

SCHOOL
COUNSELING

MAYNARD JACKSON

Maynard Jackson
High School:
Choosing your
2025-2026 Classes





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AZUANA

MEET THE MJHS
COUNSELING
TEAM!



9th Grade Course of Study

MJHS students take 8
courses each semester.

Most classes are year-long
(like 9th Grade Literature
and Biology), but there are
some classes that are only
one semester (like
American Govt and
Health).

	SEMESTER 1	SEMESTER 2
1	Lit/Comp I (or Honors)	
2	Algebra I (or Honors), Geometry , or Geom H/Alg II H	
3	Biology (or Honors)	
4	Amer Govt/Civics (or Honors)	H.S. Transitions or P.E. Elective
5	Health	Personal Fitness
6	Foreign Language (French, Spanish, Mandarin Chinese)	
7	JROTC, CTAE or Fine Arts Pathway	
8	Math/Reading Support, AP, 2nd pathway or add'l elective	

SELECTING YOUR CORE CLASSES

All MJHS students will take one full year of ELA, Math, and Science, and one semester of Social Studies in their 9th grade year. Students are able to take either **on-level** or **honors** classes, and may choose a mixture based on their own academic strengths. In general, honors classes expect a higher level of self-direction from students.

When considering an honors-level course, MJHS provides the following guidelines. Note that these are only guidelines - students and families decide what courses are best for them:

- **A genuine interest and motivation to do well in the class.**
- Proficient or Distinguished on EOG assessments in the core subject;
- Current grade of 85 or higher OR a grade of 4 or higher in the core subject area.
- In Reading or Math, a **MAP Score of 76th percentile** or higher, which is considered “above average.”

Please discuss recommendations for placement with your 8th grade counselor and your current 8th grade teachers in the respective core subject areas.

Understanding Pathways

A pathway consists of three or more related courses taken in one career area. Akin to a “college major,” students focus on the pathway for 3 or more years. Benefits of completing a pathway include:

- Allowing students to develop a thorough understanding of a subject area
- Shows dedication and commitment
- Allows students to take the **End of Pathway** exam and earn an industry certification
- Students who pass the exams can wear cords at graduation



Audio/Video Technology & Film

The A/V Tech & Film pathway prepares students for employment or post-secondary education in the film & television industry. AVTF students create presentations of sound, video, and data in a variety of formats; operate sound and video editing equipment; and work in front and behind the camera producing MJHS's weekly news segment, the **MJJ Weekly**.

9th Grade Course : Audio-Video Technology and Film I



Lights, Camera, Action!

Band Pathway

The MJHS band program is a comprehensive wind & percussion instrumental music program, designed to develop and enhance budding musicians' basic fundamentals. Students are exposed to a variety of musical genres of instrumental music literature and performance opportunities, thereby preparing them for the collegiate level of music education and beyond. Students have the opportunity to participate in the Marching Band, Concert Band, or Jazz Band, all of which perform throughout the school year.



9th Grade Course : Beginning Band, or teacher rec based on experience

Business Technology

This pathway provides students with the technical and business skills necessary for careers in every sector of the economy.

Students are provided with a strong foundation of business concepts integrated with technology skills including written, oral and verbal communication skills, flexibility, personal presentation, leadership, time management and teamwork. Upon completion, students have the opportunity to receive certification in the Microsoft Office suites through the Microsoft IT Academy.

9th Grade Course : Intro to Business and Technology



Chorus Pathway

The Chorus Pathway is designed for students that enjoy singing and want to develop their vocal and musical skills. Students will have opportunities to perform individually and in large and small ensembles, in a variety of styles and genres in and outside of the school environment. Upon completion, these singers will be prepared to participate in professional or collegiate choral/vocal programs or to study vocal music at the college level.

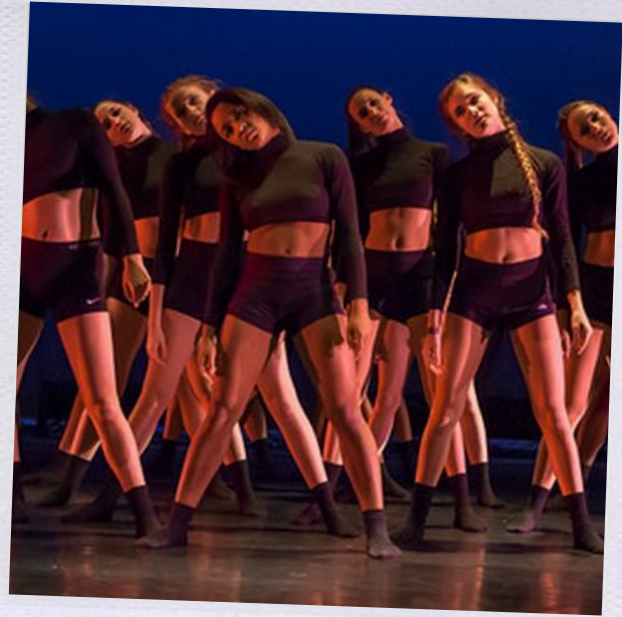


9th Grade Course : Beginning Chorus, or teacher rec based on experience

Dance Pathway

The Dance Pathway at MJHS aims for a holistic approach to dance, and embraces a variety of dance traditions and dance cultures. Performance, creative and analytical skills are mutually developed and valued whether the students are writing papers or creating/performing dances. The curriculum provides students with a liberal arts orientation to dance, which facilitates the development of students who may become choreographers, dance scholars, performers or those, more broadly, who seek life enrichment through dance.

9th Grade Course : Dance I, or teacher rec based on experience



Engineering Pathway

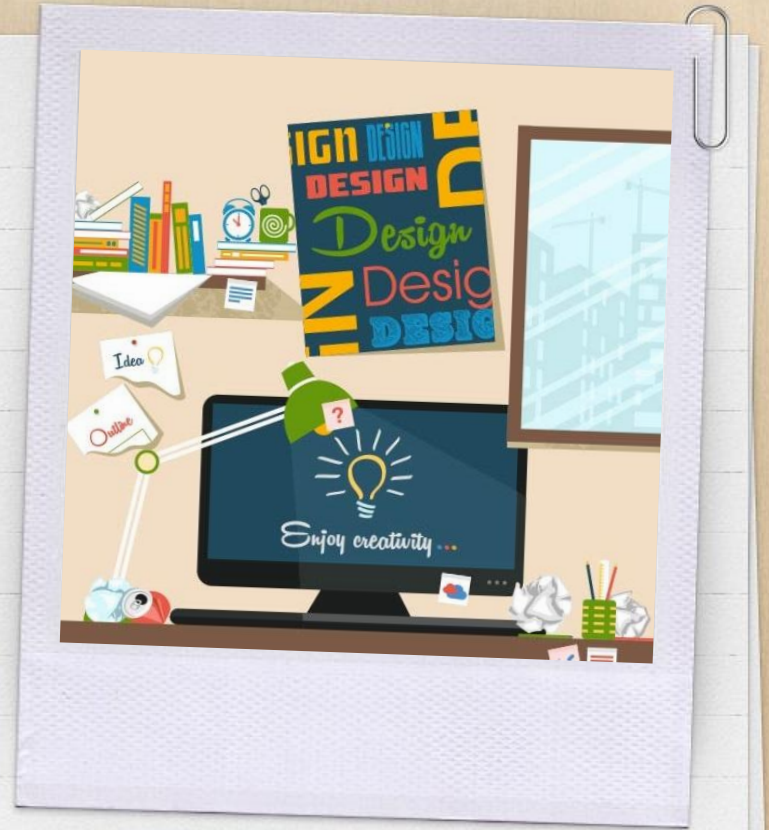
Students will combine hands-on projects and rigorous curriculum to be prepared for challenging postsecondary engineering and technology problems and build solid technical writing, comprehension, calculation, problem-solving, and technical skills. Students learn about areas of specialization within engineering through hands-on instructional activities, and apply engineering design as they develop solutions for technical problems.



9th Grade Course : Foundations of Engineering

Graphic Design

The Graphic Design Pathway introduces students to the processes involved in the technologies of **printing, publishing, packaging, electronic imaging**, and their allied industries. Graphic designers **develop the overall layout** and production design of **magazines, newspapers, journals, corporate reports**, and **other publications**. They also design distinctive **logos** for products and businesses, and develop signs and signage systems for business and government.



9th Grade Course : Intro to Graphics and Design

JROTC

The Junior Reserve Officer' Training Corps is a leadership education program. JROTC helps students build a strong knowledge base of **self-discovery** and **leadership skills** applicable to many leadership and managerial situations. Mastery of the Army Junior ROTC standards through project-based learning, **service learning** and **leadership development** activities will prepare students for 21st Century responsibilities. The curriculum focus is reflected in its mission statement: "**To motivate young people to be better citizens.**"

9th Grade Course : JROTC/Army 1



Orchestra Pathway

The Orchestra Pathway at MJHS provides opportunities to develop **performance skills** and precision on **orchestral stringed instruments**. The program emphasizes performance and production, analysis and theoretical studies, historical and cultural contributions and influences, creative aspects and appreciation of music. The pathway **stresses individual progress** and **ensemble experiences**. Orchestra members participate in several concerts each year.



9th Grade Course : Beginning Orchestra or teacher rec based on experience

Theatre Arts

Through the TA Pathway, students will understand the power of art to inspire, to challenge, and to impact change in the thoughts and attitudes of its patrons. Beginning with Fundamentals, students are provided a **basic overview of the techniques of acting, audience etiquette, and critique**. In the 2nd year, students are then able to **choose concentration in Acting** (front of house) or **Technical Theater** (back of house), with opportunities for writing, producing, directing, performance, lighting, sound, costumes, make-up design, and more.

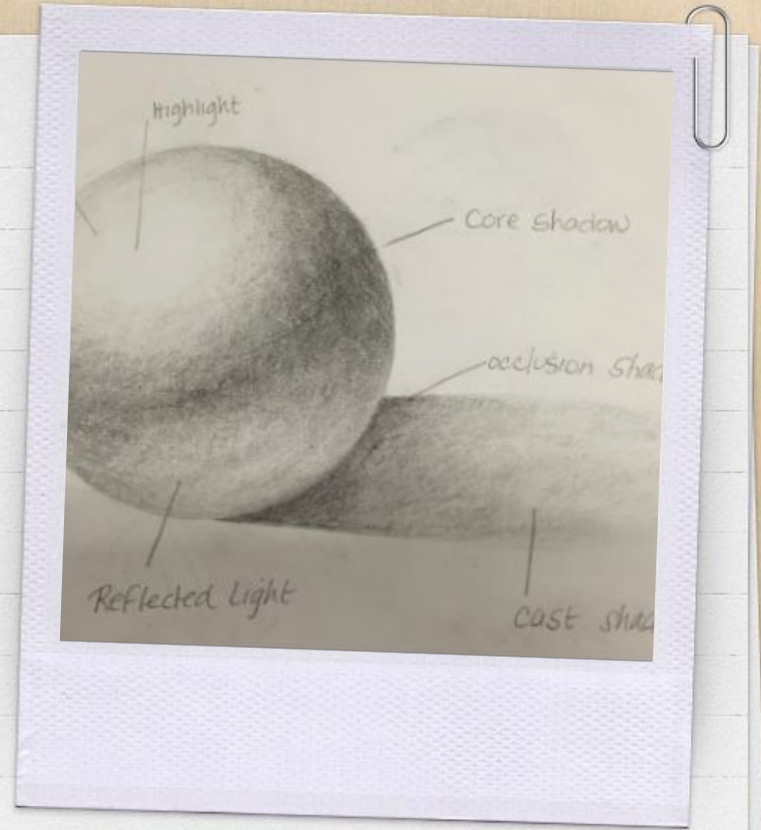
9th Grade Course : Theatre Arts I/Fundamentals



Visual Arts

The Visual Arts Pathway aims to nurture young artists and create a platform for them to develop a powerful and personal visual voice. Students are **introduced to art history, art criticism, aesthetic judgment & studio production**. The VA pathway continues through **drawing & painting, sculpture, applied design**, and may continue up through AP or IB Studio Art, culminating in a senior thesis exhibition and other public art opportunities.

9th Grade Course : Intro to Visual Arts/Comprehensive I



On to Other Electives

(if you have room
in your schedule :)

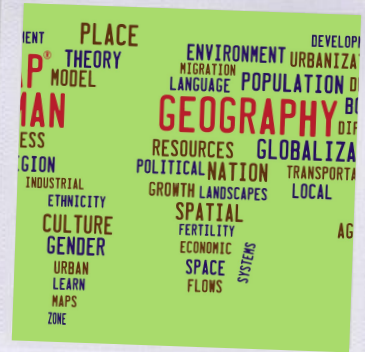
Academic Elective:

AP Human Geography

AP Human Geography introduces students to the **systematic study of patterns and processes that have shaped human understanding, use, and alteration of Earth's surface**. Students employ spatial concepts and landscape analysis to examine socio-economic organization and its environmental consequences. **They also learn the methods and tools geographers use in their research and applications.**

AP Human Geography is a **college-level course** with an expectation of **very rigorous coursework**, including extensive homework requirements. Students should be able to read college-level texts and apply the conventions of Standard Written English in their writing.

*Note that students who score a proficient or distinguished on the ELA Milestone are **STRONGLY ENCOURAGED** to take AP HUG.*




Academic Elective:

AP Computer Science Principles

AP CSP is designed to be **equivalent to a first-semester introductory college computing course** , and offers a multidisciplinary approach to teaching the **underlying principles of computation** . The course will introduce students to the creative aspects of **coding & programming** , abstractions, algorithms, large data sets, the Internet, cybersecurity concerns, and computing impacts.

Requires strong math skills and a love of creative problem-solving.

*Note that students who score a proficient or distinguished on the Math Milestone are **STRONGLY ENCOURAGED** to take AP CSP.*



```
getPhotoDescription( cell ) {  
  .getElementById( 'bigimageDesc' ).innerHTML = description;  
}  
  
updatePhotoDescription() {  
  if ( descriptions.length > ( page * 9 ) + ( currentImage - smallestBigImage ) ) {  
    document.getElementById( 'bigimageDesc' ).innerHTML = descriptions[ currentImage - smallestBigImage ];  
  }  
}  
  
updateAllImages() {  
  page = 1;  
  while ( page < 10 ) {  
    var elementId = 'foto' + i;  
    var elementIdBig = 'bigimage' + i;  
    if ( ( page * 9 + i - 1 < photos.length ) ) {  
      document.getElementById( elementId ).src = 'photos/' + photos[ i - 1 ];  
      document.getElementByIdBig( elementIdBig ).src = 'photos/' + photos[ i - 1 ];  
    }  
  }  
}
```

Other Elective Options

- **Beginning Piano:** introduces basic piano keyboard techniques.
- **Beginning Guitar:** Includes performance, production, theory, basic guitar techniques, and appreciation of music.
- **Journalism:** focuses on journalistic writing through analysis of newspapers, literary magazines, and broadcast journalism publications. Produces the yearbook.



Completing the Course Request Form for 2025-2026



Go to: <https://tinyurl.com/mjhsrising9thcourses>

Thanks!

Any questions?

Please visit to reach our Counselors:

x www.tinyurl.com/mjhscounseling

x (404) 802-5200

