



Course Offerings 2017-2018

Saint Mary of the Assumption High School

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COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

Fine Arts Department

Art I, 2.5 credits, Level: Academic

The Art Department recommends Art 1 as an entry level course. It can help prepare students for other art courses available at St. Mary's. Art 1 includes an introduction to drawing, printmaking, painting, collage and sculpture.

Art II, 2.5 credits, Level: Academic

Art 2 builds on concepts introduced in Art 1 and is appropriate for students with a serious interest in visual art. This course covers a wide range of skills at an intermediate level, including drawing, painting, collage, realism and abstraction. In Art 2, students can improve foundation techniques, such as drawing from direct observation, while developing a broader range of skills through exploration of new areas, including acrylic painting and diverse collage methods. Many students use their Art 2 work in portfolios for college admission.

Teacher approval and successful completion of Art I is required to take this course.

Independent Study Art, 2.5 credits, Level: Academic

This course is an introduction to visual expression through the exploration of various black and white media, still life, landscape, portrait, and other subjects will be drawn. Formal concepts such as line, texture, value, and perspective will be explored through representational and abstract means. This is a half year course. Each student produces about sixteen individual projects of varying media and size. The course produces a portfolio of artwork which employ the formal elements and principles of design to visually express ideas. This class is only offered for transfer students and there is no pre-requisite.

Mechanical Drawing, 5.0 Credits, Level: Academic

Mechanical drawing is the process of representing topography, engineering works, and building by means of conventionalized drawings. The fundamental purpose of a mechanical drawing is to convey the exact shape and dimension of an object. The purpose of this course is to acquaint the beginning student with the range of graphic tools which are available for conveying architectural ideas. The basic premise behind its formation is that graphics are an inseparable part of the design process, an important tool which provides the designer with the means of not only presenting a design proposal, but also of communicating with him/herself and others in the design studio.

Business Department

Finance Literacy, 2.5 credits, Level: College Prep

The course meets the one semester graduation requirement of Financial Literacy requirement.

This course provides students with practical knowledge and confidence to address many of the complex financial problems of daily living. Topics covered will include going away to college, living independently, achieving career goals, budgeting a paycheck, understanding taxes, and completing a Federal tax return. Students will investigate the uses and pitfalls of personal credit as well as the variety of insurance needs (health, car, life, and homeowner/tenant) that they will face. Students will be

equipped to meet the challenges of responsible, independent living and to understand that money is a complex and value - laden concept. Course is recommended for Senior students.

[Economics, 2.5 credits, Level: College Prep](#)

This course provides exploration of labor, land, investments, money income, productivity, taxes, and government expenditures. Students will explore the measure of well-being and evaluate its impact on the rich and the poor. This is an introductory economics course. Some of the topics covered include scarcity and factors of production of the free market vs centrally planned economies, supply vs demand, market equilibrium, competition vs monopolies, regulation vs deregulation, business labor, money, banking, and finance.

[Business Computer Applications/Web Page Design, 2.5 credits, Level: Academic](#)

This course provides intensive hands on experience with popular computer applications software utilized in business offices and educational computer labs. In addition to learning computer literacy and trouble shooting, students will be able to manage files efficiently by creating and deleting folders, and copying files. Using Microsoft Office 2010, they will create and manipulate worksheets with Excel software; create presentations with Power Point; and create and post Web Pages with Word. Students will learn to use paste functions, create charts, import and insert clipart to enhance applications, and present them using Power Point. This course will prepare students to take the Microsoft Office Specialist (MOS) certification exams.

[Mathematics Department](#)

[Pre-Algebra, 5.0 credits, Level: College Prep](#)

Recommendation of elementary teacher and indicative Standardized test score, entrance exam, and/or students' academic performance in summer school.

[Algebra I, 5.0 credits, Level: College Prep](#)

Algebra I focuses on foundational ideas such as: proportional reasoning, equivalent forms of expressions or numbers (including integers and exponents); linearity and rate of change (represented and connected in situations, tables, graphs and equations); and operational reasoning (as they evaluate or simplify expressions, or solve equations.) In all levels, students will also find absolute value, solve inequalities and solve systems of equations and identify key aspects of the graphs of quadratic functions. Levels 3 and 4 will solve quadratic equations by various methods.

[Geometry, 5.0 credits, Level: College Prep](#)

The Geometry course is designed to enable students to develop the logical reasoning that is the foundation of mathematical proof. A primary goal of this Geometry curriculum is for students to develop Geometric Habits of Mind. These habits include: reasoning with relationships, generalizing geometric ideas, investigating invariants and balancing exploration and reflection. Students will make conjectures based on investigations using geometric constructions, diagrams, and geometric properties and relationships and use some form of proof to verify or refute conjectures.

Algebra II/Trigonometry, 5.0 credits, Level: College Prep

This course is a study of intermediate algebra and introduction to trigonometry. An emphasis is placed on the study of equations and inequalities, including linear, rational, radical and quadratic forms. Throughout the course there is an application to word problems and use of the graphical calculator. Additional topics include functions and their graphs, complex numbers, and introductions to logarithms and conic sections.

Student placement will be contingent upon completion of Algebra I and Geometry.

Algebra II/Trigonometry Honors, 5.0 credits, Level: College Prep

This course builds upon algebraic concepts covered in Algebra I and prepares students for advanced-level courses through the study of intermediate algebra and an introduction to trigonometry. Topics include functions and their graphs, quadratic functions, inverse functions, advanced polynomial functions and inequalities and trigonometric functions and their properties. Students are introduced to rational, radical, exponential, and logarithmic functions; sequences and series; complex numbers; and matrices.

The Honors course covers concepts in greater depth than the Regular course and has more challenging assignments and activities. This course requires the use of a graphing calculator equivalent to a TI-84 and includes tutorials and activities for using a handheld graphing calculator.

Student placement will be contingent upon completion of Algebra I and Geometry with a grade equal to or greater than 90.

PRE-Calculus, 5.0 credits, Level: College Prep

This course provides a background in function theory necessary for the study of Calculus. This course includes basic graphing techniques, transformations, combinations, and properties of functions. The course will put an emphasis on polynomial, radical, rational, logarithmic and trigonometric functions and graphs. The concepts of limits, continuity, and derivatives will be applied to polynomial, rational, and radicals to a basic level.

Student placement will be contingent upon completion of Algebra I and Algebra II with a grade equal to or greater than 90.

Calculus, 5.0 credits, Level: College Prep

This course is designed for the above-average mathematics student who would like a thorough introduction to limits, continuity, derivatives, integrals, and other topics in calculus. Applications include calculations of areas, optimization of problems, related rates, falling body problems, and topics in design.

Student placement will be contingent upon completion of Pre-Calculus with a grade equal to or greater than 90.

SAT Math, 5.0 credits, Level: College Prep

Introduction to Engineering Principals, 5.0 credits, Level: Academic

This course provides the student with insight regarding a career in the field of engineering. Students will be introduced to the various fields of engineering and the skills common to those fields, namely the

design process, modeling, creating documentation and drawings, and trouble-shooting designs. Hands-on activities and computer technology will be utilized to study a variety of engineering projects.

Student should have achieved/maintain a minimum average of B in math and science classes.

Music Department

Canticle, 2.5 credits, Level: Academic

Open to all interested singers without audition. This is a year-long course that explores choral music from a wide variety of time periods and cultures through study and performance. The curriculum emphasizes the basics of vocal technique, music theory and music history. Students in CANTICLE are expected to participate in one performance each quarter as a major part of their grade. Canticle may be taken multiple years. **PRIOR PERMISSION FROM INSTRUCTOR NEEDED.**

Class will be run 2 days a week for a full year.

Integrated Arts, 2.5 credits, Level: Academic

A year-long, two and a half credit elective open to 10th, 11th and 12th grade students who desire to stretch themselves intellectually, exploring self-expression and examining big ideas through visual and performing art forms. Students can expect a combination of imaginative writing exercises, reading activities of varied genres, critical discussion and creative projects. Individual portfolios will be examined quarterly; a public presentation of student artistic achievement will be offered in the Spring.

Class will be run 2 days a week for a full year.

Health and Physical Education Department

Physical Education, 3.75 credits, Level: Academic; Health, 1.25 credits, Level: Academic

The goal of the health and physical education program is to promote wellness, the acquisition of skills and knowledge, and to encourage regular physical activity. Students are required to take physical education and health/safety courses every year that they are enrolled in high school. There are no exemptions/substitutions or waivers in physical education. Students are limited to one physical education/health class per quarter. Failures in health and physical education result in attendance in summer school. All grade 9 students have a prescribed program of Team Games, Swimming, Health and Fitness as described below. All other students may select their activities. A brief description of courses required by the Physical Education Department follows:

Health Education/Family - Life

Health Education is a requirement for students in grades 11 and 12. These courses explore the impact of the environment on the health and safety of the individual. Coursework will help individuals make decisions regarding self, family and society. The responsibilities of each individual as a producer and consumer are discussed. The courses will cover topics such as physical, mental and social health, physiology, nutrition, attitudes, first aid, family living, substance abuse, teen dating violence and sexually transmitted infections.

Driver Education Theory

This course is a requirement for students in grade 10. The course covers legal aspects of driving and safe driving practices. It consists of 30 hours of classroom instruction and includes instruction in substance

abuse, driver distractions, and organ donation. At the end of this course, the New Jersey State Driver Examination is given.

Senior Seminar - Life Post High School

This course is taken by seniors in grade 12. The course covers life after high school with particular regards to the students in the senior class. Topics to be discussed include but are not limited to: starting college and/or a job, independent living, budgeting, nutrition, health and fitness, time management, and decision making.

Science Department

Physical Science, 6.0 credits, Level: College Prep

Physical Science is a laboratory science course in which students will investigate phenomena that shape our physical environment. Through a series of inquiry based units students will explore topics from biology, ecology, physics, chemistry, and engineering while developing scientific reasoning skills and laboratory techniques.

Biology, 6.0 credits, Level: College Prep

Biology is a laboratory science course that investigates the relationship between structure and function from molecules to organisms, the interdependence and interactions of abiotic and biotic factors in environments, and mechanisms that maintain continuity and lead to changes in systems over time. Students explore biological concepts through laboratory based inquiry and problem based learning.

Biology Honors, 6.0 credits, Level: College Prep

Honors Biology is a laboratory science course that delves into the relationship of structure and function from molecules to organisms, interdependence and interactions of abiotic and biotic factors in environments, and mechanisms that maintain continuity and lead to changes in systems over time. This course will emphasize the development of student's scientific process skills and laboratory techniques as well as the fundamental principles of biology. Throughout the year students will be engaged in individual scaffolded research projects ((plants, from molecules, cells, to organism to ecosystem) which will be presented at the conclusion of the course. Student placement will be contingent upon teacher recommendation and/or grade of at least 90.

Chemistry, 6.0 credits, Level: College Prep

This course covers material in a year-long introductory course in high school chemistry. This course offers a solid understanding of the fundamental concepts of chemistry. Problem solving is presented logically one step at a time, with sample solutions to all types of chemistry based interactions and problems. Topics covered in the course include physical and chemical properties, the periodic table, the atom and atomic theory, chemical bonding, nomenclature, the concept of the mole, chemical reactions and stoichiometry. Laboratory work will be integrated in the course and student research projects will also be required.

Chemistry Honors, 6.0 credits, Level: College Prep

Honors Chemistry covers material in a year-long introductory course in high school chemistry. This course introduces general chemistry topics then examines each topic more thoroughly than in general chemistry. Due to this course's heavy math component, students are expected to excel in algebra and

math problem solving. Topics covered in the course include physical and chemical properties, the periodic table, the atom and atomic theory, chemical bonding, nomenclature, the concept of the mole, chemical reactions and stoichiometry. Laboratory work will be integrated in the course and student research projects will also be required. Student placement will be contingent upon teacher recommendation and/or grade of at least 90.

[Environmental Science, 5.0 credits, Level: College Prep](#)

Environmental Science is an introduction to our natural and modified environment and modern environmental issues. This course is designed to provide students with the scientific knowledge, concepts, and methods required to understand complex interrelationships in our changing environment. The course will provide students with the tools necessary to identify the problems that are both natural and human-made, to observe and examine solutions, and evaluate preventative strategies.

[Anatomy & Physiology, 5.0 credits, Level: College Prep](#)

Anatomy and physiology is a detailed study of human body systems. Students will investigate homeostatic balance, the relationship between structure and function, and the interrelationships between body systems throughout the course. This course will include laboratory experiences involving microscopic analyses of tissue specimens and dissections.

[Physics, 6.0 credits, Level: College Prep](#)

This course is designed to provide students with hands-on, higher level experience of physics; this includes laboratories that are designed to reinforce concepts learned in lecture. During these laboratory experiences, students are expected to observe events, record data, analyze and interpret results, questions unexpected results and to be able to organize the experience for submission.

Studies in Physics include, but are not limited to, motion, forces, momentum, energy, conservation of momentum and energy, states of matter, waves, sound and light, fission and fusion. Throughout the course, the practice of lab safety will be instructed and enforced. Theory, lab application, and independent investigation will help students evaluate and make decisions based upon the major concepts of physics and its application to their world. Teacher approval is required to take this course.

[Forensics, 5.0 credits, Prerequisite: Biology and Chemistry, Level: College Prep](#)

Forensic science is the use of science to solve crimes. Students will learn about the history of forensic science and its place in popular culture; the roles of multiple professionals involved in evaluating crime scenes and interpreting evidence; methods for collecting and interpreting data; how to present evidence in a professional setting. Forensics is a lab based science which involves students in scientific inquiry and problem solving. Students will be required to graph, use basic algebra, read scientific text, use scientific vocabulary, and write scientifically (citing sources) before being enrolled into the course. Teacher approval is required to take this course.

[Introduction to Engineering Design, 5.0 credits, Prerequisite: Physics, Level: College Prep](#)

This course provides the “foundation” for students to understand and apply technological concepts and processes that are the cornerstone for the high school engineering design program. The major focus of the course is to expose students to design process, research and analysis, teamwork, communication methods, global and human impacts and technical documentation. This course gives students the opportunity to develop skills and understanding of course concepts through project –based –learning

(PBL). Used in combination with a teaming approach, project-based-learning challenges students to continually hone their interpersonal skills, creative abilities and understanding of the design process. Students will develop problem-solving skills and apply their knowledge of research and design to create solutions to various challenges throughout the course. Students will also learn how to document their work, and communicate their solutions to their peers. Teacher approval is required to take this course. Student should have achieved/maintained a minimum average of B in math and science classes. Course is recommended for Juniors and Seniors.

History Department

World History, 5.0 credits, Level: College Prep

This freshman course covers the major civilizations from Mesopotamia, Greece, and Rome to the present day including those affected directly or indirectly by WWI and WWII. The student will be introduced to the various cultures, the impact of their religions, and the development of their political and economic systems. The focus of the course will be on how geography helped to shape these cultures past and present. To that end, application of present day events will be emphasized with charts, graphs, and map reading skills.

American History I, 5.0 credits, Level: College Prep

This sophomore course begins with the early colonization of the Americas. Who came? Why did they come? Where did they settle? These are questions which are explored. The course continues with the impact of these peoples on the Native Americans, the westward migrations, the clash of cultures, the American Revolution, the western settlements, Mexican American War, and The Civil War and Reconstruction. Emphasis is placed on the roles of religion, geography and economics in the early development of the USA. The Constitution is analyzed with the focus on the roles, duties and terms of the branches of government as well as the privileges afforded under the Bill of Rights.

American History I Honors, 5.0 credits, Level: College Prep

The purpose of this course is to give students a background and an appreciation of the foundations from which America developed. We will begin with the impact of European exploration on Native American tribes and work our way to the Civil War and Reconstruction. The Constitution is analyzed with the focus on the roles, duties and terms of the branches of government as well as the privileges afforded under the Bill of Rights. All students will acquire the knowledge and skills to think analytically about how past and present interactions of people, cultures, and the environment shape the American heritage. Additionally, this class will emphasize learning through primary sources, developing critical thinking skills, and demonstrating knowledge through intensive writing.

Course approval needed from World History and English I teachers.

American History II, 5.0 credits, Level: College Prep

The two years of American History is a unified study. American History II will “pick up” the story following the Reconstruction period and America’s new influx of immigrants. The course covers the various themes of the Progressive Period, Imperialism, World Wars, to present day issues – domestic and foreign. Social and economic issues beginning with the women’s rights movement and the Great Depression are compared to present day issues. Map skills, document analysis and interpretation of graphs and charts will continue to be covered. The goal of this course is to develop a well-informed,

clear thinking citizen who has a background of US History and also a sense of historical continuity and appreciation of the contemporary scene in light of this background.

[American History II Honors, 5.0 credits, Level: College Prep](#)

This course picks up from American History I at the end of the 1800s after Reconstruction. The course covers the various themes of the Progressive Period, Imperialism, World Wars, to present day issues – domestic and foreign. Social and economic issues beginning with the women’s rights movement and the Great Depression are compared to present day issues. It is designed to build on the first year with references to the Constitution and its amendments as they apply. All students will acquire the knowledge and skills to think analytically about how past and present interactions of people, cultures, and the environment shape the American heritage. Additionally, this class will emphasize learning through primary sources, developing critical thinking skills, and demonstrating knowledge through intensive writing.

Course approval needed from American History I and English II teachers.

English Department

[English I Foundations of English and Literature, 5.0 credits, Level: College Prep](#)

This course emphasizes the strengthening of English basics as well as organizational, writing, and study skills. Reading and writing enhancement will be done through literacy and grammar web-based programs that deliver daily differentiated instruction. Student placement will be contingent upon COOP test results and/or GPA.

[English I, 5.0 credits, Level: College Prep](#)

This course focuses on both the review and mastery of grammar skills, vocabulary, various types of writing, and reading. Students are given instruction in not only integrating textual evidence into written responses, but how to choose the strongest piece of evidence from the text possible. The reading for English I comprises of short stories, novels, poetry, non-fiction pieces, and William Shakespeare's Romeo and Juliet. Reading and writing enhancement will be done through literacy and grammar web-based programs that deliver daily differentiated instruction. Student placement will be contingent upon COOP test results and/or GPA.

[English I Honors, 5.0 credits, Level: College Prep](#)

The course emphasizes literary genres. Grammar and rhetoric are studied in conjunction with the content-based written work. Students are expected to create a research paper based on fiction or nonfiction readings. A variety of reading and writing assignments will be based on guiding questions. Reading and writing enhancement will be done through literacy and grammar web-based programs that deliver daily differentiated instruction. Student placement will be contingent upon COOP test results and/or a grade of at least 90.

[Reading 1/ SAT Prep](#)

This course offers instruction and training for reading both fiction and nonfiction material. The ultimate goal is to help every student improve their performance on the SAT and ACT, or other standardized assessment. The essential aspects are designed to enhance the student’s vocabulary, reading comprehension, and test-taking strategies.

English II Foundations of English and Literature II

This course continues to develop English basics as well as organizational, writing, and study skills. Reading and writing enhancement will be done through literacy and grammar web-based programs that deliver daily differentiated instruction. Student placement will be contingent upon teacher recommendation and/or a previous grades earned.

English II College Prep, 5.0 credits, Level: College Prep

This course emphasizes the correct application of close reading, grammar, and writing skills. Fiction and non-fiction reading skills will be enhanced through novels, short stories, drama, poetry, articles, etc. Reading and writing enhancement will be done through literacy and grammar web-based programs that deliver daily differentiated instruction.

English II Honors, 5.0 credits, Level: College Prep

English II Honors is a class designed for self-motivated students with a strong grasp on the English language and critical thinking skills. Focus on vocabulary, reading, and writing will be done on an advanced level. Language as a whole and especially written language are both areas of study for this course. Classic novels such as *The Great Gatsby* and non-fiction pieces on various topics will be analyzed. Reading and writing enhancement will be done through literacy and grammar web-based programs that deliver daily differentiated instruction. Student placement will be contingent upon teacher recommendation and/or a grade of at least 90.

Reading / SAT Prep II,

This course offers instruction and training for reading both fiction and nonfiction material, building on the skills developed in Reading/SAT Prep I. The ultimate goal is to help every student improve their performance on the SAT and ACT, or other standardized assessment. The essential aspects are designed to enhance the student's vocabulary, reading comprehension, and test-taking strategies.

English III College Prep, 5.0 credits, Level: College Prep

The emphasis of this course is on American literature from colonial to modern times. Grammar and rhetoric are studied in conjunction with the content-based written work. Students are expected to analyze fiction and nonfiction readings. Reading and writing enhancement will be done through literacy and grammar web-based programs that deliver daily differentiated instruction.

English III Honors, 5.0 credits, Level: College Prep

The emphasis of this course is on American literature from colonial to modern times. Grammar and rhetoric are studied in conjunction with the content-based written work. Students are expected to analyze and create abstracts on fiction and nonfiction readings. A research paper will be assigned during the year. Reading and writing enhancement will be done through literacy and grammar web-based programs that deliver daily differentiated instruction. Student placement will be contingent upon teacher recommendation and/or a grade of at least 90.

Reading / SAT Prep II,

This course offers instruction and training for reading both fiction and nonfiction material, building on the skills developed in Reading/SAT Prep I and II. The ultimate goal is to help every student improve

their performance on the SAT and ACT, or other standardized assessment. The essential aspects are designed to enhance the student's vocabulary, reading comprehension, and test-taking strategies.

English IV College Prep, 5.0 credits, Level: College Prep

The emphasis of this course is on British literature from *Beowulf* to modern times. Grammar and rhetoric are studied in conjunction with the content-based written work. Students are expected to analyze fiction and nonfiction readings. Reading and writing enhancement will be done through literacy and grammar web-based programs that deliver daily differentiated instruction.

English IV Honors, 5.0 credits, Level: College Prep

The emphasis of this course is on British literature from *Beowulf* to modern times. Grammar and rhetoric are studied in conjunction with the content-based written work. Students are expected to analyze and create abstracts on fiction and nonfiction readings. A research paper will be assigned during the year. Reading and writing enhancement will be done through literacy and grammar web-based programs that deliver daily differentiated instruction. Student placement will be contingent upon teacher recommendation and/or a grade of at least 90.

AP Language, 5.0 credits, Level: Advanced Placement

The AP Language course is designed to prepare students to read and write critically on a college level and to take the AP Language exam in May. If students score well on the exam, they will receive college credit for the class. Students will read a variety of texts including personal essays, memoirs, *The New York Times* Op-ed articles, classic speeches, persuasive essays, letters, critical reviews, political cartoons, photographs, etc. There will be a variety of writing, but the focus will be essays that analyze, argue, and synthesize. Aside from challenging mentor texts, students will develop inquiry skills when writing research papers using the MLA format. Reading and writing enhancement will be done through literacy and grammar web-based programs that deliver daily differentiated instruction. Student placement will be contingent upon teacher recommendation and/or a grade of at least 90. Open to juniors and seniors.

Reading / SAT Prep IV,

This course offers instruction and training for reading both fiction and nonfiction material, building on the skills developed in Reading/SAT Prep I, II, and III. The ultimate goal is to help every student improve their performance on the SAT and ACT, or other standardized assessment. The essential aspects are designed to enhance the student's vocabulary, reading comprehension, and test-taking strategies.

Theology Department ~ US Bishop's Core Curriculum

Theology Grade 9 - S1 - 2.5credits, Level: Academic

Jesus Christ: God's Revelation to the World (Student Text)

The one-semester course is intended to give students a general knowledge and appreciation of Sacred Scripture while coming to encounter Jesus Christ. Covering the basics of the Christian faith by tracing key

stages of Salvation History, this text introduces vocabulary, doctrine, events, and people that will appear throughout a four-year curriculum. While this text is a study of both the Old and New Testament, it begins by centering the study of Scripture on a person's natural instinct to search for God.

Theology Grade 9 - S2 - 2.5credits, Level: Academic

Jesus Christ: His Mission and Ministry (Student Text)

After a survey of Scripture, *Jesus Christ: His Mission and Ministry* deepens the study of Jesus, highlighting key events in his earthly ministry while unpacking his teachings about God the Father, the Trinity, Mary, and the Holy Spirit. Students learn that the goal of discipleship is a life of grace and holiness and a share of God's everlasting Kingdom. These goals form the centerpiece of this semester-long course. Students are encouraged to a course of action and are called to "pick up their cross" and follow the Lord in this life and beyond. The text introduces key vocabulary terms, explores relevant questions of faith, profiles famous Christian disciples, and offers several applications to put the lessons into action.

Theology Grade 10 - S1 - 2.5 credits, Level: Academic

Jesus Christ: Source of Our Salvation (Student Text)

The Paschal Mystery of Christ's Cross and Resurrection stand at the center of the Good News. In *Jesus Christ: Source of Our Salvation*, students explore in greater depth the saving actions of the Lord. This text unpacks and studies in depth the meaning of God's sacred and mysterious plan from creation, onwards to the consequences and the promises of a Savior, while ultimately focusing on the Life, Passion, Death, and Resurrection of Jesus Christ.

Theology Grade 10 - S2 - 2.5 credits, Level: Academic

The Church: Christ in the World Today (Student Text)

The text leads students toward a deeper understanding of the Church as the means to encountering the living Jesus. It explores the origin, the human and divine elements, and the ongoing mission of the Church. Students explore the Church's ongoing efforts to gather all into the People of God through the ecumenical movement and interreligious dialogue. Students reflect on their role in the Church and Christ's invitation to actively participate in and contribute to the life of the Church.

Theology Grade 11 - S1 - 2.5 credits, Level: Academic

The Sacraments: Encounters with Christ (Student Text)

Focus of this course is to help the students to learn about the Seven Sacraments, especially the Eucharist, and to enable them to more fully participate in them. Text provides an opportunity to encounter Christ in a full and real way. Also explores the history, scriptural foundation, and current practices of the Sacraments. Students will examine each of the sacraments in detail so as to learn how they may encounter Christ throughout life.

Theology Grade 11 - S2 - 2.5 credits, Level: Academic

Christian Morality: Our Response to God's Love (Student Text)

The purpose of this course is to help students understand that it is only through Christ that they can fully live out God's plans for their lives. Students are to learn the moral concepts and precepts that govern the lives of Christ's disciples. Leads the students to a deeper understanding of God's Law revealed to us through Scripture and Tradition. Explores how Christ's life and teaching is the fulfillment of the Old Law summarized in the Ten Commandments. Examines the positive moral principles taught by each of the Ten Commandments and the sins against them. Reflects on the gifts and guides God provides for us to live a holy life.

Theology Grade 12 - S1 - 2.5 credits, Level: Academic

Catholic Social Teaching: Learning and Living Justice (Student Text)

Catholic Social Teaching: Living and Learning Justice introduces high school students to issues surrounding the key principles of the Church's rich body of social teaching that comes to us from the strong tradition of the writings of the popes, especially since Pope Leo XIII. Catholic Social Teaching attempts to understand how societies work and the values that ought to guide them.

This text provides the latest up-to-date applications of the Church's social teaching as it draws on the Compendium of the Social Doctrine of the Church and is organized around the U.S. Bishops' document, Sharing Catholic Social Teaching. The text highlights two important principles—the life and dignity of the human person and respect for life—as foundational principles that support concepts like the common good, the preferential option for the poor, solidarity among all the people, and stewardship of resources.

Theology Grade 12 - S2 - 2.5 credits, Level: Academic

Creating a Christian Lifestyle (Student Text)

The purpose of this course is to help students to understand the vocations of life: how Christ calls us to live. In this course, students should learn how all vocations are similar and how they differ. The course is structured around married life, single life, priestly life, and consecrated life. The senior year is a pivotal moment in the life of teens, a time when young men and women are shaping their goals and hopes for the future and seeking spiritual guidance. Creating a Christian Lifestyle, a comprehensive, one-semester course, addresses significant issues teens face as they choose among the many life paths they may travel—single or married life, religious life or ordained ministry.

World Languages Department

Spanish I, 5.0 credits, Level: College Prep

In this introductory course, students will develop basic reading, writing, speaking and comprehension skills. Students will learn conjugations of regular and irregular verbs, relate Spanish verbs with their English cognates and structure sentences with correct placement of verbs and nouns. Students will also learn about different Hispanic countries and customs through cultural readings, current events, music and film.

Spanish II, 5.0 credits, Level: College Prep

In this second year course, students will revisit topics learned in their first year. They will improve their ability to communicate in Spanish with reasonable fluency and understand topics within the scope of levels I and II. Students will continue to develop an appreciation and awareness of the richness and diversity of Spanish life, culture, history, geography and the many contributions to civilization. This course will prepare students to take the Introduction to Spanish literature course.

Spanish III, 5.0 credits, Level: College Prep

In-depth study of the Spanish language at the intermediate level and Hispanic cultures through speaking, listening, reading and writing activities. This course will further students' understanding of Spanish through reading comprehension exercises, conjugation practice, sentence and paragraph development, analysis and discussion of Spanish literature and various writing assignments. Emphasis will be placed on grammar and vocabulary development. This course will continue to develop the skills learned in Spanish 2, specifically verb conjugation and sentence structure. Every verb form in Spanish will be learned along with other grammatical aspects of the language. New vocabulary taken from the various texts read will be introduced. Knowledge of grammar and a wide range of vocabulary is essential to reach proficiency in a language and to continue with an advanced study of the language.

Spanish IV, 5.0 credits, Level: College Prep

In this fourth year course, students will revisit topics learned in their third year. They will improve their ability to communicate in Spanish with reasonable fluency and understand topics within the scope of levels I and II. Students will continue to develop an appreciation and awareness of the richness and diversity of Spanish life, culture, history, geography and the many contributions to civilization. This course will prepare students to take the Introduction to Spanish literature course. Teacher approval is needed as well as approved signature form.

French I, 5.0 credits, Level: College Prep

This course is an introduction to the language. The emphasis is on the basics – simple conversations covering greetings, making introductions, asking and supplying information in a variety of situations, and ordering and paying for items at restaurants and supermarkets. There is a focus on acquiring vocabulary and creating sentences using the three simple verb tenses.

French II, 5.0 credits, Level: College Prep

This course continues building on the groundwork of French I. Expansion of vocabulary and the introduction of more complex grammar structures are presented and practiced. Reading short contemporary stories, writing 2-3 paragraph assignments, observing cultural events, and viewing six films of modern French cinema are included at this level.

French III, 5.0 credits, Level: College Prep

This course builds off of the knowledge of French II. More complicated grammar structure, reading comprehension and extensive writing are covered. The primary objective of this course is the ability to speak and comprehend the spoken word and to also enhance writing skills in French. Reading skills are developed through the students encounter with French literature. Students will write letters and essays in reaction to class material. Written comprehension will include formal and informal essays.

French IV/French Culture, 5.0 credits, Level: College Prep

This course focuses on the culture of the French language and people. It also emphasizes the comparison of the French culture vs. other cultures in terms of traditions, social life, and politics. While this course requires the knowledge of increased grammar skills, the opportunity to further perfect one's writing skills is emphasized. This class offers an in-depth knowledge of French culture. Literature provides insight into French history and serves as a basis for composition. Students will write long essays as well as letters and short responses.

Electives

Creative Writing, 5.0 credits, Level: College Prep

This course gives students a chance to learn to write in many genres. They will study professional mentor texts to develop the skills needed to write personal narratives, comparative essays, persuasive essays, film reviews, poetry, short stories, etc. Emphasis will be placed on writing as a process that includes brainstorming, several drafts, peer editing, revising, and publishing. Excellent student writing products will be published in the school literary magazine.

Student placement will be contingent upon teacher recommendation from current the English teacher.

Based on enrollment, course will be run as a 2 day or 3 days a week full year class.

Journalism, 5.0 credits, Level: College Prep, Grade 11 and Grade 12

Students will be introduced to the wide variety of skills involved in the process and business of journalism. They will study professional models of investigation, observation, interviewing, reporting, writing, editing, design, sales, and advertising. They will put the principles and procedures gleaned from these models into practice to create the yearbook and school newspaper. They will use critical thinking skills throughout this process to determine what is news, what is ethical journalism, and how to reach an audience.

The skills learned in this class have wide practical application and will help students to become college- and career-ready. Beyond practicing essential critical reading, writing, and thinking skills, students will develop hands-on practical skills such as graphic design, web site design, sales, and advertising. They will also develop essential collaboration, communication, and organizational skills when working together to meet deadlines. They may develop in self-knowledge as they find new skills and interests.

Student placement will be contingent upon teacher recommendation from current English teacher.

Permission from instructor required for enrollment.

Course will be run as a full year.

Mythology, 2.5 credits, Level: College Prep, Grade 11 and Grade 12

This class will introduce students to the complex, fantastic, and rich world of mythology. Along with reading entertaining and fascinating stories of gods, goddesses, heroes, and monsters, students will compare the mythologies of different ancient cultures, looking for patterns, similarities, and differences,

and using critical thinking to determine or hypothesize about the significance of what they find. Students will learn about the functions mythology served and still serves, and they will work to determine what functions each story might have served. Students will glimpse how religion, literature, history, anthropology, and archeology come together in the study of mythology. Vocabulary that comes to us from Greek mythology will be learned, which will give students a sense of how language works over time. Finally, students will learn about the continuing significance of mythology and seek to determine what stories they live by.

Based on enrollment, course will be run as a 2 day or 3 days a week full year class.

Public Speaking, 2.5 credits, Level: College Prep, Grade 11 and Grade 12

This course provides the student with practice in prepared oral presentations and dramatic reading. Increased proficiency in organization and effective delivery is essential to the course.

Based on enrollment, course will be run as a 2 day or 3 days a week full year class.

Public Speaking, 2.5 credits, Level: College Prep, Grade 11 and Grade 12

This course will examine the development of literature in its oral and play form. We will read works by a variety of authors such as Arthur Miller, Tennessee Williams, Eugene O’Neil, Edward Albee, Henrik Ibsen, etc. Students will be expected to perform on certain readings.

Based on enrollment, course will be run as a 2 day or 3 days a week full year class.

Creative Writing, 2.5 credits, Level: College Prep, Grade 11 and Grade 12

This course gives students a chance to learn to write in many genres. They will study professional mentor texts to develop the skills needed to write personal narratives, comparative essays, persuasive essays, film reviews, poetry, short stories, etc. Emphasis will be placed on writing as a process that includes brainstorming, several drafts, peer editing, revising, and publishing. Excellent student writing products will be published in the school literary magazine.

Student placement will be contingent upon teacher recommendation from current English teacher.

Based on enrollment, course will be run as a 2 day or 3 days a week full year class.

Drama, 2.5 credits, Level: College Prep, Grade 11 and Grade 12

This course will examine the development of literature in its oral and play form. We will read works by a variety of authors such as Arthur Miller, Tennessee Williams, Eugene O’Neil, Edward Albee, Henrik Ibsen, etc. Students will be expected to perform on certain readings.

Based on enrollment, course will be run as a 2 day or 3 days a week full year class.

Political Science, 5.0 credits, Level: College Prep, Grade 12

This course introduces the student to the concept of government, its function, and its effects on people’s lives. The course includes a review of the various forms of government that exists in the world today. The focus of the course is on the institutions of the American government. The Executive, Legislative and Judicial Branches are studied in detail with emphasis on Supreme Court cases which have impacted greatly on American life. The Bill of Rights is studied in its historical context on both “liberal” and “conservative” points of view. The United States Political Party structure is reviewed and related to

present day events. The student is also introduced to the structure and functions of New Jersey state and local governments with an emphasis on knowing his/her legislators.

Course will be run as a full year.

Psychology 5.0 credits, Level: Academic, Grade 11 and 12

focus of the course is about social life and the way we live in a changing global society. This course is designed to familiarize the student with the terminology, sociological perspectives, and general findings of noted sociologists. Topics to be discussed include: Culture, Socialization, Social Structure, Social Groups and Social Control, Social Inequality, and Social Institutions such as Family, Education, and Religion. The student will be required to debate social issues, to be aware of current social problems and to be prepared to discuss these in class. The focus of the course in the second semester is Psychology. Students will be introduced to the basic concepts and terminology of Psychology. Students will gain a better understanding of why people behave as they do. The combination of the two semesters will allow students to study the “individual” and how each individual interacts with other members of society.

Course will be run as a full year.

Sociology, 2.5 credits, Level: College Prep

Sociology is a semester course offered as an elective for seniors. The focus of the course is about social life and the way we live in a changing global society. This course is designed to familiarize the student with the terminology, sociological perspectives, and general findings of noted sociologists. Topics to be discussed include: Culture, Socialization, Social Structure, Social Groups and Social Control, Social Inequality, and social Institutions such as family, education, and religion. The student will be required to debate social issues, to be aware of current social problems and to be prepared to discuss these in class.

Modern History, 2.5 credits, Level: College Prep, Grade 12

Modern History is level one semester course that covers the history of the United States in recent decades. The course examines the end of the Cold War, and American life since the 1980's. The major events of recent presidencies are highlighted, and the changes brought about by the computer-digital age are considered. Attention is given to the challenge of modern terrorism, as well as important social and economic developments. Students are expected to follow current events as they will be a regular part of class discussion.

Course will be run as a semester course.

American History Through Film, 2.5 credits, Level: College Prep, Grade 12

This class is a level one semester course. In this class, students will study modern American history through the medium of film. This will be done through viewing, writing, and discussing both historical and contemporary pieces on topics related to the political, social, economic, and racial history of the United States. Grouped thematically, students will examine the historiography of slavery, the Great

Depression, the Holocaust, both World Wars, the Civil Rights Movement, and the Cold War. Besides examining these historical events, students will examine the legacy of racism, poverty, corruption, patriotism, civics, and ideology on contemporary American culture. In addition to each film's historical and cultural importance, the course will also concentrate on film appreciation and the study of cinematography.

**Requires approval from last history teacher. Course will be run as a semester course.

Birth, Death, and Culture

This is an upper level elective course open to juniors and seniors. The course will be taught as a college-level seminar designed to teach critical thinking skills through in-depth analysis of some of the major thinkers in the Western philosophical and theological traditions on the nature of happiness and the meaning of life. The ancient Greek philosopher Socrates insisted that the unexamined life is not worth living. The purpose of this course is to give students an opportunity to do just that—to examine their deeply held beliefs about what makes for a happy and meaningful life, rather than blindly accepting popular ideas on the good life. At the conclusion of this course, students will be able: 1) to identify the author's thesis and evidence, 2) to judge the strengths and weaknesses of the author's argument, 3) to compare and contrast the arguments of various authors, and 4) to provide strong, convincing, and clearly expressed arguments for their own positions. These critical thinking exercises will provide students with a firm foundation for living a life full of purpose and direction.