

McLEAN HIGH SCHOOL



Rising Freshman Curriculum Booklet

Welcome Class of 2023!

PEOPLE TO KNOW

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF 2019-20

Dr. Ellen Reilly	Principal	EReilly@fcps.edu
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Greg Miller	Director of Student Activities	GMMiller@fcps.edu
Tzeitel Barcus	Assistant Director of Student Activities	TABarcus@fcps.edu

COUNSELORS 2019-20

Counselors are assigned alphabetically and students normally retain the same counselor through 12th grade.

Elisa Talmage	A – Ca	GAKing@fcps.edu	703-714-5754
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INITIATIVES TO HELP STUDENTS SUCCEED

MCLEADERSHIP McLeadership is a student-led mentoring program that promotes compassionate relationships, instills lasting integrity, and develops respect among peers through group activities. Our goal is to create meaningful relationships with our freshman class. All freshmen are assigned a Big Mac mentor who will reach out to their Little Macs in a variety of ways and assist in their transition to high school.

LATE BUS THURSDAYS. This is a great opportunity for students to make appointments for after school help or to make up work with teachers.

FRESHMAN SUMMER INSTITUTE The Summer Institute provides a four-day transition program into high school. It covers everything from a tour of the building to an overview of study skills. The 2019 Summer Institute will be scheduled in the spring and a News You Choose will be sent with the dates and registration procedures. The Summer Institute is scheduled so as not to interfere with scheduled music or sports practices.

COLLEGE AND CAREER CENTER The McLean High School College and Career Center provides information associated with post-secondary planning: two and four year colleges, career and technical schools, apprenticeship programs, civilian and military careers, scholarships and financial aid, summer and job opportunities. All students, regardless of their background, academic achievement, or economic situation, are given the opportunity to develop plans for the future that take into account their interests and abilities, current trends in education, the economy and the job market.

COUNSELORS Counselors implement a variety of interventions (individualized written plans, contracts, quarterly checklists, etc) with struggling students.

STRATEGIES FOR SUCCESS AND LITERACY LAB

McLean offers a couple of courses designed to support academic needs. Strategies for Success is a graded course for credit designed to teach students study skills. Literacy Lab is a course designed to provide students with direct instruction of content area reading and writing skills.

McMATICS TUTORING - In addition to Highlander Time, extra help can be arranged with a student's math teacher after school. On Thursdays after school, Algebra 1, Geometry, and Algebra 2 study sessions are organized with Math Honor Society students assisting any student having math questions. The McMathics Tutoring club meets on Thursdays after school and club members are available for all levels of mathematics help.

HIGHLANDER TIME

Highlander Time is a remediation, intervention and enrichment period built into the school's master schedule to support students. It is designed to provide students with additional time during the school day to get academic assistance rather than before or after school. Students can review lessons and get extra help from teachers during this time.

STANDARD DIPLOMA REQUIREMENTS

STANDARD DIPLOMA COURSE REQUIREMENTS

(8 VAC 20-131-51)

SUBJECT AREA	STANDARD CREDITS	VERIFIED CREDITS
English	4	2
Mathematics ¹	3	1
Laboratory Science ^{2, 5}	3	1
History and Social Sciences ^{3, 5}	4	1
Health and Physical Education	2	
World Language, Fine Arts, or Career and Technical Ed	2	
Economics and Personal Finance	1	
Electives ⁴	3	
AP, HN, IB Course, or Career and Technical Education Credential ⁷		
First Aid/CPR/AED Training ⁸		
Total Credits^{9, 10}	22	5

22 CREDIT DIPLOMA REQUIREMENTS FOR GRADUATION

The requirements for a student to earn a diploma shall be those in effect when the student enters the ninth grade for the first time. The following applies to students who enter ninth grade 2018-19 and beyond.

To graduate from high school, students shall meet the minimum requirements for the Standard Diploma as outlined below, including 22 standard credits, 5 of which must be verified credits. A **standard credit** is earned when a student passes a course. A **verified credit** is earned when a student passes a course and either the associated end-of-course SOL test or an authentic performance assessment in the area of English (writing). In some cases, students may utilize substitute tests, certifications, or the appeal process to earn verified credits. State guidelines prescribe the number of verified credits required for graduation for students entering a Virginia public high school for the first time during the tenth grade or after. Eligible students with disabilities have the opportunity to use credit accommodations to earn a Standard Diploma. Students must be found eligible for these accommodations. Consult your school counselor for specific information.

Students receive credit toward graduation for high school courses taken and passed in middle school. These courses count toward credits in the required sequences as well as toward the total number of credits required for graduation and calculation of the grade point average (GPA). Middle school parents may request that grades for any high school credit-bearing course taken in the middle school be removed from the student's high school transcript, and therefore the student will not earn high school credit for the course. In addition, the student will not be eligible for a verified credit in any course which has been removed from the transcript. The request to remove a course from the transcript must be made in writing to the middle or high school the student will attend the following year, prior to the end of the first nine weeks. *See current version of FCPS Regulation 2408.*

¹ Courses completed to satisfy this requirement shall include at least two different course selections from among: Algebra I, Geometry, Algebra II, or other mathematics courses as approved by the Board. The Board of Education (Board) shall approve additional courses to satisfy this requirement.

² Courses completed to satisfy this requirement shall include course selections from at least three different science disciplines: earth sciences, biology, chemistry, or physics; or completion of the sequence of science courses required for the International Baccalaureate Diploma and shall include interdisciplinary courses which incorporate SOL content from multiple academic areas. The Board shall approve courses to satisfy this requirement.

³ Courses completed to satisfy this requirement shall include U.S. and Virginia History, U.S. and Virginia Government, and World History/Geography I and World History/Geography II. AP World History satisfies the requirement for World History/Geography II.

⁴ Courses to satisfy this requirement shall include at least two sequential electives as required by the Standards of Quality.

⁵ Students who complete a career and technical education program sequence and pass an examination or occupational competency assessment in a career and technical education field that confers certification or an occupational competency credential from a recognized industry, or trade or professional association, or acquires a professional license in a career and technical education field from the Commonwealth of Virginia may substitute the certification, competency credential, or license for either a science or history and social science verified credit when the certification, license, or credential confers more than one verified credit. The examination or occupational competency assessment must be approved by the Board as an additional test to verify student achievement.

⁶ Pursuant to Section 22.1-253.13:4, Code of Virginia, credits earned for this requirement shall include one credit in fine or performing arts or career and technical education.

⁷ Students shall either complete an Advanced Placement, honors, or International Baccalaureate course, or earn a career and technical education credential approved by the Board, except when a career and technical education credential in a particular subject area is not readily available or appropriate or does not adequately measure student competency, in which case the student shall receive satisfactory competency-based instruction in the subject area to satisfy the standard diploma requirements. The career and technical education credential, when required, could include the successful completion of an industry certification, a state licensure examination, a national occupational competency assessment, the Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery (ASVAB), or the Virginia workplace readiness assessment.

⁸ Students are required to be trained in emergency first aid, cardiopulmonary resuscitation, and the use of automated external defibrillators, including hands-on practice of the skills necessary to perform cardiopulmonary resuscitation.

⁹ Students shall successfully complete one virtual course, which may be a noncredit-bearing course or elective credit bearing course that is offered online.

¹⁰ Students shall acquire and demonstrate foundational skills in critical thinking, creative thinking, collaboration, communication, and citizenship in accordance with the Profile of a Virginia Graduate approved by the Board.

ADVANCED STUDIES DIPLOMA

ADVANCED STUDIES DIPLOMA COURSE REQUIREMENTS

(8 VAC 20-131-51)

SUBJECT AREA	STANDARD CREDITS	VERIFIED CREDITS
English	4	2
Mathematics ¹	4	1
Laboratory Science ²	4	1
History and Social Sciences ⁵	4	1
World Language ⁴	3	
Health and Physical Education	2	
Fine Arts, or Career and Technical Ed	1	
Economics and Personal Finance	1	
Electives ⁵	3	
AP, HN, IB Course, or Career and Technical Education Credential ⁶		
First Aid/CPR/AED Training ⁷		
Total Credits^{8, 9}	26	5

¹ Courses completed to satisfy this requirement shall include at least three different course selections from among: Algebra I, Geometry, Algebra II, or other mathematics courses above the level of Algebra II. The Board of Education (Board) shall approve courses to satisfy this requirement.

² Courses completed to satisfy this requirement shall include course selections from at least three different science disciplines from among: earth sciences, biology, chemistry, or physics; or completion of the sequence of science courses required for the International Baccalaureate Diploma. The Board shall approve courses to satisfy this requirement.

³ Courses completed to satisfy this requirement shall include U.S. and Virginia History, U.S. and Virginia Government, and World History/Geography I and World History/Geography II. AP World History satisfies the requirement for World History/Geography II.

⁴ Courses completed to satisfy this requirement shall include three years of one language or two years of two languages.

⁵ Courses to satisfy this requirement shall include at least two sequential electives as required by the Standards of Quality.

⁶ Students shall either complete an Advanced Placement, honors, or International Baccalaureate course, or earn a career and technical education credential approved by the Board, except when a career and technical education credential in a particular subject area is not readily available or appropriate or does not adequately measure student competency, in which case the student shall receive satisfactory competency-based instruction in the subject area to satisfy the standard diploma requirements. The career and technical education credential, when required, could include the successful completion of an industry certification, a state licensure examination, a national occupational competency assessment, the Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery (ASVAB), or the Virginia workplace readiness assessment.

⁷ Students are required to be trained in emergency first aid, cardiopulmonary resuscitation, and the use of automated external defibrillators, including hands-on practice of the skills necessary to perform cardiopulmonary resuscitation.

⁸ Students shall successfully complete one virtual course, which may be a noncredit-bearing course, or may be a course required to earn this diploma that is offered online.

⁹ Students shall acquire and demonstrate foundational skills in critical thinking, creative thinking, collaboration, communication, and citizenship in accordance with the Profile of a Virginia Graduate approved by the Board.

26 CREDIT DIPLOMA REQUIREMENTS FOR GRADUATION

26 CREDIT DIPLOMA REQUIREMENTS FOR GRADUATION

The requirements for a student to earn a diploma shall be those in effect when the student enters the 9th grade for the first time. The following applies to students who enter 9th grade 2018-19 and beyond.

To graduate from high school with an Advanced Studies Diploma, students shall meet the minimum requirements as outlined below which include 26 credits, 5 of which must be verified credits. A standard credit is earned when a student passes a course. A verified credit is earned when a student passes a course and either the associated end-of-course SOL test or an authentic performance assessment in the area of English (writing). In some cases, students may utilize substitute tests, certifications, or the appeal process to earn verified credits. State guidelines prescribe the number of verified credits required for graduation for students entering a Virginia public high school for the first time during the tenth grade or after. Consult your school counselor for specific information.

Students receive credit toward graduation for high school courses taken and passed in middle school. These courses count toward credits in the required sequences as well as toward the total number of credits required for graduation and calculation of the grade point average (GPA). Middle school parents may request that grades for any high school credit-bearing course taken in the middle school be removed from the student's high school transcript, and therefore the student will not earn high school credit for the course. In addition, the student will not be eligible for a verified credit in any course which has been removed from the transcript. The request to remove a course from the transcript must be made in writing to the middle or high school the student will attend the following year prior to the end of the first nine weeks. *See current version of FCPS Regulation 2408.*

EXPUNGING HIGH SCHOOL COURSES TAKEN IN MIDDLE SCHOOL

In accordance with Virginia Board of Education regulations, FCPS Regulation 2408 permits parents of students who take a high school credit-bearing course in middle school to request that the grade be omitted from the student's high school transcript and the student not earn high school credit for the course. Parents must make this request in writing no later than the end of the first nine weeks of the school year following completion of the course. The form to make this request, along with the process for making the request, is available at: Request to Expunge High School Courses Taken in Middle School (<https://www.fcps.edu/sites/default/files/media/forms/is104.pdf>) or through your student's school counselor. Parents are strongly advised to discuss this decision with their student's school counselor and the impact of expunging a course on desired high school diploma type and standard and verified credit requirements.

BELL SCHEDULE

RED DAYS

1st Period 8:10 - 9:42
HIGHLANDER TIME 9:50 - 10:15
3rd Period 10:20 - 11:07
5th Period & Lunch 11:12 - 1:18
7th Period 1:23 - 2:55

SILVER DAYS

2nd Period 8:10 - 9:42
HIGHLANDER TIME 9:50 - 10:15
3rd Period 10:20 - 11:07
4th Period & Lunch 11:12 - 1:18
6th Period 1:23 - 2:55

3rd period meets everyday for 47 minutes.

All other periods meet every other day for approximately 90 minutes.

HIGHLANDER TIME rotates and allows students additional time during the school day to get academic assistance. Students can review lessons and get extra help from teachers during this time.

STUDENTS SELECT 7 COURSES.

MOST FRESHMEN WILL HAVE A SCHEDULE THAT CONSISTS OF AN:

1. ENGLISH COURSE English 9 (regular, honors, team-taught or self-contained)
2. SCIENCE COURSE
3. SOCIAL STUDIES COURSE World History & Geography 1 (regular, honors, team-taught or self-contained)
4. MATHEMATICS COURSE
5. PHYSICAL EDUCATION Health & PE 9
6. ELECTIVE COURSE (often this is a WORLD LANGUAGES course)
7. ELECTIVE COURSE

SPECIAL EDUCATION

SPECIAL EDUCATION

SPECIAL EDUCATION DEPARTMENT CHAIRS

Kimberly Farmar LD/ED/OHI (703) 714-5757

Mark Thompson ID/AUT/Work Study (703) 714-5803

	TEAM TAUGHT COURSES	SELF-CONTAINED COURSES
ENGLISH	English 9 English 10 English 11 English 12	English 9 English 10 English 11 English 12
MATH	Algebra I Geometry Algebra II	Algebra I Part I Geometry
SCIENCE	Biology Chemistry Active Physics	Biology Part I
HISTORY	World History I World History II US/VA History Government	World History I World History II US/VA History Government

Other Self Contained Courses:

Strategies for Success
Foundations of Science
Foundations of English
Foundations of US/VA History
Foundations of US/VA Government
Life Skills

Developmental Reading
Individualized/Personal Financial Math
Education for Employment
Work Awareness and Transition
Career Preparation
Adapted Physical Education

REQUIRED COURSE

ENGLISH

ENGLISH COURSE PROGRESSION CHART

The English Department is committed to helping all students achieve their full potential, so we often encourage students who excel in a standard-level course to challenge themselves by moving into an honors or AP course the following year. Advanced Academic courses require more academic independence, time management, and analytical reading and writing skills, so any transition from a standard to honors/AP level course should be made with the support and advice of teachers, counselors, and family members.

STANDARD-LEVEL COURSE PROGRESSION	English 9 <i>(including self-contained & team taught)</i>	English 10 <i>(including self-contained & team taught)</i>	English 11 <i>(including self-contained & team taught)</i>	English 12 <i>(including self-contained & team taught)</i>
ADVANCED ACADEMIC COURSE PROGRESSION	English 9 Honors	English 10 Honors	English 11 Honors -OR- AP English Language and Composition	English 12 Honors -OR- AP English Literature and Composition

	ENGLISH 9	ENGLISH 9 HONORS
READING	Students in English 9 will usually read more challenging texts in class with teacher support and guidance, but they may also be assigned up to 30 pages of reading for homework for more accessible texts. Students should expect to complete around 1-2 hours of reading-related homework per week.	Students in English 9 Honors will complete most reading assignments outside of class. They will be assigned longer reading passages and they should expect a reading check or quiz on the day readings are due. Students in English 9 Honors need to demonstrate an ability to read longer, more complex passages. They should expect 2-3 hours of homework per week, and they will read 2 additional full-length texts in comparison to standard English 9. For some units, there will be related outside readings that are paired with core texts. For example, <i>The Fault in Our Stars</i> is paired with <i>Romeo & Juliet</i> .
WRITING	All ninth grade students are expected to write one major process paper per quarter. English 9 students will spend 3-4 weeks polishing their papers by meeting with their teacher and peer-reviewing. Each essay will be 2-3 pages in length.	All ninth grade students are expected to write one major process paper per quarter. English 9 Honors students will spend 2-3 weeks polishing their papers by meeting with their teacher and peer-reviewing. Each essay will be 3-4 pages in length. Students in English 9 Honors will be expected to develop and retain higher-level writing and time-management skills more rapidly than students in English 9.
RESEARCH	Students in English 9 will complete group-based research projects that must be finalized in MLA format with an accurate Works Cited page. A majority of the research process will be completed in class.	Students in English 9 Honors will complete individual research projects that must be finalized in MLA format with an accurate Works Cited page. A majority of the research process will be completed in class.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

What are some of the challenges my child might face as they adjust to English 9?

- Homework is assigned and it is expected to be turned in on-time.
- The readings focus on more literature than non-fiction.
- There is a heavier emphasis on close reading: annotation, dialectical journaling, reflective responses, etc.
- There is an increased focus on the elements of voice: diction, detail, imagery, syntax, tone, etc.
- We take plagiarism very seriously at McLean. We have an Honor Code which students are required to write out and sign on all major assessments. Major papers also require a signed cover sheet indicating that students have not used outside help, either personal or electronic in the composition of their work. Major written assignments must also be submitted to an online database such as SafeAssign to ensure that the writing is the student's original work.

What skills does my child need to be successful in English 9?

- Organization
- Ability to prioritize tasks
- Ability to be proactive/a self-starter

What can my child do over the summer to better prepare for high school English?

- Read! Read! Read!
- Attend Jump-Up McLean
- Enjoy summer break! Your child's mental health is our #1 priority.

REQUIRED COURSE

MATH

McLean High School Mathematics Sequence

Grade 8	Grade 9	Grade 10	Grade 11	Grade 12
8th Grade Math	Algebra I	Geometry	Algebra II Algebra, Functions and Data Analysis Computer Science	Trigonometry & Probability & Statistics Precalculus with Trigonometry AP Computer Science A AP Computer Science Principles AP Statistics
Algebra I	Geometry	Algebra II	Trig & Prob/ Stat Precalculus with Trigonometry Computer Science	Applied Calculus AP Calculus AB AP Statistics AP Computer Science A AP Computer Science Principles
Algebra I Honors	Geometry Honors	Algebra II HN	PreCalculus Honors Computer Science	Applied Calculus AP Calculus AB AP Calculus BC AP Statistics AP Computer Science A AP Computer Science Principles
Geometry Honors	Algebra II Honors	PreCalculus Honors AP Statistics Computer Science AP Computer Science Principles	AP Calculus BC AP Computer Science	Multivariable Calculus & Linear Algebra

What is the difference between Geometry and Honors Geometry?

Since Honors Geometry is an Honors course, the students work through the concepts at a faster pace than "college-prep" geometry. The expectations are higher and much of the material is more abstract and rigorous, with an emphasis on proofs. It contains several topics not covered in "college-prep" Geometry such as truth tables, points of concurrency, vectors, 3-D graphing, indirect proof and Non-Euclidean Geometry.

What is the difference between Algebra II and Honors Algebra II?

Since Honors Algebra II is an Honors course, the students work through the concepts at a faster pace than "college-prep" Algebra II. The expectations are higher and much of the material is more abstract and rigorous, with an emphasis on applications. It contains several topics not covered in "college-prep" Algebra II such as composition of multiple functions, linear programming, solving exponential and logarithmic equations and matrices.

Should my child take Algebra I (or Algebra II) in summer school?

Most of the time the answer is no. Algebra is the foundation course on which all higher-level mathematics is based. The McLean High School math department strongly recommends that students take the course over the normal school year. This allows a deeper understanding of fundamental concepts. However, if your student is highly motivated and can learn concepts on their own, we suggest the online courses that Fairfax County Public Schools offers. Contact the McLean guidance department for details. The best course to take during summer school to move ahead is Geometry

Can my child enroll in Computer Science in the ninth grade?

The math department recommends that students wait until the 10th grade to enroll in the course. However, students may enroll in the course anytime after they have successfully completed Algebra I and Geometry. We recommend that any student who is interested in math take Computer Science at some time during high school.

If my child is not enrolled in an Honors class now, can he/she enroll in Honors classes later?

Yes. However, the recommendation of the student's current math teacher is extremely important for changing to the Honors courses. It can be a very difficult transition if a student has not experienced the increased pace and rigor.

REQUIRED COURSE

SCIENCE

FRESHMEN TAKE ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE, BIOLOGY 1 OR BIOLOGY 1 HONORS

Biology 1

In Biology 1, students engage in scientific inquiry through lab work as they explore biological processes. All class and laboratory activities focus on life processes that occur within organisms or cells. Major topics of study include the scientific method, characteristics of life, ecology, biochemistry, cells, energy, DNA and proteins, genetics, biotechnology, evolution and the diversity of life. If dissections are a part of the laboratory experience, alternatives are available. Students are required to take the Standards of Learning End of Course Test.

Biology 1 Honors

In Biology 1 Honors, students engage in scientific inquiry through lab work as they explore biological processes. All class and laboratory activities focus on life processes that occur within organisms or cells. Major topics of study include the scientific method, characteristics of life, ecology, biochemistry, cells, energy, DNA and proteins, genetics, biotechnology, evolution and the diversity of life. In comparison to Biology 1, students will investigate topics at a deeper level, with an emphasis on analysis, inference and abstraction, and an accelerated pace. Students, either independently or in teams, will participate in an externally-moderated research project. If dissections are a part of the laboratory experience, alternatives are available. Students are required to take the Standards of Learning End of Course Test.

Environmental Science

This course builds on student investigations that began in grades K-8 and integrates biology, earth science, chemistry, and engineering to study many components of our environment. Course outcomes focus on scientific inquiry, the physical world, the living environment, resource conservation, humans' impact on the environment, and legal and civic responsibility. Students will focus on data collection and analysis through laboratory experiences and field work, including descriptive and comparative studies. Through a variety of learning experiences to include career education opportunities, students will gain foundational scientific process skills and environmental literacy to engage the community and provide diverse points of view about the management of natural resources.

WHAT LEVEL SHOULD I TAKE?

	BIOLOGY 1	BIOLOGY 1 HONORS
Instructional Approach	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sequential and guided • Emphasis on building independent learning skills 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Combination of guided instruction and independent inquiry • Emphasis on enhancing independent learning skills
Communication Skills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Emphasis on building analysis, inference, and abstraction skills 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Emphasis on enhancing analysis, inference, and abstraction skills
Class Activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Highly structured and ordered • Teacher directed, some open-ended activities • Frequent content/skill review 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Moderately structured and ordered • Student initiative expected • Some content/skill review
Assignments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Highly structured and directed • Some amount of reading/ writing required • Independent work reinforces new material introduced in class 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Moderately structured and directed • Moderate amount of reading/writing required • Independent work requires some new material to be learned outside of class

ADDITIONAL SCIENCE COURSES OPEN TO 10th, 11th & GRADERS:

Chemistry 1
Chemistry 1 Honors
Physics 1
Physics 1 Honors
Active Physics
AP Physics*

Environmental Science
AP Environmental Science*
Geosystems
Geosystems Honors
Human Anatomy & Physiology*
AP Biology*

AP Chemistry*
Human Anatomy & Physiology*
AP Environmental Science*
Astronomy*
Oceanography*

Courses with the "*" are considered Advanced Science Courses

SOCIAL STUDIES

MOST FRESHMEN WILL TAKE WORLD HISTORY 1

In this course students will explore the historical development of people, places, and patterns of life from ancient times until 1500 A.D. (C.E.) in terms of the impact on Western civilization.

The study of history rests on knowledge of dates, names, places, events, and ideas. Historical understanding, however, requires students to engage in historical thinking, raise questions, and marshal evidence in support of their answers through the analysis of primary sources. Students engaged in historical thinking draw upon chronological thinking, historical comprehension, historical analysis and interpretation, historical research, and decision making. These skills are developed through the study of significant historical substance from the era or society being studied.

WHAT LEVEL SHOULD I TAKE?

ALL	World History and Geography I, REGULAR	World History and Geography I, HONORS
Covers the same content and uses the same online textbook.	Students are expected to learn the essential and expected indicators set out by the county and state in the SOL/POS benchmarks.	Students will learn the essential and expected indicators set out by the county and the state in the SOL/POS benchmarks. In addition, students will be required to learn the honors extensions.
All students are required to take the Virginia SOL test in May.	Homework and classwork are geared towards reinforcement with a primary focus on recall and application.	Homework and classwork are geared towards preparation for upcoming class activities and units with a focus on analysis and synthesis.
Writing Expectations	Students will be introduced to components of historical essay writing.	Students write approximately one essay per quarter.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

WORKLOAD

What is the workload difference between Regular and Honors?

Both classes are rigorous; however, Honors students will be expected to complete more reading and outside activities on their own and are expected to apply analytical thinking skills to historical content.

GRADING

Are there any differences in grading between Regular and Honors?

The tests in Honors classes are weighted more heavily than in the Regular classes. The analytical writing component of the test is more in-depth.

TEXTBOOKS

Are the textbooks the same for Regular and Honors?

Yes.

Will every student get a hardcopy of the textbook?

No, the county provides online textbook accesses to every student who is enrolled. Classrooms will be equipped with hardcopies of the textbook.

REQUIRED COURSE

HEALTH & PHYSICAL EDUCATION

ALL FRESHMEN WILL TAKE HEALTH & PE 9

which will include:

- two quarters of physical education
- two quarters of health
- a three-week First Aid and CPR course

Most physical activity units will be approximately 4 ½ weeks. Students will participate in a variety of activities as prescribed in the Fairfax County Program of Studies. The sport activities offered will change with each school year to help prevent the repetition of units. Students will also participate in various fitness related activities in their HPE classes throughout the school year.

Activities may include, but are not limited to:

bowling	archery	yoga
basketball	badminton	aerobics
field hockey	distance running	dance
fitness	golf	recreational games
lacrosse	skating	weight training & conditioning
pickle ball	power walking	
soccer	table tennis	
softball	tennis	
team handball	track and field	
ultimate frisbee	hiking	
volleyball	orienteering	

PE UNIFORMS can be purchased on My School Bucks at the start of the school year.

WORLD LANGUAGES

FRENCH	SPANISH	GERMAN	CHINESE	LATIN	AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE
1	1	1	1	1	1
2	2	2	2	2	2
3	3	3	3	3	3
4	4	4	4+	4/AP	4
AP	AP	AP	AP+		
5*					

* French 5 is offered to meet the needs of students coming through the French immersion program at Kent Gardens Elementary and other students with outside experience. This class is offered contingent upon sufficient enrollment.

+ Chinese 4 and AP Chinese are offered through Marshall Academy if McLean does not have sufficient enrollment

ACADEMY COURSES

Arabic 1, 2 and 3 and **Korean** 1,2,3,4 and AP are offered through the Fairfax Academy program.

HONORS CREDIT

Level 4 language courses carry an additional .5 GPA weight to enable all students to strengthen their language skills and prepare for AP language courses.

MORE INFORMATION

www.fcps.edu/academics/high-school-academics-9-12/world-languages
This is an overview of the world languages program in FCPS.

VISUAL ARTS

STUDIO ART & DESIGN

Studio Art & Design 1 • Studio Art & Design 2 • Studio Art & Design 3 • Studio Art & Design 4 / AP

WHAT DOES THIS CLASS COVER?

Studio Art & Design 1 is a perfect foundation class for any of the art classes we teach at McLean. Students will be working a potpourri of different art mediums: Painting, drawing, sculpture etc.

DO I NEED TO KNOW HOW TO DRAW?

No, this course will give any student the foundations to learning to draw.

HOW IS THE CLASS STRUCTURED?

Students will be given a variety of lessons throughout the year. Lesson timing will vary. Students will be expected to do a small amount of homework.

IS THERE A FEE?

There is a \$50 fee for this class, which may go up in 2019-20. With these fees, the school will provide for you all necessary art supplies you will need for the entire year.

IS THIS CLASS JUST OPEN FOR FRESHMEN?

No, this class is open to any grade level. This makes the environment exciting.

CERAMICS

Ceramics 1 • Ceramics 2 • 3D Studio Art & Design • AP 3D Design

WHAT WILL I MAKE IN THIS COURSE?

Students will learn the three basic hand-building methods; coil, pinch and slab. They will also learn a variety of glaze techniques. The class goes slowly to help everyone achieve success with ceramic basics. We will be creating functional and nonfunctional pieces.

IS THIS CLASS JUST OPEN FOR FRESHMAN?

No, this class is open to any grade level. This makes the environment exciting.

HOW IS THE CLASS STRUCTURED?

This is a very hands on class where students will work independently on each lesson. Students are expected to work and stay busy each class. Cleaning of the studio is part of every class to ensure a safe, clean environment for all.

IS THERE A FEE?

There is a \$60 lab fee for this class, which may go up in 2019-20. With these fees, the school will provide for you all necessary tools, clay and glazes.

PHOTOGRAPHY

Photography 1 • Photography 2 • Photography 3 • Photography 4 / AP 2-D Design

WILL I NEED A CAMERA?

Yes. You need a 35mm SLR film camera. We have a limited supply of cameras that can be loaned to students but we cannot provide a camera to every student. Most students buy good second hand film cameras or borrow them from family or friends.

WILL DIGITAL PHOTOGRAPHY BE COVERED?

The course is heavily focused on film photography which provides students with the foundations needed to develop their skills and knowledge in both film and digital photography. Most assignments will have a smaller digital component where students will learn some basic photo editing software, such as Adobe Photoshop.

HOW IS THE CLASS STRUCTURED?

This is a very hands on class where students will spend class time working on multiple aspects of photography including film development, printing in the darkroom, editing and finishing work. A major portion of the class involves self-directed studio time where students are expected to make full use of the facilities and materials provided. Students are provided with constant feedback about their work through the form of group and peer critiques. With the exception of a few assignments, most of the projects involve photographing subject matter outside of school.

IS THERE A FEE?

There is a \$65 lab fee for this class. With these fees, the school will provide for you all necessary chemicals, dry-mounting supplies, negative storage sleeves and other miscellaneous consumable supplies. You will need to provide photo paper (after 1st quarter) and film (after the first two rolls which are covered by your fees).

DIGITAL ART & DESIGN

Digital Art & Design 1 • Digital Art & Design 2 • Digital Art & Design 3 • Digital Art & Design 4 / AP 2D Design

WHAT IS DIGITAL ART AND DESIGN?

Students will learn basic graphic design, color theory, typography, how technology relates to art, and how we can create designs using the computer, drawing tablets, green screens, and digital cameras.

WHAT DOES THIS COURSE LEAD TO?

After the first course, we dive deeper into graphic design and different Adobe programs. These skills can open doors in a variety of possible career fields. Animators, web designers, illustrators, and many other jobs use graphic design on a daily basis. If you are interested in technology but want to learn art, or if you are interested in art and want to learn more technology skills—this class is perfect for you!

WHAT KINDS OF PROJECTS WILL YOU DO?

We do a variety of projects from illustrations, to creating travel posters, movie posters, cards, photomanipulations, anaglyphs (old school 3D images) and more!

IS THERE A FEE FOR THIS COURSE?

There is a \$50 lab fee for this class. With these fees, the school will provide for you all necessary inks and paper for the photo printer, a flash drive, as well as other miscellaneous consumable supplies throughout the school year.

IS THIS A FRESHMAN ONLY COURSE?

This class is open to everyone!

CAREER & TECHNICAL EDUCATION

BUSINESS & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

ACCOUNTING

Accounting is the language of business and beneficial for any student planning on studying business in a postsecondary school. This course is for students who want to learn about the financial operations of modern business enterprises and prepares students to make better financial decisions for the future. Students study accounting concepts for sole proprietorships, partnerships, and corporations to understand the fundamental accounting equation, the business transaction analysis process, and the elements of financial reporting. Interpretation of accounting information is mastered through decision-making and problem-solving approaches that include source documents, case studies, and simulations. Technology integration and related accounting software applications are used to enhance skills to analyze and evaluate financial situations. Internet learning activities are used to reinforce research, communication, and team building skills. Course topics include forms of ownership, accounts receivable/accounts payable systems, payroll, taxes, and banking activities. Upon completion of this course, students will be able to complete an accounting cycle from transactions to financial statements. **Industry certification may be available as part of this course.**

PROGRAMMING

Prerequisite: computer related course or equivalent skills

Students explore computer concepts, apply logic procedures, and implement programming procedures with one or more languages, such as Visual Basic.Net. Graphical User Interfaces may be used as students design and develop interactive multimedia applications. In addition, HTML or JavaScript may be employed to create Web pages.

MARKETING

INTRODUCTION TO MARKETING

This introductory course in marketing enables students to gain a basic understanding of marketing principles, techniques, and career opportunities. Students will develop fundamental social, economic, mathematical, marketing, job search and decision-making skills necessary for successful initial employment in retail, wholesale, or service businesses. Field trips, guest speakers, and competitive events through DECA membership enhance the course work.

FASHION MARKETING 1

This is a specialized option that enables students to investigate and prepare for careers in fashion marketing and design. The objective is to provide students with preparation in the technology of fashion merchandising and basics of fashion marketing that will lead to immediate employment and/or become the basis for continuing education. Students may continue the classroom instruction in their Junior or Senior year through the Fashion Design program at the Academy.

TECNOLOGY EDUCATION

STEM DESIGN

STEM Design is a high school foundation class in Technology and Engineering Education. The course provides balance between basic applied engineering using the newest technologies, and skill building in Computer Aided Design (CAD). Students will be exposed to authentic problems which will assist in the development of personal skills in visualization, design, construction, digital development and problem solving principles. Students will also implement standards and concepts from mathematics and science to Mechanical Motion, Energy, Electronics, and Transportation Systems.

ENGLISH ELECTIVES

for freshmen

McLEAN MEDIA COURSES

- **PHOTOJOURNALISM 1**
(yearbook production)
- **JOURNALISM 1**
- **BROADCAST JOURNALISM 1**

WHO should take a McLean Media elective?

writers • photographers • designers • reporters • videographers •

YOU

WHAT does each class do?

PHOTOJOURNALISM
students make the yearbook

JOURNALISM
students work on the newsmagazine and online news site

BROADCAST
students work on the daily news show and videos for online

WHEN should I take a McLean Media class?

NOW! The sooner you start the sooner you can become a LEADER on staff. McLean Media editors lead their peers, make all final content decisions and serve the MHS community by sharing news and stories that matter.

WHERE you can find your

passion • people • place

WHY it's a good idea to join McLean Media

JOURNALISM KIDS DO BETTER

Students who work on yearbook and newspapers get better grades in high school and as college freshmen than students who were not members of a journalism staff. (PMA Foundation July, 2008)

A NATIONAL REPUTATION OF EXCELLENCE

McLean's yearbook and newsmagazine are both in the **NATIONAL SCHOLASTIC PRESS ASSOCIATION'S HALL OF FAME.**

OPPORTUNITIES FOR TRAVEL

Each year members of MHS Media travel to national conventions. Recent trips have been to Chicago, Seattle, Orlando, and San Francisco!

FINE ARTS REQUIREMENT

McLean Media courses fulfill the fine arts requirement.

HOW to learn more

Questions about photojournalism (yearbook)
MEGHAN PERCIVAL
MJPerival@fcps.edu

Questions about journalism & broadcast
LINDSAY BENEDICT
LBenedict@fcps.edu

CREATIVE WRITING 1

The word is our strongest tool. Creative Writing 1 serves to lay the foundations and to help you gather an ever-useful toolkit of best practices in poetry, prose and creative nonfiction. We cover a wide range of genres and styles of writing including: flash fiction, slam poetry, playwriting, reviews, personal essays, horror / southern gothic, novellas, free verse poetry, traditional forms of poetry and much, much more. We take two field trips a year. The first is usually to an art museum or some other creative place. The second is to an elementary school where we read customized children's books to kindergarteners. We also produce a zine of collected works from Creative Writing 1-3 students and a small comedy magazine as well.

Creative Writing is a place of self discovery and community. It is a place for serious writers who want to compete and for those who are merely curious about writing. It is meant to be a class that sticks with you and creates memories and positive experiences that last long after leaving high school.

Everyone has something to say. It's time to contribute your verse.

SETH LEBLANC - SJLeblanc@fcps.edu

SPEECH & DEBATE

Speech and Debate is actually two different semester long courses. The first semester focuses on different types of public speaking, such as delivering narrative, informative, and persuasive speeches. Major grades are supplemented with almost daily opportunities to speak in an impromptu manner in front of the class. There is an emphasis on proper body language, vocal inflection, and utilization of rhetoric in oration. Second semester focuses on various types of debate. The goal is to have the skills from the speech part of the class coalesce with various types of debates to make the student a more effective, engaging, and respectable debater. This is an engaging, fun elective that prepares students for college and work life and imbues students with valuable, lifelong skills.

MARC CASCIO - MMCascio@fcps.edu

ELECTIVES

PERFORMING ARTS

VOCAL MUSIC

Women's Choir
Men's Choir
Madrigals (*advanced mixed*)
Armonia (*advanced women's*)

LINDA MARTIN
lsmartin@fcps.edu
mhschoralsociety.com

BAND

Wind Ensemble
Concert Band
Symphonic Band
Jazz Band
Percussion Techniques

CHRIS WEISE
CMWeise@fcps.edu
mcleanband.org

ORCHESTRA

Concert Strings
Symphonic Strings
Philharmonic Strings
Sinfonia Orchestra

STARLET SMITH
SASmith4@fcps.edu
mhsorchestra.org

DRAMA

Theatre Arts 1-4
Technical Theatre 1-4

PHILLIP REID
pareid@fcps.edu
theatremclean.org

GUITAR

Guitar 1 & 2

LINDA MARTIN
lsmartin@fcps.edu
mhschoralsociety.com

MUSIC THEORY

AP Music Theory

CHRIS WEISE
CMWeise@fcps.edu
mcleanband.org