

# **Spearville High School Enrollment Handbook**



**2025-2026**





## **USD 381 Overview**

### **USD 381 Mission Statement**

We empower each child to become a successful citizen through connections and commitment

### **USD 381 Vision Statement**

USD 381 will ensure each child has the ability to meet the challenges of tomorrow.

### **USD 381 School Improvement Goals**

#### **Goal #1: Social-Emotional Learning**

By the Spring of 2026, Spearville USD 381 will show an improvement in social-emotional knowledge and skills as evidenced by:

- A 5% increase in pre/post-test results from an adopted SEL curriculum
- A 5% decrease in the percentage of at-risk students, according to the KCTC low commitment to school section
- A 5% increase in positive responses on the local student perception survey
- A 5% decrease in chronic absenteeism, as based on ansas Accountability Report

#### **Goal#2: Student Achievement**

By Spring of 2026, Spearville USD 381 will improve student achievement in reading and math as evidenced by:

- A 5% increase in the percentage of students at performance levels 3 and 4 on the State Assessment
- A 5% increase in the percentage of students at grade and college-ready levels on Fastbridge Assessments



# SPEARVILLE USD 381 STRATEGIC PLAN

## MISSION:

WE EMPOWER EACH CHILD TO BECOME A SUCCESSFUL CITIZEN THROUGH CONNECTIONS AND COMMITMENT.

## VISION:

USD 381 WILL ENSURE EACH CHILD HAS THE ABILITY TO MEET THE CHALLENGES OF TOMORROW.

### STUDENT OPPORTUNITIES

Provide individualized education paths that prepare students for success through engaging learning experiences.

- Implement evidenced based rigorous grade level curriculum and instruction.
- Empower students to be part of the learning process
- Provide diverse course options and experiences
- Redesign schedules to meet student needs.

### LIFE PREPARATION

To ensure success after graduation by preparing students to contribute to society.

- Solid Academic Foundations
- Build social emotional strength
- Grow current curriculum to include real world life skills.
- Introduce and develop career opportunities.

### ATTRACT & RETAIN A QUALITY STAFF

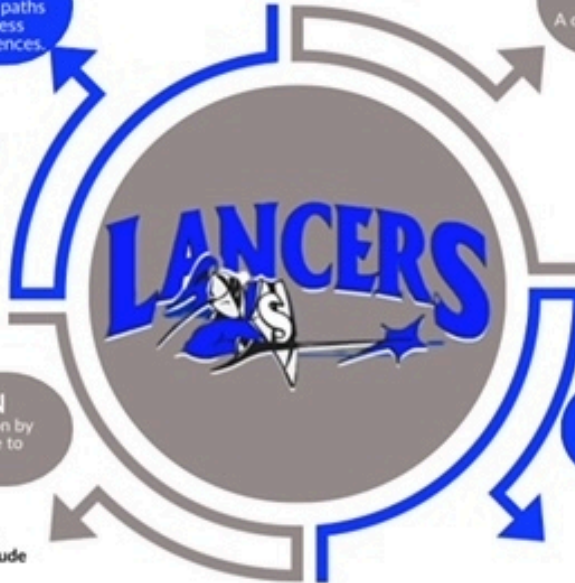
A quality staff is necessary in order to build sustainable and effective practices.

- Develop recruitment strategies
- Provide staff incentives
- Foster desirable work environment
- Provide relevant professional development for all staff.

### COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

Grow today's collaboration for tomorrow's strength.

- Refine communication with community and parents.
- Involve local businesses in student development.
- Continue to prioritize opportunities to be involved in the community.







## Kansas Vision for Education

Kansans are demanding higher standards in academic skills, as well as employability and citizenship skills, and the need to move away from a “one-size-fits-all” system that relies exclusively on state assessments. This new vision for education calls for a more student-focused system that provides support and resources for individual success and will require everyone to work together to make it a reality. Together, Kansans Can.

**Kansas Vision:** Kansas leads the world in the success of each student.

### Outcomes to be measured

- Social-emotional growth
- Kindergarten readiness
- Individual Plan of Study
- Civic engagement
- Academically prepared for postsecondary
- High school graduation
- Postsecondary success



**Defining Success:** A successful Kansas high school graduate has the academic preparation, cognitive preparation, technical skills, employability skills and civic engagement to be successful in postsecondary education, in the attainment of an industry-recognized certification or in the workforce, without the need for remediation.

*The above information is taken from the KSDE webpage.*

[Link to Kansas Vision Document](#)





## **Current SHS Graduation Requirements** **(applies to classes of 2027 and prior):**

USD 381 requires each graduate to earn a minimum of twenty-four (24) credits in grades 9-12. The graduation requirements from Spearville High School are as follows:

### *Five Credits of Language Arts:*

- English 1 (9) 1 Credit
- English 2 (10) 1 Credit
- English 3 (11) 1 Credit
- English 4 (12) 1 Credit
- Speech 1 Credit

### *Three Credits of Mathematics—one credit must be either:*

- Algebra 1 credit or Geometry 1 credit

### *Three Credits of Social Science--two credits must be:*

- American History (11) 1 Credit
- American Government (12) 1 Credit

### *Three Credits of Science--two credits must be:*

- Physical Science (9) 1 credit
- Biology (10)

### *Once Credit Physical Education and Health-- one credit must be*

- Physical Education & Health (9) 1 credit

### *One Credit of Fine Arts*

*The remaining units may be selected from the elective courses offered at Spearville High School. Students not obtaining the required credits will not be allowed to participate in graduation activities.*





## New SHS Graduation Requirements (starts with class of 2028)

USD 381 requires each graduate to earn a minimum of twenty-four (24) credits in grades 9-12. The graduation requirements from Spearville High School are as follows:

### Communications

*Five Credits of Language Arts:*

English 1 (9)	1.0 Credit
English 2 (10)	1.0 Credit
English 3 (11)	1.0 Credit
English 4* (12)	1.0 Credit
Speech	1.0 Credit

*\*Students can request for English Composition I (.5 credit) and English Composition II (.5 credit) to take the place of English 4 and/or college Public Speaking (.5 credit) to take the place of Semester 2 SHS Speech. Approval must be obtained prior to enrolling in course.*

### STEM:

*Three Credits of Mathematics-one credit must be either:*

Algebra 1.0 credit or Geometry 1.0 credit

*Three Credits of Science-two credits must be:*

9th Science (Physical Science and/or Earth/Space Science) (9) 1.0 Credit  
Biology (10) 1.0 Credit

*One Credit STEM elective*

STEM Course elective must be approved by the principal. These courses must be in the fields of computer science, robotics, advanced math or advanced science fields. Potential SHS courses include but are not limited to: Trigonometry/Advanced Math, College Algebra, Chemistry, Anatomy & Physiology I, **Robotics**, online Acellus General Physics, Forensic Science, Colby Community College Wind Energy courses).

### Society & Humanities

*Three Credits of Social Science--two credits must be:*

World History and/or Geography (10) 1.0 Credit  
American History (11) 1.0 Credit  
American Government (12) 1.0 Credit

*\*Students can request for college level American History II (.5 credit) to take the place of Semester 2 SHS American History. Approval must be obtained prior to enrolling in the course.*

*One Credit of Fine Arts*

### Employability & Life Skills

*One Credit Physical Education and Health-must be*

Physical Education (9) 0.5 credit  
Health (9) 0.5 credit

*One-half (0.5) Credit Financial Literacy*

*The remaining credits may be selected from the elective courses offered at Spearville High School. Students not obtaining the required credits will not be allowed to participate in graduation activities.*

### Postsecondary assets

*Students must complete two or more postsecondary assets in order to graduate*

- 95% attendance in high school
- Two or more high school athletics/activities
- 40 or more Community Service hours
- Workplace learning experience directly related to IPS
- A State Assessment score of 3 or 4 for Math, ELA, or Science (demonstrating College Readiness)
- 9+ College Hours
- ACT Composite (Score of 21 or higher)
- WorkKeys Level (Silver or higher)
- Completing Board of Regents Curriculum
- Industry-Recognized Certifications
- Eagle Scout or Gold Scout
- 4-H Kansas Key Award
- Senior Exit Interview/Senior Project



## Postsecondary assets

Postsecondary Assets will be tracked on a student's Graduation Progress Checklist. Students are to fill out this checklist in their IPS on their own. The counselor also fills out a checklist and will attach proof of completion for each asset to that checklist. These documents will be destroyed after five years so please make sure you keep your own copy if you think you will need it in the future. Students must **complete two** or more assets to meet graduation requirements.

Asset	Proof
95% Attendance	PowerSchool
Two or more high school athletics/activities	End of season rosters from coaches/sponsors
40 or more community service hours	<a href="#">*Fill out log sheet and get signatures</a>
Workplace Learning Experience-tied to IPS	<a href="#">*Fill out a form to get prior approval and a reflection form after experience</a>
State Assessment Scores (3+ in one area counts as one asset. A 3+ in two area counts as two assets)	KITE Score Report
9+ College Hours	Grade report sent to SHS by DC3
ACT Composite Score of 21+	Score report sent to SHS by ACT
ACT Workkeys Score of Silver or higher	Score report sent to SHS by ACT
Complete Board of Regents Curriculum	My Graduation Progress checklist done by counselor
Industry-Recognized Certifications <a href="#">Excel in CTE Certifications</a> <a href="#">KSDE HS Certification List</a>	*Provide us with a certificate proving you completed certification
Eagle Scout or Gold Scout	*Provide us with certification proving you earned this
4-H Kansas Key Award	*Provide us with your certificate
Senior Exit Interview/Senior Project	<b>Complete checklist and present to panel</b>
ASVAB Score meeting standard for	*Have military send us your score directly from them
Client Centered Project	*Written explanation and pictures or proof of what you developed. Need prior approval from the administration for it to count.
<a href="#">*Click here to access the full list of potential secondary assets</a>	Please seek approval from admin ahead of time before pursuing one of these other options





## **Qualified Admissions**

Qualified Admissions is a criteria set by the Kansas Board of Regents Universities. Meeting this criteria helps students gain admission to these institutions.

\*All institutions recommend that students complete the Kansas Scholars Curriculum to be prepared for the rigor of college-level courses.

**Emporia State University, Fort Hays State University, Pittsburg State University, and Wichita State University**

2.25+ GPA or ACT score of 21+

**Kansas State University**

3.25+ GPA or ACT score of 21+

**University of Kansas**

3.25+ GPA OR 21+ ACT with 2.0+ GPA

All institutions require students to have a cumulative 2.0+ GPA for any college courses taken while in high school.

[Link to more information regarding Qualified Admissions](#)





## **Kansas Scholars Curriculum**

Students who take the following courses can receive the State Scholar designation/recognition during their senior year of high school. Students must also take the ACT by December of their senior year and be a Kansas resident. State Scholar designees may become eligible for an annual Board of Regents scholarship. Not all students designated as a Kansas Scholar will receive the scholarship. State funds, a student's financial need, ACT scores and GPA of students factor into the decision of who receives the scholarship.

To earn recognition as a State Scholar you must take

### **English-4 Years**

### **Mathematics-4 Years**

- Algebra I (may be taken in 8th grade)
- Algebra II
- Geometry
- Advanced course such as Adv Math/Trigonometry

### **Science-3 years**

- Biology
- Chemistry
- Physics

### **Social Studies-3 years**

**World Language-2 years** (must be two years of one language)

[Link for more informations about the Kansas Scholars Curriculum](#)





If you are considering participating in Collegiate level athletics there are criteria you must meet and steps to take.

### **NCAA Division I and II**

- Students must take 16 Core Courses during high school
- Students must meet GPA and ACT requirements
- Students must be certified by the NCAA Initial-Eligibility Clearinghouse

For more information, visit: [eligibilitycenter.org](http://eligibilitycenter.org) and be sure to visit with the counselor to make sure you are on track.

### **NAIA**

- Students must have eligibility determined by the NAIA Eligibility Center

For more information, visit: [www.playnaia.org](http://www.playnaia.org) and be sure to visit with the counselor to make sure you are on track.





## College Credit in High School

Students are allowed to take classes through Dodge City Community College and earn both college and high school credit for those classes. Students can take college classes as early as their sophomore year of high school. Administrative approval is needed prior to enrolling in a college class if students are wishing for the credits to be on their high school transcript.

1. Students wanting to enroll in dual credit courses must
  - a. Have a properly completed future plans form in their IPS Document
  - b. Discuss their plan in-depth with the counselor
  - c. Have administrative approval
  - d. Turn in the DC3 Dual Credit Agreement form acknowledging they and their parents have read and be willing to follow the DC3 Dual Credit Agreement form.
  - e. Apply to DC3 (best to have this done by Spring Break)
  - f. Complete enrollment forms for the college
  - g. Be prepared to pay all tuition, fees, and other costs associated with courses
2. Spearville High School requires students to take two college courses (approximately 6 credits) per semester (or a college course and an acellus course) if you wish to enroll in 1 SHS class period to work on the courses.
  - a. This would mean you would take 2 college courses in the fall to fill 1 SHS period in the fall and then in the spring you would take another 2 college courses to fill that 1 SHS period in the spring (4 college courses total for the school year).
  - b. College Algebra is an exception to this rule because the DC3 instructor comes 5 days a week
  - c. Example: The English Composition teacher is only here on Monday, Wednesday and Friday so you need an additional class to take on Tuesday and Thursday. Options for Tuesday/Thursday opposite of English Composition could be:
    - i. Take an additional DC3 course for DC3 credit and SHS Elective Credit
    - ii. Take an Acellus online course (USD 381 pays for these courses)
    - iii. Be a teacher aide (must be a senior and a student in good standing)
3. Students will earn .5 credits each semester for each SHS class period they work on the college courses if they pass. One of their classes for each period will be added to their transcript for SHS but both will be on their DC3 transcript (If both college courses taken in one SHS class period are core classes please visit with administration ahead of time of how this will impact your transcript).
4. Students are financially responsible for paying the costs associated with the courses they enroll in at DC3. This includes but is not limited to fees, books and tuition. [Please visit the DC3 website for more information and costs.](#)





## Career and Technical Education (CTE) Courses through Dodge City Community College

Juniors and Seniors **may** have the opportunity to pursue certification in a variety of areas by attending Dodge City Community College (DC3) for part of the school day.

The morning session typically is from 8:00-11:10 and the afternoon session typically is from 12:15-3:30.

Students have to pay for all costs and fees associated with their program that are not covered by SB155. This Bill allows for tuition to be waived for CTE courses.

**Students and parent(s) must have a meeting with Mrs. Ackerman** (P/T conference night or prior is preferred) to discuss the pros/cons of this option and to ensure you are on track to graduate. **It is ideal to start this conversation in the spring of freshman year.** Permission Form and Approval is needed. It requires careful scheduling for this opportunity to work in a students schedule and may not work for all students.

Programs may include but are not limited to:

- Agriculture (AM only)
- Automotive Technology
- Building Construction (AM only)
- Cosmetology
- Diesel Technology (AM only)
- Early Childhood Education (AM only)
- Electrical Technology
- Industrial Maintenance
- HVAC
- Welding



## Career and Technical Education Pathways offered at SHS for high school credit

**The following are CTE Pathways we offer at SHS. Students can work through the list of courses for each pathway to give them a solid foundation for future training in the area.**

- Construction and Design (Woodworking Principles, Advanced Materials and Fabrications, General Carpentry I)
- Business Finance (Business Communication, Entrepreneurship, Accounting I, Advanced Accounting)
- Media Design and Communications (Drawing for Designers, Principles of Illustration, Graphic Design I, Graphic Design II, Applied Graphic Design)





## **KAMS: Kansas Academy of Mathematics and Science**

KAMS is a challenging opportunity for exceptional students who are ready for the college experience. A residential program at Fort Hays State, KAMS, allows students to study and conduct research with PH.D. faculty and peers to continue their intellectual growth. KAMS is an Early College Program that the Kansas state legislature enacted in 2006 to promote STEM education for exceptional Kansas students. Qualified juniors and seniors in high school attend Fort Hays State University tuition free for up to 68 college credits. Books, laptop, and fees are included. Room & board is not included. Scholarships are available. Students would need to start the preparation process for this program prior to the start of their Sophomore year.

Please visit [www.fhsu.edu/kams](http://www.fhsu.edu/kams) for more information.





## Important Enrollment Information

1. When choosing courses students should have in mind the type of career they want to pursue after high school. Students should choose courses that will support them in acquiring skills and knowledge essential to their future career field or to help them explore a variety of career paths.
2. Students are responsible for identifying admission requirements for all colleges they may want to consider early on in high school so they can have time to work towards meeting these admission requirements. Teachers and the counselor are willing to help students find this information.
3. Students must carefully consider their choice of courses at enrollment time. Students are allowed to request class changes up until 8 am on the fourth day of the new school year. Class change requests for the spring semester must be made at least two weeks prior to the end of the fall semester. Permission to change classes is not guaranteed.
4. Passing courses
  - a. Students must earn a 60% semester grade to pass a course
  - b. All courses must be satisfactorily completed to earn credit
  - c. If a required course is not passed the student should re-enroll in it at the first opportunity.
    - i. The first attempt should be to enroll in the class in person. If it does not fit in their schedule students can request the administration approve an alternative online option.
    - ii. A student is only required to make up the semester of the course they did not pass; however if they fail the spring semester they are encouraged to retake the whole course to build a stronger foundation. There is also no guarantee an alternative class will be available for them to switch into at semester.
  - d. If an elective course was not passed, the student is not required to repeat it, but they must still earn 24 credits to graduate.
  - e. When a student does not pass a class, the student may repeat the class. However, the original grade will remain on the student's transcript and will be figured into his/her cumulative grade point average.
5. Students wanting to participate in KSHSAA athletics must pass 5 courses the previous semester.





## Course Descriptions

\*The listing of a course in this handbook does not guarantee it will be offered each year

### English Language Arts and Literature

**English 1:** This course serves as a transitional reading and writing class into high school. The course covers a variety of literary genres, encouraging understanding of literary devices and techniques as well as comprehension of plot and theme. Students are encouraged to respond to their reading using a variety of writing types: academic, technical, and creative. Students will work individually as well as in small groups in order to create and evaluate writing and improve reading, speaking, and writing vocabulary. Mastery of written and spoken communication is encouraged. Mechanical aspects of speaking and writing will be addressed in the form of mini lessons, in-class activities, and homework exercises.

**Credit: 1.0**

**English 2:** This course covers grammar, usage, and writing. Writing typically covers persuasive, critical, and creative essays and compositions. Additionally, students will read a variety of literature such as but not limited to: short stories, drama, poetry, fiction, and nonfiction. Through this study of literature students can improve their reading and comprehension as well as their writing and vocabulary skills and so on. Students' writing skills along with increased grammatical understanding, vocabulary improvement and so on should all increase through the exposure to a variety of genres of literature.

**Credit: 1.0**

**English 3:** This course approaches American literature from a historical context and encourages students to familiarize themselves with the literature and literary figures of their country and use a variety of writing types in response to their reading. Students will learn to create and evaluate writing types: technical, academic, and creative. In addition, a formal research paper is part of the curriculum. Mastery of written and spoken communication is stressed. Mechanical aspects of speaking and writing will be addressed in the form of mini lessons.

**Credit: 1.0**

**Speech:** This course covers the basic areas of speech communication. Study areas will include the communication process, basic speech writing, and speech delivery. Course topics may include (but are not limited to) communication technology, research skills, speech outlining, and oral delivery in front of an audience, and so on. Through this course students will work in small and large groups, will sharpen their research and writing skills as well as continue to develop their self-confidence, all through communication.

**Credit: 1.0**

**English 4:** This course is composed of Classic and British Literature. The history of the English language will be studied and some of the earliest written works will be read. Essay, response, and journal writing, literature analysis, and creative writing may be expected. The students' exposure to British literature through its various characteristics, authors, and historical implications will give them a wider understanding and appreciation for this genre.

**Credit: 1.0**



**English Composition I:** This course is a dual credit course offered at SHS by a Dodge City Community College Instructor. Students must meet minimum ACT or Accuplacer test score requirements to take this course and pay tuition and fees to DC3. According to the DC3 Course Catalog, this course is designed to introduce the fundamentals of writing for specific purposes and audiences as required by various writing situations, with emphasis on the following: the writing process, including brainstorming, planning, drafting, revising, and editing; syntax and grammar for Standard Written English; effective diction and style; academic research; peer review and self-critique; and proper citation practices.

**Prerequisite:** Appropriate score on ACT or accuplacer placement test (in 2023 they required a 17+ on the English ACT test, 15+ on the Reading ACT test or a 255+ on the English and Writing Accuplacer test, DC3 has the right to adjust this)

**Credit:** .5

**English Composition II:** This course is a dual credit course offered at SHS by a Dodge City Community College Instructor. Students must meet minimum ACT or Accuplacer test score requirements to take this course and pay tuition and fees to DC3. According to the DC3 Course Catalog, this course is designed to expand on writing skills developed in Composition I, with an emphasis on the social nature of writing as used in forms of analysis, argumentation and persuasion, and formal research procedures and documentation. In an agreement with SHS some literature studies will also be included.

**Prerequisite:** C or better in English Composition I

**Credit:** .5

**Spearville History (Hometown Stories in the Digital Era):** This course is offered through Kansas State University and the Chapman Center. The professor will teach this class virtually with a facilitator in the room in Spearville. According to KSU and the Chapman Center, this is a humanities course that allows students to read and respond to a broad range of texts and media that deal with various aspects of difference in communities and identities. In the iteration of the course designed for Spearville, KS, these questions will focus on the community of Spearville, its history, and its people. Students will have opportunities to identify, describe, analyze, and research their community. Additionally, students will develop their capability to write for specific purposes and audiences and gain experience in researching and writing in academic contexts, with the goal of producing content that can be incorporated into texts that will share the story of Spearville. Students will publish work on a website representing the town's history.

**Credit:** .5



## Mathematics

**Algebra 1:** Algebra is the basic language of mathematics. Having a solid foundation in Algebra skills can save you time as it applies to many areas of your life. The course includes the study of properties and operations of the real number system; evaluating rational algebraic expressions; solving and graphing first degree equations and inequalities; translating word problems into equations, operations with and factoring of polynomials; and solving simple quadratic equations.

**Credit: 1.0**

**Geometry:** Geometry is a branch of mathematics associated with measuring and comparing shapes. Students will study properties of plane and solid figures; use deductive methods of reasoning and use of logic. The class will also cover parallel lines, angles, congruent and similar triangles, polygons and other figures, and the Pythagorean Theorem.

**Prerequisite:** Algebra 1

**Credit: 1.0**

**Algebra 2:** This course is a study of algebraic concepts at a higher level. Topics of study include linear equations, inequalities, graphs, matrices, polynomials and radical expressions, quadratic equations, functions, exponential and logarithmic expressions, sequences and series, probability and trigonometry.

**Prerequisite:** Algebra I

**Credit: 1.0**

**Trigonometry/Adv. Math:** This course includes a strong emphasis on circular and triangular trigonometric functions, graphs of trigonometric functions and identities and trigonometric equations, polar coordinates, and vectors.

**Prerequisite:** Algebra 2

**Credit: 1.0**

**Technical Math (replacing Consumer Math):** Teacher recommendation and principal approval are needed to be in this class. It is only offered as a recorded class from Ski-Can. Students will gain knowledge of the specific applications of mathematics to the real world.

**Credit: 1.0**

**College Algebra:** This course is a dual credit course offered at SHS by a Dodge City Community College Instructor. Students must meet minimum ACT or Accuplacer test score requirements and pay tuition and fees to DC3. According to the DC3 Course Catalog, this course is an extension and application of algebra and the graphical representations of functions. The functions include constant, linear, quadratic, absolute value, square root, piecewise, cubic, polynomial, rational, exponential and logarithmic. The course develops topics of exponents, radicals, linear and nonlinear equations and inequalities, and systems of the same.

**Prerequisite:** Two years of high school math and a qualifying score on placement exam

**Credit: .5**



## Sciences

**9th Science:** This course involves the study of the structures and states of matter. It includes topics such as matter, physical and chemical interactions, forces and motion, waves, and electromagnetism.

**Credit: 1.0**

**Biology:** This course involves the study of fundamental concepts of life and life processes. This course includes topics such as ecology, cell processes, genetics and heredity, and evolution.

**Credit: 1.0**

**Chemistry:** This course involves the study of the composition, properties, and reactions of substances. This course includes topics such as atomic structure, periodic trends, chemical bonding and reactions, and chemical formulas and equations. Behaviors of solids, liquids, and gasses; acid/base and oxidation reactions; and nuclear reactions will also be studied.

**Prerequisite:** 9th Science (physical and/or earth & space science)

**Credit: 1.0**

**Anatomy & Physiology I:** This course involves the study of the human body. This course includes the study of tissues and the structure and function of organ systems (integumentary, skeletal, muscular, nervous, endocrine, cardiovascular, lymphatic, respiratory, digestive, urinary, and reproductive). Anatomical terminology will also be studied.

**Prerequisite:** Biology

**Credit: 1.0**

## Computer Science

**Robotics:** Robotics courses develop and expand students' skills and knowledge so that they can design and develop robotic devices. Topics covered in the course may include coding, mechanics, electrical and motor controls, pneumatics, computer basics, and programmable logic controllers.

**Credit: 1.0**



## Social Studies

**World History/Geography:** This course covers an overview of the history of human society and an overview of world geography. Students will examine political, economic, social, religious, military, scientific, and cultural developments. Students will also examine the importance of geography to a society and government and explore a variety of geographical concepts.

**Credit: 1.0**

**US History:** This course examines U.S. History from post Civil War to present day. Students will acquire historical thinking skills as they cover political, military, and social developments.

**Credit: 1.0**

**Government:** This course provides an overview of the structure and functions of the U.S. government. Students will examine constitutional principles, the concept of civic rights and responsibilities, the role of political parties and interest groups, the judicial process and the importance of civic participation in the democratic process. Students will also learn about state and local governments and legal topics.

**Credit: 1.0**



## Fine and Performing Arts

**Exploration in Drama:** This course will provide an overview of the history of drama. Students will learn about one or more of the following topics: basic techniques in acting, dramatic literature, drama vocabulary, major playwrights, and plays. Along with this study, students will be introduced to basic performance techniques and the general architecture of the theater may also be included. A basic look at stagecraft (lighting, costuming, set design & construction, makeup, and so on.) may be included.

**Credit: 1.0**

**9-12 Chorus:** Chorus provides the opportunity for students to sing a variety of choral literature styles and is designed to develop vocal techniques and the ability to sing parts. Students enrolled in Chorus must be available for public performances (concerts, games, or other special performances as requested by the teacher).

**Credit: 1.0**

**9-12 Band:** This is a general band course to develop students' technique for playing brass, woodwind, and percussion instruments and covers a variety of nonspecified band literature styles (concert, marching, orchestral, and modern styles). Students enrolled in Band must be available for public performances (concerts, pep rallies, games, or other special performances as requested by the teacher).

**Credit: 1.0**

**Drawing for Design:** This course emphasizes the development of fundamental drawing skills. Students will learn foundational processes and art techniques.

**Credit: .5**

**Principles of Illustration:** This course is offered in the spring after students take Introduction to Drawing and Design. Students will explore a variety of media, tools and supports as a means to communicate ideas. Techniques in traditional and digital illustration applications will be explored.

**Prerequisite:** Introduction to Drawing and Design

**Credit: .5**



## Physical Education & Health

**9th PE:** 9th Physical Education provides students with knowledge, experience, and an opportunity to develop skills in team sports, individual/dual sports, recreational sports, and fitness/conditioning activities.

**Credit: .5**

**Health:** A wide variety of topics will be covered in this course. Topics include nutrition, mental health and stress management, drug/alcohol abuse prevention, disease prevention, and first aid.

**Credit: .5**

**HS Strength & Conditioning:** This is a weight lifting course. It emphasizes conditioning activities that help develop muscular strength, flexibility, and cardiovascular fitness. Students develop knowledge and skills in the use of free weights and universal stations while emphasizing safety and proper body positioning.

**Credit: 1.0**

**Team Sports:** Students in this class will be physically active as they participate in a variety of games and activities. Students will gain knowledge, experience, and an opportunity to develop skills in multiple team sports and physical activity games.



## Media Design and Communications

**Graphic Design I:** This course provides a basic understanding of the graphic design process. Topics include analyzing the design elements and principles, exploring industry tools, software and equipment and learning composition techniques to develop a quality product.

**Prerequisite:** Introduction to Drawing and Design and Principles of Illustration

**Credit: 1.0**

**Graphic Design II:** This course teaches about design elements and principles in the purposeful arrangement of images and text to communicate a message.

**Prerequisite:** Graphic Design Fundamentals

**Credit: 1.0**

**Applied Graphic Design:** Students must apply to get into this class. This **application level** course allows students to apply graphic design skills in a project-oriented environment. It gives students marketable experience in print media publishing. This course solely works toward the completion and selling of a large finished product, Spearville High School's yearbook. In class, students compose, construct, and edit all elements of computerized text layout, graphic art, and digital photography. Students must cooperatively work with others, must be industrious, and be eager to be creative. Out of class and after school, students will "shoot" digital photos, sell and design advertising, and distribute yearbook order forms. Students are responsible for the proper care and handling of our digital cameras. Pairs or groups of students should expect to spend some of their time outside of school working on computerized yearbook pages. This course also examines legal and ethical issues of media law and copyright.

**Credit: 1.0**



## Business

**Entrepreneurship:** Entrepreneurship courses acquaint students with the knowledge and skills necessary to own and operate their own businesses. Topics from several fields typically form the course content: economics, marketing principles, human relations and psychology, business and labor law, legal rights and responsibilities of ownership, business and financial planning, finance and accounting, and communication. Several topics surveyed in Business Management courses may also be included.

**Credit: .5**

**Accounting 1:** Accounting I will cover the basic skills a student would need to obtain entry-level bookkeeping/accounting employment. The course will include the basic accounting concepts and procedures that are approved as Generally Accepted Accounting Procedures. The course will also cover accounting principles needed for both business and personal use. Students will complete the accounting cycle manually for a sole proprietorship and a corporation.

**Credit: 1.0**

**Adv. Accounting:** Advanced Accounting expands on topics learned in the first-year Accounting I course while adding new topics about management accounting, cost accounting, not-for-profit accounting, and financial analysis. Strong emphasis is placed on using computerized accounting. The second year of accounting helps to qualify students for jobs and careers at higher levels than one year of study would allow. It also provides excellent background and preparation for college accounting courses and for business majors.

**Prerequisite:** Accounting I

**Credit: 1.0**

**Financial Literacy:** This course will help students develop the knowledge and skills needed as citizens to make sound, informed financial decisions so they can lead financially secure lives. It is meant to equip students with the knowledge and skills necessary to make informed and effective decisions with their financial resources. This course emphasizes earning income, spending, saving, investing, managing credit and managing risk.

**Prerequisite:** must be a junior or senior (will be required for the Class of 2028 and after)

**Credit: .5**



## Construction Science

**Woodworking Principles:** A comprehensive **technical level** course designed to instruct students in the basic knowledge and skills required for cabinetmaking and furniture design.

**Credit: 1.0**

**Advanced Materials and Fabrication.:** An advanced **application level** course designed to provide students with experience in constructing cases, cabinets, counters, furniture and interior woodwork.

**Prerequisite:** Woodworking Principles

**Credit: 1.0**



## Agriculture

\*SHS is hoping to start offering Agriculture classes during the 25-26 school year and an FFA program soon after. This is dependent upon the ability to find and hire an Agriculture Teacher.

\*The following descriptions come from KSDE State Course Code Descriptions and the Agriculture Pathway Course Competencies. The teacher may need to adjust some classes to fit our facilities and resources.

\*Not all of these courses will be offered in 25-26. When we hire a teacher they and administration will determine the classes offered based on student interest identified through the pre-enrollment process.

**Introduction to Agriculture:** This course surveys a wide array of topics within the agriculture industry, exposing students to the many and varied types of agriculture and livestock career opportunities and those in related fields (such as natural resources). This course may focus on developing communication skills, business principles and leadership skills as well. Topics may include: concepts of agriculture, careers in agriculture, leadership, oral communications, agribusiness systems, plant systems, animal systems, power structural & technical systems, natural resource systems, environmental systems, food products & processing systems and agricultural issues.

**Credit: 1.0**

**Animal Science:** This course will impart information about the care and management of domestic and farm animals. This course may cover animal nutrition, health, behavior, selection, reproduction, anatomy and physiology, facilities, product processing, and marketing. Units of study may include: animal origin, classifying animals, comparative anatomy & physiology, selecting animals, prevention and treatment of animals, biosecurity, formulating feed rations, feed additives and growth promotants, male & female reproductive systems, breeding readiness and soundness, scientific principles in breeding, animal products and processing, animal facilities and handling, government regulations & standards and the environment.

**Credit: 1.0**

**Plant and Soil Science:** This course would expose students to the art and science of growing plants, shrubs, trees, flowers, fruits, agriculture crops and vegetables. Units of study may include: history and careers in plant science, basic soil properties and fertility, plant structures/systems, weed, disease, and pest control, fertilizer applications, crop evaluation, biotechnology issues and crop storage.

**Credit: 1.0**



## Other

**Life Skills:** The foundation of this course is delivered through an online platform called Fuel Ed. We then add hands-on components. The course is designed to increase students' knowledge of and ability to use skills necessary for everyday living. Life Skills emphasizes defining personal values, goal-setting and planning, and solving problems. Instructional material focuses on dealing with media and peer pressure, communicating and relationships, working with others, avoiding and/or resolving conflict, decision-making, wellness and personal safety, aspects of good citizenship, environmental awareness, and how students can contribute to their own community.

**Credit: 1.0**

**Sports Rules and Officiating:** Students will learn what it takes to be a sports official. They will go through online modules and complete in class exercises to practice the rules and mechanics of officiating. Focus will be on volleyball, football, and basketball. If time remains we will also explore baseball and softball.

**Credit: .5**

**Online Courses (high school credit only):** Students may take online courses to explore different fields of study as they relate to their IPS/Career Choices via Edgenuity and Ski-Can platforms. Spanish will be offered through Ski-Can (we will not be utilizing the foreign language options in Edgenuity since we already pay for Ski-Can). Physics is also available on these platforms for students wanting to meet the Kansas Scholars Curriculum requirements. Please see the links in Google Classroom for a list of available courses.

**Credit: .5-1.0** (dependent on class chosen)



## **Courses that may be rotated in during Future Years**

**Audio/Video Production I:** This course provides a basic understanding of producing video for a variety of uses. Topics include analyzing the pre-production, production and post-production process, as well as explore the equipment and techniques used to develop a quality audio video product.

**Credit: .5**

**Business Communications:** This course will help students to develop an understanding and appreciation for effective communication in business situations and environments. Emphasis is placed on all phases of communication: speaking, listening, thinking, responding, reading, writing, communication non-verbally, and utilizing technology for communication. Business communication functions, processes, and applications in the context of business may be practiced through problem-based projects and real-world applications.

**Credit: .5 (we intend to rotate this course back in for the 26/27 school year)**

**General Carpentry I:** This course provides students with basic knowledge and skills required for construction of commercial, residential, and institutional structures. These courses teach how to construct, install, repair, and erect structures and fixtures.

**Credit: 1.0 (we intend to offer this course in the 26/27 school year)**

**Forensic Science:** This course involves the application of biological, chemical, and physical science principles to data and physical evidence related to evidence collection and analysis. The courses focus on the application of scientific knowledge and scientific principles to collect, preserve, and analyze evidence in a laboratory setting. Topics may include but are not limited to entomology, forensic anthropology, serology, and fingerprinting.

**Prerequisite:** Biology and 9th Science (physical and/or earth & space science)

**Credit: 1.0**

**Great Books:** This elective course offers the opportunity for students to study and reflect upon the themes presented in the body of literature being presented. Students improve their critical-thinking skills as they determine the underlying assumptions and values within the reading selection and as they understand how the work reflects society's problems and culture. Oral discussion is an integral part of literature courses, and written compositions are often required.

**Credit: 1.0**

**Photo Imaging:** This course teaches the technical skills needed to produce quality images for use in a variety of applications. Topics include use of equipment, software, and technical and creative aspects of capturing, editing, and presenting images including the use of artificial intelligence. The course integrates hands-on activities, critical thinking, problem-solving skills to develop students into proficient and imaginative photographers.

**Credit: .5 (we intend to offer this course in the 26/27 school year)**

**Street Law:** This course helps students learn about practical, relevant topics in law that they can use in their daily lives.

**Credit: 1.0**



**Agriscience:** This is a comprehensive course covering a wide range of agricultural topics. Units of study may include: concepts of agriculture (human needs, agricultural commodities in the U.S., communication), principles of science in agriculture, natural resources and environmental systems (soil characteristics, water cycle/quality, interaction of natural resources and wildlife habitats), plant and animal systems (parts of cells, plants and animals, categorizing plants and animals, basic parts of animals), food science (production and processing of food items, food safety and illnesses, quality/grading of food), biotechnology in ag, agriculture technology and the future of Agriculture (feeding the world).

**Credit: 1.0**

**Horticulture:** General Horticulture courses expose students to the art and science of growing plants, shrubs, trees, flowers, fruits and vegetables. Units of study may include: plant taxonomy, plant structures, plant growth processes, plant propagation, integrated pest management, greenhouse practices, nursery and landscape industry, floriculture industry, vegetable gardening, packaging, storage, & shipment of plants, turf & landscape management.

**Credit: 1.0**

**Agricultural Food Science:** This course imparts the knowledge and skills needed to produce and manufacture food products for the consumer market. Units of study may include: applying principles of science, food nutrients and additives, safety and sanitation, food preservation, packaging and storage, research and development, food labeling and regulations, marketing and sales.

**Credit: 1.0**

**Agricultural Leadership and Communication:** This course will help students develop leadership skills with a focus on opportunities in the food, fiber and natural resources industries. Units of study may include: local level agricultural opportunities, trends and global impacts, agricultural policy, post secondary preparation and employability skills, goal setting, decision making/problem solving, time management, conflict resolution, ethics, leading teams and groups, effective communication, journalism and communications, prepared and extemporaneous speaking, parliamentary procedure, FFA.

**Credit: 1.0**

**Agribusiness Management:** This course provides students with the information and skills necessary for success in agribusiness and in operating entrepreneurial ventures in the agricultural industry. Units of study may include: capitalism and entrepreneurship, risk management, accounting and financial analysis, human resources, management, marketing, and sales.

**Credit: 1.0**