

**OWEGO FREE ACADEMY**

# **OFA Course Guide**

**2009 - 2010**



# MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

In an effort to continue our tradition of academic excellence, we have provided you with the OFA 2009-2010 Course Guide. Here at Owego Free Academy, we have maintained a culture in which students are free to choose from a variety of classes in all subject areas. Please read through and refer to this course guide when working with your parents, teachers, and guidance counselor to develop your schedule for the upcoming school year.

It is with great pleasure that we assist you in your efforts to earn a high school diploma and gain an educational experience that prepares you for your future endeavors.

*Mr. Steven DiStefano*  
Mr. Steven DiStefano  
Principal

# MESSAGE FROM OFA COUNSELORS

Parents and Students:

The education of a student is a responsibility shared by parents, their child and the school. It is important for students and their parents to be fully informed about requirements for graduation and the courses available to high school students at Owego Free Academy.

We expect that this publication will be helpful as we work together to develop an appropriate academic program for each student. Please review all the information provided throughout the Course Description Guide. Your counselor is available to answer questions about the programming process as well as what might be required to achieve your educational and career goals. Please feel free to contact us should you have any questions.

Thank you for taking an active part in your child's education.

*Mr. Thomas Westcott*    **A-G**  
*Mrs. Kimberly Kahne*    **H-O**  
*Mr. Robert Deran*        **P-Z**

# OWEGO FREE ACADEMY

# COURSE GUIDE 2009 – 2010

## OFA COUNSELING DEPARTMENT

**Mrs. Kimberly Hahne**, Counselor  
Department Chairperson Grade 6-12  
Telephone: **687-6237**

**Mr. Robert Devan**, Counselor  
Telephone: **687-6235**

**Mr. Thomas Westcott**, Counselor  
Telephone: **687-6236**

**Dr. Mary Sue Rose**  
School Psychologist  
Telephone: **687 – 6238**

**Ms. Marie Ward**, Clerk/Typist  
Telephone: **687 – 6233**

**Mrs. Francine Reynolds**, Clerk/Typist  
Telephone: **687 – 6253**

## OAMS COUNSELING DEPARTMENT

**Mrs. Heather Kotula**, Counselor  
Telephone: **687-6257**

**Mrs. Joyce Yanchus**, Counselor  
Telephone: **687-6258**

**Mrs. Marsha Heeter**, Clerk/Typist  
Telephone: **687-6249**

## OFA ADMINISTRATION

**Mr. Steven DiStefano**, Principal  
**Mrs. Pam Donovan**, Secretary  
Telephone: **687 – 6230**

**Mr. Thomas Beatty**, Assistant Principal  
**Mrs. Elizabeth Buchmann**, Clerk/Typist  
Telephone: **687 – 6231**

## OACSD ADMINISTRATION

**Mr. Bernard Dolan, Jr.**  
Associate Superintendent  
Telephone: **687-6223**

**Mr. Thomas Comerford, III**  
Director of Pupil Personnel Service  
Telephone: **687 – 6226**

## SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

**Dr. William C. Russell**  
**Mrs. Barbara Dornblaser**  
Administrative Secretary  
Telephone: **687 – 6224**

## BOARD OF EDUCATION

**David Barton**, President

**Lee Dunham**

**Rebecca Goodrich**, Vice President

**Gene Cvik**, Vice President

**Linda Frisbie**

**John Crosby**

**John Gatto**

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## NOTE:

Your teachers, counselor, and administrators are very willing to assist you in the process of choosing courses for next year and planning a program which will meet diploma requirements.

It is our hope to offer all the classes listed and described in this booklet. In the event that enrollment does not meet minimum class size requirements, the course will not be taught and students will be encouraged to enroll in another course. **Students are required to be scheduled for a minimum of 5.5 units each year.**

# OWEGO APALACHIN SCHOOL DISTRICT

## *Owego Free Academy*

CEEB CODE 334375

1 Sheldon Guile Blvd  
Owego, NY 13827  
[www.oacsd.org](http://www.oacsd.org)

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### **School Contacts: 607-687-6230**

Steven DiStefano, Principal  
Thomas Beatty, Assistant Principal

### **Counseling Office: 607-687-6233**

Kimberly Hahne  
Robert Devan  
Thomas Westcott

## **THE SCHOOL**

Owego Free Academy is a comprehensive public high school of 700 students encompassing grades 9-12. It is accredited by the New York State Department of Education and the Middle States Association. Class periods are forty-two (42) minutes in length with classes meeting five times per week, 40 weeks per year.

## **PHILOSOPHY**

The Owego Apalachin Central School District is committed to a mission that is to challenge students, within a caring environment, to become confident, competent, contributing citizens with a lifetime thirst for learning. To this end, the district has embraced a vision that calls for success for all students. The district has a comprehensive high school (Owego Free Academy) program, supported by the Owego Apalachin Middle School and Apalachin and Owego Elementary Schools. A staff of over 400 individuals support the district's mission and vision.

## **THE COMMUNITY**

Owego is located in eastern Tioga County on the banks of the Susquehanna River. It is a rural-urban area where agriculture and high technology make up the economic composite of the school district. It is an area that is rich in tradition and history. The village of Owego serves as the county seat and has a wide range of cultural, musical and artist opportunities available. Owego is located within thirty miles of six colleges and universities, thus providing students with excellent opportunities for concurrent programs of study.

## **GRADING SYSTEM**

Owego Free Academy uses a numeric grading system with 65 as passing average in all subjects.

## **SPECIAL PROGRAMS**

Honors courses are offered in English and Social Studies. Advanced Placement (AP) courses are offered in English, US History, Biology, and Chemistry. College courses are offered in English, Social Studies, Math, Foreign Language and Technology. The colleges offering the dual-credits are Tompkins-Cortland Community College, Broome Community College, and Syracuse University. Project Lead the Way is a sequence of Technology courses which can earn students college credits through the Rochester Institute of Technology.

# OFA CLASS PROFILE

## CLASS OF 2008

### STATISTICS AT A GLANCE

Graduating Students.....172  
Students Pursuing Further Education  
Four-Year Colleges.....38%  
Two-Year Colleges.....46%

### Additional Statistical Information

29 Seniors were awarded NYS Advanced Regents Diplomas with Honors  
47 Seniors were awarded NYS Regents Diplomas with Advanced Designation  
77 Seniors were awarded NYS Regents Diplomas  
3 Seniors entered the U.S. Military

## GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

New York State offers two accredited diplomas, Regents and Advanced Designation of Regents. For both, requirements include demonstrations of competencies in Reading, Writing, Mathematics, Science, Global Studies, United States History and Government, and Language other than English (LOTE).

In addition, students must earn 22.0 academic units. These are broken down into the following areas:

English-----4 units  
Social Studies----4 units  
Mathematics-----3 units  
Science-----3 units  
LOTE----- 1 unit/3 units  
Art/Music-----1 unit  
Health-----.5 unit  
Phys. Ed ----- 2 units  
Elective----- 1.5 to 3.5 units

## REPORT CARDS

Report cards are issued four times during the year. The grade shown on the card at the end of each report period is the student's grade for that marking period only and is a reflection of both class work and tests. OFA uses a numeric grading system with 65 as the passing average in all subjects. The final course average is the combination of the class average for the year (4/5) and the final exam (1/5). The report card shows the final examination mark and final course average in each course.

## SCHOLASTIC APTITUDE TEST

### SCORES 2007-2008

#### Critical

Reading Mean:	Math Mean:	Writing Mean:
OFA 529	OFA 543	OFA 513
NYS 488	NYS 504	NYS 481
National 502	National 515	National 494

**NATIONAL MERIT  
SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM**  
Letters of Commendation.....2

## AMERICAN COLLEGE TESTING

Composite Score 2007-2008:  
OFA 23.3 NYS: 23.1 National: 21.1

## COURSE OF STUDY

### College Courses    AP Courses    Honors Courses

College English	English Lit.	English 9,10,11
Sociology	US History	Social St. 9,10
Women In History	Chemistry	
US History	Biology	
Calculus		
Math 12		
Spanish III, IV, V		
French III, IV, V		
Project Lead the Way (RIT)		
Intro to Eng. Design		
Digital Electronics		
Computer Integrated Manufacturing (CIM)		
Principles of Engineering		
Civil Engineering & Architecture		

## GRADING SYSTEM

A numeric system is used with a range from 0 to 100.  
The minimum passing grade is 65%.

A= 90-100  
B= 80-89  
C= 70-79  
D= 65-69  
F= below 65

# GUIDANCE Events

## **CAREER EXPLORATION OPPORTUNITIES** (Grades 9-12)

Students are offered several opportunities to investigate a variety of careers.

- **CHOICES & CAREER CRUISING** (Grades 9-12)– A computer software program designed primarily to assist students in learning about themselves and the world of work. With the help of this software, students work with assessment, researching careers, reviewing post secondary options, and building a portfolio.
- **BOCES ORIENTATION VISITS** (Grade 10) - During March, 10<sup>th</sup> grade students who have indicated an interest in a BOCES Occupational Education are given the opportunity to visit the area occupational center. The students spend time observing classes in their area of interest to assist in selecting the program the student will participate in.
- **CAREER EXPO** (Grade 10) - Career Expo is a career exploration program jointly sponsored by the Broome Tioga Counselors Association and the School to Careers Partnership. Sophomore students meet with experts from over forty different occupational fields in a classroom setting on the Binghamton University campus. The students have an opportunity to ask questions and to gather information about future career areas.
- **COLLEGE INFORMATION DAY** (Grade 11) - The mission of College Day is to provide college information and guidance to students and their families as they make plans for post-secondary education. Students can talk first hand to college admissions personnel from over 200 different institutions of higher and specialized learning. This event, scheduled in October and held at the Arena, is a joint effort of the Broome Tioga Counselors Association and the Binghamton City School District.

## **COLLEGE ENTRANCE EXAMS**

- **PSAT/NMSQT** (Grade 11) - The Preliminary Scholastic Aptitude Test / National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test is a multiple choice test that measures developed critical reading, mathematical reasoning abilities and writing skills important for academic performance in college. It assesses ability to reason with facts and concepts rather than the ability to recall and recite them. The PSAT/NMSQT aids high schools in the early guidance of student planning for college and serves as the qualifying test for scholarships awarded by the National Merit Scholarship Corporation. The PSAT/NMSQT is scheduled on a Saturday in October of the Junior year.
- **ACT / SAT I / SAT II** (Grade 11 – 12) - Juniors planning on furthering their education are encouraged to take these exams during the Spring of their Junior year. Students should check in the guidance office for information and applications for ACT/SAT I/SAT II exams. Note the registration deadlines to avoid late fees. Both ACT & SAT registration is encouraged to be done online at the respective websites. Testing sites are listed in the application booklets. OFA is a testing site for November, May and June SATs. OFA is a testing site for the December and June ACT exam.

## EVENING PROGRAMS

- **8<sup>th</sup> GRADE HIGH SCHOOL ORIENTATION** – An evening program is held at OFA to assist 8<sup>th</sup> grade students and parents with the transition from middle school to high school. This program is presented by the 6-12 Counseling Department. (Scheduled in January)
- **SOPHOMORE/PARENT PLANNING NIGHT** – This evening session is the second of several informational programs. The focus of this meeting is to provide the foundation for post secondary planning. (Scheduled in March/April)
- **JUNIOR/PARENT COLLEGE INFORMATION NIGHT** (Grade 11) - A program designed for juniors and their parents regarding all aspects of the college admissions process. Admission directors from local colleges and universities will be available to answer any questions. (Scheduled in March)
- **SENIOR “SURVIVAL” NIGHT** - The purpose of this program is to review the timeline and processes of the senior year. (Scheduled in September)
- **FINANCIAL AID NIGHT** (Grade 12) - A program for parents and seniors regarding the process of filing the financial aid forms, either FAFSA and/or CSS Profile. All parents and students seeking financial aid for college are encouraged to attend. (Scheduled in January)

## CLASS STATUS

1. **A Freshman** must have completed a program of education through 8<sup>th</sup> grade and be enrolled at Owego Free Academy.
2. **A Sophomore** is a student who has earned 4½ units of credit, including 1 unit of English and 1 unit of Social Studies, plus ½ unit of Physical Education.
3. **A Junior** is a student who has earned 10 units of credit, including 2 units of English and 2 units of Social Studies, 3 units of Math & Science, plus 1 unit of Physical Education.
4. **A Senior** is a student who has earned 15½ units of credit, including 3 units of English and 3 units of Social Studies, plus 1½ units of Physical Education, or plans to graduate after three years of high school enrollment and has followed district guidelines for early graduation. Students who could complete high school graduation requirements by August may petition the principal to be granted senior status (deadline October 1<sup>st</sup> of that year)

# New York State Graduation Requirements

LOCAL DIPLOMA		REGENTS DIPLOMA		ADV. DESIGNATION	
Content Area	Credits	Content Area	Credits	Content Area	Credits
English	4	English	4	English	4
Social Studies	4	Social Studies	4	Social Studies	4
Math	3	Math	3	Math	3
Science	3	Science	3	Science	3
LOTE	1*	LOTE	1*	LOTE	3
Fine Art	1	Fine Art	1	Fine Art	1
Health	0.5	Health	0.5	Health	0.5
Physical Education	2	Physical Education	2	Physical Education	2
Electives	3.5	Electives	3.5	Electives	1.5
<b>Total:</b>	22.0	<b>Total:</b>	22.0	<b>Total:</b>	22.0

**Note:**

\*One unit of credit is earned by passing the state LOTE proficiency exam or earning a unit of high school level credit in LOTE.

### Required Regents Exams for Class of 2010 – 2012 & thereafter\*

LOCAL DIPLOMA (See next Class Table of score requirements)	REGENTS DIPLOMA (Passing score of 65 and above)	ADV. DESIGNATION (Passing score of 65 and above)
English Language Arts	English Language Arts	English Language Arts
Math A / Integrated Algebra	Math A / Integrated Algebra	Students entering grade nine prior to Sept 2009 must pass two of the three Regents exams: Math A and Math B, or Math A and Algebra 2 or Trigonometry. Students entering grade nine in Sept 2009 or thereafter must pass all three Regents exams: Math A or Integrated Algebra, Geometry, and Algebra 2 or Trigonometry.
Global History & Geog.	Global History & Geog.	Global History & Geog.
US History & Gov.	US History & Gov.	US History & Gov.
Science Exam	Science Exam	1 Life Science and 1 from Physical Science
		Foreign Language Exam (LOTE)

\*Regents examination scores are used in the calculation of state & local scholarship opportunities.

Year of Graduating Class	LOCAL DIPLOMA	REGENTS DIPLOMA	ADV. DESIGNATION
2010	Score 65 or above on 3 required Regents exams and score 55 or above on 2 required Regents exams. Earn 22 units of credit.	Score 65 or above on 5 required Regents exams. Earn 22 units of credit	Score 65 or above on 8 required Regents exams. Earn 22 units of credit
2011	Score 65 or above on 4 required Regents exams and score 55 or above on 1 required Regents exams. Earn 22 units of credit.	Score 65 or above on 5 required Regents exams. Earn 22 units of credit	Score 65 or above on 8 required Regents exams. Earn 22 units of credit
2012 & Thereafter		Score 65 or above on 5 required Regents exams. Earn 22 units of credit	Score 65 or above on 8 required Regents exams. Earn 22 units of credit

# SCHEDULE PLANNING

## PLANNING YOUR SCHEDULE

Each student is expected to schedule a minimum of five academic classes per semester plus physical education. Schedules calling for fewer than five subjects can be approved only if special circumstances make the normal five subject load inadvisable.

## PLANNING CHECKLIST

As you plan your schedule for this school year, it will be helpful if you will follow this checklist when completing the tentative program worksheet in this course guide.

1. You must take an English course each year of high school.
2. You must take a Social Studies each year of high school.
3. Have you met the mathematics and science requirements?
4. Have you met the health requirement? If not, determine how and when you plan to meet it.
5. Have you met the fine art requirement? If not, determine how and when you plan to meet it.
6. You will be automatically scheduled into the required physical education class unless a physical condition makes it necessary for you to be excused from physical education. If such a condition exists, a doctor's certification is required. Secure the necessary form from the Health Office to be completed by your doctor.
7. If you are seeking an Advanced Designation Regents Diploma, have you taken the necessary subjects? If not, what subjects & regents exams are still needed? Please consult with your counselor if you have any questions regarding your requirements.
8. If you are seeking a Regents Diploma, have you taken or are you planning to take the courses which offer the required Regents Examination and have you signed up for the required second language course?
9. If there is room in your schedule, you should consider additional electives. Using your Student Selection Form, list the electives by priority: i.e., Your first choice, Number 1, your second choice, Number 2, etc.

## DEFINITIONS

**Constant** – Constants are subjects required of all students before graduation.

**Elective** – An elective is a subject that you may choose to take because you are particularly interested in its content. It may or may not be related to your major sequence.

**Prerequisite** – A prerequisite subject is one that is required before a more advanced course can be taken in the same field. (For example, Spanish I is a prerequisite to Spanish II.) Prerequisites are shown as part of the course description for all courses.

**Regents** – A Regents program follows the course of study developed by the New York State Education Department. Certain final examinations are state-wide and are prepared by the State Education Department for administration at prescribed times.

**Sequence** – A sequence consists of 3-5 units in one field of knowledge: e.g., Math, Science, Occupational Education, Art, Music, Second Language, Technology.

**Unit** – One unit of credit is earned for a passing grade in each subject taken for a full year. If a subject is taken for only half the school year, one-half of a unit is earned. A unit of study means at least 180 minutes of instruction per week throughout the school year, or the equivalent.

# Owego Free Academy

## 4 – YEAR EDUCATIONAL PLAN WORKSHEET

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Class of \_\_\_\_\_

**TENTATIVE TYPE OF DIPLOMA**

\_\_\_ NYS ADVANCED REGENTS DIPLOMA

\_\_\_ NYS REGENTS DIPLOMA

\_\_\_ LOCAL DIPLOMA

<b>GRADE 9</b>	<b>CREDIT</b>
ENGLISH	1
GLOBAL HIST. & GEOG. I	1
MATH	1
SCIENCE	1
FOREIGN LANGUAGE	1
ART / MUSIC / TECH.	1
PHYSICAL EDUCATION	½
Elective: _____	_____

Total Credits \_\_\_\_\_

<b>GRADE 10</b>	<b>CREDIT</b>
ENGLISH	1
GLOBAL HIST. & GEOG. II	1
MATH	1
SCIENCE	1
FOREIGN LANGUAGE	1
HEALTH	½
PHYSICAL EDUCATION	½
Elective: _____	_____
Elective: _____	_____

Total Credits \_\_\_\_\_

<b>GRADE 11</b>	<b>CREDIT</b>
ENGLISH	1
US HISTORY & GOV'T	1
MATH	1
SCIENCE	1
PHYSICAL EDUCATION	½
Elective: _____	_____
Elective: _____	_____
Elective: _____	_____

Total Credits \_\_\_\_\_

<b>GRADE 12</b>	<b>CREDIT</b>
ENGLISH	1
ECONOMICS	½
PARTICIPATION IN GOV'T	½
PHYSICAL EDUCATION	½
Elective: _____	_____
Elective: _____	_____
Elective: _____	_____
Elective: _____	_____

Total Credits \_\_\_\_\_

**Students are required to be scheduled for 5.5 units each year.**

# COURSE SELECTION CHECKLIST

## English

- \_\_\_\_\_ English 9
- \_\_\_\_\_ English 9A
- \_\_\_\_\_ English 10
- \_\_\_\_\_ English 10A
- \_\_\_\_\_ English 11
- \_\_\_\_\_ English 11A
- \_\_\_\_\_ English 12
- \_\_\_\_\_ AP English Lit. & Comp.
- \_\_\_\_\_ College English

## Social Studies

- \_\_\_\_\_ Global Hist. & Geo. I
- \_\_\_\_\_ Global Hist. & Geo. IA
- \_\_\_\_\_ Global Hist. & Geo. II
- \_\_\_\_\_ Global Hist. & Geo. IIA
- \_\_\_\_\_ US Hist. & Gov.
- \_\_\_\_\_ AP US History
- \_\_\_\_\_ Economics
- \_\_\_\_\_ Participation in Gov.(PIG)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Psychology
- \_\_\_\_\_ Sociology
- \_\_\_\_\_ Women in US History
- \_\_\_\_\_ 20<sup>th</sup> Century Amer. Hist.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Hist. of Sports in Amer.

## Mathematics

- \_\_\_\_\_ Integrated Algebra
- \_\_\_\_\_ Geometry
- \_\_\_\_\_ Geo/Trig
- \_\_\_\_\_ Math 11B
- \_\_\_\_\_ Math 12
- \_\_\_\_\_ College Calculus

## Science

- \_\_\_\_\_ Earth Science
- \_\_\_\_\_ Living Environment
- \_\_\_\_\_ Chemistry
- \_\_\_\_\_ College Chemistry
- \_\_\_\_\_ Physics
- \_\_\_\_\_ AP Biology
- \_\_\_\_\_ Applied Physical Science
- \_\_\_\_\_ Forensics

## Foreign Language/LOTE

- \_\_\_\_\_ French I
- \_\_\_\_\_ French II
- \_\_\_\_\_ French III
- \_\_\_\_\_ French IV
- \_\_\_\_\_ French V

## LOTE cont'd

- \_\_\_\_\_ Spanish I
- \_\_\_\_\_ Spanish II
- \_\_\_\_\_ Spanish III
- \_\_\_\_\_ Spanish IV
- \_\_\_\_\_ Spanish V

## Technology

- \_\_\_\_\_ Intro. To Eng. Design (IED)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Digital Computer Elec.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Principles of Eng. (POE)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Computer Inte. Mfg. (CIM)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Civil Eng. & Arch. (CEA)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Communications Sys.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Production Systems
- \_\_\_\_\_ Transportation Systems
- \_\_\_\_\_ Wood Technology
- \_\_\_\_\_ Technical Drawing
- \_\_\_\_\_ Architectural Drawing
- \_\_\_\_\_ Video Production
- \_\_\_\_\_ Web Design & Implementation

## Business & Career

- \_\_\_\_\_ Career & Financial Mgmt
- \_\_\_\_\_ Keyboarding & Microsoft Office
- \_\_\_\_\_ Marketing/Advertising
- \_\_\_\_\_ Sports Law, Entertainment Law & Business Law
- \_\_\_\_\_ Web Design & Implementation
- \_\_\_\_\_ Co-op
- \_\_\_\_\_ Youth Apprenticeship

## Physical Education

- \_\_\_\_\_ Physical Education 9-10
- \_\_\_\_\_ Physical Education 11-12
- \_\_\_\_\_ Health/Wellness
- \_\_\_\_\_ Health & Fitness

## Art

- \_\_\_\_\_ Art Exploration
- \_\_\_\_\_ Studio in Art
- \_\_\_\_\_ Drawing & Painting
- \_\_\_\_\_ Drawing 2
- \_\_\_\_\_ Painting 2
- \_\_\_\_\_ Digital Art
- \_\_\_\_\_ Advertising Design
- \_\_\_\_\_ 3D Design
- \_\_\_\_\_ Ceramics & Sculpture
- \_\_\_\_\_ Adv. Studio in Art 12
- \_\_\_\_\_ Printmaking
- \_\_\_\_\_ Photography
- \_\_\_\_\_ Artist's Workshop
- \_\_\_\_\_ Cartooning

## Music

- \_\_\_\_\_ Music Theory I
- \_\_\_\_\_ Music In Our Lives
- \_\_\_\_\_ American Musical Theater
- \_\_\_\_\_ Women's Chorus
- \_\_\_\_\_ Concert Chorus
- \_\_\_\_\_ Chamber Singers
- \_\_\_\_\_ Concert Band
- \_\_\_\_\_ Jazz Band
- \_\_\_\_\_ Jazz Band II

## BOCES Occupational Ed. (Grades 11-12)

- \_\_\_\_\_ Animal Science I/II
- \_\_\_\_\_ Auto Body Repair I/II
- \_\_\_\_\_ Auto Mechanic I/II
- \_\_\_\_\_ Heavy Equip. Repair & Operation I/II (HERO)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Outdoor Power Equip.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Motorcycles
- \_\_\_\_\_ Masonry I/II
- \_\_\_\_\_ Carpentry I/II
- \_\_\_\_\_ Plumbing/Heating I/II
- \_\_\_\_\_ Electricity I/II
- \_\_\_\_\_ Computer Careers I/II
- \_\_\_\_\_ Retail Careers I/II
- \_\_\_\_\_ Video Production I/II
- \_\_\_\_\_ Health Occupations I/II
- \_\_\_\_\_ Computer Aided Design I/II
- \_\_\_\_\_ Computer Repair Tech. I/II
- \_\_\_\_\_ Industrial Welding I/II
- \_\_\_\_\_ Precision CMT I/II
- \_\_\_\_\_ Culinary Arts I/II
- \_\_\_\_\_ Cosmetology I/SS /II
- \_\_\_\_\_ Early Childhood Ed. I/II
- \_\_\_\_\_ Criminal Justice/Security I/II
- \_\_\_\_\_ Hotel & Restaurant Mgmt. I/II

# HONOR ROLL

## HONOR ROLL REQUIREMENTS

The Honor Roll is a computer-generated list based on the quarterly average of all numerically graded courses.

- A. Those courses which report grades once a semester are included in the average in the quarters they are reported.
- B. The Honor Roll is divided into Honors and High Honors levels.  
The Honors level includes averages equal to or greater than 85.00 but less than 92.00  
The High Honors category includes averages equal to or greater than 92.00.
- C. In computing averages and establishing the Honor Roll:  
There is no discrimination between advanced, regents, and local level courses.  
Band and Choir courses are weighted at .5. Physical Education courses are weighted at .5.  
**Any incomplete or failing grade causes disqualification.**

Only full-time students are eligible.

For purposes of Honor Roll, a full-time student is defined as any student enrolled in 5.5 units, (or), Enrolled in a school supervised cooperative program and 2 units.

The Honor Roll is posted and published quarterly as an alphabetical listing by class of those students who qualify at each level.

## RANKING/GRADE POINT AVERAGE (GPA)

Weighted Grades: Recognizing the varying levels of achievement in the different levels of courses offered at OFA, the following Quality Point System is being used to determine class rank.

1. All Advanced Placement courses as well as other college credit bearing courses from four year colleges such as Syracuse University or Rochester Institute of Technology will receive a weighted average of **1.04**.
2. Courses that receive college credit from Tompkins Cortland Community College or Broome Community College as well as advanced level courses such as English 9 Advanced, Global I Advanced, will receive a weight of **1.02**.
3. All other courses will receive a standard weight of **1.0** for a full year course or **.5** for a half year course.

The valedictorian & salutatorian for each graduating class will be determined based on this weighted ranking system.

GPA and Ranking shall be computed at the following times for juniors and seniors:

Juniors: at mid-year and end of the junior year

Seniors: at mid-year and, for the final rank, at the end of the 3<sup>rd</sup> marking period of the senior year.

All courses a student takes shall be included in determining the student's grade point average and rank.

# Advanced Placement Courses

OFA recognizes that the Advanced Placement (AP) program is an honors program. The intent of the program is to provide students with a rigorous academic experience equal to that offered in the first year of a college experience. Teachers, students, parents and administrators must all work together to ensure that the AP program meets the goal of preparing students at the college level of study. Success in the AP program is measured by not only being successful in the classroom, but by successfully taking the AP exam. The AP exam is a required component of the course and includes a fee for the exam determined by the College Board. Actual cost of exam is published each fall.

It is recognized that the increased work load associated with AP courses demands more of the student's efforts. Therefore, a maximum of three AP courses may be taken in a school year, unless prior approval is gained from the AP Committee.

Prerequisites: All students seeking entrance to AP courses must meet the following requirements.

- An 85 cumulative average for the course immediately preceding the AP course in the sequence determined by the department. This average must include an 85 on the Regents exam or similar test for the preceding course.
- A recommendation for placement by a member of the department offering the AP course.
- Completion of all summer assignments preceding the start of classes in September. Students new to the district will be handled by their guidance counselor in this regard after consultation with the teacher.
- Individual courses may have restrictions which must be met by the student.

Performance Requirements: In order to stay in any AP course students must maintain an 85 average. Students who fall below this grade will be removed from the course. The following procedures will determine continued enrollment in the course.

- After 5 weeks: all students below 85 will be counseled, a call will be made to the parents/guardians regarding the student's average and the guidance counselor will be informed by the teacher of the student's grade.
- After 10 weeks: all students below a 75 average will be dropped from the course. The teacher will meet with the student, call the parents and notify the guidance counselor to make the change.
- After 10 weeks: all students between 75 and 84 will be on academic probation. The teacher will meet with the students to develop a plan to raise the student's grade, the teacher will call the parents/guardians to discuss whether the student is best served by remaining in the class and to explain the plan developed with the student, and the teacher will meet with guidance counselor to discuss the continuation of the student in the course.
- After 15 weeks: all students below an 85 cumulative average will go through the same procedure. Students and parents will be encouraged to have a frank discussion regarding what is in the best interest of the student at that time.

- After 20 weeks: all students below an 85 cumulative average will be dropped from the course. Teachers will meet with the student to discuss the reasons for being dropped from the course, will call the parents/guardians to explain the reasons for the drop and will meet with the guidance counselor to arrange the schedule change. Students will be transferred to an equivalent course, if possible. Students without an equivalent course will be assigned to a study hall or an elective course.

It is recognized that success in AP courses is dependent on a rigorous program throughout the high school years. Therefore, all of the above criteria for the AP program should apply to the “A” sections in any department for incoming 9<sup>th</sup> graders and incoming 10<sup>th</sup> graders.

Courses offered at Owego Free Academy are listed with a brief synopsis of the curriculum. The unit credit is one unless indicated by (½). The courses are intended for the year (grade) indicated. Special permission must be obtained if the course is to be taken another year.

# ART

## ART EXPLORATION

### 1 credit

Students will explore several art disciplines. Topics will include two and three dimensional art experiences, art movements and styles of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, and the principles of design. Students will draw and paint using water and tempera paints. They will also be introduced to utilitarian crafts such as bookbinding. All projects will incorporate the principles of design and the elements of art. (No Prerequisite)

## STUDIO IN ART

### 1 credit

This is the first course for Art Majors, and the prerequisite course for a sequence in art. Only serious art students should take this intensive basic course. Instruction includes a minimum of 20 weeks of basic drawing skills and the fundamentals of art. Students will explore principles of design, elements of art, and color theory. Sketchbooks will be developed and homework will be assigned.

## DRAWING AND PAINTING

### 1 credit (Grades 10-12)

This full year course exposes the student to a variety of drawing materials and techniques. Skills are developed in drawing objects, portraits, figures, architecture, landscapes, and still lives. Instruction continues with application of drawing techniques relating to painting skills and the use of color. Painting media on a variety of surfaces includes pastels, opaque and translucent watercolor, and acrylics. Historical sequence of various painting movements and artists are studied. Sketchbook is required for homework assignments. (*Prerequisite – Studio in Art*)

## DRAWING 2

### ½ credit (Grades 11 & 12)

This half year course will continue to expand and expose students to a variety of drawing media and subject matter. Students will continue to learn how to use composition and space using different approaches to represent form and space, such as rendering, gesture, painterly, expressionistic, stylized, or abstract form. Content will be derived from observation, an expressionistic view point, social commentary and/or political statements. (*Prerequisite – Studio in Art, Drawing & Painting*)

## **PAINTING 2**

**½ credit**

This half year course will continue your journey into painting. You will be presented painting exercises along with related drawings, discussions, and journal writing exercises. Together they will help teach you not only how to paint, but how to decide what you want to say in a painting and how to respond analytically to your work while it is being created. (*Prerequisite – Studio in Art, Drawing & Painting*)

## **DIGITAL ART**

**½ credit** (Grades 11-12)

Art and technology combine to give students an opportunity to create original art for the 21<sup>st</sup> century. Students will create art through such process as image scanning, digital photography and the use of digital drawing tablets. Adobe Photoshop CS2 will play an important role in photo and drawing manipulation. Research into cutting edge techniques and digital artists will coordinate with the artworks. Students will need to provide storage for their files (CDRW or USB thumb drive). (*Prerequisite – Studio in Art plus Drawing & Painting 1*)

## **ADVERTISING DESIGN**

**½ credit** (Grades 11-12)

This course applies the principles of Studio in Art to advertising, fashion, typography, illustration and display arts. Emphasis is placed on lettering, drawing for reproduction, idea development, package design, poster design, and advertising layout. (*Prerequisite – Studio in Art, Drawing & Painting*)

## **3-D DESIGN**

### **Ceramics and Sculpture**

**1 credit** (Grades 11-12)

This full year class will explore two areas of concentration. Ceramics will explore a wide variety of experiences in hand building techniques. Emphasis will be placed on functional as well as nonfunctional pottery. Glazing, surface treatment and kiln firing will be covered.

Sculpture will continue the adventure as you learn and work in 3-dimensional space. Techniques include carving, modeling, assemblage and bas-relief. Art history and Synectics (creative thinking skills) will be used throughout the course. Materials used include clay, plaster, found objects, wire, wood, and sometimes stone. Sketchbook is required and any additional supplies you may need that are not available in the classroom. (*Prerequisite – Studio in Art*)

## **ADVANCED STUDIO ART 12**

**1 credit** (Grade 12)

This course is for Senior Art majors who plan to pursue a career in art. It is intended to offer the student a college level art curriculum in the high school environment. It is an intensive, rigorous program and requires more time than traditional offerings. A variety of successfully completed art classes will be an advantage. Advanced Studio Art will be offered only 1 period everyday this year. Emphasis will be placed on elements and principles of art and how they apply to drawing, painting, design, and three dimensional projects. Portfolio preparation will be offered at this time for students that need slides or CD's for admissions. (*Prerequisite – Studio in Art & 2 additional Art credits*)

## **PRINTMAKING**

**½ credit** (Grades 11-12)

Printmaking explores a variety of experiences in producing multiple images involving linoleum, wood blocks, monoprints, silk screen, etching, embossing, lithography, and photography. Drawing and color knowledge as well as the elements and principles of design will be an integral part of the course. Sketchbook is required. (*Prerequisite – Studio in Art*)

## **PHOTOGRAPHY**

**½ credit** (Grade 12)

This senior elective course is offered for the Art major interested in learning how to create visual images on films with a camera. Composition, developing and enlarging will comprise most of the course. (*Prerequisite: 4 ½ units in art electives*)

## **ARTISTS' WORKSHOP**

**½ credit**

This course offers an innovative exciting format to allow students of all art levels to interact with local artists, and create original art works. Local artists will work with students, sharing work, ideas, techniques, and motivations first hand. Students will research, sketch and develop ideas for an original art work, inspired by the artist. (*No prerequisite*)

## **CARTOONING**

**½ credit**

Students will study the history of cartoons, develop characters using drawing skills, and create an original comic strip using traditional and non-traditional techniques. The elements of art and the principles of design will be incorporated in the creation of the finished pieces. Finished works will be displayed in various exhibits and could appear in school publications. This course is designed for all students. Manga cartooning and digital artwork is an option for some of the projects. Students will also use ink and paints to create a fully developed comic strip. (*No prerequisite*)



# BUSINESS AND CAREER COURSE OFFERINGS

Are you planning on owning your own business? How about managing a business? Are you interested in a career in finance, banking, insurance, or the stock market? Do you plan on going to college as a business major? These courses will start you on your way.

## **CAREER AND FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT**

**½ credit**

RECOMMENDED FOR ALL STUDENTS. Choices!?! Choices!?! We all have to make choices. Afraid to make decisions regarding your career, personal finances and living? Join this class and learn about personal banking, credit and budgeting, income tax, insurance, buying vs. leasing, and much more. This course can be used for Intro to Occupations credit.

## **KEYBOARDING & MICROSOFT OFFICE**

**1 credit**

Designed specifically with the needs of high school students in mind, the first five weeks of this course will provide students with the skills necessary to operate a keyboard using proper keyboarding technique. Emphasis is on accuracy and correct key stroking techniques. Students will then use these keyboarding skills to enhance their proficiency in the Microsoft applications-- Word, Access, Excel and PowerPoint. This course will also provide students the skills necessary for planning and creating desktop-published documents using Publisher. This course also provides instruction on the proper formatting for research papers, letters and tables. RECOMMENDED FOR ALL STUDENTS!!!!

## **MARKETING/ADVERTISING**

**1 credit**

Marketing is one of the most interesting business subjects. We see examples of marketing all around us every day of our lives. Marketing comes alive through in-class projects, group activities, field trips, and guest speakers. Come join the fun.

## **SPORTS LAW, ENTERTAINMENT LAW AND BUSINESS LAW**

### **1 credit**

This course will present the law to students in a way that is relevant, challenging, and motivating. There is a rich mixture of sports and entertainment law, combined with a strong foundation of business law. The student's attention is focused on both the substance and process of our legal system. As a result, they encounter and explore many important social and ethical issues. Students also examine practical issues related to their daily lives, both now and in the future.

## **WEB DESIGN AND IMPLEMENTATION**

### **½ credit**

This course presents introductions to many of the basic concepts, issues and techniques related to designing, developing and deploying Web sites. During the course, students will learn about Web design, HTML, XHTML, basic JavaScript, Dynamic HTML, Applets, and Cascading Style Sheets (CSS). Students will learn how to create sites both manually and through the use of Web site developmental software.

## **CO-OP**

### **1 credit**

A work experience that allows the student to apply classroom techniques to an actual business setting. Students work from two to four hours a day and receive minimum wage as well as 1 unit of credit. In order to participate, each student must be enrolled in an occupational-related course.

## **YOUTH APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAM**

**(School to Careers Partnership of Broome and Tioga Counties)**

The Youth Apprenticeship Program is designed to offer high school **juniors** and **seniors** the opportunity to see direct connections between school learning and employment while working in their occupational field of interest. Students apply and interview for paid positions in local companies during the spring semester.

Youth apprentices leave school for part of the day (if their schedule allows) and usually work 10-20 hours per week, rotating through a series of placements at the work site. In each rotation, apprentices work under the direction of a coach or mentor. Summer employment is at the discretion of the employer. Students must provide their own transportation.

The New York State Education Department has approved youth apprenticeship as a Career and Technical Education (CTE) program where students earn regents credit for their successful participation in the program. Students in the two-year program receive a total of 5 credits (2 each year for the work experience/1 for the senior project). Students in the one-year option for seniors receive a total of 3 credits (2 for the work experience/1 for the senior project).

Students learn marketable job skills such as: communications skills, time management, responsibility, teamwork, professional ethics, and computer competencies. They also learn a host of technical competencies that are aligned with the NYS Learning Standards for Career Development and Occupational Studies (CDOS). The following companies have previously offered positions.

**Business and Information Systems**

GHS Federal Credit Union  
Broome County Clerk's Office\*\*  
Broome County Information Technology  
Columbian Life Insurance Company\*\*  
Good Shepherd-Fairview Home  
HealthNow NY

Lockheed Martin Systems Integration  
Maines Paper & Food Service, Inc.  
Owego-Apalachin Central School District  
The Raymond Corporation\*  
Willow Run Foods, Inc.

**Hospitality Management**

Endwell Greens

**Manufacturing and Engineering**

Endicott Interconnect Technologies  
IBM Corporation  
Lockheed Martin Systems Integration

**Human and Public Service**

Coughlin & Gerhart, LLP  
Levene, Gouldin, & Thompson, LLP\*\*  
IBM Corporation

**Health Care**

Good Shepard-Fairview Home  
Lourdes Hospital\*  
Progressive Dental  
Willow Point Nursing Home\*

**Natural and Agricultural Sciences**

Chenango Animal Hospital\*\*

\*One-Year Option    \*\*Two-Year Option    All others may offer both types.

# ENGLISH

## **ENGLISH 9**

### **1 credit**

This course reflects the New York State English Language Arts Standards and, therefore, is designed to develop success and mastery on the Comprehensive English Regents Exam given in Grade 11. Units are organized thematically, provide for a variety of interests, and cover all literary genres. Additionally, students are required to read several books independently throughout the year.

## **ENGLISH 10**

### **1 credit**

This course offers opportunities for improvement in reading, writing, speaking, and listening, based on the New York State Language Arts Standards, as well as continued preparation for success and mastery on the Comprehensive English Regents Exam. Literature is explored through thematic units and units based on individual genres. Students also read independently during the course of the year.

## **ENGLISH 11**

### **1 credit**

This course develops reading, writing, speaking and listening skills as outlined in the New York State English Language Arts Standards. Units and assessments are designed to produce success and mastery on the Comprehensive English Regents Exam. The curriculum emphasizes American literature, thus providing the student with perspective on its historical development. In general, units are organized around longer works of literature. Independent reading is also an integral part of the course.

## **ENGLISH 9A, 10A, & 11A**

### **1 credit**

These courses are designed for students who have excelled in English Language Arts and who would profit from a more in-depth and challenging level of study and commitment. Students are expected to maintain a minimum average of 85 at each quarter to remain in advanced English. Prerequisites for admittance to class in September include the following: an on-demand writing sample reviewed by English Department (done in June or before), exemplary completion of summer assignments according to due dates, reading of previous advanced course required selections, and a recommendation with no hesitation by the student's current English teacher. Students must sign up for this course by the end of the previous school year.

## **ENGLISH 12**

### **1 credit**

English 12 is a full year course required of all seniors, unless they are enrolled in Advanced English 12. It encompasses expository and creative writing, public speaking, and literature. The course is designed to prepare students for the challenges they will face upon graduation.

## **AP ENGLISH LITERATURE & COMPOSITION**

### **1 credit**

Advanced Placement English Literature and Composition engages students in the careful reading and critical analysis of imaginative literature. Through close readings of selected texts, students should deepen their understanding of the ways writers use language to provide both meaning and pleasure for their readers. As they read, students will consider a work's structure, style, and themes, as well as such smaller scale elements as the use of figurative language, imagery, symbolism, and tone. Students are expected to take the AP test in May. Colleges offer varying rewards for scores of 3 or higher on the exam. The cost of the exam is set by the College Board.

## **COLLEGE ENGLISH**

### **1 credit**

College English prepares students for the analytical academic reading, writing, and thinking expected of college students as they pursue various undergraduate majors. First semester focuses on analytical writing, including a research paper. Second semester focuses on reading and on theories about how meaning is created. The readings include a variety of imaginative and informative texts, including plays, short stories, and novels. Tuition-paying students earn six semester hour credits from Syracuse University for successful completion of the course. Tuition is set by Syracuse University.

# FOREIGN LANGUAGE/ LOTE – (Language Other Than English)

**NOTE:** As admissions criteria for college entrance continues to become more competitive, it is strongly advised that students take at least 3 credits of foreign language. Many two and four year colleges now have specific language requirements. It is highly recommended that a student research the admissions requirements for his/her prospective colleges.

## **FRENCH I**

### **1 credit**

This course introduces the student to the French language and culture. The five skills of listening, speaking, reading, writing, and culture in the target language are developed. Students will be presented with the functional vocabulary and expressions found in the New York State Syllabus. Upon successful completion of this course, students will have met the requirements for Checkpoint A, as stated in the State Syllabus. This is a pre-requisite for French II. This course will also be appropriate for entering 9<sup>th</sup> graders who need more contact time with the language to ensure success at the higher levels. (Not always offered every year.)

## **FRENCH II**

### **1 credit**

This course continues with the development of the five basic language skills: speaking, listening, reading, writing and culture. Continued emphasis will be placed on functional communication. The first half of the high school Regents sequence is accomplished, Checkpoint B in the New York Syllabus.

## **FRENCH III**

### **1 credit\***

This course serves as the second half of the Regents sequence in French. New York Syllabus Checkpoint B is attained as students successfully complete the Comprehensive Regents Exam in June. Stress is placed on accuracy and mastery of all materials presented in Checkpoints A and B.

## **FRENCH IV**

### **1 credit\***

Increased language usage is a major goal of this course. Students are encouraged to use the knowledge they have attained in personally meaningful contexts. Greater precision is expected with all language skills as students are exposed to poetry, short stories, plays, contemporary music, and culture. Increased vocabulary and grammar knowledge are fundamentals to this course.

## **FRENCH V**

### **1 credit**

This course is open to students who have successfully completed French IV with an appropriate degree of mastery. This course helps students develop:

- A. the ability to understand spoken French in various contexts;
- B. a French vocabulary sufficiently ample for reading newspaper and magazine articles, literary texts, and other non-technical writings without dependence on a dictionary; and
- C. the ability to express themselves coherently, resourcefully, and with reasonable fluency and accuracy in both written and spoken French.

## **SPANISH I**

### **1 credit**

This course introduces the student to the Spanish language and culture. The five skills of listening, speaking, reading, writing, and culture in the target language are developed. Students will be presented with functional vocabulary and expressions found in the New York State Syllabus. Upon successful completion of this course, students will have met the requirements for Checkpoint A, as stated in the State Syllabus. This is a pre-requisite for Spanish II. This course will also be appropriate for entering 9<sup>th</sup> graders who need more time with the language to ensure success at the higher levels.

## **SPANISH II**

### **1 credit**

Students will continue to develop their Spanish language skills: listening, speaking, reading, writing and also work towards developing greater cultural understandings. The emphasis of the course is on communication in Spanish. The first half of Checkpoint B in the New York State Syllabus defines the learning goals of this course.

## **SPANISH III**

### **1 credit\***

As the third sequence in the Spanish program, this course enables the student to improve listening and reading comprehension, refine speaking skills and increase the vocabulary learned during the first two years of language study. Students will take the New York State Regents examination at the conclusion of this course and upon passing the exam, will receive three units of Regents credit.

## **SPANISH IV**

### **1 credit\***

Students enrolled in this course will improve their Spanish language skills through further study of Spanish grammar, literature, and culture. Composition and conversation as well as the study of advanced grammatical structures are required to achieve fluency and accuracy in the Spanish language. The course is conducted entirely in Spanish and communicative competence is stressed. (Pre-requisite: appropriate level of mastery attained in Spanish III.)

## **SPANISH V**

### **1 credit\***

This course will enable students to refine their Spanish language communication skills as they work with a variety of Hispanic learning sources. The course will help students to develop cross-cultural insights into Hispanic cultures, values, and traditions. The academic and cultural topics of the course will come from sources such as Hispanic literature and art, popular music, radio and television media, the Internet, and current events. The students will develop greater proficiency in Spanish through class discussions, individual and group presentations, reading/textual analysis, and composition writing. They will also develop greater accuracy in grammar as they practice and analyze it in context. (Pre-requisite: appropriate level of mastery attained in Spanish IV.)

\* Available for 3 hours of college credit through Tompkins Cortland Community College.

# MATHEMATICS

## INTEGRATED ALGEBRA

### 1 credit

This course is our initial high school math offering. It introduces topics in Number Sense and Operations, Algebra, Geometry, Measurement and Probability and Statistics. It is based on the New York State Learning Standards. It is geared toward sitting for the Integrated Algebra Regents exam at the end of the year.

## GEOMETRY

### 1 credit

This course is a second course in mathematics for high school students. It has an integrated approach to the study of geometric relationships. Topics will include: transformations, coordinate geometry, congruence and similarity of triangles, properties of triangles, quadrilaterals, and circles. These topics will be established using appropriate theorems. Geometry is meant to lead students to an understanding that reasoning and proof are fundamental aspects of mathematics. This course culminates with a Regents exam in June. (*Prerequisite—Successful completion of Integrated Algebra*)

## GEO/TRIG

### 1 credit

Geo/Trig is a second course in mathematics for high school students. This course is presented in a less rigorous manner with less emphasis on geometric proofs. Topics will include logic, geometric relationships, congruent triangles, triangle properties, polygons, quadrilaterals, coordinate geometry, systems of equations, circles, trigonometric functions, rational expressions, radicals and exponents. This course culminates with a Non-Regents final exam in June. (*Prerequisite—Successful completion of Integrated Algebra*)

## MATH 11B

### 1 credit

This course is the final year of the three year integrated math sequence. Topics include polynomials, geometry and formal proofs, functions - exponential, logarithmic and trigonometric. The graphing calculator will be incorporated extensively into the course material. Students will sit for the Math B Regents exam at the conclusion of this course.

## MATHEMATICS 12

### 1 credit

Continuation of the work in algebra from Math 11B, and additional topics of rational integral functions of the  $n^{\text{th}}$  degree, graphing polynomial functions, conic sections, polar coordinates, sequences, and an introduction to limits, derivatives and integrals. Available for 6 hours of college credit through Tompkins Cortland Community College.

## COLLEGE CALCULUS

### 1 credit

This is a college level course offered through Tompkins Cortland Community. Topics include functions and limits/continuity, the derivative and its applications, the integral and its applications and transcendental functions. Available for 4 hours of college credit.

# MUSIC

## MUSIC THEORY I

### 1 credit

Music Theory I is designed for students wishing to learn more about the basic skills and understanding of music theory and composition. While not exclusive to student musicians, it is highly encouraged that the student taking music theory already have a background in music literacy (reading music). Students will study the elements of music notation and understanding, with an emphasis on ear-training and composition. This is a required course for students wishing to pursue a three credit Music sequence for graduation.

## MUSIC IN OUR LIVES

### ½ credit

Music in our Lives is a general music class designed to help students broaden their knowledge of music throughout the world, and encourage them to listen to a wide variety of musical styles. Students will learn to value music in their own lives and as an essential ingredient in the lives of all humans. Through a variety of activities, students will cover such topics as: Music in America, Music in Other Cultures, The Function of Music in Society, Music of Our Generation, and Music of Diverse Styles. Students will have the opportunity to explore their own musical preferences, as well as be exposed to new and unfamiliar musical genres. There is no pre-requisite for this course.

## AMERICAN MUSICAL THEATER

### ½ credit

This course presents students with an overview of the development of American Musical Theater from 1890-present. Aspects of theater production that will be covered include writing, acting, singing, choreography, costuming, makeup, set design and backstage technical support. Students will understand how music, art, dance and theater come together to create a successful performance. Students will have the opportunity to be involved in a musical production. There is no pre-requisite for this course.

# CHORUS

## WOMEN'S CHORUS

### ½ credit

Women's Chorus is a music performance class in which students will sing a variety of literature written for women's voices. Students will learn the techniques of singing, the skills of sight-reading and musicianship, and a greater appreciation for music. Weekly attendance at voice lessons is a requirement of this course. Attendance at all regularly scheduled performances is a requirement for this course. Women's Chorus is open to any female student at OFA.

## **CONCERT CHORUS**

**½ credit**

Concert Choir is a music performance class in which students will sing a variety of choral literature. Students will learn the techniques of singing, the skills of sight-reading and musicianship, and a greater appreciation for music. Weekly attendance at voice lessons is a requirement of this course. Attendance at all regularly scheduled performances is a requirement for this course. Concert Choir is open to any male student at OFA and to females by recommendation of the director.

## **CHAMBER SINGERS**

**½ credit**

Chamber Singers is a music performance class in which students will sing a variety of intermediate to advanced choral literature. Chamber Singers perform at many school and community events. Students who are in Chamber Singers are also expected to be members of Concert Choir, thus making weekly attendance at all voice lessons a requirement of this course. Attendance at all scheduled performances is a requirement for this course. Membership is through audition only - Auditions for Chamber Singers will take place in May/June of the previous academic year.

# **BAND**

## **CONCERT BAND**

**½ credit**

Concert Band is a music performance class in which students will study standard concert band literature at the Intermediate through Advanced Level. Weekly attendance at class music lessons is a requirement of the course. Students are expected to perform at any concert appearances given by the group. Spring Parade Band performances are also a requirement of the class.

## **JAZZ BAND**

**½ credit**

Jazz Band is a music performance class in which students will study Advanced Level “Big Band” jazz literature. Section rehearsals, which are scheduled as music lessons, are a class requirement. Students are also encouraged to study jazz improvisation as a part of this class. Students are expected to perform at any concert appearances given by the group. Membership is through audition and/or by recommendation of the instructor.

## **JAZZ BAND II**

**½ credit**

Jazz Band II is a music performance class in which students will study Intermediate Level “Big Band” jazz literature. This class is suggested for students who hope to eventually enroll in the Jazz Band class. Section rehearsals, which are scheduled as music lessons, are a class requirement. Students are also encouraged to study jazz improvisation as a part of this class. Students are expected to perform at any concert appearances given by the group. Membership is through audition and/or by recommendation of the instructor.

# PHYSICAL EDUCATION

The New York State Education Department requires each student to participate in the physical education program. NYS graduates will have to show a level of proficiency and/or competency in a number of physical activities. Students graduating from Owego Free Academy must complete four years of this requirement. All students are expected to attend 80% of the classes and be appropriately dressed for the scheduled activities. All students are tested and encouraged to reach a personal level of health related fitness.

## PHYSICAL EDUCATION

$\frac{1}{2}$  credit

**9<sup>TH</sup> – 10<sup>TH</sup> GRADE** – This is a co-educational program with the emphasis placed on skill development and team activities that will help lead into lifelong fitness. Students will be provided with a different activity every 5 weeks for a total of 10 units throughout the school year.

**11<sup>TH</sup> – 12<sup>TH</sup> GRADE** – This is a co-educational program with the emphasis placed on lifetime sports activities, personal fitness, specialized health related topics and variations of other sports. Students will select a new activity every 5 weeks for a total of 10 units throughout the school year.

**SWIM** – It is a requirement that all students pass 2 years of swim while at OFA. All 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> grade students are required to take a unit of swim while it becomes an elective activity for 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> graders who have already met the requirement. Emphasis is placed on lifelong fitness while learning basic swimming strokes and survival techniques.

## PHYSICAL EDUCATION – GRADING

Students' grades are broken down and each unit based on the following criteria:

1. **Participation – 50 %** - 50 points out of 100 are based on participation in class as defined by the rubric standard for that particular activity. You will receive from 1-5 points for your daily participation.
2. **Preparation – 15 %** - 15 points out of 100 are based on your daily preparation for class – changing into appropriate attire (shorts, sweats, t-shirt, socks, SNEAKERS, no jeans).
3. **Quiz – 15 %** - 15 points out of 100 are based on a paper and pencil quiz given in each activity. Students will be required to know basic rules, techniques and strategies for each activity.
4. **Skill – 20 %** - 20 points out of 100 are based on a standard of skill for each activity. No student will receive less than 14 points for a skill level thus promoting students to try unfamiliar activities.

# HEALTH

## HEALTH EDUCATION

**½ credit** (Required Course)

Health at the High School level is the culmination of a comprehensive K–12 Health Education Program. The desired results are students who will demonstrate knowledge, skills and attitudes necessary for choosing a healthy lifestyle. Using the basic core of information developed at the elementary and intermediate levels, the student is offered the opportunity to investigate and formulate his or her own personal philosophy concerning health issues facing adolescents today. The course is student oriented with discussions, cooperative group activities, performance assessments and other formal and informal opportunities for individual expression. Topics covered include Wellness, Mental Health, Personal Development and Decision Making, Parenting, Nutrition, Exercise for Fitness, and Substance Use and Abuse.

## HEALTH & FITNESS

**½ credit** (Elective)

This is an elective course for where students will closely examine their understanding of, and current status in the elements of health. They will be exposed to the components of physical fitness and be able to plan and write an individual exercise prescription, which they will implement during class using the fitness facilities at OFA. Cardiovascular risk management, nutrition and increasing or maintaining a productive level of energy, all which contribute to an improved quality of life, will be discussed.

# SCIENCE

## EARTH SCIENCE

### 1 credit

This course is designed to develop problem solving skills while investigating earth processes. Concentrates study in the areas of: earth measurement, rocks and minerals, the dynamic crust, landscape development, geologic history, meteorology, astronomy, and environmental awareness. A minimum of thirty accredited hours in the laboratory is required to take the Earth Science Regents exam.

## LIVING ENVIRONMENT

### 1 credit

Designed to provide broad general understanding in the areas of biochemistry, human physiology, reproduction and development modern genetics, modern evolution theory, and ecology. A minimum of thirty accredited hours in the laboratory is required to take the Living Environment Regents exam.

## CHEMISTRY

### 1 credit

Investigates the areas of: energy and matter, atomic structure and radioactivity, bonding, the Periodic Table, mathematics of chemistry, kinetics and equilibrium, acid-base theories, redox and electrochemistry, and organic chemistry. A minimum of thirty accredited hours in the laboratory is required to take the Chemistry Regents exam. (*Prerequisite – 2 Units of Math*)

## COLLEGE CHEMISTRY

### 1 credit (Grades 10-12)

College Chemistry is a college level introductory chemistry course for which students can earn college credits through Tompkins-Cortland Community College. College Chemistry covers the same topics as Regents Chemistry, but goes into much greater depth. Laboratory work done in College Chemistry involves advanced concepts and calculations. Students that take this course will have an opportunity to better understand and discuss applications of concepts in chemistry. Students enrolled in this course are also welcome to take the Advanced Placement Chemistry Exam in May if they are interested. (Pre-requisite- Regents Chemistry)

## PHYSICS

### 1 credit (Grades 11-12)

Concentrates study in the areas of mechanics, energy, electricity and magnetism, wave motion and atomic physics. A minimum of thirty accredited hours in the laboratory is required to take the Physics Regents exam. (*Prerequisite – 2 Units of Math*)

## AP BIOLOGY

### 1 credit

Advance Placement Biology is the equivalent of an introductory level college course for biology majors. It is designed to be taken by high school students after the completion of a first course in biology and one course in chemistry. AP Biology is divided into three major areas, including organisms and populations, molecules and cells, and heredity and evolution. This class also includes a lab period that meets every other day. The Advanced Placement exam, given in May, is the deciding factor in the granting of college credit. Please see page 13/14 for class expectations. (*Prerequisite – Chemistry*)

## **APPLIED PHYSICAL SCIENCE**

### **1 credit (Grades 11-12)**

This course is designed to enable students to gain an understanding of the connections between physics, chemistry, earth science, and other areas of science. Focus will be on comprehension of the physical world and its basic rules. Science technologies and industrial processes in a variety of industries will be studied. This is a non-regents level science course which will meet the New York State graduation requirements; however it may not meet the admission criteria of some four year colleges. Please talk with your counselor about the appropriateness of this course in terms of your future plans.

## **FORENSICS**

### **1 credit (Grades 11-12)**

Did you ever wonder how law enforcement agencies solve their crimes? Sometimes science helps! Forensic science begins at the scene of the crime and offers the technology of science for the definition and enforcement of law. Some topics that will be discussed are: crime scene analysis, physical evidence, fingerprinting, forensic toxicology, DNA fingerprinting, and forensic serology. In order to merge theory with practice, a hands-on approach will be taken in presentation of all course materials. Students will apply the scientific knowledge they acquire to solve these criminal problems just as a detective or member of the police crime lab might do. This is a non-regents level science course and may not meet the admission criteria of some four year colleges. Please talk with your counselor about the appropriateness of this course.

# **SOCIAL STUDIES**

## **GLOBAL HISTORY & GEOGRAPHY I**

### **1 credit**

Global History & Geography I is the first of a two-year course that will end with a Global History & Geography Regents exam in the second year. Students will study the history of the world in chronological order, beginning with the Neolithic Age and ending with the Congress of Vienna (1815). Teaching and learning will focus on the development and interaction of social, cultural, political, economic, and religious systems in different regions of the world at different times.

## **GLOBAL HISTORY & GEOGRAPHY II**

### **1 credit**

This course ends with the Global History & Geography Regents examination based on curriculum presented in both Global History & Geography I and Global History & Geography II. This chronological survey will begin with the Industrial Revolution and will end with students studying the connections and interactions between various groups in the world today. Industrialization, imperialism, colonialism, nationalism, independence, collective security and interdependence will link this study of the global community.

## **GLOBAL HISTORY & GEOGRAPHY IA, IIA**

### **1 credit**

These courses are designed for students who have excelled in social studies and who would profit from a challenging level of study and commitment. Students are expected to maintain a minimum average of 85 at each quarter to remain in the advanced class.

## **US HISTORY & GOVERNMENT**

### **1 credit**

This course begins with a concentrated study of the US Constitution, set in the context of its origins in the early years of the nation. The remainder of the course will be a chronological study of the history of the United States since the founding of the Nation. Constitutional and legal issues will be explored in depth, as will the problems of a dynamic and industrial society in the world setting. The course ends with the US History & Government Regents examination.

## **AP US HISTORY**

### **1 credit**

This course handles US History at a college level depth and pace. Students will be required to take both the NYS Regents and the AP Exam. Please see page 13/14 for class expectations.

## **ECONOMICS**

### **½ credit**

The study of economics will develop an understanding of major economic concepts and systems. Students will explore the principles of economic decision making and the interdependence of economics and economic systems throughout the world. This course will emphasize the development and application of the skills needed to make informed and well-reasoned economic decisions in daily and national life.

## **PARTICIPATION IN GOVERNMENT**

**½ credit**

To be part of decision-making processes in local, state, national and international communities, students will acquire the skills necessary for analyzing and judging actual and proposed policies. Students will learn how to participate effectively in government.

## **PSYCHOLOGY**

**½ credit** (Grades 11-12)

This introductory course will present the students with the challenge of increasing their knowledge and understanding of themselves. The students will learn about those factors that influence human behavior so that they will be able to cope with and accept themselves and others. Some of the topics to be studied are: Perception, Learning, Memory, Motivation, Personality, and Therapy.

## **SOCIOLOGY**

**½ credit** (Grades 11-12)

This introductory course will be a contemporary study of people living in groups. A brief account of the relationship of sociology to the other social sciences will lead students to the main topics of: Values and Social Control, Deviance, Socialization, Social Problems, Culture, Group Interaction, Social Stratification and Institutions. Current issues such as: Crime, the Elderly, Racism, Violence, Crime & Punishments and the Changing Role of Women are topics that are investigated. The writing of a thesis paper on one of the topics covered in class is a course requirement. Available for 3 hours of college credit through Tompkins Cortland Community College.

## **WOMEN IN US HISTORY**

**½ credit** (Grades 11-12)

This course will emphasize the experiences of women in the United States from colonial times to the present. Among the topics to be discussed are: Women's Familial Roles, the Changing Nature of Household Work, Racial and Ethnic Differences in Women's Experiences, the Women's Rights Movement, Employment of Women Outside the Home, and Contemporary Feminism. Available for 3 hours of college credit through Tompkins Cortland Community College.

## **20<sup>th</sup> CENTURY AMERICAN HISTORY**

**½ credit** (Grades 11 – 12)

The course is a dual-faceted course. A history of both 20<sup>th</sup> century American History and the history of the United States following World War II will be covered. The course will focus on how political, economic and social developments shaped the conditions, attitudes and values of present day America. Subjects to be discussed in readings and in class include: American involvement in the World Wars, Reform Eras, the Fifties, the Civil Rights Movement, the Vietnam War, Johnson's Great Society, Watergate, the Reagan Years and events in recent history. The course will look at major events and issues in great detail.

## **HISTORY OF SPORTS IN AMERICA**

**½ credit** (Grades 11 – 12)

Sports are and have been a reflection of American society. This course will exam the history of sport in America and look at its impact on issues of class, race, gender, ethnicity, culture, nationalism, economics, consumerism and the media. Among the topics to be discussed are: Traditional Sporting Culture, Emergence of Modern Sports, Race and Sports, Gender and Sports, Olympics and Nationalism, and the Modern Economics of Sports.

# TECHNOLOGY EDUCATION

## **DEPARTMENT NOTE:**

Students enrolled in a Technology sequence must elect two of the three Systems courses and two of the three Foundation courses. A five-unit Technology sequence does not require three years of a foreign language. Only those students completing a sequence of not less than 5 units of credit in Career and Technical Education may substitute another 3-unit or 5-unit sequence in place of the three units of a language other than English (100.5d). When considering this option, please discuss with your school counselor.

College credit is available as an option for some courses through Rochester Institute of Technology (RIT) and/or through Broome Community College (BCC). BCC requires the completion of an HS-1 form while enrolled in the high school course to be eligible for credit. RIT college credit contingent upon class average of 85 or better and passing an RIT final exam.

## **Project Lead the Way Pre-Engineering Course Sequence**

Introduction to Engineering Design (IED)  
Digital Computer Electronics  
Principles of Engineering  
Computer Integrated Manufacturing (CIM)  
Civil Engineering and Architecture (CEA)



**Portfolio Requirement:** Each *Project Lead the Way* course requires the completion and saving of a portfolio. In the final course, CEA, the student will compile in a portfolio his/her best work from all PLTW courses.

## **INTRODUCTION TO ENGINEERING DESIGN – IED**

RIT College 4 Credit Course

BCC College 2 Credit Course (EGR 150)

Grades 9-10 (Foundation Course)

### **1 credit**

IED provides the student with the opportunity to be creative and to apply their decision-making and problem-solving skills to design problems. Each student will use powerful hardware and Autodesk Inventor software to develop 3-D models and solid renderings of objects. Using a Computer Aided Design System, you will learn the product design process through creating, analyzing, rendering and producing a model. The course follows the syllabus for Design and Drawing for Production. This course is a Technology Education course and can be used as a substitute for the Visual Arts/Music requirement for graduation. IED is the first course in the Project Lead the Way Pre-Engineering sequence. Students are required to complete and save a portfolio.

## **DIGITAL COMPUTER ELECTRONICS**

RIT College 4 Credit Course

Grade 10 (Elective Course)

### **1 credit**

Digital Electronics is a full year lab and lecture course in what engineers call digital logic. The use of digital circuits is increasing so rapidly that it is hard to imagine the limits. You'll be introduced to the digital circuits found in computers, watches, calculators, microwave ovens, musical instruments, video games, and thousands of other devices. You'll look at how digital devices control automated equipment. Investigate some real world application of the math and science learned in your high school classes. Students will use the electronic design package called Circuit Maker as well as the actual component parts of electronic devices in the course. Digital Electronics enhances college acceptance into engineering and technical programs. Students are required to complete and save a portfolio. (*Prerequisite-Math 9A or Integrated Algebra*)

## **PRINCIPLES OF ENGINEERING - POE**

RIT College 4 Credit

BCC College 2 Credit Course (EGR 151)

Grade 11 (Systems Course)

### **1 credit**

POE is designed to help you understand the field and the career possibilities of engineering and engineering technology. You'll work on the problem-solving skills that are used at the college level and in the work place. You'll explore engineering systems and manufacturing processes. You will learn how engineers address concerns about the social and political consequences of technological change. As a student you'll see the use of math, science and physics in real applications such as hydraulics, pneumatics, mechanisms, automation control and manufacturing. Students are required to complete and save a portfolio. (*Prerequisite-Math 9A or Integrated Algebra, Digital Computer Electronics, and IED*)

## **COMPUTER INTEGRATED MANUFACTURING - CIM**

Grade 11 (Technology Elective)

RIT College 4 Credit Course

### **1 credit**

A course that applies principles of robotics and automation. The course builds on computer solid modeling skills developed in Introduction to Engineering Design and Drawing for Production. Students use CNC equipment to produce actual models of their three-dimensional design. Fundamental concepts of robotics used in automated manufacturing and design analysis are included. Students are required to complete and save a portfolio. (*Prerequisite – Math 9A or Integrated Algebra, Digital Computer Electronics, IED, and POE*)

## **CIVIL ENGINEERING AND ARCHITECTURE - CEA**

RIT College 4 Credit Course

Grade 12 (Technology Elective)

### **1 credit**

This course provides an overview of the fields of Civil Engineering and Architecture, while emphasizing the interrelationship and dependence of both fields on each other. Students use state of the art software to solve real world problems and communicate solutions to hands-on projects and activities. This course covers topics such as: The Roles of Civil Engineers and Architects; Project Planning; Site Planning; Building Design; Project Documentation and Presentation. (*Prerequisite – IED and either CIM or CAD*)

## **COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEMS**

**½ credit**

A course designed to allow students to investigate the technology that influences their lives on a daily basis. In this course students will work with digital cameras, digital video cameras, and software associated with these tools. Student will also be given a chance to experiment with graphic design techniques focusing on the elements of design and production on a small scale. After completion of this course students will be able to troubleshoot technical problems, design informational graphics, and improve their functionality in our ever changing technical world.

## **PRODUCTION SYSTEMS**

**½ credit**

A course which investigates the areas of manufacturing and construction. Students will create their own manufacturing/construction company. This company will produce at least one type of mass produced product, and one structure model using modern construction techniques.

## **TRANSPORTATION SYSTEMS**

**½ credit**

An investigative course which exposes the students to the modern areas of air, space, land and marine transportation. Students will upon successful completion of the course and related exam are eligible to receive their NYS Safe Boating Certificate (Required for all operators of (PWC) Personal Water Craft, Jet Skis and Wave Runners). Students will participate in these areas through individual and group activities, e.g. model rockets, small engines etc.

## **WOOD TECHNOLOGY**

**½ credit** (Elective Course)

An introductory class in basic woodworking. Students will use modern hand tools and machines to construct required and individually designed projects. The techniques utilized in today's modern woodworking industry will be examined. This project-based course is designed to give students an opportunity to become familiar with wood classifications and methods.

## **TECHNICAL DRAWING**

**½ credit** (Foundation Course)

Technical Drawing is an introduction to the concepts involved in the drafting field as it is related to industry. Students will develop real world skills by working with drawing tools and computers to prepare both two and three-dimensional drawings. The drawing problems required have been selected to provide realistic experiences. This course will require students to use Cadvance 6.0 and CAD Standard software.

## **ARCHITECTURAL DRAWING**

**½ credit** (Foundation Course)

Architectural drawing is a ½ year course designed to introduce the students to the various methods used to illustrate acceptable home designs and concepts along with converting architectural and understanding to computer-aided drafting applications. Emphasis will be placed on residential floor plan designs, exterior designs, construction methods, kitchen and bathroom designs, detail drawings, and plot plans. This course is recommended for students who want to develop an interest, knowledge and understanding in house design, planning and methods of residential construction. This course is also recommended to students who plan to pursue a career in the fields of real estate, building, or construction.

## **VIDEO PRODUCTION**

### **1 credit**

Video Production is a new full year course being offered at OFA. This course is designed to prepare students for the various aspects and fundamentals of video production. Students will begin first by examining the production process. From the production process we move on to the standard techniques used for scripting, shot planning, lighting, camera operation, equipment setup, and audio and video editing. We will be using Sony Vegas Professional 8 as our video/audio editing software. Sony Vegas Pro combines Vegas Pro, DVD Architect Pro, and Dolby Digital encoding software to ensure that all phases of professional video, audio, DVD, and broadcast production are covered. Some of the activities/productions that students may produce include commercials, movie shorts, weekly broadcasts, and informational programming.

## **WEB DESIGN AND IMPLEMENTATION**

### **½ credit**

This course presents introductions to many of the basic concepts, issues and techniques related to designing, developing and deploying Web sites. During the course, students will learn about Web design, HTML, XHTML, basic JavaScript, Dynamic HTML, Applets, and Cascading Style Sheets (CSS). Students will learn how to create sites both manually and through the use of Web site developmental software.

# BOCES CAREER/TECHNICAL EDUCATION

## CAREER SERVICES CENTER

### 6 credits

The programs offered at the occupational and technical center on Glenwood Road in Binghamton are an integral part of the high school curriculum. A two year program at BOCES not only serves as a foundation for developing a lifelong trade or vocation but also meets 6 units (3 units per year) of high school credit. Students wishing to enter occupational program should declare their interest early by consulting their guidance counselor. A detailed course description of any occupational course may be obtained in the Guidance office.

### Agriculture Cluster

Animal Science I  
Animal Science II

### Automotive Cluster

Auto Body Repair I  
Auto Body Repair II  
Auto Mechanic I  
Auto Mechanic II  
Heavy Equipment Repair & Operation I  
Heavy Equipment Repair & Operation II  
Outdoor Power Equipment  
Motorcycles

### Building Trades Cluster

Carpentry I  
Carpentry II  
Masonry I  
Masonry II  
Plumbing & Heating I  
Plumbing & Heating II  
Electricity I  
Electricity II

### Business Cluster

Computer Careers I  
Computer Careers II  
Retail Careers I  
Retail Careers II

### Communications Cluster

Video Production I  
Video Production II

### Health Cluster

Health Occupations I  
Health Occupations II

### Manufacturing Cluster

Computer Aided Design I  
Computer Aided Design II  
Computer Repair Technician I  
Computer Repair Technician II  
(CISCO Networking)  
Industrial Welding I  
Industrial Welding II  
Precision CMT I  
Precision CMT II

### Personal Services Cluster

Culinary Arts I (PM Only)  
Culinary Arts II (AM Only)  
Cosmetology I  
Cosmetology Summer School (is required by all  
Cosmetology students)  
Cosmetology II  
Early Childhood Education I  
Early Childhood Education II  
Criminal Justice/Security I  
Criminal Justice/Security II  
Hotel & Restaurant Management I  
Hotel & Restaurant Management II

### New Visions (AM Only)

Health Careers Academy  
Education & Human Development  
Law and Government  
Selective Application Process, for Seniors only

### Career & Technical High School

All day High School program combines  
Academic & Occupational Education Courses.  
Selective Application process.

# SPECIAL PROGRAMS

OFA Guidance Office - See your Counselor

In addition to the academic course offerings, the following special programs are available to the students during their high school years. These programs are not for everyone. Recognizing the fact that some students can benefit from a less traditional education approach, we offer brief descriptions for your consideration.

## EARLY GRADUATION POLICY

A socially and intellectually mature student may enter an accelerated program to complete high school requirements within three years. This request must be made no later than grade 10 and is subject to specific eligibility requirements.

## INDEPENDENT STUDY PROGRAMS

Members of the 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> grades who meet the required standards have the opportunity to engage in an Independent Study Program. The independent study is designed for eligible students who wish to pursue a special area of study beyond the scope of the regular curriculum and who are willing to accept responsibility for their own learning.

## COMMUNITY SERVICE - ½ credit

A program designed to give students the opportunity to learn and serve their community by volunteering their time and talents. Students may earn ½ unit of credit for a minimum of 70 hours of service. Students should see their counselor for program details.

# LIBRARY – MEDIA

**Librarian: Kathy Starks**

Clerk Typist: Marilyn Randesi

AV Aide: Tina Dueber

**Library Hours: 7:15 AM – 3:30 PM**

## INTRODUCTION

*The mission of the OFA Library Program is to ensure that students and staff are effective users of information and ideas.*

### THE LIBRARY PROVIDES:

1. Access to AV, print and electronic resources.
2. Promotion of literacy and enjoyment of reading.

3. Instruction in the use of a broad spectrum of information technologies.
4. Assistance to teachers and students in selection and use of appropriate resources to meet their curricular needs.

## **LIBRARY USE POLICY**

The high school library has an atmosphere that is friendly as well as conducive to work. There is a positive rapport with the students and our combination arrangement of open access times and a pre-signed pass requirement (from study halls) has made the library a good place to work and study.

There are three times each day when users have completely open access to the library: 7:15 to 7:45 AM, all lunch periods, and 2:25 to 3:30 PM after school. At these times members of the staff are available to work with students. Students may select or return books, browse, do homework or library research.

Students coming to the library from study hall must have a reason to request library access. These reasons may include a class project, personal research or recreational reading. Priority will be given to students obtaining pre-signed library passes in their agendas from the teacher assigning the project or the librarian. The study hall teacher can also sign their agenda.

We feel that our library/media center, through the library staff, facility design, materials, collection, and services supports our changing curriculum and provides for successful group and individual experiences.

## **RESOURCES**

All print and AV materials purchased in the school are centrally ordered, processed, cataloged, stored and distributed by the library staff. All resources are accessible via our online computer catalog.

All print materials circulate. There is no limit to the quantity of books an individual may checkout. Books may be retained for three weeks, and renewed if necessary. Reference titles, identified with a blue card, may be borrowed over night. The print collection has over 15,000 books, while the audiovisual materials include over 800 items.

Thirteen computer workstations in the library allow access to Internet as well as networked computer programs. Most subscription databases are accessible from any place in the building and from home.

## **MEDIA**

DVDs, videos, laserdiscs and other AV materials are provided to support the curriculum. Although a faculty member must be present for checkout, students are encouraged to use materials for information content and class presentations.

## **EQUIPMENT**

Digital still cameras, digital video cameras, CD players, and audiocassette players are available for school use if checked out by a teacher.

## **INTERLIBRARY LOAN**

Materials not found in the OFA library may be borrowed for use through our BOCES interlibrary loan program. The library also offers FAX retrieval service for magazine articles not available locally or online.

## **WORK CITED AND DOCUMENTATION**

All OFA students learn and use the MLA style of documenting research. A standard bibliographic style sheet is available at all times in the library and posted on the Library Blackboard site. Students may request help with this process as needed.

## **ELECTRONIC INFORMATION RETRIEVAL**

Using the computer technology available in the building and library, students have access to a wide variety of information resources. The Internet, Magazine and Newspaper full-text databases such as Proquest, EBSCO, Gale and other subject specific databases are purchased for staff and student use. Many of these subscriptions are available for remote access via our Library Blackboard page.

## **AUTOMATED CATALOG**

The on-line catalog provides access to print and AV resources available in the library and on interlibrary loan from area school districts. Searching can be done by author, title, subject or keyword.

# **NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY**

## **HONOR SOCIETY RULES OF PROCEDURE**

### **ELECTIONS**

Two elections and two inductions a year will be held during the Spring, one for Seniors and one for Juniors. Election for candidates from the junior and senior class will be conducted after the second marking period.

### **SCHOLASTIC ELIGIBILITY**

Juniors must have a cumulative 2 ½ year average of 88.00 to be considered.

Seniors must have a cumulative 3 ½ year average of 88.00 to be considered.

### **SELECTION PROCESS**

Eligible candidates must complete a form indicating their desire to be considered for membership and give supportive evidence of their contributions to school and community. If a candidate indicates that he/she does not wish to be considered for membership, or if he/she fails to return the form on the due date indicated, the candidate's name will be removed from the eligibility list.

An eligibility list along with a rating scale of 1-5 will be provided to every member of the faculty for a preliminary rating. Each faculty rater will have to state in what capacity he/she has known the student.

Each student will be rated on Leadership, Character, Scholarship, and Service according to definitions of these criteria given by the National Honor Society Headquarters, Washington, D.C.

The Honor Society Advisor will then collect the preliminary teacher rating forms and tally all ratings for each student on a composite sheet. Next, each student's ratings will be computed by dividing the total by the number of teacher rating him/her.

A report, giving each candidate's average score, is presented at a Faculty Council meeting. If a candidate receives an average score of less than 3.0 and has been rated by a minimum of 10 teachers, his/her name will be removed from the eligibility list.

Activity rating forms and an eligibility list will be sent to all activity advisors. Each activity advisor will rate those students who are participating in the activity of which he/she is the advisor on a 1 (poor) – 5 (Excellent) Scale. In addition, the advisor will make some brief and specific comments on the student's contributions to the particular activity. The rating forms are to be returned to the Honor Society Advisor who will make them available to the Faculty Council Members to assist them in preparing their reports on the individual candidates.

The guidance counselors shall check the list of candidates to see that they have spent at least one semester or its equivalent of their junior or senior year at OFA and shall be a member of the junior or senior class.

The list of final candidates shall then be forwarded to the faculty advisor of the Honor Society. The advisor shall then appoint a faculty member to review Character, Leadership, Scholarship, and Service of the student concerned. The sponsor shall use as data: the candidate's letter of intent; the ratings and comments of the activity advisors; the student's extracurricular activities form, which is included in his permanent folder; and teachers' recommendations and the results of conferences (when necessary) with activity advisors.

## **TAPPING NEW MEMBERS**

The "Tapping" of new members shall take place shortly after the Honor Society Council meetings.

## **INDUCTION & RECEPTION**

Within one to two weeks after the tapping, there will be an afternoon induction and reception for members of the Honor Society, their parents, and their guests.

## **SUPERVISION**

A supervisory subcommittee of the Faculty Council will check the marks of Honor Society members, receive written complaints by teachers, carry on investigations, give warnings, and if necessary, propose the suspension or removal of an Honor Society member for failure to maintain the standards by which he/she was elected to the society.

# **EXTRA-CURRICULAR CLUBS at OFA**

(This is not an all inclusive listing – and clubs vary from year to year)

## **French Club – Mr. Finnessey, Advisor**

French Club meets periodically throughout the school year to do French activities that depends upon the members interest. It is open to students currently taking French at OFA.

## **Gaming Club – Mrs. Melby, Advisor**

Want time out from schoolwork? Gaming club welcomes all students in need of a break! There are video games, board games, and card games. Members meet after school once a week from September to June. Gaming Club is open to all students at OFA.

## **Interact Club – Mr. Westcott, Advisor**

The Interact Club is a service-based club, sponsored by Rotary International and supported locally by the Owego Rotary Club. This club provides students with the opportunity to have fun doing volunteer work in initiatives that benefit the local and the international community. Interact meets weekly and is always looking for new members. If you are interested in learning more about this club, please see Mr. Westcott in the Guidance Office.

## **Key Club –Mr. Luke, Advisor**

Key Club is a volunteer organization. The “parent” group is the Owego Kiwanis. Together, members donate time to people within the community. A membership drive is held in September and all students are welcome to apply. Yearly dues are approximately \$12.50 and members are asked to perform a minimum of 15 community service hours each year of membership.

## **Literary Club – Ms. Hawkins, Advisor**

Literary Club is a group of literary and artistic enthusiasts who are interested in producing a quality magazine to recognize and honor the voices and visions of Owego Free Academy students. The primary objective is to promote the reading and writing of literature in the school. While the main focus is a publication of students’ writing, the club is also interested in artwork and conceptual photographs. Literary Club is open to all students at OFA.

## **OES/OAMS Student Tutors – Mrs. Purtell, Advisor**

Any junior or senior student at OFA, who is in satisfactory academic standing, is eligible to sign up to tutor at Owego Elementary School (OES). The student gives up a study hall every day or every other day and walks over to OES. S(he) is linked up with a supervising teacher at the school. The student is assigned to work one on one or with a small group of students for 30 minutes.

**Scholarship Challenge** – Mr. Scotto, Advisor

Scholarship Challenge is open to any senior who is interested in common knowledge questions and general academic trivia on a variety of topics. There are annual competitions where teams from area schools challenge each other from January to March.

**Ski Club** – Mrs. Turshman, Advisor

Ski Club has six organized bus trips to Greek Peak on consecutive Saturdays beginning in early January. This club is a learn to ski program that provides lessons for the beginner, although members ski, skiboard, or snowboard at various skill levels. Students can purchase several different program packages or a season pass through the club in the fall.

**Students Against Drunk Driving (SADD)** – Mrs. Beck, Advisor

SADD is an open club to all students at OFA. The mission is to keep ‘Not Drinking & Driving’ as well as ‘Responsible Decision-making’ at the forefront of our students’ minds. The club sponsors a variety of activities each year to accomplish this goal such as Grim Reaper Day, Holiday candy giveaways, the SADD Art & Literature Contest, as well as supporting the Mock Drunk-Driving Accident and the Senior Class Chem Free After Prom Party. Any student who will help SADD achieve this mission is welcome!

**Yearbook** – Mr. Scotto and Ms. Walsh, Advisors. Mrs. Greenman, Business Mgr.

Yearbook possesses many opportunities for students to participate in the creation of the 179-page Tom-Tom chronicling events throughout the school year. Yearbook is open to all students, though seniors are especially encouraged to join.

**Yorkers** – Mrs. Greenman, Advisor

Yorkers gives students opportunities to explore local New York State history, United States history, and participate in hands-on history activities. Students create projects that they enter for competition at the state convention held annually during May in a different city each year. There is a dues fee that members must pay each year to the state organization. Yorkers is open to all students at OFA.

**2:1:2 Club** – Mrs. Ripic and Mrs. Warner, Co-Advisors

The club is led and run by students of the Christian faith who are interested in reaching out to those in need, spreading the gospel, and participating in activities which will help members strengthen their faith. The 2:1:2 Club is open to all students at OFA.

**Friends of Rachel** – OFA Counselors & other faculty, Advisors

The Friends of Rachel Program is currently being piloted at OFA in the Spring of 2009 as a follow-up to our Rachel’s Challenge presentation. The goal of this club is to continue the chain reaction of kindness and compassion in our school community. All students at OFA are welcome to join.