

MEAD HIGH SCHOOL

COURSE DESCRIPTION CATALOG

2022-2023

Mead Graduation Requirements

Graduating Classes through 2024:

Math- 30 credit hours (10 hours required in Algebra I and 10 hours required in geometry) The other 10 hours must be taken during student's junior year. Students are strongly encouraged to also take a math course senior year.

Science - 30 credit hours (10 hours required in physical science and 10 hours required in biology)

Social Studies- 30 credit hours (10 hours required in American History and 10 hours required in government)

English- 40 credit hours (30 hours required in Eng I, Eng II & Eng III)

Speech - 5 credit hours

Health - 5 credit hours

P.E. - 10 credit hours (5 hours required from PE 9)

Computer Applications - 5 credit hours

Elective Classes - 85 credit hours

Total Required - 240 credit hours

Graduating Classes 2025 and beyond:

Math- 30 credit hours (10 hours required in Algebra I and 10 hours required in geometry) The other 10 hours must be taken during student's junior year. Students are strongly encouraged to also take a math course senior year.

Science - 30 credit hours (10 hours required in physical science and 10 hours required in biology)

Social Studies- 30 credit hours (10 hours required in American History and 10 hours required in government)

English- 40 credit hours (30 hours required in Eng I, Eng II & Eng III)

Speech - 5 credit hours

Health - 5 credit hours

Financial Literacy-5 credit hours (taken in grades 10, 11, or 12; either personal finance, consumer math, or an approved dual credit financial literacy course)

P.E. - 10 credit hours (5 hours required from PE 9)

Computer Applications - 5 credit hours

Elective Classes - 80 credit hours

Total Required - 240 credit hours

UNL ADMISSIONS STANDARDS

Below are the basic core entrance requirements for the University of Nebraska at Lincoln that is typical of many colleges or universities. Nebraska Wesleyan University is similar except NWU requires up to four years of natural science. Students should always check a college catalog or ask a college representative or the guidance counselor what high school classes are needed to prepare them for a particular college since admissions standards vary for each school.

UNL Admission Requirements

- 4 units of college preparatory English
- 4 units of math (including Algebra I, II, Geometry, and one that builds on algebra or geometry)
- 3 units of natural sciences (two from biology, chemistry, physics or earth sciences; one of these must include lab instruction. Students applying to the College of Engineering and Technology need two of the three units to include chemistry and physics.)
- 3 units of Social Studies (history, government, geography, economics, psychology, or other social science courses.)
- 2 to 4 units of foreign language. (UNL entrance requires 2, but graduating depends on the College enrolled in, e.g. College of Fine Arts requires 4 units to graduate from UNL. Students may be required to take a foreign language placement exam if they have less than four years of the same foreign language.)

UNL PERFORMANCE REQUIREMENTS

To qualify for admission, new freshmen must meet both the University's performance and high school core requirements for admission. Performance requirements are:

- Test scores: Achieve an ACT composite score of 20 or above, or an SAT score of 950 or above.
- OR**
- Class Rank: Rank in the top one-half of their high school class.

COLLEGE PLANNING FOR ATHLETES

National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA)

The NCAA Clearinghouse has launched a series of services to support prospective student-athletes are noted below. ACT and/or SAT need to be sent directly from the testing agency to NCAA for student-athletes planning to enroll at Division I or Division II institutions.

Clearinghouse Customer Services

- Clearinghouse mailing address:
NCAA Clearinghouse
301 ACT Drive
Box 4043
Iowa City, IA 52243-4043
- Clearinghouse customer service hours:
8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Central Time Monday through Friday
- Toll Free phone numbers (domestic callers only):
Customer Service Line - 877/262-1492
- Fax Number: 319/337-1556

Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources

Agribusiness:

Class size: 20

Prerequisite: FFA

This semester course teaches students the basics and fundamentals of agribusiness and ag finance. Subjects will include fundamental equations used within the agribusiness industry. The curriculum will be based on BriefCASE, a program of the National Association of Agricultural Educators. Time will also be set aside for record books, proficiency awards and state degree applications.

Grade Level: 10-12

Elective

Credit: 5

Semester

Introduction to Agriscience:

Class size: 20

Prerequisite: None

This is an introductory agriculture course focused on learning and understanding all parts of the agricultural industry. This course is designed as a beginner course for further agricultural education courses. Topics covered are National FFA Organization facts, fundamentals of leadership, careers in agriculture, supervised agriculture experience programs, record keeping, natural resource management, animal sciences, plant sciences and fundamentals of agriculture mechanics.

Grade Level: 9-12

Elective

Credit: 10

Year

Nursery and Landscape (former Agronomic Science):

Class Size: 20

Prerequisite: None

This course allows students to apply knowledge from Agronomic Science. Students develop and hone skills within floral design, greenhouse production, gardening and other plant science areas including the plant kingdom, origin and structure of plants and anatomy of plants; working in the greenhouse and with live plants as often as possible.

Grade Level: 10-12

Elective

Credit: 5

Semester

Plant Science:

Class size: 20

Prerequisite: None

This course is an introductory overview of the plant industry and skills needed for a career in this industry; including poinsettia production, nutritional requirements, propagation, soil science, and landscape management. Students will use the greenhouse and live plants as often as possible for the course.

Grade Level: 10-12

Elective

Credit: 5

Semester

Leadership

Class size: 20

Prerequisite: None

This course focuses on interpersonal skills. First focusing on career readiness through Habitudes, then Myers-Briggs personality type dynamics followed by developing successful habits. Students work in groups to develop team work and leadership skills through experiential activities. This self-reflective course requires group discussion and participation. Students will be required to participate in FFA Leadership Development Events.

Grade Level: 10-12

Elective

Credit: 5

Semester

Animal Science:

Class size: 20

Prerequisite: None

This course provides an overview of the animal science industry. It includes animal selection, behavior, genetics, nutrition, disease, meat science and evaluation focusing on beef, swine, horses, sheep, goats, and poultry. If time permits, animal identification, restraint and immunization will be studied. This class allows students to develop skills within the livestock industry necessary for a career in animal science.

Grade Level: 10-12

Elective

Credit 5

Semester

Natural Resources:

Class size: 20

Prerequisite: None

This class will explore topics integral to the history, importance, conservation and administration of wildlife management including habitat requirements, destruction and preservation, sport hunting and fishing, national parks and zoos. Several wildlife species found in Nebraska will be highlighted.

Grade Level: 10-12

Elective

Credit: 5

Semester

Ag Mechanics

Class size: 15

This course is an introduction to small gasoline engines. Students will gain basic knowledge in the areas of small engines. Subject areas will include small engine history, engine systems and operations and shop safety

Grade Level: 10-12

Elective

Credit: 5

Semester

Personal Finance: Grade Level: 10-12 Credit: 10
Class size: 20 Financial Literacy Req. Year
Prerequisite: None

This class is designed to prepare high school students to make wise financial decisions in personal situations. The program helps students realize that they are already making financial decisions and shows them how their decisions affect their future. The focus of the class will be on creating and maintaining a budget, making wise choices as a consumer, learning how to manage bank accounts, and finally using credit wisely. This course will also include a section on the skills one needs as a future employee. We will build resumes, write cover letters and talk about all the skills necessary to survive in the working world upon leaving high school.

Intro to Business: Grade Level: 10-12 Credit: 10
Class size: 20 Elective Year
Prerequisite: None

This is a basic course in business preparing students for work in any business setting. Specific topics include types of businesses, basic economic principles, advertising, design, marketing, business operations and sales procedures. Careers in various aspects of business will be integrated throughout the course.

Economics: Grade Level: 10-12 Credit 5
Class size: 20 S.S. Elective Semester

Economics is the study of the production, the distribution and the consumption of goods and services. In this introductory class we will focus on those three areas as they relate to the world of business and also how they affect us as consumers of those good and services. We will also take a look at the laws of supply and demand and how they affect consumer prices.

Business Law: Grade Level: 10-12 Credit:5
Class size: 20 Elective Semester

This is a basic course in the area of Business Law. The students will be introduced to legal ethics as well as the differences between criminal law and civil law. After that the students will do a more in-depth study of Contract Law, Landlord Tenant Law, The law of Torts (negligence), Consumer Law, Wills and Trusts, and finally the law of Credit.

COMPUTERS

Computer Applications I: Grade Level: 10 Credit: 5
Class size: 18 Required Semester

Prerequisite: Previous Keyboarding

Computer Applications I is a basic computer course intended to give students a basic understanding of work processing, spreadsheet, and presentation software using Microsoft Office 2000 Suite.

ENGLISH

British Literature: Grade Level: 11-12 Credit: 5
Class size: 15 Elective Semester

Prerequisite: English III

British Literature exposes students to important works by British authors. Readings include some translation from Old and Middle English: Beowulf and The Canterbury Tales. Modern English works include Macbeth/ Hamlet, Seventeenth Century poets, Restoration period essayists, poems from the Romantic and Victorian Ages, and short stories and poetry from the Modern Age. Thorough discussion of the mystery genre and Agatha Christie's contributions to the genre. Students also get a sense of how the history of the nation affected the literature. Daily reading assignments are often lengthy and complex.

Creative Writing: Grade Level: 11 - 12 Credit: 10
Class size: 20 Elective Year

Prerequisite: English III

This class is designed to develop creative thinking and use of imagination which will be incorporated into written form. Students will be taught a variety of writing techniques which will help them improve their writing skills. The variety of writing assignments will be based on the needs, interests, and abilities of the individuals in the class. Proper mechanics, usage, and grammar, as well as computers use will be an integral part of the course. Focus will be on quality rather than on quantity. Students will be challenged to elevate their thinking levels and writing styles as well as learn to meet deadline requirements. Preparation for college, through writing, is a strong focus in this class.

<u>English I:</u>	Grade Level: 9	Credit: 10
Class size: 25	Required	Year
Prerequisite: 8 th Grade English		
English I is composed of four integrated components: grammar, usage, writing and literature. The conventions of standard English will be the focus of the course, enabling students to speak and write correctly. The literature covered in English I builds upon short stories, and introduction to Greek Mythology, and social issues presented in two novels. The writing focus is on persuasive writing.		
<u>English II:</u>	Grade Level: 10	Credit: 10
Class size: 30	Required	Year
Prerequisite: English I		
English II will expand on the knowledge of correct usage and mechanics through review and written assignments. This course will be more literature based than English I. Short stories, drama, non-fiction, and one novel will be read.		
<u>English III:</u>	Grade Level: 11	Credit: 10
Class size: 30	Required	Year
Prerequisite: English II		
The focus of English III is reading and writing. Several forms of literature will be read and discussed. American writers will receive the bulk of the attention. Students will be expected to expand on previous writing experience to compose thoughtful, coherent essays. The course will include at least one multi-page research paper.		
<u>Journalism :</u>	Grade Level: 11-12	Credit: 10
Class size: 12	Elective	Year
Prerequisite: application/approval		
Journalism's main goal is to produce a top-quality yearbook. Class members will be responsible for developing theme, designing pages, writing copy, taking photos, and advertising and sales. All of these will be developed through reading and writing assignments, and actual hands on projects. Student work will be entered in the Nebraska Schools Activities Association (NSAA) state journalism contest. Students not actually in the class may also contribute to the yearbook and state journalism material. (Not counted as a high school English credit on transcripts for many colleges)		
<u>Yearbook:</u>	Grade Level: 12	Credit: 10
Class size: 8	Elective	Year
Prerequisite: Journalism		
Yearbook's main goal is to produce a top-quality yearbook. Class members will be responsible for developing theme, designing pages, writing copy, taking photos, and advertising and sales. All of these will be developed through reading and writing assignments, and actual hands on projects. Student work will be entered in the Nebraska Schools Activities Association (NSAA) state journalism contest. Students not actually in the class may also contribute to the yearbook and state journalism material. (Not counted as a high school English credit on transcripts for many colleges)		
<u>Novels:</u>	Grade Level: 11-12	Credit: 5
Class size: 15	Elective	Semester
Prerequisite: None		
This course will focus on reading for comprehension, understanding, and enjoyment. It is also intended to improve students' ability to write about literature in traditional essays. Students can expect lengthy reading assignments on a daily basis, many of which will be self-administered.		
<u>Research Writing:</u>	Grade Level: 11-12	Credits: 5
Class size: 15	Elective	Semester
Prerequisite: None		
Research Writing will benefit college-bound students. The semester long course will focus on improving student's ability to analyze culture, historical elements, form and symbolism from advertisements, vintage radio shows, cartoons, poetry and short stories. Students will also locate, analyze and accumulate research and resources for a future job or career and an APA style term paper. This course is designed to touch on the critical thinking and writing skills students will use in a variety of courses in college.		

field. Areas of emphasis will include relationships, communication, family life and crisis situations, food preparation, child development, and housing. Lab experiences are offered in the area of food and nutrition.

Parenting: Grade Level: 10-12 Credit: 5
 Class size: 16 Elective Semester
 Prerequisite: None
 This semester course is designed to teach students the importance of parenting. It will tackle many of the issues of parenting in our society such as appropriate discipline and safety. Special emphasis will be placed on the four areas of development.

Human Development: Grade Level: 10-12 Credit: 5
 Class size: 16 Elective Semester
 Prerequisite: none
 The study of human development (physical, mental, emotional and social) from infancy through adolescence. Includes how to develop positive interactions with and guiding the development of each age.

FOREIGN LANGUAGES

Spanish I: Grade Level: 9-12 Credit: 10
 Class size: 25 Elective Year
 Prerequisite: None
 Spanish I is an introduction to the simple structure of the Spanish language. Students will be taught the basic skills of language learning through listening, reading, speaking and writing in Spanish. Emphasis is also given to Hispanic Culture.

Spanish II: Grade Level: 10-12 Credit: 10
 Class size: 25 Elective Year
 Prerequisite: Spanish I
 Spanish II will increase the students' listening, reading, and writing skills as well as expand the grammatical understanding of the language. It involves more advanced verb-study (including learning the past tense) and cultural information will be provided to further enhance the student's understanding of Hispanic culture.

Spanish III/IV: Grade Level: 11-12 Credit: 10
 Class size: Elective Year
 Prerequisite: Spanish I, II
 Spanish III/IV will increase the students' listening, reading, and writing skills as well as expand the grammatical understanding of the language. It involves more advanced verb-study and cultural information will be provided to further enhance the student's understanding of Hispanic culture.

MATHEMATICS

Algebra I: Grade Level: 9 Credit: 10
 Class size: 19 Required Year
 Prerequisite: Pre-Algebra (8th grade)
 This course continues algebra concepts as well as beginning the study of geometry and probability. It is designed to teach students to be successful mathematical problem solvers.

Geometry: Grade Level: 10 Credit: 10
 Class size: 19 Required Year
 Prerequisite: Algebra I
 Students will develop their ability to construct formal, logical arguments and proofs in geometric settings and problems.

Algebra II Grade Level: 10-12 Credit: 10
 Class size: 19 Required/Elective Year
 Pre-requisite: Algebra I, Geometry
 This discipline complements and expands the mathematical content and concepts of Algebra I and geometry. Students who master Algebra II will gain experience with algebraic solutions of problems in various content areas, including the solution of systems of quadratic equations, logarithmic and exponential functions, the binomial theorem, and the complex number system.

Pre-Calculus: Grade Level: 12 Credit: 10
 Class size: 19 Elective Year
 Prerequisite: Algebra II
 Includes review of the topics from Algebra II and analytical geometry. Major areas of study include exponential decay and growth, translating functions, piecewise functions, polynomial equations, logarithms, and trigonometric functions. This class does count as a 4th year of math above Algebra II for college acceptance.

Consumer Math: Grade Level: 11-12 Credit: 5
 Class size: 19 Financial Literacy Req. Semester
 Prerequisite: None
 Topics include personal finance such as income, record keeping, checkbooks, savings and charge accounts, budgets, insurances and investments, as well as business math as sales, marketing, production and services. (Not counted as a high school math credit for UNL and other similar four year colleges)

Applied Math I Grade Level: 11-12 Credit: 10
 Class size: 10 Elective Year
 Prerequisite: Algebra I
 This course includes topics in algebra and geometry, charts and graphs, spread sheets and graphs, area, volume, and coordinate systems. This class helps prepare those not in Algebra II for the ACT test. (Not counted as a high school math credit for UNL and other similar four year colleges)

MUSIC

Band: Grade Level: 7-12 Credit: 10
 Class size: 50 Elective Year
 Prerequisite: Participation in 5/6th Band, 2 years of private lessons, resulting in the completion of two levels of method books; or passing a playing skills test.
 Band is offered as a performing instrumental music group. Marching band may perform in the fall. Sophomores, Juniors, and Seniors will have the opportunity to try out for All-State Band, as well as other honor bands. Small ensembles and soloists can perform for contests, and some concerts. Students will also perform in the Fall Concert, Christmas Concert, Pops Concert, Spring Concert, Graduation, Pep Band, ECNC Senior High Honor Band (selected students), and the District Music Contest.

Chorus: Grade Level: 9-12 Credit: 10
 Class size: 50 Elective Year
 Prerequisite: None
 Chorus is offered as a performing vocal music group. Sophomores, Juniors, and Seniors will have the opportunity to try out for All-State Choir, as well as other honor choirs. Small ensembles and soloists can perform for contests, and some concerts. Students will also perform in the Fall Concert, Christmas Concert, Pops Concert, Spring Concert, Graduation, ECNC Senior High Honor Choir (selected students), and the District Music Contest.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION/HEALTH

Advanced Physical Education: Grade Level: 10-12 Credit: 5
 Class size: 30 Elective Semester
 Prerequisite: PE 9
 This course is designed so that all students regardless of ability will enjoy a fun and positive atmosphere learning and playing activities ranging from weight lifting, volleyball, badminton, table tennis, pickleball, basketball and other group activities.

Health: Grade Level: 9 Credit: 5
 Class size: 30 Required Semester
 Prerequisite: None
 Health is a required course that focuses on the health of individuals both physically, mentally, socially, and emotionally. Major unit topics include stress management, reproduction, physical fitness, nutrition, drugs, and STD's.

Ninth Grade Physical Education: Grade Level: 9 Credit: 5
 Class size: 30 Required Semester
 Prerequisite: None

the human body and how they function.

Astronomy: Grade Level: 11-12 Credit: 10
Class size: 15 Elective Year
Prerequisite: Physical Science/Biology Every other year course
Astronomy is the study of the universe. Topics covered will include constellations, stars, planets, and their moons, formation of the solar system and the universe, and space exploration.

SOCIAL SCIENCES

Academic Decathlon: Grade Level: 9-12 Credit: 5
Class size: 6-12 Elective Semester
Academic Decathlon is designed to prepare students for regional and state competitions in ten separate events covering seven academic subjects. The 2022-23 theme is "The American Revolution and the New Nation". Science will be an introduction to Chemistry. Literature will include critical reading, one long work of literature and selected shorter works. The long work of literature will be *Wieland; or, The Transformation, An American Tale* by Charles Brockden Brown. Art will include fundamentals and will explore early American art. Music will introduce students to various musical works and early American music. Social Science will examine the American Revolution and founding of the United States. Economics will cover fundamental concepts, micro- and macroeconomics, and a thematic section on colonial and early American economic history. Mathematics will cover algebra and trigonometry.

American Government: Grade Level: 12 Credit: 10
Class size: 20 Required Year
Prerequisite: None
Government is designed to be taken by students in the 12th grade year. The class outlines the legal, historical, and philosophical foundations of the American system along with different government and economic systems of the world. This course covers the foundations of democracy and government at the federal, state, and local levels. In addition, the course outlines basic economic and personal finance concepts, and what it means to be a responsible citizen within our society.

American History: Grade Level: 11 Credit: 10
Class size: 20 Required Year
Prerequisite: None
This class covers American History from the beginning of the Civil War to present-day current events.

World Geography- East Hemisphere: Grade Level: 9-12 Credit: 5
Class size: 23 Elective Semester
Prerequisite: None
World Geography- East Hemisphere is designed to introduce students to the Five Geographic themes of: Location, Place, Human/Environment Interaction, Movement, and Region as it pertains to Asia, Africa, Oceania, Australia, and Antarctica.

World Geography- West Hemisphere: Grade Level: 9-12 Credit: 5
Class size: 23 Elective Semester
Prerequisite: None
World Geography Western Hemisphere is designed to introduce students to the Five Geographic themes of: Location, Place, Human/Environment Interaction, Movement, and Region as it pertains to Europe, North and South America.

World History: Grade Level: 9-12 Credit: 10
Class size: 21 Elective Year
Prerequisite: None
An overview of the major civilizations and events from prehistoric times to the present. Each civilization's political, social, economic, and cultural developments will also be discussed throughout the course.

