton, basketball, flag football, jogging, pickle ball, soccer, softball, tennis, track, volleyball, and weight training. Emphasis is on the teaching of rules, skills, and strategies in the instructional sports as well as the recreational aspects of team sports. There are daily warm-up activities, which include cardiovascular runs and calisthenics. Students are expected to dress out in the required PE uniform daily.

Basketball Conditioning

Course #5203-5204
One Semester = 0.5 credit

Course Fee: \$15

This course is designed for students who want to play the game of basketball to the best of their ability. The class will include in-depth instruction on the fundamental aspects of the game (shooting, dribbling, passing, defense, etc.). It is also designed to teach various team concepts, such as person-to-person defense, zone defense, offensive strategies, historical basketball facts and rules that govern the game.

Power Spinning

Course #5234-5235
One Semester = 0.5 credit

Course Fee: \$20

This course is designed to introduce the student to spinning as a lifetime aerobic activity. A typical class will include stretching warm up, cool down and a 40-minute spinning session. Topics relating to total fitness, such as target heart rate, metabolism, and nutrition will be discussed throughout the course. Additional activities will include strength training and various activities.

Introduction to Yoga

Course #5252-5255
One Semester = 0.5 credit

Course Fee: \$15
Optional Yoga Mat: \$12

This is an introduction to Yoga and the Pilates dynamic system of muscle conditioning. The course will provide a rejuvenating workout for your brain as well as for your body. The class will focus on fundamental practices of awareness, relaxation and conscious breathing which include the practice of postures, breath control, relaxation, light meditation, self-discipline and training of the mind body and concentration. Students will develop body awareness, increase vitality and peace of mind. Students will learn the names of Yoga postures and Pilates exercises. Students will be required to name postures and write their own workout. This class is combined with Power Walking, along with weight training, body strength workouts, a variety of aerobic, and functional fitness training. Writing assignments will be given to better understand the benefits of life-long wellness. Students are strongly encouraged to purchase their own yoga mats. Students are responsible for cleaning the yoga mat.

Weight Training/Conditioning

Course #5217-5218
One Semester = 0.5 credit

Course Fee: \$20

This course is designed for students who have a serious interest in beginning, intermediate and advanced weight training as well as physical conditioning. Students will learn to demonstrate safe and proper lifting techniques in a variety of lifting exercises that emphasize strength and power training. Emphasis will be placed on total body development through strength training, running, and speed and agility drills. Students interested in this course should have achieved above average grades in previous physical education courses as this course will be more physically demanding. The curriculum of this course is aligned with Nevada academic content standards.

Athletic Conditioning/Weight Training

Course #5215-5216
One Semester = 0.5 credit

Course Fee: \$20

This course is designed for those competitive athletes with previous weight training experience. This class will focus specifically on the physical and psychological needs of the competitive athlete in the areas of weight training, flexibility, plyometrics, and performance enhancement skills (i.e., relaxation, visual imagery, and goal setting). Students, with the help of the instructor, will develop and follow an individualized sport specific computerized strength-training program. Instructor approval recommended.

Power Walking

Course #5141-5142
One Semester = 0.5 credit

Course Fee: \$15

This course is designed to introduce the student to walking as a lifetime aerobic activity. Walking will be done throughout the semester with appropriate dress required for both hot and cold temperatures. Students are responsible for walking at a sufficient pace, staying with the class and following school rules/community laws at all times. Note: A variety of walking courses are used throughout the semester, they range from 2 miles to 4.5 miles in a class period. Students and parents will also be required to sign and return a "class rules and liability form" the first week of school.

Volleyball

Course #5191-5192
One Semester = 0.5 credit

Course Fee: \$15

This course will include the basic skills of volleyball: passing, setting, serving, attaching, and rules of the game. Also, other net sports will be included such as tennis, badminton, and volley-tennis. Emphasis will be on team and skill-building techniques.

Beginning Dance

Course #5245-5246
One Semester = 0.5 credit

Course Fee: \$15

This class is designed for students who have limited experience with dance. The introduction of basic dance technique, proper warm ups, vocabulary, performance presentation and choreography will be presented through various dance styles including jazz, ballet, hip hop, lyrical, musical theater and cultural. All choreography and material presented will be at the skill and interest level of the students. The curriculum of this course is aligned with Nevada Academic Content Standards for Physical Education.

Racket & Net Sports

Course #5005-5006
One Semester = 0.5 credit

Course Fee: \$15

This course is designed for students in which they are introduced to a variety of sports that are played with a racket and/or net. Individual and dual sports are emphasized, with minimal large team activities. Emphasis is on the teaching of rules, skills, and strategies in the instructional sports as well as the recreational aspects of the sports. Students will refine basic skills and specific strategies to be a more successful player as well as the expectations of working with teammates. Sports may include badminton, pickleball, handball, and tennis. There are daily warm-up activities, which include cardiovascular runs and calisthenics.

Introduction to Yoga/Power Walking

Course #5035-5036
One Semester = 0.5 credit

Course Fee: \$15

This course is designed to introduce the student to power walking and yoga, along with a variety of aerobics as life-long physical activities. Walking will be done throughout the semester/year with appropriate dress required for both hot and cold temperatures. Students are responsible for walking at a sufficient pace, staying with the class and always following school rules/community laws. This class also includes an introduction to Yoga and the Pilates dynamic system of muscle conditioning. The course will provide a rejuvenating workout for your brain as well as for your body. The class will focus on fundamental practices of awareness, relaxation and conscious breathing which include the practice of postures, breath control, relaxation, light meditation, self-discipline and training of the mind body and concentration. Students will develop body awareness, increase vitality and peace of mind. Students will learn the names of Yoga postures and Pilates exercises. Students will be required to name postures and write their own workout. Writing assignments will be given to better understand the benefits of life-long wellness. Topics relating to total fitness, such as target heart rate, metabolism, and nutrition will be discussed throughout the course. Students are strongly encouraged to purchase their own yoga mats. Students are responsible for cleaning the yoga mat.

Health

Course #5311
One Semester = 0.5 credit

This course is a one semester course which covers the following topics: body function; physical and emotional development; drugs, alcohol, and tobacco; disease and disorders; fitness and exercise; nutrition; consumer health, safety, first aid, and emergency care; family health, growth and development; environmental health and related fields; community health; health careers; human sexuality and HIV/AIDS. **Topics related to human sexuality and HIV/AIDS education are provided through the Sexuality, Health and Responsibility Education (S.H.A.R.E.) program - parent permission required.



Health is only one semester. That means that you'll have to also select another one-semester class so that you'll have a class both fall and spring semesters. McQueen has very few classes that can be taken for only one semester: Health, Computer Science & Applications, PE, or Reading for Pleasure. If you sign up for Health, you will also need to sign up for one of the other three semester-long courses.

FINE ARTS

Art 1-2

Course #6111-6112
Full Year = 1 elective credit

Course Fee: \$25

Art is an introductory class designed to give students a background for both understanding and producing quality visual art. This class follows a rigorous, comprehensive curriculum, as mandated by the Nevada Department of Education Standards for visual arts. Units in drawing on the right side of the brain, elements and principles of design, color theory, painting and multi-media may be explored. In Art 2 technical skills will be refined by working from observation, judging proportion using sighting and referencing. Artwork will incorporate basic composition and perspective. Students will demonstrate the use of the elements and principles of design, study the historical context of art, and develop their critiquing skills. Various drawing and painting materials and techniques will be used.

Ceramics 1-2

Course #6131-6132
Full Year = 1 elective credit

Course Fee: \$70

This introductory course focuses on the skills and knowledge that students need to create ceramic sculpture and pottery. Students will become familiar with the entire ceramic process from making clay to firing and glazing their work as well as the geology and chemistry of clay and glazes. Several important hand-building techniques will be taught including pinch building, coil building, slab building, and a brief introduction to wheel thrown pottery. Students will also become familiar with the elements and principles of art, as well as the work of some important ceramists and other modern sculptors.

Theater Arts 1-2

Course #6501-6502
Full Year = 1 elective credit

Course Fee: \$25

This course is designed for the beginning theatre student who is interested in learning the fundamentals of theatre arts. Instruction will include theatre etiquette, script analysis and critical response, improvisation, pantomime & movement, voice, interpretation, scene work, solo acting, and theatrical production. Course work will also include written critical analysis, playwriting, careers in theatre, theatre history, and performance projects.

Student participation in co-curricular performances is required for successful completion of the course.



Theater 1-2 is a co-curricular class. That means you'll be expected to spend time outside of the school day on class activities. Missing these activities will negatively impact your grade.

Piano 1

Course #6633-6634
Full Year = 1 elective credit

Course Fee: \$15

This course is an introduction to piano, where students will learn the foundation, fundamentals, and essential techniques to piano playing in both the solo and ensemble setting. Students will develop skills in reading sheet music, basic music theory, rhythmic and melodic dictation, ear training, Level 1 repertoire, and performance. This moderately paced curriculum is for the student who has little to none in piano playing experience, and to ultimately advance their skills onto intermediate music theory and Level 2 repertoire.

Music Theory (Honors)

Course #6607-6608
Full Year = 1 elective credit
Instructor approval required

Students will study the fundamentals of music as well as music analysis, construction, form, music technology, and the beginnings of music composition. This class is for the music student who wants to better prepare for entrance into a music program at the college level, or professional level. It is recommended for the advanced students in Orchestra, Choir and Band to take music theory. This class is also open to any student wishing to learn more about the workings and theory of music.

Beginning/Intermediate Guitar

Course #6719-6720
Full Year = 1 elective credit

Course Fee: \$25

This course is designed for students with no previous guitar experience. Students will receive guidance and direction in solving problems related to playing the guitar on a beginning level and will learn many of the different styles, skills, and techniques required to become a successful musician. Areas of concentration include correct posture, note reading, aural skills, flat picking, singing songs, rhythmic patterns, chord study, bass playing, finger picking styles, melody construction, musical forms, tablature notation, improvisation, and performing experiences.

Treble Choir

Course #6809-6810

Course Fee: \$60

Full Year = 1 elective credit

This course is the entry level for choir students.

This course is designed for students interested in singing and performing with an all treble choir. Literature ranging from traditional to contemporary will be covered. Chorus will be divided into three and four-part arrangement (SSA, SSAA). Students are eligible to audition for Advanced Choir (Intermezzo) as well as for Washoe County School District Honor Choir and Nevada All-State Choir. Students are required to participate in co-curricular rehearsals and performances beyond the school day to receive class credit. Class performances will include but are not limited to Fall, Winter, Zone, Spring, and Festival. This class may qualify for Honors credit. See the instructor for Honors requirements.

Bass Choir

Course #6807-6808

Course Fee: \$60

Full Year = 1 elective credit

This course is the entry level for choir students.

Students continue to use and refine good vocal technique to further the student's musicianship and performance skills. Students are required to participate in co-curricular rehearsals and performances beyond the school day to receive class credit. Class performances will include but are not limited to Fall, Winter, Zone, Spring, and Festival. This class may qualify for Honors credit. See the instructor for Honors requirements.



Choir is a co-curricular class. Choir students spend time outside of the school day rehearsing and performances can be on the weekend and in the evening. Missing these activities will negatively impact your grade.

Concert Orchestra

Course #6641-6642

Course Fee: \$35

Prerequisite: Middle School Advanced Orchestra or instructor's approval

Full Year = 1 elective credit

Concert Orchestra offers progressing level instruction for 9th grade students on violin, viola, cello, and double bass. Students will solidify their understanding of the elements of music through performance and identifying relationships between music, other disciplines, and daily life. Emphasis will be placed on expanding technique through musical community. Students will be required to perform in concerts during and/or after school wearing the ensemble's designated attire. Out of school rehearsals may be required. Other events such as honor ensembles, Solo & Ensemble Festival, and All-State Orchestra may be required per teacher's directive. For an annual rental fee of \$50, school instruments are available for students who qualify.

Eclectic Styles Ensemble

Course #6625-6626

Course Fee: \$35

Prerequisite: Participation in an 8th Grade orchestra program, or by instructor's approval. 9th Grade who wish to participate in this course MUST be enrolled in Concert Orchestra as well.

Full Year = 1 elective credit (Honors credit available for 10th-12th graders who complete additional requirements)

Eclectic Styles Orchestra is a year-long course for 10th graders, 11th graders, and 12th graders. This course is also available for all 9th grade students simultaneously enrolled in Concert Orchestra. Students are encouraged to enroll concurrently in a second orchestra ensemble. Students will augment and connect musical knowledge, understanding, and performances through music literature including (but not limited to) American Roots music, blues, classical, fiddle, jazz, rock and non-Western musical styles. Students will be required to perform in concerts during and/or after school wearing the ensemble's designated attire. Out of school rehearsals may be required.

Other events such as honor ensembles, Solo & Ensemble Festival, and All-State Orchestra may be required per teacher's directive. For an annual rental fee, school instruments are available for students who qualify. Other instruments may join per instructor approval.



Orchestra courses are co-curricular classes. Orchestra students spend time outside of the school day rehearsing, and performances can be on the weekends and evenings. Missing these activities will negatively impact your grade.

Band

INFORMATION AND CONDITIONS FOR STUDENTS OF THE BAND PROGRAM:

- The band program at McQueen consists of the following courses: Marching Band/Wind Ensemble, Marching Band/Concert Band, Color Guard, Jazz Band, and Band: Percussion.
- Students must be enrolled in any of the above courses for the entire year.
- Members of the Marching Band/Wind Ensemble, Marching Band/Concert Band, Percussion and Color Guard merge to form the McQueen High School Marching Band. Marching Band meets for 12 to 14 weeks in the first quarter of the school year outside of the normal school day.
- Students in Color Guard and Band: Percussion **MUST** Participate in the Marching Band Program. Students will earn a .5 credit PE exemption for their participation in addition to the fine arts credit for their class.
- Students in Marching Band/Wind Ensemble and Marching Band/Concert Band are **STRONGLY ENCOURAGED** to participate in the Marching Band Program. Students who participate will earn a .5 credit PE Waiver for their participation, in addition to the fine arts credit for their class. Students not participating in Marching Band will register for an alternate course with different grading expectations during the fall semester.
- Students may NOT be simultaneously enrolled in Color Guard and Band: Percussion.
- Students playing percussion instruments should sign up for Band: Percussion. These students should only sign up for Concert Band or Wind Ensemble if they also play a wind instrument.
- The Jazz Band and Wind Ensemble require an audition for placement in the group.
- Students auditioning for Wind Ensemble, or the Jazz Band **MUST** currently be a member of a McQueen music ensemble (i.e. Wind Ensemble, Concert Band, Orchestra, or any of the Choir ensembles), or be an incoming Freshman. The only exception to this guideline would be if, after auditions, specific instrumentation is required, and no qualified member is available. In this instance, a student who is not currently enrolled in another McQueen music performance group may fill the vacancy.
- Course Fees include participation in Marching Band for Marching Band/Wind Ensemble, Wind Ensemble/Concert Band, Band: Percussion, and Color Guard. Additionally, WCSD district festival, in county travel, ordering music, etc. are paid by the fees collected for all classes.
- **ADDITIONAL FEES:** Fees in addition to what is listed for each course may be assessed for participation in extra activities such as Winter Guard, Indoor Percussion, and/or overnight/out-of-state trips. Students who are not in an ensemble who participate in Marching Band may also be assessed a fee ranging between \$500-\$600.
- Concert dress is all black.
- Students must have their own instrument or use an available school instrument upon payment of a \$50 rental fee.

Concert Band

Course #6703-6704
Full Year = 1 elective credit

Course Fee: \$100

This course is designed to provide instrumentalists with an experience in all aspects of the modern wind band technique. The Concert Band will consist of students who are at a playing level of beginner to intermediate and will perform appropriate standard wind band repertoire. Most rehearsal will take place during required classroom time. There may be after school rehearsals and performances throughout the school year. All members of the Concert Band are eligible to audition and participate in the Washoe County Honor Band, Nevada All-State Honor Band, and Solo and Ensemble Festivals.

Note: Students who choose Concert Band are not required to participate in Marching Band. Students in Concert Band (6703-6704) will NOT earn a PE Exemption.

Marching Band/Concert Band

Course #6889-6890
Full Year = 1 elective credit

Course Fee: \$600

This course is designed to encompass all facets of today's accepted standards of Marching Band and Concert Band. It will focus on the development of musical technique, sight-reading, and ensemble performance. There are many co-curricular activities that make up a band program. Students may be required to attend practices and performances outside of the regular school day in order to receive credit for the class. Performances may take place throughout the entire school year. Students in the Marching Band may be required to attend a band camp held in the summer prior to school starting. Students earning credit in the course may also earn a .5 credit PE exemption during the fall semester.

Wind Ensemble

Course #6711-6712
Full Year = 1 elective credit
Prerequisite: **By audition only** and instructor approval.

Course Fee: \$100

This course is designed to provide instrumentalists with an experience in all aspects of the modern wind band technique. The Wind Ensemble will consist of students who are at a playing level of upper intermediate to advanced level and will perform appropriate standard wind band repertoire. Exploration of various styles, theory, and techniques of wind instrument performance will be offered. There may be required after school rehearsals and performances throughout the school year. All members of the Wind Ensemble are eligible to audition and participate in the Washoe County Honor Band, Nevada All-State Honor Band, and Solo and Ensemble Festivals.

Note: Students who choose Wind Ensemble are not required to participate in Marching Band. Students in Wind Ensemble (6711-6712) will NOT earn a PE Exemption.

Marching Band/Wind Ensemble

Course #6691-6692
Full Year = 1 elective credit
Prerequisite: **By audition only** and instructor approval.

Course Fee: \$600

This course is designed to encompass all facets of today's accepted standards of Marching Band and Wind Ensemble. It will focus on the development of musical technique, sight-reading, and ensemble performance. Many co-curricular activities make up a band program. The responsibilities of the Marching Band may include performing as a pep band at football games, as well as performing for various school and civic performances such as pep rallies, assemblies, and parades. Students may be required to attend all practices and performances outside of the regular school day to receive credit for the class. Performances will take place throughout the entire school year. Students in the Marching Band must attend a band camp held in the summer prior to school starting. This is an intermediate to advanced level band class and students may be required to audition in order to be placed in Wind Ensemble. Students earning credit in the course may also earn a .5 credit PE exemption during the fall semester.

Jazz Band

Course #6707-6708
Full Year = 1 elective credit
Prerequisite: By audition only.

Course Fee: \$100

This course provides group instruction for band students who may or may not have previously been enrolled in an instrumental jazz music program. Theory and practice in the various jazz genres are provided. Students will further develop and enrich their knowledge and level of performance on his/her individual instrument. Students enrolled in this course are required to participate in all performances and rehearsals that occur during or after the normal school day. There are a limited number of school-owned instruments available for student use. This course may be repeated for elective credit. Students are required to audition for the WCSD Honor Band (there is no penalty if students are not selected.)

Marching Band: Color Guard

Course #6751-6752
Full Year = 1 elective credit

Course Fee: \$500

This class will provide color guard students with a comprehensive study of all aspects of color guard technique and performance. Studies will include dance, flag, and other appropriate equipment technique. There may be required after school rehearsals and performances throughout the school year. All members of the Color Guard are members of the band program and are expected to perform at all Marching Band performances. All members of the Color Guard may be required to participate in Marching Band. Students in the Marching Band may be required to attend a band camp held in the summer prior to school starting. Students earning credit in the course may also earn a .5 credit PE exemption during the fall semester.

Marching Band: Percussion

Course #6715-6716
Full Year = 1 elective credit

Course Fee: \$550

This class will provide the percussion students with a comprehensive study of all aspects of percussion music and performance. Studies will include snare drum, mallets, drum set, auxiliary instruments, and styles of percussion from world music to jazz. There may be required after school rehearsals and performances throughout the school year. All members of the Percussion Ensemble are members of the band program and are expected to perform at all band performances. All members of the Percussion Ensemble may be required to participate in marching band. Students in the Marching Band may be required to attend a band camp held in the summer prior to school starting. This is an intermediate to advanced level band class. Students earning credit in the course may also earn a .5 credit PE exemption during the fall semester.



All Band classes are co-curricular classes. During Marching Season in the Fall, Marching Band students are expected to practice after school each day. Practices and performances often take place on the weekend or in the evening. You'll be expected to travel to competitions as well. Missing these activities will negatively impact your grade.

ENGLISH ELECTIVES

Reading for Pleasure

Course #1361-1362
Grade: 9, 10, 11, 12
Full Year = 1 elective credit

“Reading for Pleasure” is an elective and does NOT meet English course requirements for graduation. Students will read and write reviews for texts in a variety of genres and give short presentations. Minimum page counts must be read for certain grade expectations (e.g., 1500 pages per quarter for an “A”). An average of four days per week of silent sustained reading is required (attendance is mandatory). Students may **not** read books/texts that are **required** for other classes as credit for this class (**no double-dipping**). Students must have a parent/guardian’s written permission to read each book, as many books will not have been reviewed by your teacher. Students may check out books from local libraries or purchase their own texts. Students may repeat this course once for credit upon successful completion the prior year.

Creative Writing

Course #1323-1324
Grade: 9, 10, 11, 12
Full Year = 1 elective credit

In this course students will read widely and deeply from among a broad range of high-quality, increasingly challenging literary and informational texts to analyze key details and author’s purpose. Through the study of craft and structure, students will produce clear and coherent writing by planning, revising, editing, rewriting, or trying a new approach, focusing on addressing what is most significant for a specific purpose and audience.

Speech and Debate

Course #6411-6412
Full Year = 1 elective credit

Course Fee: \$75
\$75 Transportation Fee

Course Content: This course will provide students with basic knowledge of academic debate and competitive speaking. The course will include instruction in ten types of formal speeches, three categories of debate, and Student Congress. Students will review and analyze famous speeches of the past, as well as write and analyze speeches of today. Students will evaluate modern speakers and will study current events. Participation in speech and debate tournaments, outside of school hours, is required. Students who enroll in Speech and Debate must have two teachers sign a recommendation form.

Course Goals: Students will develop a knowledge of debate theory and competitive speaking, and will participate in interscholastic competition. Students will learn logical structure, reasoning, and analysis of argumentation.



Speech & Debate is a co-curricular class. Debate tournaments are often on weekends and evenings. Missing these activities will negatively impact your grade.

CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION

Computer Science & Applications

Course #8344
1 Semester = 0.5 credit

This course is an introduction to computer science and applications intended to “prepare young learners to become computational thinkers who understand how today's digital tools can help solve tomorrow's problems.” (ISTE, 2018). CS & A will include at least 50% computer science principles and computational thinking. The balance of the course will integrate skills in digital and media literacy and digital citizenship.



Computer Science & Applications is only one semester. That means that you'll have to also select another one-semester class so that you'll have a class both fall and spring semesters. McQueen has very few classes that can be taken for only one semester: Health, Computer Science & Applications, PE, or Reading for Pleasure. If you sign up for Computer Science & Applications, you will also need to sign up for one of the other three one- semester courses.

Culinary Arts I (Level 1)

Course #10313-10314
Prerequisite: None
1 Year = 1 credit

Course Fee: \$60

This course provides students with an introduction to the principles and techniques of commercial food production. The classroom is patterned after industry with emphasis on the standards of food service occupations. Students acquire basic skills in food handling, food and nutritional science, equipment technology, cooking methods, kitchen safety, sanitation procedures, and employability skills. The appropriate use of technology and industry-standard equipment is an integral part of this course.

Building Trades in Construction Technology I (Level 1)

Course #31601-31602
1 Year = 1 credit

Course Fee: \$40

This course will introduce students to the construction industry. Through a hands-on approach, each student will develop basic understanding in the areas of construction: safety, blueprint reading, finish carpentry, framing, fundamental design techniques, identifying material properties and hardware, and applying basic principles of plumbing, electrical and manufacturing processes. Practical application of safe work habits and the correct use of tools and equipment will be emphasized throughout this course. The appropriate use of technology and industry-standard equipment is an integral part of this course.

Military Science I

Course #33901-33902

Course Fee: \$38

1 Year = 1 credit

This course introduces students to the fundamentals of Military Science. Areas of emphasis include introduction to JROTC, foundation of leadership, citizenship, wellness, physical fitness, and first aid. Students will also gain experience in specific branch topics related to their program.

Additional Information: JROTC prepares students for life after high school in civilian and military careers. Employers look for the skills and individual attributes of leadership, ability to work well with small groups, and personal discipline developed through JROTC. Areas of emphasis include foundation of leadership, citizenship, wellness, and physical fitness. JROTC students can also choose to compete on several teams at the district, state, or national level. Teams include Air Rifle, Cyber Security, Military Drill, and Physical Fitness.



JROTC is a co-curricular class. You will be expected to attend parades, marches, and other events outside of the school day

WORLD LANGUAGES

World Language Level 1-2 Courses

French 1-2 – Course #4551-4552
Spanish 1-2 – Course #4611-4612
German 1-2 – Course #4681-4682
Full Year = 1 credit

This course is an introductory level to world language learning. An eclectic approach to language teaching will be used and will include the Core Practices of Language Learning: 90% target language instruction, true interpersonal activities, interpretive tasks using authentic resources, teaching grammar in context, using a backwards design planning model, and providing meaningful and effective feedback. As suggested within the Nevada Academic Content Standards for World Languages Framework, this course integrates the three modes of communication for world language education: Interpretive Listening and Reading, Interpersonal Communication, and Presentational Speaking and Writing. Students will be engaged in activities that stimulate communication, promote critical thinking, and enhance their literacy skills as well as their global cultural awareness. All world languages are performance based and align with the ACTFL (American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages) Proficiency scale (Novice-Low to Novice-Mid Range).

World Language Level 3-4 Courses

French 3-4 – Course #4553-4554
Spanish 3-4 – Course #4613-4614
German 3-4 – Course # 4683-4684
Full Year = 1 credit

This course is a continuation of world language level 1-2. An eclectic approach to language teaching will be used and will include the Core Practices of Language Learning: 90% target language instruction, true interpersonal activities, interpretive tasks using authentic resources, teaching grammar in context, using a backwards design planning model, and providing meaningful and effective feedback. As suggested within the Nevada Academic Content Standards for World Languages Framework, this course integrates the three modes of communication for world language education: Interpretive Listening and Reading, Interpersonal Communication, and Presentational Speaking and Writing. Students will be engaged in activities that stimulate communication, promote critical thinking, and enhance their literacy skills as well as their global cultural awareness. All world languages are performance based and align with the ACTFL (American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages) Proficiency scale (Novice-High to Intermediate-Low Range).

Spanish Literacy 3-4

Course #4653-4654
Prerequisite: Native/heritage Spanish.
Full Year = 1 credit

The purpose of this course is to enable students whose heritage language is Spanish to become bilingual; develop, maintain, and enhance proficiency in their heritage language. The emphasis of this class will be on grammar, speaking, listening, reading and writing. This class will provide students detailed grammar explanation and practical exercises as well as new vocabulary that will teach them standard Spanish and make them aware of certain dialects and other variations from standard Spanish. In addition, this class will improve students' ability to express themselves in written Spanish by reviewing and practicing verb forms and tense usage. Spanish for Spanish Speakers 3-4 qualifies for World Language Credit.