

Blue Mountain Union School



Program of Studies
2018-2019

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Blue Mountain Union School District Mission

The **BLUE MOUNTAIN UNION SCHOOL** mission is to develop citizens who:

RESPECT

others and themselves

THINK

creatively, collaboratively,
and critically

THRIVE

locally and globally

PERSEVERE

through challenges

UNLEASH THEIR POTENTIAL

by finding and using their voice

Creating Your High School Schedule

PLP - Personalized Learning Plan

- You can customize your high school experience depending on your preferences, skills, and personal motivation.
- Students have participated in early college, early graduation and have even taken a full semester of college courses here at Blue Mountain Union.
- Students can take up to six (6) credit hours outside of BMU through Vermont's Dual Enrollment Program.
- River Bend is also an option for students. They too, offer college course opportunities, if desired.
- Students can choose to add more art courses, online courses through programs such as VTVLC, or other courses to their schedule, based on their PLPs.

Required Credits

- The State of Vermont and the Blue Mountain Union School Board require certain classes must be completed in order to graduate. The classes that are required for all BMU students are: Algebra/Geometry, US History, Health, and Senior Seminar (please see page 10 for more information).
- The flexibility of requirements allows class selection to be individualized to accent your personal interest. For example, you could take Pre-Calculus or Automotive Math or Algebra II for a math credit. You could take Music /Art every year, even though only one Fine Art credit is mandatory.

Future Options

- No matter if you are going to college or directly into the work force, strong grades will help open more doors and create good habits for life.
- Keep in mind that, no matter how focused you are on what you will be doing after high school, plans change. It is important to keep your doors open. Studies have shown that on average each person has multiple careers during their life span.

Proficiencies

“Proficiencies include explicit, measurable, learning objectives based on standards and measure a student’s knowledge and skills demonstrated in a consistent manner, in various settings over time. Proficiencies are also referred to as competencies. Proficiency-Based Learning (PBL) is any system of academic instruction, assessment, and reporting that is based on learners demonstrating proficiency in knowledge, skills, and abilities they are expected to learn before progressing to the next level or challenge. Proficiency-based learning may also be referred to as mastery or Competency-based learning.” ([Why is Proficiency-Based Learning Important?](#), Vermont Agency of Education, May 9, 2017).

Each course contains identified proficiencies which will be used as the overarching big ideas/themes/ learning objectives for the duration of the course. In addition to the specific course proficiencies, each student will address (either in part or in whole) the following Transferable Skills:

- **Clear and Effective Communication**
 - a. Demonstrate organized and purposeful communication.
 - b. Use evidence and logic appropriately in communication.
 - c. Integrate information gathered from active speaking and listening.
 - d. Adjust communication based on the audience, context, and purpose.
 - e. Demonstrate effective, expressive, and receptive communication, including oral, written, multi-media and performance.
 - f. Use technology to further enhance and disseminate communication.
 - g. Collaborate effectively and respectfully.
- **Self-Direction**
 - a. Identify, manage, and assess new opportunities related to learning goals.
 - b. Integrate knowledge from a variety of sources to set goals and make informed decisions.
 - c. Apply knowledge in familiar and new contexts.
 - d. Demonstrate initiative and responsibility for learning.
 - e. Demonstrate flexibility, including the ability to learn, unlearn, and relearn.
 - f. Analyze the accuracy, bias, and usefulness of information.
 - g. Collaborate as needed to advance learning.
 - h. Persevere in challenging situations.
 - i. Use technology and digital media strategically and capably.
- **Creative and Practical Problem Solving**
 - a. Observe and evaluate situations in order to define problems.
 - b. Frame questions, make predictions, and design data collection and analysis strategies.
 - c. Identify patterns, trends, and relationships that apply to solutions.
 - d. Analyze, evaluate, and synthesize evidence, arguments, claims, and beliefs.
 - e. Generalize a variety of solutions, use evidence to build a case for best responses, critically evaluate the effectiveness of responses, and repeat the process to generate alternative solutions.
 - f. Identify opportunities for innovation and collaboration.
 - g. Use a range of tools, including technology, to solve problems.
 - h. Persist in solving challenging problems and learn from failure.
- **Responsible and Involved Citizenship**
 - a. Participate in and contribute to the enhancement of community life.
 - b. Take responsibility for personal decisions and actions.
 - c. Demonstrate ethical behaviors and the moral courage to sustain it.
 - d. Respect diversity and different points of view.
 - e. Demonstrate a commitment to personal and community health and wellness.
 - f. Practice responsible digital citizenship.
- **Informed and Integrative Thinking**
 - a. Apply knowledge from various disciplines and contexts to real life situations.
 - b. Analyze, evaluate, and synthesize information from multiple sources to build on knowledge.
 - c. Apply systems thinking to understand the interactions and influences of related parts on each other, and on outcomes.
 - d. Use evidence and reasoning to justify claims.
 - e. Develop and use models to explain phenomena.
 - f. Use technology to support and enhance the critical thinking process.

Course Proficiency Levels

To assist in the course selection process, a rating indicating the difficulty is assigned to each course. The degree of difficulty ranges from General to Honors.

General/Applied: Reserved for students who need reinforcement in the basic subject skills.

Common Core (Proficient): Courses concentrate on more demanding academic tasks and are designed for a student who is proficient in the application of the basic learning skills. Successful completion of Proficient courses will prepare the student for college and/or career readiness.

Common Core (Proficient with Distinction [Honors Level]): Courses designed for the student who has demonstrated excellent subject ability, discipline and aptitude. These are particularly aimed at students considering a four-year college program.

Course Add/Drop Procedure

The Blue Mountain add/drop procedure is consistent with the intent of BMU School Board Policy #2051 Graduation Requirements and policy #2053 Eligibility Requirements.

With the scheduling team's permission and a note from a parent/guardian, a student may drop a course, without penalty prior to the fifth school day of the marking period in which the course begins. A student may not drop a course at any time if he/she is not maintaining four courses. Students may drop a course and substitute a replacement course to bring them up to the four course minimum if the instructor has room in the course and signs off on adding the student to the replacement course.

After the five-day period has passed, a student may not drop a course even with parent/guardian permission without the approval of the scheduling team and his/her parents. Withdrawing from a course after the deadline will result in a "WP" grade for the course if the student is passing the course at the withdrawal date. The student failing at the time of withdrawal will receive a letter grade of "WF". If the student drops a course with lower than an 80% average, s/he loses eligibility for a Senior Privileges' Gold Card for that term.

A student should check with his/her teacher to determine his/her academic standing in a course prior to considering a course withdrawal. It is the student's responsibility to consider the impact that withdrawing from a course will have on his/her eligibility status.

Dual Enrollment Courses

Dual Enrollment is a unique enrichment program in which high school junior and senior students are given the opportunity to take college level courses. Students can earn credits that can be used for both high school and college requirements. Students need to work with their school counselor to ensure they are taking the appropriate courses. This is a great opportunity for students to earn free or reduced college credits while still in high school. BMU currently offers in house Dual Enrollment courses through Southern New Hampshire University (SNHU). Please see "SNHU in the High School" for more information. In recent years, students have taken dual enrollment credit through Community College of Vermont and University of Vermont. The credits are transferable and will meet the general education requirements at most colleges and universities.

SNHU & CCV in the High School

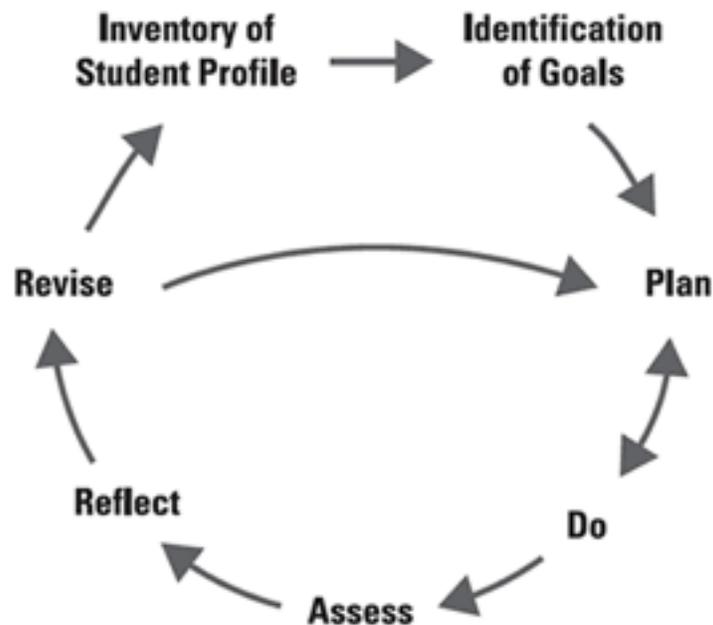
Southern New Hampshire University (SNHU) and the Community College of Vermont (CCV) in the High School's dual enrollment program allows academically prepared BMU students the opportunity to earn early college credits while still in high school. At Blue Mountain Union, designated courses have been aligned to meet the same content, rigor and learning outcomes as that of SNHU and/or CCV. The high school teachers instructing these courses met the University's/College's adjunct faculty requirements and have been approved by the University/College. Students will have the opportunity to take advantage of the dual credit opportunities at the beginning of the courses by completing an application and submitting the course registration fee for each class. Students who participate in dual enrollment courses with the Community College of Vermont will have to take the Accuplacer assessment. Once the registration period closes, students will not be allowed to register for college credit. Since these are college courses, grades earned while enrolled in the course are recorded on a SNHU/CCV transcript. Portability and transferability of credits rests solely with individual colleges and universities as they have varying policies on accepting transfer credits; thus, it is the students' responsibility to consult with higher educational institutions to determine whether the SNHU/CCV course(s) can be transferred. Additional information regarding the program can be directed to the Director of Guidance. Currently, the courses offered for BMU/SNHU/CCV dual credit include: *College Biology and Biology Lab, Literature, United States History, Modern World History, American Government & Politics, Pre-Calculus and Calculus*. It is anticipated that more courses will be added in the near future. **Students must earn an overall grade of a B- or better in order to receive college credits for SNHU dual enrollment courses. Students must earn an overall grade of a C- or better in order to receive college credits for CCV dual enrollment courses.**

Auditing Courses

Students may request to audit a course in advance, rather than take the course for credit. Such a request may be granted only on a space available basis and will be at the discretion of the principal. Students electing to audit a course are expected to complete all assignments and tests, as required by the teacher. Students will be removed from the class if course work is not completed on time. Audited courses will not be computed into a student's grade point average. Students who are permitted to drop a course at the end of the first grading period may request to audit the course for the remainder of the semester or school year.

Personal Learning Plan

The State of Vermont recently enacted the implementation of Personalized Learning Plan requirements through Act 77 in order to “help students achieve academic success, be prepared for post-secondary opportunities, and engage actively in civic life. “School began implementation of PLPs in the fall of 2015. Schools are expected to assist students in identifying” their goals, learning styles, and abilities and align this with the school's academic expectations and student's pathway toward graduation”. (<http://education.vermont.gov/plp-working-group/main>)



This Personalized Learning Plan is a creation that is intended to be updated and modified as students' needs change. This plan will include the student's intentions related to

curricular choices, their personal goals, their future career goals, assessment data, work and life experiences, and other relevant information about the student to help form a complete picture that will help lead to success for the individual both during the high school years and beyond. This plan will be helpful to the students, their families, and educators working with the student. This plan serves as an impetus in guiding the student toward their life goals and interests and for educators and administrators for course planning and development. The PLP will include Self Discovery, Career Exploration, Academic Planning, and Post-Secondary Preparation. Students will work on their PLP's during advisory times, in meetings with the VSAC Outreach counselor, and with their school counselor. Parents are not only encouraged to be part of the process, but to understand that their input is valuable and beneficial to their child's future.

Independent Study

Independent Study is a unique program that Blue Mountain offers the 10th, 11th and 12th grade students. Sophomores and juniors are limited to one independent study course per semester. Seniors may undertake up to two independent study courses per semester, depending upon availability and administrative approval. Ninth graders may not enroll in Independent Study unless there are unusual circumstances.

This program broadens the curriculum by offering students an opportunity to pursue an area of academic interest under the guidance of an advisor who has special skills in that field. Independent Study projects may not replicate the existing curricula at Blue Mountain. Specialized topics contained within existing courses may be pursued at the advanced level after the student has taken the appropriate prerequisites.

It is important that students understand that the workload for an independent study course is equal to a course offered at the high school. Students take responsibility for their own learning in an independent study course.

Proposal Submission Process-Your proposal

- Your proposal needs to include the following: a description of the independent study, your learning goals, your work environment and location, the means of assessing your work and anticipated credits. A learning/time log must be turned in each quarter. The paperwork for Independent Studies can be found in the guidance office.

There are ***a limited number of available Independent Study courses***. Students should begin this process immediately upon creating their schedule. ***This is a first come, first serve basis.***

Academic Transcripts

Requests for official transcripts need to be made in writing to the Guidance Office, whenever possible. Transcripts uploaded to Common App now include a profile of Blue Mountain School as well as personalized extracurricular information about the student when completed during their high school career, upon completion of their junior year. Transcripts also include SAT/ACT scores, if applicable. It is important to note that although we include SAT/ACT scores on the transcripts, some colleges require that these score be sent directly from the testing site.

Elective Courses

High School electives are courses that either fall outside of the main core academic subject areas (such as Math, English, History, Science, Etc) or are courses that are with the core subject area but the credit requirement has already been met. At this point, Driver's Education is the only designated elective credit that we offer.

Academic Grading

Grading: Blue Mountain Union School uses the following marking system.

I	Advanced Courses
	The following courses will be given an additional five points towards your GPA:
Department:	Course Title:
Language Arts	Honors 9/10 Honors 11 SNHU-Literature of Place a
Math	Pre-Calculus SNHU-Calculus SNHU-Prob & Stats
Science	SNHU-Biology SNHU – Environmental Science
Social Science	SNHU-History CCV – American Government & Politics
	VTVLC Honors Courses
	SNHU/CCV
	Southern New Hampshire University and/or Community College of Vermont Course (upon successful completion student will receive 3 college credits)

Blue Mountain High School Graduation Requirements

Students will be creating a Personalized Learning Plan (PLP) under the direction of the school counselor. The course requirements may be modified to meet specific individual needs and plans. It should be noted that colleges often require additional, specific credits in mathematics and science (such as physics and algebra II), so working with a plan from freshmen year on will help ensure that future plans can be met.

Students must successfully complete all course requirements for the following:

English	4 Credits
Mathematics	3 Credits (one MUST be an algebra or geometry offering)
Sciences	3 Credits
Social Sciences	3 Credits (one credit MUST be U.S. History)
Physical Education	1 ½ Credits
Health	½ Credit
World Language	1 Credit
Fine Arts	1 Credit
Electives	5 Credits
Technology	½ Credit
Senior Seminar	½ Credit
TOTAL	23 Credits
Each student shall maintain a minimum of five (5) credits each year.	

English	4 Credits
Mathematics	3 or 4 Credits (one MUST be an algebra or geometry offering)
Sciences	3 or 4 Credits
Social Sciences	3 Credits (one credit MUST be U.S. History)
Physical Education	1 ½ Credits
Health	½ Credit
World Language	1 Credit
Fine Arts	1 Credit
Electives	5 Credits
Technology	½ Credit
Senior Seminar	½ Credit
Advisory	1 Credit: 1/4 per year
J-Term	1 Credit: 1/4 per year
TOTAL	26 Credits Recommendation: 1/2 credit be an on-line course
Each student shall maintain a minimum of five (5) credits each year.	

Pending review and approval by the school board.

The PLP has state mandates which will be increased as it is being incorporated into our school system. Students and their parents/guardians are encouraged to meet with the guidance office staff to ensure the PLP is directly relevant to students' desired goals and needs for their future. This may mean that requests

for variances to the above requirements may be necessary to meet a particular career plan. Students enrolled in a two year vocational program will be required to complete 22 credits.

Determining GPA

Weighted System

Only the core subjects English, Math, Science, Social Sciences and World Language are used in this system. The GPA's in these courses are averaged. This is used for class ranking and on college applications.

Valedictorian/Salutatorian

For the determination of valedictorian, salutatorian, and the top 10% of the students, BMU uses the average grades in English, Math, Science, History/Social Science and World Language courses, two of which must be weighted courses. In addition, the valedictorian and salutatorian must be a member of the graduating class their junior and senior year and completed two weighted courses.

Green and Gold Scholarship

The University of Vermont Green and Gold Scholarship is an academic merit scholarship awarded to the academically strongest rising high school senior from every Vermont public secondary school. The scholarship fund was established through a gift made by the family of the late Genevieve Patrick. Determination of the scholarship recipient is determined by the principal. In the event of a tie GPA, the Director of Guidance and/or Principal will determine the recipient.

SAMPLE SCHEDULE

There are many different paths to take to graduate for BMU. Below is a sample of a more traditional option:

Student Schedule

Freshman Year	Sophomore Year
English	English
Math	Math
Science	Science
Social Science	Social Science (U.S.History)
World Language	World Language
Physical Education	Physical Education
Fine Arts	Drivers Education
	Health
	Elective
Junior Year	Senior Year
English	English
Math	Math
Science	Science
Social Science	Social Science
Technology	Senior Seminar
Elective	Elective
Elective	Elective

Senior Seminar– Grade 12

Senior Capstone – Grade 12

1 Credit (22106)

Seminar courses vary widely, but typically offer a small peer group the opportunity to investigate areas of interest. Course objectives may include improvement of research and investigatory skills, presentation skills, interpersonal skills, group process skills, and problem-solving and critical-thinking skills. Seminars aimed at juniors and seniors often include a college and career exploration and planning component.

World Language

Spanish Conversation and Culture

1 Credit (06108)

General

Spanish Conversation and Culture courses provide students with an introduction to the Spanish language and the culture(s) of Spanish-speaking people, placing greater emphasis on speaking and listening skills while de-emphasizing writing and reading the language.

Spanish I

1 Credit (06101)

Common Core

Designed to introduce students to Spanish language and culture, Spanish I courses emphasize basic grammar and syntax, simple vocabulary, and the spoken accent so that students can read, write, speak, and understand the language at a basic level within predictable areas of need, using customary courtesies and conventions. Spanish culture is introduced through the art, literature, customs, and history of Spanish-speaking people.

Spanish II

1 Credit (06102)

Common Core

Prerequisite-Successful completion of Spanish I

Spanish II courses build upon skills developed in Spanish I, extending students' ability to understand and express themselves in Spanish and increasing their vocabulary. Typically, students learn how to engage in discourse for informative or social purposes, write expressions or passages that show understanding of sentence construction and the rules of grammar, and comprehend the language when spoken slowly. Students usually explore the customs, history, and art forms of Spanish-speaking people to deepen their understanding of the culture(s).

Spanish III*1 Credit (06103)**Common Core/Honors*

Prerequisite-Successful completion of Spanish II

Spanish III courses focus on having students express increasingly complex concepts both verbally and in writing while showing some spontaneity. Comprehension goals for students may include attaining more facility and faster understanding when listening to the language spoken at normal rates, being able to paraphrase or summarize written passages, and conversing easily within limited situations.

Spanish IV*1 Credit (06104)**Common Core/Honors*

Prerequisite-Successful completion of Spanish III

Spanish IV courses extend students' facility with the language so that they are able to understand, initiate, and sustain general conversations on topics beyond basic survival needs. Reading and writing tasks will usually include all normal verb tenses (present, past, and future).

Language Arts

English 9 (English/Language Arts I)

1 Credit (01001)

General

This course builds upon students' prior knowledge of grammar, vocabulary, word usage, and the mechanics of writing. The course includes reading, responding to, and writing varied genres of literature, including epic, short stories, novels, non-fiction, poetry, and drama. We will explore how authors turn ideas into writing; how characters act (and interact); how literature intersects with real life; how human major struggles transcend time and space; how we as vital, growing human beings, interact with life; and how we can become thoughtful and skilled authors of our own lives.

English 9 (English/Language Arts I)

1 Credit (01001)

Common Core/Honors

As the introductory High School Honors English course, students will learn how to read and think critically and will develop the foundational skills required for formal, academic writing. The course includes reading, responding to, and writing varied genres of literature, including epic, short stories, novels, non-fiction, poetry, and drama. We will be reading several "great works" that form the bedrock of literature.

American Literature of the 20th Century

English 10 (English/Language Arts II)

1 Credit (01002)

General

The 20th Century has sometimes been called "The American Century." We will be writing both critical essays and creative works while reading poems, stories, and novels from classic American authors ranging from Ernest Hemingway to Margaret Atwood. This class includes units on WWI, the "lost generation," the Harlem Renaissance, and the literary responses to the rise of fascism.

American Literature of the 20th Century

English 10 (English/Language Arts II)

1 Credit (01002)

Common Core/Honors

The 20th Century has sometimes been called "The American Century"--this class will help you understand why. We will be writing both critical essays and creative works while reading poems, stories, and novels from classic American authors ranging from Ernest Hemingway to Margaret Atwood. This class includes units on WWI, the "lost generation," the Harlem Renaissance, and the literary responses to the rise of fascism. As honors students, you will be held to higher standards of academic rigor and discourse, as there will be a focus on helping you prepare for the demands of college writing.

Journalism I*1 Credit (11101)**General*

Journalism courses (typically associated with the production of a school newspaper, yearbook, or literary magazine) emphasize writing style and technique as well as production values and organization. Journalism courses introduce students to the concepts of newsworthiness and press responsibility; develop students' skills in writing and editing stories, headlines, and captions; and teach students the principles of production design, layout, and printing. Photography and photojournalism skills may be included.

Broadcast Journalism/Journalism II*1 Credit (11103)**General*

Learn the art of storytelling through news video broadcasting. Students will be expected to create stories in a variety of formats for social media, print and video. Students will be writing and reporting on well balanced, comprehensive and visually compelling stories. You will research, report, write, shoot and edit stories while meet the same deadlines as professional reporters handle.

Memoir (Creative Writing)*1 Credit (01104)**General or Common Core*

Creative Writing courses offer students the opportunity to develop and improve their technique and individual style in poetry, short story, drama, essays, and other forms of prose. The emphasis of the courses is on writing; however, students may study exemplary representations and authors to obtain a fuller appreciation of the form and craft. Although most creative writing classes cover several expressive forms, others concentrate exclusively on one particular form (such as poetry or playwriting).

SNHU – English*2 Credits (01063)**College Course*

This course introduces students to the study and appreciation of literature. It explores the literary genres of short story, poetry, drama and novel. There is an option for nonfiction prose as well. The course covers an introduction to literary terminology and an introduction to critical analysis of literature. The emphasis in this course is on contemporary literature. This course is writing intensive.

Literature of War (Literature of a Genre)*1 Credit (01104)**Common Core*

This course has the same aim as general literature courses (to improve students' language arts and critical-thinking skills), focusing on one or several genres, such as poetry, essay,

biography, short story, drama, and so on. Students determine the underlying assumptions and values within the selected works and also examine the structure, techniques, and intentions of the genre being studied. Oral discussion is an integral part of these genre-oriented courses, and written compositions are often required.

Literature of a Theme (Monsters)

1 Credit (01061)

Common Core

Prerequisite: American Literature or special permission from the teacher.

Grades: 11-12 (10th graders with special permission)

Since the earliest written records, literature has been populated with monsters. This honors level literature class will explore the use and meaning of monsters in world literature, from Grendel and Dracula to Cthulhu and Slenderman. Students will develop the reading, writing, and thinking skills required to excel in NHSU and other college level English classes and will have the opportunity to produce some monstrous writing of their own.

Outdoor Literature

1 Credit (01065)

General or Common Core

This course has the same aim as general literature courses (to improve students' language arts and critical-thinking skills), but use selected literature to explore a particular theme as expressed from several points of view. Such themes might include The American Dream, Society and Self, Exploration, War and Peace, and the like.

Philosophy

1 Credit (04309)

Common Core

What is our place in the Universe? How do we know what is real or true? What do we need to live a good life? This course will seek to help students discover the meaning of their own lives by asking the same "big" questions that thinkers have asked since the dawn of civilization. In the course of exploring these ideas, we will think, speak, and write extensively as we investigate some of the philosophers who have attempted to answer these questions.

Math

Business/Consumer Math – Grades 9-12

1 Credit (02154)

General/Applied

Business Math courses reinforce general math skills, emphasize speed and accuracy in computations, and these skills in a variety of business applications. Business Math courses reinforce general math topics (e.g., arithmetic, measurement, statistics, ratio and proportion, exponents, formulas, and simple equations) by applying these skills to business problems and situations; applications might include wages, hourly rates, payroll deductions, sales, receipts, accounts payable and receivable, financial reports, discounts, and interest.

Algebra I – Grades 9-12

1 Credit (02052)

Common Core

Algebra I courses include the study of properties and operations of the real number system; evaluating rational algebraic expressions; solving and graphing first degree equations and inequalities; translating word problems into equations; operations with and factoring of polynomials; and solving simple quadratic equations.

Algebra I – Grades 9-12

1 Credit (02052)

General

Algebra I courses include the study of properties and operations of the real number system; evaluating rational algebraic expressions; solving and graphing first degree equations and inequalities; translating word problems into equations; operations with and factoring of polynomials; and solving simple quadratic equations.

Geometry – Grades 9-12

1 Credit (02072)

Common Core

Geometry courses, emphasizing an abstract, formal approach to the study of geometry, typically include topics such as properties of plane and solid figures; deductive methods of reasoning and use of logic; geometry as an axiomatic system including the study of postulates, theorems, and formal proofs; concepts of congruence, similarity, parallelism, perpendicularity, and proportion; and rules of angle measurement in triangles.

Geometry – Grades 9-12

1 Credit (02072)

General

Geometry courses, emphasizing an abstract, formal approach to the study of geometry, typically include topics such as properties of plane and solid figures; deductive methods of reasoning and use of logic; geometry as an axiomatic system including the study of postulates, theorems, and formal proofs; concepts of congruence, similarity, parallelism, perpendicularity, and proportion; and rules of angle measurement in triangles.

Algebra II – Grades 10-12

1 Credit (02056)

Common Core

Prerequisite-Successful completion of Algebra I

Algebra II course topics typically include field properties and theorems; set theory; operations with rational and irrational expressions; factoring of rational expressions; in-depth study of linear equations and inequalities; quadratic equations; solving systems of linear and quadratic equations; graphing of constant, linear, and quadratic equations; properties of higher degree equations; and operations with rational and irrational exponents.

Algebra II – Grades 10-12

1 Credit (02056)

General

Prerequisite-Successful completion of Algebra I

Algebra II course topics typically include field properties and theorems; set theory; operations with rational and irrational expressions; factoring of rational expressions; in-depth study of linear equations and inequalities; quadratic equations; solving systems of linear and quadratic equations; graphing of constant, linear, and quadratic equations; properties of higher degree equations; and operations with rational and irrational exponents.

SNHU - Pre-Calculus – Grades 11-12

2 Credit (02110)

College

Prerequisite-Successful completion of Algebra II

This course emphasizes the algebra and concepts of functions. Students will learn the properties and graphing techniques for different types of functions including: linear, polynomial, rational, trigonometric, exponential, and logarithmic functions. Students will also learn to solve a variety of real world problems that rely on a number of different problem solving strategies and an understanding of these different types of functions. This course is intended for those students who wish to prepare for Calculus.

Probability and Statistics – Grades 10-12

1 Credit (02201)

College

This is a fundamental course in the application of statistics. In this course, students will learn to apply statistical techniques to a variety of applications in business and the social sciences. Students will learn how to solve statistical problems by hand and through the use of computer software. Topics include probability distribution functions, sampling distributions, estimation, hypothesis testing and linear regression.

Science

Earth Science – Grades 9-12

1 Credit (03001)

General/Applied

Earth Science courses offer insight into the environment on earth and the earth's environment in space. While presenting the concepts and principles essential to students' understanding of the dynamics and history of the earth, these courses usually explore oceanography, geology, astronomy, meteorology, and geography.

Biology – Grades 9-12

1 Credit (03052)

General Applied

Topics will include cell organization, function, and reproduction; ecology; botany; zoology; energy transformation and the evolution and adaptation of organisms.

Applied Chemistry – Grades 10-12

1 Credit (03101)

General/Applied

Prerequisite: Algebra I

Chemistry courses involve studying the composition, properties, and reactions of substances. These courses typically explore such concepts as the behaviors of solids, liquids, and gases; acid/base and oxidation/reduction reactions; and atomic structure. Basic chemical formulas and equations and nuclear reactions are also studied.

Chemistry – Grades 10-12

1 Credit (03101)

Common Core

Prerequisite-Completion or current enrollment in Algebra II and successful completion of Biology OR Teacher approval

Chemistry courses involve studying the composition, properties, and reactions of substances. These courses typically explore such concepts as the behaviors of solids, liquids, and gases; acid/base and oxidation/reduction reactions; and atomic structure. Chemical formulas and equations and nuclear reactions are also studied.

Applied Physics – Grades 10-12

1 Credit (03152)

General/Applied

Prerequisites-Algebra I

Physics courses involve the study of the forces and laws of nature affecting matter, such as equilibrium, motion, momentum, and the relationships between matter and energy. The study of physics includes examination of sound, light, and magnetic and electric phenomena.

Physics – Grades 10-12

1 Credit (03152)

Common Core

Prerequisites-Algebra II

Usually taken after a comprehensive initial study of physics, Physics—Advanced Studies courses provide instruction in laws of conservation, thermodynamics, and kinetics; wave and particle phenomena; electromagnetic fields; and fluid dynamics.

Environmental Science – Grades 11-12

1 Credit (03003)

Common Core

Prerequisites-Algebra I and Biology

Environmental Science courses offer an in-depth study of the Earth's environment. While presenting the concepts and principles essential to students' understanding of planet Earth, these courses usually explore human's influence on the Earth's scientific phenomena.

SNHU-Biology – Grades 11-12

3 Credit (03056)

College

Prerequisite: Biology

Adhering to the curricula recommended by the College Board and designed to parallel college-level introductory biology courses, AP Biology courses stress basic facts and their synthesis into major biological concepts and themes. These courses cover three general areas: molecules and cells (including biological chemistry and energy transformation); genetics and evolution; and organisms and populations (i.e., taxonomy, plants, animals, and ecology). AP Biology courses include college-level laboratory experiments.

SNHU-Environmental Science – Grades 11-12

3 Credit (03207)

College

Prerequisite-Biology

This course provides an introduction to the scientific aspects of the environmental field. The first part of the course introduces students to the foundations of environmental science, while the second part concentrates on the application of these foundations to real life environmental problems. Therefore, the course not only engages the fundamentals of environmental science but also shows students how science informs sustainability, environmental policies, economics and personal choice. SNHU environmental science includes college-level laboratory experiments.

Social Sciences

US History

1 Credit (US History credit) (04103) Common Core

This course is mandatory for graduation

Modern U.S. History courses examine the history of the United States from the Civil War or Reconstruction era (some courses begin at a later period) through the present time. These courses typically include a historical review of political, military, scientific, and social developments.

Contemporary Issues

1 Credit (04156) Common Core

This course is designed for ninth grade students and will serve as an introduction to high school social sciences. In this course students will examine the general structure and functions of the United States systems of government (at the federal, state, and local levels); be introduced to the study of economics; study world affairs and global interrelationships, and study cultural and political geography in connection to topics/themes being studied. Current events will be discussed and included.

Psychology

1 Credit (04254) Common Core

Psychology courses introduce students to the study of individual human behavior. Course content typically includes (but is not limited to) an overview of the field of psychology, topics in human growth and development, personality and behavior, and abnormal psychology.

US Elections

1 Credit (04254) Common Core

This course will analyze the 2012 U.S. presidential election as it unfolds. We will take a current events approach to studying the process of how a president is elected. Topics will include: political ideology, campaign strategies, voting demographics, polls, and the Electoral College. Activities will include debate, role play, a mock campaign, and a mock election. This course is open to any student interested in watching and understanding the selection of an American president.

Government, Politics, Law – Other

1 Credit (04199)

Common Core

This course aims to familiarize students with our nation's legal system. Students will acquire practical information and problem-solving skills that are necessary for a full and productive roll in our Democracy. Topics will include: An introduction to our Legal System, Criminal Law, Torts, Law and Politics, Family Law and Individual Rights and Liberties (Constitutional Law).

SNHU History: HIS 114: United States History II: 1865 to the Present

2 High School Credit/3 College Credits (US History credit) (04103)

College

This course will focus on the second half of the United States History covering the period following the Civil War. The economic, political and ideological development that allowed the United States to attain a position of world leadership are closely examined. A major focus will be on the historical events specifically from the post Civil War period of Reconstruction through the outbreak of World War I. Post World War I events will be examined through more of a sociological focus looking at the impact of significant historical events on the everyday lives of people and impacts to society. A summer reading book and accompanying assignments are required for this course.

CCV: American Politics and Government (POS 1020)

2 High School Credit/3 College Credits (04153)

College

A survey and analysis of political phenomena in both theoretical and functional aspects. Focus will be on developing a critical understanding of concepts, institutions, values and processes of government and politics.

Personal Finance & Economics

1 Credit (04201)

General/Applied

Economics courses provide students with an overview of economics with primary emphasis on the principles of microeconomics and the U.S. economic system. These courses may also cover topics such as principles of macroeconomics, international economics, and comparative economics. Economic principles may be presented in formal theoretical contexts, applied contexts, or both.

Global Studies (World Area Studies)

1 Credit (04061)

Common Core

World Area Studies courses examine the history, politics, economics, society, and/or culture of one or more regions of the world, such as Africa, Latin America, the former Soviet Union, Far East Asia, and the Middle East. These courses may focus primarily on the history of a particular region or may take an interdisciplinary approach to the contemporary issues affecting the region. Furthermore, these courses may emphasize one particular country (other than the United States), rather than emphasizing a region or continent.

YATST Youth and Adults Transforming Schools Together (Research/Technical Writing)

1 Credit (01105)

Common Core

YATST requires an interview process in order to be selected for this course

The Blue Mountain YATST Team is an experiential class, committed to the development of student voice and leadership. Based on the four educational principles of relevance, rigor, relationship and responsibility, YATST is a Vermont-based program where youth and adults work together to improve their schools and communities. Using a formal research process, students' projects are based on the data they have gathered, analyzed and shared. This process is cyclical and requires a continual engagement in learning.

Music

Chorus – Grades 9-12

½ Credit (05110)

General/Applied

Prerequisite- Teacher approval

Chorus is offered so that students may develop a full appreciation of music through active participation. Music will be chosen from Baroque, Classical, Romantic and contemporary periods. The chorus will take part in the following performances throughout the year, Holiday Concert, Spring Concert and Graduation Ceremonies. More advanced students will be chosen for the Newport district Music Festival and the All State Music Festival Auditions. Auditions will be held for the select ensemble, which is a group of eight to sixteen performers that sing at various community functions. In the spring students will work with choreographer, Molly Winter Stewart on either short musical works or a major musical show.

Band – Grades 9-12

½ Credit (05101)

General/Applied

Prerequisite- Teacher approval

Band is designed to develop instrumental technique and a comprehensive understanding of music concepts through group study and performance.

The BMU School band is comprised of students from grades 7-12 with at least one year of previous instrumental music experience. Classical and Contemporary styles of music will be performed throughout the year. The Holiday Concert, Spring Concert and Graduation Ceremonies are among the performances scheduled each year.

Advanced students will be asked to perform in the Pit Orchestra for the musical or short musical works. All juniors and seniors are required to audition for the Northeast Music Festival (All State Auditions are optional). It is optional for freshman and sophomores to audition. Students are recommended to take private lessons and form small chamber ensembles of like- instruments. See the Director for more information.

Music Theory – Grades 9-12

½ Credit (05113)

Common Core

Prerequisite- Teacher approval

Music Theory courses provide students with an understanding of the fundamentals of music and include one or more of the following topics: composition, arrangement, analysis, aural development, and sight reading.

Art

Creative Art/Drawing & Painting - Grades 9-12

1 Credit (05156)

Creative Art—Drawing courses cover the same topics as Creative Art—Drawing/Painting, but focus on drawing. In keeping with this attention on two-dimensional work, students typically work with several media (such as pen-and-ink, pencil, chalk, and so on), but some courses may focus on only one medium. Creative Art—Drawing/Painting courses cover the same topics as Creative Art—Comprehensive courses, but focus on drawing and painting. In keeping with this attention on two-dimensional work, students typically work with several media (such as pen-and-ink, pencil, chalk, watercolor, tempera, oils, acrylics, and so on), but some courses may focus on only one medium.

Ceramics/Pottery – Grades 9-12

½ Credit (05159)

Ceramics/Pottery courses cover the same topics as Creative Art—Comprehensive courses, but focus on creating three-dimensional works out of clay and ceramic material. Particular attention is paid to the characteristics of the raw materials, their transformation under heat, and the various methods used to create and finish objects.

Art & Education – Grades 9-12

1 Credit (05201)

Integrated Fine arts courses explore self-expression across the fine arts: any subset or all of the visual arts, music, drama, theater, and literature may be included in the curriculum for these courses. Students both study and critique the works of others and participate in or produce art themselves. These courses often include comparative study of various art forms over time (i.e., the interrelationship of literature, music, and the performing arts of a particular time period and culture).

Watercolors – Grades 9-12 (Creative Art – Painting)

1 Credit Semester 2(05157)

Creative Art—Painting courses cover the same topics as Creative Art—Drawing/Painting, but focus on painting. In keeping with this attention on two-dimensional work, students typically work with several media (such as watercolor, tempera, oils, acrylics, and so on), but some courses may focus on only one medium.

Studio Art – Grades 9-12

½ Credit Semester (Common Core Reference)

Technology

Computer Graphics – Grades 9-12

½ Credit Quarter 2 (10202)

In this semester long course students will learn the tools and techniques of computer graphic art. It is very exciting time in technology where as the creation of high-resolution digital artwork is accessible to any computer user. Digital art has many special qualities and is only confined by the limits on one's imagination and technical abilities. While it is a technical challenge to learn the "how" of computer graphics, it is equally engaging to be creative in the process. This is a demanding course for both sides of the brain. Students will learn the fundamentals of design and will work hands-on the computer with powerful software programs developing their skills and talent. Finished portfolio-quality artwork will be expected from each student.

Web Page Design – Grades 9-12

½ Credit Quarter 1(10201)

In this semester long course students will begin to learn the language of the World Wide Web: HTML (Hyper-Text Mark-up Language). This is one of the most readily understandable computer languages and in this course students will use it to create their own web-pages. Students will also assist in the design and development of the school's own website, learn the fuller capability of the popular web-browsers and utilize various multi-media tools to enhance web-pages. In addition, we will explore emerging web technologies such as blogging. Get in on the action of the World Wide Web and learn to speak the language.

Robotics-Emerging Technologies

½ Credit Quarter 3 (21053)

Common Core

In this quarter long course, high school students will be introduced to Robotics. This will be a 'hands on' course where students will build robots in teams. They will apply principals of mechanical engineering and learn how to control the robots through programming. The many ways in which robotics shape our society will be examined in the course. Students will also develop skills in programming (coding), which is the way in which robots, and all our digital devices, are controlled and made to provide the services for which we depend on in this age.

Digital Video Editing and Production – Grades 9-12 (Audio Visual Production)

½ Credit Quarter 4 (11051)

In this course students continue to develop computer graphic skills. The specific thrust of the course is the exploration of digital video editing and production. As a course requirement each student will create a high quality five-minute digital movie. In order to successfully create this movie, students will study both technical and creative aspects of film-making. Students will attain a comprehensive grounding in film appreciation in the process. Students will become proficient in using cameras, setting up shots and editing video clips. The software programs Windows Movie Maker and Adobe Premier will be used. This is both a fun and challenging course.

Interactive Media

½ Credit Quarter 3 (10203)

In this course students continue to develop web design skills. Specifically, we will focus on using “Flash”, an amazing software program used to create powerful graphics, animations, and interactive web content. The basics of animation will be explored in-depth and students will create several of their own animations through class projects. We will also develop WebPages (and BMU Website WebPages) that integrate the creative capabilities of Flash.

Physical Education

Physical Education – Grades 9-12

½ Credit Semester 1 and/or 2(08001)

Physical Education courses provide students with knowledge, experience, and an opportunity to develop skills in more than one of the following sports or activities: team sports, individual/dual sports, recreational sports, and fitness/conditioning activities.

Drivers Education

Drivers Education– Grades 10-12

½ Credit (08152)

Prerequisite: Students absolutely **MUST** have a valid Vermont Learners Permit before the first day of class. You must give the guidance department secretary a copy of your permit as soon as you receive it.

Drivers’ Education—Classroom and Laboratory courses provide students with the knowledge and experience to become safe drivers on America’s roadways. Topics in these courses cover legal obligations and responsibility, rules of the road and traffic procedures, safe driving strategies and practices, and the physical and mental factors affecting the driver’s capability (including alcohol and other drugs). Experience in driving a vehicle is an essential component of these courses.

Health

Health – Grades 9-12

½ Credit (08051)

This course is mandatory for graduation.

Topics covered within Health Education courses may vary widely, but typically include personal health (nutrition, mental health and stress management, drug/alcohol abuse prevention, disease prevention, and first aid) and consumer health issues. The courses may also include brief studies of environmental health, personal development, and/or community resources.

Vermont Virtual Learning Community (VTVLC)

VTVLC was founded in 2010 as Vermont's first state-wide online program offering programs and courses to K-12 students by partnering with public and independent schools. Today, VTVLC serves hundreds of middle and high school students with more than 70 online courses. Enrollment is open to public, private and home school students. Students from non-partner schools and from outside Vermont enroll on a tuition basis.

Blue Mountain Union has partnered with VTVLC for the 2017-18 school year. Students will be able to access courses not offered at Blue Mountain in areas such as math, English, science, social studies as well as elective courses on a space available basis. These courses will appear on the student's Blue Mountain transcript. To be enrolled in a VTVLC course, students must work with their school counselor as well as the site administrator to complete the registration process. For more information and a list of course offerings visit: www.VTVLC.org, see the school counselor, or visit the site administrator.

It is imperative that students taking VTVLC be willing and able to work independently. It is also important that students realize that they need to devote as much time to their VTVLC course as they do to their live instructor/in house course.

Students and their parent/guardians are asked to review and sign a document outlining the basic elements and format of a VTVLC course before their student starts the course. Please see the guidance staff for the form.

River Bend Career & Technical Center Courses

River Bend Career and Technical Center partners with Blue Mountain Union School to provide a technical education as well as a full range of services which include assistance with academic and skill development, career planning, and in decision making. The following programs are available at River Bend Career and Technical Center:

- **Automotive Technology – Grades 10-12**

After successful completion of Levels I and II of this program BMU students will earn: 1 credit in mathematics, 1 credit in science and 4 elective credits.

After successful completion of only Level I of this program BMU students will earn 1 credit of mathematics or 1 credit of science and 2 elective credits.

- **Construction Technology & Residential Energy - Grades 10-12**

After successful completion of Levels I and II of this program BMU students will earn: 1 credit in mathematics, 1 credit in science and 4 elective credits.

After successful completion of only Level I of this program BMU students will earn 1 credit of mathematics or 1 credit of science and 2 elective credits.

- **Cosmetology – Grades 10-12**

After successful completion of Levels I and II of this program BMU students will earn: 1 credit in mathematics, 1 credit in science and 4 elective credits.

After successful completion of only Level I of this program BMU students will earn 1 credit of mathematics or 1 credit of science and 2 elective credits.

- **Criminal Justice & Public Safety – Grades 10-12**

After successful completion of one year of this program BMU students will earn: 1 credit in social studies, and 2 elective credits.

After successful completion of two years of this program BMU students will earn 1 credit of social studies, 1 credit of science and 4 elective credits.

- **Culinary Arts – Grades 10-12**

After successful completion of Levels I and II of this program BMU students will earn: 1 credit in mathematics, 1 credit in science and 4 elective credits.

After successful completion of only Level I of this program BMU students will earn

1 credit of mathematics or 1 credit of science and 2 elective credits.

- **Diversified Agriculture/Natural Resources – Grades 10-12**

After successful completion of Levels I and II of this program BMU students will earn:
1 credit in mathematics, 1 credit in science and 4 elective credits.

After successful completion of only Level I of this program BMU students will earn
1 credit of mathematics or 1 credit of science and 2 elective credits.

River Bend Career & Technical Center Courses (Continued)

- **Emergency Services & Fire Fighting – Grades 10-12**

After successful completion of one year of this program BMU students will earn:
1 credit in science, and 2 elective credits.

After successful completion of two years of this program BMU students will earn
1 credit of science, .5 credit of health, .5 credit of social studies and 4 elective credits.

- **21st Century Media & Design – Grades 10-12**

After successful completion of Levels I and II of this program BMU students will earn:
1 credit in science, 1 credit in fine arts or technology and 4 elective credits.

After successful completion of only Level I of this program BMU students will earn
1 credit of science, 1 credit of fine arts or technology, and 2 elective credits.

- **Health Science Technology – Grades 10-12**

After successful completion of Levels I and II of this program BMU students will earn:
2 credits in Science, .5 credit in health and 3.5 elective credits.

After successful completion of only Level I of this program BMU students will earn
1 credit of science, .5 credit of health and 1.5 elective credits.

- **Heavy Equipment Operations & Maintenance – Grades 10-12**

After successful completion of Levels I and II of this program BMU students will earn:
1 credit in mathematics, 1 credit in science and 4 elective credits.

After successful completion of only Level I of this program BMU students will earn
1 credit of mathematics or 1 credit of science and 2 elective credits.

- **Teacher Education (SY 2018-2019 1 Year Only) – Grades 10-12**

After successful completion of this program BMU students will earn
1 credit of social studies and 2 elective credits.

Please refer to the River Bend Career and Technical Center Program of Studies Admission Procedures and Requirements for any questions in regard to placement or intake criteria considerations. Interested individuals can go to River Bend's website, www.rbctc.org for more information.