

<b>Art</b>	<p>Q: Does the art department offer AP credit? A: Yes, AP studio classes are found during junior and senior year.</p> <p>Q: If I am not good at art, should I not take an art class? A: All intro level art classes require no previous experience.</p> <p>Q: Do I need an art class? A: Any elective will help enrich your high school experience. Some colleges and universities require a fine arts credit.</p>
<b>Applied Tech</b>	<p>Q: Where can I learn more about the Applied Technology course offerings? A: The PHS Applied Technology Department website is a one stop shop place to learn about career pathways, certifications and college credit offerings: <a href="http://phsappliedtech.wixsite.com/home">http://phsappliedtech.wixsite.com/home</a></p> <p>Q: What types of career pathways does the Applied Technology department offer? A: We offer courses in the following pathways: engineering, automotive, building construction, manufacturing, computer repair, networking, cyber security, electronics, woodworking and Computer Aided Design (CAD).</p> <p>Q: What type of college and career opportunities does the Applied Technology department offer? A: The Applied Technology department has two courses listed on the Power of 15: T174 - Electronics and T202 - PLTW Introduction to Engineering Design. Additionally, many of the courses within the Applied Technology department offer college credit, honors weighted credit, dual credit with Harper College, industry certifications, and networking opportunities with industry partners that may lead to internships or apprenticeships.</p>
<b>Business</b>	<p>Q: Are there any business classes my incoming freshman can take in summer school? A: We have an online keyboarding class where students meet after summer school hours five times throughout the summer.</p> <p>Q: Are any business classes required for Freshmen? A: B184 Business Explorations -- while it is not a requirement itself, it does satisfy the graduation requirement for Consumer Education.</p> <p>Q: Why is there a reading requirement for B184 Business Explorations? A: It is a regular-paced class and one of the textbooks we reference is college-level.</p>
<b>English</b>	<p>Q: If I don't feel my student's test scores are representative of his/her skills, can s/he take a retest? A: There is no opportunity for retakes. For more details, see "Placement Exam" information on page 4 of PHS Transition Guide.</p> <p>Q: Can students take any English electives freshman year? A: English electives are not open to freshmen; however, there are a wide variety of English electives for sophomores, juniors and seniors.</p>
<b>ESL</b>	<p>Q: How are incoming freshmen placed into ESL courses? A: Students are placed into ESL courses through placement tests, ACCESS scores, and junior high recommendations.</p> <p>Q: How many levels of ESL are there? A: There are five levels of ESL, and most levels have two classes: a reading and writing. Students who are new to the country are placed into three ESL classes: reading, writing and vocabulary.</p> <p>Q: Are incoming freshmen required to attend summer school? A: Yes. We strongly encourage incoming freshmen to attend summer school.</p>

<b>FACS</b>	<p>Q: Do you offer any dual credit courses? A: Yes, we have dual credit available in all 3 pathways: design, culinary arts, and early childhood education.</p> <p>Q: Can my son/daughter take an FCS course all 4 years? A: Yes, students can take one or more FCS courses all four years and still fit in their required courses for graduation and AP courses.</p> <p>Q: Are any courses required for graduation? A: Consumer Management and Career Internship meet the Consumer requirement necessary for graduation. All Family and Consumer Science courses count toward the fine arts requirement necessary for graduation.</p> <p>Q: Why should my son/daughter take a Family Consumer Science course? A: All Family and Consumer Science courses give students the opportunity to explore a career prior to starting college, as well as to learn important skills for life after high school.</p>
<b>Guidance</b>	<p>Q: Who is my child's counselor? A: Incoming freshmen counselors are assigned over the summer. The counselor's name will be printed on your student's schedule and their ID.</p> <p>Q: Where is my child's counselor's office? A: Student Services is located across from the student cafeteria. We have three Student Assistance Teams: Scarlet, White and Gray. Your child's team will be on their ID.</p> <p>Q: How can I meet with my child's counselor? A: Make an appointment with your child's Student Assistance Team Clerk. Scarlet: 847-755-1670, White: 847-755-1671, Gray: 847-755-1672</p>
<b>Math</b>	<p>Q: How is a math placement for incoming freshman students determined? A: Freshman math placement is determined by a combination of the following data points: 8th grade teacher recommendation, score on the PSAT 8/9 given at Palatine HS in October, scores on comprehensive (benchmark) mathematics assessments given during the winter and spring 8th grade math course, and performance in required or optional summer school courses.</p> <p>Q: Can a student's initial math placement change? A: YES! Depending on the student performance on the winter and spring 8th grade Benchmark assessments the placement can change. Letters are sent out in the winter and spring to keep you informed of what the placement may be. Summer school may be required to keep the original placement.</p> <p>Q: What summer school course can my child take to help improve their math ability? A: If the incoming freshman student is currently placed in Algebra 1 (M113, M114 or M117) the student should take the 13-day course M917, Preparation for Algebra1 or M927, Preparation for Algebra 1 Online. If the incoming freshman student is currently placed in Geometry, (M217 or M218) the student should take the 13-day course M992, Preparation for Geometry. If the incoming freshman student is currently placed in Algebra 2 (M328), he/she should take the 13-day course M993, Preparation for Accelerated Algebra 2.</p> <p>Q: What if I am not sure or do not know if my child will be required to take summer school to keep current math placement? A: It is suggested that if there is any chance that your student may be required to take summer school, you register for summer school as early as possible, usually April. A full refund can be given up until the 2nd day of summer school. This will allow your student to enroll in the preferred semester of summer school and make sure there are seats available at Palatine High School.</p> <p>Q: What if my child is required to take summer school but does not?</p>

<p><b>Cont. Math</b></p>	<p>A: A letter is sent to each student by May if summer school is required for current placement. The letter will state which course the student will be enrolled in if summer school is not attended. For example, students who are originally placed in Geometry but do not take summer school will be enrolled in Algebra 1; students who are originally enrolled in Algebra 2 but do not take summer school will be enrolled in Geometry.</p> <p>Q: What calculator is required for math class? A: Students in Algebra 1 and Geometry use a scientific calculator such as the TI-30 or TI-34 which costs under \$20. Students in Algebra 2 or higher use a graphing calculator such as TI-84, which costs about \$120.</p> <p>Q: If my student is interested in computer science, what class should they take? A: All level math students can take M256, Introduction to Computer Science Software. Students enrolled in an accelerated math course as freshman like M218 or M328 can take M319, AP Computer Science Principles. Please refer to the D211 Curriculum Guide for specifics topics taught in each course.</p> <p>Q: Who should join the Palatine High School Math Team? A: Students in accelerated math courses are strongly encouraged to join the Math Team, but the math team has all level of math students. Just ask the current math teacher how to join and they will let you know what to do.</p>
<p><b>Music</b></p>	<p>Q: Can students participate in more than one curricular performing ensemble? A: Yes, we have many students who are involved in two curricular ensembles during the school day. It can be done successfully and just takes careful planning with your counselor.</p> <p>Q: When are students eligible to go on a trip with the music program? A: Students who are enrolled in orchestra and band can take part in trips their freshman year. Students in the choir program must wait until they are a member of Concert Choir to go on trips.</p> <p>Q: I want to participate in athletics. Can I do both music and sports? A: Yes! While you may have some music-related rehearsals/concerts after school, the directors and coaches work with you to balance your commitments to both teams. However, you need to stay organized and communicate conflicts early enough to allow for conversation and planning.</p>
<p><b>Science</b></p>	<p>Q: What elective courses can my freshman student take? A: There are no elective science courses for freshman enrollment.</p> <p>Q: What Biology course will my freshman student take? A: All freshmen will take freshman Biology. Teacher recommendations from junior high school and freshman placement testing will determine the academic level.</p> <p>Q: What will my freshman student learn in biology? A: During freshman Biology, students will study how organisms live and grow, how and why organisms interact with their environment, what the effects are of these interactions, how Earth's surface processes and human activities affect each other, how characteristics of one generation are passed to the next, how individuals of the same species and even siblings have different characteristics, and the evidence that shows how different species are related.</p> <p>Q: Is freshman Biology aligned with Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS)? A: Yes, freshman Biology is aligned to the NGSS, as are the other courses in the Science department.</p> <p>Q: What is the difference between accelerated Biology (S138) and regular Biology (S137)?</p>

<b>Cont.Science</b>	A: While the topics covered will be the same among all levels of freshman biology, students in accelerated Biology will cover material more thoroughly and quickly and will be required to demonstrate greater application of material.
<b>Social Studies</b>	<p>Q: What is covered in AP Human Geography? A: The course follows a thematic approach to the current issues concerning the world, including population &amp; migration patterns; languages and religions of cultures; agriculture, including GMO's and current food production challenges; urban patterns &amp; planning; and country development.</p> <p>Q: How much homework is there in AP Human Geography, World Geography, and World History? A: In AP Human Geography, each chapter spans about 2 weeks of class. Each chapter is 40 pages long, including maps and pictures, and students are expected to read, take notes, and write summaries of each section. They are given at least one class period per unit to work on notes in class. This course is certainly the most manageable work load of any AP academic course offered. In World Geography or World History, students can expect one hour's worth of homework per week with some time in class to complete work.</p> <p>Q: What credit will I get in taking AP Human Geography, World Geography, or World History? A: For AP Human Geography, a student can earn college credit for a 100-level Geography course if they earn a 3, 4, or 5 on the AP Exam. For World Geography and World History students will earn 1.0 Social Studies Credit.</p>
<b>Special Education</b>	<p>Q: How will my son/daughter's Special Education classes/services be determined? A: All decisions regarding students' placement, programming and supports will be made by the IEP team at the winter/spring transition IEP meeting.</p> <p>Q: My son/daughter has an IEP transition meeting in the winter/spring to determine placement and classes. Should he/she still make elective course selections now? A: Yes. These options will be discussed at the transition meeting and any changes related to the transition plan or based on IEP team recommendation will be updated at that time.</p>
<b>World Language</b>	<p>Q: My child took two years of a language (Spanish or French) in junior high. What class should he/she take? A: As a general guideline, students who earn an A or a B in their second year of a language class should sign up for L266 (Spanish 2); however, students who need a refresher should sign up for L166 (Spanish 1). When determining which course to choose, please consider the following: how did your child do in junior high Spanish class? What did his/her 8th grade teacher recommend him/her to take? Finally, when in doubt, please speak with your junior high teacher.</p> <p>Q: Why should you take German? A: Germany is a leading economic powerhouse on the world stage.</p> <p>Q: Do you need to take a language to go on any exchange trips? A: To attend a Spanish or German exchange trip, it is a benefit to know the language, but not a requirement. Students are required to take French to attend a French exchange.</p> <p>Q: Do students need to be enrolled in a language class to host foreign exchange students or to travel abroad? A: No, students do not need to enroll in a course to host or travel but it would help.</p> <p>Q: Can a student get AP credit if starting a language as a freshman? A: Yes! Some advanced courses in curriculum allow for a student in French and German to take an AP course as their final language class; in Spanish, students can end up in either in dual credit or AP courses.</p>