

Good Afternoon!

On Thursday, January 18th, Mr. Arnolts, HS Principal and Mrs. Howse, the HS Counselor will meet with the 8th grade class to give information regarding potential freshman year classes and talk about high school. Core courses (English, math, science, and Drivers Education) will be pre-scheduled for your students. Math and Science placement is determined by grades, STAR scores, and teacher recommendation. This class will be specific to your student on their Course Request Sheet the night of Freshman Orientation (we are still waiting on all test scores.) Driver Education is determined by birthday and age (see below for specifics.) Your students will be looking at selecting their electives (including their PE options and if they would like to take social studies). This will be an initial selection and you will learn more at Freshman Orientation. Parents and students will make final decisions regarding course selection at Orientation. Course selection forms will be due to Mrs. Howse when you leave Freshman Orientation Wednesday night.

This is an informational email to share with you the course descriptions and freshman requirements so you can start discussing course options with your student. Next week, we will be sending out specific information about Freshman Orientation, which will take place Wednesday, January 24th at 5:30. We look forward to having you and your student(s) in the building to hear from our awesome teachers!

## **FRESHMAN REQUIREMENTS**

As a freshman, students take the following courses:

- English 1
- Math (Algebra 1, Advanced Algebra 1, or Advanced Geometry)
- Biology or Advanced Biology
- Health/PE (Viking Fit or Strength)/Driver Ed (combination of 1 each semester)
- Four electives of their choice
  - Make sure to think about future classes students will want to take - introduction classes that are required to move on in a program
  - Freshman Social Science elective classes are not required but recommended in order to meet graduation requirements
    - .5 credit (semester) of Civics (required in sophomore year)
    - 1 credit (year) of US History (required in junior or senior year)
    - 1 credit (year) of Social Studies Electives, which may include:
      - .5 credit (semester) Civilizations (freshman or sophomore year)
      - .5 credit (semester) Modern Themes of World History (freshman or sophomore year)
      - .5 credit (semester) Psychology (junior or senior year)
      - .5 credit (semester) Sociology (junior or senior year)
      - 1 credit (semester) AP Psychology (junior or senior year)

### **Driver Education Placement**

We place students in Driver Education based on birthday and age. No incoming Freshmen students will be placed into Summer Drivers Education due to numbers.

If your student's birthday falls between 03/02/2009 and 07/09/2009 your student has a spot in our Fall 2024 Drivers Education class. They will take their permit test in early September and need to hold their permit for 9 months to be eligible for a license. These students will complete the behind the wheel portion during the Spring 2025 semester. The behind the wheel portion is not a class listed on the student's schedule. They will miss class 8 times in the spring to complete their driving hours with Mr. McCormick.

If your student's birthday falls between 07/11/2009 and 09/29/2009 your student has a spot in our Spring 2024 Drivers Education class. They will take their permit test in January and need to hold their permit for 9 months to be eligible for a license. These students will complete the behind the wheel portion during the Fall 2025 semester. This is not a class listed on the student's schedule. They will miss class 8 times during the fall semester to complete their driving hours with Mr. McCormick. **\*\*Students have to complete the behind the wheel portion of Drivers Education in order to obtain their Drivers License. These students will not be eligible for their license until November 2025.** If you want your student to receive their license on their birthday, we recommend you look for Drivers Education classes outside of TV. We apologize for this inconvenience, but wanted to give you advance notice so you can find a spot for your student elsewhere. The state requires a student to be 15 in order to take their permit test and take the class.

These dates are not finalized, and it is likely that more students will be moved into both first and second semester as I learn about older students who are enrolling in an outside agency.

If your student has a birthday that schedules him/her for Drivers Education within the school year, but you plan to take it elsewhere, please send me an email ASAP ([ehowse@tri-valley3.org](mailto:ehowse@tri-valley3.org)). If you have questions about when your student is eligible to take Driver Education, I would recommend you wait until April to contact me or ask at Orientation. I will not be able to give you more details than above until schedules are being created.

I hope this email is helpful! We will definitely go over freshman year in more detail during Freshman Orientation.

Thanks,  
 Emily Howse  
 School Counselor  
 Tri-Valley High School

\*\*Included below are the Freshman Course Descriptions and a sample Registration Form. Students will bring home a registration form Thursday as an example. I will have a registration form in your Orientation Packet next Wednesday that will have their specific Math course listed and if they qualify to take Drivers Ed, this will be your official Request Sheet that will be turned in at the end of Orientation. If you would like to see course descriptions for Sophomore-Senior years those are on my website, <http://tvhsounseling.weebly.com/course-descriptions.html>.

## 2024-2025 FRESHMEN - REQUIRED COURSES:

<b>ENGLISH</b> Required for graduation	<b>ENGLISH 1:</b> (1 credit) Students will immerse themselves in a variety of literary forms, examining these forms in order to become competent readers, writers, speakers, and listeners. Over the course of the year, students will engage texts in order to answer questions and learn new questions to ask. The course will place emphasis on integrating the reading and writing of different forms of language, with a view to enabling students to effectively interact with language in their world.
<b>MATH</b> Required for graduation	<b>ALGEBRA 1:</b> (1 credit) Algebra 1 shall provide students with an introduction to the concepts of algebra, and at the same time, solidify their grasp of arithmetic concepts and procedures. It will also provide exploratory experience in problem solving. A student who is successful with this program should be ready to move into Geometry. <b>PREREQUISITE:</b> Placement is determined by grades in Algebra Essentials, STAR test scores and teacher recommendation.

	<p><b>ADVANCED ALGEBRA 1:</b> (1 credit) This college-preparatory course is designed to help the student understand the basic structure of the real number system, through the use of factoring, solving equations and inequalities, working with polynomials, and graphing. <b>PREREQUISITE:</b> Placement is determined by grades in Algebra Essentials, STAR test scores and teacher recommendation.</p> <p><b>ADVANCED GEOMETRY:</b> (1 credit) Plane Geometry stresses the development of deductive proof. Concepts of solid geometry are integrated with plane geometry in addition to units on trigonometry, area and volume, constructions and loci, coordinate geometry and transformations. Algebra skills are reviewed and strengthened through application to solving problems in geometry. <b>PREREQUISITE:</b> Students must successfully complete Advanced Algebra 1 or Algebra 1 with teacher approval.</p>
<p><b>PE/STRENGTH/ HEALTH/DRIVER ED</b> Select a combination of courses to earn 1 credit.</p> <p>Health is required for graduation</p>	<p><b>HEALTH:</b> (1/2 credit) The students will review basic concepts of health and advanced concepts and career information in each area. Units include anatomy of some organ systems, community health, diseases and epidemiology, controlled substances, first aid/CPR/AED, environmental health, mental health, values clarification, and family life. Students are asked to make value judgments and are encouraged to begin lifelong health habits.</p> <p><b>STRENGTH:</b> (1/2 credit per semester) Weight training, agility and speed training activities are the main focus of this elective class. Students are expected to be very motivated in striving to reach their personal goals of strength and or fitness.</p> <p><b>VIKING FIT:</b> (1/2 credit per semester) This course offers students the opportunity to participate in a number of activities, which promote the integration of physical, mental, emotional, and social development. Students will engage in a variety of moderate to vigorous physical activities that promote lifelong health and wellness through a curriculum of fitness-based and sport-based activities. Rules, skills and game play will be introduced during individual and team activities, and the fitness center will be utilized on a regular basis. Students are required to dress in a PE uniform purchased through the physical education department and are expected to be active participants on a daily basis.</p> <p><b>DRIVER EDUCATION:</b> (1/2 Credit) Students must be 15 by the first day of class to enroll in Driver Ed as well as passed eight classes in the last two semesters. Placement into the class is automatic by birth date, unless a student has indicated they will be taking the class through an outside agency or would like to wait to take the class. The driver education program at Tri-Valley consists of nine weeks in the classroom, a minimum of six hours of behind the wheel driving and six hours of observation. The classroom deals with topics of safe defensive driving attitudes and the logic for them. The driving puts the classroom theory into practical application with as many driving situations being covered as time allows. A fee of \$250/student is charged to offset the expenses incurred. <b>PREREQUISITE:</b> Students are placed in this class based on their birthdate.</p>

<p><b>SCIENCE</b> Required for graduation</p>	<p><b>ADVANCED BIOLOGY:</b> (1 credit) Advanced Biology is a course designed to help students develop a thorough understanding of how all areas of science are involved in living organisms. It covers life processes and interactions at a cellular, organism, population and ecosystem level. Students will investigate biological science through lecture and apply this knowledge in numerous hands-on laboratory exercises and experiments. Topics of instruction integrate lab safety, tools and techniques, cytology, cellular energy, genetics, ecology, evolution, and classification into all living organisms.</p> <p><b>BIOLOGY:</b> (1 credit) Biology is a course designed to help students develop an understanding of how all areas of science are involved in their lives. Students will investigate biological science through lecture, numerous hands-on laboratory exercises and experiments. Topics of instruction include lab safety, tools and techniques, cells, cellular energy, genetics, ecology, evolution, and classification of living organisms.</p>
<p><b>SOCIAL SCIENCE</b> May be used for the graduation requirement</p>	<p><b>CIVILIZATIONS:</b> (1/2 credit) Students will explore themes across world history and different civilizations, people, and places. These themes include but are not limited to; Political change, religious beliefs, military/violence, and human environment and trading interaction. Students will study themes across areas of history from prehistoric times until the 19th century. Students will compare/contrast, analyze, collaborate, and examine important themes across this time period.</p> <p><b>MODERN THEMES IN HISTORY:</b> (1/2 credit) Students will explore how events in the past have shaped our world view today, both domestically and internationally. Using themes such as Migration/Movement, Today vs. Yesterday, and relationships with the United States, students will use cause and effect relationships, contextualization, and other skills to explore changes over time.</p>

## FRESHMEN - ELECTIVE COURSES:

**Students may also take one Study Hall per semester**

<p><b>AGRICULTURE</b></p>	<p><b>INTRODUCTION TO AGRICULTURE:</b> (1 credit) This orientation course provides an opportunity for students to learn how the agricultural industry is organized; its major components; the economic influence of agriculture; and the scope and types of job opportunities in the agricultural field. Basic concepts in animal science, plant science, horticulture, natural resources, and agribusiness management will be presented. Participation in FFA student organization activities is highly encouraged and all students will complete a Supervised Agricultural Experience (SAE) project as it is an integral course component for leadership development, career exploration and reinforcement of academic concepts.</p>
<p><b>BUSINESS</b></p>	<p><b>MS OFFICE APPLICATIONS:</b> (1/2 credit) Students will acquire an understanding of basic technology skills and apply those to real-life situations. The course will be project-based and will deal with programs such as Word, Excel, Powerpoint, and Access. The students will edit a storybook, develop a business plan, plan events, and create a travel presentation.</p> <p><b>MEDIA APPLICATIONS:</b> (1/2 credit) Students will acquire an understanding of basic technology skills and apply those skills to meaningful real-life situations. The course will be project-based and will deal with programs such as Macromedia Flash, Photoshop, and Windows DVD Maker. The students will animate a short story, create a digital scrapbook, and make their own commercials.</p>

<p><b>FINE ARTS</b></p>	<p><b>INTRODUCTION TO ART:</b> (1 credit) Introduction to Art is a preliminary high school art course that explores the versatile range of the visual arts. Students will explore a variety of art media, and techniques that will help them to establish a fundamental foundation in the visual arts. Not only will students be creating artwork on a daily basis, they will be introduced to art history and learn how to critique and discuss artwork. This class will be a mandatory class for any student who wishes to continue in the art program. This class will provide students with foundational skills that will aid them in any profession they wish to pursue.</p> <p><b>BAND:</b> (1 credit) The Tri-Valley High School Band is the final and most advanced performing group in the instrumental music program. All band students will participate in Marching Band. This segment of the class is co-curricular, and performance expectations will be clearly announced at the beginning of the school year. Marching Band members are expected to attend summer rehearsals and summer band camp. Dates will be published, so that all participants are informed. Concert Band is the final portion of the Tri-Valley instrumental music program. Students attend full band rehearsals learning and preparing music for 3-4 band performances per year, and one individual/small group contest. Styles of music learned include standard band literature, marches, folk tunes, show tunes, modern wind band literature, and pop and Broadway hits. Students are expected to practice at home as needed to learn their parts and to attend all performances. Band members may participate in the following related activities: Jazz Band, Illinois Music Educators Festival, IHSA Solo and Ensemble contest, IHSA organization contest. Jazz band participation is based upon enrollment into High School Band class. Jazz Band is not graded, but is an extracurricular portion of High School Band.</p> <p><b>PREREQUISITE:</b> Students must successfully complete four years of middle school band or have permission from the instructor to enroll.</p> <p><b>CHOIR:</b> (1 credit) The High School Concert Choir is a vocal ensemble that meets daily to study, rehearse and perform vocal literature. Study includes works from all periods of music history. In addition to English, works are studied and presented in the major languages of vocal music (Italian, Latin, French, and German). Emphasis is also placed on good choral technique, with attention given to breathing, posture and diction. In addition to choral literature, topics include music history, basic music theory, music reading and score study. Students perform in a minimum of four concert/contest settings and have several opportunities to perform in other settings as well.</p>
<p><b>FOREIGN LANGUAGE</b></p>	<p><b>SPANISH 1:</b> (1 credit) Students begin learning the basics of Spanish grammar, with special attention focused on verb tenses and vocabulary. Language fluency, including reading, writing, listening and speaking skills are developed through practice and with tapes, videos, and activities used to make classroom interaction meaningful. Students build on their appreciation of the Hispanic culture and civilization.</p> <p><b>SPANISH 2:</b> (1 credit) This course is a continuation of Spanish I and is very similar in format with an emphasis on increasing students' active and passive vocabulary. Students continue with the basics of Spanish grammar, with special attention focused on verb tenses. Language fluency, including reading, writing, listening and speaking skills are developed through practice and with tapes, videos, and activities used to make classroom interaction meaningful. Students build on their appreciation of the Hispanic cultures and civilizations.</p> <p><b>PREREQUISITE:</b> Students must successfully complete Spanish 1 in 8th grade.</p>
<p><b>INDUSTRIAL TECHNOLOGY</b></p>	<p><b>INTRODUCTION TO INDUSTRIAL TECHNOLOGY:</b> (1 credit) This course serves as an explorative and enriching introduction to Industrial Technology and Engineering. Students will be involved in such activities as drafting, CAD, 3-D printing, woodworking, sheet metal, welding, and various phases of the construction industry as time allows. Time allotments will vary per area of interest. This course should acquaint the student with some of the various aspects of industry and better prepare them for life. Certain lab fees required for materials and/or supplies. This course is a prerequisite for all other courses within the ITE department.</p>

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Next Year's Grade: 9th

# TRI-VALLEY HIGH SCHOOL REGISTRATION FOR 2024-2025

## Tri-Valley Course Requirements by Grade

### FRESHMEN YEAR:

- English 1
- Biology
- Algebra 1/Advanced Algebra 1/Advanced Geometry
- Potential: Social Studies Elective
- Viking Fit/Health/Strength/Driver Ed
- 3-4 electives, one may be a study hall

### SOPHOMORE YEAR:

- English 2
- Chemistry/Adv Chemistry
- Geometry/Adv Geometry/AdvAlgebra 2
- Civics & Intro to Business
- Viking Fit/Health/Strength/Driver Ed
- 3 electives, one may be a study hall

### JUNIOR YEAR:

- English 3 -OR- AP Language
- Adv ALgebra 2/Algebra 2/Precalculus
- Science Credit
- US History -OR- AP US History
- Viking Fit -OR- Strength
- At least 3 electives, one may be study hall or TA

### SENIOR YEAR:

1. Communications & Research/Comm 101 and Media Analysis -OR- AP Literature
2. Viking Fit -OR- Strength -OR- Senior PE
3. Science or Social Studies credit if not taken jr year
4. At least 5 electives, one may be study hall or TA

FIRST SEMESTER	SECOND SEMESTER
1 English 1	1 English 1
2 Biology/Advanced Biology (placement will be created by teachers)	2 Biology/Advanced Biology (placement will be created by teachers)
3 Math (Alg 1/Adv Algebra 1/Adv Geometry) (placement will be created by teachers)	3 Math (Alg 1/Adv Algebra 1/Adv Geometry) (placement will be created by teachers)
4 Health / Vk ft / Strength / Dr. Ed (Circle One)	4 Health / Vk ft / Strength / Dr. Ed (Circle One)
5 Elective	5 Elective
6 Elective	6 Elective
7 Elective	7 Elective
8 Elective	8 Elective

### **Alternative Requests (Please list):**
