

# Elective Fair

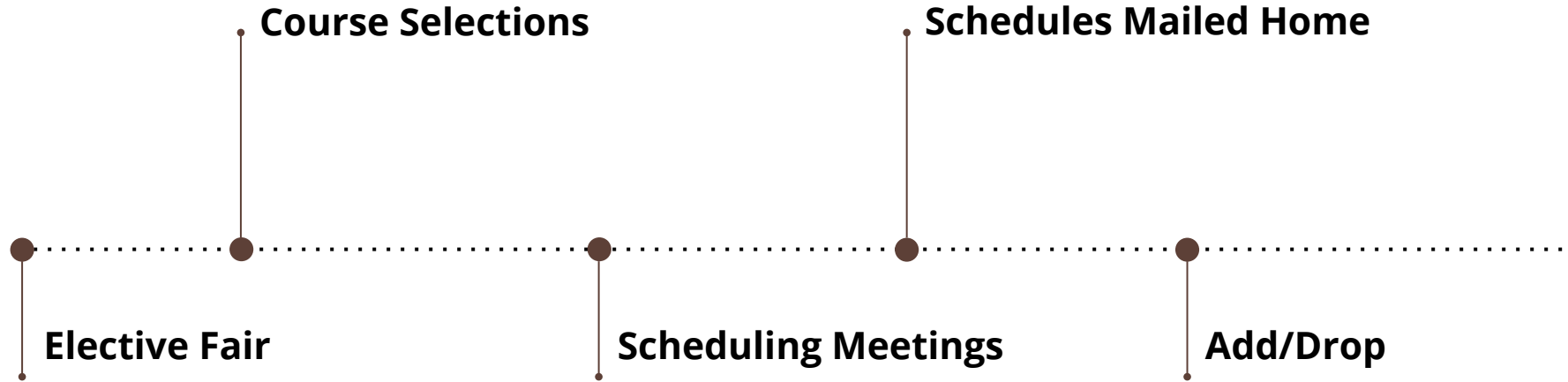
Fort Plain Jr/Sr High School



**A resource guide to help make  
informed decisions about  
course selection for next  
school year.**

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# The Scheduling Process



# NYS Graduation Requirements

Please keep in mind that each students' path to graduation is unique. There are multiple ways for students to reach **22** credits. There are also individualized opportunities for students throughout High School.

FRESHMAN		SOPHOMORE		JUNIOR		SENIOR	
English 9	1	English 10	1	English 11	1	English 12+.5 English or College English	1
Global 9	1	Global 10	1	U.S. History	1	Government Economics	.5 .5
Mathematics	1	Mathematics	1	Mathematics	1	<i>(Math or other elective)</i>	<i>(1)</i>
Science	1	Science	1	Science	1	<i>(Science or other elective)</i>	<i>(1)</i>
Spanish <sup>1</sup>	1	<i>(Spanish or other elective)</i>	<i>(1)</i>	<i>(Spanish or other elective)<sup>2</sup></i>	<i>(1)</i>	<i>(Spanish or other elective)<sup>2</sup></i>	<i>(1)</i>
Art or Music	1	Health	.5	<i>(elective)<sup>2</sup></i>	<i>(1)</i>	<i>(elective)<sup>2</sup></i>	<i>(1)</i>
Physical Education	.5	Physical Education	.5	Physical Education	.5	Physical Education	.5
<i>(additional elective)</i>	<i>(1)</i>	<i>(additional elective)</i>	<i>(1)</i>	<i>(additional elective)<sup>2</sup></i>	<i>(1)</i>	<i>(additional elective)<sup>2</sup></i>	<i>(1)</i>

To earn a diploma in New York State, students must earn a minimum of 22 credits. Graduation requirements are bolded. Courses beyond minimum requirements are italicized. Most Fort Plain students earn credits beyond the minimum required. This chart is illustrative of course requirements only; students must also pass required Regents examinations. See your counselor for specific information regarding Regents examinations requirements.



# Electives 101

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## What is an “elective”?

- Electives are courses that students “elect” or choose to take.

## Why do we need electives?

- Some electives fulfill specific graduation requirements while others help students reach a total of 22 credits needed for graduation.

## Here’s a tip!

- How many credits and what courses you need may be very different from your classmates. Try not to select electives based on what your friend is taking because it may not be what you need to graduate.

# The Elective Areas



## Art

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Mr. Snyder

<https://youtu.be/jPquGvXYpgE>

Mr. Stemmle

<https://youtu.be/g0HWpGEu5Fo>



## Technology

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Mr. Heroth

<https://youtu.be/JNZW270kPPs>



## Family & Consumer Science

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Mrs. Cooley

<https://youtu.be/qJdTvyXXRnI>

# The Elective Areas



## Business

Mrs. Stokna

<https://youtu.be/o1hdYK5vib4>



## History

Mr. Niles  
Mrs. Gray  
Mr. Ryan

<https://youtu.be/OSZQpRNGbzg>

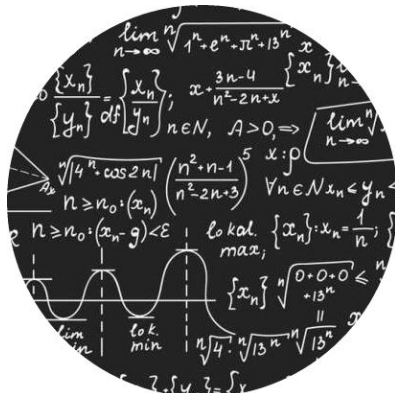


## Spanish

Mrs. Jarabek

<https://youtu.be/MS5MUS2Hz58>

# The Elective Areas



# Math

Mrs. Waner  
Mr. Santiago

<https://youtu.be/dqSWDZEzZh4>



# English

Mrs. McCall  
Mrs. Trembley  
Mrs. Clute

<https://youtu.be/VuQwLehJPNo>



# Science

Mr. Smith & Mr. Bogus  
Mr. Jarabek

<https://youtu.be/Z93ZDHPXeLg>

# Art Electives-Tier 1

{9-12}

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## Studio & Art

Introduction to the nature, function, and techniques of the visual arts from the past to the present. Assists in helping to see, feel, think, and express feelings through a wide variety of studio experiences.

## Crafts I

Learn the fundamentals of two and three-dimensional design, encourage creativity, and build an understanding and appreciation of various crafts and materials.

## Crafts II

Follow the fundamentals of Crafts II with more in-depth projects including wood burning, stained glass and basket weaving.



# Art Electives-Tier 1

{grades 9-12}

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## Ceramics

Introduces approaches using clay and encourages exploration of the methods of greatest interest and value. Focuses on student work and the use of tools and materials.

## Drawing & Painting

Form a foundation of experiences in drawing and painting. Vary experiences and techniques of working in a variety of mediums. Projects include the use of watercolor paint and acrylic paint on both canvas and stretched canvas.

## Digital Photography I

Learn the fundamentals of taking eye catching photographs. Learn how to photograph portraits, landscapes, action shots, and more through fun and interesting projects.

# Art Electives-Tier 1

{grades 9-12}

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## **Creative Sculpture**

Learn the fundamentals of sculptural design. Experiment with using unconventional mediums like: wire, cardboard, packing tape, and balloons to create one of a kind pieces. This is not your ordinary art class.

## **Printmaking**

Learn the process of creating an image that can be duplicated many times through a process involving a press, ink, and/or paint. Learn how to make your own t-shirt design through a screen-printing project.

# Art Electives-Tier 2

{grades 9-12}

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## Digital Photography II

Take your photography skills to the next level by digging deeper into what Photoshop can offer. Assignments involve taking photos outside of the building, including the popular walking tour of the village.

**\*\*Prerequisite: Tier 1 Course**

## Adv. Dig. Photography

Under the guidance of the instructor, explore the subject matter and themes of choice. Continue to explore the possibilities that Photoshop can offer while being introduced to other photo editing software. The goal is to create a diverse portfolio.

**\*\*Prerequisite: Tier 1 Course**

# Art Electives-Tier 2

{grades 9-12}

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## Graphic Design

Look at how images, color, and words shape how we see the world. Gain experience in logo design, designing album and magazine covers, and illustration. Create artwork using traditional mediums as well as the computer.

**\*\*Prerequisite: Tier 1 Course**

## Sculpture

Advanced course designed to develop the knowledge and understanding of the esthetic principles and skills involved in working on a 3-dimensional basis. Students solve give assignments on the nature of the mediums, potentials, and limitations.

**\*\*Prerequisite: Tier 1 Course**

# Home & Careers

{grades 9-12}

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## Food & Nutrition

Exposure to multiple messages designed to influence perceptions of the importance of food choices in life. Learning to make informed decisions about food and nutrition now and their future roles.

## Gourmet & International Foods

Introduces the ways in which culture and traditions of regions and countries influence food choices. Identifying and preparing foods from various regions and countries to compare cuisines, ingredients used, and preferred methods for cooking.

## Bake Shop: Desserts Only

Provides students with basic foundations in baking and pastry skills including: working in a safe manner, recipe interpretation, measuring techniques, and new equipment identification. Lab production includes: pies, breads, pastries, and candy.

# Home & Careers

{grades 11-12}

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## Food Science

Exploring cooking as an application of chemistry. Practical applications of food science and its relevance in food preparation, food biochemistry, food microbiology, food preservation, and food safety.

## Life On Your Own

Opportunity to get guidance through obstacles you will face as you make your way into the world on your own. Learn about situations that you may experience when it's time to move on your own including: money management, personal wellness, transportation, employment skills, emergency & safety skills, and more.

## Parenting

Provide students with a foundation of knowledge, skills, and attitudes necessary to promote quality of growth and development of children and families in school, community, and workplace settings. Students will learn about: diversity of families, how diversity impacts parenting choices and outcomes, and to identify the knowledge and skills necessary for successful parenting.

# Home & Careers

{grades 11-12}

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## Cheap Eats

Provides students with the opportunity to consider finances and food in everyday living and for special occasions. Explore buying, preservation, and cooking options. Skills include: working in safe and sanitary manner, recipe interpretation, and measuring techniques. Learn more about navigating a grocery store, farmer's market finds, growing your own, and game/meat fabrication.

# Technology

{grades 9-12}

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## Technological Design

Students in engineering teams apply technology, science, and mathematic concepts and skill to solve engineering design problems and innovate designs.

## Technology & Society

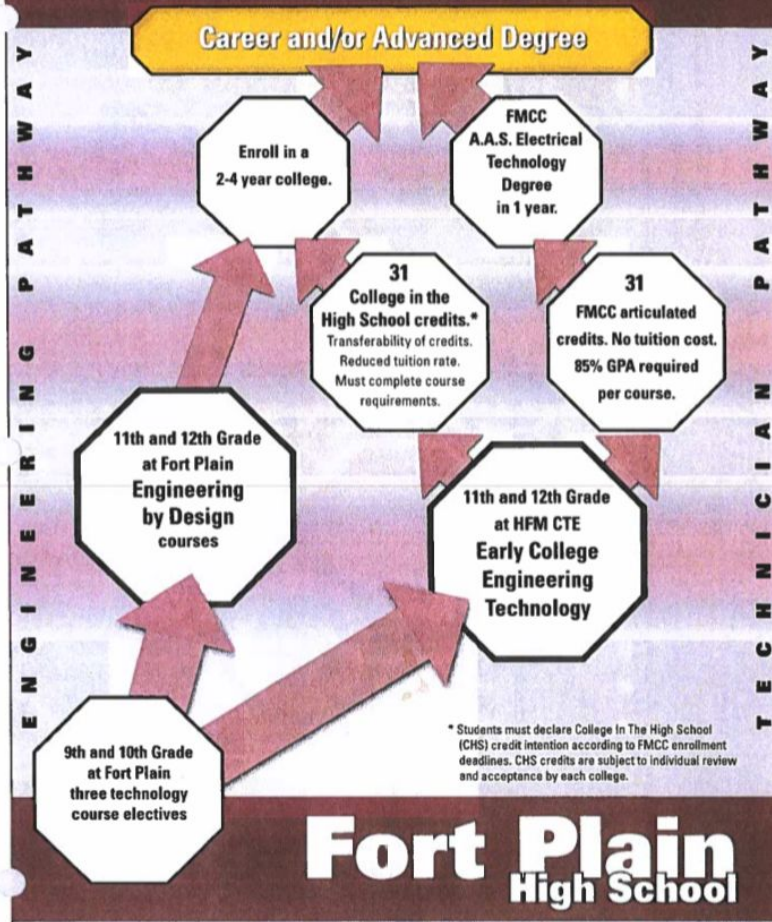
The goal is to design knowledge and wisdom to inform future decisions. Students develop “intangible” opinions, attitudes, and positions and then use these to inform their designs of products, systems, and services.

## Advanced Materials Processing

Students will study and understand the ability to manipulate a material to accomplish a task. Students will be exposed to multiple materials and will then be able to use cutting, shaping, forming, and combining tools to create a product.



## Advanced Technology Career Pathways



# Technology

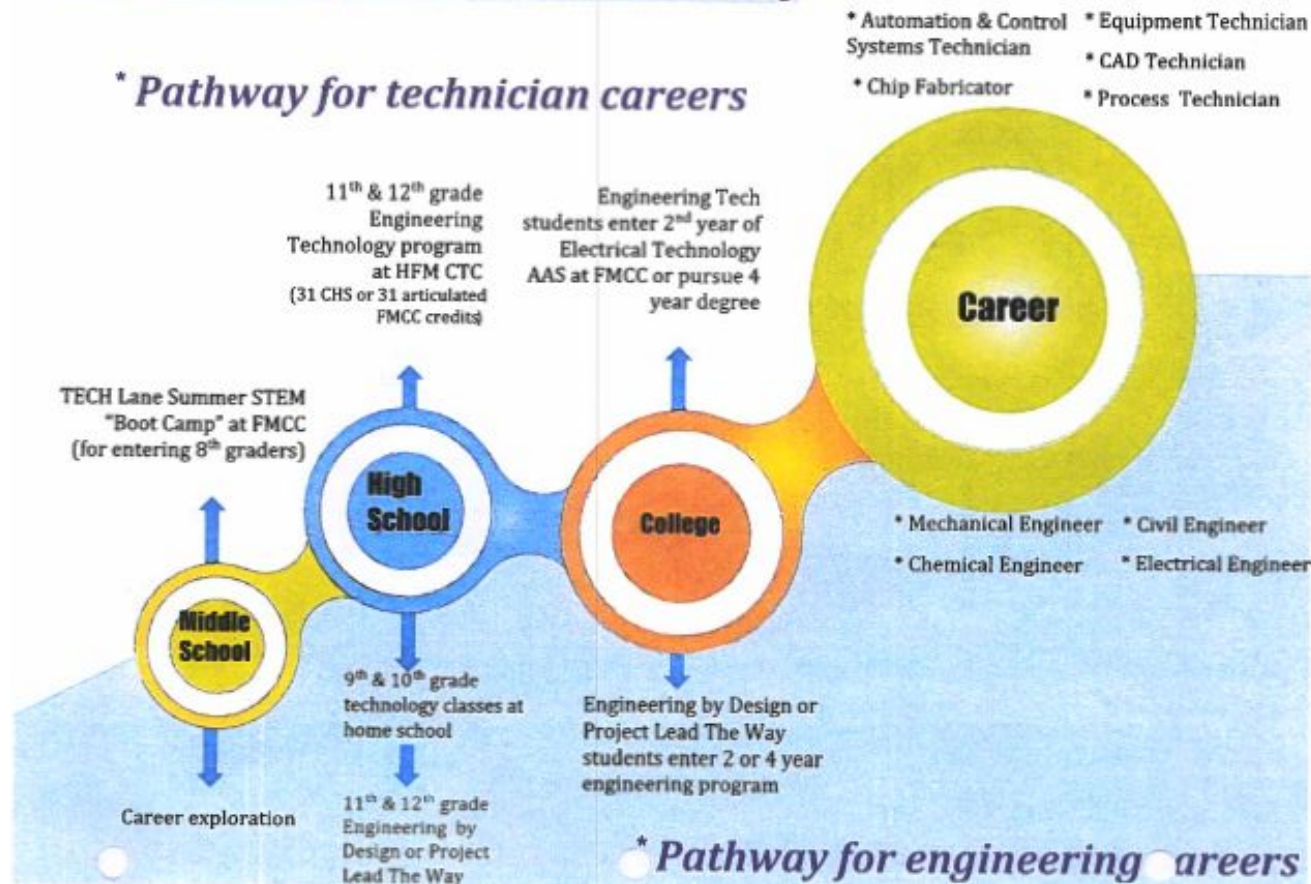
{grades 9-12}

As students transition into High School, they are encouraged to begin thinking about career areas that interest them. For students that are interested in engineering and technology, we have partnered with HFM BOCES and FMCC to build a pathway.

Not interested in attending HFM BOCES or FMCC in high school? We have developed our own pathway for students to participate in the technology courses offered at the high school, including opportunities for independent study.

# Technology Career Pathways

## \* Pathway for technician careers



# Business

{grades 9-12}

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## Freshman Seminar

9th grade students will have a variety of experiences and activities that promote self-awareness, career exploration, and educational planning related to future educational and career plans.

**\*\*Required for all 9th graders**

## Sports & Entertainment Marketing

Focus will be on gaining familiarity with the variety of environmental factors that influence marketing decision and understanding the importance of a customer-oriented philosophy of doing business. Topics include: determining marketing opportunities, environmental analysis, consumer buying behavior, and producing planning, promotion, distribution, and pricing.

## Computer Applications

Introduction to microcomputers and end-user system/application software. Topics include: basis computer hardware, operating systems, the Internet, word processing software, spreadsheet software, and presentation graphics software.

**\*\*FMCC credit optional**

# Business

{grades 9-12}

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## Introduction to Business

Expose yourself to many functions of modern business. Topics include: business management, organization, marketing, finance, accounting, and data processing.

## Business Economics

This course will help students understand how the economy affects their financial future. They will learn basic economic concepts and apply those concepts to real-life situations.

# Business

{grades 9-12}

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## Business Law

Learning about the law from many aspects. Renting an apartment, buying a car, working, and selling products are examples of areas of everyday life that are impacted by the law. Gain an understanding of the law as it pertains to contracts.

## Business Math

Use your basic knowledge of math and spreadsheets to make business decisions. Highly recommended for those going directly to work or going to college to major in a business-related field.

**\*\*FMCC credit optional**

# Music

{grades 9-12}

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## Band

Students play band instruments, learn music, and perform at public events, including concerts. Students should have prior experience playing in the elementary/junior high band.

## Chorus

Students prepare a variety of choral music for at least two concerts per year. Attendance is required at concerts. Taking two years of chorus fulfills the Fine Arts requirement for graduation.

## Computer Music Tech

Learn how to operate the audio visual equipment owned by the school. Instruction includes audio recording, mixing, and live performance engineering.

# Spanish

{grades 9-10}

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## Spanish I

A credit bearing full year course that fulfills the one credit language requirement for graduation. The course focuses on entry level Spanish for students with no prior experience or little experience with the Spanish language.

## Spanish II

Stresses the importance of being able to communicate in various time frames, and introduces the vocabulary needed to deal with more real life situations.

## Spanish III

Reviewing the grammar used in Spanish II. Much of the course is conducted in Spanish, including classroom discussions and grammar explanations.

# Spanish

{grades 11-12}

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## Spanish IV

Emphasis is shifted to using the language as a part of daily life. Reading, writing, speaking, and listening are conducted in cycles that include grammar studies, thematic essay writing, and both written and communicative projects.

**\*\*College credit optional**

## Spanish V

Progression from reading short stories to reading a novel in Spanish. Cultural and written projects, as well as communicative projects will be worked on. Grammar will be taught through literature.

**\*\*College credit optional**



# Science

{grades 11-12}

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## AP Biology

Curriculum emphasizes three general areas: molecules and cells, heredity and evolution, and organisms and populations. College credit may be earned based on the results on a required AP Biology examination and requirements determined by individual colleges.

## Chemistry

Focuses on the concepts, relationships, processes, mechanisms, models, and applications of the following: atomic theory, the periodic table, physical behavior of matter, chemical bonding, kinetics, and both nuclear and organic chemistry.

## Physics

Studies the mathematical relationships, processes, mechanisms, and applications of: mechanics, energy, electricity and magnetism, wave phenomena, modern physics, motion, and both internal and nuclear energy.

# Science

{grades 11-12}

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## Forensics & Criminology I

Introduction to criminal procedures, criminal law, and investigations. Blending everything forensics offers: fingerprinting, blood spatter, and DNA trace evidence. Opportunity to conduct investigations on famous court cases. [Check out this video for the course!](#)

## Forensics & Criminology II

Expand on the case study work completed in Forensics I; incorporating more units in the fields of forensic science and criminal justice.

**\*\*Prerequisite: Forensics I**

# History

{grades 9-12}

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## Traveling Through History & The Mohawk Valley

Exploring the French & Indian War and the American Revolution while emphasizing their impact on our region. Walking trips around the area.

## Civil War

Exploring the Civil War and its aftermath by discussing the most important themes, reading the work of authors, and examining documents left behind by participants. Engaging activities include watching movie cooking, and marching like soldiers.

## History of Sport

Examine the developmental of sport in America. Explore the impact of sport on the political, economic, social, and cultural aspects of American society.

# History

{grades 11-12}

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## SUNY Sociology

Deals with the interactions between people and the phenomena that those interactions create. Take an active role in learning through role-play, research, panel discussion and projects.

**\*\*College credit optional**

## SUNY Psychology

Topics include but are not limited to: biology and behavior, development, learning and conditioning, and abnormal behavior. Opportunity to take an active role in their learning through research, case studies, labs, experiments and group projects.

**\*\*College credit optional**

## Current Events

Focuses on event issues that affect individuals and organizations at the international, state, and local level.

# History

{grades 10-12}

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## FMCC US History I

Examine the history of the US from its origins through the Reconstruction Era. Major emphasis is placed on the development of the American constitutional system. Topics include: the Colonial period, the American Revolution, and more.

**\*\*FMCC college credit optional**

## FMCC US History II

Examine US history from 1865 to present. Emphasis is on the social, political, and economic development of the country. Attention given to the relationships between the US and the rest of the world. Topics include: Reconstruction, westward expansion, the Industrial Revolution, immigration, the Great Depression, and more.

**\*\*FMCC college credit optional**

## The World Wars

Learn about three of the most influential wars including: the French & Indian War, World War I, and World War II. Find out how life before and after war is drastically different because of the events during the conflict. Explore how despite being from drastically different eras, each of these wars have commonalities which include the restructuring of the world at their conclusion.

# Math

{grades 10-12}

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## Calculator Math

Learning extensive knowledge of the graphing calculator while exploring in depth topics from algebra while introducing geometry and trigonometry.

## Senior Math

Focusing on topics including but not limited to: matrices, statistics and data analysis, SAT preparation, logic, and sequences. Allows for continuous exposure to math in the senior year.

## Intermediate Algebra (FMCC MAT 120)

4 college credits can be acquired as well as 1 high school credit. Topics include: functions, problem solving, linear systems, radicals, and quadratics.

**\*\*Prerequisite: Geometry**

**\*\*College credit optional**

# Math

{grades 10-12}

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## SUNY Pre-Calculus

Intended for students who plan to take Calculus in high school or in college.

**\*\*College credit optional**

## SUNY Calculus

A college level course offered for college credits.

**\*\* College credit optional**

# English

{grades 10-12}

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## Young Adult Literature

Read a variety of novels from diverse authors that target issues teens face in today's society. Class is based on discussions of these novels and some creative writing to highlight the issues examined.

## Public Speaking

Students will learn how to gather and present materials in a variety of formats through a variety of speech experiences including: personal speeches, speeches to share information, and more.

## Children's Literature

Become acquainted with the various themes that run through all children's literature. Develop an awareness of the different types of children's literature and provide a critical basis for evaluation of this literature. Emphasis on how children's literature can be used to teach a variety of concepts.



# English

{grades 10-12}

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## SUNY English

Immerse in the reading and analysis (in thought and writing) of literature, with selections from fiction, poetry, and drama. Read a variety of texts closely and be expected to engage in thoughtful, critical discourse.

**\*\*College credit optional**

## Film Studies

Learn about examining each film as an example of the genre(s) it represents and examining films actual components (acting, directing, story, etc.)

# Check out links below to see the amazing things that our students have done in their electives!

**Food Science class  
donates meals to  
local food pantry.**

<https://www.fortplain.org/food-science-class-donates-meals-to-food-pantry/>

**Experiences in Art  
class transform  
lockers into an art  
gallery.**

<https://www.fortplain.org/from-lockers-to-art-gallery/>

**Technology and design  
class designed,  
engineered, and  
constructed Kristy's  
closet.**

<https://www.fortplain.org/kristys-closet-provides-clothes-toiletries-for-students-in-need/>

# Questions?

## Please reach out to your School Counselor

### **Mrs. Mahoney (7-9)**

Phone: (518) 993-4000 #2130

Email:

[kayla.mahoney@fortplain.org](mailto:kayla.mahoney@fortplain.org)

### **Ms. Cushing (10-12)**

Phone: (518) 993-4000 #2129

Email:

[colleen.cushing@fortplain.org](mailto:colleen.cushing@fortplain.org)

**Or send a message on  
Parent Square!**