RIVER CITY HIGH SCHOOL
COURSE CATALOG

INSIDE...

♦ Graduation Requirements
♦ Course Descriptions
Non-discrimination Policy

Washington Unified prohibits discrimination and/or harassment based on any legally protected characteristics, actual or perceived, including but not limited to race, color, national origin, ancestry, religion, age, marital status, pregnancy, physical or mental disability, medical condition, genetic information, veteran status, sex, sexual orientation, gender, gender identity or gender expression. Policies on student participation and selection criteria for athletics/competition, extracurricular and co-curricular activities indicating availability of programs, activities and clubs are open to all students. The Washington Unified School District and River City High School strive to comply with Federal Title IX gender equity laws. Address questions and concerns to: Personnel Department, Washington Unified School District, 930 Westacre Rd., West Sac, CA 95691. (916) 375-7600
RCHS is on a 4x4 block schedule. In simple terms, a 4x4 is a schedule where students take 8 ten credit classes; 4 in the fall and 4 in the spring. These are called terms. Each of the four classes meets each day for about 90 minutes. Individual schedules will vary, but a typical freshman schedule might look like the following:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>RCHS Subject Requirements</th>
<th>Minimum Requirement (subject to change)</th>
<th>Description - many courses meet college A-G requirements in addition to high school graduation. Please check course descriptions carefully.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SOCIAL SCIENCE</td>
<td>30 Credits</td>
<td>10TH WORLD HISTORY, 11TH US HISTORY, 12TH GOVERNMENT / ECONOMICS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENGLISH</td>
<td>40 Credits</td>
<td>OPTIONS BY PLACEMENT: ELD / ENGLISH CP / HONORS / AP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MATH</td>
<td>30 Credits</td>
<td>MUST INCLUDE INTEGRATED MATH 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SCIENCE - LIFE</td>
<td>10 Credits</td>
<td>LIFE: BIOLOGY, AG BIOLOGY, PRINCIPLES OF BIOMEDICAL PHYSICAL: CHEMISTRY, PHYSICS, GREEN TECHNOLOGY</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SCIENCE - PHYSICAL</td>
<td>10 Credits</td>
<td>See Science section for full options...</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PHYSICAL EDUCATION</td>
<td>20 Credits*</td>
<td>*See Physical Education Page re: State requirements</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WORLD LANGUAGE* or VAPA*</td>
<td>10 Credits*</td>
<td>*Additional credits required to meet A-G</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ELECTIVES*</td>
<td>67.5 Credits</td>
<td>*See course description to meet A-G requirements</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DRIVER EDUCATION</td>
<td>2.5 Credits</td>
<td>Class available to 11th / 12th only. Submit pink slip / permit / license as substitute.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SERVICE LEARNING</td>
<td>32 HOURS</td>
<td>Complete 8 hours per year. Submit contract and picture by deadline. Contract and info available online.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

It is a good idea for students to map out the courses they would like to take in a four year plan. Please remember every plan can be customized to the individual student’s need. Please refer to the course descriptions when choosing classes. **Be aware of requirements for graduation, college entrance, sports eligibility and specialized programs.**
CHOOSING A COLLEGE

It is important to begin your college planning early in high school. There are several types of schools for higher learning: Community colleges, California State University system, University of California system, private colleges/universities, and vocational schools.

COMMUNITY COLLEGES / VOCATIONAL SCHOOLS

Graduation from high school, state proficiency certificate, or a minimum age of 18 years old are the only requirements for Community College admission. There are no subject or grade requirements. There are three primary programs in most community colleges: (1) 2-year college degree (AA/AS), (2) special training in technical fields, and (3) 2 years of general education for transfer to a 4-year university. Some Community Colleges are now offering Bachelor's degrees in selected programs. [https://www.cccco.edu/](https://www.cccco.edu/)

UNIVERSITY

Students wishing to attend a public or private four year college or university should consult the school’s website for individual requirements.

California State University : [https://www2.calstate.edu/](https://www2.calstate.edu/)

University of California : [https://www.universityofcalifornia.edu/](https://www.universityofcalifornia.edu/)

Independent California Colleges and Universities : [https://www.aiccu.edu](https://www.aiccu.edu)

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UC APPROVAL LISTS : RCHS SCHOOL CODE 053740

The A-G / College Entrance Requirements are a sequence of high school courses that students must complete (with a grade of C or better) to be **minimally** eligible for admission to the University of California (UC) and California State University (CSU). They represent the basic level of academic preparation that high school students should achieve to undertake university work.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>A-G Area</th>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>Required</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>SOCIAL SCIENCE</td>
<td>2 YEARS</td>
<td>MUST INCLUDE WORLD and US HISTORY</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>ENGLISH</td>
<td>4 YEARS</td>
<td>MUST BE COLLEGE PREP OR HIGHER</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>MATH</td>
<td>3 YEARS (4 Rec.)</td>
<td>MUST INCLUDE INTEGRATED MATH 1,,2, 3 or &gt;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>SCIENCE - LIFE SCIENCE - PHYSICAL</td>
<td>1 YEAR</td>
<td>MUST BE LAB SCIENCES (3 YR Recommended) BIOLOGY*, CHEMISTRY*, PHYSICS (Standard) *Check Catalog for courses that may substitute.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E</td>
<td>WORLD LANGUAGE</td>
<td>2 YEARS (3-4 Rec.)</td>
<td>MUST BE SAME LANGUAGE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>VISUAL/PERFORMING ARTS</td>
<td>1 YEAR</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>G</td>
<td>COLLEGE PREP ELECTIVE</td>
<td>1 YEAR</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
SEAL OF BI-LITERACY

Earn a CA State Seal of Bi-literacy on your high school diploma. The Seal of Bi-literacy is an accolade presented by a school, district or county office of education to recognize a student who has demonstrated proficiency in two or more languages by high school graduation. The seal encourages students to pursue bi-literacy, honors the skills our students attain and can be evidence of skills that are attractive to future employers and college admissions offices.

To earn the Seal students must meet all of the following:

- Completion of all English language arts requirements for graduation with an overall grade point average of 2.0 or above.
- Passing the California Standards test in English language arts administered in grade 11 at the proficient level or above.
- For English learners not reclassified, attain the overall early advanced level on the English language development test.

In addition, students must meet one of the following:

- Passing a World Language Advanced Placement examination with a score of 3 or higher.
- Passing an International Baccalaureate examination with a score of 4 or higher.
- Successful completion of a four-year high school course of study in a world language and attaining an overall grade point average of 3.0 or above, and demonstration of oral proficiency in the language comparable to that required to pass an AP or IB examination.
- Passing a school district language exam that, at a minimum, assesses speaking, reading and writing passing at a proficient level or higher.
- Passing the SAT II world language examination with a score of 600 or higher.

ATHLETES AND COLLEGE

Students interested in playing sports in college should follow the guidelines of the NCAA in choosing classes that align with the Clearinghouse and college entrance requirements. A list of River City courses which fulfill NCAA requirements is available online at http://rivercity.wusd.k12.ca.us/NCAA.

NCAA DIVISION I Core-Course Rule

Complete 16 core courses:
- Four years of English
- Three years of math (Integrated 1 or higher)
- Two years of natural/physical science (including one year of lab science)
- One additional year of English, math or natural/physical science
- Two years of social science
- Four additional years of English, math, natural/physical science, social science, foreign language, comparative religion or philosophy

Complete 10 core courses, including seven in English, math or natural/physical science, before the seventh semester (before Senior Year). Once students begin their seventh semester, they may not repeat or replace any of those 10 courses to improve their core-course GPA.

Earn at least a 2.3 GPA in their core courses.

Earn an SAT combined score or ACT sum score matching their core-course GPA on the Division I sliding scale, which balances their test score and core-course GPA. If students have a low test score, they need a higher core-course GPA to be eligible. If they have a low core-course GPA, they need a higher test score to be eligible.
Advanced Education is intended to provide high school students with educational enrichment opportunities through their local Community Colleges. If you will be a high school junior or senior in grades 11-12, or at least 16 years of age by the first day of instruction, and you have a GPA of 2.7 or higher, you may be eligible to enroll in a maximum of two courses each semester on Advanced Education Status. Grades earned in Advanced Education courses will NOT receive a grade bump on a student’s permanent high school transcript. The course credit and grade the student receives will become part of his or her permanent college record and must be submitted as such on college applications.

You must follow these steps for each semester you wish to enroll as an Advanced Education Student.

1. Read and complete the entire Advanced Education Application by visiting www.scc.losrios.edu/admissionsrecords/advancededucation/. Your high school counselor must recommend specific courses and the form must be signed by your high school principal or designated counselor / administrator, your parent / guardian, and you.

2. New Advanced Education Students: Complete the SCC application online indicating that you are an advanced education student and not a new or transfer student www.scc.losrios.edu/apply/. Continuing Advanced Education Students: Complete the supplemental form through Eservice.

3. New Advanced Education Students: Complete the Los Rios online orientation after receiving your Los Rios Student ID number. Print out the certificate of completion that is sent to your Los Rios Gmail account. All correspondences will be sent to your “W” address.

4. All Advanced Education Students: Complete a typed statement explaining how you meet the criteria for Advanced Education. Attach a current copy of your high school transcripts.

5. Advance Education students must register in person at SCC Admission & Records or West Sacramento Center or Davis Center. Parents / Guardians may not register their student.

6. After submitting your Advanced Education packet, you will receive one of the following confirmation emails through your “W” email address: Approved Continuing Advanced Education Student with instructions of picking up packet; Approved New Advanced Education Student with a link to register for a new advanced education student workshop; Missing Documents with instructions on resubmitting your packet; Does Not Meet Advanced Education Requirements with further instructions.

7. New Advanced Education Students are required to attend a new advanced education student workshop. At this workshop an SCC counselor will provide additional information regarding your next steps.

Courses Not Allowed through Advanced Education:

- Basic skills courses numbered below 100.
- Courses being repeated due to unsatisfactory high school grades.
- Courses in which the safety of the student or others would be jeopardized.
- Courses with an adult or mature subject matter not appropriate for high school students.

Additional Advanced Education Program Information:

- Exceptions to the 2.7 GPA are courses in Human Career Development.
- Enrollment fees are waived for California residents but advanced education students will be charged the mandatory UTP fee and will be entitled to receive the Student Access Card.
- Advanced Education Students will use their Los Rios gmail account for all communication.
- The course credit and grade the student receives will become part of his or her permanent college record.

For more information about Advanced Education process, updates, and/or due dates visit: www.scc.losrios.edu/admissionsrecords/advancededucation/.
ADDING AND DROPPING COURSES

As personnel, facilities and material resources are assigned based on student’s Course Request Sheet, it is imperative that students choose courses carefully (including alternates) during spring registration. Changes to student schedules create an impact on many other courses and, therefore, will only be made on a limited basis. If a student changes his/her schedule three weeks into the semester, that student is already behind in learning. Therefore, RCHS administration has established the following schedule change policy to promote academic success for students.

Students will be expected to keep the courses they selected. An exception to this will be made if a student meets one of the criteria listed below. If a forecast sheet is not received, a counselor will create a schedule for the student based on credits and course needs.

Valid reason for student / parent initiated schedule changes are limited to:

1. Duplicate period error (i.e. two classes during the same period are listed on your schedule)
2. Incomplete schedule (i.e. missing class period on your schedule)
3. A senior missing a class required for graduation.
4. Inappropriate academic placement (i.e. you are in Spanish 2 but have not passed Spanish 1)
5. A student has a physical / medical reason, documented by a medical professional that will prevent participation in a class.

Student / parent initiated schedule change requests must be submitted, via e-mail by the date/time posted on the RCHS website during the schedule change request window. All change requests will be processed and students will be notified of the disposition of their request, essentially locking all student schedules at the end of the 5th school day of each semester. If a student or parent initiated schedule change is made after the 5th day the student’s grade will be determined by their new teacher based on the grade the student had in the dropped course. In addition, the new teacher may require the student to make up assignments missed from the start of term. If a student chooses not to complete an assignment, a “0” may be entered in the gradebook for that assignment, therefore negatively affecting the grade in the new class. NOTE: Any course dropped after the third week of a semester may be listed on the transcript as a failing grade.

Teacher initiated schedule changes may be made when a teacher recommends a student be moved from one level or another within the same subject area. Teachers will contact the parent /guardian to discuss the change and, if agreed upon, the teacher will contact the student’s administrator to recommend the change. Students must follow their original schedule until they are notified the change has been made.
# MY HIGH SCHOOL EDUCATION PLAN

**NAME** ________________________________________

**GRADUATION YEAR** ________________

**CAREER INTEREST**  
www.educationplanner.org

**EDUCATION/TRAINING NEEDED BEYOND HIGH SCHOOL**  
www.collegeboard.com  
www.fastweb.com

Insert class choices on requirements for college and/or career choice:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>GRADE 9</th>
<th>GRADE 10</th>
<th>GRADE 11</th>
<th>GRADE 12</th>
<th>Minimum A-G College Requirements</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>English</td>
<td>English</td>
<td>English</td>
<td>English</td>
<td>4 years English</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Math</td>
<td>Math</td>
<td>Math</td>
<td>Math</td>
<td>3 years Math</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PE</td>
<td>Science</td>
<td>Science</td>
<td>Govt/Econ</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BFFS</td>
<td>World History</td>
<td>US History</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PE</td>
<td>PE</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>2 Years Science</td>
</tr>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>(Biology and Chemistry)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1 year Performing Art</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>2 years World Language</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>3 years Social Science</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1 year CP Elective</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Alternates:</th>
<th>Alternates:</th>
<th>Alternates:</th>
<th>Alternates:</th>
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<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>To Do:</th>
<th>To Do:</th>
<th>To Do:</th>
<th>To Do:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Service Learning</td>
<td>Service Learning</td>
<td>Service Learning</td>
<td>Service Learning</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Tip:** Consider a year long class in band, leadership, journalism, yearbook and take for all four years. Colleges like consistency.

**Tip:** Join a pathway and complete it for certification and some college credits – Electronics, Medical, Culinary, Engineering. Colleges like career skills.

**Tip:** don’t overload yourself, assess your strengths and choose classes accordingly. AP courses should only be taken if you intend to take and pass the Exams. Study hard!

**Tip:** Seniors only need 6 classes. Use your free time to work, study, volunteer, intern, take college classes. Colleges like students who are well rounded in and out of school.

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**Minimum A-G College Requirements**

- 4 years English
- 3 years Math (Algebra and higher)
- 2 Years Science (Biology and Chemistry)
- 1 year Performing Art
- 2 years World Language
- 3 years Social Science
- 1 year CP Elective

**Additional Graduation Requirements**

- Physical Education
- Driver Education
- Electives
- Service Learning
Special Education at River City High School is integrated. We have seven special education teachers, many para-educators, and a workability coach to serve almost 200 students with special needs. Special education students at RCHS attend the majority of their classes with general education students and participate in all aspects of campus life including sports, clubs, and community service. Most special education students are working toward a diploma while some are working toward a certificate of completion (mild/moderate disabilities) or a certificate of achievement (moderate/severe disabilities).

Classes for students receiving special education services are based on individual needs. All students with Individual Education Plans (IEP) have access to core curriculum and electives based on specialized academic instructional needs. For questions regarding your child’s IEP please contact your student’s case manager.

For questions regarding placement or case managers, please contact the Program Specialist at the WUSD District Office, 916-375-7600 x1361.

**General Education Classes**

Whenever appropriate, students with disabilities will be educated in the general education classes. In addition, whenever possible, they will attend the school they would ordinarily attend.

**General Education Classes with Related Services**

In addition to general education, related services may be provided to assist students with disabilities to benefit from their general education program. Some examples of related services are language and speech services, adapted physical education, counseling, physical, and occupational therapy.

**ACADEMIC SUCCESS**

Year: 9-12  
RCHS Graduation Requirement: Elective

The Academic Success class is designed to support students with disabilities academic achievement and planning for the transition for school to adult living. Students will be provided direct instruction in study skills, writing, organization and planning for the transition from high school to post-secondary education, training or work.

**Special Day Classes**

Special Day Classes serve students who, because of their disabilities, cannot participate in general education classes for a majority of the school day. As appropriate, students enrolled in Special Day Classes interact with their general education peers through academic, non-academic and extracurricular activities.

**COMPUTER SCIENCE SKILLS**

Year: 9-12  
RCHS Graduation Requirement: Elective

Basic Computer Science is an introductory computer science course whose emphasis is to enable students to develop a mastery of basic operations of the personal computer. Topics will include using a computer to solve problems, web development, animations and games.
**CAREER TECHNICAL EDUCATION**

Washington Unified School District Career and Technical Education (CTE) programs prepare students by providing them with industry-specific knowledge and skills critical for successful employment in a wide range of high-wage, high-skill, and high-demand careers.

WUSD's Career Technical Education Department offers sequences of courses or pathways in 9 career areas. Learn more about WUSD's Career and Technical Education pathways. With the aid of local industry partners, many of our programs offer work-based learning opportunities including mentoring, guest speakers, job shadowing, and internships.

Each of our career and technical education pathways prepares students to enter employment directly following high school and/or prepares students to continue their educational and career goals in aligned programs at local colleges. In addition, our programs have been designed with regular input from advisory committee members who keep our programs relevant with up-to-date industry expectations and standards.

Combined with other academic offerings, students enrolled in Career Technical Education are able to meet UC/CSU A-G college entrance requirements as well as high school graduation requirements and career goals.
CULINARY ARTS (Bryte Campus) Pathway Courses - Please see the CTE website at http://bryte.wusd.k12.ca.us/ to see the full benefits and sample 4 year plan of taking this pathway.

Culinary I (Course 1)
Year: 9 - 12 RCHS Graduation Requirement: Elective (College credit course for grades >80%) UC/CSU - G
This course is designed to introduce students to the nutrient value, appetite appeal, social significance and implications of the farming industry upon food production. Students will participate in cooking labs, as well as a variety of classroom activities. Students will learn to follow recipes, measure ingredients accurately, and prepare food. Basic food science principles will be introduced. Kitchen safety and sanitation; proper use of equipment; and essential job skills in the food industry will be reinforced as well. **This class takes place off campus at the Bryte Career and College Training Campus. Students are off campus for half the day and take a separate academic or career focused course offered at Bryte. Transportation to and from the site is provided.**

Restaurant, Catering, and Commercial Food Production (Course 2)
Year: 9 - 12 RCHS Graduation Requirement: Elective (College credit course for grades >80%) UC/CSU - G
This course will provide students with opportunities to build upon skills attained in the Culinary I course. Students will be responsible for planning, preparing, and servicing events in the on-campus café; effectively managing a beverage service facility; and developing a passion for the hospitality industry. Students can apply hours from working in the restaurant and working to cater events towards the 400-hour requirement for the National Restaurant Association Industry Certification that students can acquire in the Culinary II level. **This class takes place off campus at Bryte Career and College Training Campus. Students are off campus for half the day and take a separate academic or career-focused course offered at Bryte. Transportation to and from the site is provided.**

Culinary II (Course 3)
Year: 10 - 12 RCHS Graduation Requirement: Elective (College credit course for grades >80%) UC/CSU - G
This advanced culinary course teaches skills in food production, preparation, customer service, and teamwork. Students will have an opportunity to cook and serve food in a café style setting. Instruction includes planning, selecting, storing, purchasing, preparing, testing, serving and selling of quality food and food products. Additional areas of study will include nutrition, safety and sanitation, use and care of commercial equipment, management of food establishments, cost and profitability analysis, handling customer orders, and food service standards, regulations and laws. Working in the Café periodically during lunch may be required. **This class takes place off campus at Bryte Career and College Training Campus. Students are off campus for half the day and take a separate academic or career-focused course offered at Bryte. Transportation to and from the site is provided.**

RESIDENTIAL AND COMMERCIAL CONSTRUCTION (Bryte Campus)
Pathway Courses - Please see the CTE website at http://bryte.wusd.k12.ca.us/ to see the full benefits and sample 4 year plan of taking this pathway.

Building Industry Technology Academy (BITA) Level 1
Year: 9 - 12 RCHS Graduation Requirement: Elective (College credit course for grades >80%) UC/CSU - G
This is a training program which combines classroom work in unpaid, on-the-job experience related to careers with construction. The class will include hands-on experience in solar design and installation of photovoltaic panels in addition to carpentry/framing, electrical, construction laborer, painting, etc. Students will have the opportunity to participate in an installation of solar panels on a home in West Sacramento. Students who complete this course successfully will obtain a Power Tool Safety Certificate.

Building Industry Technology Academy (BITA) Level 2
Year: 9 - 12 RCHS Graduation Requirement: Elective (College credit course for grades >80%) UC/CSU - G
Prerequisite: BITA 1
An advanced construction training program which combines classroom work in unpaid, on-the-job experience related to careers with construction. The class will include advanced techniques in solar energy design, carpentry and framing, electrical, construction labor, painting, etc. Students have the opportunity to participate in an installation of solar panels on a home in West Sacramento. Graduating students explore apprenticeship opportunities with local unions. Students who complete the pathway successfully will obtain a CTE Construction Management Completion Certificate as well as a Forklift Safety Certificate.
AGRICULTURAL SCIENCES ACADEMY (Bryte Campus)
Pathway Courses - Please see the CTE website at http://bryte.wusd.k12.ca.us/ to see the full benefits and sample 4 year plan of taking this pathway. Applications are on the Scheduling website.

Ag Biology
Year: 10  RCHS Graduation Requirement: Life Science (lab)  UC/CSU - D
Agricultural Biology is an introductory course for the Ag Science Academy and includes strong components of leadership, personal growth and career success through agricultural education and membership in the National FFA Organization. Using agriculture as the learning vehicle, this course emphasizes the principles, concepts and relationships among living organisms. The course is centered around an extensive laboratory component in order to connect the big ideas of life science with agricultural applications, which will help students acquire a broad understanding of a variety of agricultural areas, develop an awareness of the many career opportunities in agriculture, participate in occupationally relevant experiences, and work cooperatively with a group to develop and expand leadership abilities.

Farm to Fork I
Year: 11  RCHS Graduation Requirement: Elective  Prerequisite: Ag Biology  UC/CSU - D
The students in this biologically based class will practice sustainability through technology and hands on activities like composting, growing vegetables, fruits, flowers and trees, and transplanting to harvesting, with the ultimate goal of supplying the culinary arts program with a healthy “home grown” crop of food to create meals. Students will use Probeware technology to learn skills in collecting precise data in real-time and analyzing the results. Life skills and technology will be taught at every opportunity to encourage understanding of Farm to Fork Sustainable Agriculture.

Farm to Fork II
Year: 12  RCHS Graduation Requirement: Elective (College credit course for grades >80%)  UC/CSU - G
Prerequisite: Farm to Fork I and Ag Biology
Farm to Fork 2 is a hands-on class that uses chemistry and lab based experiences in the classroom and garden to teach sustainable agriculture practices. We will expand upon: understanding GMO use, synthetic vs. organic fertilizer and study career exploration and guidance in agriculture fields. Building our resumes, practicing interview skills and participating in a round robin with the local agriculturally based businesses will promote opportunities for Ag Science students. Guest speakers and fieldtrips in our community will add relevance to the curriculum. This is a fun, active class that teaches you leadership skills, public speaking skills, where your food comes from and how to eat healthy.

Introduction to Animal Science
Year: 9 - 12  RCHS Graduation Requirement: Elective  UC/CSU (Pending)
Introduction to Animal Science is a one term (10 credit), laboratory science course, designed for the students with agricultural career interests with animals. Using the 3-ring model of Agricultural Education, the first ring: classroom instruction will emphasize the principles, central concepts and inter-relationships among the following topics: growth and reproduction of animals, breeding and evolution of domestic livestock species, animal genetics and heredity, animal behavior, ecological relationship among plants & animals, humans and the environment, nutrition in animals, health and disease in animals, and the similarities between animals and humans. The second ring: is an extensive experiential learning component known as Supervised Agricultural Experience. It connects the big ideas of life science with agriculture applications, earth and physical science principles. This hand’s on learning will challenge the students by being responsible for an animal project to care for and can focus on the Yolo County Fair Competition. The third ring is the leadership component of FFA – Future Farmers of America, the national premier student leadership organization in the country. Students will practice, learn, strong leadership, public speaking/ presentation skills through student lead activities and events.

BIOMEDICAL SCIENCES (Location TBD) Pathway Courses - Please see the CTE website at http://bit.ly/ctePrograms to see the full benefits and sample 4 year plan of taking this pathway.

Principles of Biomedical Science
Year: 9 - 12  RCHS Graduation Requirement: Life Science (lab)  UC/CSU - D
Principles of Biomedical Science is the first course in a four-course sequence intended to prepare students interested in the health care field for technical training or university degrees. Students learn how the human body works, and how we implement medical interventions to improve health. Areas of focus in this introductory course include heart disease, diabetes, sickle cell disease, hypercholesterolemia, infectious disease, and pharmaceuticals.

Human Body Systems
Year: 10 - 12  RCHS Graduation Requirement: Life Science (lab)  Prerequisite: PBS  UC/CSU - D
This course introduces students to interactions with the human body. They design experiments, investigate body structures, and use data acquisition software to monitor body functions such as muscle movement, reflex and voluntary action, and respiration. Students build organs and tissues on a skeletal mannequin and work through real world cases.
Biomedical Sciences Pathway continued...

Anatomy and Medical Terminology
Year: 10 - 11  RCHS Graduation Requirement: Elective  UC/CSU (Pending)
Prerequisite: Successful completion of PBS
Anatomy and Medical Terminology is designed to teach students medical terminology with anatomical systems as a basis. Students will learn to describe the organs and functions of the different systems using appropriate medical terminology. Students will investigate the various pathologies of each system, and also explore the diagnostic procedures, therapeutic procedures, and medications relevant to each system. Learning will be enhanced through the use of laboratory experiments, research, case studies and dissections. This is the second course in the Patient care pathway.

Medical Interventions Honors
Year: 11 - 12  RCHS Graduation Requirement: Life Science (lab)  UC/CSU (Pending)
Prerequisite: HBS
In the Medical Interventions course, students will investigate the variety of interventions involved in the prevention, diagnosis and treatment of disease as they follow the lives of a fictitious family. As students experience the health issues and medical decisions faced by members of the family, they will be exposed to the wide range of interventions related to immunology, surgery, genetics, pharmacology, medical devices, rehabilitation, and diagnostics. Each family case scenario will introduce multiple types of interventions and will reinforce concepts learned in the previous two courses, as well as present new content that range from simple diagnostic tests to treatment for complex diseases and disorders.

Biomedical Innovation
Year: 11 - 12  RCHS Graduation Requirement: Elective  UC/CSU - G
Prerequisite: MI
Students design innovative solutions for the health challenges of the 21st century. They work through progressively challenging open-ended problems, addressing topics such as clinical medicine, physiology, biomedical engineering, and public health. Throughout the course, students are expected to present their work to an audience of STEM professionals. This course is designed for 12th grade students.

ROBOTICS (RCHS Campus) Pathway Courses - Please see the CTE website at http://bit.ly/ctePrograms to see the full benefits and sample 4 year plan of taking this pathway.

Robotics Engineering I
Year: 9 - 11  RCHS Graduation Requirement: Elective  UC/CSU - G
Prerequisite: Successful completion of Math 8 or higher
This is an entry level course that will allow students to develop 21st century skills such as teamwork, problem solving, ideation, project management, and communication skills. This course will involve students in the development, building, and programming of LEGO Mindstorm and EV3 robots. In this course they will learn or reinforce their knowledge of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) concepts. Topics may include the fundamental components of a robot, introduction to C++ programing and the use of robotic sensors and motors.

Robotics Engineering II
Year: 11 - 12  RCHS Graduation Requirement: Elective  UC/CSU - G
Prerequisite: Successful completion of Robotics I
Students will apply the skills learned in the RE1 course and use C++ and ChIDE programming language to build, program and troubleshoot their TETRIX,VEX and LinkBot mobile robots. Topics may include motor control, gear ratios, torque, friction, sensors, timing, program loops, logic gates, decision making, timing sequences, propulsion systems, and binary number systems. Students in this course may be required to represent RCHS in community related robotics activities at local and statewide robotics competitions.

COMPUTER SCIENCE (RCHS Campus) Pathway Courses - Please see the CTE website at http://bit.ly/ctePrograms to see the full benefits and sample 4 year plan of taking this pathway.

Computer Game Design and Programming
Year: 9 - 12  RCHS Graduation Requirement: Elective  UC/CSU - G
In this course students learn to program 3D animations using Alice, develop 2D games using JavaScript and are introduced to the Java programming language. Students design and create animated stories, simulations and games by using objects in a virtual world. This course also teaches Mobile programming and SQL programming. In the Mobile apps curriculum, students will learn programming by building mobile apps for phones. This course of study engages students with little or no programming experience. Students are introduced to object oriented concepts, terminology, and syntax, and the steps required to create basic Java programs using hands on, engaging activities.

Continued...
Computer Science Pathway continued...

AP Computer Science Principles

Year: 9 - 12  RCHS Graduation Requirement: Elective  UC/CSU - G

Prerequisite: Successful completion of CGDP recommended or >80% on placement assessment, AP Application

AP Computer Science Principles is a Project Lead The Way (PLTW) course to implement the College Board’s new AP CS Principles framework. Students work in teams to develop computational thinking and solve problems. In this class study learn Scratch™, App Inventor, and Python® programming languages to tell graphical stories, publish games and develop Android Apps (application). Students will use PHP and SQL to structure and access a database hosted on a remote server, learn how HTML and CSS direct the client computer to render a page, and experiment with JavaScript™ programming language to provide dynamic content. Students will also be introduced to cybersecurity and online security principles.

AP Computer Science A

Year: 10 - 12  RCHS Graduation Requirement: Elective  UC/CSU - G

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Integrated Math 1 and CGDP or AP Computer Science Principles, AP Application

AP Computer Science A serves both as a college preparatory course for potential computer science majors and a foundation course for students planning to study in other majors, like engineering, physics, chemistry, and geology that requires significant involvement with computing. AP Computer Science A class also provides a foundation for the Java certification Exam by Oracle. Students can earn college credits by passing the AP Computer Science exam offered by the College Board.

VIDEO PRODUCTION (RCHS Campus) Pathway Courses - Please see the CTE website at http://bit.ly/ctePrograms to see the full benefits and sample 4 year plan of taking this pathway.

Beginning Video Production

Year: 9 - 12  RCHS Graduation Requirement: Elective  UC/CSU - G

Beginning Video Production is an entry level course in which students learn the basics of creativity, visual thinking, and the practical aspects of video production: use of video cameras, digital editing, and creating different types of concept videos. Students learn to communicate effectively by working individually and in groups to plan productions, create storyboards, write scripts and edit videos. Students will learn editing by using Adobe After Effects, software that is used by professionals in television and movie production.

Advanced Video Production

Year: 9 - 12  RCHS Graduation Requirement: Elective  UC/CSU - G

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Video Production

Enter into the world of documentary film-making as you pursue school and local news, including helping to produce the weekly RCTV shows. Cover events and activities in and around the school in order to keep the student body, faculty and community informed as to what’s happening at River City. Learn how to read the news on camera, interview people and create news packages. **Required:** out of class hours to cover after school activities including sporting events and other school events or local activities.

THEATER (RCHS Campus) Pathway Courses - Please see the CTE website at http://bit.ly/ctePrograms to see the full benefits and sample 4 year plan of taking this pathway.

Introduction to Professional Theater

Year: 9 - 12  RCHS Graduation Requirement: VAPA  UC/CSU - F

Put on a happy/sad face for the study of dramatic history and the rehearsal and performance of scenes from plays of these periods. Tune up presentation skills with the study of acting techniques and body control. Explore the creative process through writing and the design of sets, costumes, makeup, and advertising. Group and individual projects and at least one major production a year are included. Participation in public productions is mandatory.

Advanced Theater Performance

Year: 10 - 12  RCHS Graduation Requirement: VAPA  UC/CSU - G

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Introduction to Professional Theater

Further your study of theatrical production through the experience of creating a number of productions from inspiration through to closing night. Design concepts will grow into practical fabrication of costumes, sets, and props, and progress into the technical running of performances. Alongside, acting techniques will take center stage as roles will be cast, rehearsed, and performed in a number of theatrical styles and local venues. Ready yourself to be cast or crew at a theater festival, a fully realized play, the school’s spring musical, and in a local tour to bring the performing arts to kids. **Required:** 24 hours minimum participation in public performance as cast or crew member.
PROJECT LEAD THE WAY - (PLTW) Engineering Design (RCHS Campus) Pathway Courses - Please see the CTE website at http://bit.ly/ctePrograms to see the full benefits and sample 4 year plan of taking this pathway.

Introduction to Engineering Design
Year: 9 - 10  RCHS Graduation Requirement: Elective  Prerequisite: Successful completion of Math 8 or higher  UC/CSU - G
This is the first course in the Project Lead the Way path-way to high skill, high wage careers in applied science, technology, engineering, and mathematics. Students will study the design process and learn how to use the same industry leading 3D computer modeling design software inventor and 3D printer that’s used by companies like Intel, Lockheed Martin, and Pixar.

Principles of Engineering
Year: 9 - 10  RCHS Graduation Requirement: Elective  Prerequisite: Successful completion of Engineering Design  UC/CSU - G
This course exposes students to some of the major concepts that they will encounter in a postsecondary engineering course of study. Students have an opportunity to investigate engineering and the high tech career. POE course gives the students the opportunity to develop skills and understanding of concepts through activity, project, and problem based (APPB) learning.

Digital Electronics
Year: 11 - 12  RCHS Graduation Requirement: Elective  Prerequisite: Successful completion of IED and POE  UC/CSU - G
This course is based on the principles and laws of traditional electronics and electrical theory. Students will begin with a study of basic electrical theory then move on to learn the basic principles and theories of digital circuits on Multisim. Students develop solutions to solve the problems posed by essential and key questions in each unit and section overview. Projects include race cars and Digital multi meters.

Engineering Design and Development
Year: 12  RCHS Graduation Requirement: Elective  Prerequisite: Successful completion of Digital Electronics  UC/CSU - G
This PLTW capstone course is an engineering research course in which students work in teams to research, design, and construct a solution to an open-ended engineering problem. Students apply principles developed in the three preceding courses and are guided by a community mentor. The course covers common mechanical terms, components, and systems as related to mechanical engineering.

ENGINEERING, SCIENCE, AND TECHNOLOGY ACADEMY (RCHS Campus) Pathway Courses - Please see the CTE website at http://bit.ly/ctePrograms to see the full benefits and sample 4 year plan of taking this pathway.

Intermediate Electronics
Year: 10  RCHS Graduation Requirement: Elective  Prerequisite: Application  UC/CSU - G
Electronic circuits and theory has an emphasis on construction. Students acquire extensive knowledge and skill with tools, machines and instruments used in building a variety of electronic devices. Instruction is primarily project-based in that students design and construct a strobe light using etching and tinning process, Christmas tree, burglar alarm, and breadboard circuits. Students learn about solar cells and its applications and build solar charger notebooks. Within the realm of semi-conductor theory, students will have a broad study of diodes, transistors, logic gates, truth tables and Boolean Equation to prep them for the Digital Electronics Class.

AC/DC Circuitry
Year: 11  RCHS Graduation Requirement: Elective  Prerequisite: Intermediate Electronics  UC/CSU - G
In this course, students will learn to recognize and design both direct and alternating current circuitry. Emphasis will be on the use of the oscilloscope, function generator and frequency counter. Stress will also be placed on understanding and using the mathematical formulas necessary for the design and function of electric/electronic circuits. Students will also work towards getting an IPC certification for the SMT and THT soldering techniques. There will be an opportunity for students to work with Grid Alternatives to build solar panels on houses in the community.  Students earn four units of community college credit through Sacramento Community College when students achieve 80% or higher in this course and on the final exam.

Digital Electronics Academy
Year: 12  RCHS Graduation Requirement: Elective  Prerequisite: AC/DC Circuitry  UC/CSU - G
This course is based on the principles and laws of traditional electronics and electrical theory. Digital Electronics and embedded micro-computers are in every product that is either plugged into a wall or operated by batteries, and is therefore a technology that all people are exposed to in their daily lives. Students will begin with a study of basic electrical theory then move on to learn the basic principles and theories of digital circuits on Multisim. The curriculum embraces the educational tenets of project based learning.  Students earn five units of community college credit through Sacramento Community College when students achieve 80% or higher in the course and on the final exam.

CMOS Mask Design
Year: 11 - 12  RCHS Graduation Requirement: Elective  Prerequisite: Successful completion of DE / PLTW classes.  UC/CSU - G
This course is an entry level integrated circuit (IC) layout and design in CMOS (Complementary Metal Oxide Silicon) technology. Practical experience in drawing Logic diagrams, transistor level schematics, cross-sectional views, STIK diagrams, and in converting STIKS to the actual layout of the layers that will be used to manufacture the IG. The course stresses application of design rules, area estimation, and pin and bus placements.
Please Note: Students that may require religious accommodations, transgender, and/or grooming standard exception to policy requests must contact the River City High School AFJROTC Department at least 3 months prior to starting the semester in order to ensure they will be compliant with the program’s regulations.

AFJROTC 1
Year: 9 - 12  RCHS Graduation Requirement: Elective
Prerequisite: Student Contract, 2.0 GPA.
AS-100: A Journey Into Aviation History
LE-100: Citizenship, Character & Air Force Tradition
The academic portion (AS-200) explores the science behind human flight, various principles of flight, a basic understanding of weather patterns and prediction, as well as the impact of flight on the human body. The leadership education portion (LE-100) includes AFJROTC cadet and Air Force organizational structure; uniform wear; customs, courtesies, and other military traditions; health and wellness; fitness; individual self-control; and citizenship. As with all AFJROTC courses, cadets will march and do Physical Training (exercising) every week. Air Force uniform wear and military grooming standards are required, including shaving and haircuts.

AFJROTC 2
Year: 10 - 12  RCHS Graduation Requirement: Elective
Prerequisite: AFJROTC 1.
AS-200: The Science of Flight
LE-200: Communication, Awareness, and Leadership
The academic portion (AS-100) explores man’s early attempts to fly, the major historical contributors to the development of flight, the contributions of the US Air Force to modern aviation history, and the key events of space exploration. The leadership education (LE-200) portion stresses communications skills and cadet corps activities. Information is provided on communicating effectively, understanding groups and teams, preparing for leadership, solving conflicts and problems, and personal development.

AFJROTC 3
Year: 10 - 12  RCHS Graduation Requirement: Elective
Prerequisite: AFJROTC 1
AS-220: Cultural Studies: An Introduction to Global Awareness.
LE-300: Life Skills and Career Opportunities
The academic portion (AS-220) introduces cadets to the world’s cultures through the study of world affairs, regional studies, and cultural awareness. The course delves into history, geography, religions, languages, culture, political systems, economics, social issues, environmental concerns, and human rights. It looks at major events and significant figures that have shaped each region. The leadership education portion (LE-300) examines life after high school, studying various topics including how to apply to college/vocational/technical schools, begin a job search, spend money wisely, and be a responsible citizen.

AFJROTC 4
Year: 11 - 12  RCHS Graduation Requirement: Elective
Prerequisite: Application
AS-400: Managing the Cadet Corps
LE-400: Principles of Management
Upper-class cadets manage the corps under AFJROTC instructor supervision. This course provides hands-on experience and opportunity to put the theories of previous leadership courses into practice. Planning, organizing, coordination, directing, controlling, and decision-making will be done by the cadets, under the supervision of AFJROTC instructors. The cadets practice their communication, decision-making, personal interaction, managerial, and organizational skills. The Leadership Education portion (LE-400) of this course will teach cadets the fundamentals of management, providing skills that will help the cadets succeed in life.

AFJROTC 5
Year: 11 - 12  RCHS Graduation Requirement: Elective
Prerequisite: 2.5 GPA, Application
This pass/fail course is a combination leadership lab and classroom assistant. One or two upper class cadets will be the Flight Commander and Deputy Flight Commander for the AFJROTC 1 classes. Cadets will refine their leadership and decision making skills by leading first-year AFJROTC cadets.
Beginning with the class of 2022, all 9th grade students will take PE Individual to fulfill their freshman year PE requirement. Students will now take PE Team, Beginning Dance, or Intermediate Dance during 10th grade to fulfill the remainder of their PE graduation requirement.

Students who fail PE will automatically be placed in PE 1. Students who do not pass their Physical Fitness Exams will be scheduled in an elective PE. For more information please see the website at: http://bit.ly/PEedcode

PE Clothes are required. Students may purchase a PE uniform (shirt, shorts) from the student store for $18.00. Students may wear solid color sweats in Navy, Grey, or Black. Tennis Shoes are required. Dance students must have appropriate shoes / apparel according to syllabus. All students must bring their own lock for PE. Valuable items should be left at home. River City High School is NOT responsible for theft, damage, or loss of any items. Lockers are school property and are subject to being opened by school staff. Students should be careful to lock all belongings prior to the start of the PE period. Students should not share locker combinations and all students should understand that combination locks represent a deterrent to theft but do not prevent it entirely.

PE INDIVIDUAL ACTIVITIES
Year: 9   RCHS Graduation Requirement: PE
This course focuses on physical and recreational activities. All of the activities include aspects of conditioning, skill development, offensive and defensive strategies and self evaluation in individual activities. There is an emphasis on activities preparing the student for a lifetime of fitness and recreation. Some of the activities include swimming, dance, gymnastics, badminton, ultimate Frisbee, and tennis. This class also includes a 4 week health unit in the classroom, as well as, state fitness testing.

PE - COURSE 1
Year: 10 - 12   RCHS Graduation Requirement: PE
Prerequisite: Students deficient in PE Credits / Students who have not passed State Physical Fitness Exams
This course is a combination of PE Team and PE Individual activities. It will contain units in fitness, nutrition, safety, basketball, soccer, ultimate, volleyball, disc golf, gymnastics, and self defense.

PE-TEAM SPORTS
Year: 10   RCHS Graduation Requirement: PE
The goal of this class is to continue to educate the student in physical education through involvement in team sports. There is an emphasis on activities preparing the student for a lifetime of fitness and recreation. The students will change activities every 3 - 4 weeks. These activities include basketball, soccer, flag football, combatives and volleyball.

DANCE BEGINNING
Year: 9* - 12   RCHS Graduation Requirement: PE
This course will help students develop basic dance skills in a variety of styles, including jazz, modern, lyrical, hip hop, and a variety of world dance forms. Rhythm, musicality, and choreography are emphasized, along with physical skills, flexibility, and aerobic fitness. This is a performance class and show participation is required. Participation in a rally is optional. This class will also include a 4 week health unit and state fitness testing. *Please note: all 9th grade students will be assigned to PE Individual. Students in 9th grade who would like to take Beginning Dance in addition to PE Individual will have the option to take Intermediate Dance as their PE course during 10th grade.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION ELECTIVES

PE ADVANCED TEAM SPORTS
Year: 10 - 12   RCHS Graduation Requirement: Elective (note: This course may not be taken to make-up a failed PE course)
Prerequisite: Successful completion of PE Team Sports and PE Individual Activities
This course will focus on advanced strategies and game play in sports such as Basketball, Flag Football, Hockey, Lacrosse, Rugby, Soccer, and Softball.

PE LEISURE SPORTS (ADVANCED INDIVIDUAL AND DUAL ACTIVITIES)
Year: 10 - 12   RCHS Graduation Requirement: Elective (note: This course may not be taken in order to make-up a failed PE course)
Prerequisite: Successful completion of PE Team Sports and PE Individual Activities
This course provides students the opportunity to learn and participate in lifelong physical activities, such as, tennis, golf, archery, and/or badminton in an individual/dual sports setting, as well as, providing daily physical fitness.
DANCE INTERMEDIATE
Year: 10 - 12  RCHS Graduation Requirement: Elective
Prerequisite: Successful completion of Individual Activities and Beginning Dance
This course will help students develop intermediate dance skills in a variety of styles, including jazz, modern, lyrical, hip hop, and a variety of world dance forms. Rhythm, musicality, and choreography are emphasized, along with physical skills, flexibility, and aerobic fitness. This is a performance class and show participation is required.

DANCE ADVANCED
Year: 10 - 12  RCHS Graduation Requirement: VAPA UC/CSU - F
Prerequisite: Instructor Approval Needed
This course will help students develop advanced dance skills in a variety of styles. This is a performance class and show participation is required. This course may not be taken in order to make-up a failed PE course.

PE BASKETBALL
Year: 10 - 12  RCHS Graduation Requirement: Elective  (note: This course may not be taken in order to make-up a failed PE course)
Prerequisite: Successful completion of PE Team Sports and PE Individual Activities
This course is designed for students who want to focus on advancing already established basketball skills. Emphases include fundamentals, offensive and defensive strategies, training routines, and overall conditioning.

PE ADVANCED BASEBALL / SOFTBALL
Year: 10 - 12  RCHS Graduation Requirement: Elective  (note: This course may not be taken in order to make-up a failed PE course)
Prerequisite: Successful completion of PE Team Sports and PE Individual Activities
This course is designed for students who want to focus on advancing already established Baseball and softball skills. Emphases include fundamentals, offensive and defensive strategies, training routines, and overall conditioning.

PE NET SPORTS
Year: 10 - 12  RCHS Graduation Requirement: Elective  (note: This course may not be taken in order to make-up a failed PE course)
Prerequisite: Successful completion of PE Team Sports and PE Individual Activities
This course is designed for students who want to focus on advancing their skills in Volleyball, Tennis and Badminton. Emphases include developing fundamental skills, offensive and defensive strategies,

PE WEIGHTLIFTING
Year: 10 - 12  RCHS Graduation Requirement: Elective  (note: This course may not be taken in order to make-up a failed PE course)
Prerequisite: Successful completion of PE Team Sports and PE Individual Activities
The goal of this class is to continue to educate students so they can successfully design an efficient and sound resistance training program. The focus is on correct exercise technique, program design and safety. Students will learn anatomy, exercise physiology and nutrition as it relates to obtaining optimal health.

PE ADVANCED WEIGHTS
Year: 11 - 12  RCHS Graduation Requirement: Elective  (note: This course may not be taken in order to make-up a failed PE course)
Prerequisite: Successful completion of Weights
The goal of this class is to continue to educate students so they can successfully design an efficient and sound resistance training program. The focus is on correct exercise technique, program design and safety. Students will learn anatomy, exercise physiology and nutrition as it relates to obtaining optimal health.

PE SOCCER
Year: 10 - 12  RCHS Graduation Requirement: Elective  (note: This course may not be taken in order to make-up a failed PE course)
Prerequisite: Successful completion of PE Team Sports and PE Individual Activities
Students will learn the primary concepts of playing the game of soccer, developing an awareness of how to coach the sport of soccer and achieve certification as a game official (referee).
ENGLISH

ELD 9/10/11/12
Year: 9 - 12  RCHS Graduation Requirement: English  Yearlong
Prerequisite: Placement by Language Development Specialist. Students still in the process of acquiring English and not yet demonstrating full fluency in English will be assigned to a daily English class. Class content will mirror equivalent college prep English course and also provide daily ELD instruction while moving students toward reclassification standards.

ENGLISH 9
Year: 9  RCHS Graduation Requirement: English  UC/CSU - B
Students will be guided toward mastery of the Common Core state standards in reading and writing, speaking and listening, and grammar skills while surveying the elements of literature.

ENGLISH 9 H - Note: Honors weight available ONLY for high school GPA. UC/CSU does not award weighted credit for this course
Year: 9  RCHS Graduation Requirement: English  UC/CSU - B
Prerequisite: Proficient or Advanced on SBAC ELA Test, successful completion of 8th grade English. In addition to focusing on the mastery of standards covered in English 9, students will be expected to complete the reading of approximately four outside readings of novels organized by thematic units. Emphasis will also be placed on analytical essays pertaining to the thematic units, rather than the standard essays, already covered in the 8th grade.

ENGLISH 10
Year: 10  RCHS Graduation Requirement: English  UC/CSU - B
Students will be guided toward mastery of the Common Core state standards in reading and writing, speaking and listening, and grammar skills while surveying in more depth the elements of literature.

ENGLISH 10 H
Year: 10  RCHS Graduation Requirement: English  UC/CSU - B
Prerequisite: Successful completion of English 9, application and writing sample* English 10 Honors will focus on the application of the Common Core state standards through advanced composition. Both classic and contemporary novels, as well as supplemental materials will be used to develop critical thinking and analysis. In addition there will be a heavy focus on vocabulary development, complex language skills, grammar usage and mechanics, and the clear conveyance of ideas through both writing and public speaking.

ENGLISH 11
Year: 11  RCHS Graduation Requirement: English  UC/CSU - B
Students will be guided toward mastery of the Common Core State Standards in reading and writing, speaking and listening, and grammar skills while focusing on works of American literature.

AP ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND COMPOSITION
Year: 11  RCHS Graduation Requirement: English  UC/CSU - B
Prerequisite: Application, essay*, successful completion of English 10. AP English Language and Composition is a rigorous course for juniors that focuses on writing, asking students to improve all aspects of written discourse including diction and syntax through intense practice. The course guides students in becoming skilled readers of prose written in a variety of periods, disciplines and rhetorical contexts. The class prepares students for the Advanced Placement English Language exam given in the spring.

ENGLISH 12
Year: 12  RCHS Graduation Requirement: English  UC/CSU - B
This class is an expository reading and writing course. Students explore the art of exposition as it is used to illustrate, define and understand the world we live in. Students will work to improve their critical reading and writing skills by analyzing and critiquing academic and real-world expository texts. Vocabulary development, public speaking and grammar instruction will be integrated into all units.

AP ENGLISH LITERATURE AND COMPOSITION
Year: 12  RCHS Graduation Requirement: English  UC/CSU - B
Prerequisite: Application, essay*, successful completion of English 11. Students in this college level course will participate in the close reading and critical analysis of established works of literary merit. They will develop their abilities to read, understand and write about literature through the careful study of how writers use language to create meaning and effect in their works. Students will analyze the structure, style and themes of literature by looking at the specific elements of language such as diction, symbolism, imagery and tone and analyzing how authors use specific literary devices to achieve specific literary purposes.

*subject to change - check website for details
ENGLISH ELECTIVES

JOURNALISM
Year: 9 - 12  RCHS Graduation Requirement: Elective  UC/CSU - G
Prerequisite: Yearlong - must be requested for two elective positions on the course request sheets, application online*
This course is a combination of beginning journalism, media studies and newspaper production. Students will learn journalistic writing techniques including editorial, news, sports and features writing. Students study media bias and influences as well as the history of journalism in the US. In addition, students will work together to produce a school newspaper participating in all aspects of production including story assignment and writing, editing, photography and layout. Students will work with Adobe In Design and Photoshop.

YEARBOOK
Year: 9 - 12  RCHS Graduation Requirement: Elective  UC/CSU - G
Prerequisite: Yearlong - must be requested for two elective positions on the course request sheets, application online*
This year-long course offers participants the opportunity to produce River City’s annual yearbook. In this 21st Century, cross-curricular, project-based class, students work collaboratively using technology such as digital cameras, photo editing software, and online design software to digitally produce a yearbook. Students use writing skills, communication skills, and creativity to tell the story of the school community and peers in an engaging way. In this college and career ready course, students think critically to meet deadlines, work towards goals, and utilize multimedia to market and disseminate information that aligns with and models an actual business.

SHAKESPEARE IN PERFORMANCE
Year: 9 - 12  RCHS Graduation Requirement: Elective  UC/CSU - (pending)
Secret murders. Power-hungry kingpins. Jealous lovers. Accidental slaughters. Mistaken identities. Epic battles. Magical spirits. Dirty jokes. These are the things that have made Shakespeare’s plays so gripping and so powerful for the past 400 years. These are also the things that get lost when you read his plays out of a book. In Shakespeare In Performance, we will not be reading Shakespeare, we will be doing Shakespeare. Students will learn to interpret and understand texts using the same techniques that actors, directors, and other theater professionals use to make a play come to life. We will explore how a director’s choices can impact a play, and how the historical context of a play can influence production. At the end of the term, students will take a play from script to stage and perform it for their classmates. No acting experience required!

INTRODUCTION TO THE CRAFT OF POETRY
Year: 9 - 12  RCHS Graduation Requirement: Elective  UC/CSU - (pending)
Do you love words, rhythm, and rhyme? Are you inspired by Shakespeare, Sylvia Plath, or Dr. Seuss? Are you a poet and you know it? Join the Introduction to the Craft of Poetry class! In this elective course, you will study the experts and create your own masterpieces. At the end of the term, you will leave with a portfolio of your original work and a deeper understanding of the art of language. We welcome writers of all grades and all levels of poetic experience. Come one, come all!

SCIENCE FICTION AS LITERATURE
Year: 10 - 12  RCHS Graduation Requirement: Elective  UC/CSU - G
Prerequisite: Successful completion of English 9
Students will define, analyze, and interpret the genres of SF through influential works in novels, short stories, television and film. This class will include expository, persuasive, and descriptive writing as well as analysis of both fiction and non-fiction materials related to the overall genre of SF.

CREATIVE WRITING
Year: 11 - 12  RCHS Graduation Requirement: Elective  UC/CSU - G
Creative Writing will give students the opportunity to write short stories and edit them through a sharing and responding process. Students will also explore the short story genre through plot, character, setting, conflict and voice by reading famous examples of short fiction focusing on the craft. Students will engage in a variety of physical as well as writing activities to help improve their writing. Finally students will produce a portfolio featuring their work from the class.

THE GRAPHIC NOVEL
Year: 9 - 10  RCHS Graduation Requirement: Elective  UC/CSU - (pending)
Prerequisite: Successful completion of English 9
This course will explore the history of the graphic novel as literature and analyze texts that have influenced modern culture. Students will learn the history of the graphic novel, the structure of the graphic novel, pop culture and influences of the graphic novel as well as create their own graphic novel by the end of the term.

FILM AND LITERATURE
Year: 10 - 12  RCHS Graduation Requirement: Elective  UC/CSU - G
Prerequisite: Successful completion of English 9
Students will study approximately one film per week, concentrating on analysis of screenwriting, cinematography, camera angles, editing, acting and symbolism. Students will be expected to learn basic terminology of film analysis and use it to think and write critically about films from various genres. Students would also be expected to write a partial script focusing on one of the elements studied.

*subject to change - check website for details
MATH

RCHS requires a minimum of three different math courses to graduate.

“The A-G / College Entrance Requirements are a sequence of high school courses that students must complete (with a grade of C or better) to be minimally eligible for admission to the University of California (UC) and California State University (CSU). They represent the basic level of academic preparation that high school students should achieve to undertake university work. (C) Mathematics: Three years of college preparatory mathematics that includes the topics covered in elementary and advanced algebra, and two- and three-dimensional geometry (Integrated Math 1, 2, 3).”

INTEGRATED MATH 1
Year: 9 - 12  
RCHS Graduation Requirement: Mathematics  
UC/CSU - C  
The purpose of Integrated Math 1 is to formalize and extend the math that students learned in the middle grades and prepare students for higher levels of mathematics. The critical areas deepen and extend understanding of linear relationships, in part by contrasting them with exponential functions, and in part by applying linear models to data that exhibit a linear trend. Integrated Math 1 uses properties and theorems involving congruent figures to deepen and extend understanding of geometric knowledge acquired in prior grades.

INTEGRATED MATH 2
Year: 10 - 12  
RCHS GraduationRequirement: Mathematics  
UC/CSU - C  
Prerequisite: “C-” or better in Integrated Math 1  
The focus of Integrated Math 2 is on quadratic expressions, equations, and functions; comparing their characteristics and behavior to those of linear and exponential relationships from Integrated Math 1. Students bring together all of their experience with functions and geometry to create models and solve contextual problems.

INTEGRATED MATH 3
Year: 10 - 12  
RCHS Graduation Requirement: Mathematics  
UC/CSU - C  
Prerequisite: “C-” or better in Integrated Math 2  
In Integrated Math 3, students pull together and apply the accumulation of learning that they have from Integrated Math 1 and Integrated Math 2. They study probability, statistics, complex numbers, trigonometry, and polynomial, rational, and radical functions.

Course Sequence Possibilities based on grades / placement.

All courses are A-G except Personal Finance and Business Math; these are available only to Seniors who have not passed Integrated Math 2 or Math 3 by the end of their Junior year.
STATISTICS
Year: 11 - 12  
RCHS Graduation Requirement: Mathematics  
UC/CSU - C
Prerequisite: Successful completion of Integrated Math 3
In this course, students will develop analytical and critical thinking skills as they learn to describe data patterns, plan and conduct studies, explore randomness, make predictions, test hypotheses, and make statistical inferences about populations. Mathematical prerequisites include procedural fluency in linear functions and basic probability rules. More importantly, students should have a high degree of curiosity and cognitive flexibility, as well as a propensity for evidence-based thinking.

AP STATISTICS
Year: 11 - 12  
RCHS Graduation Requirement: Mathematics  
UC/CSU - C
Prerequisite: Successful completion of Integrated Math 3 and AP Application
The same concepts and topics are taught as in the Statistics course, but with more depth and rigor. Students enrolling in the AP Statistics course should be prepared for the fast pace necessary to prepare for and pass the College Board’s national AP Exam in the spring.

PRE CALCULUS
Year: 11 - 12  
RCHS Graduation Requirement: Mathematics  
UC/CSU - C
Prerequisite: Successful completion of Integrated Math 3
This is an advanced level course for students intending to take college level Math or AP Calculus. Content emphasis on trigonometry, mathematical analyses, probability and statistics, analytic geometry, limits, and introduction to calculus.

AP CALCULUS AB
Year: 11 - 12  
RCHS Graduation Requirement: Mathematics  
UC/CSU - C
Prerequisite: Successful completion of Pre-Calculus and AP Application
Students enrolling in the AP Calculus course should be prepared for the rigor and fast pace necessary to prepare them for the Advanced Placement exam in May. This course is for students with a thorough knowledge of college preparatory mathematics, including algebra, axiomatic geometry, trigonometry and analytic geometry (rectangular and polar coordinates, equations and graphs, lines and cones). Topics from Calculus AB include elementary functions and limits, the derivative, anti-derivatives, techniques of integration and the definite integral. Graphing calculators will be used regularly.

AP CALCULUS BC
Year: 11 - 12  
RCHS Graduation Requirement: Mathematics  
UC/CSU - C
Prerequisite: Enrollment in AP Calculus AB for Fall term
For students with a thorough knowledge of college preparatory mathematics, including algebra, axiomatic geometry, trigonometry and analytic geometry (rectangular and polar coordinates, equations and graphs, lines and cones). This course extends and further topics from AP Calculus AB. It is offered in the Spring term for students that want to continue on after taking AP Calculus AB in the Fall term.

PERSONAL FINANCE
Year: 12  
RCHS Graduation Requirement: Mathematics
Prerequisite: Counselor placement
The course covers a wide range of practical skills using Algebra and Geometry including topics such as salary and income, taxes, checking and debit accounts, savings accounts, and loans. Students will learn strategies for critical thinking and problem solving through real life word problems.

BUSINESS MATH
Year: 12  
RCHS Graduation Requirement: Mathematics
Prerequisite: Counselor placement
The course covers a wide range of practical skills using Algebra and Geometry including topics such as employee benefits, purchasing, profits, and marketing. Students will learn strategies for critical thinking and problem solving through real life word problems.
## WORLD HISTORY

**Year:** 10  
**RCHS Graduation Requirement:** Social Science  
**UC/CSU:** A

A required course for students to discover major turning points in shaping the modern world, particularly from the late 18th century to the present. Uncover the interrelationship of the world’s people to each other and to their environment. Remember that ‘history repeats itself’ as you learn of modern history linked to the past.

## US HISTORY

**Year:** 11  
**RCHS Graduation Requirement:** Social Science  
**UC/CSU:** A

Learn about the major turning points in American history in the twentieth century, particularly from 1900 to the present. Be prepared to delve into the nation’s beginnings with the Industrial Revolution, expanding government, U.S. role as a world power, women and minorities’ contributions, impact of technology and development of a corporate economy. Each unit also explores related elements of art, literature and American culture.

## AP US HISTORY

**Year:** 11  
**RCHS Graduation Requirement:** Social Science  
**UC/CSU:** A

**Prerequisite:** Successful completion of AP Euro or teacher recommendation / AP Application / Summer Assignment*

The Advanced Placement U.S. History course is designed to provide the content and knowledge of the development of U.S. History, while providing practice in the written analysis and interpretation of related documents and various primary sources. Critical thinking activities will include extensive readings, written analysis, persuasive essays, and oral discussions, presentations, and projects. This is a difficult college-level course. The ultimate objective is to prepare for and pass the College Board’s national AP Exam in the spring.

## GOVERNMENT

**Year:** 12  
**RCHS Graduation Requirement:** Social Science  
**UC/CSU:** A

A semester long course which compares political systems and analyzes current issues. The course covers the political system, decision-making, the voting public’s responsibility, the values, issues and problems of modern American government at home and abroad. Students enrolled in U.S. Government automatically transfer into Economics for second semester.

## ECONOMICS

**Year:** 12  
**RCHS Graduation Requirement:** Social Science  
**UC/CSU:** G

A semester long course during which students study the American free enterprise system and product distribution for basic demands in a democratic, economic system. The class looks at your role as consumer, producer, saver, investor and citizen to learn about economic problems and situations after graduation. Students enrolled in Economics automatically transfer into U.S. Government for second semester.

## AP GOVERNMENT / Honors ECONOMICS

**Year:** 12  
**RCHS Graduation Requirement:** Social Science  
**UC/CSU:** A / G

**Prerequisite:** Successful completion of AP USH or teacher recommendation /AP Application / Summer Assignment*

Includes both the study of general concepts used to interpret US politics and the analysis of specific examples. Requires familiarity with the various institutions, groups, beliefs, and ideas that constitute US politics. Topics presented include: constitutional underpinnings of the US government; political beliefs and behaviors; political parties; interest groups and mass media; institutions of national government; public policy; civil rights and civil liberties. Topics meet requirements for graduation. The ultimate objective is to prepare for and pass the College Board’s national AP Exam in the spring.

## DRIVER EDUCATION

**Year:** 11 - 12  
**RCHS Graduation Requirement:** Social Science

**Prerequisite:** Must have an unscheduled 4th period. Class is 5 weeks long.

Required for high school graduation. Subjects include the 30 classroom hours in Driver Education, required by the state to receive a driver’s license. **Students may take a course outside of school and submit a copy of their permit or license to fulfill requirement.**

*subject to change - check website for details
AP EUROPEAN HISTORY
Year: 10 - 12    RCHS Graduation Requirement: Elective    UC/CSU - A
Prerequisite: Successful completion of World History and AP Application
Students study European history from the renaissance to present with an emphasis on society, social, economic, and cultural history. Students will earn to examine bias in historical documents. Critical thinking activities will include extensive readings, written analysis, persuasive essays, and oral discussions, presentations, and projects. This is a difficult college-level course. The ultimate objective is to prepare for and pass the College Board’s national AP Exam in the spring.

CRIMINAL LAW / MOCK TRIAL
Year: 10 - 12    RCHS Graduation Requirement: Elective    UC/CSU - G
Students will learn about the American legal system through traditional study and by preparing and participating in an in-class criminal Mock Trial. Students in the Criminal Law class are encouraged, but not required, to participate on River City High School’s Mock Trial competition team. The final exam is a required performance final.

PSYCHOLOGY
Year: 11 - 12    RCHS Graduation Requirement: Elective    UC/CSU - G
Learn the process of psychological research as you study human behavior. Examine the nature/nurture controversy as you study the history of psychology and learn the theories of human development, learning, motivation, and personality. Review the contributions in the field of psychology by Freud, Maslow, Pavlov, Rogers and R.F. Skinner. Emphasis will be made on critical examination of how we act and why we act in certain ways.

ART HISTORY: AN ARTISTIC INTERPRETATION OF HISTORY THROUGH IMAGE
Year: 11 - 12    RCHS Graduation Requirement: Elective    UC/CSU - (pending)
Prerequisite: Successful completion of either World, US, AP Euro, or AP USH
This course covers the development of art forms from various historical periods. Emphasis is on content, history, significant artists and the impact of art on culture and society. Upon completion, students will be able to demonstrate a historical understanding of art as a product reflective of human social development. This course includes Ancient arts, Renaissance & Baroque, Romanticism, Impressionism, and various 20th century art movements.

INTRODUCTION TO ETHNIC STUDIES
Year: 9 - 12    RCHS Graduation Requirement: Elective    UC/CSU - (pending)
Take a critical look at U.S. History from multiple perspectives. Do you know who Cesar Chavez, Bell Hooks, and Carlos Bulosan are? Learn about these heroes and many more minorities that made powerful changes in our society. Through this interdisciplinary course that uses a comparative and historical perspective to examine the languages, values, and voices of diverse groups within the United States. Emphasis will be on African Americans, Asian/Pacific Islanders, Chicanos/Latinos, and Native Americans as historically underrepresented groups in Sacramento and the United States.

WOMEN AND GENDER STUDIES
Year: 11 - 12    RCHS Graduation Requirement: Elective    UC/CSU - (pending)
This course will explore the history of women and gender from the 19th century until now. The course will include a history of gender and sexuality in the United States, the social construction of gender, how gender, body and beauty are understood through media, and how gender is influenced and performed in pop culture. This multi-disciplinary course will include readings by current authors, current events, films, guest speakers, and stories from personal experience.
VISUAL AND PERFORMING ARTS

2 DIMENSIONAL DESIGN
Year: 9 - 12 RCHS Graduation Requirement: VAPA UC/CSU - F
This course is an introductory course designed to acquaint students with the elements and principles of design as they relate to 2-Dimensional works of art. The students will also learn the skills and techniques necessary for the creative and expressive manipulation of 2-Dimensional space.

3 DIMENSIONAL DESIGN
Year: 9 - 12 RCHS Graduation Requirement: VAPA UC/CSU - F
This course is designed to expose students to a variety of three-dimensional art techniques and mediums. An emphasis is placed on creativity and originality in solving the problems of working with a broad range of materials. Projects include assemblage, ceramics, collage, paper-mâché, and mixed media projects.

DIGITAL PHOTOGRAPHY
Year: 10 - 12 RCHS Graduation Requirement: VAPA UC/CSU - F
Satisfy your VAPA A-G and graduation requirement while creating exciting and expressive photographs that impress family and friends. Students will learn to use the camera and Adobe Photoshop to create, manipulate and produce a variety of unique projects that also introduce the students to the creative application of the elements and principles of design. If you like taking pictures of family, friends, vacations and more and want to make them even better, this is where you need to be.

AP STUDIO ART
Year: 11 - 12 RCHS Graduation Requirement: VAPA UC/CSU - F
Prerequisite: Successful completion of Digital Photo and/or 2D Design or instructor approval
Complete the application available on the RCHS Counseling and AP website or in room B 202. Bring it and 2 of your best finished pieces that show your understanding and application of one or more of the elements of art and principles of design to Mrs. Schumacher in room B 202. Take your artistic skills and knowledge to the next level! This is your opportunity to create a collection of high quality finished works guided by your interests and experiences. Make no matter about it, this is a demanding course but it may also be the most enjoyable class you will ever take.

CERAMICS
Year: 10 - 12 RCHS Graduation Requirement: VAPA UC/CSU - F
This course is designed as an introduction to ceramics, and specifically, ceramic sculpture. The central goal is the development and application of basic skills and techniques related to creating and refining three-dimensional ceramic projects. Each project focuses on the effective use of the elements of art and the principles of design, as well as attention to detail, time management, following directions, and overall quality of production.

ADVANCED CERAMICS
Year: 11 - 12 RCHS Graduation Requirement: VAPA UC/CSU - F
Prerequisite: Successful completion of Ceramics or instructor approval
Assignments build upon the skills and methods developed in Ceramics 1, with an emphasis placed on exploring visual concepts to a greater degree, as well as more flexibility for student interpretation of a given project theme.

INTRODUCTION TO PROFESSIONAL THEATER
Year: 9 - 11 RCHS Graduation Requirement: VAPA UC/CSU - F
Put on a happy/sad face for the study of dramatic history of literature and rehearsal and performance of scenes from plays of these periods. Touch up on acting techniques, make-up application, costumes, directing, and body control. Individual projects and at least one major production a year are included. Participation in public productions is mandatory.

ADVANCED THEATER PERFORMANCE
Year: 10 - 12 RCHS Graduation Requirement: VAPA UC/CSU - G
Prerequisite: Successful completion of Theater or instructor approval
Further study of acting and directing including make-up and production. Required - 24 hours minimum participation in public performance as cast or crew member.
This course will help students develop advanced dance skills in a variety of styles, including jazz, modern, lyrical, hip hop, and a variety of world dance forms. Rhythm, musicality, and choreography are emphasized, along with physical skills, flexibility, and aerobic fitness. This is a performance class and show participation is required.

**MARCHING BAND (The River City Regiment)**

**Year:** 9 - 12  
**RCHS Graduation Requirement:** VAPA  
**Prerequisite:** Students are expected to attend July Band Camp, Previous music experience preferred  
The River City Regiment is the most visible music group on campus. We perform at football games, community events, and competitions. We have marched down Main Street USA Disneyland and performed for thousands of people. There are a variety of performances and rehearsals that occur outside of the school day that are required for this course. A mandatory two week camp in late July will be required.  
**For more information contact Mr. Cisneros at rcisneros@wusd.k12.ca.us.**

**WIND ENSEMBLE (The River City Regiment)**

**Year:** 10 - 12  
**RCHS Graduation Requirement:** VAPA  
**Prerequisite:** Instructor approval, successful completion of Marching Band  
The Wind Ensemble is selected from the most outstanding musicians attending RCHS. This ensemble pursues the highest professional standards and is determined to bring the finest artistic repertoire from all musical periods, cultures and styles to its audience. There will be additional time requirements outside of the regularly scheduled school day.

**SYMPHONIC BAND (The River City Regiment)**

**Year:** 9 - 12  
**RCHS Graduation Requirement:** VAPA  
**Prerequisite:** Previous music experience preferred  
The Symphonic Band is a wind band that strives to reach a high level of musicality. This ensemble will perform at various concerts, festivals, and community events throughout the spring term. The symphonic band covers a wide variety of musical styles and cultures. In addition to learning music and musicianship you will acquire skills that will benefit you no matter which career path you choose. There will be additional time requirements outside of the regularly scheduled school day.

**JAZZ IMPROVISATION AND STYLES (Big Band)**

**Year:** 9 - 12  
**RCHS Graduation Requirement:** VAPA  
**Prerequisite:** Instructor approval  
This Course provides instrumental and vocal musicians with skills in the art of improvisation. Jazz Improvisation and Styles will focus on four main areas: listening, scales/chords, repertory development and transcribing jazz solos from famous jazz musicians. Members of this ensemble will be selected by the director to perform in the RC Big Band which will require time outside the school day.

**BEGINNING STRINGS**

**Year:** 9 - 12  
**RCHS Graduation Requirement:** VAPA  
**Prerequisite:** Yearlong - must be requested for two elective positions on the course request sheet or Beg. Strings Fall, Orchestra Spring.  
Students will be introduced to the orchestral string instruments: Violin, Viola, Cello, or Double Bass. With guidance, students will select an instrument on which to learn basic string technique, music theory and ensemble playing. Focus will include posture, position and music reading skills. Students will perform two evening performances. No previous musical experience is required.  
**Students are encouraged to continue their experience by taking Chamber Orchestra in the Spring.**

**CHAMBER ORCHESTRA**

**Year:** 9 - 12  
**RCHS Graduation Requirement:** VAPA  
**Prerequisite:** Yearlong - must be requested for two elective positions on the course request sheet, Instructor approval  
The major emphasis of this course is to develop student achievement through the study of orchestra literature. The course extends the physical skills necessary to play string orchestra music accurately and with good tone quality, increases skills in reading musical notation, and provides additional opportunities for growth in the understanding of music elements. The course also provides opportunities to study and play the music of many geographical locations and historical periods. This class will include the study of the string instruments (violin, viola, cello and bass) of the orchestra, as well as the greatest compositions in the development of Western Music.

**JAZZ BAND**

**Year:** 9 - 12  
**RCHS Graduation Requirement:** VAPA  
**Prerequisite:** Yearlong - must be requested for two elective positions on the course request sheet, Instructor approval  
The jazz band is very active, performing concerts and community activities, and requires a considerable commitment of time outside of the regularly scheduled school day. The group focuses on small jazz group styles with an emphasis in traditional jazz and more modern jazz combo music. This group also travels to and participates in jazz festivals, clinics and music competitions.
GUITAR
Year: 9 - 12  
RCHS Graduation Requirement: VAPA
Prerequisite: Piano recommended or instructor approval
This course provides opportunities for students to develop their musical potential and aesthetic understanding through learning to play a guitar. Emphasis will be placed on playing position, tone production, fundamental technique, simultaneous playing and singing, and reading standard music notation. Knowledge and skills will include experiences in singing, creating, playing, and listening. No prerequisite course is required.

GUITAR 2
Year: 9 - 12  
RCHS Graduation Requirement: VAPA
Prerequisite: Successful completion of Guitar 1 or instructor approval
This course is a continuation of the skills learned in Guitar 1. Students will learn several open chords as well as barre chords and music theory. Songwriting is a large component of the class, and students will compose multiple songs and lyrics to be performed in recording sessions as well as a large evening performance.

PIANO
Year: 9 - 12  
RCHS Graduation Requirement: VAPA
Prerequisite: Piano recommended or instructor approval
Piano 1 is designed for beginning students who want to develop basic piano keyboarding skills. Students will learn to read music exploring elements of music theory, music history and ear training. Students will develop hand/eye coordination, and basic sight reading skills. Students will be required to participate in musical performances in front of classmates. Students will need the ability to work independently and maintain focus. No prior musical training required.

PIANO 2
Year: 9 - 12  
RCHS Graduation Requirement: VAPA
Prerequisite: Successful completion of Piano or Instructor approval
Piano 2 continues where Piano 1 left off with an emphasis on further building both the students’ keyboarding skills and their comprehension of music theory. There is a significant focus on helping students not only to be able to play the correct notes, but also to play expressively using dynamics, articulations, and other tools. Students will be required to participate in musical performances in front of their classmates, and must be able to work independently in order to be successful.

DIGITAL MUSIC PRODUCTION
Year: 9 - 12  
RCHS Graduation Requirement: VAPA
Prerequisite: Piano recommended or instructor approval
This course will cover basic composition and arranging through the use of Reason software. Students will complete projects that mimic the real world skills of making music in a virtual studio. Combined with basic piano keyboard skills this course will train students to become computer musicians. Having skills on piano that can be acquired in class piano or another music class will greatly add to your experience in this course. Students will need to supply a notebook, an 8 GB thumb drive, and earbuds or earphones.

CONCERT CHOIR
Year: 9 - 11  
RCHS Graduation Requirement: VAPA
Prerequisite: Yearlong - must be requested for two elective positions on the course request sheet
This course is designed to provide beginning vocal instruction and general musicianship skills for all beginning students. Emphasis will be placed on ensemble singing skills such as pitch matching, tone production, correct vocal technique, and sight singing. The students will learn basic music theory, music history and ear training. Course requirements include at least three evening concerts, after school rehearsals and one Saturday Choral Festival 2nd semester. Attendance at performances are required.

CHAMBER CHOIR
Year: 9 - 11  
RCHS Graduation Requirement: VAPA
Prerequisite: Yearlong - must be requested for two elective positions on the course request sheet, Successful completion of Choir or instructor approval
This course is designed to provide intermediate vocal instruction and musicianship skills for second year choral students. Includes sight singing, level 2 music theory, music history, and ear training. Students will perform two to four part music. Course requirements include at least two evening concerts, and one to two off campus weekend Choral Festivals. Attendance at performances are required.

ADVANCED VOCAL ENSEMBLE
Year: 10 - 12  
RCHS Graduation Requirement: VAPA
Prerequisite: Yearlong - must be requested for two elective positions on the course request sheet, Successful completion of Chamber Choir or instructor approval
This course is designed to provide continued vocal instruction and general musicianship skills for students with previous choral experience. Students will perform four, six, and eight – part music. Course requirements include at least three evening concerts, after school rehearsals and one Saturday Choral Festival 2nd semester. Attendance at performances are required.
WORLD LANGUAGES

SPANISH 1 / 2 / 3 / 4
Year: 9 - 12
RCHS Graduation Requirement: Foreign Language
Prerequisite: “C” or better in course to advance to next level
You’re on your way if you are a student who wishes to complete the graduation language requirement or are considering a four-year college. The course develops Spanish speaking, listening, grammatical structures, writing and reading skills. Students are exposed to the culture, history and geography of countries where the language is spoken. Students are exposed to literature and civilization, poetry readings and interpretation. Be ready for research papers or book reports and oral presentations. By the completion of 4 courses of Spanish, students are getting an opportunity to obtain The Seal of Bi-literacy on their diplomas if the criteria of a passing score on the SBAC ELA Test section is met.

SPANISH LANGUAGE ARTS 1 / 2
Year: 9 - 12
RCHS Graduation Requirement: Foreign Language
Prerequisite: C or better in English / ELD or teacher approval; C or better in SLA 1 or Spanish 2 or teacher approval
These literature-based courses are for students who speak Spanish as a primary language but wish to refine, broaden language skills, knowledge of Spanish speaking cultures, heritage and traditions. These courses incorporate grammar concepts from both Spanish 1 and Spanish 2 (SLA 1) or Spanish 3 and Spanish 4 (SLA 2). Students will develop writing skills through daily writing, reading and speaking assignments.

AP SPANISH
Year: 11 - 12
RCHS Graduation Requirement: Foreign Language
Prerequisite: “C” or better in Spanish 4 or SLA 2 with completion of summer assignment*, AP Application
A wonderful and stimulating study of Spanish with the opportunity for advanced, college-level study. Vocabulary enrichment, mastery of details in Spanish grammar, writing and speaking skills enable students to express themselves in Spanish, accurately and resourcefully. Successful students will be well-prepared for the AP examination.

FRENCH 1 / 2 / 3 / 4
Year: 9 - 12
RCHS Graduation Requirement: Foreign Language
Prerequisite: “C” or better in course to advance to next level
For students who wish to complete their graduation language requirement or are considering a four-year college. The course develops speaking, listening, grammatical structures, writing and reading skills in French. Be ready to explore culture, history and geography of France and French-speaking countries. Students are exposed to French/French-Canadian literature and civilization as well as poetry readings and interpretation. Look for research papers or book reports and oral presentations in French.

AP FRENCH
Year: 11 - 12
RCHS Graduation Requirement: Foreign Language
Prerequisite: “C” or better in French 4 or “B+” or better in French 3 with teacher approval, AP Application
A wonderful and stimulating level of French study with the opportunity for advanced, college-level study. Vocabulary enrichment, mastery of details of French grammar and writing, listening and speaking skills enable students to express themselves in French, accurately and resourcefully.

CHINESE 1 / 2 / 3 / 4
Year: 9 - 12
RCHS Graduation Requirement: Foreign Language
Prerequisite: “C” or better in course to advance to next level
A wonderful and stimulating level of Chinese study with the opportunity for advanced, college-level study for students with little or no knowledge of Mandarin Chinese. The study of the Chinese language opens the way to one of the world’s oldest and richest continuous cultures, and one of the largest modern economies. Students will learn to communicate in Mandarin Chinese and learn about the Chinese customs and cultural practices. Oral communication will be stressed through listening and speaking activities.

RUSSIAN 1 / 2 / 3 / 4
Year: 9 - 12
RCHS Graduation Requirement: Foreign Language
Prerequisite: “C” or better in course to advance to next level
You’re on your way if you are a student who wishes to complete the graduation language requirement or are considering a four-year college. The course develops basic Russian speaking, listening, writing and reading skills. Students are exposed to the culture, history and geography of countries where the language is spoken. By the completion of 4 courses of Russian, students are getting an opportunity to obtain The Seal of Bi-literacy on their Diplomas if the criteria of a passing score on the SBAC ELA Test section is met.

RUSSIAN LANGUAGE ARTS 1 / 2 / 3
Year: 9 - 12
RCHS Graduation Requirement: Foreign Language
Prerequisite: C or better in English / ELD or Instructor Approval; RLA 2: C or better in RLA 1; RLA 3: C or better in RLA 2
This literature-based course is for students who speak Russian as a primary language but wish to refine and broaden language skills and knowledge of cultures, heritage and traditions. The course incorporates grammar concepts and will develop writing skills through daily Writing, reading, and speaking assignments.

*subject to change - check website for details
BIOLOGY
Year: 9 - 12  RCHS Graduation Requirement: Life Science  UC/CSU - D
This inquiry based course acquaints students with the living world around them. Meeting Common Core standards, the main topics covered are genetics, evolution, ecology and living body systems. Students perform various lab experiments and become familiar with laboratory equipment. Students should expect regular homework. Completion of this course is necessary to satisfy Next Generation Science Standards in Life Science.

AG BIOLOGY
Year: 10  RCHS Graduation Requirement: Life Science  UC/CSU - D
Agricultural Biology is an introductory course for the Farm-to-Fork Pathway and includes strong components of leadership, personal growth and career success through agricultural education and membership in the National FFA (Future Farmers of America) program. Using agriculture as the learning vehicle, this course emphasizes the principles, concepts and relationships among living organisms. The course is centered around an extensive laboratory component in order to connect the big ideas of life science with agricultural applications, which will help students acquire a broad understanding of a variety of agricultural areas, develop an awareness of the many career opportunities in agriculture, participate in occupationally relevant experiences, and work cooperatively with a group to develop and expand leadership abilities. This course meets the life science portion of the two-year laboratory requirement for high school graduation.

AP BIOLOGY
Year: 11 - 12  RCHS Graduation Requirement: Life Science  UC/CSU - D
Prerequisite: Successful completion of Chemistry and Biology, Physiology highly recommended, AP Application
This class is the equivalent of a first year college Biology class for science majors. It utilizes the same textbook and covers the same material as classes taught at UC and CSU. The coursework for this class will be very demanding. Students will be expected to be highly motivated and be able to commit to two hours of study for each hour of class time. Additionally, students will need to complete introductory course work for this class over the summer preceding the start of the school year.

PRINCIPLES OF BIOMEDICAL SCIENCE
Year: 9 - 12  RCHS Graduation Requirement: Life Science  UC/CSU - D
Principles of Biomedical Science is the first course in a four-course sequence intended to prepare students interested in the health care field for technical training or university degrees. Students learn how the human body works, and how we implement medical interventions to improve health. Areas of focus in this introductory course include heart disease, diabetes, sickle cell disease, hypercholesterolemia, infectious disease, and pharmaceuticals.

ANATOMY AND MEDICAL TERMINOLOGY
Year: 10 - 11  RCHS Graduation Requirement: Elective  UC/CSU - (pending)
Prerequisite: Successful completion of Principles of Biomedical
Anatomy and Medical Terminology is designed to teach students medical terminology with anatomical systems as a basis. Students will learn to describe the organs and functions of the different systems using appropriate medical terminology. Students will investigate the various pathological processes of each system, and also explore the diagnostic procedures, therapeutic procedures, and medications relevant to each system. Learning will be enhanced through the use of laboratory experiments, research, case studies and dissections. This is the second course in the Patient care pathway.

HUMAN BODY SYSTEMS
Year: 10 - 12  RCHS Graduation Requirement: Life Science  UC/CSU - D
Prerequisite: Successful completion of Principles of Biomedical
This course introduces students to interactions with the human body. They design experiments, investigate body structures, and use data acquisition software to monitor body functions such as muscle movement, reflex and voluntary action, and respiration. Students build organs and tissues on a skeletal mannequin and work through real world cases.

MEDICAL INTERVENTIONS Honors
Year: 11 - 12  RCHS Graduation Requirement: Life Science  UC/CSU - (pending)
Prerequisite: Successful completion of Human Body Systems
In the Medical Interventions course, students will investigate the variety of interventions involved in the prevention, diagnosis and treatment of disease as they follow the lives of a fictitious family. As students experience the health issues and medical decisions faced by members of the family, they will be exposed to the wide range of interventions related to immunology, surgery, genetics, pharmacology, medical devices, rehabilitation, and diagnostics. Each family case scenario will introduce multiple types of interventions and will reinforce concepts learned in the previous two courses, as well as present new content that range from simple diagnostic tests to treatment for complex diseases and disorders.

29
BIOMEDICAL INNOVATION
Year: 11 - 12  RCHS Graduation Requirement: Life Science  UC/CSU - G
Prerequisite: Successful Completion of Medical Interventions Honors
Students design innovative solutions for the health challenges of the 21st century. They work through progressively challenging open-ended problems, addressing topics such as clinical medicine, physiology, biomedical engineering, and public health. Throughout the course, students are expected to present their work to an audience of STEM professionals. This course is the Capstone for PLTW. Students finishing the series will receive a cord at graduation.

INTRODUCTION TO GREEN TECHNOLOGY
Year: 10 - 12  RCHS Graduation Requirement: Physical Science  UC/CSU - D
Introduction to Green Technology course introduces students to career opportunities in sustainable STEM fields. Students conduct a series of projects to explore renewable energy technologies including Wind, Solar, biomass, and hydro-electric, culminating in a green building design project. In this course students can earn the SEI Energy Certificate showing their competence in green technologies.

ADVANCED GREEN TECHNOLOGY
Year: 10 - 12  RCHS Graduation Requirement: Physical Science  UC/CSU - (pending)
Prerequisite: Introduction to Green Technology
Students will complete more in-depth projects related to sustainable design, energy efficiency, and renewable energy. Students will develop a Zero Net Energy Plan for our school: Utility bill analysis, Conservation Action Plan, Energy Audit report and School Solar Design project, aquaponics system design, solar hot water system design/build and biomimicry design.

CHEMISTRY
Year: 10 - 12  RCHS Graduation Requirement: Physical Science  UC/CSU - D
Prerequisite: Successful completion of Math 1 and concurrent enrollment in Math 2 or higher.
This rigorous inquiry based course introduces students to Common Core standards in chemistry. Students will participate in both class and laboratory activities. Students should expect frequent homework and other assignments that will need to be completed outside of class. Students should be comfortable with scientific calculators, algebra, and unit conversions.

AP CHEMISTRY
Year: 11 - 12  RCHS Graduation Requirement: Physical Science  UC/CSU - D
Prerequisite: Successful completion of Chemistry and Integrated Math 2 and concurrent Math 3 or higher, AP Application
Advanced Placement (AP) Chemistry is the first semester of a two semester college-level general chemistry course. This course will reinforce the chemical principles learned in college-prep chemistry such as the periodic table, chemical formulas and equations, stoichiometry, and chemical bonding. This course will also include new topics such as the hybrid theory, the molecular orbital theory, organic chemistry, chemical kinetics, chemical equilibrium, and thermo-chemistry. Students will conduct advanced labs, prepare lab reports, complete problem sets, take unit exams, and complete an individual research project.

PHYSICS
Year: 10 - 12  RCHS Graduation Requirement: Physical Science  UC/CSU - D
Recommended: Successful completion of Math 2 or higher and/or Chemistry.
Students explore principles of Newtonian mechanics (including rotational motion); work, energy, and power; mechanical waves and sound; and introductory, simple circuits. The course is based on six Big Ideas, which encompass core scientific principles, theories, and processes that cut across traditional boundaries and provide a broad way of thinking about the physical world.

AP PHYSICS 1
Year: 11 - 12  RCHS Graduation Requirement: Physical Science  UC/CSU - (pending)
Recommended: Successful completion of Physics and/or concurrent enrollment in Math 3 or higher, AP Application
AP Physics 1 is an algebra-based, introductory college level physics course. Students cultivate their understanding of Physics through inquiry based investigations as they explore these topics: kinematics, dynamics, circular motion and gravitation, energy, momentum, simple harmonic motion, torque and rotational motion, electric charge and electric force, DC circuits, and mechanical waves and sound.

AP ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE
Year: 11 - 12  RCHS Graduation Requirement: Elective  UC/CSU - D
Prerequisite: Successful completion of Biology and Chemistry, AP Application
The AP Environmental Science course is an excellent option for any interested student who has completed two years of high school laboratory science—one year of life science and one year of physical science (for example, a year of biology and a year of chemistry). Due to the quantitative analysis that is required in the course, students should also have taken at least one year of Algebra or Integrated Math 1.
PHYSIOLOGY

**Year:** 10 - 12  **RCHS Graduation Requirement:** Life Science (lab)  **Prerequisite:** Successful completion of Biology

**UC/CSU - D**

Physiology is a detailed study of all the human body systems. Introductory units progress from tissues, organs, and then to organ systems. In addition to a working knowledge of physiology, scientific analysis and laboratory work is stressed. Dissections include several organs and one full organism.

FORENSIC SCIENCE

**Year:** 11 - 12  **RCHS Graduation Requirement:** Elective

**UC/CSU - G**

Forensic science is a laboratory-based introduction to the analysis of crime scenes by collecting and analyzing physical evidence. This course is designed to integrate the core scientific disciplines while giving students both theory and hands-on experience with the skills and knowledge required of a forensic crime scene investigator. This multidisciplinary approach will highlight topics in DNA, genetics, anatomy, chemistry, physics, entomology, botany, and investigative techniques with supplemental subject matter through case studies, earth science, mathematics, medicine, technology and sociology. In addition, the ethical, legal, and social concerns surrounding forensics will be discussed.

INTRODUCTION TO ANIMAL SCIENCE

**Year:** 9 - 12  **RCHS Graduation Requirement:** Elective

**UC/CSU - (pending)**

Introduction to Animal Science is a one term (10 credit), laboratory science course, designed for the students with agricultural career interests with animals. Using the 3-ring model of Agricultural Education, the first ring: classroom instruction will emphasize the principles, central concepts and inter-relationships among the following topics: growth and reproduction of animals, breeding and evolution of domestic livestock species, animal genetics and heredity, animal behavior, ecological relationship among plants & animals, humans and the environment, nutrition in animals, health and disease in animals, and the similarities between animals and humans. The second ring: is an extensive experiential learning component known as Supervised Agricultural Experience. It connects the big ideas of life science with agriculture applications, earth and physical science principles. This hand’s on learning will challenge the students by being responsible for a(n) animal project to care for and can focus on the Yolo County Fair Competition. The third ring is the leadership component of FFA – Future Farmers of America, the national premier student leadership organization in the country. Students will practice, learn, strong leadership, public speaking/ presentation skills through student lead activities and events.

FARM TO FORK

**Year:** 11  **RCHS Graduation Requirement:** Life Science (lab)

**UC/CSU - D**

**Prerequisite:** Ag Biology

Sacramento is the Farm to Fork Capital of the nation, possibly in the World. With several Farm to Fork businesses established in West Sacramento and across the river, we will have a support system to further this movement in the education of our students. The students in this class will get hands on experience growing vegetables, fruits, flowers and trees from seeds, to transplanting, to harvesting, with the ultimate goal of feeding the students, staff of RCHS, and possibly the district with a healthy “home grown” crop of food. Economics and sustainability will also be incorporated into the growing experience. Composting healthy balanced soil will be an ongoing activity and a foundation for our class success. Understanding of organic versus non-organic crops will be taught and experienced as well. Life skills will be taught at every opportunity to encourage understanding of Farm to Fork Sustainable Agriculture.

FARM TO FORK 2

**Year:** 12  **RCHS Graduation Requirement:** Elective

**UC/CSU - G**

**Prerequisite:** Farm to Fork I and Ag Biology

Farm to Fork 2 is a hands-on CTE class that uses chemistry and lab based experiences in the classroom and garden (Bryte Campus) to teach sustainable agriculture practices. Students will learn about local food production that includes many different crops and why it is healthier. In the beginning of class we will review and expand upon how to: create healthy soil, grow healthy food, deliver the food to the Culinary Class at Bryte and will end with career exploration and guidance in agriculture fields. Guest speakers from and fieldtrips in, our community will add relevance to the curriculum. A scientific composition notebook will be kept to perform scientific lab reports, write about articles on scientific concepts, and perform written activities from research in the computer lab. This is a fun, active class that teaches you leadership skills, public speaking skills, where your food comes from and how to eat healthy.
EXPERIENCE PROGRAMS

SENIOR SEMINAR
Year: 12  RCHS Graduation Requirement: Elective  UC/CSU - (pending)
Senior Seminar will serve as elective credit for high school seniors. Students will leave with an understanding of leadership skills, financial awareness and fluency, and their 10 year plan. Students will exit with artifacts that demonstrate mastery of skills such as: Resume writing, Application processes (FAFSA and College), Professional communication (verbal and written), Study strategies and organizational skills, Microsoft Office proficiency, Google Applications proficiency. Course will culminate in a senior project meant to demonstrate the above skills in a presentation format.

AVID
Year: 9 - 12  RCHS Graduation Requirement: Elective  UC/CSU - G
Prerequisite: Application and Interview (9th grade).
This is a program designed to prepare average students who have demonstrated academic ability for the rigorous A-G courses. AVID empowers students to achieve academic excellence and prepares them for admission to four-year universities and colleges. Students enrolled in AVID must follow the same criteria for students who plan to enroll in the university systems upon graduating from high school. Students must also take an AVID elective course during each of their four years. Students must apply to be in this program.

AVID TUTOR
Year: 11 - 12  RCHS Graduation Requirement: Elective
Prerequisite: Successful completion of 1 prior year of AVID or teacher recommendation.
AVID tutors will facilitate discussion with students during AVID tutorials as they work through problems of various subjects while encouraging the use of the Socratic method and active participation in their own learning. Tutors will be placed with an AVID teacher as a primary supervisor but will also travel to other AVID classes during tutorials where they will interact with students in lower grade levels. Students with the ability to travel off campus could tutor students at K-8s within the district. Students will receive a CR / No CR mark on their transcript.

BUILDING FOUNDATIONS FOR SUCCESS
Year: 9  RCHS Graduation Requirement: Freshman Experience Class
This course is designed to help students understand the importance of academics and to build a solid foundation of skills such as self-analysis, time management, goal setting, decision making, career research, financial literacy, and planning for the future. Provides a combination of personal/social, educational, career and life skills to be successful in navigating life in and after high school. Students may earn three units of community college credit through Sacramento Community College when students achieve 80% or higher in the course and have completed an Advanced Education form in class.

LEADERSHIP
Year: 9 - 12  RCHS Graduation Requirement: Elective
Prerequisite: Application and Interview. Yearlong.
Required for River City High School elected ASB (Associated Student Body) officers and freshman, sophomore, junior and senior class officers. The students meet daily as well as outside class to finish assigned duties. Students plan activities/student government and turn in class assignments/weekly reports to Activity Director. Students develop leadership skills, problem solving, organization, time and money management skills. Recommended for college-bound students. Students must maintain GPA of 2.5.

PEER MEDIATION
Year: 9 - 12  RCHS Graduation Requirement: Elective
Prerequisite: 2.0 GPA, Counselor Approval. Yearlong.
Students in Peer Mediation receive specialized training in peer mediation techniques which enable them to work with classmates to resolve conflicts. Students are supervised and trained by teachers.

OFFICE PRACTICE / CLASSROOM ASSISTANT
Students will receive a CR / No CR mark on their transcript.
Year: 11 - 12  RCHS Graduation Requirement: Elective

-Office Aides
Prerequisite: 2.75 GPA  Students are assigned to job stations in the school office using skills acquired from various business-related courses. Assignments are in attendance, counseling, phones and general office. Students are under direct supervision of the office staff.

-Classroom Assistants
Prerequisite: 2.50 GPA  Student may be required to set up, use, and clean up equipment. They may also be required to assist in preparation of materials. Assistants will be expected to maintain good attendance and grades, complete tasks on time, and will be required to sign a contract with the supervising teacher.