



**BEARDEN HIGH SCHOOL**  
**9th Grade Elective Course Descriptions**

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**IMPORTANT:**

- Pay attention to all prerequisites and requirements when selecting courses.
- If you want to take band all year and you play a band instrument, select Marching Band and Concert Band.
- If you want to take orchestra or ROTC all year select that option **TWICE** in Aspen. (*NOTE: Two credits of ROTC would take the place of Lifetime Wellness*)

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**HUMANITIES**

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**Creative Writing 1**

This is an elective course for students who have an interest in studying and writing in the genres of poetry, drama, short story, and nonfiction. The curriculum includes the study of the genres, the students' personal examples of the genres and their development of a portfolio. (Elective credit: may not count as English credit.)

**Journalism 1**

This course is for students who are proficient in writing skills and have an interest in the production of publications. Curriculum includes the history and elements of journalistic style, and the application of journalistic techniques to the development of a publication.

**Science Fiction**

This course is for students who have an interest in the genre of science fiction. The course includes units that represent prevalent themes in science fiction: Man and Science, Man in Progression, Alien Encounters, and Visions of the Future. The curriculum includes projects, reading, vocabulary development, discussion, composition, film analysis and oral presentations.

**Speech**

Speech is for students who wish to develop skills in public speaking. The curriculum includes skills in researching, writing, presenting, and adapting speeches to various audiences and purposes. Forensics and debate may be included.

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**WORLD LANGUAGES**

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**Spanish 1 / French 1 / German 1 / Latin 1**

INTRO LANGUAGE COURSES are for students who are interested in acquiring knowledge of the Spanish, French, German & Latin language and culture. The curriculum includes the study of the culture and basic communicative skills in listening, speaking, reading, and writing. **Requirement: 9th grade students must be enrolled in Honors English I**

**Spanish 2 / French 2 / German 2 / Latin 2**

LEVEL 2 LANGUAGE COURSES are for students who are interested in developing the skills learned in the first level. The curriculum includes further study of the skills acquired in level one. Students who have successfully completed level I are eligible to take this course.

## FINE ARTS

### Concert Choir & BHS Brothers In Song

This is a non-auditioned chorus for beginning choral students who wish to study and perform a wide variety of sacred and secular choral literature of easy to medium difficulty in a variety of styles. Emphasis is placed on vocal production and basic choral techniques, intonation, phrasing, sight-reading and ear training, general musicianship skills, understanding and attitudes and the responsibility of individuals to the group. There are no prerequisites, although some basic minimum requirements may be recommended by the teacher. Performances and after-school rehearsals are required. Can be taken for multiple credits and serves as a prerequisite for both Bearden Singers. **\*\* Another option = Bearden Belles (female choir) requires audition.**

### Theatre Arts 1

Theatre Arts is for students who have an interest in drama and wish to learn the basic fundamentals of theatre and improve their abilities in communicating and appearing before a group. The curriculum includes exercises in pantomime, improvisation, basic stage direction, play reading, theatre history, stagecraft, basic acting skills, and oral interpretation.

### Visual Art 1

This course is designed for students who are enrolling in a high school art course for the first time. Provides a variety of experiences that build on the concepts, techniques, and use of media introduced in the middle school program. Generally laboratory in nature, Art I explores and gives experience in two-dimensional (drawing, painting, printmaking) and three-dimensional (sculpture, ceramics, textiles) formats and integrates art history, design principles, and aesthetic criticism and response. This course is a prerequisite for all other advanced art coursework.

### Freshman Orchestra

FRESHMAN ORCHESTRA provides students with the opportunity of continuing the study and performance of music emphasizing styles from several historical periods. The course focuses on the study of the elements of music and the development of performance skills for individuals and ensembles. Individual practice, after-school practice and rehearsal sessions, and performances are required. *(Prerequisite: Previous experience required)* Can be taken for multiple credits.

### Marching Band

MARCHING BAND provides students with the opportunity of continuing the study and performance of music emphasizing traditional band literature and selected orchestral transcriptions. The course focuses on the study of the elements of the elements of music and the development of individual and group performance skills. Individual practice, after-school practice and rehearsal sessions, and performances are required. Performance opportunities include invitational and audition clinics, festivals, and contests. *(Prerequisites: Previous experience and attendance at band camp)* Can be taken for multiple credits.

### IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR BAND COURSE SELECTION:

Select **WOODWINDS & PERCUSSION** if you play Flute, Oboe, Clarinet, Saxophone or a Percussion Instrument.  
Select **BRASS & COLOR GUARD** if you play Trumpet, Horn, Mellophone, Trombone, Baritone, Tuba or for Color Guard or Majorette.

### Concert Band

CONCERT BAND is a course where students are concentrating their skills on musical performances for advanced woodwinds, brass, and percussion performance. These bands play a variety of styles and types of music selected from the standard high school band repertoire. These bands will have several performance opportunities throughout the semester. Rehearsal and performances during the school day, before, and after the regular school day, as well as on non-school days, may be required. *(Prerequisite: Previous study of a band instrument)* Can be taken for multiple credits.

*\*For more BHS Band information, Email [megan.christian@knoxschools.org](mailto:megan.christian@knoxschools.org), [jamie.wilson@knoxschools.org](mailto:jamie.wilson@knoxschools.org) or visit [beardenband.com](http://beardenband.com)*

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## OTHER

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### **Leadership 1**

This is a class for students who are wanting to learn/improve upon their leadership skills all while learning other skills for life. The curriculum includes topics in Self-Awareness, Goal Setting, Organization, Communication, Group Processes, Decision Making, and Application. This course is also a great way to meet new students and to better learn the layout of the school building. *This course requires an application.*

### **PE 1**

PE 1 seeks to provide a variety of activities through four strands: Health Related Fitness; Individual Sports; Team Sports; and Basic Gymnastic Fundamentals. Each unit within the strand will be designed to teach the basic skills, rules and strategies necessary to understand and perform a variety of activities.

### **ROTC**

ROTC will present a curriculum designed to help each student achieve the following goals: (1) Develop habits of orderliness, precision, and respect for authority in our society, (2) Instill patriotism, (3) Develop a high degree of personal honor, self-reliance, individual discipline, and leadership, (4) Instill pride, self-respect, confidence, and a desire to do one's best in any endeavor, and (5) Promote a basic understanding of national security requirements and the role of the armed service in the national defense structure. Each student must successfully complete an introductory phase before advancing to the next level of the program.

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## CTE ELECTIVES

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### **Health Science Education**

An introductory course designed to prepare students to pursue careers in the fields of biotechnology research, therapeutics, health informatics, diagnostics, and support services. Upon completion of this course, a proficient student will be able to identify careers in these fields, compare and contrast the features of healthcare systems, explain the legal and ethical ramifications of the healthcare setting, and begin to perform foundational healthcare skills. This course will serve as a strong foundation for all of the Health Science programs of study. \*Health Science Education is the Level 1 Course for all programs of study within the Health Science Career Cluster

### **Intro to Business and Marketing**

This is an introductory course designed to give students an overview of the Business Management and Administration, Marketing, and Finance career clusters. The course helps students prepare for the growing complexities of the business world by examining basic principles of business, marketing, and finance in addition to exploring key aspects of leadership, ethical and social responsibilities, and careers. Students' academic skills in communications, mathematics, and economics are reinforced with activities modeled in the context of business topics. Upon completion of this course, proficient students will be equipped with the foundational skills to succeed in any of the Business, Marketing, or Finance programs of study.

### **NIC Computer Science Foundations**

A course intended to provide students with exposure to various information technology occupations and pathways such as Networking Systems, Coding, Web Design, and Cybersecurity. As a result, students will complete all core standards, as well as standards in two of four focus areas. Upon completion of this course, proficient students will be able to describe various information technology (IT) occupations and professional organizations. Moreover, they will be able to demonstrate logical thought processes and discuss the social, legal, and ethical issues encountered in the IT profession. Depending on the focus area, proficient students will also demonstrate an understanding of electronics and basic digital theory; project management and teamwork; client relations; causes and prevention of Internet security breaches; and writing styles appropriate for web publication. Upon completion of the CSF course, students will be prepared to make an informed decision about which Information Technology program of study to pursue.