

Silver State High School



2009-2010 Course Catalog

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SILVER STATE HIGH SCHOOL MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of Silver State High School is to provide a quality, public secondary alternative high school to meet the specific educational needs and concerns of students that are in danger of dropping out of high school, recover students that have withdrawn from school, students that are behind in credits, students that are unable to attend high school during normal hours, disabled homebound students, students who are parents and have young children at home, precluding their daily attendance. Silver State High School will improve the opportunities for the students' to learn by offering a comprehensive high school curriculum that will be offered with a flexible individualized delivery utilizing on line curriculum and 24/7 availability. Our staff will be there to help the student both during the day and early evening. Our staff will be highly experienced licensed educators who will spend the extra time and the extra care and encourage the use of effective methods of teaching to motivate and nurture the students' to success. Emphasis will be to prepare the student to prepare for the world of work and adulthood while completing all the required classes to earn a high school diploma.

SILVER STATE HIGH SCHOOL VALUES

- Students and teachers must take responsibility to put forth their maximum effort to assure success.
- Always maintain a positive, supportive atmosphere, expecting the very best from ourselves and others.
- Be compassionate and understanding of others while demanding high expectations and full potential.

ENROLLMENT REQUIREMENTS

Seniors at SSSH must take a minimum of four classes

All freshman, sophomores and juniors must take a minimum of six classes.

A student will be classified as indicated below for their class standing for purposes of enrollment in courses.

- ❖ A student must have a minimum of five credits to be classified a sophomore
- ❖ A student must have a minimum of eleven credits to be classified a junior.
- ❖ A student must have a minimum of seventeen credits to be classified a senior

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

<i>Course of Study</i>	<i>Credit Requirements</i>
English	4
Science	2
Mathematics	3
US History	1
US Government	1
Computer Literacy	1/2
Physical Education	2
Humanities	1
Health Education	1/2
Electives	7 1/2
TOTAL	22 1/2

A credit is equal to one full year or two semesters of a course. SSSH has four semesters in a school year.

The Humanities requirement may be satisfied by completing credit within the following courses: Music Appreciation, Psychology, Sociology, and World History.

Silver State High School is accredited through the Northwestern Association of Accredited Schools (NAAS).

EARLY GRADUATION

Students interested in graduating early must be approved by the Governing Body of Silver State High School before the end of their sophomore year.

REPEATING CLASSES

Students will not be given credit for the same required class more than one time. If a student chooses to repeat a class that they have already earned a passing grade, he/she will not receive credit for that class a second time.

CLASS CHANGE POLICY

Class changes may be made for two weeks (ten school days) after the beginning of each semester. Changes will be made based on necessity and availability in the course. A parent conference may be needed depending on the type of change requested by the student. Any changes in schedules after two weeks will necessitate a parent conference with the counselor and/or administrator and the possibly the teacher(s) involved and must be in the best educational interests of the students and the school. Administrative approval will be required. A change or drop after the first two weeks of the semester may result in a withdrawal with an F.

WTHDRAWAL POLICY

If a student withdraws from a class after three weeks (fifteen school days) from the beginning of each semester, he/she will receive a W/F on his/her transcript.

SUGGESTED COURSE of STUDY

College Bound

The classes below are suggested as a recommended course of study leading to a college admittance. The student's electives should reflect his/her chosen educational plan

Entrance Requirements at most selective colleges

- English (four years)
- Mathematics (four years)
- Science (four years)
- Social Studies (three years)
- Foreign Language (two to four years)
- Computer (recommended)

Guidelines to follow

- Many colleges have specific course requirements. It is advisable for students to meet with a counselor to make an individual plan to meet college entrance goals.
- All of the academic areas have courses that are considered advanced or college preparatory. Students should seek advice from parents, counselors and faculty in selecting appropriate courses
- UNR/UNLV have certain courses that they have approved as meeting their entrance requirements. Students planning to attend either of these universities need to see the counselor and utilize this list of courses when making class scheduling plans.
- The minimum course requirements for graduation from SSHS will allow students to meet entrance requirements for most colleges but not for all colleges and universities.

Occupational

Guidelines to follow

- Students going to college and planning to major in business/occupational career need to follow college preparatory guidelines along with taking appropriate occupational courses.
- Students interested in acquiring job/business/occupational skills for use right after high school graduation are urged to take introductory courses in chosen areas to be able to take advanced course work in their junior and senior years.
- Students are urged to work with their counselor to design a plan to meet their goals.

REQUIREMENTS for ADMISSION TO UNR/UNLV

A minimum high school GPA requirement exists (2.5 cumulative)

<u>High School Courses</u>	<u>Units</u>
English (emphasis on composition rhetoric and world literature)	4
Mathematics (including geometry and advanced algebra)	3
Social Studies	3
Natural Science(two labs or simulations)	<u>3</u>
TOTAL	13

TESTING SCHEDULE

Silver State High School's ETS Code is 290040.

Nevada Testing Calendar for the 2009-10 School Year

Program	Grade(s)	Testing Windows/Dates			
HSPE Writing	11	Nov. 18		Mar. 10	
	12, Adult	Nov. 18		Mar. 10	May 5
	12	Alternate Writing Assessment Documents must be provided to NDE by Apr. 24			
HSPE Reading, Math, and Science (Science at Grades 10 and 11 Only)	10			Mar. 8 – 12	
	11	Nov. 16 – 20		Mar. 8 – 12	
	12, Adult	Nov. 16 – 20		Mar. 8 – 12	May 3 – 5

COURSE INFORMATION

Electives

Aerospace: The Journey of Flight A & B

1 elective credit

Learn of the rich history of aviation and its influence on world history. Discover the intricacies of aircraft flight and navigation. Explore the many facets of aeronautics and the impact of aerospace on the local and world community. Understand the sources of weather and the affect of weather on aviation. Gain new insight into the space environment and mans exploration of space with manned and unmanned spacecraft. Acquire new knowledge about the exciting fields of rocket guidance, propulsion, orbits and trajectories. Field trips to aerospace facilities will help to understand the practical aspects of aerospace activities today.

Career Planning

½ elective credit

This nine week course has six units which focus on 'life after school'. Students begin by creating a self-portrait of interests, skills, abilities, likes and dislikes. The second unit helps students gain perspective on their values and how others see them. Unit three uses tools and techniques to evaluate one's interests, skills, self-estimates and explores occupations and job characteristics. The next unit focuses on career interests by discovering occupational information and investigating different career opportunities. Unit five is on goal setting as it relates to careers and delves into self-defeating behaviors and self-esteem issues. The focus of unit six is decision making and the strategies involved in making good ones. The next unit is filled with tools and methods for finding, applying for, and keeping a job. The last unit of study is on transitions from high school into the next stage in life. It includes major options for continuing education, vocational-technical programs, the military, two and four year college programs, and on the job training programs.

On the Job Training

½ elective credit to 2.0 elective credit

Students can earn up to two full credits in this class while in high school. Students enrolled in this class must be at least sixteen years old and be employed in a job that complies with state law, issues a paycheck with hours worked and deductions listed, and where the employer agrees to participate in the program. Students must complete and turn in a permission packet and show the teacher their pay-stubs within a school week of being paid. Any student fired from a job will fail the course. The instructor is available for job related counseling and advice. For every 285 hours of work recorded in a grading period one half credit is earned.

SSHS Assistant

½ to 1 elective credit

In this course students will have an opportunity to learn from a SSHS staff person by working closely with the adult to assist them in a variety of tasks crucial for the successful completion of their job duties. Students will develop an understanding and appreciation of responsibilities related to professional employment requirements, as well as become exposed to various skills and techniques related the specific position of the SSHS staff member.

Film Studies 101 A & B

1 elective credit

This course is an introduction and overview of the history and technique of popular filmmaking. Students will develop an understanding and appreciation of films as both modern forms of art and as representative examples of society and culture. This is an 18-week course (not including holiday periods). Students will have weekly assignments that will usually include reading from the assigned text, an online quiz, and an online essay response to the movie shown that week. In addition, a midterm project related to a specific actor or director is required, as is a final project related to a specific film.

Film Studies 102 A & B

1 elective credit

This course is a continuation of the history and technique of popular filmmaking. Students will develop an understanding and appreciation of films as both modern forms of art and as representative examples of society and culture. This is an 18-week course (not including holiday periods). Students will have weekly assignments that will usually include reading from the assigned text, an online quiz, and an online essay response to the movie shown that week. In addition, a midterm project related to a specific actor or director is required, as is a final project related to a specific film.

Technology

Digital Photography and Graphics

½ elective credit

In Digital Photography and Graphics, students begin by learning general photographic concepts. Then composition skills are added to photographs and image-editing techniques are practiced. Students learn how to use layers, crop images, color and lighting concepts, hue and saturation, and exposures and special effects. Graphic design, artistic elements, and software skills are taught while producing graphic images. The concept of design as a manner of visual communication is carried throughout. Students build a portfolio of work and explore the fields of photography, graphic arts, advertising and illustration.

Flash Animation

½ elective credit

This course is for anyone who wants to create animations and interactive movies like the ones used on the numerous Web sites. Participants learn how to use Flash 8 -- the world's most popular animation software -- to create engaging, interactive movies for the Web. Beginning with classic animation techniques, participants learn how to move objects around the screen and change their appearance. From there, it's on to creating movies complete with original artwork. By the end of the course, participants have learned how to build interactivity into their movies and publish them to the Web. This course is a great introduction to the world of Web animation.

Game Design

1 elective credit

This course is for anyone who loves gaming and wants to design and build original games from scratch. Participants learn how to use popular game development software to create engaging, interactive games in a variety of styles. After learning about game genres and experiencing a variety of classic games first-hand, participants learn all aspects of the game design process. From there, it's on to a series of increasingly challenging hands-on projects that teach all the elements of successful game development. This course provides a solid foundation in the essentials of game design.

Web Design

½ elective credit

Essential web design skills are learned in this course, giving students a voice on the internet. Students complete several guided projects and then develop their own web site. Web design essentials are covered throughout in examples and activities. Beginning with planning a website and moving on to storyboarding, page design, layout and template issues are also covered. From

there, students learn to create backgrounds, headers, and buttons. Students learn to use templates, create rollovers and pop-ups, develop image maps, and add animations.

Computer Skills for Success

½ Computer Use credit (required)

An intensive yet introductory course for all incoming and select continuing students related to developing necessary technical and academic abilities to survive and thrive at SSHS. The course will focus on eCollege, Class.com, and FLVS navigation, MS Office Suite applications (Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Publisher), basic sound recorder software applications, Internet basics and protocols, graphics manipulation, proper study habits, and core writing skills. There are two or three major graded assignments for each module and a few small quizzes occur throughout the nine week marking period. This course has a comprehensive final exam.

Electronics I

½ elective credit

This course familiarizes students with the fundamentals of electronics including how to read resistor color codes, decipher capacitor values, and use electronic schematics to build simple electronic devices. Students conduct experiments to apply theoretical concepts. Covers Ohm's Law and Kirchhoff's Laws of voltage and current, and simple series and parallel circuits. This class takes place in a web classroom, utilizing software, workbooks and a kit of parts and materials to accomplish weekly lessons.

Tuition is \$25 and a kit of materials is required. The cost of materials is approximately \$150 through the WNC bookstore.

Home Technology Convergence

½ elective credit

This course is an introduction to the components and technologies that make up the "Smart Home". The convergence of home entertainment audio/visual equipment, surveillance and security systems, computer networks, and telecommunications will be taught in both theory and application. Students will build, configure and install cables, wall plates, jacks, control modules and equipment to bring alive the multiple technologies commonly used in a home or small office environment.

Tuition is \$312 and class will be held on the WNC campus.

English (4 credits required)

English I

1 English credit (required)

This course seeks to expand a student's personal, social, literary and historical vision. Freshman Survey will provide students with activities which highlight many types of vision, including: foresight, tunnel vision, double vision, blurred vision, x-ray vision, and insight. The idea of vision will control each activity and also extend into the community, as students participate in GLOBAL VIEW, a cultural community arts project. The course will look at how internal ("I") and external ("other") visions connect to create the "real world" all people share.

English II

1 English credit (required)

English II is typically considered a sophomore English course that includes reading selections from around the world. The motif of the course revolves around the idea of dreams -- the obtainable and unobtainable. Accordingly, the readings relate to themes of dreams and goal setting. For instance, the Shakespeare selection students study is **A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM**. Honors Pre-Course Reading: Antigone by Sophocles.

English III

1 English credit (required)

Using the theme of the newspaper this junior-level course covers American literature written between the Early American period up to the present. The selection of literature ranges from fiction and poetry to speeches, sermons, letters, and journals. Students will see where this literature fits in relation to the events and culture of the time period.

English IV

1 English credit (required)

Doors and Choices is the motif for English IV allowing students to explore the various "doors of knowledge and opportunity" awaiting them as they transition from high school to college and work. Students will study a variety of literature representing a broad spectrum of genres including poetry, short stories, drama, fiction and nonfiction and complete assignments which allow students to choose from different types of assessments to demonstrate their knowledge.

Physical Education/Health

Health

½ Health credit (required)

In this course offered via the Web, students are introduced to healthy lifestyle choices that are built around the basic concepts of physical health and wellness. Nutrition and exercise are emphasized. Students also learn about the health risks associated with tobacco, alcohol, and other drugs. Other subjects addressed include types of illnesses, functions of the major systems of the body, and career choices associated with health. Students have the opportunity to interact with their teacher and classmates on the Web. Basic computer skills are recommended.

Physical Education

1 Physical Education credit (2.0 credits required)

In this course students will be introduced to a wide variety of skills through participation in team sports and games. Classes are held in a positive learning environment that encourages students to become team players. Students also will be engaged in out-of- class activities that will be logged in a P.E. journal. Come prepared for physical activities.

Science (2 credits required)

Astronomy

1 elective credit

This course offers an introduction to astronomy and requires a prerequisite knowledge of basic algebra and geometry. Students should have completed algebra one and geometry or be concurrently enrolled in algebra two or geometry. Preferably, students should have completed a physical science course in eighth or ninth grade and or be familiar with the dynamics, the structure of the atom, and the basic conservation laws. It is expected that most students enrolled in this class will be juniors or seniors although exceptions can be granted by the instructor.

This astronomy course is written with a conversational tone and attempts to engage students with graphics and the occasional use of humor. Technical jargon is kept to a minimum and new vocabulary words are always defined and used repeatedly after their initial introduction. Numerous links to astronomy sites on the internet provide interactive features or media files that show or explain astronomical phenomenon. Links to fun online quizzes found on the net provide self checks for students before they attempt a quiz or test. Homework assignments are also provided and some require problem solving skills. To make astronomy come alive for the student occasional meetings at the observatory are necessary as well, dress appropriately for these meetings.

This course is a work in progress and it will continue to be improved as additional modules are added or rewritten. Presently, the course includes four modules that provide instruction on dynamics, planetary science, stars, galaxies, and the Universe. Successful completion provides one elective credit towards graduation.

Biology

1 science credit

The Biology course is designed as a Travel Agency experience. Students experience biology concepts and ideas through their travels and adventures.

The goal of this course is to offer the student real world connections, hands-on experiences, and engaging activities that make the world of science come alive. Students will be expected to buy some of the materials needed for experiments and to complete experiments at home. These materials can be readily acquired from a local grocery store at little cost. Students will also participate in lab experiences at the school and will observe several demonstrations or videos throughout the course. Additionally, students will receive direct instruction on the principles of heredity, evolution, dissection, and on the use of a microscope when they attend classes on campus. Numerous links to biology sites on the internet provide interactive features and

activities or media files that show or explain biological phenomenon in greater depth.

This course provides instruction on all major biological topics considered in a standard secondary introductory biology course. Successful completion of this course provides one science credit towards graduation and fulfills the requirement for a laboratory science.

Chemistry

1 Science credit

Prerequisite: Algebra 1

Put on your safety goggles and tour the chemistry course by applying concepts to industrial environments. Students will work through the Nuclear Power Plant to study the atom, travel through the Water Treatment Plant to study properties of matter, and move through several other industrial buildings to complete their study of chemistry. The purpose of this course is to study the composition, properties, and changes associated with matter. Laboratory investigations of selected topics in the content, which also include the use of scientific method, measurement, laboratory apparatus, and safety procedures, are an integral part of this course.

The purpose of this course is to use the industrial applications of chemistry to study the composition, properties, and changes associated with matter. This course will include hands-on laboratory investigations that the student does both at home and on campus. Successful completion of the course provides one science credit towards graduation and fulfills the requirement for a laboratory science.

Earth/Space Science

1 Science credit

Exploration is the key to success in this course. As a member of an exploration team, students investigate the atmosphere, freshwater hydrology, ocean floor features, plate tectonics, geologic principles, the rock cycle, geologic time, and space. Students will have the opportunity to do hands on activities in each module and they will interact with the course content in a variety of ways.

Four perspectives taken during explorations will provide the backdrop for the development of course concepts, activities, and web adventures: Global, Regional, Local, and Personal. Numerous links to geology sites on the internet provide interactive features or media files that show or explain geological phenomenon. Additionally, students will be provided with direct instruction on the basic principles of geology while on campus. As with the other courses, students are expected to complete laboratory investigations both at home and on campus. Successful completion of the course provides one science credit towards graduation and fulfills the requirement for a laboratory science.

Marine Science

1 Science credit

Set sail on a research expedition to explore the marine environment. Our virtual expedition will leave from Tampa Bay and travel around the Earth investigating the many habitats and organisms of the oceans. As a crew member, you will be conducting research, performing experiments, and discovering man's interrelationship with the marine environment. The purpose of the course is to provide an overview of the marine environment. The content includes the nature of science, the origins of the oceans, the chemical and physical structure of the marine environment, ecology of the various sea zones, marine communities, and the interrelationship between man and the ocean. Students will be provided with direct instruction on the basic principles of marine science while on campus; as with the other science courses, students are expected to complete laboratory investigations both at home and on campus. Additionally, students may be expected to visit a local natural body of water and conduct their own observations at that site. Successful completion of the course provides one science credit towards graduation and fulfills the requirement for a laboratory science.

Humanities (1 credit required)

Psychology

½ credit

This course offers students a way to explore concepts in psychology through life-like scenarios focusing on aggression, addictive behavior, memory, interpersonal relations, and self-care. Student will explore scientific methods of research as well as the major schools of psychology as they relate to issues that are of interest and part of their lives in today's culture. Student will learn about road rage, aggression, substance and behavioral addictions, memory and memory distortion ethnic, age and sexual discrimination, depression, self-esteem, eating disorders, and body image.

Guest speakers will be invited to speak to the class to enhance what they are studying.

World History

1 credit

This survey of human history begins with a study of Neolithic peoples and ends with life in the 1950's. Archeological and written evidence is used to study ancient peoples, cultures, and civilizations from the Middle East, China, India, Europe, Africa, Japan and the Americas. Traditions and religions are surveyed as well as feudalism, the European renaissance, reformation, and enlightenment. The French Revolution and the rise and fall of Napoleon are studied as well as the Age of Reason, the scientific and industrial revolutions, and both world wars. There is a comprehensive final exam for each of the nine week marking periods.

Sociology

1 credit

In this interactive course students will become familiar with their own culture, and they are introduced to cultures from around the world, and from different periods in history. The course uses FIVE Roots of Culture: Family, Land, Death, Identity, and Power to explore the similarities and differences in cultural roles in various times and places.

There will be a hands-on labs in archaeology designed especially for this class.

Social Studies

U. S. History

1 credit required

This course has two purposes: (1) To gain broad knowledge of the United States nation by focusing on political, cultural, geographical, and economic factors that have influenced the events of our history over the past five centuries: (2) To acquire investigative skills necessary to evaluate a wide range of circumstances, synthesize effective solutions to problems and evaluate outcomes. In this class, students will see how history and literature connect. They will read primary accounts of the people who made history, famous, and people like ourselves.

There will be an emphasis upon the land of this nation and the peoples of many colors that have forged this nation.

Civics

½ credit required

This course focuses on the rights, duties, and responsibilities of all citizens in our country. It is divided into five major units of study. These units are Citizenship, National Government, State and Local Governments, The Economics of Free Enterprise, and Foreign Policy. Each unit has three major graded assignments and there are a few small quizzes throughout the nine week marking period.

American Government

½ credit required

This nine week course focuses on our national government. It has eight modules of study ranging from an introductory unit to how one becomes a U.S. citizen, our Federalist system, the branches of government, the Constitution, the Bill of Rights and amendment process, political parties and elected officials, the federal and state court systems, the national Supreme Court, and criminal vs. civil laws. This course has a comprehensive final exam.

Mathematics (3 credits required)

Pre-Algebra

1 credit

Pre-Algebra is designed to strengthen understanding of math fundamentals while introducing algebraic concepts relevant to standards related topics. These include real number operations as they apply to equations, exponents, inequalities, geometry applications, and data analysis. The course concentrates on making math skills automatic and is intended as a bridge between arithmetic and algebra.

Algebra I

1 credit

Algebra I is designed to teach the fundamentals of algebra. This course lays the foundation of knowledge and skill needed in subsequent college preparatory mathematics courses. Major topics include: real numbers and their properties, linear equations, linear inequalities, graphing, systems of equations, polynomials, factoring, square roots, quadratic equations and problem solving using a variety of algebraic strategies. Throughout the year, students will be expected to develop the ability to reason mathematically and apply learned concepts to new problem solving situations. Prerequisite: Pre-Algebra or 8th grade math.

Geometry

1 credit

Geometry is designed to develop deductive reasoning through the study of definitions, postulates and theorems as they apply to plane and solid geometry figures. Major topics include: polygon congruence and similarity, circles, transformational geometry, coordinate geometry, constructions, right triangles and trigonometric ratios and formulas of area, perimeter, volume and surface area. Algebraic techniques are used to solve problems involving geometric relationships. Prerequisite: Algebra I.

Algebra II

1 credit

Algebra II is designed to strengthen and enhance problem solving techniques through further investigation of the basic knowledge of Algebra I and Geometry. Major topics include: equations and inequalities, linear equations and functions, systems and matrices, quadratic functions, polynomials, conic and quadratic relations, probability and statistics, rational equations and functions. Graphing calculators are used to investigate, describe, solve, and verify solutions. The course primarily focuses on preparing students to further their education in higher mathematics. Prerequisites: Algebra I and Geometry.

Consumer Math

1 credit

Consumer Math is intended to reinforce and expand the student's algebra and computational math skills while preparing them for the Nevada State High School Proficiency Exam. Major topics include: algebra, geometry, probability and statistics, presented in terms of consumer math, measurement and conversions, graphs and charts, data organization and interpretation, and mathematical problems encountered in everyday life. Prerequisite: Algebra I.

Math Proficiency Prep

$\frac{1}{2}$ elective credit

This $\frac{1}{2}$ credit course is designed to help students who have failed the High School Proficiency Exam in math. The curriculum will cover the standards tested by the state department, on an as needed basis, to include: numbers and operations/algebraic concepts, geometry and measurement, probability, statistics and data analysis. Test taking strategies and study skills will also be taught to help students prepare for future exam opportunities. **Completion of this course does not guarantee success on the High School Proficiency Exam in math.** Prerequisite: Failure of the High School Proficiency Exam.