



THE
GREENSPIRE
HIGH SCHOOL

Courses and Descriptions
2024 - 2025

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PROJECT BASED LEARNING

While reading the course descriptions below, it is important to remember that there are many times that course projects will intersect between classes. Standards from two or more courses are achieved through a collaborative and interdepartmental effort. Collaborative Projects are usually 4-6 weeks in length. In PBL Works Gold Standard PB Model, projects are focused on students' acquiring key knowledge, understanding, and success skills. Students use the Seven Essential Project Design Elements: A Challenging Problem or Question, Sustained Inquiry, Authenticity, Student Voice & Choice, Reflection, Critique & Revision, and Public Product.

GREENSPIRE HIGH SCHOOL COURSE OFFERINGS

PATHWAYS DEPARTMENT

Pathway Exploratory Seminar SEMAE1

This course explores the three academic/career pathways at GHS. The students are introduced to each pathway: NMC - Early Middle College, Career Tech Center - Trades, and Environmental / Ethical Studies and the associated careers. Students complete a final, comprehensive project based on their curiosity-driven passion during the final quarter of the school year. Guest speakers representative of all Pathways are a major feature throughout the year. In addition, Organization and Planning Skills, Social Emotional Learning, Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion topics are also discussed and dissected to position students for high school and post-secondary success. This provides students with a firm foundation as students contemplate their pathway of choice in the coming years.

ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS DEPARTMENT

American Literature LA01054

Students explore the greater literature movements in American history through the study of novels, poetry, and essays. The projects in the first semester have students assuming real-world roles to explore both Romanticism/Gothic Literature and the transformative birth of Modernism around World War I. The latter is a cross-curricular project done with U.S. History. In the second semester, students are introduced to the works and impact of John Steinbeck, Arthur Miller, and Sandra Cisneros. The reading and work become less historical and more about the student's place in our world. In addition, students will continually be working with new vocabulary, grammar/usage, and both research and presentation skills.

World Literature LA01051

World Literature is split between a study of British/European Lit and a vast array of postcolonial literature from around the world. At the beginning of the year, students' work centers on filmmaking and how to translate an older text for a more modern audience. From there, students complete an in depth study of Authoritarianism by comparing the works of Orwell to modern systems of governance. A short study of Russian literature rounds out the first semester. The second semester sees the course going completely global as students begin exploring works from around the globe. Novels and short stories from Nigeria, the Philippines, Mexico, and South Africa form the basis of all student projects. In addition, students will continually be working with new vocabulary, grammar/usage, and presentation skills.

Technical Writing and Nonfiction EO1105

Students will engage with all sorts of nonfiction texts, from essays to memoirs. Projects in the 11th grade year encourage the student to start seeing writing as more than a school-based activity, as publishing, real-world examples, and working with community partners take precedence. Students learn about the food writing industry, local journalism, and global water issues at various points throughout the year. The latter being the focus of their biggest research project. In addition to these projects, students will have a year-long project dedicated to self-identity and exploration. The goal of this extended project is to publish their work by the end of it. Students will also be refining their skills in technical writing through research and expository writing.

ELA Capstone LA0100401

The ELA Capstone intends to function as a survey of their English experience throughout High School. Students will dive into topics relating to American Literature, World Literature, Literature Analysis, research, and composition. It will challenge students to expand upon their current reading preferences, as well as explore new tastes in the books and resources students choose to engage with.

ARTS and TECHNOLOGY DEPARTMENT

Digital Arts and Technology I & II A05169 & DA05168

This course explores art from a digital perspective. Students will learn photography, video, graphic design, tablet drawing, and Adobe Creative Suite to develop an overall sense of artistic expression through technology. Students will regularly use digital cameras, tablets, and iMacs as their design tools.

Multimedia Arts DA0516901

Multimedia Arts is an exploration of different mediums to present a message. Students will gain experience in mediums such as painting, drawing, mixed media creation, collage, printmaking, & soft sculpture, while exploring common art themes, like self-portraits & still life. In this class, students work to refine an individual student's own unique artistic process, & gain confidence in the creative sphere, while exploring multiple mediums.

Electronic Portfolio* EP05250

In Electronic Portfolio, students build a digitized portfolio showcasing their best work from any high school subject(s) and learn the skills of critical self and work review. Students will research historic art movements/periods and apply their knowledge of visual art principles to identify an aesthetic to influence their portfolio design. Students will also practice and demonstrate the skills of formal analysis, critique, and refinement by reviewing fellow students' portfolios and revising their own portfolios after critiques. Students' final portfolios will be a snapshot of their ideas and sustained inquiry through practice, experimentation, investigation, and revision.

Fine Art and Craft* FAC0516501

Fine Art & Craft is a class that focuses on developing the basic visual skills used by artists and designers working creatively in two and three dimensions. Conceived as a broad-based, integrative approach to learning as well as making, this entry-level class will sensitize students to processes of visual perception, two-dimensional construction, three-dimensional construction, and its potential for visual expression and communication. Working with point, line, shape, value, color, texture, and pattern, students are introduced to the form, language, vocabulary, concepts, and principles associated with organizing two-dimensional and 3D compositions.

PHYSICAL and OUTDOOR EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

Outdoor Physical Education PE08101

This course explores the following physical education topics: Setting physical skill improvement goals • Interpreting data to identify skill improvement • Perseverance • Self-reflection • Recognizing facts and myths regarding nutrition and physical performance • Introducing cultural dance from a different part of the world • Locating and assessing the validity of nutrition resources • Analyzing food labels and federal guidelines for diet and physical activity • Advocating for nutritional choices and physical activity at school. • Analyzing and assessing personal food intake • Assessing personal barriers to physical activity and developing solutions • Predicting benefits or consequences related to eating and physical activity behaviors • Developing healthy eating and physical activity behaviors • Using decision-making • Setting informed goals • Accessing resources • Advocating for healthier food choices and regular physical activity.

Nature, Exploration, and Recreation* NER00804901

Students will engage in awareness games practicing the thirteen core routines of deep nature connection. There is an emphasis on immersive experiences in natural settings on and off the school grounds. It includes nature journaling experiences with prompts such as, "What do you notice, what do you wonder, and what does it remind you of?" Students are invited to explore elements of nature, including plants, mammals, orientation, ecology, natural systems, wilderness survival skills, bird language, etc. Students will be invited to follow their curiosities, take a deep dive into understanding what students observe, and record studies, patterns, sensory experiences, and data based on these observations. After several weeks of awareness games and practice with creating journal entries, including revisions through feedback and enhancing details, students will not only become more familiar and comfortable with nature but will

perhaps have a heightened sense of awareness and stewardship skills. Because of the length of this project (the entire semester), students will be able to observe self-growth and learning over time.

Health PE805101

Through health education, students learn to obtain, interpret, and apply health information and services in ways that protect and promote personal, family, and community health. Health content areas are Nutrition and Physical Activity, Alcohol, Tobacco, and Other Drugs, Safety, Social and Emotional Health, Personal Health and Wellness, HIV Prevention, and Sexuality Education.

- Describing healthy and unhealthy weight management
- Assessing the importance of nutrition during pregnancy

Weight Training* WT0800901

This course will include information on proper weight training techniques, principles of weight training, nutrition as it relates to weight training, cardiovascular training, proper stretching and warm-up techniques, and overall weight room safety and etiquette.

Yoga* Y0805201

Students will learn a series of yoga postures that will help promote strength, flexibility, mental, and cardiorespiratory health.

High Intensity Interval Training (HIIT)* HF0805201

Students engage in intense interval exercises to learn healthy lifestyle habits.

Fit for Life* FFL 0805201

Students engage in yoga, jogging, weight lifting, stretching, and other fitness activities to learn how to create a healthy lifestyle.

SCIENCE DEPARTMENT

Biology B03051

Biology is the study of life. It includes an introduction to the scientific method, cytology, genetics, botany, zoology, ecology, taxonomy, evolution, chemistry, and microbiology. Coursework, lab work, and examinations will prepare students for future science courses. This course meets daily for 60 minutes.

Chemistry C03101

This course includes fundamental concepts such as chemical formulas, chemical equations, laws of chemical combination, and physical, chemical, and nuclear properties. Atomic and molecular structure, bonding, stoichiometry, periodicity, gasses, solutions, acids, bases, oxidation-reduction, and nuclear

chemistry are also covered in this course. Laboratory work correlates with lectures and stresses the major concepts in this course.

Physics P03151

The Physics curriculum is designed to continue student investigations of the physical sciences and provide students with the necessary skills to be proficient in physics. This curriculum includes more abstract concepts such as interactions of matter and energy, velocity, acceleration, force, energy, momentum, and charge. Students investigate physics concepts through experience in laboratories and fieldwork using the processes of inquiry.

Environmental Science & Engineering ESE10300301

This course is designed to cover the concepts of Environmental Science. Through a blend of Project based learning and traditional instruction, students will learn how scientists monitor Earth's biosphere, atmosphere, hydrosphere, and geosphere, and how scientists and engineers work to innovate solutions to environmental issues in our community. Students collect and interpret data, participate in citizen science efforts, create projects, and complete tasks to master the skills necessary to succeed in a variety of environmental careers after education. This course will contain a mix of collaborative study strategies as well as independent practices.

SOCIAL STUDIES DEPARTMENT

US History H04101

Students will study the changing political, industrial, social, and economic changes in American history. Students start with the post-Civil War amendments and work their way to looking at the Cold War and everything in between. To wrap up, students will talk about the modern-day changes in America with waves of different thoughts and philosophies.

World History W04051

Students are tracking the political, social, legal, and historical changes between the years 300 CE and the present day. Our study will be part chronological, but mostly thematic. Students will look at large-scale ideas such as revolutions, trade, Columbian Exchange, etc...

Economics EC04210

Economics class is a survey of large-scale ideas in economics. Students take a 30,000 foot view of the topics to paint the picture of the interconnected complexity of the economy.

Civics SS04160

Students will study the foundations of American democracy and the origins of American government. Emphasis is placed on the Constitution and the rights and responsibilities of citizens in a democratic

society. In addition, the roles of political parties, campaigns & elections, public opinion, and the media will also be considered.

History & Ethics of Environmentalism HS499901

This class is a broad introduction to understanding the ethics and history behind environmentalism. It will be the class's job, as bright historians, to uncover the mysteries of environmentalism practices in our region, state, and beyond. To achieve this students will create projects focusing on local and regional environmental issues. This course will also involve a book study with ample discussion, participation is key. Students will be learning from each other about the different spheres of environmentalism and some history and philosophy along the way.

Global Citizenship HS4999011

Embark on a transformative journey of understanding and embracing our interconnected world through the lens of "Global Citizenship." This dynamic social studies course explores key topics that shape our global society, fostering a sense of responsibility and awareness among students. From geography to the intricate web of global conflicts and resolutions, participants will gain a comprehensive understanding of the factors influencing our diverse and beautiful world.

MATHEMATICS DEPARTMENT

Pre-Algebra MATH02

Student data must demonstrate that a student is in need of math remediation prior to enrollment in this remedial-level mathematics review course. Students will learn core Pre-Algebra concepts such as factors and multiples, patterns, ratios & rates, percentages, exponents, order of operations, Variables & expressions, and equations & inequalities. Basic mathematical arithmetic is covered as needed. Additionally, this Pre-Algebra course lays the foundation for supporting future Algebra I success.

Algebra I M02052

The first exploration of Michigan (and Common Core) High School Mathematics Standards. Students will utilize Core Algebra concepts to develop, understand, and manipulate expressions, equations, and inequalities. Special functions are introduced, including sequences, exponents, absolute value, radicals, exponential growth and decay, quadratics, and irrational numbers. Additionally, the Algebra I course lays the foundation for supporting the other Standards categories of Number and Quantity, Functions, and Modeling- which are integrated throughout the course.

Geometry M02072

The second exploration of Michigan High School Mathematics Standards. Students will use foundational Geometry concepts to understand the attributes and relationships of geometric objects. Euclidean Geometry concepts of symmetry, similarity, and congruence are developed and later proven, which form

the basis of modern rational thought processes. Triangular relationships are explored and sinusoidal functions are introduced which will be further studied in Trigonometry/Pre-Calculus. Analytical Geometry is examined, where Algebra and Geometry coexist to be able to visually represent geometric objects with equations. Geometry builds upon Algebra I in the significance of other Standards categories of Number and Quantity, Functions, and Modeling.

Algebra II M02056

Algebra II is a continuation of Algebra I, focusing on the more complex components of the Michigan (and Common Core) High School Mathematics Standards. Students will work across the Mathematics Standards to make a model (Modeling) of real-world situations in the form of an expression, equation, or inequality (Functions), using appropriate scale and units (Number and Quantity), then find solutions (Algebra). Systems of equations are developed and solved using multiple methods.

Trigonometry / Pre-Calculus M02110

This course is designed to build additional foundational knowledge for students who intend to take Calculus. Emphasis is placed on polynomial, rational, exponential, and logarithmic functions, systems of equations, trigonometry, and trigonometric applications, analysis of trigonometric functions in multiple representations, right and oblique triangles, vectors, polar coordinates, conic sections, and parametric equations. Every topic area crosses multiple Michigan (and Common Core) High School Mathematics Standards.

Honors Geometry M02072H

This course is designed for students to engage and learn the fundamental concepts of geometry as well as push their depth of knowledge within the discipline of geometry by creating applications and connections to real-world scenarios. The course is project-focused and is designed to be hybrid ($\frac{1}{2}$ student-paced & $\frac{1}{2}$ Direct Instruction).

Honors Algebra II M02056

The course is designed for students to master the fundamental concepts of Algebra II as well as deep dive into the real-world applications surrounding these concepts. This class is structured as a hybrid course ($\frac{1}{2}$ student-paced / $\frac{1}{2}$ Direct Instruction).

Personal Finance H519292

Personal Finance invites students to apply a variety of mathematical concepts and logical thinking skills in real-world scenarios. Students engage with a variety of hypothetical situations in banking, investing, budgeting, credit, insurance, and taxes to learn the impacts of financial decisions in a safe and positive environment.

WORLD LANGUAGE DEPARTMENT

Spanish I WL24052

This is a multi-skill basic Spanish I course that meets 2 -3 days a week for one-hour sessions. It is designed to provide a general awareness of fundamental linguistic concepts and an appreciation of the cultural dynamics associated with them. Apart from the structural and referential support seen in the course material, students will take advantage of the learning opportunities offered by multimedia resources that bring the sound, color, and shape of language to life. A key objective is an appreciation of the cultural, geographical, and historical nuances of the Spanish-speaking nations. Students will realize that language learning is a lifelong pursuit, depending on one's aptitude and motivation, and that it can positively affect one's academic, professional, and personal opportunities.

Spanish II WL24053

This is a multi-skill Spanish II intermediate course that meets daily for one-hour sessions. It is designed to provide a general awareness of fundamental linguistic concepts and an appreciation of the cultural dynamics associated with it. Apart from the structural and referential support seen in the course material, students will take advantage of the learning opportunities offered by multimedia resources that bring the sound, color, and shape of language to life.

Spanish III WL24054

This is a multi-skill Spanish III intermediate course that meets daily for one-hour sessions. It is designed to provide a general awareness of fundamental linguistic concepts and an appreciation of the cultural dynamics associated with it. Apart from the structural and referential support seen in the course material, students will take advantage of the learning opportunities offered by multimedia resources that bring the sound, color, and shape of language to life.

American Sign Language I Online 24852

American Sign Language is an online course taught through Michigan Virtual. Students can select to take this course if students are willing to purchase it themselves. This course allows them to learn and practice basic ASL concepts like colors, family, relationships, directions, greetings, and more.

American Sign Language I 24852

American Sign Language explores basic ASL vocabulary, phrases, conversational skills, sentence structure, and deaf culture. Students learn ASL signs pertaining to food, family, colors, relationships, greetings, emotions, places, and more. Students also learn how to sign and read fingerspelling.

German I Online WL24252

Students who aspire to learn German have the opportunity to engage in an independent learning process using the Transparent Language Online Course and multiple online resources. It is designed to provide a general awareness of fundamental linguistic concepts. Students will practice reading comprehension skills, and complete content-related assignments, projects, and evaluations. Students will acquire a diverse linguistic skill set consisting of grammar, vocabulary, reading comprehension, and oral language.

French I Online**WL24102**

Students who aspire to learn French have the opportunity to engage in an independent learning process using the Transparent Language Online Course's multiple online resources. It is designed to provide a general awareness of fundamental linguistic concepts. Students will practice reading comprehension skills, and complete content-related assignments, projects, and evaluations. Students will acquire a diverse linguistic skill set consisting of grammar, vocabulary, reading comprehension, and oral language.

Japanese I Online **WL02445201**

Students who aspire to learn Japanese have the opportunity to engage in an independent learning process using the Transparent Language Online Course. It is designed to provide a general awareness of fundamental linguistic concepts. Students will practice reading comprehension skills, and complete content-related assignments, projects, and evaluations. Students will acquire a diverse linguistic skill set consisting of grammar, vocabulary, reading comprehension, and oral language.

Mandarin Online **WL2498901**

Students who aspire to learn Mandarin have the opportunity to engage in an independent learning process using the Transparent Language Online Course. It is designed to provide a general awareness of fundamental linguistic concepts. Students will practice reading comprehension skills, and complete content-related assignments, projects, and evaluations. Students will acquire a diverse linguistic skill set consisting of grammar, vocabulary, reading comprehension, and oral language.

UNIQUE COURSES

Pathway Exploratory Seminar **SEMAE1**

This course explores the four academic/career pathways at GHS. The students are introduced to each pathway and the associated careers. Students complete three large projects over a given school year; each project focuses on a specific pathway: Early Middle College, Career Tech Center, or Environmental Ethics. In addition, Social Emotional Learning and Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion topics are also discussed and dissected to position students for high school and post-secondary success. This provides students with a firm foundation as students contemplate their pathway of choice in the coming years.

Study Skills* **MI22003**

This course is designed for students who need additional assistance with work completion. This course is only available to students who are dual enrolled, or have a formal IEP or 504 with “additional work time”

as a specific accommodation within their current plan. Students may only remain enrolled in Study Skills if students are not failing any classes. Students are only placed into one SS course per semester maximum.

Reading Skills* READING01

This course is designed for special education students who are significantly below grade level in reading comprehension, fluency, decoding, and overall ability to interact with written text. Students will work with a one-on-one tutor for 2+ hours per week engaging in high-interest fiction or nonfiction books.

Personal Contract Learning 22997

This is a course designed to provide students with the opportunity to learn in a personalized yet controlled environment outside the confines of a classroom (group situation). Students may pursue a subject in which students have some basic background that is supplementary to the currently offered curriculum. Students should talk with their teacher to discuss this option and next steps. Students may take this course in addition to their general courses or as a replacement for an elective course.

Prerequisite: Basic background in subject and committee approval. Grades Taught: 9, 10, 11, 12.

Lunch and Learning Tutoring Lab, *Non-Credit Granting Tutoring Time*

Learning and Learning Lab is a time for students to have tutoring opportunities with their instructors when students are in need of additional instruction or concept practice. Each day, GHS instructors meet with approved Learning Lab students.

Articles on Relationships* LA01065

This course is an exploration of the psychology of human relationships. Students will explore the following types of human relationships: romantic, workplace, self, family, friends, and acquaintances. Students do not discuss sex or sexuality in this course. Students explore questions such as, “*What is love?*” and “*How does power impact relationships?*”

ELECTIVE COURSES

Elective courses earn 0.5 or 0.25 credits per semester

3D Printing 3DP0214901

Students will analyze the functions of a 3D printer and engage in the Engineering Design process to design and produce physical objects to solve real-world problems.

Art History AH0515201

Art History surveys the global history of art from Prehistory through Contemporary.

Culinary Arts CA01605601

This course is for the beginner to learn basic food preparation skills. Topics include food safety, proper knife skills, recipe reading, proper equipment use, and microwave cooking. Students spend the majority of classroom time in a culinary setting practicing techniques.

Film Studies 05203

Students will study film as an art form, film techniques and terminology, genre, and social implications of film. Students investigate how ideas, values, and concepts are connected through film. In analyzing films, students will examine elements of plot, setting, style, and point-of-view.

Fine Art & Craft FAC0516501

Fine Art & Crafts is a class that focuses on developing the basic visual skills used by artists and designers working creatively in two and three dimensions. Conceived as a broad-based, integrative approach to learning as well as making, this entry-level class will sensitize students to processes of visual perception, two-dimensional construction, three-dimensional construction, and its potential for visual expression and communication. Working with point, line, shape, value, color, texture, and pattern, students are introduced to the form, language, vocabulary, concepts, and principles associated with organizing two-dimensional and 3D compositions.

Fit for Life FFL 0805201

Students engage in yoga, jogging, weight lifting, stretching, and other fitness activities to learn how to create a healthy lifestyle.

High Intensity Interval Training (HIIT) HF0805201

Students engage in intense interval exercises to learn healthy lifestyle habits.

Music Appreciation MUS0513901

Students bring their own instrument of choice and learn how to read notes, engage in improvisation, and learn songs together.

Music History MH00511701

This is a non-performance class that explores music of various styles through listening experiences. Various styles of music are covered (classical, folk, music theater, jazz, popular, etc.). Investigations of composers and performers integral to the styles are included in the class. Activities include listening, discussions, projects, and presentations on each style of music.

Nature Writing NW0110401

Nature Writing is collecting and organizing your observations, questions, connections, and explanations on the pages of a notebook using words, pictures, and numbers to build a deeper connection with nature.

Northern Naturalist NN1854901

Students learn plant identification, and seasonal shifts within nature, waterways, trees, and soil.

Peaceful Reading PR0104901

Students choose their own reading materials and read independently during class time. Silent reading improves students' understanding because it helps them concentrate on reading rather than pronunciation. This practice also allows students to read faster and improve comprehension. Silent reading also helps develop a love for reading for recreation or relaxation.

Quiz and Debate QD00119901

This **course** will develop and enhance the student's speaking ability through **class** speaking, **debating**, and performing.

Robotics and Entrepreneurship R2100901

This course introduces students to business ownership, robotics, and the skills to participate in our robotics team. Students will compete in small robotics competitions with coaches.

Theater T0505201

Students write scenes, plays, and musicals, and perform them. Students also learn set design and staging.

Weight Training WT0800901

This course will include information on proper weight training techniques, principles of weight training, nutrition as it relates to weight training, cardiovascular training, proper stretching and warm-up techniques, and overall weight room safety and etiquette.

Yearbook Y0519901

Students will create a school yearbook using an online platform. Students learn skills in photography, design, color theory, and student engagement.

Yoga Y0805201

Students will learn a series of yoga postures that will help promote strength, flexibility, mental, and cardiorespiratory health.