

THE ACADEMY OF FINANCE (AOF)

The Academy of Finance (AOF), a prestigious model academy designated by the National Academy Foundation (NAF), offers students the ability to learn and directly apply business and financial content and concepts through a hands on, project-based, and collaborative approach. With the help of local and national partners from educational institutions and business organizations, including for-profit and non-profit entities, students are poised to obtain the knowledge and essential skills needed to be college, career, and future ready.

The AOF offers a curriculum that covers entrepreneurship, banking and credit, financial planning, global business, securities, insurance, accounting and economics, among many other topics.

Additionally, these courses introduce students to a wide array business and financial careers. AOF graduates benefit from learning the critical concepts of business management, accounting, and ethics along with the essential skill sets needed to be successful in any workplace. Academy students must complete four AOF courses by graduation, identified as (AOF) in the pathways below. Upon successful completion of 4 courses, requiring receiving a passing score on End-of-Course exams and satisfactory scores on project and internship assessments, students earn NAFTrack certification credentials signifying to post-secondary institutions and employers that they are both college and career ready.

AOF Internship Credit is awarded upon completion of two AOF courses. Successful internship completion is determined by the Work Based Learning Coordinator and includes completion of a total of 120 working hours a satisfactory evaluation by the internship supervisor, and completed student reflection.

NAF education can help you get into college, and even help you get ahead. Some universities award credit for NAF AOF coursework; some restrictions apply.

<p>PATHWAY 1 (Honors/College Dual Articulation*) </p> <p><i>All courses qualify for NAFTrack Certification</i></p> <p>GRADE 9/10 618 Principles of IT (AOF) (.5 cr.) 658 Microsoft Excel (AOF) (.5 cr.) 636 Principles of Finance/Money (AOF) (.5 cr.) 642 Global Business (AOF) (.5 cr.)</p> <p>GRADE 11 628 Accounting (AOF)* 688 Entrepreneurship (AOF) 611 Business Management (AOF)*</p> <p>GRADE 12 638 Applied Finance online (AOF)(.5 cr.) 631 Financial Accounting (AOF)*</p> <p>* Online and Articulated courses are leveled honors.</p>	<p>PATHWAY 2 (Accelerated) </p> <p><i>AOF qualify for NAFTrack Certification</i></p> <p>GRADE 9/10 618 Principles of IT (AOF) (.5 cr.) 602 Career Planning (.5 cr.) 615 Introduction to Business 658 Microsoft Excel (.5 cr.)</p> <p>GRADE 10/11 636 Principles of Money (AOF) (.5 cr.) 642 Global Business (AOF) (.5 cr.) 682 Marketing 1</p> <p>GRADE 11/12 628 Accounting (AOF) *Dual Credit Tunxis 684 Marketing 2 (AOF_prerequisite) 688 Entrepreneurship (AOF)</p> <p>GRADE 11/12 ADDITIONAL COURSES: 601 Career Planning 699 Cooperative Work Program</p> <p>* Online and Articulated courses are leveled honors.</p>
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601 CAREER PLANNING 2

Honors ½ Credit

Grades 10, 11, 12

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Career Planning 1 is recommended

This course is a continuation of Career Planning 1 and addresses NBHS Graduation Requirements beginning with the Class of 2015. The course is designed for the student interested in exploring future career and college options. Career Competencies addressed will include basic skills, customer service, computer literacy, problem solving and decision making, interpersonal communication, personal qualities, and job seeking skills. The employment process is explored through completing a job seeking portfolio, developing interviewing techniques, and acquiring higher level job skills.

602 CAREER PLANNING 1 **Accelerated****½ Credit**

Grades 9, 10

This course addresses NBHS Graduation Requirements beginning with the Class of 2015. The course is designed for the student interested in exploring future career and college options. Career Competencies addressed will include basic skills, customer service, computer literacy, problem solving and decision making, interpersonal communication, personal qualities, and job seeking skills. The employment process is explored through researching career opportunities, completing a career interest inventory, developing a Personal Learning & Career Plan, developing resumes, and acquiring job skills.

611 BUSINESS MANAGEMENT (AOF)  **Honors****1 Credit**

Grades 11, 12

This course introduces the principles and practices of business management. Topics include: Informational and legal foundations for business management, economics, regulatory, and societal environment of business, entrepreneurship, finance and marketing; planning, organizing leading and controlling a business organization. Students will experience a rigorous study and learning experience using technology that integrates various academic disciplines to develop critical thinking skills. Emphasis is placed on enhancing application of math, reading, writing, and communication in a way that has business relevance for each student. Simulations and case studies are explored to develop collaborative analytical skills for lifelong learning. **Dual Credit Articulation – College Credit**

615 INTRODUCTION TO BUSINESS  **Standard****1 Credit**

Grades 9, 10

This course introduces students to the world of business and the dynamics of the business industry while enhancing 21st century skills. Students will explore the range of business industry related to accounting/finance, marketing/entrepreneurship, economics and business law. The course will introduce them to the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA), Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA) and various industry programs throughout the state.

618 PRINCIPLES OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (AOF/AOITE/NBAHP/PIT)  **Accelerated****½ Credit**

Grades 9, 10, 11, 12

This course is recommended for all Academies of NBHS.

PIT provides an overview of information technology (IT) today and introduces students to the basics of hardware and software. Students examine hardware components including peripherals, connectors, and memory. Students explore common operating systems, software applications, and programming languages. Students learn about types of networks and network topology, and they setup an e-mail client/server connection. Students also consider contemporary issues such as security, privacy, and technological inequality. Finally, students explore career opportunities in IT.

628 ACCOUNTING 1 (AOF)  **Accelerated****1 Credit**

Grades 11, 12

This course is an introduction to basic accounting concepts and principles, with an emphasis on their practical application to recording, classifying, and summarizing financial information that flows within a business enterprise. The accounting cycle is examined: along with such areas as sales, purchases, cash receivables, and payroll. This course also incorporates Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA). Students will be trained to become basic tax preparers.

Dual Credit Articulation – College Credit.

This course is recommended prior to industry work based learning experience in AOF.

631 FINANCIAL ACCOUNTING (AOF)  **Honors****1 Credit**

Grades 11, 12

Financial Accounting is taught as the management tool of modern business with emphasis on the use and interpretation of financial accounting information. The course includes a review of Introductory Accounting principles, advanced accounting theory and analysis of financial reports. This course is designed as a college level course and is recommended for students who are planning to major in accounting, business management, finance or marketing. Computer applications, guest speakers, Business simulations and participation in the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) are used to make the curriculum come alive.

636 PRINCIPLES OF FINANCE/MONEY (AOF)  

Accelerated

½ Credit

Grade 10, 11, 12

Do you want to learn how to manage your money responsibly? This is the first course students take in the Academy of Finance and introduces students to the financial world. Students develop financial literacy as they learn about the function of finance in society. They study income and wealth; examine financial institutions; learn how businesses raise capital; and study key investment-related terms and concepts. Students also research how innovations have changed the financial services field. Finally, students explore careers that exist in finance today.

638 APPLIED FINANCE ONLINE (AOF)  

Accelerated

½ Credit

Grade 11, 12

Prerequisite Student of AOF and Principles of Finance/Money

Applied Finance delves into the financial concepts introduced in Principles of Finance/Money. Students learn to identify the legal forms of business organizations and continue to develop an understanding of profit. They learn about various financial analysis strategies and the methods by which businesses raise capital. Students also have the chance to explore, in depth, topics of high interest in the field of finance, and explore the types of careers that exist in finance today.

Pending Dual Credit Articulation – College Credit. Possible online option, see your counselor for more information.

642 GLOBAL BUSINESS (AOF)  

Accelerated

½ Credit

Grades 10, 11, 12

This course exposes students to the unique challenges facing firms doing business internationally and to the potential opportunities available to those businesses. Building on concepts introduced in Principles of Finance/Money, Global Business broadens students' understanding of how businesses operate, grow, and thrive in our ever-changing world.

MOS (MICROSOFT OFFICE SPECIALIST) CERTIFICATION COURSES

- 622 Mobile App Development**   **Accelerated** **½ Credit**
Prerequisite: Principles of IT (PIT)
It is time to develop an APP. Students taking this course can expect to learn about hardware and software in Android-based smartphones. Students will use MIT App Inventor 2 to create apps which are both fun and socially useful. Students will use pre-made apps to guide the relearning and then develop their very own.
- 651 Exploring Computer Science/ECS (AIOTE)**   **Honors** **1 Credit**
Prerequisite: Mobile App Development
Exploring Computer Science is a year long course consisting of six units, human computer interaction, problem solving, web design, programming, computing and data analysis, and robotics. The course was developed around a framework of both computer science content and computational practice. Assignments are designed to be socially relevant and meaningful. Ethical and social issues in computing, and careers and computing, are woven throughout the six units. Emphasis is placed on how computing enables innovation in a variety of fields and the impacts that those innovations have on society.
- 658 MICROSOFT EXCEL**   **Accelerated** **½ Credit**
Grades 10, 11, 12
Students will learn the features and functions of Microsoft Excel 2013 necessary to successfully pass the specialist and expert level MOS Excel tests. Skills learned will include: creating worksheets, using templates, formulas, cell referencing, linking worksheets, data management, and exploring use with other Microsoft applications. These certification tests are given independently by Microsoft and are highly valued by potential employers.
- 661 Mobile Computer Science Principles (AOITE)**   **Honors** **1 Credit**
Prerequisite: ECS, AP Quality points possible.
This course provides an introduction to basic principles of computer science (CS), including programming in App Inventor, a graphical programming language for Android mobile devices. This is a projects-based course. Students will learn CS principles by building socially useful mobile apps and reflecting on the impacts of their work. This course involves a strong writing component. Students will maintain a portfolio of their work, which will include several performance tasks in the areas of programming, data analysis, and the impact of computing technology.
- 682 MARKETING 1**  **Accelerated** **1 Credit**
Grades 10, 11, 12
Students will learn market research, merchandising, distribution, advertising and selling techniques. Students will explore wholesale, retail and service careers. They will learn merchandising, management, advertising, promotion and selling techniques by doing class projects and gaining real world experience through the operation of the school store (Canes Corner).
- 684 MARKETING 2**   **Accelerated** **1 Credit**
Grades 11, 12
Prerequisite: Marketing 1
Students will become more familiar with each area of marketing. They will implement strategies to build brand awareness. They will learn how to assess market segments, understand customer and consumer needs. Product selecting, pricing and creative selling strategies will be used to develop a marketing plan. The marketing plan will include customer profiles and market research.
- 688 ENTREPRENEURSHIP – Small Business Management (AOF)**   **Accelerated** **1 Credit**
Grades: 11, 12
Prerequisite: Introduction to Business
Entrepreneurship introduces students to the critical role entrepreneurs play in the national and global economy. Students learn the skills, attitudes, characteristics, and techniques necessary to become successful entrepreneurs. They explore starting a business and learn about the operational issues and financial risks that new businesses face by analyzing a student run business, Canes Customs. Students examine ethical issues and develop a framework for managing them. Finally, students identify the risks, returns, and other aspects of entrepreneurship as a potential career.
- 699 COOPERATIVE WORK PROGRAM**   **Standard** **1 Credit**
Grades 11, 12
Recommendation of Work-based learning Coordinator
This course develops entry level job skills for those students who have entered the world of work, and will continue when they finish high school or continue in their career preparation. In addition to receiving pay for work, students will receive one credit per year and be graded by their employer and CWE coordinator.