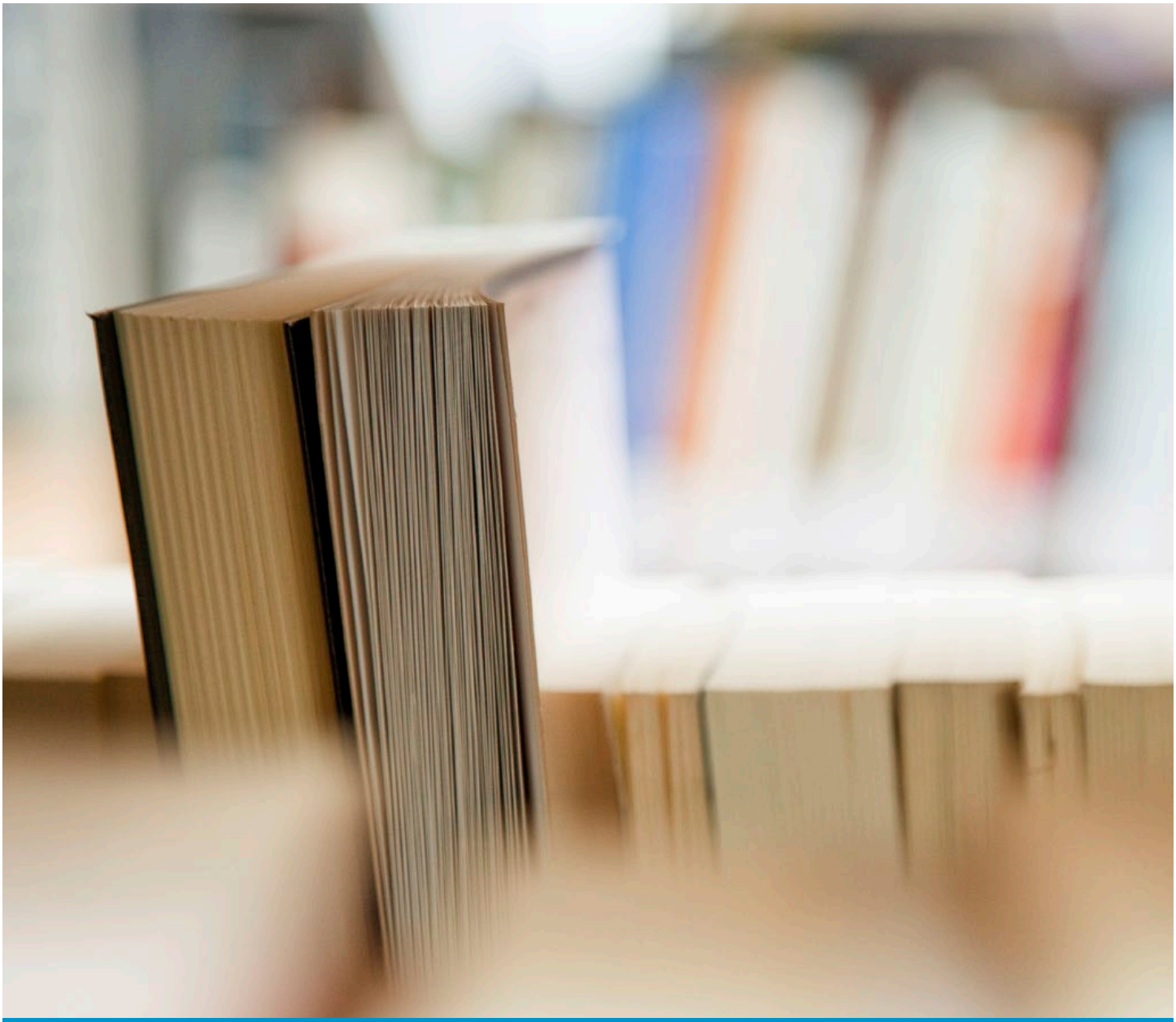

Farmington Valley Diagnostic Center Program of Studies

CREC Excellence in Education

FDC FARMINGTON VALLEY DIAGNOSTIC CENTER

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2024 - 2025

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FARMINGTON VALLEY DIAGNOSTIC CENTER PROGRAM OF STUDIES

At Farmington Valley Diagnostic Center (FVDC), we recognize the unique needs of our students and are committed to providing a holistic educational experience beyond traditional academic instruction. Our core courses are thoughtfully designed and taught by our dedicated teachers, trained to integrate therapeutic and educational strategies that support diverse student needs.

Given the center's specialized focus on short-term placements, our courses are intentionally structured to align with the quarter system, offering 0.25 credits upon completing each course. This design allows students to accumulate credits efficiently, especially for those working towards specific academic goals within their high school transcript. Furthermore, our classes are designed to work harmoniously, allowing students to earn a full (1) or half (0.5) credit experience when completing four or two complementary courses. This integrated approach supports a broad range of differentiation in the classroom, catering to individual learning styles and needs.

Our curriculum is carefully crafted to meet high school standards while ensuring students gain academic knowledge and develop essential life skills and social-emotional competencies. Through our therapeutic whole-student approach, students learn to generalize their learning, build resilience, and cultivate strong interpersonal skills that will serve them well beyond the classroom. At FVDC, we are dedicated to empowering our students to thrive academically, socially, and emotionally, setting them on a path toward future success and well-being.

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Who We Are

The Farmington Valley Diagnostic Center (FVDC) is a specialized educational setting that provides comprehensive diagnostic and educational services to students with unique learning needs. Established to support students, families, and school districts, FVDC focuses on individualized assessment and intervention strategies that address specific academic, behavioral, and emotional challenges. Through a multidisciplinary approach, FVDC offers tailored educational plans to enhance student learning and development, ensuring that each student receives the support necessary to succeed in their educational journey. With a team of experienced professionals, FVDC is deeply committed to fostering a supportive environment that promotes academic achievement and personal growth, providing families with peace of mind about their children's well-being.

Our Mission

To provide compassionate and individualized programming to students in grades 6-12, identify their unique behavioral, social/emotional, and academic needs to enable them to return to the most appropriate and least restrictive educational environment and meet with ongoing success.

Our Intent

Our primary focus at the Farmington Valley Diagnostic Center (FVDC) is preparing students for the multifaceted challenges and opportunities they will encounter. Our comprehensive approach to education emphasizes developing essential skills and qualities that enable students to thrive in diverse settings and situations.

At FVDC, we are committed to providing students with the skills, knowledge, and support they need to thrive in school, future careers, and life. Through personalized instruction, therapeutic interventions, and a supportive community environment, we empower students to reach their full potential and become confident, capable, and compassionate individuals.

PORTRAIT OF A STUDENT LEARNER

FVDC
FARMINGTON VALLEY DIAGNOSTIC CENTER

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OUR CORE VALUES

We Solve Problems

We effectively identify, analyze, and address challenges, whether they involve struggles or the pursuit of success, by adapting to changing circumstances and accepting reality.

We Have Grit

We can endure setbacks, persevere through challenges, and maintain determination while cultivating resilience and stamina to overcome obstacles and strive for success.

We Actively Take the Next Steps

We actively navigate our journey to adulthood by developing life skills, self-reliance, independence, citizenship, and compassion, instilling a sense of responsibility and engagement to prepare us for future challenges.

We Effectively Communicate

We have effective communication skills, including active listening, socialization, teamwork, and conflict resolution, all grounded in social-emotional competencies that foster connection and understanding.

We Self-Advocate

We advocate for our needs, rights, and aspirations, demonstrating autonomy, self-awareness, self-regulation, and self-determination with support.

We Use Critical Thinking

We use critical thinking skills to navigate complex issues and make decisions within our circle of influence.

Introduction to the Program of Studies

The Farmington Valley Diagnostic Center (FVDC) Program of Studies stands out with its guide to our students' high school courses and academic opportunities. This unique program is designed to offer a diverse range of courses that cater to various interests, abilities, and career aspirations. Our approach, which emphasizes core academic subjects and specialized programs, is tailored to address each student's unique needs, making it a valuable resource for students, families, and district partners.

The Program of Studies outlines detailed information on course content, credit, and expected instruction aligned with curriculum requirements. FVDC is dedicated to providing a rigorous and supportive educational environment that fosters academic excellence and personal growth. This guide aims to help students and their families make informed decisions about their educational journey and to ensure that every student is equipped with the knowledge and skills necessary for future success. This guide is also designed to assist our district partners in developing an appropriate educational program and outlining a meaningful high school transcript that meets Connecticut standards.

Framework for the Program of Studies

The Farmington Valley Diagnostic Center (FVDC) Program of Studies is structured around a framework tailored to meet the needs of students during their short-term educational placement. FVDC is not designed to be a comprehensive high school and, as a result, does not offer the full range of courses often offered in most high schools; rather, it focuses on providing a holistic educational approach inclusive of the social and emotional development needs of the students who participate in the program. The program addresses the most immediate needs of the student population while building lifelong skills that help students reintegrate into their comprehensive high school experiences. Therefore, the framework of the Program Studies reflects this design by offering three major types of courses: Core Courses, Extension Courses, and Uniquely Tailored Courses.

Types of Courses

Core Courses: These courses, fundamental to the Farmington Valley Diagnostic Center (FVDC) framework, are offered to all students throughout the year. They teach essential

academic subjects and are designed to maintain continuity in students' education. These courses ensure students receive a consistent and rigorous educational experience at FVDC. The courses are aligned with the Connecticut state high school graduation requirements, and the instruction delivered is aligned with national and state standards, instilling confidence in students about the quality of their education. As with all courses at FVDC, these courses are differentiated to meet the individual needs of each student.

Extension Courses: These flexible courses can be selected based on each student's needs. Extension courses offer opportunities for students to explore areas of interest or address specific learning areas. They are designed to meet federal transition services requirements or expand opportunities to meet Connecticut state high school requirements.

Uniquely Tailored Courses: These courses, developed in close collaboration with the student's home district, are specifically designed to meet unique educational needs as they arise. These customized courses address particular academic, behavioral, or social-emotional challenges and are developed to provide targeted interventions and support, ensuring a comprehensive and holistic approach to education.

Through this framework, FVDC ensures that each student receives a personalized educational experience that addresses academic and social-emotional development. The goal is to support students in achieving their full potential during their placement and to prepare them for successful reintegration into their community educational settings. This personalized approach makes students feel understood and supported, fostering a sense of belonging and confidence in their academic journey.

Grading Practices

Farmington Valley Diagnostic Center (FVDC) is committed to the highest standards for student development while providing a strong and supportive approach that provides students with the greatest opportunity for success. Student progress is continuously monitored and systematically evaluated through regular assessments, teacher observations, and student feedback to ensure the best educational outcomes. Our approach emphasizes academic achievement and the development of attitudes, effort, and personal growth. We adhere to established reporting schedules and promptly communicate with

parents regarding potential academic concerns. This continuous monitoring of student progress ensures that parents and students are always informed, providing a sense of security and confidence in the educational process.

Students will receive regular report cards during their time at FVDC. Reporting dates are determined annually and included on the school calendar. Planning and Placement Teams (PPT) can make decisions regarding an individual student's grading practices.

The staff at FVDC communicates frequently with parents and guardians, as well as our district partners, regarding student progress. If a student is at risk of failing a course or grade, our students' team members will be informed as early as possible.

The student's home district is responsible for managing students' final grades. FVDC provides the necessary information to support the home district in making informed decisions about student records. During a student's attendance at the program, FVDC regularly provides grades and progress reports to home districts. Upon the student's exit from the program, FVDC supplies grades, course information, and earned credits to the home district for inclusion in the student's educational record.

Credits

At Farmington Valley Diagnostic Center (FVDC), our approach to course credits reflects the unique nature of our program, which operates on a quarter-based system where courses are assigned 0.25 credits. This structure aligns with the short-term nature of our educational model, allowing students to engage deeply with each subject area within a condensed timeframe. Courses at FVDC are intentionally designed to be modular and cohesive, enabling them to be seamlessly strung together to fulfill larger credit requirements, such as 0.5 or 1.0-credit courses for students who remain in the program for longer durations.

When grades and credits are reported back to the home district for inclusion in the student's transcript and educational record, FVDC ensures that each course's credits accurately reflect the student's achievement and the rigor of the coursework completed. FVDC does not provide final grades for courses, but home districts can create final grades using the information provided by FVDC. This framework supports flexibility in academic

planning and provides a comprehensive view of the student's educational progress at FVDC.

Transcripts

Transcripts are crucial in documenting and communicating students' academic progress and achievements. Transcripts are compiled to comprehensively record a student's performance, including grades earned, course information, and credits achieved. A student's home district maintains the student's final grades and transcripts. FVDC provides the necessary data to our district partners to support accurately recording and managing students' educational records. Upon a student's exit from FVDC, we give a record of courses taken, including course information, grades, and credits earned, to ensure that the home district can accurately update the student's transcript and educational record. Because course titles are not always the same from district to district, the home district will determine what is recorded on a student's transcript based on the information provided by FVDC.

Decisions made during the Planning and Placement Team (PPT) can affect the student's educational plan, impacting the student's course of study and the transcript content. Transcripts reflect any adjustments or accommodations made in response to the student's educational plan, ensuring that all relevant information is considered in their academic record. By maintaining rigorous standards and providing detailed records, FVDC supports students' academic and future endeavors, contributing to their overall educational success.

Core Courses

At Farmington Valley Diagnostic Center (FVDC), our core courses, the foundation of our educational program, are offered consistently throughout the year. Each course is meticulously crafted to meet the standards of the Common Core State Standards and other educational benchmarks, ensuring that students receive a high-quality academic experience that aligns with state and national expectations. Beyond academic excellence, our core courses are designed holistically, integrating critical life skills and social-emotional learning into the curriculum. Recognizing the diverse needs of our student population, our teachers are specially trained to provide accommodations and differentiation strategies that support every learner, fostering an inclusive and supportive learning environment.

At FVDC, our commitment is intentionally different than traditional education. We aim to empower our students with the knowledge, skills, and resilience they need to succeed academically, socially, and emotionally, both in and out of the classroom. Our core courses reflect this commitment, offering a well-rounded educational experience that prepares students for lifelong learning and growth.

English

The Farmington Valley Diagnostic Center (FVDC) English courses empower students with essential life skills and a resilient mindset while aligning with Common Core Standards. Our instruction emphasizes the reciprocal nature of reading and writing, fostering critical thinking and reasoning. Students learn to access, interpret, analyze, and evaluate ideas and information, draw evidence-based conclusions, synthesize new learning with prior knowledge, and reflect critically on their learning journey. Through self-reliance and compassion, students navigate challenges, preparing for success in college and career pathways.

Freshman English Academy A-D

Freshman English Academy courses are designed to provide first-year high school students with a strong foundation in English language arts. These courses develop essential reading, writing, speaking, and critical thinking skills. Students will engage with various literary genres, including fiction, non-fiction, poetry, and drama, to enhance their comprehension

and analytical abilities. Key components of these courses include exploring diverse texts to build interpretive skills and foster an appreciation for literature, emphasizing clear and effective writing through narrative, expository, persuasive, and analytical essays, and practicing drafting, revising, and editing to improve their writing processes. Additionally, students will participate in activities to enhance oral communication skills, such as presentations, discussions, and collaborative projects.

These courses also include grammar, syntax, and vocabulary instruction to support proficient writing and speaking. Freshman English Academy courses aim to cultivate a love of reading and writing while preparing students for the academic challenges of high school and beyond. It encourages creativity, critical thinking, and effective communication, laying the groundwork for future success.

English Seminar A-D

The English Seminars A-D for grade 10 offers a comprehensive literature and composition exploration vital for high school success and beyond. Students delve into the complexities of the human condition as portrayed in literature while honing critical thinking skills essential for navigating life's challenges. These foundation courses expose students to various texts, including contemporary and classical fiction. Through these texts, students learn to analyze and interpret complex ideas, developing the ability to construct clear and persuasive arguments supported by relevant evidence.

These courses emphasize effective communication, teamwork, and conflict resolution, essential skills for navigating social and professional environments. Students are encouraged to listen actively, think critically, and make decisive decisions while exploring the concepts of compassion and citizenship. Overall, the English Seminars at FVDC offer students a robust foundation in literature and composition while equipping them with the essential life skills necessary for success in the modern world.

English Symposium A-D

English Symposiums A-D are designed for 11th-grade students to deepen their mastery of English language arts. These courses focus on refining skills in literary analysis, critical thinking, and sophisticated writing. Students will explore an array of complex literary genres, including advanced fiction, non-fiction, poetry, and drama, to further develop their

interpretive and analytical abilities. Key components of the courses include engaging with challenging texts to enhance critical reading skills and appreciation for diverse literary forms, emphasizing advanced writing techniques through various essay styles, including research-based, analytical, and argumentative essays, and honing the drafting, revising, and editing processes for polished and impactful writing. Additionally, students will participate in activities to advance their oral communication skills, such as in-depth discussions, debates, and collaborative presentations.

These courses also integrate advanced grammar, syntax, and vocabulary instruction to support articulate and effective communication. English Symposiums aim to foster a deep appreciation for literature and writing while equipping students with the skills necessary for post-secondary education and professional success. They encourage intellectual curiosity, sophisticated critical thinking, and eloquent communication, preparing students for the rigorous demands of higher-level English studies and beyond.

Senior English Seminars A-D

Senior English Seminars A-D are advanced courses for 12th-grade students to culminate their high school English language arts education. These courses are broken into four semester-long courses focusing on sophisticated literary analysis, advanced writing skills, and critical thinking. Students will engage with challenging texts, including contemporary and classical literature, non-fiction, poetry, and drama, to enhance their analytical and interpretive abilities. Key components of the courses include an in-depth exploration of complex literary themes and structures, emphasizing advanced writing techniques through various forms, such as research papers, literary critiques, and argumentative essays. Students will refine their drafting, revising, and editing processes to produce polished, scholarly work. Additionally, these courses incorporate activities to develop further oral communication skills, including seminars, debates, and presentations.

Advanced grammar, syntax, and vocabulary instruction will support articulate and precise writing and speaking. Senior English Seminars foster a deep appreciation for literature and advanced writing while preparing students for the demands of post-secondary education and professional environments. They encourage intellectual engagement, sophisticated critical thinking, and effective communication, equipping students with the skills necessary for academic and professional success.

English Courses Scope and Sequence

PS Code	SCED Code	Grade	Course Category	Course	Semester	Credit	Alternative Course Titles
QCEN1000	01001	9	Freshman English Academy	Freshman English Academy A	August - November	0.25	English 9; English I, Literature and Composition
				Freshman English Academy B	November - January	0.25	
				Freshman English Academy C	January - April	0.25	
				Freshman English Academy D	April - June	0.25	
QCEN2000	01002	10	English Seminar	English Seminar A	August - November	0.25	English 10; English II, Literature and Composition
				English Seminar B	November - January	0.25	
				English Seminar C	January - April	0.25	
				English Seminar D	April - June	0.25	
QCEN3000	01003	11	English Symposium	English Symposium A	August - November	0.25	English 11; English III, Literature and Composition
				English Symposium B	November - January	0.25	
				English Symposium C	January - April	0.25	
				English Symposium D	April - June	0.25	
QCEN4000	01004	12	Senior English Seminar	Senior English Seminar A	August - November	0.25	English 12; English IV, Literature and Composition; English Seminars
				Senior English Seminar B	November - January	0.25	
				Senior English Seminar C	January - April	0.25	
				Senior English Seminar D	April - June	0.25	

Mathematics

Farmington Valley Diagnostic Center (FVDC) mathematics courses are designed to empower students with the essential skills and knowledge needed to navigate numerical constructs and real-world applications. Our instruction emphasizes problem-solving, critical thinking, and adaptability, equipping students with the tools to overcome obstacles to achieve success. As students progress through our math courses, they develop a strong foundation in mathematical concepts, build resilience, and foster a growth mindset. This mindset, which encourages learning from mistakes and embracing challenges, is key to our students' success. Additionally, our courses promote self-reliance, independence, and effective communication, preparing students for future transitions into college, adulthood, and beyond. Focusing on collaborative learning and hands-on experiences, our math programs inspire students to persevere through difficulties and cultivate a lifelong passion for learning.

Algebra IA-ID

Algebra IA-ID focuses on the fundamental concepts of linear and exponential functions, which are crucial for understanding real-world phenomena. Students will develop fluency in analyzing, writing, and interpreting equations and inequalities, equipping them with essential problem-solving skills for real-world applications. This practical approach reassures students and parents about the course's relevance. Students will use critical thinking and reasoning to construct and critique mathematical arguments. They will learn to analyze data effectively, utilize modeling techniques to solve complex problems, and work proficiently with function notation. Students will explore and navigate between multiple representations of functions, including numerical, algebraic, graphical, and recursive forms.

By the end of these courses, students will have gained a deeper understanding of algebraic principles, enhanced their critical thinking abilities, and built a strong mathematical foundation.

Algebra IIA-IID

Algebra IIA-IID is designed to deepen students' understanding of algebraic concepts and functions, setting a strong foundation for further mathematical exploration. These courses build upon the algebraic principles learned in Algebra I, focusing on intricate topics such as

systems of linear equations and inequalities, quadratic functions, exponential, logarithmic, inverse power, square root, cube root, and polynomial functions. Students will engage in real-world problem-solving, applying mathematical models to practical situations and honing their reasoning ability abstractly and quantitatively.

With a balanced blend of review and new material, Algebra II emphasizes adaptability, resilience, and critical thinking, preparing students for success in subsequent advanced math courses, college, and beyond. These skills' lifelong benefits, including enhanced problem-solving abilities and a deeper understanding of the world, are highlighted, making students and parents feel optimistic about the course's impact. Students are equipped with essential skills for navigating challenges, fostering independence, and making informed decisions in various life contexts.

Geometry A-D

Geometry A-D are comprehensive courses designed to deepen students' geometric understanding and enhance their problem-solving skills. Geometry challenges students to think critically and creatively while exploring various geometric concepts. Students will explore triangle congruence and similarity, geometric constructions, transformations, coordinate geometry, and right triangle trigonometry. Through hands-on activities and dynamic geometry software, students will explore and prove quadrilaterals and circle theorems, employing inductive and deductive reasoning.

These courses emphasize applying mathematical concepts to real-world scenarios, fostering abstract and quantitative reasoning. Geometry focuses on modeling and problem-solving and encourages students to embrace challenges, develop self-reliance, and cultivate a growth mindset.

The Essentials of Financial Management A-B

The Essentials of Financial Management A-B courses comprehensively explore the fundamental principles of managing money effectively in today's intricate financial environment. Students will engage with practical aspects of personal finance, including earning, saving, spending, and investing money. The courses teach essential economic concepts such as income earning and reporting, credit management, investment types, and

insurance protection, ensuring students understand how these elements impact financial health.

Through various interactive activities, discussions, and projects, students will learn theoretical aspects of financial management and apply their knowledge to real-world scenarios. They will explore the range of financial services institutions offer, gain insights into effective financial planning, and understand its significance for achieving economic independence and stability. By the end of the courses, students will have developed practical skills for understanding the basics of financial management in their personal lives and the world.

Planning Your Financial Future A-B

Planning Your Financial Future A-B are specialized courses that provide students with essential skills for effective personal financial management and budgeting. These courses focus on practical strategies and tools that empower students to take control of their finances, plan for the future, and achieve financial independence. Students will gain key financial skills, including money management and building a realistic budget tailored to individual needs and goals. Students will learn to make informed money management and budgeting decisions through hands-on activities and real-world scenarios.

Emphasizing the application of algebraic and numeric concepts, students will develop critical thinking and problem-solving skills essential for managing their finances effectively. The courses encourage adaptability, resilience, and self-reliance, equipping students with the tools to navigate financial challenges and make informed decisions throughout their lives.

Math Courses Scope and Sequence

PS Code	SCED Code	Grade	Course Category	Course	Semester	Credit	Alternative Course Titles
QCMA1000	02052	9-12	Algebra I	Algebra IA	August - November	0.25	Algebra I, Algebra IA, Algebra IB
				Algebra IB	November - January	0.25	
				Algebra IC	January - April	0.25	
				Algebra ID	April - June	0.25	

PS Code	SCED Code	Grade	Course Category	Course	Semester	Credit	Alternative Course Titles
QCMA2000	02056	9-12	Algebra II	Algebra IIA	August - November	0.25	Algebra II, Algebra IIA, Algebra IIB
				Algebra IIB	November - January	0.25	
				Algebra IIC	January - April	0.25	
				Algebra IID	April - June	0.25	
CQ2100	02072	9-12	Geometry	Geometry A	August - November	0.25	Geometry
				Geometry B	November - January	0.25	
				Geometry C	January - April	0.25	
				Geometry D	April - June	0.25	
QCMA3000	19262	9-12	Personal Finance	The Essentials of Financial Management A	August - November	0.25	Personal Finances, Finances
				Planning Your Financial Future A	November - January	0.25	
				The Essentials of Financial Management B	January - April	0.25	
				Planning Your Financial Future B	April - June	0.25	

Social Studies

History and social studies courses at the Farmington Valley Diagnostic Center (FVDC) aim to cultivate essential understanding and skills for effective citizenship in a democratic society and a globally interdependent world. Students are encouraged to explore diverse cultures. Instruction equips students with the tools to navigate the complexities of life, past and present. They develop the capacity for problem-solving and critical thinking. Moreover, the courses foster qualities essential for responsible citizenship, such as compassion and effective communication. Students learn the importance of collaboration and conflict resolution, preparing them to engage constructively in society. Ultimately, the history and social studies courses at FVDC instill an understanding of the historical and social complexities of the world and empower students with the skills and mindset necessary to shape a better future for themselves and society.

Indigenous Peoples in North America

The Indigenous Peoples in North America course explores Indigenous communities' diverse histories, achievements, struggles, perspectives, and collaborative efforts across the continent. Students will examine Indigenous history as a crucial component of United States history, teaching significant topics such as Federal Indian policy, land issues, reservations, and the rich cross-cultural influences reflected in Indigenous literature, art, music, and language. Students will engage in critical discussions and projects that foster problem-solving skills and critical thinking, essential for appreciating and respecting diverse viewpoints. The course aims to cultivate compassion, resilience, and a deeper understanding of global citizenship, empowering students to contribute positively to their communities and society.

The course offers a focused study on the sovereign-recognized tribes of Connecticut, enabling students to understand local Indigenous histories and contemporary issues. Through authentic learning experiences, including primary source analysis and hands-on experiences, students will gain a nuanced understanding of Indigenous peoples' historical and current perspectives.

The Formation of the U.S.

The Formation of the U.S. course enhances students' conceptual understanding of the nation's origins and development. This course delves into the cultural, economic, political, and social factors shaping the United States. Through an in-depth study of these influences, students will examine how various developments and events interconnect and contribute to the broader narrative of American history. Students will critically analyze multiple historical sources, including texts, visual materials, and primary documents. They will practice contextualizing historical events within their specific periods, making connections between different occurrences, and constructing historically defensible arguments based on the evidence they gather. This approach aims to develop students' ability to evaluate and interpret diverse perspectives and contexts.

The course strongly emphasizes the principles of citizenship, encouraging students to become critical consumers of historical and contemporary information. By equipping them with skills to navigate and assess resources, interpret social contexts, and construct well-supported claims, the course prepares students to be informed and active participants in

civic life. Through these efforts, students will develop a deeper appreciation for the complexities of American history and its ongoing impact on modern society.

Paths to Equality in the Civil Rights Movement

In the Paths to Equality in the Civil Rights Movement course, students will comprehensively explore the Civil Rights Movement, analyzing the multifaceted struggle for equality experienced by marginalized communities. The course begins with examining the movement's origins, including the historical, social, and political contexts that gave rise to the fight for civil rights. Students will delve into the various forms of racial inequality that have persisted throughout American history, examining how these issues have been addressed and challenged over time. Through detailed study and analysis, students will investigate key events, figures, and strategies within the Civil Rights Movement, gaining insight into the complex dynamics that shaped this pivotal historical period. The course will emphasize the development of critical thinking and problem-solving skills as students engage with primary and secondary sources to build a nuanced understanding of historical and contemporary civil rights issues.

Students will foster compassion, recognizing the importance of effective communication and active citizenship in addressing social justice concerns. The course aims to prepare students to participate actively in ongoing discussions about equality and human rights by encouraging thoughtful engagement with diverse perspectives and promoting a commitment to positive societal contributions. Overall, the course seeks to equip students with the knowledge and skills necessary to understand the significant impacts of the Civil Rights Movement and to apply these lessons in their efforts toward creating a more equitable and just society.

The Story of Today in America's Journey

The Story of Today in America's Journey is a comprehensive course focusing on American history, particularly the key events, movements, and transformations that have shaped the United States from the late 19th century to the present. This course provides students with a nuanced understanding of the complex forces that continue to influence American society, politics, culture, and economy. By examining primary and secondary sources, students will develop critical thinking skills, analyze cause-and-effect relationships, and evaluate the impact of historical decisions on contemporary issues. The course strongly emphasizes the

development of essential life skills, including problem-solving and effective communication, which are crucial for success in any field. Students will engage in class discussions, debates, and collaborative projects that foster teamwork and conflict resolution. They will also explore the concepts of citizenship, self-advocacy, autonomy, and self-awareness, preparing them to become informed and active participants in society. As students navigate the complexities of modern U.S. history, they will gain insights into the challenges faced by previous generations, the struggles for equality and justice, and the resilience and determination that have shaped the nation's character.

By examining historical perspectives and analyzing current events, students will be better equipped to understand the realities of today's world, make informed decisions about their future, and contribute positively to their communities and society. This course encourages students to think critically, embrace diversity, and recognize the interconnectedness of the past, present, and future. It aims to inspire a lifelong appreciation for history and a commitment to responsible citizenship in an ever-changing global landscape.

The Constitution

The Constitution course comprehensively explores the United States Constitution, strongly focusing on its development, structure, and enduring significance. Students will begin by tracing the historical context and events that led to the drafting and ratification of this pivotal document. The course will explore the principles and philosophical influences that shaped the Constitution's creation. Key concepts such as the separation of powers, federalism, and the protection of individual rights will be examined in depth. Students will study how these principles are reflected in the structure of the federal government and how they contribute to the balance and functionality of American democracy.

The course will involve a detailed analysis of the Constitution's text, including its original articles and subsequent amendments. Students will investigate these amendments' historical and contemporary interpretations, evaluating their impact on American society and the legal system. Interactive activities, discussions, and case studies will enable students to apply their knowledge and develop critical thinking skills. They will debate constitutional interpretation and apply constitutional principles to current issues, fostering a deeper appreciation for the Constitution as a dynamic and living document. Through this course, students will build their historical perspective and civic literacy, gaining an

understanding of the Constitution's role in shaping American government and society. They will be empowered to recognize the Constitution's relevance in contemporary debates and its importance in guiding and governing the nation.

Civic Duties in Action

The Civic Duties in Action course is designed to actively engage students in understanding and practicing the principles of effective citizenship. The course emphasizes the importance of critical thinking and the active role of citizens in shaping and contributing to society. Students will gain insight into the rights and responsibilities that come with citizenship. Students will explore how the structure and functions of the American government are designed to empower them to participate meaningfully in the political process. This includes examining the democratic decision-making processes, the role of civic participation, and the impact of individual actions on public policy and community well-being. The course goes beyond rote memorization of facts; it challenges students to think critically about current events, historical contexts, and their roles in civic life.

Students will develop problem-solving, adaptability, and resilience skills through various activities, discussions, and projects. They will learn to navigate complex societal issues, engage with diverse perspectives, and articulate their viewpoints effectively. The course will emphasize practical applications of civic knowledge, including engaging in community service, participating in local governance, and advocating for social change. Students will be encouraged to reflect on their civic duties and explore ways to contribute positively to their communities. The course aims to prepare students to be informed, active, and responsible members of society by fostering effective communication, adaptability, and civic engagement. This course empowers students to understand their roles within the broader societal framework, equipping them with the tools to make meaningful contributions and address challenges effectively.

Exploring Federal, State, and Local Government

The Exploring Federal, State, and Local Government course offers an in-depth investigation into the fundamental institutions and principles of the United States government. This course provides students with a thorough understanding of how governance functions across different federal, state, and local levels and how these levels interact and impact one another. Students will explore the foundational structures of

American government, including the roles and responsibilities of various branches and levels of government. The course will teach key topics such as the separation of powers, federalism, and balancing individual rights and societal needs. By examining the successes and challenges the government faces in addressing public policy issues, students will gain insights into the complexities of governance and the dynamics of public administration.

The course emphasizes connecting historical and theoretical knowledge with current events, helping students relate new information to ongoing political and social developments. Students will also enhance their problem-solving abilities, adaptability, and effective communication skills, essential for thoughtfully engaging with the complexities of government and civic life. By the end of the course, students will be equipped with the tools necessary to navigate the intricacies of government structures, contribute meaningfully to discussions on public policy, and actively participate in civic responsibilities. This comprehensive understanding will prepare students to become informed and engaged citizens who can effectively address and influence the issues facing their communities and the nation.

Governments in Action

The Governments in Action course thoroughly examines political institutions and processes by analyzing various countries, such as China, Iran, Mexico, Russia, and the United Kingdom. This course offers a comprehensive global perspective on how nations address political challenges and manage their unique contexts. Students will engage in a comparative study of political systems, exploring how various governments operate, implement policies, and resolve issues. The course emphasizes understanding how different political frameworks address common and distinct challenges within their socio-cultural and historical contexts. Through this exploration, students will gain insights into the complexities and dynamics of global political environments. Students will connect political concepts to real-world situations by analyzing data, identifying patterns, and drawing informed conclusions about the political landscapes of the featured countries. They will examine how nations handle governance, policy-making, and international relations issues.

The course will involve engaging with disciplinary texts, including primary sources, scholarly articles, and case studies. Students will critically read and analyze complex materials, which will help them deepen their understanding of global political systems and

their impact on international affairs. Students will also develop and support arguments, enhancing their effective communication and persuasive writing skills. Students will practice articulating well-reasoned positions by presenting their analyses and findings and contributing to informed discussions about global political issues.

Ancient Cultures

The Ancient Cultures course explores the development and achievements of major civilizations from ancient times. It offers an increasingly relevant global perspective in today's interconnected world. This course takes students through the vibrant histories of ancient cultures, highlighting their unique contributions, innovations, and legacies that have profoundly influenced the modern world. Students will delve into the intricate details of various ancient civilizations. They will examine how these societies contributed to the foundations of contemporary politics, economics, technology, art, and philosophy. Through diverse learning activities—such as analyzing primary sources, conducting academic research, writing essays, preparing and delivering presentations, and participating in mock trials and debates—students will engage in active learning emphasizing critical thinking, analytical reasoning, and collaborative skills.

The course fosters essential life skills by encouraging students to solve complex problems, communicate effectively, and work with peers. By exploring the human experience across different cultures and periods, students will better understand how ancient societies have shaped modern practices and ideas. This enriched perspective will help students develop self-awareness, empathy, and appreciation for cultural diversity. By the end of the course, students will be equipped with a comprehensive knowledge of ancient civilizations, along with the analytical and communication skills necessary to navigate and contribute to an increasingly complex world.

Cultural Crossroads and Global Interactions

The Cultural Crossroads and Global Interactions course provides an in-depth exploration of global history and cultural dynamics, equipping students with the tools to critically analyze and understand the complexities of our interconnected world. This course delves into the intricacies of cultural history, diplomatic relations, and the social and economic structures that have shaped various regions across the globe. Students will examine significant historical events, influential individuals, and pivotal developments that have impacted

modern societies. By comparing and contrasting the evolution and interactions of different cultures, students will gain a nuanced understanding of how diverse societies have evolved and how they have influenced each other. The course emphasizes the analysis of primary and secondary sources, enabling students to develop well-supported historical arguments. Students will critically reason about comparison, causation, continuity, and change, drawing connections between historical events and current global issues. This analytical approach will deepen their understanding of how historical processes have shaped contemporary societal structures and relationships.

By the end of the course, students will have a richer appreciation for global diversity and a solid foundation in the historical and cultural contexts that influence today's world. They will be prepared to approach global interactions with informed perspectives and a commitment to responsible citizenship and lifelong learning. This course aims to inspire students to become thoughtful, engaged global citizens who understand and appreciate the intricate tapestry of human history and cultural exchange.

Black and Latinx Narratives

The Black and Latinx Narratives course comprehensively explores the rich histories, achievements, challenges, and perspectives of Black and Latinx communities in the United States. Students will investigate the contributions made by Black and Latinx leaders, artists, and activists who have significantly influenced U.S. cultural, political, and economic landscapes. Through detailed examination of primary and secondary sources, students will develop critical thinking skills for identifying and understanding historical and contemporary racial and ethnic disparities. The course encourages thoughtful discussions on identity development and the impact of systemic factors on marginalized communities. Students will engage with diverse narratives and perspectives, promoting resilience, adaptability, and civic responsibility. They will acquire essential life skills such as effective communication, empathy, and conflict resolution, preparing them to address bias, advocate for equity, and contribute to creating more inclusive and just societies.

By exploring the complexities of race, ethnicity, culture, and societal interactions, students will gain insight into the interconnectedness of past and present experiences. The course fosters a deeper appreciation for diversity, inspires a commitment to social justice, and empowers students to become informed and active community contributors. Through this

enriched understanding, students will be better equipped to engage with and address the ongoing challenges faced by marginalized groups, thereby enhancing their role as proactive members of society.

Current Issues and Trends in the World Around Us

The Current Issues and Trends in the World Around Us course immerses students in examining pressing topics and events that shape the global landscape. This course enhances students' understanding of contemporary issues by exploring various critical subjects, including political ideologies, the shifting roles of government, economic trends, regional conflicts, and broad societal changes. Students will engage with complex global issues through in-depth analysis and discussion, investigating how these issues influence both local and international communities. The course will focus on the evolving nature of news media, encouraging students to critically assess how news is presented, the impact of commercial interests on media content, and how digital platforms alter public engagement with news.

Throughout the course, students will develop essential critical thinking and problem-solving skills, learning to navigate and analyze the intricate factors that drive current events. Adaptability and resilience will be emphasized as students work to understand and respond to rapidly changing global circumstances. The course also prioritizes effective communication and active citizenship, equipping students to articulate their perspectives clearly and thoughtfully engage with various viewpoints. By fostering these competencies, students will be prepared to contribute meaningfully to public discourse and make informed decisions in an increasingly interconnected world.

Social Studies Courses Scope and Sequence

PS Code	SCED Code	Grade	Course Category	Course	Semester	Credit	Alternative Course Titles
QCSS1000	04065	9-12	U.S. History	Indigenous Peoples of North America	August - November	0.25	U.S. History, Native American Studies, Civics
				The Formation of the U.S.	November - January	0.25	

PS Code	SCED Code	Grade	Course Category	Course	Semester	Credit	Alternative Course Titles
				Paths to Equality in the Civil Rights Movement	January - April	0.25	
				The Story of Today in America's Journey	April - June	0.25	
QCSS1001	04161	9-12	Civics	The Constitution	August - November	0.25	Civics, Government, U. S. History, Modern World, Comparative Governments
				Civic Duties in Action	November - January	0.25	
				Exploring Federal, State, and Local Government	January - April	0.25	
				Governments in Action	April - June	0.25	
QCSS1002	04053	9-12	World History	Ancient Cultures	August - November	0.25	World History, Archaeology, Human Civilization Modern World, Comparative Governments, African American Studies, Black/Latinx Studies, Civics, Government
				Cultural Crossroads and Global Interactions	November - January	0.25	
				Black and Latinx Narratives	January - April	0.25	
				Current Issues and Trends in the World Around Us	April - June	0.25	

Science

Farmington Valley Diagnostic Center (FVDC) science courses are designed to ignite curiosity, inspire exploration, and foster a deep appreciation for the wonders of the natural world. Rooted in academic standards and innovative pedagogical approaches, our science instruction allows students to engage in hands-on experimentation, critical inquiry, and collaborative learning experiences. Whether diving into the intricacies of chemistry, exploring the complexities of biology, unraveling the mysteries of physics, or investigating environmental science, students are encouraged to think critically, solve problems creatively, and make meaningful connections between science and their everyday lives. With a focus on cultivating essential skills for the 21st century, our science courses at

FVDC empower students to become informed, engaged, and responsible citizens, prepared to navigate and contribute to an ever-changing global landscape.

Life at the Microscopic Level

The Life at the Microscopic Level course provides an in-depth exploration of cellular biology, focusing on the fundamental building blocks of life at its smallest scale. This course offers a comprehensive foundation for understanding how cellular processes and structures underpin the complexity of living organisms, with a special emphasis on the human body. Students will investigate the intricacies of cellular function, including the roles of various organelles, the mechanisms of cell division, and the processes of cellular respiration and metabolism. The course will teach key concepts such as cellular differentiation, gene expression, and the impact of cellular abnormalities on health and disease. By examining how cellular structures relate to their functions, students will gain insight into how these microscopic components contribute to the overall functioning of organisms.

The course emphasizes critical thinking, problem-solving, and analytical skills. Students are encouraged to approach scientific challenges with curiosity and an open mind, fostering a deeper appreciation for the natural world. By exploring the microscopic level of life, students will build the skills needed to navigate complex biological questions and contribute meaningfully to discussions about health, disease, and the functioning of living systems.

The Classifications of Life

The Classifications of Life is an engaging course designed to deepen students' understanding of the diversity and complexity of living organisms. This course emphasizes developing problem-solving, critical thinking, and analytical skills while fostering a deeper appreciation for the interconnectedness of life. Students will explore the classification systems used to categorize living organisms, from the simplest one-celled organisms to the intricate structures of multicellular organisms. The course delves into the principles of taxonomy and phylogenetics, enabling students to understand how organisms are classified based on shared characteristics and evolutionary relationships.

Through classroom discussions, laboratory investigations, and hands-on activities, students will gain practical experience in scientific inquiry. Students will learn to effectively collect,

represent, and analyze data, drawing evidence-based conclusions and defending their findings through reasoned arguments. Emphasizing adaptability, flexibility, and resilience, students will develop the skills to navigate complex scientific concepts and contribute meaningfully to discussions about the diversity of life on Earth. The Classifications of Life encourages students to embrace curiosity, explore the natural world, and cultivate a passion for understanding the intricate web of life that surrounds us.

Biomes and Biology

Biomes and Biology examines ecosystems that make up our planet and the biological principles governing life. This course integrates problem-solving, critical thinking, and innovative approaches to understanding the complexities of biological systems, emphasizing the cell as the fundamental unit of life. Students will delve into the diverse biomes found worldwide, exploring the unique adaptations of organisms to their specific environments and the ecological interactions that shape these habitats. Through engaging classroom discussions, hands-on laboratory investigations, and field studies, students will gain insights into the interconnectedness of life within various biomes, from tropical rainforests to Polar Regions.

The course further explores the structure and function of living organisms, ranging from simple one-celled organisms to complex multicellular organisms. In addition to biological concepts, students will develop essential data collection, representation, analysis, and evidence-based reasoning skills. They will learn to draw informed conclusions and articulate their findings through clear and compelling arguments. This course equips students with the knowledge and skills to explore, understand, and contribute to the fascinating world of biology and ecology.

The Life Cycle

The Life Cycle course comprehensively explores life's journey from inception to maturity. It provides students with a profound understanding of the stages and processes that shape living organisms. This course integrates problem-solving, critical thinking, and innovative approaches to unravel the complexities of biological development. Students will investigate the fundamental processes of life, beginning with conception and extending through various stages of growth and maturation. The course will teach multiple topics, including cellular development, embryogenesis, puberty, aging, and the mechanisms that regulate these

processes. By examining different life forms, students will gain valuable insights into how organisms develop, grow, and reach maturity. Students will explore how biological systems—such as the cardiovascular, respiratory, nervous, and endocrine systems—work together harmoniously to sustain life and maintain health. This exploration will include an in-depth look at how these systems adapt and change throughout different stages of development, from infancy through adulthood and into old age.

The course employs various instructional methods, including lectures, hands-on laboratory work, and interactive projects. Students will engage in activities that involve analyzing biological data, conducting experiments, and exploring case studies related to human development and health. These experiences will help students develop essential scientific skills and foster a deeper appreciation for the intricacies of life.

Electricity and Magnets

The Electricity and Magnets course provides an in-depth exploration of fundamental concepts in physics, focusing specifically on the phenomena of electricity and magnetism. This course gives students a comprehensive understanding of the principles governing these essential aspects of physical science. Students will study foundational topics in classical mechanics, including kinematics and dynamics, to grasp the basics of motion and forces. Additionally, students will examine universal gravitation and oscillations to understand the forces and motions that shape our physical world. In the study of magnetism, students will investigate the properties and behavior of magnetic fields and forces and how they interact with electric currents. Students will also learn about electromagnetism, including electromagnetic induction, which is how changing magnetic fields can induce electrical currents.

Hands-on experiments will play a critical role in this course, allowing students to apply theoretical knowledge to practical situations. Through these experiments, students will engage in problem-solving activities that require critical thinking and experimentation. They will learn to measure and analyze physical quantities, interpret data, and draw evidence-based conclusions. Students will participate in critical thinking exercises that challenge them to connect theoretical principles with real-world applications.

Mass and Matter

Mass and Matter offers students a comprehensive exploration of the fundamental principles that govern the physical world, focusing on the nature of mass, matter, and their interactions. This course thoroughly explains the basic laws that shape our universe, delving into the intricacies of how mass and matter function and interact within various contexts. Students will explore how atoms combine to form molecules and the role these interactions play in the different states of matter—solid, liquid, gas, and plasma. This investigation extends to understanding how matter changes from one state to another and the energy involved in these transformations. Students will learn how energy is transferred and transformed in physical systems. Through this exploration, students will gain insights into how energy affects the behavior of matter and the physical phenomena observed in everyday life.

The course emphasizes active, hands-on learning through experiments and investigations. Students will design and conduct experiments to test and apply their understanding of physics concepts, from measuring mass and volume to observing chemical reactions and analyzing physical changes. These practical experiences are crucial for developing a deep, intuitive grasp of the material. Students will engage in various activities that challenge them to think critically and analytically. They will learn to meticulously collect and analyze data, interpret experimental results, and draw evidence-based conclusions. Clear and precise communication of their findings will be integral to the learning process, ensuring students can effectively articulate their understanding of complex concepts.

Light, Sound, and Color

Light, Sound, and Color course delves into the intricate relationships among these fundamental aspects of physics, offering students a comprehensive understanding of the principles that govern light waves, sound waves, and color perception. This course provides an in-depth exploration of how light, sound, and color interact with each other and influence our understanding of the physical world. Color perception will be another focal point of the course, where students will study the science behind how colors are formed, how they interact with light, and how the human eye perceives them. Through these investigations, students will learn about the additive and subtractive color models and the role of color in both natural and artificial settings.

Students will engage in various hands-on experiments and activities to investigate the properties of light and sound. They will explore concepts such as the behavior of light waves, including reflection, refraction, and diffraction, and how optical devices can harness these phenomena. The course will also teach students about the mechanics of sound waves, including their generation, propagation, and reception, and examine how sound affects human health and communication. The course emphasizes critical thinking, problem-solving, and innovation, encouraging students to apply their knowledge to solve real-world challenges. Students will design and conduct experiments, analyze data, and draw evidence-based conclusions. They will also explore practical applications of their learning, such as designing optical devices or studying the impact of sound on various aspects of human life. Aligned with the Next Generation Science Standards, Light, Sound, and Color ensure that students develop a strong foundation in scientific inquiry and exploration. The course promotes a deep appreciation for the scientific method and its applications, preparing students to excel in scientific research and exploration.

The Math and Mechanics of Science

The Math and Mechanics of Science course explores the foundational principles that underpin the field of physics. It provides students with a systematic journey through the core concepts of Newtonian mechanics, discussing topics such as kinematics, dynamics, rotational dynamics, angular momentum, and the principles governing work, energy, and power. Throughout the course, students will blend theoretical study and practical application, emphasizing using algebra and mathematical concepts to analyze and interpret complex scientific phenomena. The course places a strong emphasis on the development of problem-solving skills, empowering students to approach physics problems with confidence and precision. The course aims to develop a strong conceptual understanding and problem-solving skills, enabling students to approach physics problems with confidence and precision.

Hands-on experiments are integral to the course. They allow students to test theoretical concepts, validate hypotheses, and gain practical experience in scientific inquiry. These activities foster a deeper appreciation for the scientific method and its applications, encouraging students to think critically and analytically about the physical world. Students will explore the mathematical framework that supports physics, learning to apply algebraic

techniques to solve problems and interpret results. They will develop skills in data analysis, graphical representation, and quantitative reasoning, all essential for success in advanced scientific studies and research. By the conclusion of The Math and Mechanics of Science, students will have acquired a foundation in algebra-based physics and the analytical and problem-solving skills necessary to thrive in more advanced scientific courses and beyond. They will be well-prepared and confident to pursue further studies in physics, engineering, and other STEM fields, equipped with a deep understanding of the principles that govern the physical universe.

The Human Effect

The Human Effect is a course designed to explore and understand the intricate relationship between human activities and environmental impact. Students will delve into the science behind pressing ecological issues, fostering a deeper appreciation for the complexities of our planet's ecosystems. This course aims to equip students with the knowledge and skills to address environmental challenges thoughtfully and effectively. Throughout the course, students will investigate various topics, including the implications of deforestation, climate change impacts, and sustainable resource management challenges. They will engage in scientific inquiry, critical thinking, and problem-solving activities, allowing them to navigate complex scientific concepts and apply their learning to real-world situations.

Students will explore the causes and consequences of deforestation, examining its impact on biodiversity and ecosystem health. Students will study the principles of sustainable resource use, exploring ways to balance human needs with environmental preservation. The course will address the challenges of pollution and waste, investigating strategies for reducing environmental contamination and promoting recycling and waste reduction. Students will participate in hands-on projects, field studies, and research activities, fostering a learning environment that encourages curiosity, critical inquiry, and interdisciplinary exploration. They will develop analytical skills by interpreting data, conducting experiments, and evaluating scientific evidence. Communication skills will be honed through presentations, reports, and discussions, enabling students to effectively advocate for sustainable practices and share their insights with others. This course prepares students to tackle complex environmental challenges with empathy,

understanding, and innovative thinking, empowering them to become responsible stewards of the planet.

Erosion and Deposition

Erosion and Deposition offers students a comprehensive exploration into the powerful forces of nature that shape our planet's surface. This course delves into the scientific principles behind natural phenomena such as hurricanes, tornadoes, earthquakes, volcanic eruptions, tsunamis, and impact events, providing students with a deeper understanding of the dynamic processes that continually reshape the Earth. Throughout the course, students will explore the interdependence of Earth's systems, highlighting the complex relationships between geology, meteorology, and human activity. They will gain insights into how these natural forces interact and influence one another, leading to significant changes in the landscape. The course will emphasize the scientific analysis of environmental problems, encouraging students to evaluate the risks associated with natural and human-made disasters.

Students will study the mechanisms of erosion and deposition, examining how water, wind, ice, and gravity contribute to the formation and transformation of various landforms. Students will delve into the causes and effects of earthquakes and tsunamis, analyzing the geological factors that trigger these events and their impact on human communities. Students will explore the history and consequences of asteroid and comet impacts, investigating their role in shaping the Earth's surface and influencing the evolution of life. Students will evaluate alternative solutions to mitigate the effects of natural and human-made disasters. This aspect of the course will foster critical thinking and problem-solving skills, empowering students to develop disaster preparedness and environmental management strategies. This course prepares students to navigate the challenges of natural and human-made disasters, fostering a sense of responsibility and stewardship for the Earth's resources and environments.

Mineralogy

Mineralogy offers students an immersive exploration into the captivating world of minerals, crystals, and geological formations. This course delves into the scientific principles and methodologies underpinning our understanding of Earth's mineral compositions, formation processes, and significance in shaping our planet's landscapes and natural resources.

Throughout this course, students will explore mineral properties, classification systems, and the geological processes contributing to mineral formation. By delving into the intricate interplay between mineralogy, geology, and environmental science, students will gain insights into minerals' role in ecological processes, resource extraction, and human civilization. Mineralogy fosters a collaborative learning environment, encouraging students to work in group settings to investigate key topics such as mineral identification, crystallography, mineral formation processes, and mineral exploitation's economic and environmental implications.

Through interactive classroom discussions, hands-on laboratory experiments, and field studies, students will develop critical thinking, problem-solving, and analytical skills essential for scientific inquiry. By the conclusion of Mineralogy, students will have acquired a profound appreciation for the mineral treasures that shape our world and the analytical, research, and communication skills necessary to navigate the intricate intersections between geology, environmental science, and societal challenges.

Creating Sustainable Environments

Creating Sustainable Environments explores the balance between human development and environmental stewardship. Throughout this course, students will engage in hands-on, inquiry-based projects that address pressing environmental challenges. From designing sustainable agricultural systems and exploring alternative energy sources to optimizing municipal recycling programs, students will apply interdisciplinary approaches to develop practical, scalable solutions. Creating Sustainable Environments fosters a collaborative learning environment, encouraging students to work in teams to investigate and analyze complex environmental issues. Students will learn to evaluate environmental risks, examine alternative solutions, and make informed decisions contributing to a more sustainable and resilient future.

Creating Sustainable Environments empowers students to take an active role in shaping our planet's future. By fostering a deeper understanding of environmental issues and providing the tools and skills needed to effect change, students will leave this course with a heightened sense of environmental stewardship and the confidence to drive sustainable initiatives in their communities and beyond. By the conclusion of Creating Sustainable Environments, students will have gained a profound appreciation for the

interconnectedness of human activities and environmental health, along with the knowledge, skills, and motivation to champion sustainable practices and create positive change in the world.

Discovering the Building Blocks of Matter

Discovering the Building Blocks of Matter is an engaging and comprehensive course designed to explore the fascinating world of the periodic table and its significance in understanding the nature of matter. This course aims to provide students with a solid foundation in the fundamental principles of chemistry while fostering critical thinking. Through inquiry-based investigations and interactive activities, students will delve into the periodic table's structure, the properties of elements, and the underlying patterns and trends that govern chemical behavior. By examining the periodic table's organization, students will uncover the connections between atomic structure, chemical reactivity, and the physical properties of elements. Aligned with the Next Generation Science Standards, Discovering the Building Blocks of Matter integrates hands-on laboratory experiments, collaborative projects, and real-world applications to enrich students' understanding of key chemical concepts. Students will develop essential skills in data analysis, evidence-based reasoning, and effective communication as they explore the periodic table's intricacies and role in shaping our understanding of the natural world.

Key topics explored in Discovering the Building Blocks of Matter include atomic theory, electron configuration, periodic trends, chemical bonding, and the relationship between structure and properties. Students will also investigate the historical development of the periodic table and its ongoing evolution as new elements are discovered and characterized. By connecting abstract concepts to tangible examples and practical applications, students will gain a deeper appreciation for the importance of the periodic table in chemistry, physics, materials science, and beyond. By fostering curiosity, exploration, and discovery, this course empowers students to appreciate the beauty and utility of chemistry in our interconnected world, inspiring them to become informed citizens and lifelong learners.

Liquids in Motion

Liquids in Motion offers students an exploration into the fascinating world of chemistry, focusing on liquids' dynamic behavior and properties. Throughout this course, students will engage in hands-on, inquiry-based investigations emphasizing problem-solving, critical

thinking, and innovation. The course discusses essential topics, including atomic structure, intermolecular forces and bonding, chemical reactions, kinetics, thermodynamics, and equilibrium. Students will explore the fundamental building blocks of matter, understanding how atomic structure and intermolecular forces influence the properties and behaviors of liquids. The course will delve into the mechanisms of chemical reactions, examining the factors that affect reaction rates and the role of catalysts in facilitating reactions. Additionally, students will investigate the principles of thermodynamics, learning about energy transfer, heat capacity, and the laws governing energy changes in chemical processes. The concept of chemical equilibrium will also be taught, exploring how reversible reactions reach a state of balance and the factors that can shift equilibrium positions.

Aligned with the Next Generation Science Standards, Liquids in Motion integrates real-world applications and contemporary issues to contextualize complex chemical concepts. Students will learn about the role of liquids in various industries, from pharmaceuticals and environmental science to food technology and materials engineering. The course will highlight the importance of chemistry in addressing global challenges, such as water purification, energy production, and climate change. Students will engage in various hands-on laboratory experiments and inquiry-based activities throughout the course. They will design and conduct investigations, collect and analyze data, and draw evidence-based conclusions. These experiences will deepen their understanding of chemistry and help them develop analytical and communication skills for scientific inquiry and discourse, making them feel prepared and confident for future scientific endeavors.

From Atoms to Molecules

'From Atoms to Molecules' is a course that delves into the fundamental principles governing the interactions and relationships between atoms and molecules, forming the basis of all matter in the universe. This course is not just about theory but also practical applications in real-world contexts, fostering a deeper understanding of the role of chemistry in daily life and its broader implications for society and the environment. Students will gain hands-on experience through laboratory experiments, collaborative projects, and interactive discussions, connecting abstract chemistry concepts with tangible phenomena. They will develop essential analytical and communication skills for scientific inquiry and discourse by

analyzing data, drawing evidence-based conclusions, and defending their findings. Key topics explored in 'From Atoms to Molecules' include the Laws of Conservation of Matter and Energy, thermodynamic principles, reaction rates, and chemical equilibria.

Through exploration and experimentation, students will better appreciate the dynamic nature of chemical bonds and their critical role in shaping substances' physical and chemical properties. From Atoms to Molecules empowers students to connect abstract chemistry concepts with tangible phenomena, fostering a lifelong curiosity and appreciation for the molecular world.

Chemistry in Real Life

'Chemistry in Real Life' is a course that offers students a unique opportunity to bridge the gap between theoretical chemistry concepts and their practical applications in real-world contexts. This course emphasizes problem-solving, critical thinking, and innovation, and students will delve into key chemical and physical processes that underpin daily life, such as environmental sustainability, energy production, pharmaceuticals, and consumer products. By investigating these topics, students will gain a deeper appreciation for the fundamental principles of chemistry and their profound impact on society, the environment, and personal well-being. Aligned with the Next Generation Science Standards, 'Chemistry in Real Life integrates hands-on laboratory experiments, interactive discussions, and collaborative projects to foster a dynamic learning environment. Students will develop essential skills in data analysis, evidence-based reasoning, and effective communication as they explore chemical phenomena, evaluate scientific evidence, and defend their conclusions. Key topics explored in 'Chemistry in Real Life' include the Laws of Conservation of Matter and Energy, thermodynamic principles, reaction rates, chemical equilibria, and the role of chemistry in addressing global challenges and shaping the future.

This course encourages students to think critically about the ethical implications of chemical advancements, promoting responsible citizenship and informed decision-making. Through exploration, discovery, and reflection, students will develop a lifelong curiosity for chemistry and its relevance to their daily lives, future careers, and global issues. Whether students aspire to pursue careers in science, engineering, or healthcare or wish to become informed citizens, Chemistry in Real Life equips them with the knowledge, skills, and confidence to engage meaningfully with the complexities of the chemical world.

Science Courses Scope and Sequence

PS Code	SCED Code	Grade	Course Category	Course	Semester	Credit	Alternative Course Titles
QCSC1000	03051	9-12	Biology	Life at the Microscopic Level	August - November	0.25	Biology, Life Science
				The Classifications of Life	November - January	0.25	
				Biomes and Biology	January - April	0.25	
				The Life Cycle	April - June	0.25	
QCSC2000	03159	9-12	Physics	Electricity and Magnets	August - November	0.25	Physics
				Mass and Matter	November - January	0.25	
				Light, Sound, and Color	January - April	0.25	
				The Math and Mechanics of Science	April - June	0.25	
QCSC3000	03001	9-12	Earth Science	The Human Effect	August - November	0.25	Environmental Science, Earth Science, Geology
				Erosion and Deposition	November - January	0.25	
				Mineralogy	January - April	0.25	
				Creating Sustainable Environments	April - June	0.25	
QCSC4001	03101	9-12	Chemistry	Discovering the Building Blocks of Matter	August - November	0.25	Chemistry
QCSC4000				From Atoms to Molecules	November - January	0.25	
				Chemistry in Real Life	January - April	0.25	
				Liquids in Motion	April - June	0.25	

Physical Education, Health, and Wellness

Physical Education, Health, and Wellness enhance students' health literacy by increasing their skills, knowledge, and understanding of healthy living. Our courses prepare students for challenges by developing problem-solving skills, adaptability, and resilience. Key life skills such as communication, teamwork, and conflict resolution are integral to the program. We focus on self-awareness, self-regulation, and self-determination, fostering

autonomy and self-advocacy. Ultimately, we aim to guide students toward a balanced and healthy lifestyle, ready for future success.

Exercise Science A-D

Exercise Science A-D are comprehensive courses on lifelong physical fitness and holistic wellness. The courses include circuit training, aerobics, high-intensity interval training (HIIT), yoga, meditation, and resistance training. These courses enhance endurance, strength, flexibility, mental clarity, and well-being. Students will explore various fitness practices' physiological and psychological benefits, understanding how the body and mind adapt to regular physical activity. These courses emphasize developing essential life skills such as problem-solving, adaptability, resilience, self-reliance, and self-awareness. These skills are crucial for managing stress, navigating the challenges of adulthood, and maintaining a balanced, healthy lifestyle.

In addition to theoretical learning, students will engage in hands-on activities, including designing and leading personalized training programs and yoga routines. They will develop the ability to create, execute, and monitor fitness plans tailored to their goals and capabilities. These courses also foster teamwork, communication, and self-advocacy, preparing students to advocate for their health and fitness needs. By the end of Exercise Science A-D, students will have the knowledge, skills, and confidence to integrate physical fitness and wellness practices into their daily lives, promoting long-term physical and mental health.

Teen Life: Mental Health and Coping A-B

Teen Life: Mental Health and Coping A-B focus on overall wellness, addressing physical, mental, social, and emotional health. These courses provide essential health information, support healthy lifestyle choices, and develop skills for lifelong wellness. Key topics include influences on behavior and wellness, mental health, reducing stigma and addiction, accessing local resources, and fostering healthy relationships. Students will explore learning through various activities, including coping strategies, grounding techniques, and practices such as yoga, meditation, and stretching. These courses promote self-regulation, communication, teamwork, and self-advocacy while developing problem-solving, adaptability, resilience, self-awareness, and critical thinking skills.

A personal improvement project through a mental health project with a tracked SMART goal allows students to apply their learning to real-life situations. By the end of these courses, students will be equipped with the knowledge and skills necessary to navigate adolescence with a balanced, healthy approach to mental and physical wellness.

Nutrition and Fitness A-B

Nutrition and Fitness A-B explore the fundamental principles of healthy eating and physical fitness, emphasizing their profound impact on overall well-being. The course imparts theoretical knowledge and practical skills to help students make informed dietary and fitness choices supporting lifelong health. Key topics include the basics of nutrients, understanding food labels, effective meal planning, and the relationship between diet and health. These courses also teach the Food Guide Pyramid, reading food labels, sugar and portion control, and the components of personal fitness. Students will examine how nutrition and exercise are crucial in preventing chronic diseases, maintaining energy levels, and supporting physical and mental performance.

Interactive lessons, practical activities, and real-world applications will develop critical thinking and problem-solving skills related to nutrition and fitness. These courses also address current dietary guidelines, food safety practices, and the social and cultural aspects of eating, providing a comprehensive view of how nutritional and fitness choices fit into broader contexts. By the end of these courses, students will be equipped to create balanced meal plans, understand the importance of portion control and regular exercise, and make informed choices that enhance overall health and wellness.

Physical Education, Health, and Wellness Courses Scope and Sequence

PS Code	SCED Code	Grade	Course Category	Course	Semester	Credit	Alternative Course Titles
QCPE1001	08052	9-12	P.E.	Exercise Science A	August - November	0.13	P.E., Health, Wellness, Health and Wellness
				Exercise Science B	November - January	0.13	
				Exercise Science C	January - April	0.13	
				Exercise Science D	April - June	0.13	

PS Code	SCED Code	Grade	Course Category	Course	Semester	Credit	Alternative Course Titles
QCHE1000	08057	9-12	Health and Wellness	Teen Life: Mental Health and Adolescence A	August - November	0.13	Health, Wellness, Health and Wellness
				Teen Life: Mental Health and Adolescence B	November - January	0.13	
QCPE1000	19253	9-12	Health and Wellness	Nutrition and Fitness A	January - April	0.13	Health, Wellness, Health and Wellness
				Nutrition and Fitness B	April - June	0.13	

Health and Safety

Health and Safety courses provide students with the knowledge and skills to understand the fundamentals of health and safety practices. The health and safety components introduce students to basic safety principles and emergency preparedness, including first aid and cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR). These courses prepare students for real-life challenges by fostering critical thinking, problem-solving, and resilience in safety situations. Students will have the tools to make informed safety decisions and contribute to a safe and healthy environment in various contexts.

First Aid/CPR Certification A-B

The First Aid/CPR Certification A-B equips students with essential skills and knowledge to respond effectively to medical emergencies. By teaching a comprehensive range of topics, students will learn basic first aid techniques, cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR), and automated external defibrillators (AEDs). These courses include assessing and managing common injuries and medical conditions, performing CPR on infants, children, and adults, and using AEDs safely. Through hands-on practice and interactive scenarios, students will develop confidence and competence in emergency response, emphasizing quick, decisive action and effective communication.

Upon successful completion, students will receive certification in First Aid and CPR, recognized by national health organizations. This certification is a badge of honor and a valuable tool for personal safety and professional requirements in various fields, providing students with the skills to save lives and promote community safety.

Personal Health and Digital Safety A-B

Personal Health and Digital Safety A-B equip students with the knowledge and skills to navigate the digital world securely, responsibly, and with a focus on personal health and safety. In today's interconnected world, understanding digital safety is not just a skill but a necessity. These courses teach key topics such as online privacy, cyberbullying, digital footprints, identity theft, and safe social media practices. Students will also explore the impact of digital media on communication and personality, learning to protect personal information, prevent and respond to cyberbullying, manage their digital presence, and develop healthy social media habits.

Through interactive lessons, practical exercises, and real-world case studies, students will enhance their critical thinking and problem-solving skills related to digital safety. These courses emphasize ethical behavior, personal responsibility, and awareness in the digital age. By the end of these courses, students will be prepared to protect themselves and others online, making informed decisions to maintain digital security, personal well-being, and responsible communication.

Health and Safety Courses Scope and Sequence

PS Code	SCED Code	Grade	Course Category	Course	Semester	Credit	Alternative Course Titles
QCHE1001	08051	9-12	Health and Safety	Personal Health and Digital Safety A	August - November	0.13	Health and Safety, Health, Wellness
	08055			First Aid/CPR Certification A	November - January	0.13	
	08051			Personal Health and Digital Safety B	January-April	0.13	
	08055			First Aid/CPR Certification B	April - June	0.13	

Art

Art courses at the Farmington Valley Diagnostic Center (FVDC) develop critical thinking, problem-solving skills, creativity, and innovation. By engaging with contemporary visual

culture, students learn to navigate the challenges and competitive nature of the art world, gaining the adaptability and flexibility needed for success. Students will also enhance their communication and teamwork skills, learning to collaborate effectively through various art projects. By understanding contemporary and historical perspectives in art, they gain a deeper appreciation for global art and design.

Exploring the World of Visual Arts A-B

The Exploring the World of Visual Arts A-B courses offer students a comprehensive introduction to the diverse world of visual arts. They encourage creativity and self-expression while developing technical skills and art appreciation. These courses provide a broad overview of various artistic mediums, including drawing, painting, sculpture, and digital arts, allowing students to explore different techniques and styles. Students will engage in hands-on projects and experiments, learning fundamental art principles such as composition, color theory, and perspective. The instruction emphasizes critical thinking and problem-solving as students work through artistic challenges and develop their unique creative voices.

These courses also examine contemporary and historical art movements, providing context and inspiration for students' creative practices. By analyzing works from various cultures and periods, students will gain a deeper understanding of the role of visual arts in society and its impact on cultural and personal identity. Students will build essential self-expression, communication, and collaboration skills throughout the course. They will also develop a strong foundation in art criticism and self-assessment, preparing them for advanced studies in art and fostering a lifelong appreciation for the visual arts.

Art, Reflection, and Personal Themes A-B

Art, Reflection, and Personal Themes A-B are courses tailored to develop a cohesive body of work centered on a personal theme of inquiry. Students will create original artworks throughout the courses, delving into their chosen themes through various media and techniques. Emphasis is placed not only on the creation of the artwork but also on the critical process of articulating the concepts and methodologies behind each piece.

Students will research, plan, and execute to build their portfolios. They will document their creative processes and reflections, enhancing their ability to communicate their artistic

vision effectively. This reflective practice is integral to the course, fostering a deeper understanding of their work and creative development. By the end of the courses, students will have a well-developed portfolio that showcases their abilities and provides a solid foundation for future studies in any field. These courses strengthen students' overall academic profiles and prepare them for advanced academic pursuits, ensuring they are well-equipped to articulate and present their creative achievements.

Art Courses Scope and Sequence

PS Code	SCED Code	Grade	Course Category	Course	Semester	Credit	Alternative Course Titles
QCAR1000	05154	9-12	Fine Art	Exploring the World of Visual Arts A	August - November	0.06	Drawing, Visual Arts, Painting, Fine Arts, Art Portfolio
QCAR1001				Art, Reflection, and Personal Themes A	November - January	0.06	
QCAR1000				Exploring the World of Visual Arts B	January - April	0.06	
QCAR1001				Art, Reflection, and Personal Themes B	April - June	0.06	

Technology

The Farmington Valley Diagnostic Center (FVDC) technology courses provide students with essential skills in computer science and related fields. These courses prepare students for a digital and interconnected world by emphasizing practical application and real-world problem-solving. The courses explore technological innovations, digital safety, information technology, and software development, offering a strong foundation for further education or direct entry into the workforce. Through project-based learning, collaborative assignments, and exposure to industry practices, students gain hands-on experience to meet the demands of today's technology-driven environments.

Technology in a Modern World A-B

Technology in a Modern World A-B give students a comprehensive understanding of the tools and systems that shape our modern world. These courses provide fundamental concepts in technology, including computer science, digital innovations, and the impact of emerging technologies on society. Students will explore software applications, hardware

components, networking, cybersecurity, and the ethical implications of technology use. Through hands-on projects and interactive lessons, students will develop practical skills in problem-solving, critical thinking, and collaboration. They will learn to use technology effectively and responsibly in various contexts, from academic research to creative projects and everyday life. The course also emphasizes the importance of staying current with technological trends and adapting to the rapidly changing digital landscape.

By the end of these courses, students will be equipped with the knowledge and skills to navigate and leverage technology confidently, preparing them for future educational and career opportunities in a tech-driven world.

Innovations Using Technology A-B

Innovations Using Technology A-B explore cutting-edge developments and creative applications across various fields. These courses empower students to understand, engage with, and contribute to technological innovations transforming industries and society. Key topics include emerging technologies such as artificial intelligence, virtual reality, three-D graphics, and graphic design. Students will investigate how technology drives innovation in areas like business and entertainment. They will use project-based learning to design and prototype innovative creations. These courses emphasize critical thinking, creativity, and collaboration, encouraging students to think beyond conventional approaches and push the boundaries of what's possible with technology.

By the end of these courses, students will have developed a deep understanding of how technology can be leveraged to create new opportunities and solve complex problems. They will be equipped with the skills and mindset needed to become innovators in a rapidly evolving technological landscape.

Technology Courses Scope and Sequence

PS Code	SCED Code	Grade	Course Category	Course	Semester	Credit	Alternative Course Titles
QCTE1001	11151	9-12	Technology	Technology in a Modern World A	August - November	0.06	Technology, Computer Science
QCTE1000				Innovations Using Technology A	November - January	0.06	

PS Code	SCED Code	Grade	Course Category	Course	Semester	Credit	Alternative Course Titles
QCTE1001				Technology in a Modern World B	January - April	0.06	
QCTE1000				Innovations Using Technology B	April - June	0.06	

Extension Courses

Extension Courses offer learning opportunities catering to individual needs, interests, goals, and skill development. At Farmington Valley Diagnostic Center (FVDC), we believe in providing a holistic educational experience, which includes courses that help develop skills for life. Our Extension Courses offer various subjects and activities, from advanced academic topics to practical life skills, enrichment experiences, and transition or postsecondary opportunities. Our dedicated staff is committed to providing high-quality instruction, guidance, and supervision throughout the courses, ensuring that students feel secure and cared for as they navigate their educational journey. These courses not only enhance academic knowledge but also foster personal growth, independence, and life skills, preparing students for the challenges and opportunities of the future.

Postsecondary and Transition Experiences

Our Postsecondary and Transition Experiences prepare students for success in college, careers, and independent living while meeting the requirements of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA). Our program focuses on developing key skills such as problem-solving, adaptability, self-reliance, and self-advocacy, essential for navigating life's challenges. Our instruction emphasizes academic coursework, vocational training, and hands-on experiences to prepare students for the realities of post-secondary education, career development, and independent living. We foster critical thinking, communication, and teamwork skills, empowering students to thrive in academic and real-world settings. Through our program, students gain self-awareness, self-regulation, and determination, equipping them to make informed decisions and overcome obstacles with resilience and grit. With our support, students transition confidently into adulthood, ready to pursue their goals and realize their full potential.

Work Experience

Work Experience allows students to gain practical skills, workplace knowledge, and real-world experience in a professional setting. Students can explore various industries, professions, and career pathways through internships, job shadowing, or part-time employment placements. They will develop essential workplace skills such as communication, teamwork, problem-solving, and time management while gaining insight

into workplace expectations and professional conduct. The course emphasizes applying academic knowledge in real-world contexts and encourages students to reflect on their experiences to identify strengths, areas for growth, and career interests. Additionally, students will receive guidance and support from mentors or supervisors to maximize their learning and development during their work experience. By participating in Work Experience, students will gain valuable insights, skills, and confidence to pursue their career goals and make informed decisions about their future education and career paths.

Exploring and Planning for Post-Secondary Learning Experiences

Exploring and Planning for Post-Secondary Learning Experiences is a comprehensive course designed to assist students in navigating the transition to higher education and other post-secondary opportunities. This course teaches essential topics such as exploring post-secondary options, admissions requirements, financial planning, and career exploration. Students will explore different post-secondary pathways, including colleges, universities, vocational schools, and apprenticeship programs, to understand their various opportunities. The course guides researching post-secondary institutions, understanding admissions criteria, and preparing application materials. Additionally, students will learn about financial planning for post-secondary education, including exploring scholarship and grant opportunities, understanding the cost of attendance, and navigating the financial assistance process. The course also includes career exploration activities to help students align their post-secondary goals with their academic and career aspirations. Through interactive lessons, guest speakers, and experiential learning activities, students will gain valuable insights into the post-secondary landscape and develop practical skills to support their transition to higher education or vocational training. By the end of the course, students will be equipped to make informed decisions about their post-secondary journey and take the necessary steps to pursue their academic and career goals.

Exploring and Planning for Careers

Exploring and Planning for Careers is a dynamic course designed to guide students through exploring various career options and developing a personalized career plan. This course teaches essential topics such as career exploration, goal setting, skill development, and professional networking. Students will embark on a journey of self-discovery to identify their interests, strengths, values, and goals. Through interactive assessments, personality

or career interest inventories, and career exploration activities, students will gain insight into different career paths and industries aligned with their unique attributes and aspirations. Students will learn the importance of acquiring relevant skills, credentials, and experiences to succeed in their chosen career fields. Additionally, students will explore strategies for building professional networks, conducting informational interviews, and accessing career resources to support their career development journey. The course also addresses practical topics such as resume writing, job search strategies, and interview preparation. Students will gain useful insights and tools to navigate the ever-changing landscape of the workforce. By the end of the course, students will be empowered to make informed decisions about their career paths and take proactive steps toward achieving their professional goals.

Postsecondary and Transition Courses Scope and Sequence

PS Code	SCED Code	Grade	Course Category	Course	Semester	Credit
QCCP4100	19257	9-12	Transition	Exploring and Planning for College	August - November	0.25
				Exploring and Planning for Careers	November - January	0.25
TBD	TBD	10-12		Work Experience	Determined by Team	0.25

Achieving High School Mastery

Achieving High School Mastery Courses, students engage in experiences aligned with the skills outlined in the Portrait of the Graduates articulated in many school districts. These courses foster deep learning and mastery of essential competencies that prepare students for success in high school and beyond. Achieving High School Mastery Courses focus on developing critical skills such as problem-solving, adaptability, self-reliance, and communication, essential for navigating the complexities of the modern world. Through real-life projects and experiential learning opportunities, students will develop a growth mindset and resilience to overcome challenges and achieve their goals. Students will cultivate the social, emotional, and cognitive skills necessary for success in college, careers, and civic life. Our courses empower students to become lifelong learners who are prepared to tackle the challenges and opportunities of the future with confidence and competence.

Community Service

Community Service is a transformative experience that provides students with opportunities to engage meaningfully with their local communities while making a positive impact. This course emphasizes the importance of civic responsibility, social justice, and empathy as students actively participate in service projects and initiatives. Through hands-on experiences, students will collaborate with community organizations, non-profits, and local initiatives to address pressing social issues and contribute to the well-being of others. Projects may include volunteering at homeless shelters, participating in environmental clean-up efforts, organizing food drives, or tutoring and mentoring underserved populations. Community Service encourages students to develop a deeper understanding of social issues, cultivate empathy and compassion, and build valuable leadership and teamwork skills. Additionally, students can reflect on their experiences, explore the root causes of social problems, and brainstorm innovative solutions. Students fulfill their civic duties by participating in Community Service and developing a sense of civic pride and responsibility. They gain a broader world perspective and become empowered to advocate for positive change in their communities and beyond. This course fosters a lifelong commitment to service and civic engagement, preparing students to be active and responsible members of society.

CAPSTONE - Project-Based Learning Assessment

CAPSTONE is a dynamic course designed to allow students to demonstrate their mastery of knowledge and skills through project-based learning assessment. This culminating experience will enable students to integrate and apply what they have learned throughout their academic journey in a real-world context. Throughout the course, students will engage in an immersive project-based learning experience, tackling complex, interdisciplinary challenges that require critical thinking, creativity, collaboration, and problem-solving skills. Working in teams or individually, students will identify a significant problem or topic of interest, conduct research, and design and implement a project to address or explore it. Projects in CAPSTONE may vary widely, ranging from scientific research studies and engineering prototypes to social advocacy campaigns and artistic endeavors. Regardless of the project's focus, students will follow a structured process of inquiry, planning, implementation, and reflection guided by faculty mentors. The course culminates in a final presentation or exhibition where students showcase their projects to peers, teachers, and

community members. This presentation allows students to articulate their findings, demonstrate their skills, and reflect on their learning journey. CAPSTONE encourages students to think critically, communicate effectively, and apply their knowledge and skills to real-world problems. By engaging in authentic, project-based learning experiences, students develop the confidence, competence, and resilience needed to succeed in college, careers, and civic life. This course is a capstone to students' academic experiences, preparing them to be lifelong learners and contributing members of society.

Independent Study

Independent Study allows students to pursue personalized learning experiences tailored to their interests, goals, and learning styles. This course empowers students to take ownership of their education and explore topics in-depth under the guidance of a faculty mentor. Students will design and execute a self-directed project or research study aligned with their academic interests and aspirations throughout the course. They will develop a comprehensive plan outlining their goals, objectives, methodologies, and timelines, demonstrating their ability to set and achieve academic goals independently. Students will regularly meet with their assigned mentor to receive guidance, feedback, and support as they progress through their independent study project. Independent Study encourages students to develop self-direction, curiosity, and a lifelong love of learning. By engaging in self-directed inquiry and exploration, students cultivate valuable skills such as time management, research proficiency, and intellectual curiosity, preparing them for success in higher education, careers, and beyond. This course serves as a platform for students to pursue their passions, deepen their understanding, and make meaningful contributions to their fields of interest.

Achieving High School Mastery Courses Scope and Sequence

PS Code	SCED Code	Grade	Course	Semester	Credit
TBD	TBD	9-12	Community Service	Determined by Team	0.25
TBD	TBD	12	CAPSTONE - Project-Based Learning Assessment	Determined by Team	0.25
QCCP4101	19258	9-12	Independent Study	Determined by Team	0.25

Uniquely Tailored Courses

At Farmington Valley Diagnostic Center (FVDC), our focus is on holistic student development, providing a nurturing and adaptive learning environment that addresses individual needs. FVDC is not designed to function as a comprehensive high school; consequently, we do not offer a full spectrum of course options. Instead, our approach leverages the strengths of our partner districts to ensure that students receive a well-rounded education.

These uniquely tailored courses often require collaboration with our partner districts, which can include resources and support, such as the involvement of district staff for monitoring and guidance. Creative and flexible approaches are used to address the diverse needs of our students. For instance, students might attend their local high school for specific courses, have work from a particular class sent from the local high school to FVDC for delivery in a tutoring model, or utilize virtual courses.

Through this collaborative model, students receive the necessary opportunities to grow academically, socially, and emotionally. By working closely with our partner districts, FVDC can offer specialized programs that help students overcome past challenges and achieve their educational goals in a supportive and flexible environment. For more information about designing a uniquely tailored course, please contact the FVDC Program Director.

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