

Durgee Course Selections for 8th to 9th Grade Transitioning Durgee Students

	<i>Regents Diploma</i>	<i>Advanced Regents Diploma</i>
English	4	4
Social Studies	4	4
Math	3	3
Science	3	3
World Languages	1	3
Fine Arts	1	1
Health	½	½
Physical Education	2	2
Electives	3 ½	1½
Total Units Required for Graduation	22	22

SPECIFIC EXAMINATION DIPLOMA REQUIREMENTS

Regents Diploma - Students must score a minimum of 65% on 5 Regents exams: Algebra I, Geometry or Algebra II, Global History and Geography, US History and Government, Comprehensive English, and one of the sciences (Earth Science, Living Environment, Chemistry, or Physics).

Regents Diploma with Advanced Designation – Students must successfully pass 8 Regents exams in the following: Algebra I, Geometry and Algebra II, Comprehensive English, Global History and Geography, US History, Living Environment Regents exam plus one additional Regents exam in a physical science (Earth Science, Chemistry, or Physics). Students also need to pass a World Language exam - or may substitute a 5 unit sequence in art, business, family and consumer science, music, technology or career education/tech prep.

English

English 9R (40 Weeks 1 Credit)

Students in this course read a variety of literature organized primarily by genre, including autobiography, short story, poetry, drama (Romeo and Juliet), and the novel. The literature is used as a vehicle through which students can gain insight into themselves and perspective on their place in the world at large. Woven through the curriculum are various non-fiction selections which correspond with the fiction. All students are expected to produce personal, creative, and analytical pieces of writing. Formal presentations are required as is a research paper. Students are encouraged to develop and strengthen their ability to read, write, listen and speak for information and understanding, for literary response and expression, for critical analysis and evaluation, and for social interaction as outlined in New York State Standards for English Language Arts.

English 9 Honors (40 Weeks 1 Credit)

Students in this course will receive an enriched program in which a variety of literature is read: short stories, novel(s), and a Shakespearean drama. Woven through the curriculum are various non-fiction selections which correspond with the fiction. Active reading and annotation are emphasized as part of literature study to focus on comprehension and inference. The writing requirements for this course are rigorous. All students are expected to produce analytical and interpretive pieces of expository writing in preparation for the English 11 Regents examination. Informal and formal presentations, as well as a research paper, are required as part of the course. Students are encouraged to develop higher level thinking skills and are required to demonstrate these skills in both individual and collaborative efforts.

English 9: Creating Legends (40 Weeks 1 Credit)

Covering New York State ELA standards for 9th grade, this course is an interest-based English 9 class. In this course students will build a foundational understanding of esports and video games, their history, and their evolution over time, through research of multiple genres and methodologies. Using contemporary literature, as well as canonical literature, including Homer's "The Odyssey", "The Iliad" and the Old English epic "Beowulf," students will explore the archetype of the hero's journey.

Social Studies

Global History and Geography I (9R) (40 Weeks 1 Credit)

This course introduces the students to the dimensions of Global History - history, geography, economics, and political science and government. It deals with the first four Eras of Global History, including prehistoric peoples, the Ancient Worlds of Rome, the Middle East and China, World Religions, and the histories of China, Japan, South Asia, the Middle East, Latin America, Africa, and Europe from 1000 C.E. until the mid-1700's. There are fifteen themes and concepts that act as organizers for the course. This first course in Global History will conclude with a final exam modeled on the NYS Regents.

Pre - Advanced Placement History (Global History 9H) (40 Weeks 1 Credit)

Students in this course will receive an enriched program as they are introduced to the dimensions of history, geography, economics, political science and government. Students who take this course will be expected to complete more in-depth analytical writing assignments and read independently from a variety of higher level sources. This course prepares students for 10th grade Advanced Placement level coursework. Taught at Durgee Jr. High School ONLY.

Math

Algebra I (40 Weeks 1 Credit)

This course is the first course in a three-year sequence aligned with the Common Core State Standards. Algebra provides tools and ways of thinking that are necessary for solving problems in a wide variety of disciplines, such as science, business, social sciences, fine arts, and technology. This course will assist students in developing skills and processes to be applied using a variety of techniques to successfully solve problems in a variety of settings. Topics include linear, quadratic, and exponential functions, solving equations and inequalities, and statistics, as outlined in the NYS Common Core Standards. The course concludes with the Algebra I Regents examination in June.

Geometry (40 Weeks 1 Credit)

Prerequisite: Passed Algebra 1 - This course is intended to be the second course in mathematics for high school students. Within this course, students will have the opportunity to make conjectures about geometric situations and prove in a variety of ways, both formal and informal, that their conclusion follows logically from their hypothesis. This course is meant to employ an integrated approach to the study of geometric relationships. Integrating synthetic, transformational, and coordinate approaches to geometry, students will justify geometric relationships and properties of geometric figures. Congruence and similarity of triangles will be established using appropriate theorems. Transformations including rotations, reflections, translations, and glide reflections and coordinate geometry will be used to establish and verify geometric relationships. A major emphasis of this course is to allow students to investigate geometric situations. Properties of triangles, quadrilaterals, and circles should receive particular attention. It is intended that students will use the traditional tools of compass and straightedge as well as dynamic geometry software that models these tools more efficiently and accurately, to assist in these investigations. Geometry is meant to lead students to an understanding that reasoning and proof are fundamental aspects of mathematics and something that sets it apart from the other sciences. Additionally, this course culminates in a NYS Regents Examination.

PLTW Computer Science Essentials / Introduction to Computer Science (40 Weeks 1 Credit)

This course is designed to be the first computer science course for students who have never programmed before. It is a fun, foundational course that helps prepare students for success in the PLTW Computer Science program. In PLTW Computer Science Essentials, students will experience the major topics, big ideas, and computational thinking practices used by computing professionals to solve problems and create value for others. They will use a visual programming language and advance to text-based programming. Throughout the course, students will have opportunities to apply computational thinking practices and collaborate just as computing professionals do to create products that address topics and problems important to them. This is a hands-on course. Students will work in teams to create solutions and problem-solve. This course is only offered at Durgie Junior High.

Science

Earth Science (40 Weeks 1 Credit)

Earth Science is an intensive, student-activity oriented course. Emphasis is given to laboratory and field experiences. The course focuses on a student investigatory approach including such topics as: observation and measurement of the environment, earth motions, energy in earth processes, insolation, atmospheric energy exchanges, energy budget, erosional and depositional processes, rock formation, plate tectonics, and geological history. Students must have satisfactorily completed the course laboratory requirements to be eligible for admission to take the regents examination.

Living Environment (40 Weeks 1 Credit)

This course is a graduation requirement and is based on the NYS Living Environment Core Guide. This includes Biology as a science, methods of science, ecology, cells as unifying living features, exploring diversity, human physiology, genetics, reproduction, and evolution. The course culminates with the Living Environment Regents Exam. The class meets for a minimum of seven periods per week. Students must have satisfactorily completed the NYS course laboratory requirements to be eligible for admission to take the Regents examination.

PLTW Principles of the Biomedical Sciences (40 Weeks 1 Credit)

Prerequisite: Concurrent Enrollment in College Preparatory Science and Mathematics Courses - Principles of Biomedical Science (PBS) is a full-year high school credit-bearing course in the PLTW Biomedical Program sequence of electives intended for students interested in pursuing a career in related fields. This course serves to provide foundational knowledge and skills in fields such as biology, anatomy & physiology, genetics, microbiology, and epidemiology as well as engage students in how this content can be applied to real world situations. Students take on the role of professionals and work with the same tools as they conduct a forensics investigation, provide clinical care for patients, respond to emergencies and natural disasters, as well as explore ecosystems for bioactive compounds. Students will develop technical and communication skills according to the standards within relevant careers. In addition, students will explore how connections to other disciplines such as computer science and engineering shape the future of medicine. The course is laboratory and project-based, culminating in an end-of-course exam developed by PLTW.

World Languages

French II (40 Weeks 1 Credit)

Prerequisite: French I - This full year, one credit course continues the work begun in French I. The major emphasis is on the development of communication skills which will be useful in daily life. There is added practice in reading and writing French which focuses on the daily life and language of the typical French teenager.

German II (40 Weeks 1 Credit)

Prerequisite: German I - This full-year, one credit course continues the work begun in German I. Cultural topics are explored further, grammatical topics are expanded upon, and German history and/or fairy tales "Märchen" are also covered. As communication skills develop, more advanced conversations are held with our pen pals via letters, live video conferencing, and/or face-to-face discussions during hosting/visiting, circumstances permitting.

Latin II (40 Weeks 1 Credit)

Prerequisite: Latin I - This full year, one credit course continues the work begun in Latin I. The course presents Latin grammar, vocabulary, and Roman culture through stories placed in the historical context of Pompeii in the first century CE. Emphasis is also placed on the development of English vocabulary through the study of derivatives and Latin words and phrases used in English today.

Spanish II (40 Weeks 1 Credit)

Prerequisite: Spanish I - This full year, one credit course continues the work begun in Spanish I. In order to be successful in Spanish 2 you must have strong study skills and be proficient in the language. The major emphasis is on the development of communication skills which focus on the 16 verbs that are used most during life. There is added practice in reading and writing Spanish which explores the cultures and traditions in Spanish speaking countries.

Art

Studio and Creative Crafts (20 Weeks 1/2 Credit)

This course is designed for students who like to work in many artistic areas, discovering new interests and abilities. Students learn the primary skills of many visual art processes, as well as design and creative strategies. Creative Crafts builds on a wide range of art projects through hands-on exploration of mediums like glass, fibers, textiles, books, paper, ceramics, and recycled materials. Building on the theory that form follows function, students will create works of art that reflect historical, as well as multicultural themes. This course will fulfill ½ credit for the art/music graduation requirement. *This course is taught only at Durgee Jr. High School.*

Studio in Art I (20 Weeks 1/2 Credit)

This is a 1/2-year foundation course for students in grades 8-12. This course acts as a prerequisite for most other art electives and will fulfill 1/2 credit of the art/music graduation requirement. Students will gain general art skills by participating in a variety of fine arts experiences including creating their own artworks, and by building knowledge, understanding and appreciation for the arts. Emphasis is placed on creative problem solving. Mediums include drawing, painting, printmaking, mixed-media, and sculpture. *This course is only offered at Durgee.*

Studio in Art II (20 Weeks 1/2 Credit)

Prerequisite: Studio in Art I - This is a 1/2 year foundation course for students in grades 9-12 and is a continuation of Studio in Art I. This course places an emphasis on the principles of design and applied arts. Students will work with a variety of art media in two and three-dimensional creative design. This course will fulfill ½ credit for the art/music graduation requirement. *This course is only offered at Durgee.*

Studio Media in Photography (20 Weeks 1/2 Credit)

Do you like to take pictures and use apps to change the look of the image in your photos? Have you ever wondered how professional photos that are used in advertising are so perfect in design and composition? Learn how the professionals do that and more in this class. We will investigate how to take amazing pictures by understanding camera controls and principles of design, using digital technology to enhance images and bring out the best qualities. Let's discover new career avenues of advertising and design. Assignments are based on individual style, principles of Art and Design, History of Photography and careers in this field. This course will fulfill ½ credit for the art/music graduation requirement. *This course is taught only at Durgee Jr. High School.*

Studio in Media Video (20 Weeks 1/2 Credit)

This course will cover video principles, storyboarding, shooting the scene, directing, editing and audio production Discover how to make a successful video for your own use or to apply in career opportunities such as web design, commercials, music videos, and movie trailers. Student objective: to become familiar with single camera digital video production and editing. Using the Adobe platform, we take video images and change them to amazing special effects, color changes, and audio sound effects for effective visual storytelling. By the completion of this course students will take with them the experience of video production, history of movies and the knowledge of what can be achieved in this multimedia career. This course will fulfill ½ credit for the art/music graduation requirement. *This course is only offered at Durgee Jr. High School.*

Business

Career and Financial Management (20 Weeks 1/2 Credit)

Do you know what you want to do with the rest of your life? Do you have a plan? This might be the course for you! Career & Financial Management is a great course for those interested in a business major, as well as those who would just like to know more about business and/or career exploration. Career & Financial Management provides students with valuable employability skills and knowledge of the workplace. Topics covered include: career planning, career development, time management, personal budgeting, purchasing a car, writing checks, balancing a checkbook, savings accounts, income tax, insurance, and credit. Course work includes projects and hands-on activities that simulate the real world.

Gaming Concepts and Computer Science (20 Weeks 1/2 Credit)

Using video games as a lens, students will cover computer science standards, including societal and ethical impacts of computing and gaming, computational thinking as it relates to game design, and digital literacy as we explore game theory, video game design, goal setting for gamer performance, health and wellness for gamers, and careers in the video game industry. Each unit will require students to use skills and content from a range of other subject areas to be successful.

Family and Consumer Science

Foods and Nutrition Core (20 Weeks 1/2 Credit)

This course is an introduction to basic food preparation, a food class for all students, teaching basic cooking and sanitation skills, which are needed for professional and personal purposes throughout life. Students will learn basic cooking techniques, recipe reading & planning as well as kitchen math, measurements and equivalents. This course is a prerequisite for all other cooking courses.

Music

Concert Band (40 Weeks 1 Credit)

Band work includes instrumental group lessons, concert band, and required performance and non-performance evaluations. The concert band performs NYSSMA grade 3-5 literature. Opportunities are available for involvement in select ensemble groups such as Jazz Ensemble and Chamber Music Ensembles. Students will participate in five rehearsal sessions plus one instructional session per week. This course will fulfill the 1 credit for the art/music graduation requirement.

Concert Choir (40 Weeks 1 Credit)

You can look forward to a Concert Choir of 100 mixed voices in September. The group performs at least four times during the year. Music selections throughout the year consist of all styles from the classics to pop.. This course will fulfill the 1 credit for the art/music graduation requirement.

Orchestra (40 Weeks 1 Credit)

Prerequisite: Orchestra work includes instrumental small group lessons once a week, daily rehearsals, and required performance and non-performance evaluations. Music selections throughout the year consist of all styles from the classics to pop. There are multiple performances in the evening that will be on the school calendar at the start of the school year. Enrollment is open to anyone who would like to join but please let the director know when signing up if a student is new to the program and does not have experience playing a string instrument. This course will fulfill the 1 credit for the art/music graduation requirement.

Technology

Creativity and Innovation (20 Weeks 1/2 Credit)

This course encourages the solving of technical problems through the use of student inspired design. It is a STEM based design and drawing class that will explore topics such as automobile design, magnetic levitation, architecture, packaging, and geometry. Given a defined supply of materials, students will use laboratory facilities to optimize solutions to stated technical problems. *This course is taught only at Durgee.*

Design and Draw for Production (20 Weeks 1/2 Credit)

This course is designed to challenge students using the creativity of design, the exactness of Technical drawing and the fun of model building. Students will be presented problems to solve in Architecture, Magnetic Levitation, Automobile design, Furniture design, and Bridge building as well as develop skills in 3D Computer Aided Design (CAD). This course may be used by any student to satisfy the high school fine arts elective for high school graduation. This course will fulfill ½ credit for the art/music graduation requirement. *This course is only offered at Durgee.*

PLTW Introduction to Engineering (40 Weeks 1 Credit)

Co-requisite: Concurrent enrollment in college preparatory mathematics. PLTW is an introductory course which develops student problem solving skills, with emphasis placed upon the concept of developing a 3-D model or solid rendering of an object. Students focus on the application of visualization processes and tools provided by modern, state-of-the-art computer hardware and software. *This course is only offered at Durgee*

Materials Processing (20 Weeks 1/2 Credit)

Students will develop practical skills while producing several useful take-home projects. A variety of materials and processes (both modern and traditional) will be utilized. Project areas will include wood, sheet metal, wrought iron, and acrylics.

Robotics (20 Weeks 1/2 Credit)

Students trace the history, development, and influence of automation and robotics as they learn about mechanical systems, energy transfer, machine automation, and computer control systems. Students use VEX Robotics platform to design, build, and program real world objects, such as traffic lights, toll booths, and robotic arms. *This course is only offered at Durgee*

Physical Education and Health

Health (20 Weeks 1/2 Credit)

This course is designed to provide students with comprehensive knowledge and skills necessary to achieve a health enhancing lifestyle. The course consists of planned learning experiences that will allow the students to authentically apply the learned skills which are aligned with the New York State Health Education Learning Standards. The goal of Health Education is to give the students the necessary confidence and skills to practice health enhancing behaviors This course is a graduation requirement.

Physical Education (40 Weeks 1/2 Credit)

The Baldwinsville Central School District Commencement Standard in Physical Education for students is to develop an advanced level of wellness skills to create and pursue a lifetime fitness plan. PE classes are designed to make learning fun. They are geared toward positive self-esteem and cooperative learning experiences. Some of the activities include step aerobics, kickboxing, tae-bo, Pilates, hip hop dance, yoga, weight training, tennis, physical fitness, various team and individual sports and healthy living activities. Sophomores have a series of required units of study including successful completion of the Baldwinsville swim/water safety unit.