

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS 2010-2011

Mason High School

INCLUSION OF OFFERINGS DEPENDS UPON STUDENT INTEREST AND STAFF AVAILABILITY

SPECIAL EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

Emotionally Impaired (EI) classes follow the general education curriculum and do prepare students for the Michigan Merit Exam (MME) and are for diploma track students. Placements in these classes are based on recommendation of an IEP and must be signed by the Case Manager. Not all classes are offered every year, they are offered based on student need.

Emotionally Impaired Course Offerings

EI Consumer Education

EI Planning Your Future
Course # 8460

1 trimester

Case Manager Recommendation

This course is designed primarily for juniors and seniors preparing to exit the school setting. Emphasis is placed on the consumer education skills and knowledge necessary for independent living, personal money management, and employability. A resume, portfolio, mock job interview, and job shadow are requirements for credit to be given.

EI Freshman Focus
Course # 8490

1 trimester

Case Manager Recommendation

This course is designed to help freshmen transition into high school. Students will explore their strengths, weaknesses, disabilities and how they impact them in school. Emphasis rests on knowing and utilizing accommodations within other classes. Students will participate in teacher interviews, developing mission statements, and running their IEP for credit.

EI English

EI Freshman English
Course # 8401 Explore Identity
8402 Explore Action

2 trimesters

Case Manager Recommendation

This course follows the general education curriculum. This class is required of all freshmen. It continues the basic development of communication skills begun in the middle school. This is a comprehensive course, which provides students with instruction and drill to improve their abilities to read, write, speak and think. Grammar, writing, speech, literature and word study are taught. Each student must write four formal essays to receive credit for the course.

EI Sophomore English
Course # 8403 American Individuals
8404 American Institutions

2 trimesters

Case Manager Recommendation

This course follows the general education curriculum. It will emphasize literature, speech, and writing. The literature portion focuses on short stories, poetry, and novels by American authors. Students utilize the writing process during the writing portion, and grammar and usage lessons are presented as needed. Each student must successfully pass each trimester to complete the English requirement for graduation. Students must complete four formal writings to receive credit for this course.

EI Mathematics

EI Algebra 1

3 trimesters

Case Manager Recommendation

Course # 8414
8415
8416

This course follows the general education curriculum. A required course for graduation, in this course students will study number properties, linear functions, quadratic functions, exponential functions, piecewise and absolute value functions, and bivariate data.

EI Geometry

3 trimesters

Case Manager Recommendation

Course # 8417
8418
8419

This course follows the general education curriculum. A required course for graduation, in this course students will learn properties of and relationships between lines, polygons, and circles, as well as the effects of transformations on these geometric objects. Logical reasoning (proofs) will be used to verify properties previously learned and to make new connections.

EI Social Studies

EI Civics

1 trimester

Case Manager Recommendation

Course # 8434

This course follows the general education curriculum. A required course for graduation, this course examines the growth of democracy and the powers and responsibilities of our three major branches of government. This course will discuss the rights and responsibilities of an informed electorate, and the structure of our state and local government.

EI Economics

1 trimester

Case Manager Recommendation

Course # 8435

This course follows the general education curriculum. The economics course consists of an overview of both Microeconomics and Macroeconomics. Students will study the production, distribution, and consumption of goods and services while developing a better understanding of his/her role in the economy.

EI U.S. History

2 trimesters

Case Manager Recommendation

Course # 8431
8432

This course follows the general education curriculum. U.S. History is a required two trimester course which studies America's history, with a brief review of early American history to 1890, and thorough study of America from 1890 to current issues of globalization and shifting role of the United States on the world stage from 1980 to the present. The course will concentrate on major historical themes and examine particular eras.

EI World History & Geography

2 trimesters

Case Manager Recommendation

Course # 8436
8437

This course follows the general education curriculum. A required course for graduation, this course will survey the variety of cultures and civilizations of the world throughout history, with specific geographic information about world regions and fundamental geographic concepts.

Other Special Education Offerings

Resource Study Skills

1-3 trimesters

Course # 8383
8384
8385

This course is designed for students whose IEPs have determined the need for daily curricular teacher support. The class provides opportunities for the following: Guided study assistance, homework and project completion, test and quiz completion, one-on-one tutoring, instruction on time management and organizational strategies, academic enrichment activities, development of effective individual learning strategies and routines, support of IEP goals and identified academic needs, and self-determination activities. Students receive a Credit/No Credit grade for this course based on behaviors, on-task time, and participation.

Placements in the following classes are based on recommendation of an IEP and must be signed by the Case Manager. These classes are not considered as preparation for the Michigan Merit Exam (MME) and are not for the diploma track students.

English

Applied English

Course # 8201
8202
8203

3 trimesters

Basic language is a specific, systematic curriculum designed by literacy specialists, speech-language pathologists, and special educators to help struggling readers become more proficient. Basic Language is a reading and writing course that utilizes the following eight literacy stands: phonemic concepts, phonemic awareness, phoneme-grapheme correspondence/syllabication (focus on fluency and automaticity), word recognition/spelling (phonetically regular and non-phonetic words, vocabulary (semantic relationships, figurative language, morphology, reading comprehension (pre, during, and post reading, independent reading), writing (mechanics and composition), and English/Language Arts (grammar and usage, syntax and sentence structure, semantic relationships, figurative language, and morphology). Students will learn valuable reading skills that they may apply to their own reading and writing.

Math

Applied Math

Course # 8215
8216
8217

3 trimesters

This course emphasizes mastery of the four basic operations (addition, subtraction, multiplication, division) as well as an understanding of fractions, decimals, percents, measurement, money, and time. Story problems and practical life skills will be presented throughout.

Science

Applied Science

1 trimester

Course # 8225

This course covers a variety of science opportunities including classification of living organisms, human body structure and function, introductory to chemistry, and introductory to physics. Some Earth Science topics may be covered as well, including weather, ecology, the environment, and ecosystems. Opportunities to learn lab techniques while performing experiments and dissections will also be provided.

Social Studies

Applied Social Studies

1 trimester

Course # 8240

This course covers the core social studies courses. Students will learn to appreciate and practice their rights and responsibilities as a U.S. citizen and understand how political decisions affect their daily lives. An overview of both microeconomics and macroeconomics will be presented as students study the production, distribution, and consumption of goods and services. Students will increase their understanding of both the sequential and social events in American History. They will learn the trends and patterns and causes and effects of historical events and movements that guided our country's growth.