

Alexandria Central School

A.C.S.



Course Description

HANDBOOK

Revised 8/2018

School Counseling and Course Selection

The services of the School Counselor are available for all students at Alexandria Central School. The School Counselor oversees record keeping, occupational resource information, college information, military career information and most important, counseling services that include academic, personal, teacher/student and any other problems or concerns that may exist that would interfere with the education process.

The School Counselor is responsible for student program scheduling. Testing is also included to provide valuable information that is helpful for all high school students. Currently, all sophomores take the ASVAB Exam as a career inventory. The ASVAB (Armed Services Aptitude and Battery) is available to all juniors and seniors. All Juniors are encouraged to take the PSAT. Other career tests are available online through the School Counseling Office.

To insure proper placement, the School Counselor works closely with the student, his or her parents, and teachers. The School Counselor also provides for career education providing group educational sessions, individual career counseling, and computer assisted career programs.

The primary goal of the School Counselor is to provide the optimum environment for learning for each student as well as provide information for program selection, career, and personal decision-making.

Every student at A.C.S. must complete the following minimum requirements for graduation:

Regents Diploma

English	4
Social Studies	4
Math	3
Science	3
Health	1/2
Physical Education	2
Art or Music	1
Foreign Language	1
Other Electives	3- 1/2

Required Exams

English Regents
Global Studies Regents
Algebra Regents
Science Regents
U.S. History Regents

22 Total Credits

Regents Diploma with Advanced Designation

English	4
Social Studies	4
Math	3
Science	3
Health	1/2
Physical Education	2
Art or Music	1
Foreign Language	1
Other Electives	3

Required Exams

English Regents
Global Studies Regents
Algebra Regents
Living Environment Regents
U.S. History Regents
Geometry Regents
Algebra 2/Trig Regents
Physical Science Regents
Foreign Language Regents
-or- Take 5 Units of BOCES

22 Total Credits

All students must be enrolled in a minimum of 6 classes per semester, plus physical education, except in special situations.

* Foreign Language concentration may be waived for Vocational students and students with IEP designation.

** Students who average 90% and above on Regents Exams will be candidates for a Regents Diploma or a Regents Diploma With Advanced Designation with Honor. Students who receive an 85 or higher on three exams in math or science can earn the designation of Mastery.

*** A Local diploma option exists for students who receive resource room services that pass regents with a score between 55-64.

1) Grade Placement through credit earning:

From 11th to 12th - 16 credits for senior status, other factors considered

2) Dropping and/or adding a course:

There will be a full 2-week (10 school days) drop/add period beginning the first day of each semester during which time a student with teacher, counselor, parental, and administrator approval can add or drop a course. During the course of the semester or year's course, a student may be moved from one level of a course to another with teacher, parental, counselor, and administrator approval. A student will be penalized with a WD (withdrawal) for dropping a course after the first two weeks of the semester.

3) Early Dismissal for Seniors:

Early Dismissal for Seniors may be authorized by the High School Principal when a Senior has an approved job which necessitates the student being at work before the close of the normal school day, the student is completing all necessary course work for graduation requirements approved by the School Counseling Office, and does not miss any scheduled class periods. There is also the option of choosing to take courses at Jefferson Community College after morning or afternoon senior course requirements are taken.

4) Tutoring:

No student will be allowed to receive credit for course work from any off-campus source, unless approved by administration. The exception to this policy is an approved summer school session or Regents exam offered in August. This tutoring does not mean the tutoring provided by the school district for mandated reasons, i.e. convalescence at home by doctor's orders.

6) Course Registration:

Students will be allowed to register for courses when local course credit has been received in the preceding course: i.e. a student passing Living Environment with local course credit may go on to Chemistry. When the Living Environment Regents is failed, students must receive teacher, counselor, and administrator approval.

7) Grade Recording:

All Standardized tests and final school grades will be recorded on each student's permanent record card. On each student's transcript, every grade from courses taken are recorded. If a student retests for a higher Regents grade and receives a lower grade than the previous, this grade will still be recorded on the transcript.

8) Course Completion:

The passing grade is 65%. This grade is determined by a 4/5 class average and 1/5 final test. Regents Competency Tests and Proficiency Exams are not included for consideration of course completion. In addition the A.C.S. attendance policy for course completion must be satisfied.

9) Course Credit:

A course that meets every day – 5 days a week all year – earns 1 unit of credit.

A course that meets for the equivalent of a semester (90 class periods) receives ½ unit of credit.

The exception to this policy is when the teacher, counselor, and administrator approve independent course work.

Students taking JCC EDGE (Jefferson Community College Education Demonstrating Growth and Excellence) courses are concurrently enrolled at JCC and Alexandria Central School. High school credit and college credit is earned concurrently and students will need to request a transcript be sent from JCC to have credits transferred to colleges.

Students taking distance learning courses also receive high school credit for these courses on their transcripts. Any credits transferring from a college must be approved for transfer credit by administration.

10) Repeating A Course:

Students who have failed a course have two options: 1) in the case of a failed elective course where credit is not necessary for diploma requirements, the student may let the grade stand and receive no credit or repeat the class under options a or b below; 2) in the event a student fails a course required for diploma completion or sequence completion, the student may choose to a) repeat the course in summer school or b) re-enter the class in the next year. If the student chooses b, the student has the opportunity to receive course credit by January of the next term with teacher permission. The student must have an overall 65-class average, including 4/5 of the final grade weighted by the 1st and 2nd quarters and 1/5 final test. If a student retakes a course that they have failed at A.C.S. or simply to improve their grade, the formula used to determine the final transcript grade will be the average between the earned A.C.S. grade and the repeat grade average at a 50:50 ratio.

Summer School:

If a student retakes a course in Summer School based on the fact that they have failed the course at A.C.S. or simply to improve their grade, the formula used to determine the final transcript grade will be the average between the earned A.C.S. grade and summer school grade at a 50:50 ratio.

11) Course Load:

Each full-time student at A.C.S. must carry a minimum of 6 courses per semester plus physical education to be eligible.

12) Driver Education Requirements:

All students are encouraged to take advantage of the Driver Education program. Students must be 16 years of age by the beginning of the course.

Driving permits are not required, but each student is strongly encouraged to obtain one. In the event of course over subscription, Seniors are given first priority and then Juniors by age, Sophomores by age, and then Freshmen by age. Students who need to repeat Driver Ed are only registered if there is space.

13) Re-taking of Regents Exams during Academic School Year:

All students who choose to re-take a Regents exam must, whenever possible, be scheduled in the class for a third semester. If impossible to schedule the class, the student must have completed a minimum of 10 review assignments from the instructor of the scheduled Regents exam to be taken. In lieu of the semester class, the student who was successful in the course but failed the Regents will be assigned a "remedial" lab to address the failed Regents.

14) Failing a Course:

All 9-12 students failing a course or Regents exam will be notified by the School Counseling Office prior to the summer school registration deadline.

15) Student Progress Reports:

At the end of each 5 weeks, teachers are encouraged to report to parents the progress of their students. In addition, teachers may send reports any time during the school year. A copy of each report is placed in the student's folder.

16) Student Records:

Student records, which include the transcript or record of courses taken and credit earned, standardized test scores, and any other pertinent information concerning the student while attending A.C.S., are confidential and may not be released or made available to persons other than the parents or guardians of a student under eighteen years of age or a student over eighteen without the consent of such parent or student. The records are available to the professional staff.

17) Honor Roll:

Honor roll status is determined every 10-week period. Students must have an 85% or better average. All courses are included for averaging except remedial reading. An incomplete will count as a zero in computing the honor roll. When it is made up, a new report card will be issued with the correct average.

18) Working Papers:

A student under 18 years of age is required, by law, to have working papers in order to be employed either full-time or part-time in most jobs. The High School Office has the responsibility for issuing these papers and can provide detailed information about how to apply. Working papers will be issued during the hours when the School Counseling Office is open.

19) Course Descriptions- The following are the course descriptions in each subject area:

ENGLISH

The English program aims to cultivate interest in, respect for, and competence in our language and literature. The program is intended to assure steady growth in the student's ability to write and speak clearly and well, and to read with insight and appreciation.

Four units of English are required for graduation.

ENGLISH 9

1 Unit

English 9 is a full year course designed to reinforce and improve skills developed in former English courses. Students study the genres of literature: poetry, short story, novel, essay, and biography. Interpretive discussions of literature precede written analysis that is intended to explore student understanding and personal relevance to the literature studied. Grammar and usage and vocabulary are studied to improve student writing and speech. A unit on the history and development of the English language is taught.

ENGLISH 10

1 Unit

English 10 is a full year course intended to enhance and refine basic language arts skills in a sequential framework. Areas of emphasis include: the study of grammar and usage rules; the expansion of vocabulary development—both recognition and usage; the reading of all genres of literature followed by oral and written analysis; and the organization and development of written essays that support a thesis. An attempt is made to interrelate the programs in literature, composition, and language study.

ENGLISH 11 R

1 Unit

This full year course includes instruction in the five strands of communication skills as outlined in the New York State Education Department's English Language Arts syllabus (composition, literature, language, reading, listening, and speaking). The emphasis of the course, which adheres to the syllabus, is on the development of working skills in five strands at the degree of sophistication and complexity expected of Regents-level students who are generally college-bound. The June Regents Exam is the final examination for the course.

ENGLISH 12

1 Unit

This is a full year course designed for the college-bound senior with an emphasis on using more complex language skills in developing relatively error-free essays. Through sequential presentations and modeling, the student attempts to master the use of specific stylistic devices to incorporate in his writing. The student is required to devise persuasive, informative, and entertaining essays. Revision of work and personal improvement in writing style are stressed. The second half of the course focuses on the development of the American novel from early twentieth century. Major works from the era are read and analyzed through class discussions and written essays. Additional historical, biographical, and social information is presented through various media to foster a better understanding of the authors and their works. Through the study of the elements of the novel and through modeling critical reviews, the student is expected to develop several critical essays that would be acceptable for college work.

ADVANCED PLACEMENT ENGLISH

1 Unit

The highly motivated and proficient students in English are offered an advanced-level English course which focuses on mastering both oral and written skills that might be acceptable at the college freshman level. Students must meet certain criteria (88 or higher on the English 11 Regents and a 90 or higher overall average in English 11) to be approved by the teacher, principal, and counselor. College course credit may be earned by successfully passing the A.P. Exam with an appropriate grade as determined by the college selected by the student. This course option only takes place in the senior year.

JOURNALISM (offered based on availability)

1 Unit

This is designed to be a full-year course. Students who elect to take this course must have command of basic writing skills and successfully completed English 9. They also must have demonstrated a solid work ethic in all areas of studies.

MYSTERY (offered based on availability)

½ Unit

This course focuses on mystery novels and stories. Students read and report on mystery stories and novels and also create their own mystery story.

MATHEMATICS

Mathematics skills are increasingly important to students as they prepare for the changing patterns of our scientific and technical society. Each student should complete as many years of math as possible.

PRE-ALGEBRA

1 Unit

This full year course is designed to help students prepare for taking the Algebra CC course for their second year of high school. This course will count as one math credit towards the three that are required for graduation, with the Regents taking place next year.

ALGEBRA R

1 Unit

This full year course, and those which follow it, are designed to integrate various branches of mathematics which have in the past been treated as separate subjects. This course includes introduction to logic, probability, statistics, graphing, and a thorough presentation of the basics of algebra. A 65 or higher on this Regents Exam is required of all NYS students that do not receive special education services.

GEOMETRY R

1 Unit

This course builds on the material from Algebra, extending the development of logic, probability, and algebra. It introduces mathematical systems, analytic, geometry, and combinations. It extends and formalizes the geometry of algebra to include the definitions, postulates, and formal proofs of an axiomatic system. The course final is the Geometry Exam.

ALGEBRA II R

1 Unit

The Algebra II full year course requires students to address material which falls into seven key categories developed in the NYS Standards for education: mathematical reasoning, number and numeration, operations, modeling/multiple representation, measurement, uncertainty, and patterns/functions. For the Regents Examination, students must have access to a straightedge, compass, and graphing calculator. A 65 or higher on this Regents Exam must be earned for an Advanced Designation Diploma.

MATH 12

1 Unit

This is a full year course designed to prepare students for college level math after graduation. About 2/3 of this course consists of a review and extension of algebra and geometry from and the introduction of new topics, all of which would be needed in a course in calculus. The other 1/3 of the course deals with computer programming in the basic language with an emphasis on mathematics.

Topics reviewed and extended include: factoring; exponents; absolute value; graphing lines; parabolas and circles; inequalities; functions; transformations; binomial theorem; manipulation of formulas.

Additional topics include: geometric analysis of problems; distance and velocity problems; graphing cubic; stem, absolute value, and radical functions; factor theorem; synthetic division; rational functions and their graphics; arithmetic, geometric, and infinite series; and mathematical induction. Subscripted variables, arrays, sorting, string variables, and editing are covered.

OCCUPATIONAL MATH

1 Unit

The intent of this full year course is to provide the student with skills that are applicable to life and occupational settings. Instruction in the use of appropriate devices and resources is an integral part of tables, charts, graphs, computers, and measuring devices. The course poses problems with which students can relate. Students can then identify with the need to solve the problems and are encouraged to use orderly methods in the solutions.

Occupational Mathematics can be used as the third unit of math to meet graduation requirements.

SCIENCE

A good broad understanding of science is essential in our society as concerns about the environment, advances in medical science, consumer products, etc. grow and become more advanced.

PHYSICAL SETTING/EARTH SCIENCE R 1 Unit

The Regents level Earth Science full year course consists of fourteen topics that address the dynamics of a changing Earth. Studies include the physical relationships of the Earth with the rest of the Solar System, the energy exchanges in the Earth's atmosphere, and the ongoing natural processes occurring upon and below the Earth's surface. Students will complete a required number of laboratory and field investigations.

LIVING ENVIRONMENT R 1 Unit

It is intended that this full year course provide students with an awareness of the natural world, basic scientific concepts, stimulation of inductive reasoning, and a basic understanding of biological processes and generalizations. The course contains seven core topics and five extended areas: unity and diversity among living things; maintenance in living things; human physiology; reproduction and development; transmission of traits from generation to generation; evolution; and ecology. In addition to the Regents examination laboratory requirement, this course also requires the successful completion of 4 mandatory state laboratory exercises for a student to gain admission into the end of the year Regents examination.

PHYSICAL SETTING/CHEMISTRY R 1 Unit

This full year course of study presents a modern view of chemistry suitable for students with a wide range of skills and abilities. The outline of topics provides the unifying principles of chemistry: matter and energy; atomic structure; bonding; the periodic table; mathematics of electrochemistry; organic chemistry; and laboratory activities. The principles included in the outline are basic to the understanding of our environment. This course also requires a minimum of 30 lab periods.

PHYSICAL SETTING/PHYSICS R 1 Unit

This full year course gives a basic coverage of mechanics, wave motion, electricity, and nuclear energy. The mechanics area covers basic measurement using the MKS system, graph analysis, vectors, dynamics, momentum, motion, gravitation, work, power, heat, kinetic theory, and gas laws. The wave area covers wave behavior, light, lenses, and mirrors. The electricity area involves static electricity, current, voltage, resistance, circuits, magnetic fields, and magnetism. The area of nuclear energy includes the quantum theory, the atom, fission, fusion, radioactivity, and half-life. This course also includes a requires a minimum of 30 lab periods.

CONSERVATION/HORTICULTURE

½ Unit Each

These courses are an exciting alternative to complete your high school science requirement. It is made up of two half-year courses, with some topics overlapping which make the two courses go well together.

CONSERVATION

This course is comprised of many different facets of the total natural resources field. Some of the major topics include the study of many important animal species that are valuable to our region. While studying these animals, discussion revolves around their habitat, diet reproduction, and lifestyles. Another important topic involves the use, and perhaps abuse, of our environment. How can we be more environmentally conscientious? What can we do to insure our survival? Ecology is certainly a current topic of concern. Finally, the third major component of conservation deals with production. Discussion and classroom activities center on maple syrup production, Christmas tree production, Bluebird house construction, and wood for fuel. Throughout the course, careers in the field of conservation are an underlying theme. A great course for the student who likes to spend time outdoors.

HORTICULTURE

Chances are we all will be Horticulturists at some time or another. Most of us will have a home, which will probably have a lawn, shrubs, and trees, along with a garden (flower or vegetable). This class is designed to prepare the homeowner with the basic knowledge and skills to successfully care for their plants. This class offers a great deal of "hands-on" educational opportunities for the student. The first half of the class deals primarily with the scientific concerns such as cultural needs, photosynthesis, soils, reproduction, and other botanical concerns. When the weather becomes right, a great amount of time is spent outdoors where there will be "hands-on" activities. Such activities include planting, designing gardens, pruning trees and shrubs, fertilizing, and landscaping. At the end of the course, the student will be able to take home many plants started and grown in class. One other fun activity covered in class is working with fresh and dried flower/plant arrangements. As with Conservation, career opportunities are noted throughout the semester. This course is valuable and most enjoyable to the student that likes working with plants.

AGRICULTURE

1 Unit

Basic Ag Skills & Advanced Ag Skills

These two courses are offered on an alternating year schedule. The main focus of these two full year courses is to expose the student to the extremely diverse field of agriculture. The student is exposed to animal science, plant science, mechanics, small

animal care, and business. Major components include research, career options, and exploration. The field of agriculture offers so many new and constantly changing activities. Our school's FFA organization gives the student the opportunity to exhibit their skills and competencies. Leadership and public relations are stressed within the course. A student can then follow up with "Specialized Agriculture Skills" in which there is a great deal of research and independent work in some field of interest in agriculture. With the addition of the animal laboratory and greenhouse, more hands-on education will be made possible.

ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE

1 Unit

A student is eligible for this course if they successfully complete Earth Science, Conservation & Horticulture. Some Agriculture background is preferred. This full year course is designed for the highly motivated student that would like to delve into the area of environmental science deeper than discussed in Earth Science or Conservation/Horticulture. A great deal of research and independent work is required of the student. A final research project is also required.

SOCIAL STUDIES

Social studies is a field of study which encompasses seven disciplines: anthropology, economics, geography, history, political science, psychology, and sociology. All of these areas may be touched on in the yearlong courses. In addition, semester electives in some areas provide more in-depth study.

GLOBAL HISTORY & GEOGRAPHY 9 / 10 R 1 Unit Each Year

The global history and geography core curriculum is designed to focus on the five social studies standards, common themes that recur across time and place, and seven historical eras. This curriculum provides students with the opportunity to explore what is happening in various regions and civilizations at a given time. In addition, it enables them to investigate issues and themes from multiple perspectives and make global connections and linkages that lead to in-depth understanding. As students explore the five social studies standards, they should have the opportunity to explore the content and intellectual skills of these disciplines.

U.S. HISTORY & GOVERNMENT R 1 Unit

The purpose of this full year course is to prepare the students to take the Regents in U.S. History & Government. The course attempts to give the students a better understanding of the American society in today's world. The following areas are covered: foreign policy, economic development, government, cultural immigration, and current events. The history of America is studied from the birth of the nation to the present. Emphasis is placed on the Constitution, then Civil War to the present and the students understanding of the economic working of our society.

ECONOMICS ½ Unit

This is a one-semester course in economics and economic decision-making. The course will include the basic economic concepts and understandings such as scarcity, productivity, supply and demand, opportunity cost, inflation, profit, interdependence, capital, competition, and the market. Major focus will be on the economy of the United States.

PARTICIPATION IN GOVERNMENT ½ Unit

This one-semester course is a requirement for graduation. The purpose for the course is to make the students more aware of the political processes and how it affects their everyday life. The course will cover the federal, state, and local process and how they interact. Individual rights and how they are used are discussed.

GOVERNMENT SUPA

½ Unit

This semester long course is an interdisciplinary course setup to challenge students by offering them college credit and to create an interactive forum. The course is designed to enhance a student's speaking, multimedia, presentation and learning skills. Students completing this course can earn three credits of college credit from Syracuse University Project Advance, provided that they pass the course.

FOREIGN LANGUAGES

The study of foreign language, while not universal in this country, is still important and should be encouraged for the student who has the ability to be successful. A three unit combination of one language and passing the Comprehensive Regents Examination is required for a Regents Diploma with Advanced Designation.

FRENCH I (A&B)

1 Unit

This two-year course is offered at the junior high level. Pronunciation, vocabulary development, and comprehension are stressed. Successful completion of the course earns 1 unit of high school credit.

FRENCH II

1 Unit

This course is the continuation of the program begun in the junior high. Advanced grammar and vocabulary will be emphasized.

FRENCH III

1 Unit

Students normally take a regional comprehensive examination in French at the end of this year of study. During this year, the students are expected to speak, read, and write French grammatically correct. They will be able to demonstrate a working knowledge of the French language. Passing the comprehensive examination is a requirement for the NYS Regents Diploma with Advanced Designation.

FRENCH IV JCC EDGE

1 Unit

During this final year of French study it is assumed that, after passing the comprehensive examination, the student has a good working knowledge of the French language: and the emphasis is on grammar and refining the correct accent. The student will have the opportunity to earn six college credits designated as FRE 112 and FRE 122 from Jefferson Community College on successful completion of the course.

HOME AND CAREER SKILLS

Home and Career Skills courses are available to both males and females. The courses available offer a wide variety of subject matters covering all aspects of home management, family and childcare, and foods and nutrition. All materials (although students may prefer to buy their own fabric) are covered at no cost to the student.

CULTURE & FOODS

1 Unit

Explore foreign culture and cuisine in this course! Students work in small groups that they select themselves. Students choose recipes and the class works together to prepare an entire meal from various foreign countries and ethnic regions of the world. Juniors and Seniors have priority in taking this full year course.

FOOD/CULINARY ARTS

1 Unit

This course is designed for students who have an interest in the culinary field. Students will learn safety, sanitation, and learn to prepare and create meals. This full year course is designed for students who are freshman or sophomores.

ART

The art program at Alexandria Central School takes the student from an introductory level to an advanced level. Many different media are explored with emphasis on the drawing and painting areas. Students progress at their individual rate depending on their talent and interest.

STUDIO ART

1 Unit

This course contains many media and subject matter giving the student a chance to discover for themselves the many facets of art. Some art history is included showing style/trends of art and how it affects our lives. This course satisfies one unit Art/Music credit.

STUDIO SCULPTURE

½ Unit Each

The traditional concepts of graphic arts include all forms of two-dimensional visual expression: drawing, painting, design, and sculpture. This course is designed to continue working with elements and principals of design. Prerequisite: Studio Art.

STUDIO PAINTING

½ Unit Each

This course is designed to confront students with new problems and techniques as well as new methods to solve old problems. Portraiture, still life, and landscape will help challenge students to better understand the elements of design (color, line, shape, texture). Lessons in mechanics of painting will accompany all media. Periods of art history that apply to individual units will be covered. Prerequisite: Studio Art.

INDEPENDENT ART

1 Unit

This course is for 11th or 12th grade students and is designed to encourage and help students organize and perfect their artistic skills; students will be better prepared for their college or job interview. The first half of the course will cover skills in matting and mixed media. The second half students will work on individual projects that best fit the needs of their portfolio. Students will work on a contract system with the teacher. Prerequisite: one year of Studio art, and one year of either Studio in Drawing and Painting, one year of Sculpture.

CERAMICS I & II JCC EDGE

½ Unit Each

This course is a Jefferson Community College course taken here at ACS. Prerequisite: same as above for Independent Art. Students will learn the basics and advanced designs of working with Ceramics. The student will have the opportunity to earn six college credits designated as ART 131 and ART 232 from Jefferson Community College on successful completion of the course.

MUSIC

The music program at Alexandria Central includes vocal and instrumental activities, marching band, and color guard. Much of it is extracurricular in nature.

INSTRUMENTAL BAND & WIND ENSEMBLE 1/2 Unit

Band members should have a good working knowledge of their instrument, with good tone and technique. This will be the result of practice and individual lessons as well as group presentations. In the spring, the marching band and color guard are the major emphasis, with participation in several parades. Students will receive 1/2 unit for concert band and an additional 1/2 unit for participation in marching band.

SENIOR CHORUS & SELECT CHORUS 1/2 Unit

The primary purpose of chorus is to provide students with the opportunity for vocal performance both a group and as individuals. As part of performances, students develop poise and self-confidence in addition to developing vocal and musical ability. Concepts taught in chorus are diction, projection, breath support, interpretation and expression, tone quality and blend, and part-singing.

MUSIC THEORY (offered based on availability) 1/2 Unit

Music Theory is a historical-analytic approach to the study of theory and harmony. The course includes an in-depth study of the four basic parameters (melody, harmony, rhythm, and form) of music. Composition projects of various kinds will allow the student to apply the basic theoretical concepts that have been presented.

MUSIC THEATRE (offered based on availability) 1/2 Unit

Music Theatre provides students with the opportunity to practice and perform theatrical performances. The focus will be on developing the skills needed to perform and sing a musical production or theatre act. Script reading, stage design, and performance skills will be emphasized.

GUITAR I & II JCC EDGE 1/2 Unit Each

Guitar course is group instruction in fundamental guitar technique designed for the beginning guitarist. Students learn basic musicianship skills and develop technical proficiency through performance of guitar music from various genres. The instruments are provided through ACS. The student will have the opportunity to earn three college credits designated as MUS 174 from Jefferson Community College on successful completion of the course.

OTHER COURSES

DISTANCE LEARNING

These classes vary due to enrollment, interest, and other factors. Students are able to earn high school and college credit at the same time while taking these classes at 1/2 of the price and with ACS purchasing the course books. These courses do not count towards a student's high school GPA, since they are taught off campus through the Distance Learning network. To find out more information regarding these classes, please call the high school office.

FORT DRUM RISE CONSORTIUM SHARED COURSES

As a result of grant funding, the Department of Defense Education Activity (DoDEA) is providing financial resources to small, military impacted districts of the Fort Drum region as they strive to support student readiness for colleges and careers, particularly in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) areas. Current RISE courses offered are: AP Biology, Anatomy & Physiology, Human Biology, and Nutrition. These courses are offered online, with a lab component taking place one day per week at Alexandria Central School. These opportunities are for students in their junior and senior years. For more information, please see the School Counselor or visit www.fortdrumrise.org

DRIVER EDUCATION

1/2 Unit

This course includes lectures and discussions on such topics as defensive driving and motor vehicle laws, as well as behind the wheel activities which all emphasize the following:

- Develop in young people a strong sense of personal and social responsibility for the common welfare, particularly as it is affected by and involved in the operation of motor vehicles.
- Develop pride in maintaining high standards of performance, particularly in the operation of motor vehicles.
- Promote the safe, efficient, and enjoyable use of equipment and environment, especially of motor vehicle highways.
- Promote effective habits of cooperation in meeting problems of the common welfare, especially those concerned with the use of motor vehicles and highways.
- Prepare young people for socially useful vocations suited to their individual abilities, particularly those that involve the use of motor vehicles.

YEARBOOK

1/2 Unit

This course involves using technology and social skills to create the ACS yearbook. Students will work in groups to design, create and sell the school yearbook. Computer skills are helpful, although not required.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

½ Unit

Physical Education is a sequential academic program. It is based upon the acquisition of knowledge and skills that are ultimately the building blocks for participating in physical activity. However, the mission of Physical Education is to **empower** all students to sustain regular, lifelong physical activity as the foundation for a healthy, productive and fulfilling life.

This is accomplished through a wide range of lifetime and traditional physical activities along with several integrated projects. All physical activities and classroom projects are undertaken in a safe, active, and productive environment. As a result the Physical Education program requires the students to:

- Acquire the necessary knowledge and skills to establish and maintain physical fitness, participate in physical activity, and maintain personal health.
- Acquire the knowledge and ability necessary to create and maintain a safe and healthy environment.
- Understand and be able to manage their personal and community resources.

HEALTH

½ Unit

This course is a requirement for graduation and is offered every other day for a full year. Course units include mental health, human sexuality, drugs, alcohol and tobacco, nutrition and exercise, and first aid and safety. The goal of this course is to provide information to help students make responsible decisions for a healthful life.