

James Madison High School

Home of the Warhawks

School Year 2025-2026



**This program will be
recorded and posted on the
JMHS website.**

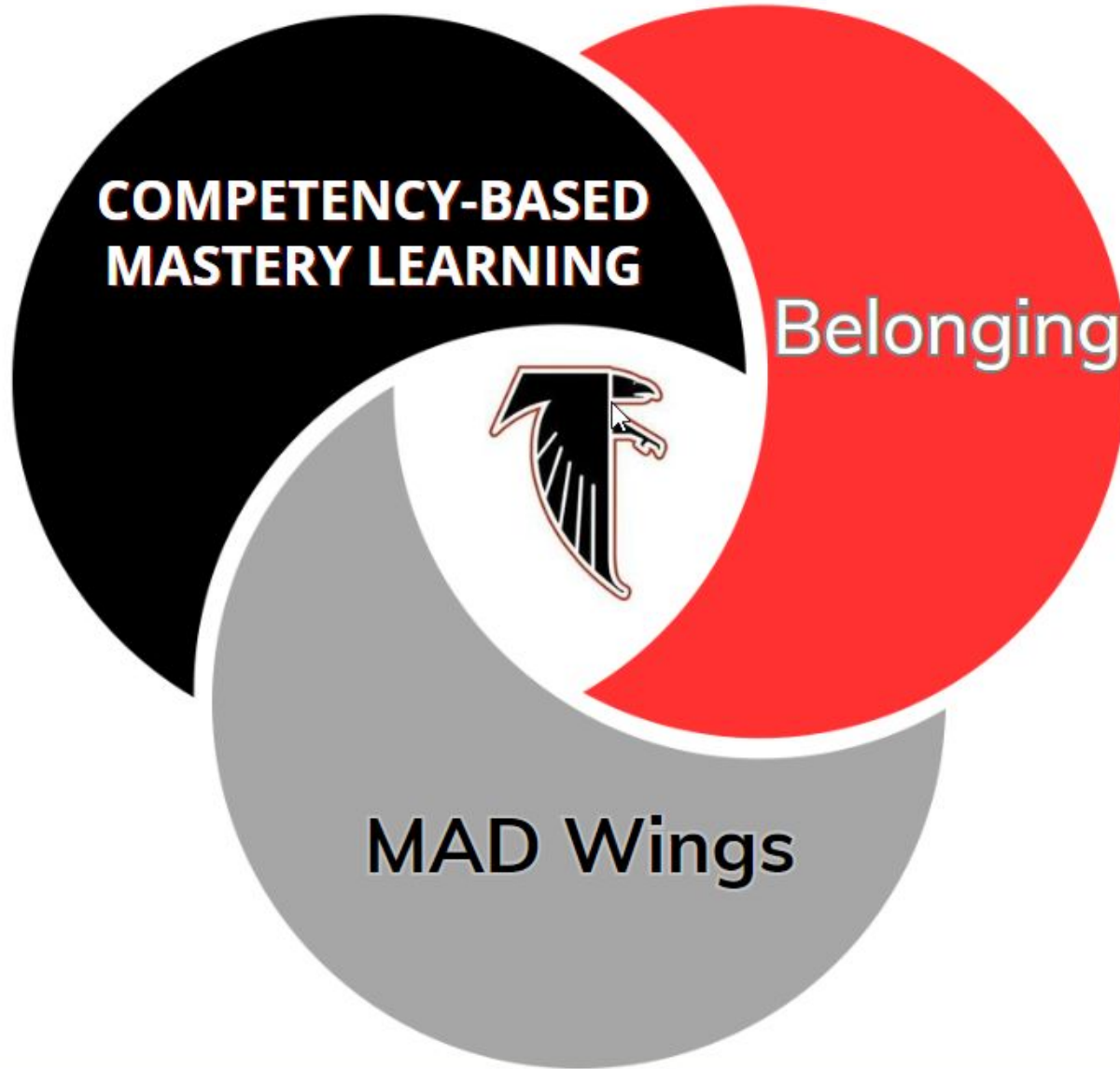
PRINCIPAL'S WELCOME



Mrs. Liz Calvert
Principal



WHAT WE DO MATTERS





Curriculum Night

Overview of High School Curriculum



- Overview of the high school curriculum from academic department chairs and teachers
- Information and advice from some of Madison's School Counseling Department
- Live Q & A - Please use the question function



Assistant Principals



Elise Fasick
ESOL Levels 1-4



Steve Plunkett
Students: A-G



***Bonnie
Robertson***
**Special
Education**



Michael Rath
Students: H-N



John Kenny
**Director of Student
Activities**



Michelle Taylor
Students: O-Z

Grades 10-12

All students are expected to enroll in seven (7) courses each year. Under certain circumstances students may take more or less. A traditional schedule would include:

- English
- History
- Math
- Science
- Electives (3)
 - World Language ?
 - PE- rising 10th
 - Other



Order of Content Areas

- 1. Social Studies - Mr. Blanchet**
- 2. Science - Mr. Hazen**
- 3. English - Ms. Payne**
- 4. Humanities Team - Mr. Fernandez, Ms. Keel**
- 5. World Languages - Ms. Rincon**
- 6. Math - Ms. Moy**

SOCIAL STUDIES DEPARTMENT

Dan Blanchet
Department Chair

Steve Plunkett
Administrator



CORE SKILLS FOR MASTERY OF HISTORY

CONTEXTUALIZATION

CONSTRUCTING AN ARGUMENT

SUPPORTING AN ARGUMENT WITH EVIDENCE

ANALYSIS

GEOGRAPHY (Physical and Human)

IDENTIFYING CONTINUITY AND CHANGE OVER TIME

IDENTIFYING CAUSE AND EFFECT

COMPARISON AND CONTRAST

SOCIAL STUDIES PROGRAM OVERVIEW

Core Courses

Year	Course Options
10th Grade	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● World History 2 Standard or Honors● World History 2 Humanities Honors (paired w/ English 10 Honors)● AP World History● AP Human Geography
11th Grade	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● US/VA History Standard or Honors● AP US History
12th Grade	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● US/VA Government Standard or Honors● AP Government

**Note - All FCPS students must also take an economics or personal finance course either in-person or online as a graduation requirement*

SOCIAL STUDIES PROGRAM OVERVIEW

Elective Courses*

Offered to Grade Levels	Course Name	Level
10, 11, 12	Combating Intolerance	Standard
10, 11, 12	AP African-American Studies	AP
11, 12	AP Psychology	AP
11, 12	AP Micro/Macro Economics**	AP
11,12	AP Human Geography	AP

Notes:

**Elective courses do not replace core Social Studies courses*

***AP Economics satisfies the personal finance graduation requirement*

Which Level is Right for Me?

Standard (on-level)

- Short readings (articles, primary sources, textbook excerpts) done in class
- Formative quizzes to check understanding
- Assessments are usually a combination of MC and short answer/short paragraph written responses
- Significant class time to complete assignments, what isn't finished during class is HW

Honors

- Some independent reading, note-taking, outside of class
- Formative quizzes to check understanding
- Assessments may be combination of MC and/or written prompts
- Emphasis on longer Multi-paragraph & DBQ essays
- Multiple group and independent projects
- Class time is often collaborative and used to apply knowledge

Advanced Placement

- Frequent independent reading, note-taking, and completion of work outside of class
- Formative quizzes to check understanding of independent work
- Longer, structured, timed in-class essays (SAQ, LEQ, DBQ)
- Timed MC tests with stimulus-based questions requiring interpretation of historical documents
- Not all material assessed is reviewed in class

Which AP is Right for Me?

AP Human Geography

- Students explore and analyze the impact of land, climate, natural resources, bodies of water and other geographic features on patterns of human interaction, migration, and societal development
- Skills include analyzing maps and data to identify patterns, making inferences and predictions about human behavior, and understanding how geographic factors impact the successes/ failures of human societies
- Assessments include stimulus-based multiple choice and structured, short free response questions
- Independent reading load is approximately 15-20 pages a week

AP World History (Modern)

- Students explore and analyze historical content (including events, trends and people) from the modern world, approximately 1200-Present
- This is a global studies course and follows the chronological history and development of the modern world
- Skills include analysis of historical documents, understanding historical context, recognizing patterns of continuity and change over time, and understanding historical cause and effect
- Independent reading load is approximately 15-20 pages a week

Things to Consider

- **AP World = more traditional, chronological exploration of modern history**
- **APHUG = an analytical study of how geography impacts human behavior**
- **More timed, structured essay writing in AP World than in APHUG**
- **Writing, MC questions and skills taught in AP World closely reflect those found in the AP US History curriculum**
- **AP Human Geography satisfies a core history course credit for World History 2 in 10th grade, but students taking it in 11th or 12 grade will receive elective credit.**
- **Our goal is to group AP Human Geography students by class (i.e. create sections for 9th/10th graders and sections for 11th/12th graders)**

SCIENCE DEPARTMENT



Scott Hazen
Department Chair

Mike Rath
Administrator



Traditional Science Course Sequence

9th Grade

Biology 1 - On Level or Honors

10th Grade

Chemistry 1 - On Level or Honors*
Earth Science 1

* Highly Recommend Honors Algebra 2 Corequisite

11th Grade*

ES 2: Adv. Topics
in Earth Science

On Level

AP Biology

AP Chemistry

BIO 2: Anatomy
& Physiology

AP Environmental

Physics 1

On Level or AP

*11th and 12th Grade Courses Have Prerequisites
and Some Have Corequisites

12th Grade*

ES 2: Adv. Topics
in Earth Science

On Level

AP Biology

AP Chemistry

BIO 2: Anatomy
& Physiology

AP Environmental

Physics 1

On Level or AP

AP Physics 2

AP Physics C

Non-Traditional Science Courses



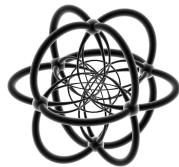
Forensic Science

On Level

Learn about how science is used to evaluate and interpret evidence found at crime scenes.

****NOT a science credit, ONLY elective credit****

Prerequisite: Biology 1 & Chemistry 1



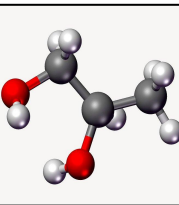
Geospatial Analysis DE

-credit earned through James Madison University-

Learn about how geospatial technology is used to examine, interpret, and visualize data about the Earth's surface along with career applications.

****NOT a science credit, ONLY elective credit****

Prerequisite: Biology 1 & Chemistry 1



Common Science Skills Grades 9 - 12

Analyzing & Interpreting Data

EX: Using/making a graph or data table to answer questions/solve problems

Developing & Using Models

EX: Using and creating visual representations of scientific concepts

Lab Skill Argumentation

EX: Using lab evidence with scientific reasoning to defend a claim

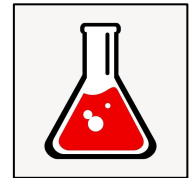
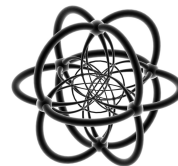
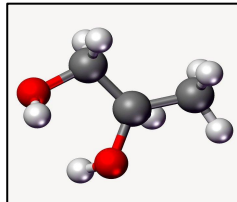
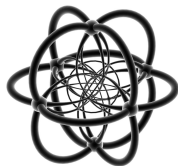
Creative & Critical Thinking

EX: Determining which data, equations, and variables are needed to solve for specific answers or to explain certain scenarios and relationships

Content Readiness

EX: Using previously learned knowledge to demonstrate understanding

The Remaining Skills are Content Specific

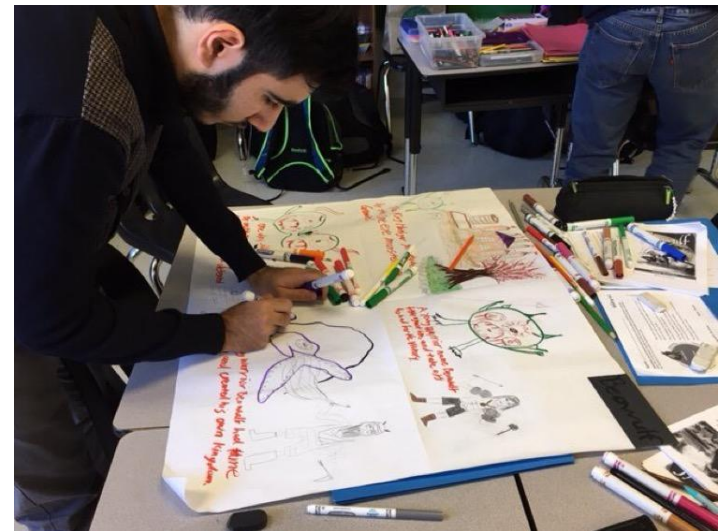


ENGLISH DEPARTMENT



Sarah Payne
Department Chair

Michelle Taylor
Administrator



ENGLISH SKILLS

Communication	Reading Foundations	Reading Analysis	Research	Writing Content	Writing Mechanics
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What Will Students Do?

SKILL	STANDARD EXAMPLE	HONORS EXAMPLE
WRITING CONTENT → Prewriting for a Paper	Students work in-class through a step-by-step outline using teacher-guided examples; students conference one-on-one with the teacher while working through this process.	After a guided lesson on thesis statements, students work independently to create a thesis and work on an outline during 1 class period; during the next class, they workshop their outlines with their writing group.
READING ANALYSIS → Looking for Themes in a Literary Text	Students read <i>Fahrenheit 451</i> in class together and brainstorm thematic topics in small groups. As a class, the group generates themes based on a whole-group discussion.	Students read <i>All the Light We Cannot See</i> outside of class and have a socratic discussion about themes that they have identified over the course of their reading.

OPTIONS

9TH GRADE

English 9	English 9 Honors
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10TH GRADE

English 10	English 10 Honors	English 10 Humanities	English 10: AP Seminar
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11TH GRADE (Reading & Writing SOLs)

English 11	English 11 Honors	AP Language & Comp
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12TH GRADE

English 12	English 12 Honors	AP Literature & Comp	English 12 Comp DE
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ELECTIVES

Broadcast	Creative Writing	Journalism	Photojournalism
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English 10: AP Seminar

What is AP Seminar?

- AP Seminar helps a wide range of students build foundational writing, critical thinking, analytic writing, collaboration, and academic research skills
- Students analyze a variety of texts, writing explanatory and argumentative essays, conducting research, working in teams, and presenting

What Skills Do You Learn?

- Reading and analyzing articles, studies, nonfiction articles, and literature
- Gathering and combining information from sources
- Viewing an issue from multiple perspectives
- Crafting arguments based on evidence
- Making connections between literature and the real world

What's the AP Exam like?

- The exam is three parts (two completed during the school year)
- Team Project and Presentation, Individual Research-Based Essay and Presentation, and End-of-Course Exam

English 10 Honors vs. English 10: AP Seminar

English 10 Honors

- English course that explores literature from diverse cultures and historical periods, focusing on themes like human rights and power. Students will analyze authors' choices and develop research and argumentation skills.
- Reading and writing outside of class time will be expected on a regular basis
- Course is structured around literary texts and supported by poems, short stories, nonfiction, and research
- Assessments are rigorous and ask students to analyze literature at a deep level

English 10: AP Seminar

- Interdisciplinary course that encourages students to demonstrate critical thinking, collaboration, and academic research skills on topics of their choosing.
- English 10: AP Seminar is an AP course, and as such, students are expected to complete tasks at home and come prepared for class
- College Board due dates are strictly enforced; teachers will provide support to help students meet deadlines
- Students need to collaborate outside of class for group performance tasks, in addition to class time
- Students are expected to consistently obtain feedback on their writing and analysis to improve

The Differences between Honors & AP English

	Honors	AP
11	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Medium pace● English 11 is a survey course of American literature● Reading and writing outside of class time will be expected on a regular basis● Assessments are more rigorous and ask students to analyze literature at a deep level	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Fast pace● Course covers rhetoric, advanced argumentation, and composition skills● Students exclusively read nonfiction● Students should have strong writing skills, curiosity about “real-world” issues, and a desire to read complex texts
12	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Medium pace● English 12 is a world literature course● Reading and writing outside of class time will be expected on a regular basis● Assessments are more rigorous and ask students to analyze literature at a deep level	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Fast pace● Students will read literature from the 16th to the 21st century● Students will evaluate elements of the human condition in literature● Students will analyze literature for its social, cultural, and historical influences and implications

English 12 Composition Dual Enrollment

- Dual Enrollment provides opportunity for students to earn college credit for ENG 111 and 112 through NVCC
- Introduces and prepares students to critical processes and fundamentals of writing in academic and professional contexts

Humanities

Ginny Keel
English Teacher

Miguel Fernandez
History Teacher



ROY ROSENZWEIG
Center FOR
History AND
New Media



SPECIAL COMPETITIVE
STUDIES PROJECT

Humanities 10 Program

An interdisciplinary learning experience wherein students make meaning, APPLY knowledge and skills, and generate new knowledge in innovative and collaborative ways.

English 10 Honors

World History 2
Honors

- Project-based
- Thematic Units
- Research Driven
- Student Choice on Direction of Research
- Teacher Support Team
- Students Track and Document Growth

Humanities Skills & Assessments

Humanities Skill:

Planning and Problem-Solving

(In addition to English 10 HN and World History 2 HN Skills)

Assessed through projects

Assessment Example:

Theme: What's the "Matter" with Nuclear Technology?

Project: Students research the history of nuclear technology in order to participate in a **Model UN Style Simulation** that evaluates nuclear technology's impact on the modern world.

Field Trip: UMD Nuclear Research Reactor

Guest Speakers: CIA and Diplomatic Security Service for the US
Department of State

Humanities: Simulation Day!

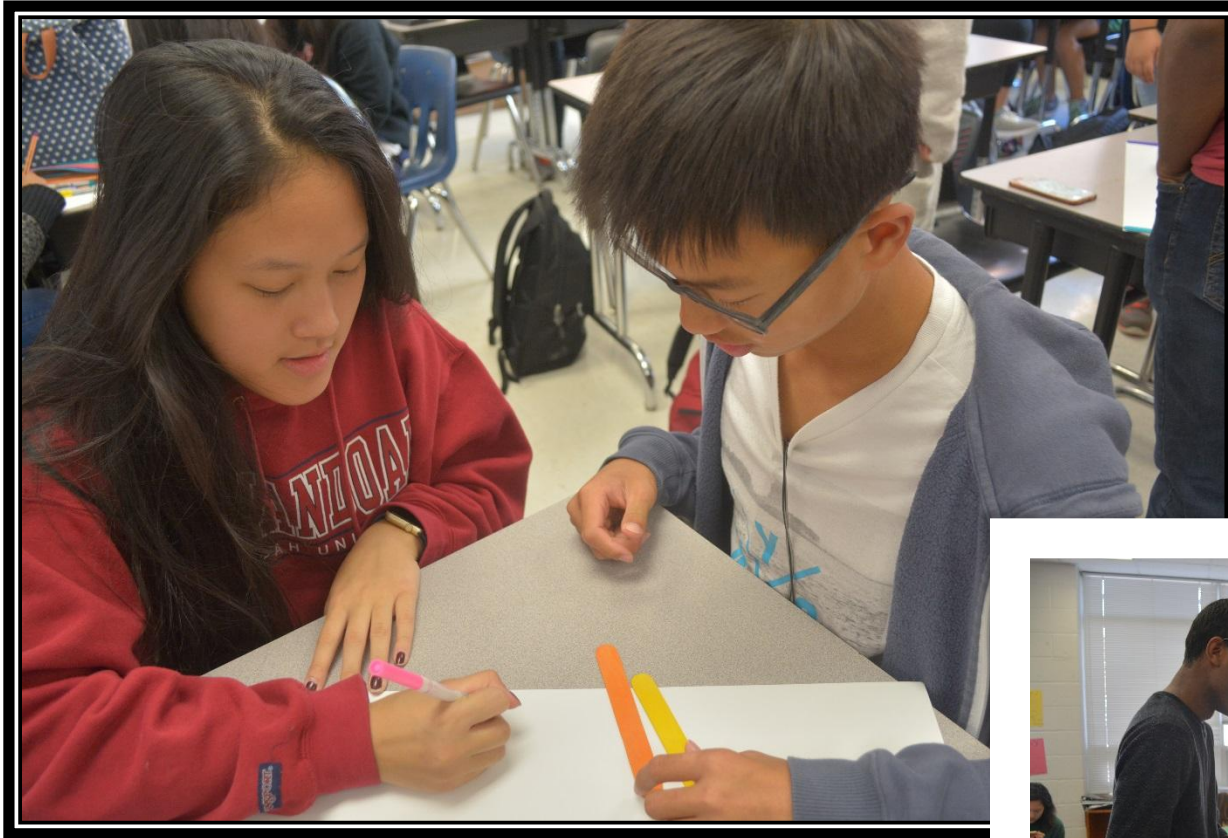


ROY ROSENZWEIG
Center FOR
History AND
New Media



SPECIAL COMPETITIVE
STUDIES PROJECT

WORLD LANGUAGE DEPARTMENT



Carmen Rincon
Department Chair

Elise Fasick
Administrator



LANGUAGE COURSE OFFERINGS

- French Levels 1, 2, 3, 4HN, 5HN, AP
- Latin 1, 2, 3, 4HN, AP
- Spanish 1, 2, 3, 4HN, 5HN, AP
- Spanish for Heritage Speakers 1, 2, 3

Requirements
for Advanced
Diploma

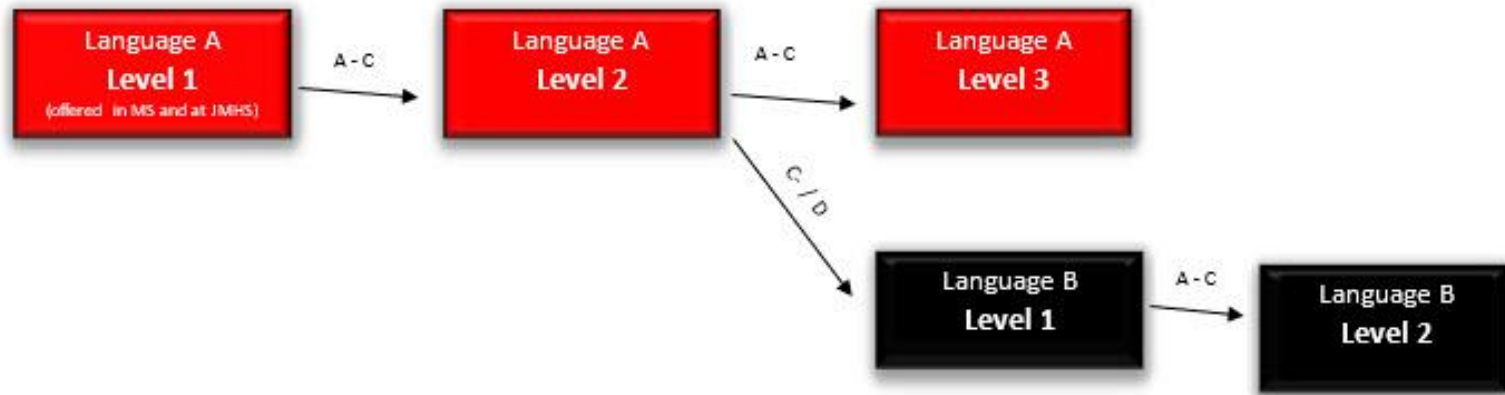
3 years of the same language

-or-

2 years of 2 different
languages

Madison's World Languages Course Offerings

World Languages requirements for Advanced Diploma (French, Latin, Spanish)








French, Latin, and Spanish Upper Level classes (Honors credit)



World Language Skills assessed:

Over many units	Interpretive Reading	Interpretive Listening	Presentational Writing	Interpersonal Speaking	Language Control (Voc & Grammar)	Culture
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Modes of Communication assessed:

Mode	From level 1	to Level 3
Interpretive Communication 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Identify familiar words & basic facts - Interpret very predictable audios and texts 	<div style="text-align: center; margin-bottom: 10px;">  </div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - to supporting details & main message - to complex and organized selections
Presentational Communication 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Start with recombining then creating - Present biographical information & familiar topics - Write/speak in single sentences 	<div style="text-align: center; margin-bottom: 10px;">  </div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - to describing and narrating - to community, national and int'l topics - to structured paragraph discourse
Interpersonal Communication 	<p>This mode involves all exchanges between people. Students engage in conversations, make requests, and negotiate meaning by grade level (asking and replying with single words-phrases-single sentences- sentences and connectors-paragraphs....</p>	

*There is no Honors level World Language class until level 4. Skills may vary depending on which language students choose. In modern language classes (French and Spanish) students will speak the target language whereas in Latin they will read passages and learn pronunciation.

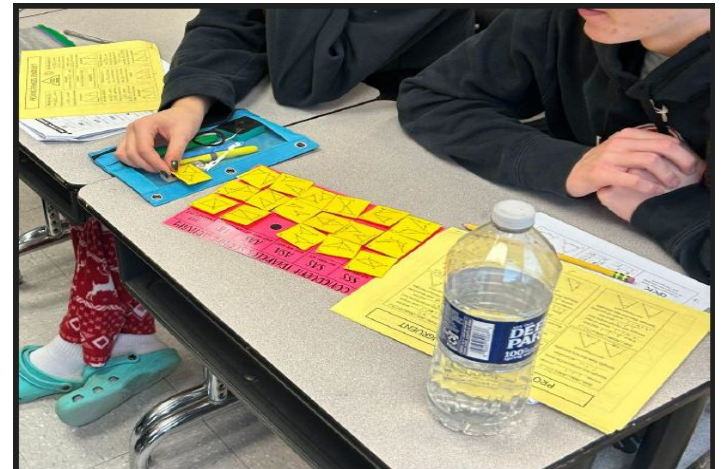
* Clubs are available for students of all levels (French, Latin and Spanish) and Honors societies for Levels 3 and up (*all levels allowed for Latin).

MATH DEPARTMENT



Susan Moy
Department Chair

Steve Plunkett
Administrator



Math Courses Required for Graduation

If you are currently enrolled in:

ALGEBRA I

NEXT COURSE:

GEOMETRY

GEOMETRY HN

GEOMETRY

NEXT COURSE:

ALGEBRA II

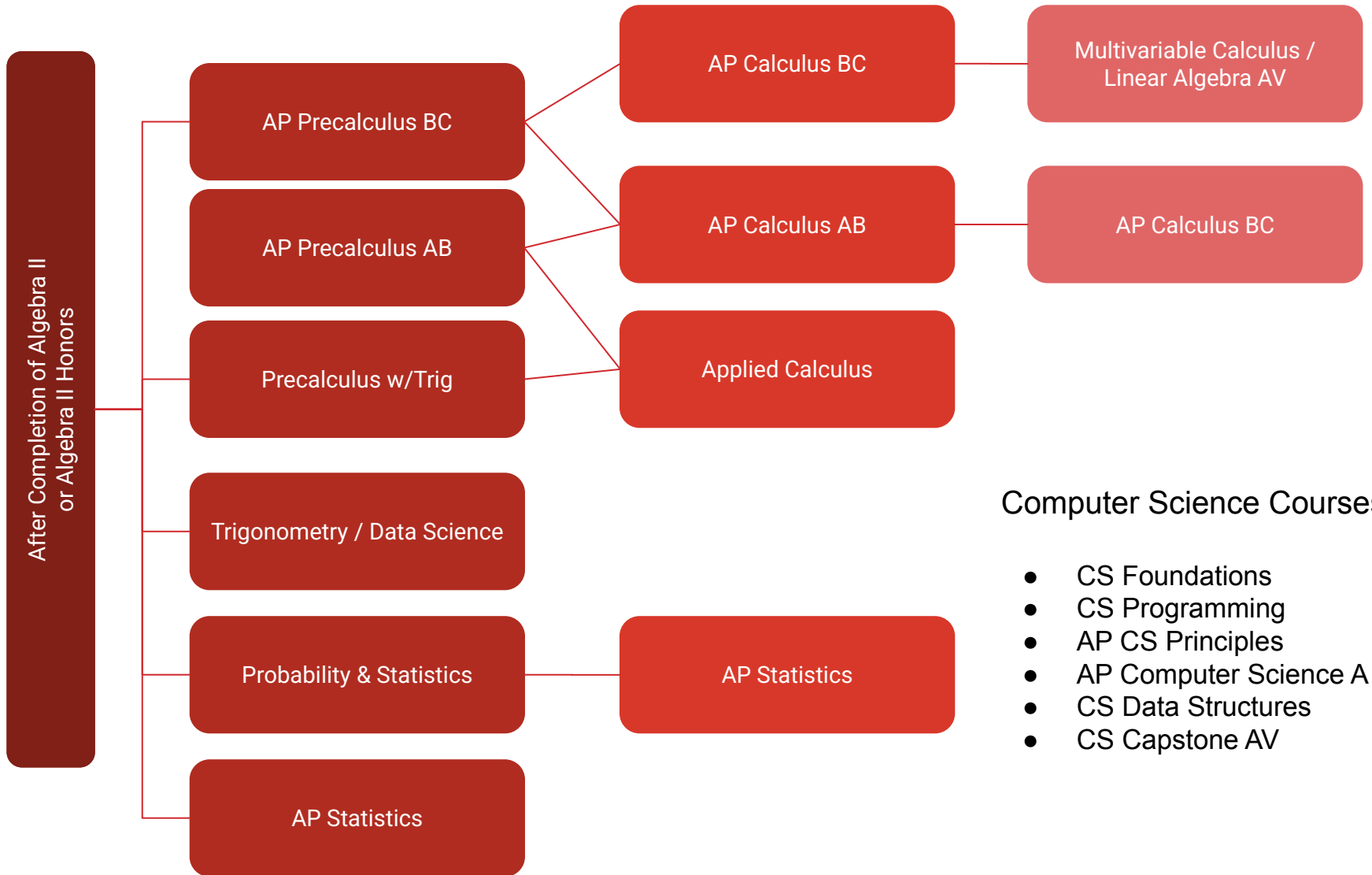
ALGEBRA II HN

ALGEBRA II

CHOOSE A

MATH ELECTIVE

Math Elective Courses



Additional Math Information

We strongly advise against taking Summer School Math to get ahead.

The material is taught too quickly and in not enough depth. It is nearly impossible to learn the full content of a year-long course over the summer. This results in a lack of foundation for future classes.

On-Level vs. Honors

The **depth** and **level of understanding** expected in an honors/AP math course is beyond the scope of a standard math course. Honors/AP courses will cover more content which requires the lessons to be taught at a faster pace.

On-Level Question	Honors Level Question
Factor the following equation: $3x^2+14x-24$	Find all possible B values that would make this quadratic equation factorable: $3x^2+Bx+20$

Students should not jump back and forth from on-level to honors math courses.

STUDENT SERVICES



Mr. Anderson
A-CARR



Ms. Buckley
CARS-FON



Mr. LaLone
FOO-JOR



Ms. Bacalis
JOS-McG



Ms. Kennedy
McH-PES



Ms. Hoffman
PET-SR



Ms. Whitener
ST-Z



GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS



Standard Diploma

English	4
History and Social Sciences	3
Mathematics	3
Science	3
Health and PE	2
World Language Fine Arts or CTE	2
Electives (including sequential)	4
<u>Econ and Personal Finance</u>	<u>1</u>
Total	22

Advanced Studies Diploma

English	4
History and Social Sciences	4
Mathematics	4
Science	4
Health and PE	2
World Language	3 or 2+2
Fine Arts OR CTE	1
Electives (including sequential)	3
<u>Econ and Personal Finance</u>	<u>1</u>
Total	26

More details on Graduation Requirements: <https://bit.ly/FCPSGrad>

Choosing Honors/AP Courses

- What are your academic strengths and interests?
- You will be expected to not only understand content but be able to apply that knowledge in new and challenging ways.
- The decision should be based on *internal*, not *external* factors.
- Balance - students need to have balance with their academic and non-academic life.

Choosing Electives



- Electives expand your academic experience.
- They can be the beginning of life-long interests.
- Take the opportunity to explore.

Online Campus Quick Overview

- FCPS Online Campus delivers courses identical in content to those offered in our traditional classrooms and uses multimedia to engage students.
- Students may enroll in up to 2 credits as part of their standard 7 high school credits without any fees or tuition.
- 8th credit courses for an extra fee (2025-26 Tuition: \$680)
- Students must register for Online Campus courses through the base school counselor, with approval of the Director of Student Services (DSS).
- Suggested deadline to register for online classes for next year is March 14, 2025. (Courses can fill up.)
- Some DE courses are offered.

What to Know When Considering Academy

- Enrollment is on a space-available basis and is not guaranteed.
- Academy class will impact your class schedule at Madison. You may miss Advisory/Warhawk Time, lunch (eat on the bus or at academy) and/or other classes.
- Bus transportation to an academy class is often available; however, you might need to leave early or arrive late to a class at Madison.
- An academy application must be completed with your counselor by March 7.



<https://bit.ly/MadisonAcademy25>

Academy Classes

Marshall Academy

<https://marshallacademy.fcps.edu/academics>

Open House: January 30, from 4:30 - 6:00 p.m.



Fairfax Academy

<https://fairfaxacademy.fcps.edu/academics>

Open House: February 4, from 6:30 - 8:00 p.m.



Falls Church Academy

<https://fallschurchacademy.fcps.edu/academics>

Open House: January 13, from 6:00 - 8:00 p.m. (**NEW DATE**)



Chantilly Academy

<https://chantillyacademy.fcps.edu/academics>

Open House: January 14, from 6:00 - 8:00 p.m. (**NEW DATE**)



What to Know When Considering Academy

Depending on the Academy Course, students may be able to apply for Dual Enrollment Credit.

Eligible Courses:

Chantilly Academy

- Physical/Occupational Therapy 1 DE
- Teachers of Tomorrow 1 and 2 DE

Falls Church Academy

- Exploring the Language of Medicine DE ***course must be taken with Exploring Health Sciences***

Marshall Academy

- Auto Tech 2 DE, Auto Tech 3 DE
- Cyber: Cloud Computing DE
- Cyber: Computer Systems Tech 2 A+ DE

The Deadline to apply for an Academy Course (with or without DE Credit): March 7



What to Know When Considering Dual Enrollment

Madison HS

- When a student takes a class that is classified as a Dual Enrollment course, it means they can earn credit for the course for a high school credit AND a college credit.
- There are a few ways you can take a Dual Enrollment class. Depending on the course, you can take it at Madison, FCPS Online Campus, or directly at NVCC.

- English 12 DE
- Geospatial Analysis 1 DE
- Entrepreneurship 1 DE
- Entrepreneurship 2 DE



What to Know When Considering Dual Enrollment

The deadline to complete the registration process for Dual Enrollment Courses with FCPS Online Campus or at Madison is March 24.

For More Info, use the Dual Enrollment tab on our Academic Advising Google Site:
www.tinyurl.com/MADAdvising

FCPS Online Campus

- English 11 DE (Composition)
- English 12 DE (Composition)
- English 12 DE (Literature) ***pre-requisite is English 11 DE (Composition)***
- Precalculus w/ Trig DE
- Calculus 1/2 DE
- Multivar Calculus/Linear Alg. DE
- Virginia & US History DE
- Virginia & US Government DE
- Geospatial Analysis DE
- Advanced Programming DE
- Exploring the Language of Medicine DE



Next Steps

JMHS Counselors will meet with students on the following dates for

Academic Advising Meetings:

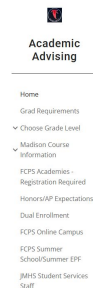
- Rising 11th Grade Students (Class of 2027): January 21 - 31 (Meet through English 10)
- Rising 12th Grade Students (Class of 2026): February 3 - 21 (Meet through US History)
- Rising 10th Grade Students (Class of 2028): February 24 - March 7 (Meet through PE 9)

Students should enter their Course Requests into StudentVUE before they meet with their counselor. *Nothing is finalized until their counselor meeting.*

ALL Students should enter initial course requests by January 17.

Use our Academic Advising Google Site:

www.tinyurl.com/MADAdvising



The main page of the James Madison HS Academic Advising Google Site. The header reads "James Madison HS Academic Advising" and "Choosing Courses for the 2025-2026 School Year". Below the header is a red banner titled "Academic Advising Events" which lists several key events: Rising 10th-12th Grade Curriculum Night (Thursday, January 9), AP Panel (Monday, January 13), Rising 9th Grade Curriculum Night (Tuesday, January 14), Curriculum/Electives Fair for Madison Students (Wednesday, January 15), and Advanced Placement (AP) Panels for Madison Students (Wednesday, January 22 and Tuesday, January 28).

Entering Courses in StudentVUE

Must use computer;
cannot enter via phone.

Search for courses by
using the Course ID
Number.

Searching by course
name may select the
incorrect section
(ie. online vs. in person)

You will add the course
by selecting “Add
Course” or “Add
Alternative”.

Students will finalize
requests when they meet
with their counselor.

The screenshot displays the StudentVUE interface. On the left is a navigation menu with options: Home, Messages, Calendar, Attendance, Class Schedule, Course History, **Course Request** (highlighted), Grade Book, Health, Report Card, Student Info, FCPS Links, Test History, and Documents. The main content area is titled "COURSE REQUEST" and includes a welcome message and a yellow banner. A red circle highlights a link "Click here to change course requests" with a red arrow pointing to it. Below this is another yellow banner with a link "Click here to return to course request summary" circled in red. The "Selected Course Requests" table shows one course:

Action	Course	Credit
✕ Remove	Course ID 599000 Course Title Am Sign Language 1 Elective No	1.000
Total		1.000

The "Search Courses" section features a search input field containing "6640CS" (circled in red) and a search button. Below the search results, two buttons are circled in red: "+ Add Request" and "* Add Alternate". The search results table shows:

Req	Alt	Course
		Course ID 6640CS Course Title CS Programming Elective Yes Credit 1.000

STAY CONNECTED



WEBPAGE: <https://madisonhs.fcps.edu/>

TWITTER: @JamesMadisonHS

MADMemos: PTSA website