

Auburn Junior High School  
Auburn, Alabama  
2024-2025 Curriculum Guide





## Auburn Junior High School

Ross T. Reed, Principal

Assistant Principals

Melissa Baker | Chris Daniel | Brittney Luckie

Counselors

Tyler Grant | Donnie Payne | Krystal Pritchett | Mona Patterson

Dear Auburn Junior High School Students and Families,

We are excited to have you with us this school year, and our hope is that your time here will be filled with engaging and meaningful experiences! Your academic success is important to us, and this Curriculum Guide has been created to assist you in making good choices in course selection for 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> grades. In addition, this guide contains useful information for you as you look ahead to high school.

If you have questions or concerns about the information contained in this publication, please feel free to contact any of us.

Ross Reed, Principal

Melissa Baker, Assistant Principal A-F

Brittney Luckie, Assistant Principal G-M

Chris Daniel, Assistant Principal N-Z

Mrs. Krystal Pritchett, Counselor for students with last names A-F

Mrs. Tyler Grant, Counselor for students with last names G-M

Mr. Donnie Payne, Counselor for student with last names N-Z

Mrs. Mona Patterson, Student Support Counselor

# General Information

## Grading Scale

90 – 100 = A

80 – 89 = B

70 – 79 = C

60 – 69 = D

Below 60 = F

## High School Credits

In order to receive credit for a course, a passing grade (60 or higher) must be earned. All 9<sup>th</sup> grade courses are credit-bearing, and 1 credit is awarded either at end of the course (semester-long classes), or .5 credit is awarded at the half-way mark (year-long-alternating-day classes.) 9<sup>th</sup> graders earn 4 credits per semester, for a total of 8 credits per year.

8<sup>th</sup> grade courses are not credit-bearing with the exception of the following: Algebra, Spanish, French, and German. An elective credit is awarded for each of these courses.

## Grade Point Average (GPA)

Grades do not begin figuring into the GPA until 9<sup>th</sup> grade. None of the grades received in 8<sup>th</sup> grade, including those in credit-bearing courses, count towards the GPA.

A = 4 grade points \*

B = 3 grade points \*

C = 2 grade points \*

D = 1 grade point \*

F = 0 grade points

To figure the GPA, add the total number of grade points earned and divide by the number of credits earned.

\*9<sup>th</sup> grade students have the option of taking either Grade Level or Advanced English, Biology, and World History. The Advanced courses are weighted. Students will receive an extra .5 grade point (i.e. 4.5 grade points for an A, 3.5 for a B, etc.).

## **Auburn High School Graduation Requirements**

*26 Credits Required for Graduation*

English.....4 Credits

English 9 or Advanced English 9

English 10 or Advanced English 10

English 11 or AP English 11, Language and Composition or IB English 11

English 12 or AP English 12, Literature and Composition or IB English 12

Mathematics.....4 Credits

The four credits begin in 9<sup>th</sup> grade and must include Geometry with Data Analysis, Algebra 1 with Probability, and Algebra 2 with Statistics

Geometry with Data Analysis

Mathematical Modeling

Algebra 1 with Probability

Pre-Calculus

Algebra 2 with Statistics

AP Calculus

Applications of Finite Mathematics

AP Statistics

AP Computer Science

### **Math Sequence Examples:**

#### **Grade Level**

8<sup>th</sup> Grade – 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Math

9<sup>th</sup> Grade –Geometry with Data Analysis w/ a Math Lab

10<sup>th</sup> Grade –Algebra 1 with Probability

11<sup>th</sup> Grade – Algebra 2 with Statistics

Plus one additional Math Course

#### **Accelerated**

8<sup>th</sup> Grade – Grade 8 Accelerated Math

9<sup>th</sup> Grade – Geometry with Data Analysis w/ a Math Lab

10<sup>th</sup> Grade – Algebra 2 with Statistics

Plus two additional Math course

#### **Accelerated**

8<sup>th</sup> Grade – Grade 8 Accelerated Math

9<sup>th</sup> Grade – Geometry (1 credit) and Algebra II with Statistics (1 credit)

Plus two additional Math courses

Science.....4 Credits

Must complete Biology and a \*Physical Science plus at least two other Science courses.

Biology or Advanced Biology – Required of all 9<sup>th</sup> Graders

AHS Science Course Options

Physical Science (Commonly taken in 10<sup>th</sup> grade)\*

Forensic & Criminal Investigation

Earth Science

Environmental Science

AHS Advanced Science Course Options (.5 or 1 extra grade point awarded)

Chemistry\*

IB/AP Biology

Physics\*

IB/AP Chemistry

Anatomy & Physiology

AP Physics 1

Intro to Biotechnology (Genetics)

AP Physics 2

AP Environmental Science

Social Studies.....4 Credits

9<sup>th</sup> Grade – World History or Advanced World History

10<sup>th</sup> Grade – US History to 1877 OR AP European History

11<sup>th</sup> Grade – US History since 1877 OR AP US History

12<sup>th</sup> Grade – American Government and Economics (Regular OR AP)

NOTE: *Students who take AP European History in 10<sup>th</sup> grade and do not take AP US History in 11<sup>th</sup> must take 10<sup>th</sup> grade US History AND 11<sup>th</sup> grade US History during their junior year.*

Beginning Kinesiology .....1 Credit

JROTC may substitute for Beginning Kinesiology/PE.

Health.....1/2 Credit

Career Preparedness.....1 Credit

Taken in 9<sup>th</sup> Grade.

Electives.....7 ½ Credits

Three elective credits must come from Fine Arts, Career Tech, or World/Foreign Language courses.

Note: *Students are not required to take an elective from each area. They may opt to take all 3 from Fine Arts or 1 from each area, etc.*

### **AHS Diploma Endorsements**

Students may enhance their AHS academic experience by pursuing an Endorsement. Following successful completion of the Endorsement requirements, graduates will receive an official designation stamped on their transcript. This designation will serve as verification of their completion of additional or advanced high school coursework.

#### **Advanced Academic**

- World Language – 2 credits
- Math - Must include Algebra 2 with Statistics plus 1 additional higher-level math
- Science – Must include Biology, a Physical Science and 2 of the advanced Science courses.

#### **Advanced Career/Technical**

- Career Tech Electives – 3 credits
- Math - Must include Algebra II plus 1 additional higher-level math
- Science – Must include Biology, a Physical Science and 2 of the advanced Science courses.

#### **Career/Technical**

- Career Tech Electives – 3 credits

### **International Baccalaureate (IB) Curriculum**

The IB Curriculum is an academically rigorous program which requires students to take all of the IB academic courses (English, Math, Science, and Social Studies) as well as certain electives. The IB curriculum is open to any student with the required prerequisite courses and an interest in a challenging and broad academic program. One of the requirements of the IB program is completion of level 5 of a World/Foreign Language. Actual IB courses do not begin until 11<sup>th</sup> grade, but AJHS students who are interested in possibly pursuing the IB Diploma need to begin taking a World/Foreign Language in 8<sup>th</sup> or 9<sup>th</sup> grade. Opting to take Advanced English, Biology, and World History in 9<sup>th</sup> grade is also recommended as preparation for the IB courses. It is also recommended to take the Health credit in 9<sup>th</sup> grade.

IB courses are weighted. 5 grade points are awarded for an A in the course, 4 for a B, etc.

### **Advanced Placement (AP) Courses**

AP courses are more challenging than grade level courses and help prepare students for the rigor of college coursework. Students may opt to take AP courses beginning in 10<sup>th</sup> grade as long as prerequisites have been met. AP Exams are administered at the end of all AP courses, and college credits can be earned for qualifying scores.

AP courses are weighted. 5 grade points are awarded for an A in the course, 4 for a B, etc.

### **Advanced Courses**

These courses begin in 9<sup>th</sup> grade and continue through high school. While not as rigorous as IB or AP courses, Advanced Courses are certainly more challenging than grade level coursework and students are pushed more to be independent thinkers and workers.

Advanced courses are weighted. 4.5 grade points are awarded for an A in the course, 3.5 for a B, etc.

### **ACCESS Courses**

Online courses are offered to student through the Alabama State Department of Education ACCESS Distance Learning Program. Course are taught by certified teachers through an online course module where assignments, online texts and messages are posted. Students who opt to take an ACCESS course are scheduled for it one block during the school day and report to the computer lab to work under the supervision of a teacher facilitator.

### **Math Placement Test**

In May all 8<sup>th</sup> graders are administered a comprehensive Math test to determine their mastery of the course content. While the grade earned on the assessment does not affect the final grade earned in the course, it does help determine recommended placement for 9<sup>th</sup> grade Math. Therefore, it is very important that students do their very best on this indicator.

### **Math for 8<sup>th</sup> Graders**

All 8<sup>th</sup> grade students who took 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Math (grade level Math) at East Samford School will take 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Math as AJHS 8<sup>th</sup> graders.

All 8<sup>th</sup> grade students who took Grade 7 Accelerated Math can take Grade 8 Accelerated as AJHS 8<sup>th</sup> graders.

### **Schedules**

#### **Typical 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Schedule**

All Year:

- 1<sup>st</sup> block – Language Arts
- 2<sup>nd</sup> block – PE (Blue days)  
Elective (White days)
- 3<sup>rd</sup> block – Math
- 4<sup>th</sup> block – Science (Blue days)  
History (White days)
- 5<sup>th</sup> block – Advisory

#### **Typical 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Schedule**

All Year:

- 1<sup>st</sup> block – English 9 or Advanced English 9 (Blue days)  
Elective (White days)
- 2<sup>nd</sup> block – Career Prep (Blue days)  
Elective (White days)
- 3<sup>rd</sup> block – Math (Geometry with Data Analysis, or Geometry)
- 4<sup>th</sup> block – Biology or Advanced Biology (Blue days)  
World History 9 or Advanced World History 9 (White days)
- 5<sup>th</sup> block – Advisory

## **Summer Offerings**

### **Computer Based Credit Recovery**

9<sup>th</sup> grade students who fail an academic course (English, Math, Science, Social Studies) during the school year must retake it for credit. Students may do so via the online Credit Recovery program either during the second semester of the school year (if the course was failed first semester) or during the month of June (summer school). Students who need to participate in Credit Recovery will be notified and scheduled accordingly. There is no fee for Credit Recovery.

### **Beginning Kinesiology**

AJHS offers Beginning Kinesiology for credit during the month of June. The course is open to students who have completed 8<sup>th</sup> grade. Students attend school during the morning for approximately four weeks and complete the LIFE requirement for graduation. The fee for Summer Life is \$150.00. Registration will take place during February or March.

## **Other Information**

### **English Learners**

Every child enrolled in Alabama schools is to be given a Home Language Survey. If a language other than English is provided on the survey, students in grades 8 and 9 are assessed for English proficiency using the WIDA Screener. These assessment tools are used by educators to measure the English language proficiency of students who have recently arrived in the US or in a particular district. This screening tool is used to determine whether a child is eligible for English language instructional services.

### **Four Year Academic Plans**

The Alabama State Department of Education requires that all 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> graders create a four-year course plan. The counseling team meets with 9<sup>th</sup> grade students via their Career Prep classes and with 8<sup>th</sup> grade students in their Language Arts classes to guide them through the process of creating a road map for their high school course work. The plans are not final in any way but serve as a tool to enable students to learn about their high school course options and to plan accordingly. Students enter their four-year plan online at the Alabama Career Planning System and parents are able to access this document through an access code sent by the student.

### **New Year Course Selection**

Selecting courses for the next school year will occur during the spring semester. Information about the process will be provided to 9<sup>th</sup> graders via their Career Prep classes and to 8<sup>th</sup> graders through their Language Arts classes. Hard copies of the information will be provided and will be posted on the AJHS webpage and in Schoology as well.

Actual course selection will take place online in PowerSchool. Clear directions will be provided for students and parents to complete the process over a two-week period during the Spring Semester.



## **9<sup>th</sup> Grade Course Offerings**

### **Academics**

#### **English Language Arts**

##### **English 9**

**1 English Credit**

**Prerequisite: 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Language Arts**

A course covering world literature, composition, vocabulary, and grammar. *This course meets alternating days all year.*

##### **Advanced English 9**

**1 English Credit**

**Prerequisite: 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Language Arts**

An advanced course covering traditional and contemporary world literature, composition, vocabulary, and grammar. Summer reading is required for Advanced English 9. This course earns an additional .5 quality grade point. Students who do well in 8<sup>th</sup> grade Language Arts and who are considering AP courses in high school are encouraged to take this class. *This course meets alternating days all year.*

### **Mathematics**

##### **Geometry with Data Analysis**

**1 Math Credit**

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

Geometry with Data Analysis is the first of three required courses in high school mathematics. In Geometry with Data Analysis, students incorporate knowledge and skills in Geometry and Measurement, Algebra and Functions, and Data Analysis, Statistics, and Probability, leading to a deeper understanding of fundamental relationships within the discipline and building a solid foundation for further study. The prerequisite for Geometry with Data Analysis is either Grade 8 Mathematics or Grade 8 Accelerated Mathematics. For students who opt to accelerate their mathematical pathways in the 9th grade, Geometry with Data Analysis may also be taken concurrently with Algebra I with Probability.

##### **Math Lab**

**1 Elective Credit**

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

The lab course might review prior knowledge needed for upcoming lessons, reinforce content from previous lessons, or preview upcoming content to ensure that students can fully participate in the required content class.

## **Semester Long Geometry w/ Data Analysis**

### **1 Math Credit**

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

Geometry with Data Analysis is the first of three required courses in high school mathematics. In Geometry with Data Analysis, students incorporate knowledge and skills in Geometry and Measurement, Algebra and Functions, and Data Analysis, Statistics, and Probability, leading to a deeper understanding of fundamental relationships within the discipline and building a solid foundation for further study. The prerequisite for Geometry with Data Analysis is either Grade 8 Mathematics or Grade 8 Accelerated Mathematics. For students who opt to accelerate their mathematical pathways in the 9th grade, Geometry with Data Analysis may also be taken concurrently with Algebra I with Probability.

## **Algebra I w/ Probability**

### **1 Math Credit**

**Prerequisite: Geometry**

Students will study functions including linear, absolute value, quadratic, and exponential; and functions as explicit (relation between input and output) and recursive (relation between successive values). Properties of algebra are applied to convert between forms of expressions and to solve equations (factoring, completing the square, rules of powers, and radicals). Other topics included are graphing equations and inequalities and concepts of probability. *This course meets daily second semester.*

## **Algebra II w/ Statistics**

### **1 Math Credit**

**Prerequisite: Algebra I and Geometry**

A fast-paced course offered to students who have successfully completed Algebra I and Geometry. Major topics include functions (linear, quadratic, polynomial, exponential, logarithmic, trigonometric) and their graphs; system of equations and inequalities; rational expressions; irrational and complex numbers. *This course meets daily second semester.*

## **Science**

### **Biology**

#### **1 Science Credit**

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

The purpose of all subjects is to make students more productive citizens by equipping them with basic knowledge of the world around them. Biology provides an understanding on how the world functions, interactions between living organisms and our relationship with the earth. This course is taught using an inquiry approach. Inquiry places a high premium on students using process skills to learn the content objectives. Since this is an inquiry-based course, attendance is absolutely necessary for success. Many in-class experiences cannot be simulated at home or done outside of class. An emphasis is also placed on the importance of learning Science vocabulary and making the connection between vocabulary and content. Other instructional techniques may include lecture, labs, homework, and projects. *This course is alternating blue/white day.*

**Advanced Biology****1 Science Credit****Prerequisite: 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Science**

A first year high school Biology course which is intended to help prepare students for Advanced Placement (AP) Biology as well as other advanced Science courses offered at Auburn High School. This is a hands-on course using unique learning techniques to introduce the student to the structure of matter, its changes and the energy involved in supporting life, the different forms of life, and the interconnections of the abiotic/biotic. A comprehensive approach to learning will be emphasized. For many students, Biology is the first course requiring enhanced learning and skill usage. Advanced Biology will be a fast-moving course that will require students to study outside of class to internalize the concepts and gain problem solving skills. *This course is alternating blue/white day.*

**Social Studies****World History****1 Social Studies Credit****Prerequisite: 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Social Studies**

A 9<sup>th</sup> grade level social studies course that is a chronological survey of major events and issues: European exploration, absolutism, Enlightenment and revolutions, industrialization and imperialism, the World Wars, the Cold War and modern day, and geographic changes that have influenced aspects of life during and after events. Students are introduced to important literary and historical thinking skills while exploring content. *This course is alternating blue/white day.*

**Advanced World History****1 Social Studies Credit****Prerequisite: 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Social Studies**

An advanced 9<sup>th</sup> grade social studies course designed to guide students to in-depth knowledge of the major concepts and themes associated with modern world history. Students apply knowledge through technical writing, logical analysis of documents, research, and use of data to support answers to value-based questions. While encountering content, students practice important literary and historical thinking skills such as sourcing, contextualization, corroboration, and close-reading. Strong reading and writing skills are necessary to be successful in this course, and more work outside of class is required. *This course is alternating blue/white day.*

## Other Required Course

### **Career Preparedness**

**1 Career Prep Credit**

**Prerequisite: None**

The Career Preparedness course focuses on three integrated areas of instruction—academic planning and career development, financial literacy, and technology. Course content ranges from college and career preparation to computer literacy skills to ways to manage personal finances and reduce personal risk. The area of technology is designed to be interwoven throughout course instruction. Mastery of the content standards provides a strong foundation for student acquisition of the skills, attitudes, and knowledge that enables them to achieve success in school, at work, and across the life span. *This course is required of all 9<sup>th</sup> graders and meets alternating days all year.*

## **8<sup>th</sup> Grade Course Offerings**

### **Academics**

#### **English Language Arts**

##### **English Language Arts**

##### **No Credit**

Language Arts is characterized by thematic units that incorporate novels, short stories, poetry, and nonfiction with writing, speaking and listening. Language lessons are integrated throughout. This course is required of all 8<sup>th</sup> graders. *This course is required of all 8<sup>th</sup> graders and meets daily all year.*

#### **Mathematics**

##### **8<sup>th</sup> Grade Math**

##### **No Credit**

The 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Math course emphasizes reasoning and problem solving. Students will use linear equations and systems of linear equations to represent, analyze, and solve a variety of problems. They will also define, evaluate, and compare functions while using them to model relationships between quantities. In addition to this, students will analyze two and three dimensional figures using distance, angles, transformations, similarity, and congruence. Students will understand the statement of the Pythagorean Theorem and its converse, and be able to apply the Theorem to solve problems. This course will serve as an introduction to the concepts found in Algebra 1. *This course is required of all 8<sup>th</sup> graders coming from grade level 7<sup>th</sup> grade Math. It meets daily all year.*

##### **Grade 8 Accelerated Math**

##### **1 Elective Credit**

##### **Prerequisite: Grade 7 Accelerated Math**

The Grade 8 Accelerated course has been carefully aligned and designed for middle school students who have completed the Grade 7 Accelerated course and show particular motivation and interest in mathematics. In Grade 8 Accelerated, there are four content areas: Number Systems and Operations; Algebra and Functions; Data Analysis, Statistics, and Probability; and Geometry and Measurement. The algebra focus is on quadratic relationships. *This course meets daily all year.*

## Science

### Science/Physical Science

#### No Credit

The 8<sup>th</sup> grade Physical Science course uses the Alabama Course of Study as standards for instruction. The content of the course focuses on basic chemistry and physics concepts. Concepts include: (a)Matter and Its Interactions, (b)Motion and Stability: Forces and Interactions, (c)Energy, and (d)Waves and Their Applications in Technologies for Information Transfer. The course uses a hands-on approach to learning that incorporates multiple levels of inquiry. *This course is required of all 8<sup>th</sup> graders and meets alternating blue/white day.*

## Social Studies

### Social Studies/World History

#### No Credit

The study of world history in grade 8 addresses the time period from prehistoric man to the 1500s. Content standards for this grade incorporate the strands of economics, geography, history, and political science, with an emphasis on the history and geography strands. Course content focuses on the migrations of early peoples, the rise of civilizations, the establishment of government and religions, the growth of economic systems, and ways in which these events shaped Europe, Asia, Africa, and the Americas. Unique to this course are experiences that provide for the study of how human beings view themselves over time. *This course is required of all 8<sup>th</sup> graders and meets alternating blue/white day.*

## Other Required Course

### Physical Education (PE)

#### No Credit

A required course for all 8<sup>th</sup> graders in the state of Alabama. Nine weeks of the course are committed to the state Health curriculum. *This course meets alternating days all year.*

## **9<sup>th</sup> Grade Electives**

### **Career Technical**

#### **Intro to Engineering Design**

##### **1 Elective Credit**

**Prerequisite: Must be on grade level in Math.**

This course develops student problem solving skills, with emphasis placed upon the concept of developing a 3-D model or solid rendering of an object. Students focus on the application of visualization processes and tools provided by modern, state-of-the-art computer hardware and software. This modern computer-based process complements the traditional hand drawing methods. This course will emphasize the design development process of a product and how a model of that product is produced, analyzed and evaluated, using a computer aided design system. Various design applications will be explored with discussion of possible career opportunities.

#### **Hospitality and Tourism**

##### **1 Elective Credit**

**Prerequisite: None**

This course is the prerequisite for the classes in the Restaurant, Food and Beverage Service pathway at Auburn High School. Major topics include introduction to hospitality and tourism, recreation, travel and tourism, lodging, restaurants and food and beverage services, culinary arts, safety and sanitation, customer relations, and quality services. *This course meets daily one semester.*

#### **Army LET I (JROTC)**

##### **1 Elective or PE Credit**

**Prerequisite: None**

This course offers study in leadership theory and application, foundations for success, communication/study skills, citizenship, military customs and courtesies, physical training, drill, first aid, and the history and objectives of JROTC. *This course meets alternating days all year at Auburn High School and bus transportation is provided to and from.*

### **Fine Arts**

#### **9<sup>th</sup> Grade Visual Art**

##### **.5 Elective Credit**

**Prerequisite: None**

A class that is designed to study and draw inspiration from specific artists, art movements, and cultures that have been instrumental in developing the way that art is perceived today. Students will investigate a variety of techniques using two- and three-dimensional media. Students will maintain a portfolio of

studio work, a sketchbook, and have written assignments researching artists and movements. Grades will be based on Art Projects and Sketchbooks. *This course meets alternating days for one semester.*

## **Theatre I**

**1 Elective Credit**

**Prerequisite: None**

A course where students will study and participate in theatre activities in class (warm-up activities, theatre games, pantomime, improvisation, acting techniques, monologue presentations, ensemble-acting presentations, etc.). Students are required to participate in many in-class performances both as a solo actor and as part of a group. *This course meets alternating days all year.*

## **Anthem (Mixed Choir)**

**1 Elective Credit**

**Prerequisite: Audition**

**Course Fee: \$100**

They are the mixed concert choir of boys and girls (8th and 9th). They primarily are a standing choir that sings concert and pop music and they do a little bit of show choir for the Spring Show. There are only a few after school commitments, mainly just the 2 concerts each semester. Choir fee is \$100.

## **Audacity**

**1 Elective Credit**

**Prerequisite: Audition**

**Course Fee: \$150**

This course is the intermediate - advanced girls' choral ensemble (20 members or less) and is designed for strong vocal students who are ready to read and sing three-part music. This group performs concert, holiday and pop literature throughout the year at multiple performances – concerts and festivals. These students are strongly encouraged to audition for the Alabama All-State chorus. All choral students are eligible to travel with the choirs if grades are satisfactory. Uniforms must be rented from choral music teacher; other general choral fees apply (\$150). Students must complete a brief audition for the choral teacher which includes singing "Happy Birthday" and sight-reading simple music examples. *This course meets alternating days all year.*

## **Adrenaline**

**1 Elective Credit**

**Prerequisite: Audition**

**Course Fee: \$200**

This course is the intermediate - advanced mixed choir (35 – 45 members) and is designed for students who are ready to read and sing four-part music. This group performs both concert and show choir literature throughout the year at multiple performances (concerts, festivals and competitions). These students are strongly encouraged to audition for the Alabama All-State chorus. All choral students are eligible to travel with the choirs if grades are satisfactory. Uniforms must be rented from choral music teacher; other general and show choir fees apply (\$200 total). Students must complete a brief audition



for the choral teacher which includes singing “Happy Birthday” and sight-reading simple music examples. *This course meets alternating days all year.*

### **Harmonizing Instruments**

**.5 Elective Credit**

**Prerequisite: None**

This course is designed for all students regardless of instrumental experience. Equal time is given each semester to the piano then the ukulele and then the guitar. Emphasis will be placed on the basics of reading music, understanding chords and developing skills to “play by ear.” Throughout the semester, students will perform in front of each other as individuals and also in small groups (unique performances are also possible - usually by invitation). All work is done during class time. *This course meets alternating days for one semester.*

### **Concert Band**

**1 Elective Credit**

**Prerequisite: Audition**

**Course Fee: \$70**

This one credit course is a performing ensemble with class activities aimed at improving each student’s master of the basic band performance skills. Please see “After School Rehearsals” below for an explanation of the required after school rehearsal schedule for the marching and concert seasons. Participation is by audition and placement and at least one year of band instruction is required as pre-requisite for all band classes at AJHS. Any exceptions must be discussed with the band director to allow late entry into the program. *This course meets alternating days all year.*

### **Symphonic Band**

**1 Elective Credit**

**Prerequisite: Audition**

**Course Fee: \$70**

This one credit course is a performing ensemble with class activities aimed at improving each student’s master of the basic band performance skills. Please see “After School Rehearsals” below for an explanation of the required after school rehearsal schedule for the marching and concert seasons. Participation is by audition and placement and at least one year of band instruction is required as prerequisite for all band classes at AJHS. Any exceptions must be discussed with the band director to allow late entry into the program. *The course meets alternating days all year.*

### **Wind Symphony**

**1 Elective Credit**

**Prerequisite: Audition**

**Course Fee: \$70**

This one credit course provides students with the opportunity for the performance of the most advanced music written for the wind band medium at the developing band level. In addition, class activities are aimed at improving each student’s practice and mastery of basic band performance skills.

Please see “After School Rehearsals” below for an explanation of the required after school rehearsal schedule for the marching and concert seasons. Participation is by audition and placement and at least one year of band instruction is required as prerequisite for all band classes at AJHS. Any exceptions must be discussed with the band director to allow late entry into the program. *This course meets alternating days all year.*

### **Percussion Methods**

#### **1 Elective Credit**

**Prerequisite: Audition**

**Course Fee: \$70**

This one credit course is a performing ensemble consisting of all percussion students in the band program at AJHS. Class activities are aimed at improving each student’s mastery of basic to advanced percussion skills through the rehearsal of band repertoire and percussion ensemble repertoire. Please see “After School Rehearsals” below for an explanation of the required after school rehearsal schedule for the marching, concert, and contest seasons. Participation is by placement and at least one year of band instruction is required as pre-requisite for percussion methods. Any exceptions must be discussed with the band director to allow late entry into the program. *This course meets alternating days all year.*

### **After School Rehearsals**

After school rehearsals for the AJHS Concert Band, Symphonic Band, Wind Symphony, and Percussion Ensemble will be announced as needed throughout the year. Each student is expected to attend all band functions unless excused by the band director. 9th grade members of the AJHS Band Program can also participate as a member of the **AHS Marching Band**. During football season, the marching band will rehearse after school from 3:30 - 5:30 p.m. on Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays. The marching band also participates in the AHS football games, the AHS Homecoming Parade as well as the Auburn Chamber of Commerce Holiday Parade and numerous other events.

### **Jazz Ensemble**

#### **1 Elective Credit**

**Prerequisite: Audition**

This one credit, zero-period course currently operates as a jazz-rock-pop ensemble. Subject matter includes study and performance of both traditional and current forms of America's only native art form. Participation is by audition. *This course meets before school daily all year.*

### **Music Appreciation**

#### **1 Elective Credit**

**Prerequisite: None**

This class is a non-performance course that explores the elements and history of music. It encourages students to view music as an ingredient of the student’s own life, and of human life in all cultures. It uses history as a vehicle for understanding of how music has fulfilled basic human purposes in other ages and present times. Content is divided between music history and a study of musical elements

through musical theory and listening. There is no prior experience or pre-requisite musical study required for participation. *This course meets alternating days all year.*

### **Music Technology**

#### **1 Elective Credit**

**Prerequisite: None**

This class is for 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> graders interested in learning how to create, record, and produce music with GarageBand. A variety of music technology related topics will be covered from songwriting to recording and audio mixing techniques to how to use professional audio equipment like microphones and sound boards. Major grades are all hands-on and project based.

## **World Languages**

*Note: World Language courses are high school level credit-bearing courses for both 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> grade students. Outside study will be required and many students find the courses rigorous. A strong interest and work ethic are needed for success in these courses.*

### **French 1 (Available on ACCESS Only)**

#### **1 World Language Elective Credit**

**Prerequisite: None**

This course introduces students to basic structures and vocabulary of the French language. Emphasis is placed on developing proper pronunciation as well as listening and reading skills. The text *Discovering French Today!* is used along with audio files, workbooks, and supplementary videos and reading materials. Cultural focus is on French speaking countries, France, and the city of Paris. Students will have to study consistently to be successful in this challenging elective course. *This course meets alternating days all year.*

### **French 2 (Available on ACCESS only)**

#### **1 World Language Elective Credit**

**Prerequisite: French 1**

This course continues the basic study of the French language with the introduction of past verb tenses. Students learn to read short, simplified texts and to write and speak short passages and dialogues, continuing to develop communication skills. The French provinces and departments, French holidays, and food are focuses for cultural units. The text *Discovering French Today!* is used with accompanying audio files, workbooks and supplementary videos and reading materials. A strong background in French 1 material is advised. Students will have to study consistently to be successful in this challenging elective course. *This course meets alternating days all year.*

### **German 1 (Available on ACCESS only)**

#### **1 World Language Elective Credit**

**Prerequisite: None**

In the first course of German, students will learn to understand, speak, read, and write basic German. Students practice daily with listening exercises, working with a partner, and responding to directed questions from the teacher. In addition, students will gain an understanding of German culture as well as an understanding of the German-speaking countries in Europe. *This course meets alternating days all year.*

### **German 2 (Available on ACCESS only)**

**1 World Language Elective Credit**

**Prerequisite: German 1**

The second German course builds upon what students have learned in the previous course. This course enlarges the vocabulary of the students and expands their knowledge of German grammar. In this course, students will begin to communicate in the past tense. Students will enhance their reading, writing, listening, and speaking abilities in this course. *This course meets alternating days all year.*

### **Spanish 1**

**1 World Language Elective Credit**

**Prerequisite: None**

Students are introduced to basic language structures with an emphasis on the present tense. Students are presented basic vocabulary themes commonly used in everyday communication. Students will begin to develop listening, writing and speaking skills using the Spanish language. *This course meets alternating days all year.*

### **Spanish 2**

**1 World Language Elective Credit**

**Prerequisite: Spanish 1 (Per the AJHS Spanish teachers, an 80 average in the second semester of Spanish 1 is recommended.)**

Spanish 2 builds on the foundation developed in Spanish 1. In Spanish 2 students will progress gradually into more complex grammatical structures including the past tense and will continue to develop communication skills. Introduction of the basic use of the Imperfect Past Tense will be introduced at this level. *This course meets alternating days all year.*

## Miscellaneous Electives

### **Beginning Kinesiology**

**1 PE Credit**

**Prerequisite: None**

A one-time required course for graduation which can be taken any year of high school, providing students with a blueprint for a lifetime of healthy living. Through the LIFE course, students acquire information regarding various aspects of fitness and apply this learning to assess their own fitness levels. In addition, students will acquire the tools to develop an individualized fitness plan. *This course meets alternating days all year.*

Note: LIFE must be taken one time before graduation. It does not have to be taken in 9<sup>th</sup> grade.

### **Health (Required in 9<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup>, or 12<sup>th</sup> grade)**

**.5 Elective Credit**

**Prerequisite: None**

A course, required for graduation from high school in Alabama, in which students are exposed to general information concerning good health practices so they may make better lifestyle decisions. Content areas covered are physical health, mental/emotional health, social health, physical fitness, first aid-CPR, nutrition, systems of the body and their functions, substance abuse, human sexuality/abstinence, and disease prevention. *This course meets alternating days for one semester.*

### **Auxiliary**

**1 Elective Credit**

**Prerequisite: Must be a member of the AHS Marching Band Majorettes or Color Guard**

A performing ensemble consisting of all students who are selected for the marching band color guard and majorettes. Class activities are aimed at improving each student's mastery of basic to advanced marching band and indoor auxiliary skills. After school rehearsals are required. *This course meets at AHS 1<sup>st</sup> block daily first semester. Transportation to and from AHS is provided.*

### **English as a Second Language (ESL)**

**1 Elective Credit**

**Prerequisite: Qualifying Score (5.0 or lower) on the WIDA Screener**

This class will focus on reading, speaking, listening, and writing in English based on the WIDA Consortium English Language Proficiency Standards and the Alabama College and Career Readiness Standards. We will read text to develop fluency and apply reading strategies, and we will build on vocabulary and grammar. We will use vocabulary in speaking and writing. *This course meets alternating days all year.*

### **ACCESS (Web-based/Online Courses)**

**Course Code: Varies**

**.5 or 1 Elective Credit (Dependent on the course selected)**

**Prerequisite: None**

Online courses are offered through the Alabama State Department of Education ACCESS Distance Learning Program. Courses are taught by certified teachers through an online course module where assignments, online texts and messages are posted. Student access the online courses in a computer lab during the assigned block in their school day schedule. The computer lab is monitored by an ACCESS facilitator to assist students. Students considering ACCESS course need to have a good work ethic and should also be comfortable using a computer and working on the Internet. See or email Mrs. Pickens ([sgpickens@auburnschools.org](mailto:sgpickens@auburnschools.org)), AJHS Academic Counselor, for a list of available courses.

**Resource****1 Elective Credit****Prerequisite: Per IEP**

A course for students with Individualized Education Plans (IEPs) to receive help with general education course assignments. Students are scheduled for Resource per their Special Education Case Managers. *This course generally meets alternating days all year.*

## **8<sup>th</sup> Grade Electives**

### **Fine Arts**

#### **Art**

##### **No Credit**

A class that is designed to study and draw inspiration from specific artists, art movements, and cultures that have been instrumental in developing the way that art is perceived today. Students will investigate a variety of techniques using two- and three-dimensional media. Students will maintain a portfolio of studio work, a sketchbook, and have written assignments researching artists and movements. *This course meets alternating days all year.*

#### **Theatre**

##### **No Credit**

A course where students will study and participate in theatre activities in class (warm-up activities, theatre games, pantomime, improvisation, acting techniques, monologue presentations, ensemble-acting presentations, etc.). Students will learn the basics of theatre (types of stages, stage turns, acting techniques through voice and movement, storytelling, characterization, musical theatre, and history of theatre. Students are required to participate in many in-class performances both as a solo actor and an ensemble actor. *This course meets alternating days all year.*

#### **Anthem (Mixed Choir)**

##### **No Credit**

**Prerequisite: Audition**

**Course Fee: \$150**

They are the mixed concert choir of boys and girls (8th and 9th). They primarily are a standing choir that sings concert and pop music and they do a little bit of show choir for the Spring Show. There are only a few after school commitments, mainly just the 2 concerts each semester. Choir fee is \$100.

#### **Audacity**

##### **No Credit**

**Prerequisite: Audition**

**Course Fee: \$150**

This course is the intermediate - advanced girls' choral ensemble (20 members or less) and is designed for strong vocal students who are ready to read and sing three-part music. This group performs concert, holiday and pop literature throughout the year at multiple performances – concerts and festivals. These students are strongly encouraged to audition for the Alabama All-State chorus. All choral students are eligible to travel with the choirs if grades are satisfactory. Uniforms must be rented from choral music teacher; other general choral fees apply (\$150). Students must complete a brief audition for the choral teacher which includes singing "Happy Birthday" and sight-reading simple music examples. *This course meets alternating days all year.*

**Adrenaline**  
**No Credit**  
**Prerequisite: Audition**  
**Course Fee: \$200**

This course is the intermediate - advanced mixed choir (35 – 45 members) and is designed for students who are ready to read and sing four-part music. This group performs both concert and show choir literature throughout the year at multiple performances (concerts, festivals and competitions). These students are strongly encouraged to audition for the Alabama All-State chorus. All choral students are eligible to travel with the choirs if grades are satisfactory. Uniforms must be rented from choral music teacher; other general and show choir fees apply (\$200 total). Students must complete a brief audition for the choral teacher which includes singing “Happy Birthday” and sight-reading simple music examples. *This course meets alternating days all year.*

**Concert Band**  
**No Credit**  
**Prerequisite: Audition**  
**Course Fee: \$70**

This one credit course is a performing ensemble with class activities aimed at improving each student’s master of the basic band performance skills. Please see “After School Rehearsals” below for an explanation of the required after school rehearsal schedule for the marching and concert seasons. Participation is by audition and placement and at least one year of band instruction is required as pre-requisite for all band classes at AJHS. Any exceptions must be discussed with the band director to allow late entry into the program. *This course meets alternating days all year.*

**Symphonic Band**  
**No Credit**  
**Prerequisite: Audition**  
**Course Fee: \$70**

This one credit course is a performing ensemble with class activities aimed at improving each student’s master of the basic band performance skills. Please see “After School Rehearsals” below for an explanation of the required after school rehearsal schedule for the marching and concert seasons. Participation is by audition and placement and at least one year of band instruction is required as prerequisite for all band classes at AJHS. Any exceptions must be discussed with the band director to allow late entry into the program. *The course meets alternating days all year.*

**Wind Symphony**  
**No Credit**  
**Prerequisite: Audition**  
**Course Fee: \$70**

This one credit course provides students with the opportunity for the performance of the most advanced music written for the wind band medium at the developing band level. In addition, class activities are aimed at improving each student’s practice and mastery of basic band performance skills. Please see “After School Rehearsals” below for an explanation of the required after school rehearsal



schedule for the marching and concert seasons. Participation is by audition and placement and at least one year of band instruction is required as prerequisite for all band classes at AJHS. Any exceptions must be discussed with the band director to allow late entry into the program. *This course meets alternating days all year.*

### **Percussion Methods**

**No Credit**

**Prerequisite: Audition**

**Course Fee: \$70**

This one credit course is a performing ensemble consisting of all percussion students in the band program at AJHS. Class activities are aimed at improving each student's mastery of basic to advanced percussion skills through the rehearsal of band repertoire and percussion ensemble repertoire. Please see "After School Rehearsals" below for an explanation of the required after school rehearsal schedule for the marching, concert, and contest seasons. Participation is by placement and at least one year of band instruction is required as pre-requisite for percussion methods. Any exceptions must be discussed with the band director to allow late entry into the program. *This course meets alternating days all year.*

### **After School Rehearsals**

After school rehearsals for the AJHS Concert Band, Symphonic Band, Wind Symphony, and Percussion Ensemble will be announced as needed throughout the year. Each student is expected to attend all band functions unless excused by the band director. 9th grade members of the AJHS Band Program can also participate as a member of the **AHS Marching Band**. During football season, the marching band will rehearse after school from 3:30 - 5:30 p.m. on Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays. The marching band also participates in the AHS football games, the AHS Homecoming Parade as well as the Auburn Chamber of Commerce Holiday Parade and numerous other events.

### **Jazz Ensemble**

**No Credit**

**Prerequisite: Audition**

This one credit, zero-period course currently operates as a jazz-rock-pop ensemble. Subject matter includes study and performance of both traditional and current forms of America's only native art form. Participation is by audition. *This course meets before school daily all year.*

### **Music Appreciation**

**No Credit**

**Prerequisite: None**

This class is a non-performance course that explores the elements and history of music. It encourages students to view music as an ingredient of the student's own life, and of human life in all cultures. It uses history as a vehicle for understanding of how music has fulfilled basic human purposes in other ages and present times. Content is divided between music history and a study of musical elements through musical theory and listening. There is no prior experience or pre-requisite musical study required for participation. *This course meets alternating days all year.*

### **Music Technology**

**Credits: None**

**Prerequisite: None**

This class is for 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> graders interested in learning how to create, record, and produce music with GarageBand. A variety of music technology related topics will be covered from songwriting to recording and audio mixing techniques to how to use professional audio equipment like microphones and sound boards. Major grades are all hands-on and project based.

## **World Languages**

*Note: World Language courses are high school level credit-bearing courses for both 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> grade students. Outside study will be required and many students find the courses rigorous. A strong interest and work ethic are needed for success in these courses.*

### **Spanish 1**

**1 World Language Elective Credit**

**Prerequisite: None**

Students are introduced to basic language structures with an emphasis on the present tense. Students are presented basic vocabulary themes commonly used in everyday communication. Students will begin to develop listening, writing and speaking skills using the Spanish language. *This course meets alternating days all year.*

## Miscellaneous Electives

### **Automation and Robotics (Project Lead The Way Engineering)**

**No Credit**

**Prerequisite:** Students must be at least on grade level in Math.

Utilizing the Activity, Project, Problem Based (APB) instructional approach, students trace the history, development, and influence of automation and robotics. Students focus on mechanical systems, energy transfer, machine automation, and computer control systems to develop designs and solutions. The VEX Robotics® platform is used to design, build, and program real-world objects such as traffic lights, toll booths, and robotic arms. *This course meets alternating days all year.*

### **English as a Second Language (ESL)**

**No Credit**

**Prerequisite:** Qualifying Score (5.0 or lower) on the WIDA Screener

This class will focus on reading, speaking, listening, and writing in English based on the WIDA Consortium English Language Proficiency Standards and the Alabama College and Career Readiness Standards. We will read text to develop fluency and apply reading strategies, and we will build on vocabulary and grammar. We will use vocabulary in speaking and writing. *This course meets alternating days all year.*

### **Resource**

**No Credit**

**Prerequisite:** Per IEP

A course for students with Individualized Education Plans (IEPs) to receive help with general education course assignments. Students are scheduled for Resource per their Special Education Case Managers. *This course meets alternating days all year.*