

# NOTRE DAME PREPARATORY



## COURSE DESCRIPTION GUIDE 2016-17

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**Graduation Requirements for Class of 2017**

To receive an *NDP* Diploma, a student must complete twenty-eight (28) credits. The required courses for all students are:

Theology	4 credits
English	4 credits
Mathematics	4 credits
Science	4 credits
Social Studies	4 credits
Foreign Language (Must be sequential and in same language)	3 credits
Fine Arts	1 credit
Technology	.5 credit
Personal Fitness	1 credit
Health	.5 credit
Elective Courses	2 credits

### **Graduation Requirements for Class of 2018 and 2019**

To receive an *NDP* Diploma, a student must complete twenty-eight (28) credits. The required courses for all students are:

Theology	4 credits
English	4 credits
Mathematics	4 credits
Science	4 credits
Social Studies	4 credits
Foreign Language (Must be sequential and in same language)	3 credits
Fine Arts (Change from previous year)	1.5 credits
Technology	.5 credit
Personal Fitness	1 credit
Health	.5 credit
Elective Courses (Change from previous year)	1.5 credits

*A student who transfers to Notre Dame Preparatory from another school must take Theology every semester in attendance at Notre Dame Prep and still must earn 28 total credits. Only courses taken at NDP will be averaged into the GPA of each student.*

### **Advanced Placement Courses**

Admission to Advanced Placement (AP) courses is by standardized test scores and class grades. Advanced Placement courses are college level courses for academically capable students. At the end of each course, students take The College Board AP exam. College credit or placement may be awarded depending upon the college or university a student attends. AP courses are weighted an extra point toward GPA.

### **Course Progression**

English, Fine Arts, Theology, and World Language courses are numbered sequentially. For example, English 1, English 2, English 3, and English 4.

### **Math Sequence**

The Math sequence is: Algebra 1, Geometry, Algebra 2, Pre-Calculus, and Calculus. Honors and AP levels are available and students may accelerate through the program by taking summer school at Notre Dame Preparatory.

### **Physical Education Sequence**

The Physical Education sequence is: Personal Fitness and Health. Personal Fitness is prior to any additional PE electives.

### **Science Sequence**

The Science sequence is:

1. Physical Science, Biology, and Chemistry, plus an elective.

2. Biology, Chemistry, and Physics, plus an elective.

Honors and AP levels are available and students may accelerate through the program by taking summer school at Notre Dame Preparatory or placing into higher levels by standardized test scores.

### Social Studies

The Social Studies sequence is: World Geography, World History, U.S. History, Government, and Economics. Honors and AP levels are available.

## Requirements to Graduate with Distinction

<b>For class of 2017</b>			
	<b>Summa Cum Laude</b>	<b>Magna Cum Laude</b>	<b>Cum Laude</b>
<b>Credits:</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>30</b>
<b>Weighted GPA:</b>	<b>4.0</b>	<b>4.0</b>	<b>3.75</b>
<b>Required Electives:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Focus: Seminar Honors</li> <li>• Focus: Research Honors</li> <li>• Philosophy Honors</li> </ul>		
<b>Comments:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Rising seniors are considered to have met the Summa language requirements if they have completed a 4<sup>th</sup> level of world language at NDP. For example, if a current junior successfully completes Spanish IV Honors this year, that student need not take another Spanish class to fulfill the requirement.</li> </ul>		

<b>For class of 2018 and beyond</b>			
	<b>Summa Cum Laude</b>	<b>Magna Cum Laude</b>	<b>Cum Laude</b>
<b>Credits:</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>30</b>
<b>Weighted GPA:</b>	<b>4.0</b>	<b>4.0</b>	<b>3.75</b>
<b>Required Electives:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Focus: Seminar Honors</li> <li>• Focus: Research Honors</li> <li>• Philosophy Honors</li> <li>• Argumentation &amp; Rhetoric Honors</li> </ul>		
<b>Comments:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Rising seniors are considered to have met the Summa language requirements if they have completed a 4<sup>th</sup> level of world language at NDP. For example, if a current junior successfully completes Spanish IV Honors this year, that student need not take another Spanish class to fulfill the requirement.</li> </ul>		

### **Policies and Procedures Governing Course Changes**

Students select courses in the second semester for enrollment in the following school year. The process includes placement based upon standardized test scores and grades, advisement by the student's counselor, and approval of course selections by parent/guardian.

### **Changes of Level Courses**

Change in a course level necessitates a collaborative effort between the teacher, student, parent/guardian, and the student's counselor. Factors to consider in a change are the student's academic competencies and prior performance, standardized

test scores, and his/her high school transcript as well as the student’s college and career goals. A student may request a change within the first five (5) school days of the semester. The course is deleted from the student’s transcript if dropped during the first five days. A withdrawal after the first five days will be noted as a Withdrawal Passing (WP) or Withdrawal Failure (WF).

After the appropriate consultation, a “Schedule Change” form is completed with signatures of the respective teachers, parent/guardian, the student, and the Assistant Principal for Academic Affairs.

**Changing Teachers in a Subject Area**

Scheduling of students into classes is based on multiple factors. Changing teachers or choosing teachers for specific classes is not permitted. Counselors do not have the discretion to change a student’s teacher but are available to assist with the student and/or parent in the course selection process.

**General Placement Requirements**

The following grades are the minimum requirement for placing into higher level classes.

\*\*\*Exception: There will be no movement from regular courses to Advanced Placement in World Languages and Math.

<b>Current Course Level</b>	<b>Desired Course Level</b>	<b>Minimum Required Grade</b>
Regular	Honors	A-
Regular	***Advanced Placement	A
Honors	Honors	B
Honors	Advanced Placement	B+
Advanced Placement	Advanced Placement	B

**Dual Enrollment**

**Admission Qualifications**

In order to participate in the Dual Enrollment Program offered at Scottsdale Community College (SCC), students must first be admitted to SCC before enrolling in Dual Enrollment courses.

1. **According to Arizona state law, students under eighteen years of age may be admitted to a community college by achieving one of the following:**
  - A composite score of 930 or more on the SAT.
  - A composite score of 22 or more on the ACT composite.
2. Student completion of course prerequisites is mandatory before being admitted into a dual enrollment course.
3. Students must complete all registration forms.
4. Students must comply with Proposition 300 regulations related to proof of residency requirements for in-state tuition. See SCC for more information.

5. Students are expected to follow all policy and procedural governances of SCC.

### **Specific Department Admission Qualifications**

- For ENG101 - Students must take Accuplacer Writing Skills Placement Test and score 5 or higher (1-8 scoring range)
- For MAT150 - Students must take Accuplacer College Math Placement Test and score 32 or higher (20 - 120 scoring range)
- For all other academic courses (examples History, World Languages) - Students must meet one of the following:
  - PSAT - 93 or higher (Math & Verbal)
  - SAT - 930 or higher (Math & Verbal)
  - ACT - 22 or higher (Composite)
  - Accuplacer Reading Placement Test 74 or higher (20-120 scoring range)

### **What's the Next Step if We Are Interested in Registering?**

There are basic steps to registering, but the process can feel cumbersome if you don't pay careful attention to SCC's dual enrollment website. The best advice is to read everything before beginning the process. The basic steps are:

1. Look over the list of dual enrollment courses offered at Notre Dame Prep and ascertain which are on your NDP schedule that you want to take. Note course #s and section #s, as well as whether you need pre-requisites. Unfortunately some courses are only available via certain teachers.
2. If a new student, [click this link](#), submit your information, and retrieve and write down your MEID #; you will need it later on.
3. Register as a Scottsdale Community College (SCC) student, either "new" (never before have taken a course), or "Returning" (have taken a SCC course), and sign up for your courses. You will need to acquire an MEID number and a Student ID number to complete registration. A very helpful tutorial greets you after you click one or the other; we highly recommend it. When you're done, print all (required) forms:
  - Registration Request Summary
  - Designated Official Form
  - Payment Options Page
4. After selecting classes, students must complete registration process by following instructions on SCC's site.
5. Bring 1) your printed registration packet, 2) a photocopy of one of the following: a US birth certificate, Driver License, US Passport, or Residency card if a Permanent Resident, and a check made out to SCC if you don't want to pay by credit card or be billed, to Mr. Jerry Zander in the Administration building.
6. If you need to take a placement test, your registration information won't be complete until you do so. You can see pre-requisites on the course list, and test at a SCC testing center if necessary.

Once you're registered, you will be in SCC's database as a student, and will be able to access official transcripts upon completion of courses.

If you have any questions, please contact Mr. Jerry Zander at 480-634-8210 or by email at [jzander@ndpsaints.org](mailto:jzander@ndpsaints.org)

## 2016-2017 JVLA Program

JVLA--or the Jesuit Virtual Learning Academy--is a network of Jesuit high school teachers from around the nation who offer online courses for credit. Notre Dame Prep offers some of these courses for elective or required credit, and applicable courses are designated with the "JVLA" notation. Students should note that these courses are online only, involve extra tuition (\$275 for .5 credit, \$375 for a full credit), and do appear on a student's transcript. World language courses that fulfill the student's world language requirement are paid by Notre Dame Prep. Students must fulfill all obligations of JVLA, including prerequisites. Students with questions or interest should consult their counselors immediately, as some courses do fill up, and the JVLA has had to turn students away. To register for a class, students should write in the course on the Course Selection Worksheet. **All students interested in JVLA must interview with the Assistant Principal for Academic Affairs prior to including on Course Selection Worksheet.**

For the preliminary upcoming year's list of JVLA courses and dates, please see the list below. Important to note: a student who registers for a JVLA course has one week after the course begins to drop the course officially with JVLA and receive a full refund. If a student drops before the end of the second week, they will receive a 50% refund; neither of these drops involve a W on a student's transcript. After two weeks, the student is enrolled in the class, and must drop by semester with a W and no refund or finish the course outright.

The following Jesuit Virtual Learning Academy (JVLA) courses are offered in 2016-2017. Science and World Language JVLA courses meet NDP graduation requirements for that subject area. All other JVLA courses will count towards elective credit. See course description in respective department:

### Mathematics:

AP Statistics

### Modern Languages\*:

Italian Level 1 & 2

Arabic Level 1 & 2

Chinese Mandarin Level 1 & 2

### Science:

AP Environmental Science

### English:

How to Read Plays... and How to Write One

Multimedia Authorship - The Power of Words and Images

### Social Studies:

AP Art History

AP Microeconomics

AP Psychology

### Theology:

Bioethics

Ecumenical & Interreligious Issues

Ignatian Discernment - Seattle University\*

Living as a Disciple of Jesus Christ in Society

Responding to the Call of Jesus Christ

Science and Religion

### Computer Science:

AP Computer Science

C++ Programming

# Course Descriptions

## ***Arts: Performing and Visual***

*Students in the Class of 2018 and later will be required to take three semesters of Fine Arts in the combination of one visual art, two performing arts, or two visual arts, one performing art.*

### **\*\*\* Drawing 1**

1 semester .5 credit

#### ***Visual***

For the student who loves to draw and wants to learn how to shade better and create 3-D illusions on a flat surface. Students are introduced to the universal Basic Elements of Art & Principles of Design, while developing their drawing skills. Students have a chance to explore a variety of mediums to practice strong drawing models and rendering realistic drawing techniques. Emphasis is placed on learning how to create strong value, line, texture, space, volume and composition within their individual artwork. Art mediums used include pencil, charcoal, colored pastel, pen and ink and linoleum block carving. Projects include but are not limited to still life, famous person portrait, Catholic identity project, hybrid animal & metamorphosis drawing, specific historical era drawing, basic 1 & 2pt. perspective, as well as a few free projects as time permits during the semester.

### **\*\*\* Drawing 2**

1 semester .5 credit

#### ***Visual***

#### **Prerequisite: Completion of Drawing 1.**

Intermediate Drawing continues the development of technical and perceptual skills relating to the Basic Elements of design for the advanced drawer, while encouraging the use of diverse materials and more advanced pictorial content. More emphasis is given to personal thematic development and skill building, especially important for students wishing to apply to art school. More freedom of visual content and the chance for students to explore more diverse mediums such as charcoal, colored pastel, pen and ink, watercolor, acrylic ink, mixed mediums and linoleum block carving will be offered. Projects include famous person portrait, old master with a twist drawing, realism vs. abstraction, Catholic identity, some free projects with an emphasis on making larger sized works. Students in advanced drawing will demonstrate their ability to respond, analyze, and interpret their own artwork and the work of their peers through discussions & critiques.

### **\*\*\* Painting 1**

1 semester .5 credit

#### ***Visual***

Students will be introduced to a variety of painting techniques, basic color mixing and application of paint. Basic color theory, creative color wheels, color psychology and marketing trends, Old Master reproductions with a twist, and a basic still life projects to acquire 3-D realism experience. The reproduction project encourages students to learn about one their favorite paintings and the master artist legacy behind it. Students are asked interpret the painting with new color schemes given their individual personal color aesthetic. Basic color theory and roles of color psychology as well as roles of cultural color are discussed. This class is designed to give students a vast and fun understanding of how color works and is a must class for students interested in art and design studies. Primary painting mediums include acrylic and watercolor.

### **\*\*\* Painting 2**

1 semester .5 credit

#### ***Visual***

#### **Prerequisite: Completion of Painting 1.**

Students will be introduced to more advanced painting techniques through the use of demonstrations and in class discussions.. Exploration of color theory and application, skill building techniques are also emphasized while students are encouraged to develop their individual painting strengths. Students are encouraged to learn about their favorite artists and look more at the influences they are responding to in artworks they create a portfolio of work. Students will be challenged to create larger works while asserting the 14 Basic Elements of Design. Projects include still life, pop culture icons portrait, Catholic Identity portraits, landscape and some free projects.



Experiences in this course will give students opportunities to explore several different painting mediums of acrylic, watercolor and acrylic inks. Students in advanced painting will demonstrate their ability to respond, analyze and interpret their own artwork and the work of their peers through discussions & critiques. Primary painting mediums are acrylic and watercolor.

\*\*\* **Advanced Studio Art**  
1 semester .5 credit

***Visual***

**Prerequisite: Completion of second level of any Visual Arts classes or instructor approval.**

**Can be repeated for credit.**

This class is designed for the motivated art student who possesses a strong desire to further artistic skills & develop a competitive portfolio and body of artwork. The emphasis is on advanced techniques, symbolism and more personal narratives within a body of works created throughout the course. Personal creative & thematic development, along with an emphasis on the Basic Elements of Design is offered. Students are encouraged to experiment more while developing their individual style and using creative problem solving skills. The class will be organized to give the student more freedom to develop a strong collection of work, while being introduced to advanced painting and drawing concepts in contemporary art. Diversity and experimentation of all art mediums highly encouraged, such as graphite, charcoal, watercolor, colored pastels, linoleum block carving/printing, colored pencil, acrylic inks, and mixed media. Students in advanced drawing will demonstrate their ability to respond, analyze and interpret their own artwork and the work of their peers through discussions & critiques. Students will create a portfolio during this class. Motivated and art enthusiasts please apply!!

\*\*\* **Ceramics 1**  
1 semester .5 credit

***Visual***

Students in this class will be given an introduction to the nature, functions, and techniques of pottery as an art form. Through a brief study of history, students will learn to view and appreciate the role of pottery in society, both past and present. Students will learn the basic terminology and tools of pottery. Students will use a variety of hand-building techniques to create works in clay. Hand-building techniques include pinch pots, coil-construction and slab construction. Through teacher led demonstrations, students will learn and execute various techniques used in construction, decoration, and surface treatment of clay. Students will learn and utilize the process of glazing to decorate their pottery. As in any art class, the elements of design (line, shape, color, texture, space, and form) and how these elements are used to create a successful piece of pottery will be discussed and will be part of the individual student grade. Students will show an awareness of visual and functional relationships in each completed project. Craftsmanship will be the greatest focus of any successfully completed pottery project. Individual creativity will be emphasized and will be of great importance in the success of the student in this course. This class will require a devoted effort and enthusiasm on the part of the student due to project length as well as more in-depth and challenging project goals.

\*\*\* **Ceramics 2**  
1 semester .5 credit

***Visual***

**Prerequisite: Completion of Ceramics 1.**

Students in this class will use the skills that were taught in Beginning Ceramics to create more advanced hand-building projects as well as learn to make pots on the potter's wheel. Students will work to perfect their techniques used in decoration and surface treatment of clay as it relates to the finished appearance of their pottery. A greater focus will be placed on the elements of design (line, shape, color, texture, space, and form) and how these elements are used to create a successful piece of pottery. Students will show an increased awareness of visual and functional relationships in each completed project. Craftsmanship is of greater importance and will be the focus of any successfully completed ceramic project. Individual creativity will be emphasized and will be of great importance in the success of the student in this course. This class will require a devoted effort and enthusiasm on the part of student due to longer projects and more in-depth and challenging project goals.

\*\*\* **Advanced Ceramics**

1 semester .5 credit

**Visual**

**Prerequisite: Completion of Ceramics 2.**

**Can be repeated for credit.**

Students in this class will use the skills that were learned in the previous classes to create more advanced and challenging pieces. Students will spend the entire semester either hand-building or throwing at the wheel. For those spending the semester at the wheel, a greater focus will be placed on improved upon wheel-throwing skills as well as more challenging projects. Overall, a greater focus will be placed on elements of design (line, shape, color, texture, space and form) and how these elements are used to create a successful piece of pottery. Students will show an awareness of visual and functional relationship in each completed project. Artistic ability will be of greater importance to any successfully completed ceramic project. Individual creativity also will be emphasized and will be of great importance in the success of the student in this course. This class will require a devoted effort and enthusiasm on the part of the student due to longer projects, more in-depth, and more challenging project goals.

\*\*\* **Digital Photography**

1 semester .5 credit

**Visual**

**Required: A digital camera with 5.0 megapixels or better and a 32GB flash drive.**

This class will teach the casual photographer more about the digital camera and its components. Characteristics of the visual arts will be discussed. Elements of photography will be taught and applied to assignments. A digital portfolio of photographs will be developed by the end of the semester. The student will learn to use photo editing software. Ethics of photojournalism will be discussed.

\*\*\* **Digital Arts and Design**

1 semester .5 credit

**Visual**

**Required: A minimum 32GB flash is recommended for this class.**

**Can be repeated once for credit.**

Students will learn to design using color theory, type, typefaces, images and graphics following the essential principles of design. Digital techniques will be taught to create visually pleasing and effective graphic communications. Custom projects will include magazine covers, movie posters, business cards, flyers, and brochures.

\*\*\* **3-D Art & Design/Sculpture**

1 semester .5 credit

**Visual**

**Prerequisite: Completion of any level 1 Visual Art course.**

**Can be repeated for credit.**

The objective of this course is to teach students how to work with and create three-dimensional forms of art. A variety of construction techniques and materials will be employed to explore "the 3-D form." To make the experience more complete, a variety of projects will be created so to explore the numerous possibilities that are available when working with an assortment of materials. Projects will include both individual and group creations. Some projects may incorporate the use of a 3-D scanner and a 3-D printer to create a small scale, finished, repeatable product. How to install and display 3-D projects will also be explored. To inspire student work, this course will discuss and examine historical and contemporary three-dimensional art. Depending upon the materials being used, students will learn to use a variety of tools needed to create and craft these 3-D works of art. Materials used to create 3-D projects may include: wood, metal, glass, plaster, plastics, paper products, cardboard, fibers, and ceramic.

\*\*\* **Photojournalism**

1 semester .5 credit

**Visual**

**Open to sophomores, juniors, and seniors.**

**Required: DSLR or point-and-shoot camera.**

**Can be repeated for credit.**

This is a multi-level, continuation course that may be taken for up to four semesters. The course begins by reviewing the foundation of skills in shooting photos, synthesizing composition, and creating captions for feature stories. Students taking this course gain experience photographing people and events in and around NDP for use on the website, in the newsletters and the student-created newspaper, *The Seraphim*. Students taking this class are expected to hand in photos that may accompany story headlines or articles. They might also take still photos for feature stories and develop their own captions. Students are required to spend a large amount of time with a story in order to accurately photograph what's happening and get enough photos to illustrate a story without words. Students will explore and capture the elements of various situations and use the images to convey meaning. They are also required to find the best way to lay out the photos to further illustrate the story. Students will review how to edit their pictures and prepare the photos for print or Web publication.

\*\*\* **Guitar 1**

1 semester .5 credit

**Performing**

**Required: An acoustic guitar.**

This is a course for beginning students with no previous experience, as well as for students with minimal experience on the guitar. An acoustic guitar is required, and neither electric guitars nor amps will be allowed. Students will learn to read music, learn basic chords, finger picking, and will perform in a guitar ensemble. Students will memorize fret boards, and by learning power chords and bar chords, the student will have a better understanding of the guitar fret board as well as increased technical facility. Students will be tested individually on class material. A public performance may be added. A mandatory concert performance will be given at the end of the semester, the date to be determined.

\*\*\* **Guitar 2**

1 semester .5 credit

**Performing**

**Prerequisite: Completion of Guitar 1**

**Required: An acoustic guitar.**

This is a course for intermediate students with some previous experience on the guitar. An acoustic guitar is required, and neither electric guitars nor amps will be allowed. Students will learn to read music, learn basic chords, finger picking, and will perform in a guitar ensemble. Students will memorize fret boards, and by learning power chords and bar chords, the student will have a better understanding of the guitar fret board as well as increased technical facility. Students will be tested individually on class material. A public performance may be added. A mandatory concert performance will be given at the end of the semester, the date to be determined.

\*\*\* **Advanced Guitar**

1 semester .5 credit

**Performing**

**Prerequisite: Completion of Guitar 2 or instructor approval via audition.**

**Required: An acoustic guitar.**

**Can be repeated for credit.**

This course builds on the knowledge from the previous classes and incorporates a more in-depth view of chord and scale concepts. Emphasis will be placed on learning the art of improvisation as well as the disciplines of jazz and blues. This course will focus on advanced chords, scales, progressions, improvisation, and compositional techniques. Students will have performance exams on the material discussed in class. A mandatory concert performance, as well as an in-class project performance will occur at the end of the semester.

\*\*\* **Guitar Orchestra**

1 semester .5 credit

**Performing**

**Prerequisite: Completion of Guitar 1. Music reading proficiency.**

**Required: An acoustic guitar.**

**Can be repeated for credit.**

Designed for guitarists who read standard musical notation. Members of the Guitar Orchestra study, perform, and record music for multiple guitars and bass from Renaissance through 20th-century composers. Students learn improvisation, composition, and arranging techniques. The literature includes compositions written for guitar ensembles and arrangements of pieces originally written for other settings, ranging from solo instruments such as piano to full orchestras. The ensemble brings individual skills to bear effectively on a collaborative effort, resulting in beauty of execution and expression along with pride for the members in the ability to communicate as one with an audience.

\*\*\* **Jazz Ensemble**

1 semester .5 credit

***Performing***

**Prerequisite: Auditions will be required.**

**Can be repeated for credit.**

This course provides students with opportunities to develop musicianship skill in a small to large jazz ensemble setting. The program aims at developing a characteristic sound, tone, and performance techniques, such as phrasing, dynamics, tempo, and improvisation. The band literature explored includes jazz and blues from the early 20th century to the present. Students will study scales in all keys, utilizing rhythm and melody with emphasis on reading and improvisation. Critical listening skills continue to be developed. After-school and/or weekend activities may be required. Students will need to rent instruments if they do not have their own. At least one public concert and competitions are required each semester. In each subsequent year of study, students will be required to accomplish increasingly difficult solo and ensemble repertoire, advance in sight reading skills, improvisation, stylization, and become section leaders with rehearsal responsibilities.

\*\*\* **Concert Band**

1 semester .5 credit

***Performing***

**Prerequisite: Intermediate instrument experience.**

**Students may also require private lessons outside of school.**

In this class, students learn about and practice performing of quality band music. Class activities emphasize the development of instrument technique, tone production, tuning, fundamentals of music theory, music reading, and listening skills. This is a continuation level course for students with intermediate instrumental band experience. Emphasis is on the advancement of instrument technique, the further development of ensemble performance skills, and rehearsal and performance of intermediate level band music.

\*\*\* **Orchestra**

1 semester .5 credit

***Performing***

**Prerequisite: Previous experience with musical instrument and audition with instructor.**

Symphony Orchestra is offered to entering 9th grade Orchestra students and 10th-12th grade students as a continuation for students with previous orchestral experience. Educational emphasis is placed on the advancement of instrumental technique, further development of music reading and comprehension skills, independent musicianship, style, and a deeper understanding of small group ensemble music, and orchestral literature. Literature will contain both Classical and Popular music. Students will perform both in small group ensemble projects and as a large group. Symphony Orchestra will perform outside of class on a regular basis.

\*\*\* **Dance 1**

1 semester .5 credit

***Performing***

**Course fee: \$50.00 for costumes**

This course is for the beginning level dancers with little or no dance experience. Students will learn the fundamentals of dance by studying jazz dance, Broadway dance, and hip hop. Students will learn basic

choreography skills and gain a solid understanding of rhythm, tempo, energy, alignment, and technique. The class will participate in a mandatory dance concert at the end of each semester.

\*\*\*

### **Dance 2**

1 semester .5 credit

#### ***Performing***

**Prerequisite: Dance 1 or instructor approval.**

**Course fee: \$75.00 for costumes**

Intermediate Dance is designed for students with some dance training. Students will study dance techniques, including jazz dance, hip hop, ballet and contemporary dance along with developing strong choreography skills and historical dance knowledge. Students will be expected to participate daily in class, learn new movement, work on choreography projects, and explore the history and choreographers of different dance genres. The class will participate in a mandatory dance concert at the end of each semester.

\*\*\*

### **Dance Company – Advanced**

2 semesters 1.0 credit

#### ***Performing***

**Prerequisite: Dance 2 or instructor approval.**

**Can be repeated for credit.**

**Course fee: \$100.00 for costumes**

This class is for the advanced dancer. Throughout this course, students will be challenge to develop their performance abilities and artistry. Students will learn choreography created by the dance teacher, guest artists, as well as pre-selected student pieces. Students will perform in a Winter and Spring Concert along with performances during specific school events. This class is designed as a preparatory class for a university dance program or commercial dance work. Students may perform outside of school hours.

\*\*\*

### **Acting 1**

1 semester .5 credit

#### ***Performing***

This class is designed for the student who wants to study acting in a fun atmosphere through dramatic reading, improvisation, scene-work and short plays. The skills of the actor in voice, movement, improvisation, and characterization, help form a foundation for the lifelong skills of self-confidence, public speaking, cooperative learning, and an appreciation for the arts. No experience in theatre is required. Students will participate in the mandatory department showcase at the end of the semester for their final grade.

\*\*\*

### **Acting 2**

1 semester .5 credit

#### ***Performing***

**Prerequisite: Completion of Acting 1 or instructor approval.**

**Can be repeated for credit.**

This is an intermediate acting class for students with previous experience. This class will include performing scenes, one-acts, plays, and an introduction to Musical Theatre. (No musical experience is necessary) There will be staged readings as well as performances open to the public. Students will participate in the mandatory department showcase at the end of the semester for their final grade.

\*\*\*

### **Chorus**

1 semester .5 credit

#### ***Performing***

This chorus is the entry-level choir for all students interested in singing with others and is also a fun and expressive outlet for students who enjoy singing for pleasure. The following choral skills will be explored and taught: proper breathing, healthy vocal production, blend and balance, range expansion, good intonation, ear training, and sight-reading. Various styles of music will be sung preparing the student for more advanced vocal opportunities. Students will participate in various on and off campus rehearsals and performances are a requirement of the class.

- \*\*\* **Concert Choir**  
 1 semester .5 credit  
*Performing*  
**Prerequisite: Completion of Chorus**  
**Can be repeated for credit.**  
**Course fee: There will be an attire expense of \$50 - \$100.**  
 This course is a performance-based class, and the choir will perform a variety of choral literature such as Baroque, Classical, Broadway, jazz, and contemporary. Students will learn proper vocal technique, sight singing and musicianship and perform for school and community functions. This is a semester course, but enrollment in both the Fall and Spring semesters is highly encouraged.
- \*\*\* **Honors Concert Choir**  
 2 semesters 1 credit  
*Performing*  
**Prerequisite: Two semesters of vocal music or instructor approval.**  
**Course fee: There will be an attire expense of \$50 - \$100 and possible competition and travel expenses of \$400.**  
 This course is a performance-based class, and acceptance is by audition only. Students must exhibit advanced vocal technique, sight reading skills and music theory knowledge. The choir will perform a variety of choral literature, including Classical, Broadway, jazz, and contemporary. Students will represent the school at different community events, festivals and/or out- of-state competitions. Students will advance their vocal technique, sight singing and musicianship and perform for school and community functions.
- \*\*\* **Show Choir**  
 1 semester .5 credit  
*Performing*  
**Prerequisite: One semester of Concert Choir and one semester of Dance or instructor approval**  
**Can be repeated for credit.**  
**Course fee: There will be an attire expense of approximately \$150.**  
 This class is a performance-based class. Students will perform Broadway, contemporary and popular music (as well as other styles), and will perform production numbers on stage, incorporating movement, dance, costumes, and expression into their singing. Through solo, small and large ensemble experiences, students will advance their vocal technique, musicianship, sight singing and dance abilities.
- \*\*\* **Music Theory and Composition**  
**Dual Enrollment option**  
 1 semester .5 credit  
 This course is for students who have a basic knowledge of music theory and want to expand and develop their theoretical understanding of musical concepts. These concepts will then be applied directly to the compositional process. Students will have the opportunity to compose in various styles and then have them performed. Some of these styles include classical, Romantic, Baroque, contemporary, and modern. This course is highly encouraged for students interested in pursuing music in college or career. This is a semester course, but enrollment in both the Fall and Spring semesters is highly encouraged.

## *English Language Arts*

- \*\*\* **English 1 – Gonzaga Program**  
3 semesters                      1.5 credits  
**Placement determined by admissions portfolio.**  
This course is designed to assure that each student has the skills necessary to master the English Language Arts standards for all ninth graders in the Diocese of Phoenix. Students will be taught study skills to become better critical readers, writers, and thinkers as they study both literature and informational texts. A portfolio of selected writing assignments is begun and moves with the student through his/her four years for the purpose of showing writing progress and assessing student development. Recognition of the key elements of the literary genres autobiography, biography, short story, drama, poetry, and non-fiction is emphasized. The basics of research and research writing utilizing MLA style are taught. Outside reading choices are determined by the instructor. This year-long class provides additional support for students, strengthening their English grammar and composition skills. Work will be individualized for each student in order to focus on specific reading, writing, and grammar skills. The goal of this class is to develop good, solid writers and more effective readers who can advance to English 2.
- \*\*\* **Language Foundations/Study Skills – Gonzaga Program**  
2 semesters                      1 credit  
**Required for students in the Gonzaga Program.**  
Students will work with a language foundations program to support their English language work and create a strong foundation for future world language studies. Study skills will be introduced, practiced, and reinforced. Teachers will work with students on time management, choosing effective study techniques, goal setting, and other skills necessary for success in high school.
- \*\*\* **English 1**  
2 semesters                      1 credit  
**Placement determined by admissions portfolio.**  
This course is designed to strengthen students' critical reading, writing, speaking, and listening skills through the study of both American and world literature. The curriculum integrates informational texts and technology projects to create a blended learning environment. Students will be taught the Jane Schaffer writing method. Additional emphasis is placed on identifying individual and common writing weaknesses and solving and addressing those weaknesses. A portfolio of selected writing assignments is begun and moves with the student through his/her four years for the purpose of showing writing progress and assessing student development. Mastery of the key elements of the literary genres autobiography, biography, short story, drama, poetry, and non-fiction is emphasized. The basics of research and research writing following MLA style are taught. Outside reading choices are determined by the instructor.
- \*\*\* **English 1 Honors**  
2 semesters                      1 credit  
**Placement determined by admissions portfolio.**  
This class is for students who choose to be challenged beyond the standard class curriculum. Focus is on writing, grammar, critical thinking, public speaking, and vocabulary development in a blended learning environment. Students will refine writing skills using the Jane Schaffer writing method and will study the elements of fiction through short stories and novels. Students will be required to read independently a minimum of 50 pages per week for the current novel study. This course is designed to prepare students for Advanced Placement English courses and has a heavy emphasis on writing, particularly development of sentence fluency and higher-level analysis in process essays. A portfolio of essays, book files, literary terms, and allusions is started. Successful completion of this course requires strong reading skills as well as a disciplined and conscientious work ethic.
- \*\*\* **English 2 – Gonzaga Program**  
3 semesters                      1.5 credits  
**Prerequisite: Completion of English 1 - Gonzaga Program.**  
This course is designed to assure that each student has the skills necessary to master the English Language Arts standards for all tenth graders in the Diocese of Phoenix. Students will continue to develop study skills to become better critical readers, writers, and thinkers as they study both literature and informational texts. This class refines

skills learned in English 1 Gonzaga, using the five-paragraph essay, with an emphasis on clear writing and the use of more complex sentences to extend meaning. Emphasis is placed on the development of the persuasive essay and personal narrative. Students will continue to use the Jane Schaffer Method, with an emphasis on developing weaving skills. Writing strengths are enhanced and writing weaknesses are addressed. World literature study is either thematic or genre-based, presenting the works of authors who influenced literary movements around the world. A portfolio of selected writing assignments is continued for the purpose of showing writing progress and assessing student development. Research and research writing skills utilizing MLA style are developed and manifested in a guidance department-supported career study. This year-long class provides additional support for students, strengthening their English grammar and composition skills. Work will be individualized for each student in order to focus on specific reading, writing, and grammar skills. The goal of this class is to develop good, solid writers and more effective readers who can advance to English 3.

\*\*\* **English 2**

2 semesters                      1 credit

**Prerequisite: Completion of English 1.**

This class refines skills learned in English 1, with an emphasis on clear writing and the use of more complex sentences to extend meaning. Emphasis is placed on the development of the persuasive essay and personal narrative. Students will continue to use the Jane Schaffer Method, with an emphasis on developing weaving skills. Writing strengths are enhanced and writing weaknesses addressed. World literature study is either thematic or genre-based, presenting the works of authors who influenced the history and literary movements of Europe, China, Russia, Central America, South America, and Middle East. A portfolio of selected writing assignments is continued for the purpose of showing writing progress and assessing student development. Research and research writing skills utilizing MLA style are developed and manifested in a guidance department-supported career study.

\*\*\* **English 2 Honors**

2 semesters                      1 credit

**Prerequisite: Completion of English 1 with an A- or completion of English 1 Honors with a B or better.**

An emphasis on critical analysis and critical thinking shapes students' essays, presentations, and projects in this course. Students continue to use the Schaffer method, mastering weaving, and will be taught to write more complex sentences and to achieve clearer meaning in their written work. Emphasis is placed on the development of the persuasive essay, personal narrative, and academic research. Writing strengths are enhanced, and writing weaknesses addressed. World literature study is either thematic or genre based, presenting the works of authors who influenced the history and literary movements of Europe, China, Russia, Central America, South America, Africa, and Greece. A portfolio of selected writing assignments is continued for the purpose of showing writing progress and assessing student development. Timed writing prompts are given and timed writing practiced in preparation for the SAT exam.

\*\*\* **English 3**

**Dual Enrollment option**

2 semesters                      1 credit

**Prerequisite: Completion of English 2.**

This course focuses on American literature and is organized both chronologically and thematically. Assessments include individual and group projects and discussion; in-class writing enrichment activities are designed to engage students in the issues and values of the rich cultural heritage of America. Themes may include a study of early American writing, such as Native American and Puritan literature, multi-cultural writing, story tellers, war and revolution, the 60s, science fiction, horror, and documentaries. Classic American novels are studied. Further development of writing skills building on the Schaffer writing system is continued, with an emphasis on developing voice. Writing strengths are enhanced and writing weaknesses addressed. Timed writing is emphasized in preparation for the SAT and college writing. Close reading and critical thinking skills are emphasized, with the ultimate goal of more clarity and preciseness in the student's writing style. A portfolio of selected writing assignments is continued for the purpose of showing writing progress and assessing student development.



\*\*\* **AP English (3) - Language and Composition**

**Dual Enrollment option**

2 semesters                      1 credit

**Prerequisite: Completion of English 2 Honors with a B+ or better or completion of English 2 with an A.**

**Required: Completion of or concurrent enrollment in Argumentation and Rhetoric Honors.**

This AP course in English Language and Composition mirrors the expectations of a college-level introductory writing course and engages students in becoming skilled readers of prose written in a variety of rhetorical contexts and in becoming skilled writers who compose for a variety of purposes. Both writing and their reading should make students aware of the interactions among a writer's purposes, audience expectations, and subject, as well as the way genre conventions and the resources of language contribute to effectiveness in writing. Non-fiction is emphasized although not exclusively taught. The identification and use of rhetorical strategies, basic logic and argumentation, literary terms, and common allusions are studied. Close reading and critical thinking skills are emphasized, with the ultimate goal of more clarity and preciseness in the student's writing style. A portfolio of selected writing assignments and a collection of book files, literary terms, and allusions are continued. *Students are required to take the AP exam in May and are responsible for exam fees.*

\*\*\* **English 4**

**Dual Enrollment option**

2 semesters                      1 credit

**Prerequisite: Completion of English 3.**

Students will study various plays, novels, short stories, and poetry following thematic units. This course provides an approach to the study of literature that emphasizes individual and group projects, discussion, in-class writing, and enrichment activities designed to engage students in the issues and values of these various literatures. Students are encouraged to make connections between literature and the arts, ethics, and their own character development. Further development of writing skills is continued as students complete a variety of essays and projects, including personal narrative, literary analysis and criticism, and an MLA-style research project. Writing strengths are enhanced and writing weaknesses addressed.

\*\*\* **AP English (4) - Literature and Composition**

**Dual Enrollment option**

2 semesters                      1 credit

**Prerequisite: Completion of English 3 AP with a B or better or completion of English 3 with an A.**

**Required: Completion of Argumentation and Rhetoric Honors.**

The AP Literature and Composition course is part of the Advanced Placement Program sponsored by the College Board. In this class, writing instruction enhances the student's ability to develop and organize ideas in clear, coherent, and persuasive language. Emphasis is placed on helping students develop stylistic maturity that is characterized by wide-ranging vocabulary, variety of sentence structures, logical organization, illustrative detail, and effective use of rhetoric. A portfolio of selected writing assignments is completed showing writing progress over the past four years. Reading is wide and deep and includes works from multiple genres, periods and cultures from the 16<sup>th</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup> century. Close reading includes the experience (subjective), interpretation (analysis), and evaluation (assessment and artistic achievement) of literature. *Students are required to take the AP exam in May and are responsible for exam fees.*

\*\*\* **Argumentation and Rhetoric Honors**

1 semester                      .5 credit

**Elective.**

**Open to sophomores, juniors, and seniors.**

**Prerequisite: Completion of Honors English or Social Studies classes with a B or better and regular level English or Social Studies classes with an A- or better.**

**Required: Must be taken prior to or concurrent with AP English 3 or any AP History.**

This class is designed to help students develop the writing and critical reading skills necessary to be successful in both AP English and History classes and on AP exams. Students will learn how to make sense of a difficult text, analyze arguments, and gather evidence to defend their arguments. They will write critical and expository essays, displaying effective control of language. Students will close read and analyze passages—fiction, nonfiction,

poetry, and prose. They will practice writing well-focused essays with references to the text, practicing the steps of the writing process. Students will learn rhetorical forms in text, such as example, definition, comparison-contrast, classification, process analysis, description, narrative, cause-and-effect, and assertion/justification. Historical argumentation, along with the appropriate use of relevant historical evidence, chronological reasoning, comparison and contextualization, and historical interpretation and synthesis will be addressed.

\*\*\* **Focus: Seminar Honors**

1 semester .5 credit

**Elective.**

**Open to juniors.**

**Prerequisite: Completion of Honors English or Social Studies classes with a B or better and regular level English or Social Studies classes with an A- or better.**

**Required: For all Summa Cum Laude students.**

By analyzing multiple perspectives of real world topics and issues, students will engage in dynamic and interactive research-based conversations. Students will learn, develop, and utilize their oral communication, research, writing, and presentation skills in a cross-curricular framework. Students' exploration of complex issues and topics through an academic lens, using the Catholic faith as a guide, will include analyzing different perspectives, evaluating positions and information, crafting compelling arguments, and presenting evidence-based arguments for their positions. Students will read and analyze high-level academic journals and texts, primary source materials, and works of art. Work will be done individually and in a group, fostering a unique blend of independent thinking and teamwork.

\*\*\* **Focus: Research/Academic Writing Honors**

1 semester .5 credit

**Elective.**

**Open to seniors.**

**Prerequisite: Completion of Focus: Seminar with a B or better.**

**Required: One Focus: Research class is required for all Summa Cum Laude students.**

Focus Research: Academic Writing is a culminating assessment for seniors who exhibit what they have learned through intensive research. This class will demonstrate the students' abilities to research, write, interview, work with a mentor, and present their findings and learning to an audience. Students will work on a research topic of their choice, which is approved by the teacher.

\*\*\* **Focus: Research/Journalistic Writing Honors**

1 semester .5 credit

**Elective.**

**Open to juniors and seniors.**

**Prerequisite: Completion of Honors/AP English or Social Studies classes with a B or better and regular level English or Social Studies classes with a B+ or better.**

**Required: One Focus: Research class is required for all Summa Cum Laude students.**

**Can be repeated for elective credit.**

Focus Research: Journalistic Writing is a culminating assessment for seniors who synthesize what they have learned through intensive research and reporting. This class is designed to demonstrate the student's ability to research, write, interview, and present their findings and learning to an audience through the publication of their work on *The Seraphim Online*, the school's student newspaper. Students will write news, feature, opinion, and sports articles and research a topic of their choice, which is approved by the teacher, for an in-depth, semester-long project.

\*\*\* **Speech and Debate**

1 semester .5 credit

**Elective.**

**Required: Students must be willing and able to compete in at least two speech and debate tournaments in the Phoenix area and will travel to tournaments as a class.**

**Can be repeated for credit.**

Speech and Debate curriculum has been designed with the specific goal of enhancing the student's communication and debate skills. The course begins with an overview of the contexts and elements of communication and quickly progresses to the preparation and delivery of speeches. A variety of speeches will be reviewed and practiced, including oratory; expository, extemporaneous, and impromptu speaking; dramatic interpretation; oral interpretation (prose, poetry, and humorous); duo acting; and duo interpretation. In addition, the second quarter of the class focuses on debate techniques and mastery. In the debate portion of the class, students will be introduced to the formal rudiments of debate – analytical thinking, persuasive writing, and public speaking. Throughout the quarter, students will present prepared and extemporaneous persuasive speeches and participate in various forms of debate (Lincoln-Douglas, Public Forum, and Congressional). Units in philosophy, political theory, and current events will help students become more effective debaters. Students are provided with the opportunity to compete in local speech and debate contests through the Arizona Interscholastic Association.

\*\*\* **Great Books**

1 semester .5 credit

**Elective.**

This class will explore classic and modern literature through discussion, research, and analysis. Participants will read assigned texts based on a particular time period or topic and explore the meaning behind the book and its impact on society and popular culture. The aim of this class is to come away with a stronger knowledge base and enjoyment for well-known works and their importance to the literary world. This class is for those students who enjoy reading and discussing what they have read and how it has impacted society.

\*\*\* **Creative Writing**

1 semester .5 credit

**Elective.**

This course offers both exposure to and practice in writing skills specific to fiction and poetry. Students will produce stories and poems that have been revised as much as time will allow, and each piece is subjected to a formal critiquing process called work-shopping. Students will also participate in discussions of the writer's craft based on group and independent reading assignments. Students will gain confidence in their own unique perspectives as well as develop skills that lead to mastering the power of language. The course will emphasize the diverse work of contemporary American writers because good writers are good readers first.

\*\*\* **Multimedia Authorship – The Power of Words and Images - JVLA**

1 semester (Fall) .5 credit

**Open to juniors and seniors.**

This course aims primarily to develop communication skills through student expression of his or her ideas using multimedia technology. Students will study models of multimedia composition used by professional and student writers and then create their own multimedia content, pushing the students to a mastery of the concepts and technical skills the composition requires. In order to fully participate in the class, the student must have a computer (Mac or Windows) on which he or she can install new programs. They will also need access to a digital camera. The semester will culminate with each student producing an original, substantive multimedia project on a topic of the student's choice.

\*\*\* **How to Read Plays...and How to Write One - JVLA**

1 semester (Spring) .5 credit

**Open to sophomores, juniors and seniors.**

Reading 8 plays from Sophocles to Beckett, this class investigates how drama works and why we still read and watch plays. What, for instance, does a reader or a director do with that famous stage direction from Shakespeare's *The Winter's Tale*, "Exit, pursued by a bear"? Students will learn to think more broadly than just about drama, and will develop critical writing skills, forming arguments that think beyond the obvious and demonstrate a command of the text. Students will work throughout the semester on a capstone project: a short play of their creation to be handed in at the end of the semester. Those interested should expect to have one hour's

worth of work each of six days out of the week including, but not limited to reading, viewing lectures, watching film adaptations of plays, writing essays, posting to a discussion board, and participating in e-meetings.

## *Mathematics*

- \*\*\* **Algebra 1 – Gonzaga Program**  
3 semesters                      1.5 credits  
**Placement determined by admissions portfolio.**  
The topics will include algebraic expressions, solving linear equations in one and two variables, operations on polynomials, factoring polynomials, function notation, solving rational equations, graphing and interpreting one- and two-variable equations and functions, solving quadratic equations, simplifying radical expressions, and extended problem solving..
- \*\*\* **Algebra 1**  
2 semesters                      1 credit  
**Placement determined by admissions portfolio.**  
This is a college preparatory class The topics will include algebraic expressions, solving linear equations in one- and two variables, operations on polynomials, factoring polynomials, function notation, solving rational equations, graphing and interpreting one and two-variable equations and functions, solving quadratic equations, simplifying radical expressions, and extended problem solving.
- \*\*\* **Algebra 1 Honors**  
2 semesters                      1 credit  
**Placement determined by admissions portfolio.**  
This is an accelerated college preparatory class that goes into greater depth in the following topics. The topics will include algebraic expressions, solving linear equations in one and two variables, operations on polynomials, factoring polynomials, function notation, solving rational equations, graphing and interpreting one- and two-variable equations and functions, solving quadratic equations, simplifying radical expressions, and extended problem solving.
- \*\*\* **Geometry**  
2 semesters                      1 credit  
**Prerequisite: Completion of Algebra 1.**  
This course is a college preparatory formal study of Euclidean geometry. Students will be exposed to geometry as a logical mathematical system. The curriculum aims to develop logical reasoning, to prepare for the college entrance exams, and to affirm continuity of mathematical logic. The major studies include deductive reasoning and proofs, properties of angles, properties of parallel lines and perpendicular lines, properties of triangles, congruent and similar triangles, properties of special quadrilaterals, similarity, right triangles and basic trigonometry, circles, areas of polygons and circles, and surface area and volume, and coordinate geometry.
- \*\*\* **Geometry Honors**  
2 semesters                      1 credit  
**Incoming freshmen by admissions portfolio.**  
**Prerequisite: Completion of Algebra 1 with an A- or better or Algebra 1 Honors with a B or better.**  
This course stresses strong logical reasoning and deductive analysis. In a manner consistent with the analytical process, it covers properties of angles, parallel and perpendicular lines, triangles (congruent and similar), special quadrilaterals, similarity, right triangles and basic trigonometry, circles, areas of polygons and circles, surface area volume, and coordinate geometry. It fosters rigorous analysis of concepts and proofs.
- \*\*\* **Algebra 2**  
2 semesters                      1 credit  
**Prerequisite: Completion of Geometry.**

The course will include a comprehensive and in-depth study of linear equations and functions, operations on polynomials, rational expressions, irrational and complex numbers, quadratic equations and functions, analytic geometry, exponential and logarithmic functions, sequences and series, conics, and probability and statistics. The course will also include the study of mathematical concepts used to prepare students for the math portion of college entrance examinations.

\*\*\* **Algebra 2 Honors**

2 semesters                      1 credit

**Prerequisite: Completion of Geometry and Algebra 1 with an A- or better or Geometry Honors and Algebra 1 Honors with a B or better.**

This course begins an intensive analysis of equations, inequalities, and mathematical modeling. A thorough perusal of the various functions and their graphs is considered. Trigonometry, descriptive and analytic, is covered extensively. Finally, consideration is given to systems of equations/inequities along with matrices, sequences, and series.

\*\*\* **College Algebra**

2 semesters                      1 credit

**Prerequisite: Completion of Algebra 2.**

This course is designed for those students who need a strong foundation in concepts of relation and function prior to taking Pre-Calculus. The course will include topics such as the general concepts of relations and functions and specifically of polynomial, exponential, logarithmic, and trigonometric functions; the ability to solve systems of equations by utilizing matrices and determinants; and the ability to solve practical problems using algebra.

\*\*\* **Pre-Calculus**

2 semesters                      1 credit

**Prerequisite: Completion of Algebra 2.**

This course prepares students to study calculus. It explores topics in algebra, trigonometry, analytic geometry, and an introduction to calculus. This course summarizes what the student needs to know in mathematics prior to taking calculus in college.

\*\*\* **Pre-Calculus Honors**

**Dual Enrollment option**

2 semesters                      1 credit

**Prerequisite: Completion of Algebra 2 Honors with a B or better or complete course request form for department review.**

This accelerated course is designed to prepare students for the rigors of AP Calculus. Topics of study include graphic and algebraic applications of polynomial, exponential, logarithmic, and trigonometric functions, analytic trigonometry, analytic geometry, linear systems and matrices, limits, and a brief introduction to differential calculus.

\*\*\* **Probability and Statistics**

2 semesters                      1 credit

**Prerequisite: Completion of Pre-Calculus.**

Students will work with probability, data collection, descriptive and inferential statistics, probability, and technological tools to analyze statistics. The main foci of the course will be exploring data, planning a study, producing models using probability theory, and making statistical inferences. Students will work with statistical measures of centrality and spread, methods of data collection, methods of determining probability, binomial and normal distributions, hypothesis testing, and confidence intervals. Students will use multiple representations to present data including written descriptions, numerical statistics, formulas, and graphs.

\*\*\* **AP Statistics – JVLA**

2 semesters                      1 credit

**Open to sophomores, juniors, and seniors.**

**Prerequisite: Completion of Pre-Calculus with an A or Pre-Calculus Honors with a B+ or better.**

This course prepares students to take the Advanced Placement national examination in elementary statistics. It develops an intuitive, non-calculus based understanding with an emphasis on doing statistics. Statistics makes sense of data. It consists of a set of tools that allow us to make inferences in the face of uncertainty. Statistical methods draw from the Gaussian (normal, bell shaped) distribution as well as the binomial and chi-square distributions. We learn about data description concepts, hypothesis testing, probability, discrete and random variables, several inferential techniques, regression, and how to plan and carry out a properly designed statistical analysis. *Students are required to take the AP exam in May and are responsible for exam fees.*

\*\*\* **Calculus Honors**

2 semesters                      1 credit

**Prerequisite: Completion of Pre-Calculus with an A- or better or Pre-Calculus Honors with a B or better.**

This accelerated course is designed to introduce students to the fundamental principles of differential calculus, while providing algebraic review. Topics covered include limits, continuity, differentiation of polynomial, exponential, logarithmic, and trigonometric functions, maxima-minima related-rate applications, and various integration techniques. This course is not intended as preparation for the Advanced Placement Calculus exam; however, students will be thoroughly prepared for a beginning college calculus course.

\*\*\* **AP Calculus (AB)**

2 semesters                      1 credit

**Prerequisite: Completion of Pre-Calculus Honors with a B+ or better.**

The AP Calculus course is part of the Advanced Placement Program sponsored by the College Board. This course is a rigorous analysis of Calculus AB in line with the AP requirements. Combining a theoretical and application approach, this course discusses differentiation and integration with special emphasis on mathematical modeling. The fundamental concept of limits and its importance in the analysis of quantifiable phenomena are prominent features of this course. *Students are required to take the AP exam in May and are responsible for exam fees.*

\*\*\* **AP Calculus (BC)**

2 semesters                      1 credit

**Prerequisite: Completion of AP Calculus (AB) with a B or better, or Pre-Calculus Honors with an A or better AND department recommendation.**

AP Calculus BC begins with a brief review of functions, limits, continuity, an extension of derivatives and their applications, and continues with integration. Topics include the calculus of polynomial, rational, exponential, trigonometric, polar, and parametric functions; the calculus of vectors; infinite series; and an introduction to differential equations. Graphing calculators are used extensively in this course. *Students are required to take the AP exam in May and are responsible for exam fees.*

\*\*\* **Calculus III Honors**

2 semesters                      1 credit

**Prerequisite: Completion of AP Calculus (BC).**

This course offers students the opportunity to apply material learned in Calculus AB and BC to problems in three-dimensional space. Most concepts involved in Calculus AB/BC involve functions in one variable. Calculus III allows the student to consider problems taken off a two-dimensional plane and place into our three-dimensional world. This class completes the Calculus strand for students who are interested in the mathematical and science fields at the university level.

## ***Physical Education/Health***

- \*\*\* **Personal Fitness (PE)**  
1 semester .5 credit  
**Required course: Open to freshmen only.**  
The purpose of this course is to provide students with opportunities to promote and increase lifetime physical fitness. This will be achieved through participation in many activities, including individual, dual, and team sports with other forms of cardiovascular activities. The course grade is based upon a student's participation.
- \*\*\* **Health**  
1 semester .5 credit  
**Required course: Open to sophomores only (unless transferring from another district).**  
The purpose of this course is to provide students with the opportunity to develop and enhance critical life management skills necessary to make sound decisions and take positive actions for healthy and effective living. Topics include positive emotional development, interpersonal relationships and communication skills, functions of the body, nutrition and weight management, substance abuse, CPR, and first aid.
- \*\*\* **Sports Medicine 1**  
1 semester .5 credit  
**Prerequisites: Completion of Health.**  
Students will learn about the sports medicine team and the role it plays when returning an injured athlete to participation. Students will gain core knowledge in anatomy, kinesiology, and physiology of the human body and will be taught in a practical setting how to evaluate, diagnose, and treat common athletic injuries. The purpose of this course is to introduce students to effective sports medicine practices. In addition, students will be taught taping/wrapping, rehabilitation, simple first aid and CPR. Finally, students will gain clinical experience in the Athletic Training Room and at Rehab Plus Physical Therapy.
- \*\*\* **Sports Medicine 2**  
1 semester .5 credit  
**Prerequisites: Completion of Sports Medicine 1.**  
This course is a continuation of Sports Medicine 1. Students will go into greater depth of injury evaluation and treatment for sports injuries. They will learn special tests to rule out serious neurological, musculoskeletal, and general medical disorders. Students will gain clinical experience in the Athletic Training Room and at Rehab Plus Physical Therapy.
- \*\*\* **Team Sports**  
1 semester .5 credit  
**Open to sophomores, juniors, and seniors only.**  
**Can be repeated for credit.**  
This class is designed for students who would like to continue to participate in a physical education course that emphasizes team sports play. Activities include basketball, volleyball, football, pickle ball, badminton, among other sports. The course grade is based upon a student's participation.
- \*\*\* **Weight Training**  
1 semester .5 credit  
**Open to male and female students.**  
**Required: Discuss with your counselor if you are in a current sports season or if sport requirement.**  
**Can be repeated for credit.**  
Weight training and conditioning is for the student desiring an intensified and structured weight training program with an emphasis on various exercises that accentuate strength, power, and flexibility. The course grade is based upon a student's participation.
- \*\*\* **Stretching & Pilates**  
1 semester .5 credit  
**Can be repeated for credit.**

This class is designed to provide students with different types of movement activity and to gain an understanding and appreciation for the different forms of stretching. It is a blend of Pilates, sports-related stretching, yoga stretch, and athleticism. The different dynamics of the movement performed in this class will increase the knowledge in areas of focus, strength, balance, flexibility, agility, and reflection. The Stretching and Pilates course offers strategies that will help the student to be aware of the kinesthetic concepts to help enhance performance ability and reduce the risk of injury. In addition to the different types of stretches, the class is designed to provide lecture about the human body, how to apply anatomical and biochemical principles, as well as understanding the function of the muscular system. The student will participate in various physical activities and learn fitness habits that promote a healthy lifestyle. No prior experience is necessary in either. The course grade is based upon a student's participation.

## *Science*

\*\*\* **Physical Science**

2 semesters                      1 credit

The course will cover lab procedures, metric skills, and conceptual physics topics, such as, motion, force, work, energy, fluids, temperature, heat, pressure, waves, sound, light, electricity, magnetism, and some basic modern physics as well as a unit on weather and space.

\*\*\* **Biology**

2 semesters                      1 credit

**Prerequisite: Completion of Physical Science or admissions portfolio.**

The course covers the general spectrum of biology. It includes laboratory procedures and investigations. Students will be expected to complete one or more projects per quarter. Lab skills will be stressed.

\*\*\* **Biology Honors**

2 semesters                      1 credit

**Prerequisite: Completion of Physical Science with an A- or better or admissions portfolio.**

This course is designed for academically motivated students. Individual and/or group projects are required. Students are expected to do extra readings, projects, or term papers. In-depth studies of the standard spectrum of biology are explored and lab skills are stressed.

\*\*\* **AP Biology**

2 semesters                      1 credit

**Prerequisite: Completion of Biology Honors and Chemistry Honors with a B+ or better or completion of Biology and Chemistry with an A- or better and skills assessment.**

The AP Biology course is part of the Advanced Placement Program sponsored by the College Board. This is a full-year course for students who wish to pursue a college level biology course in high school. The course follows the AP Biology program. The lab work includes descriptive and experimental exercises that will encourage students to develop important science skills and higher order thinking which are most often found in general college biology courses. *Students are required to take the AP exam in May and are responsible for exam fees.*

\*\*\* **Chemistry**

2 semesters                      1 credit

**Prerequisite: Completion of Biology.**

Chemistry is a course based on regular laboratory investigations of matter, chemical reactions, and the role of energy in those reactions. Students enrolled in Chemistry compare, contrast, and synthesize useful models of the structure and properties of matter and the mechanisms of its interactions. In addition, students enrolled in this course are expected to (1) gain an understanding of the history of chemistry, (2) explore the uses of chemistry in various careers, (3) investigate chemical questions and problems related to personal needs and societal issues, and (4) learn and practice laboratory safety. This course also includes mathematical problem solving. Students will be



required to keep a lab notebook and will be required to do several projects and a research paper as part of the class.

\*\*\* **Chemistry Honors**

2 semesters                      1 credit

**Prerequisite: Completion of Biology Honors with a B or better or Biology with an A- or better and a B or better in Geometry Honors or A- or better in Geometry and completion or concurrent enrollment in Algebra 2.**

The course is structured and designed for students with strong interests in math and science. It uses experiments to introduce the principles of chemistry. The course content includes the study of atomic structure, chemical bonding, reactions, mass relationships in reactions, gasses, liquids, solids, solutions, acids and bases, kinetics and equilibrium, oxidation and reduction, organic and nuclear chemistry. Laboratory experiments will be used to reinforce topics studied from the text. Students will be expected to keep a lab notebook and to produce projects and research papers.

\*\*\* **AP Chemistry**

2 semesters                      1 credit

**Prerequisite: Completion of Chemistry Honors with a B+ or better or Chemistry with an A- or better and skills assessment.**

The AP Chemistry course is part of the Advanced Placement Program sponsored by the College Board. AP Chemistry is a full-year course for students who wish to pursue a college-level chemistry course in high school. This course follows the AP Chemistry program. The lab work includes exercises in both quantitative analysis as well as those exercises typically found in a general college chemistry course. *Students are required to take the AP exam in May and are responsible for exam fees.*

\*\*\* **Physics**

2 semesters                      1 credit

**Prerequisite: Completion of Chemistry.**

This course focuses on the physical nature of our world. This course requires some basic algebra and basic trigonometry (taught and/or reviewed in class as needed) to work out numerical problems applying the concepts learned. The course is designed as an introduction to physics for the college-bound student who plans a career in the health-care field or in technology. The class involves frequent labs with appropriate lab reports. Topics include motion, force, work, energy, waves, and electricity.

\*\*\* **AP Physics 1**

2 semesters                      1 credit

**Prerequisite: B or better in all Honors science courses and math courses through PreCalculus Honors or an A- or better in all science courses and math courses through PreCalculus.**

AP Physics 1 is equivalent to a first-semester college course in algebra-based physics. The course covers Newtonian mechanics (including rotational dynamics and angular momentum); work, energy, and power; and mechanical waves and sound. It also introduces electric circuits. *Students are required to take the AP exam in May and are responsible for exam fees.*

\*\*\* **AP Physics 2**

2 semesters                      1 credit

**Prerequisite: Completion of AP Physics 1 with a B or better and be concurrently enrolled in a Calculus-level course.**

AP Physics 2 is equivalent to a second-semester college course in algebra-based physics. The course covers fluid mechanics; thermodynamics; electricity and magnetism; optics; and atomic and nuclear physics. *Students are required to take the AP exam in May and are responsible for exam fees.*

\*\*\* **Anatomy and Physiology**

2 semesters                      1 credit

**Prerequisite: Completion of Biology and Chemistry.**

This course presents a study of human anatomy. The nine systems of the body will be studied, focusing upon the themes of homeostasis, the inter-relationship of body systems, and the balance of structure and function. Throughout the course, students will exercise their analytical and problem-solving skills. Class format is lecture accompanied by required laboratory dissection.

\*\*\* **Anatomy and Physiology Honors**

2 semesters                      1 credit

**Prerequisite: Completion of Biology and Chemistry with an A- or better or Biology Honors and Chemistry Honors with a B or better.**

This course is for students interested in a science or health-related career. A detailed study of the structures and functions of the human body from the cellular level through the systems level will be included. Major components of this class are dissection lab work and writing in-depth lab reports.

\*\*\* **Astronomy**

2 semesters                      1 credit

**Prerequisite: Completion of Biology.**

This inquiry-based science class will focus on the fundamental study of the universe. Students will investigate the foundation and tools of astronomy. The composition and peculiarities of the planets and our moon will be examined. The students will investigate stars and the dynamics of the solar system. The creation of the universe including different theories will be explored. Students will investigate these phenomena and others through a sequence of lab activities where they will make observations, analyze data, and complete research in order to develop an understand of how these forces affect the Earth.

\*\*\* **Introduction to Engineering and Design**

**Dual Enrollment option**

2 semesters                      1 credit

**Prerequisite: Completion of Biology, Chemistry, and one Physical Science course or concurrently enrolled in a Physics course and completion of Algebra 1 and Geometry.**

This course focuses on the processes of applying scientific, technological, engineering, and mathematical principles (STEM) in the design, production, and operation of products, structures, and systems. This is a hands-on course designed to provide students interested in engineering careers to explore experiences related to specialized fields, such as software, civil, mechanical, and materials engineering. Students will engage in research, development, planning, design, production, and project management to simulate a career in engineering. The topics of ethics and the impacts of engineering decisions are addressed. Classroom activities are organized to allow students to work in teams and use modern technological processes, computers, CAD software, and production systems in developing and presenting solutions to engineering problems.

\*\*\* **AP Environmental Science – JVLA**

2 semesters                      1 credit

**Open to juniors and seniors**

**Prerequisites: B+ or better in Honors science courses (Biology and Chemistry) or an A or better in science courses (Biology and Chemistry).**

The goal of the AP Environmental Science course is to provide students with the scientific principles, concepts, and methodologies required to understand the interrelationships of the natural world, to identify and analyze environmental problems both natural and human-made, to evaluate the relative risks associated with these problems, and to examine alternative solutions for resolving and/or preventing them. Labs will be coordinated with the student's brick-and-mortar school. *Students are required to take the AP exam in May and are responsible for exam fees.*

## *Social Studies*

- \*\*\* **World Geography**  
 2 semesters                      1 credit  
**Placement determined by admissions portfolio.**  
**Prerequisite: Open to freshmen (other grades by permission only).**  
 This course focuses on the five themes of geography (location, place, interaction between people and their environment, movement, and region) and their influences on the historical development of religion, philosophy, technology, and the arts throughout the world. Along with learning about the importance of geography and its effects on human behavior, this course provides a broad-based overview of the development of eastern and western cultures. This course will be intermixed with current events throughout the year, allowing the students to make a modern-day connection to the countries of the world.
- \*\*\* **World Geography Honors**  
 2 semesters                      1 credit  
**Placement determined by admissions portfolio.**  
 This is a one-year world geography course for students who would like to prepare for AP level work. In addition to covering the major aspects of world geography, the course takes students to higher levels of research and study. The course goes beyond merely memorizing places and focuses upon understanding and explaining some of the political, historical, economic, and cultural relationships that bind people together. There is the inclusion of more detail in all areas, including population, migration, language, development, agriculture and industry, urban patterns, and resource problems. Socratic seminars, current events, oral presentations, and debates are additional forms of assessment in this course. The student must have excellent reading, writing, and speaking skills.
- \*\*\* **AP Human Geography**  
 2 semesters                      1 credit  
**Freshmen Placement determined by admissions portfolio.**  
**Prerequisite for sophomores: Completion of World Geography Honors with a B+ or better or World Geography with an A or better.**  
**Elective for juniors and seniors.**  
 AP Human Geography is an entry-level college course designed to introduce students to the systematic study of patterns and processes that have shaped human understanding, human use, and human alteration of the Earth's surface. Students will learn about and employ the methods of geographers. These include observation, mapmaking, data gathering and reporting, technical writing, and use of Geographic Information System (GIS) and Global Positioning System (GPS). Students will learn how to employ spatial concepts, geographic vocabulary, and landscape interpretation to a variety of locations and situations both locally and around the globe. Students will also develop a geographic perspective in manner of thinking with which to view the landscape of the world and to gain a better understanding of current events. This course is especially recommended for students who want to experience the rigor of an AP course but may not have previously taken an AP course. *Students are required to take the AP exam in May and are responsible for exam fees.*
- \*\*\* **World History – Gonzaga Program**  
 3 semesters                      1.5 credits  
**Prerequisite: Completion of World Geography.**  
 This course is a broad survey of world history from pre-historic times to the 20<sup>th</sup> century. Special emphasis is given to those areas of the world which now command great attention, namely Europe, the Middle East, and the former Soviet Union. The role of Catholicism throughout history is emphasized. The historical development of religion, philosophy, technology, and the arts are also studied.
- \*\*\* **World History**  
 2 semesters                      1 credit  
**Prerequisite: Completion of World Geography.**  
 This course is a broad survey of world history from pre-historic times to the 20<sup>th</sup> century. Special emphasis is given to those areas of the world which now command great attention, namely Europe, the Middle East, and the former Soviet Union. The role of Catholicism throughout history is emphasized. The historical development of religion, philosophy, technology, and the arts are also studied.

- \*\*\* **World History Honors**  
 2 semesters                      1 credit  
**Prerequisite: Completion of World Geography Honors with a B or better or World Geography with an A or better.**  
 The purpose of this course is to provide students with a comprehensive understanding of the past in terms of what has been interpreted about the development of humanity. This is achieved by analyzing the political, economic, social, religious, military, dynastic, scientific, and cultural events that have shaped and molded humanity. Implicit in this are an understanding of the historical method, the inquiry process, historical reasoning and interpretation, and the issues of external and internal validity. Appropriate concepts and skills will be developed in connection with the following content: geo-historic development in time/space, comparative views of history, the origin and development of contrasting civilizations, the analysis of cultural universals, the role of religion in historical change, the varieties of contrasting political theories and philosophies, the role of science and technology as a social catalyst, nationalism as a cohesive force in history, the diversity of economic thought and practices in the world, an analysis of the influence of major figures and events, and interpretations concerning the historical development of our present world order. In addition to the textbook, supplementary readings are required.
- \*\*\* **AP World History**  
 2 semesters                      1 credit  
**Open to sophomores only.**  
**Prerequisite: Completion of World Geography Honors with a B+ or better and completion of or concurrent enrollment in Argumentation and Rhetoric Honors.**  
 AP World History is a course designed for highly motivated students of World History. In AP World History, students will develop a greater understanding of the evolution of global processes and contacts, including interactions over time. The course highlights the nature of changes in international frameworks and their causes and consequences as well as comparisons among major societies. Students develop habits of mind that help refine their analytical abilities and critical thinking skills in order to understand historical and geographical context, make comparisons across cultures, use documents and other primary sources, and recognize and discuss different interpretations and historical frameworks. One goal for the course is to provide an engaging and rigorous curriculum that motivates students. The long-term objective is for students to demonstrate an understanding of how the big picture of world history assists in understanding the complexities of today's global arena. The course imposes a heavy reading and writing load throughout the year, and the demands on students are equivalent to a full-year introductory college course. *Students are required to take the AP exam in May and are responsible for exam fees.*
- \*\*\* **U.S. History**  
**Dual Enrollment option**  
 2 semesters                      1 credit  
**Prerequisite: Completion of World Geography and World History.**  
 This course studies the academic concepts of American History. It will cover exploration and colonization of America, the American Revolution and the Confederation period, Jeffersonian Democracy, the Jacksonian Era, western expansion, the growth of slavery, Civil War and Reconstruction, industrialization, the New Deal, the Cold War, and into the modern era. Supplementary readings are required for this course. Students will engage in daily conversation regarding the material.
- \*\*\* **AP U.S. History**  
 2 semesters                      1 credit  
**Prerequisite: Completion of World History Honors with a B+ or better or AP World History with a B or better and completion of or concurrent enrollment in Argumentation and Rhetoric Honors.**  
 The AP U.S. History course is part of the Advanced Placement Program sponsored by the College Board. This is a college-level. This course requires a great deal more reading than the regular American History, with an emphasis on critical reading and problem-solving through the use of stimulus-based questioning. Supplemental texts are used in addition to summer reading assignments. Essay writing and research with a focus on analysis

and synthesis of information will be the primary learning style for this course. *Students are required to take the AP exam in May and are responsible for exam fees.*

\*\*\* **Economics**

1 semester .5 credits

**Prerequisite: Completion of U.S. History.**

Economics will examine the way in which economics affects the lives of individuals. The class will also examine how individuals through their economic choices shape the world. The study of economics includes learning about scarcity and choice, opportunity cost and trade-offs, productivity, supply and demand, economic systems, the roles of government, monetary policy and fiscal policy as well as other recurrent themes, such as the economy and global issues. A unit on personal finance is also included.

\*\*\* **AP Macroeconomics**

1 semester .5 credit

**Prerequisite: Completion of AP U.S. History with a B or better or U.S. History with an A.**

AP Macroeconomics deals with principles of economics that apply to a total economics system, particularly the general levels of output and income and interrelations among sectors of economy. The class will place particular emphasis on the determinants of aggregate demand and aggregate supply and on the monetary and fiscal policy tools that can be used to achieve particular policy objectives. Basic understanding of foreign exchange markets, balance of payments, appreciation and depreciation of currencies are also taught. This course requires high level reading, writing, and oral communications skills. *Students are required to take the AP exam in May and are responsible for exam fees.*

\*\*\* **AP Microeconomics - JVLA**

1 semester (Fall) .5 credit

**Elective.**

**Open to seniors.**

**Prerequisite: Completion of AP U.S. History with a B or better or U.S. History with an A.**

How should faithful Catholics think about economics? This course integrates selected themes from the Neoscholastic School of economics with the content of the Advanced Placement economics syllabus in microeconomics. The course prepares students to do well on the AP Microeconomics exam as well as offer a way to view our redeemed creation through the prism of social science. The economic way of thinking does not begin with Adam Smith. It is based on insights from Aristotle, St. Augustine, St. Aquinas, the Jesuit and Franciscan theologians at the University of Salamanca in Spain during the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries, and on the Popes' social encyclicals. We develop our understanding of basic economic concepts and analytic tools by anchoring them to our faith's moral traditions and foundations. *Students are required to take the AP exam in May and are responsible for exam fees.*

\*\*\* **United States Government**

1 semester .5 credit

**Prerequisite: Completion of U.S. History.**

This college prep course explores the development of the United States Constitution and how it functions through the legislative, executive, and judicial branches, the foundations of American government, civil liberties and rights, and state and local governmental structure and functions. This class will look at government in action from both historical and current perspectives.

\*\*\* **AP United States Government**

1 semester .5 credit

**Prerequisite: Completion of AP U.S. History with a B or better or U.S. History with an A.**

The AP U.S. Government course is part of the Advanced Placement Program sponsored by the College Board. This course covers topics such as the institutions and policy processes of the federal government, the federal courts and civil liberties, political parties and interest groups, political beliefs and behavior, and the content and history of the Constitution. Oral discussion and writing focusing on analysis and synthesis of information will be

the primary learning style for this course. Students are required to attend review sessions prior to the test. *Students are required to take the AP exam in May and are responsible for exam fees.*

\*\*\* **AP Comparative Government and Politics**

1 semester .5 credit

**Elective.**

**Prerequisite: Completion of AP U.S. History with a B or better or U.S. History with an A.**

AP Comparative Government and Politics course introduces students to fundamental concepts used by political scientists to study the processes and outcomes of politics in a variety of country settings. The course aims to illustrate the diversity of political life, show available institutional alternatives, explain differences in processes and policy outcomes, and communicate to students the importance of global, political, and economic changes. Comparison assists both in identifying problems and in analyzing policymaking. Careful comparison of political systems produces useful knowledge about the institutions and policies countries have employed to address problems, or, indeed, what they have done to make things worse. In addition to covering the major concepts that are used to organize and interpret what is known about political phenomena and relationships, the course will cover specific countries and their governments. Six countries form the core of the course: China, Great Britain, Iran, Mexico, Nigeria, and Russia. This course is especially recommended for students who want to experience the rigor of an AP course but may not have previously taken an AP course. *Students are required to take the AP exam in May and are responsible for exam fees.*

\*\*\* **AP European History**

2 semesters 1 credit

**Elective.**

**Open to sophomores, juniors, and seniors.**

**Prerequisite: Completion of World Geography Honors with a B+ or better and completion of or concurrent enrollment in Argumentation and Rhetoric Honors.**

**Does not meet World History graduation requirement.**

AP European History is a two-semester elective designed to explore the principal factors that have come to create the intellectual, cultural, social, economic, and political realities of modern Europe. This course emphasizes relevant factual knowledge about European History from 1450 A.D. to the present as well as the basic analytical skills required to understand their significance. Students engage with a multitude of primary and secondary resources in their effort to develop basic historical capabilities with frequent time dedicated to interpretive essay writing. In accordance with College Board requirements, the work of this course is to be of at least the same rigor as that of an introductory undergraduate college course. This course is especially recommended for students who want to experience the rigor of an AP course but may not have previously taken an AP course. *Students are required to take the AP exam in May and are responsible for exam fees.*

\*\*\* **Philosophy Honors**

1 semester .5 credit

**Elective.**

**Open to juniors and seniors.**

**Prerequisite: Earned a B+ or better in an English, Social Studies or Science Honors or AP level course or an A- or better in sophomore level English, Social Studies, and science course.**

**Required: Summa Cum Laude students.**

Honors Philosophy provides a survey of Western philosophy through the 20<sup>th</sup> century. The first half of the course examines the ontological and ethical claims made by philosophers from ancient times through the scholastic movement, with a focus that includes, but is not limited to, Plato, Aristotle, and St. Thomas Aquinas. It also focuses on different ways that these thinkers provided the basis for acceptance of Christianity. The second half of the course emphasizes epistemological and ethical claims made by philosophers in the early modern era through the 20<sup>th</sup> century, with a focus that includes, but is not limited to, rationalism, empiricism, and Immanuel Kant.

\*\*\* **Psychology**

1 semester .5 credit

**Elective.**

**Open to juniors and seniors.**

Psychology is a science that studies the human mind process through one's behavior and social patterns. This course covers such topics as learning, emotions, intelligence, heredity, environmental differences between individuals, and the nature and development of personalities. Through individual and group projects, oral and written reports, discussions, and multi-media material, students will better understand how we influence others and their influence on us. Supplemental materials will be used.

- \*\*\* **AP Psychology - JVLA**  
2 semesters                      1 credit  
**Open to juniors and seniors.**  
**Prerequisite: Completion of World History Honors with a B+ or better or AP World History with a B or better.**  
This AP course introduces the systematic and scientific study of the behavior and mental processes of human beings and other animals. Included is a consideration of the psychological facts, principles, and phenomena associated with each of the major subfields within psychology. Students also learn about the ethics and methods psychologists use in their science and practice. Students who complete this course will be prepared to take the AP examination in the spring. This class will take up a lot of time, so it is recommended students have room in their schedule for it. *Students are required to take the AP exam in May and are responsible for exam fees.*
- \*\*\* **AP Art History – JVLA**  
2 semesters                      1 credit  
**Open to juniors and seniors.**  
**Prerequisite: Completion of World History Honors with a B+ or better or AP World History with a B or better and completion of or concurrent enrollment in Argumentation and Rhetoric Honors.**  
This survey course will cover the history of art from prehistory to the present. Students will study historically significant works of art including architecture, painting, sculpture, and mixed media. Through this course, students will learn to identify, analyze, and discuss artworks from a variety of cultures and stylistic periods. Strong organization and time management skills would be helpful. This class will take up a lot of time, so it is recommended students have room in their schedule for it. *Students are required to take the AP exam in May and are responsible for exam fees.*
- \*\*\* **Sociology**  
1 semester                      .5 credit  
**Elective.**  
**Open to juniors and seniors.**  
Sociology will study the interaction of groups and individuals in a society. This course studies the sociologist's perspectives, theories, and challenges of an ever-changing population. It looks at the socialization process and the influence of family, peers, school, media, religion, and government. Through multimedia material, discussions, debates, and individual and group projects, students will learn to better understand their roles and influence on their society.
- \*\*\* **Street Law**  
1 semester                      .5 credit  
**Elective.**  
**Open to juniors and seniors.**  
This course discusses the laws that are of practical use in everyday life. The course is designed to provide the students with an understanding of their legal rights and responsibilities, knowledge of everyday legal problems, and the ability to analyze, evaluate, and, in some situations, resolve legal disputes. This course addresses general problems in the areas of criminal and juvenile justice, torts, and consumer, family, and individual rights law. The course will also help the student become a better and more active citizen.
- \*\*\* **The Evolution of Popular Culture: 1955-2014**  
1 semester                      .5 credit  
**Elective.**  
**Open to juniors and seniors.**

The purpose of this course is to introduce students to popular culture, and the various strands that combine to make up this culture today. These strands will be studied in isolation as well as by examining how they act upon and interact with each other. The primary focus will be on the popular culture of the United States, and by necessity it will take on a global perspective. The dominant theme of the course is the ways in which culture remains “popular” by having successive generations “push back boundaries.” In the course of studying this material, students will be exposed to a variety of learning media: art, photography, advertising, literature, textbooks, music, film, television, and internet resources. It will combine such aspects of the social sciences as history, sociology, economics, political science, and geography. Students will be graded based upon written assignments, presentations, class contribution, and tests.

## *Technology*

iPad/Computer Applications is a required proficiency for all students beginning with the Class of 2015. To meet this requirement, a Computer Skills Proficiency Test or the Canvas Computer Skills Proficiency Module must be completed. Students who demonstrate proficiency must complete their .5 credit of technology courses through the other technology courses offered to meet graduation requirements. All technology courses require completion of Computer Skills Proficiency test or module as a prerequisite. Students may take Introduction to Digital Technology in lieu of Computer Skills Proficiency test or module.

### \*\*\* **Introduction to Digital Technology**

1 semester .5 credit

**Open to freshmen and sophomores.**

**Required: iPad, minimum 32GB flashdrive, and access to a laptop or desktop system at home.**

Introduction to Digital Technology is the foundational course for Web & Digital Communications, Programming, Information Support, and Digital Arts. This course is designed for students to understand, communicate, and adapt to a digital world as it impacts their life and world. Exposure to foundational knowledge in hardware, software, programming, and graphic design are all taught in a computer lab with hands-on activities and project focused tasks. Students will not only understand the concepts, but apply their knowledge to situations and defend their actions/decisions/choices through the knowledge and skills acquired in this course. Various forms of technologies will be explored. Communication skills and practices, problem-solving, ethical and legal issues, digital morality and the impact of effective presentation skills are taught. The knowledge and skills taught in this course build upon each other to form a comprehensive introduction to digital world and will prepare the students for further study in technology.

### \*\*\* **Digital Video**

1 semester .5 credit

**Required: A minimum 500GB USB passport drive.**

**Can be repeated for credit.**

This is a multi-level, continuation course that may be taken for up to four semesters. The course begins by laying the foundation for skills in shooting video, synthesizing composition, and producing video communications. Students will work with story planning, audio planning and recording, video editing, project scheduling, peer review, and redesign. As students advance through the course from semester to semester, they will build on design and development skills as well as more in-depth content and advanced editing, audio, and motion graphic techniques. They will develop video production skills that solve specific communication challenges and engage audiences and clients in creating videos, such as commercials, documentaries, PSAs, and scoreboard videos. Students develop a variety of videos focused on genres, such as an action video, a news story, and public service announcements. Student will be involved in creating videos for NDP events, including sporting events, Gala, Auction/Fashion Show, the website, and scoreboard. Students will be expected to attend functions that occur outside of the regular school day and on weekends.

### \*\*\* **Computer Graphics**

1 semester .5 credit

**Required: A minimum 32GB flash is recommended for this class.**

**Can be repeated once for credit.**



This course encourages students to use computer-based tools to explore creative uses of technology to produce fine art. Students learn Illustrator to create vector images and Photoshop to create various artistic and graphic images. When students complete the course, they will be able to take elements created in Illustrator and PhotoShop to create original artwork.

\*\*\* **AP Computer Science Principles**

2 semesters                      1 credit

**Prerequisites: Completion of Algebra 1.**

This course introduces students to the central ideas of computer science, instilling the ideas and practices of computational thinking and inviting students to understand how computing changes the world. The rigorous course promotes deep learning of computation content, develops computational thinking skills, and engages students in the creative aspects of the field. Students are encouraged to apply creative processes when developing computational artifacts and to think creatively while using simulations to explore question that interest them. Rather than teaching a particular programming language or tool, the course focuses on using technology and programming as a means to solve computational problems and create exciting and personally relevant artifacts. Students design and implement innovative solutions using a process similar to what artists, writers, computer scientists, and engineers use to bring ideas to life. *Students are required to complete the AP requirements, portfolio and test, in May and are responsible for all fees.*

\*\*\* **AP Computer Science**

2 semesters                      1 credit

**Open to juniors and seniors**

**Prerequisites: Students should have successfully completed one course in a programming language such as C, C++, Visual Basic .Net, or Java. Students should know how to edit, compile, and run a program.**

This course is a college level introduction to object-oriented programming in Java. Students will focus on a problem solving approach designed to focus attention on programming algorithms and data structures. Students will be fluent in the syntax and logic structures of the Java programming language as well as familiar with the Java API. Students will attempt difficult programming challenges, reflect on these exercises, and share their discoveries with their peers. This class will take up a lot of time, so it is recommended have room in their schedule for it. *Students are required to take the AP exam in May and are responsible for exam fees.*

\*\*\* **Introduction to Technical Drafting**

1 semester                      .5 credit

**Co-requisite: Geometry or Geometry Honors.**

Introduces fundamentals of drafting and basic drawing techniques. Students learn about topics that include geometrics, sectional views, and multi-view drawing. Students also study lettering, tolerance and dimensioning. Using the most recent version of Sketchup, students gain experience with computer drafting systems. Students will also use paper and cardboard to construct models of their designs.

\*\*\* **Yearbook 1**

2 semesters                      1 credit

**Elective. Open to juniors and seniors.**

**Prerequisite: Completion of Digital Photography or Computer Graphics and a B or better in all English classes. Students must have a basic knowledge of the computer.**

Students will learn and apply the principles of visual arts (composition, elements of visual arts, and design) and the elements of digital photography to the creation of the yearbook. During this course, students will learn and use *Adobe InDesign, Adobe Photoshop, and Jostens YearTech* to create assigned pages on a variety of subjects. Students must adhere to the principles of design and composition to create pleasing layouts for both pages describing events and for paid ads. Students must be able to complete pages within prescribed deadlines. Acceptance to Yearbook/Photojournalism is partially based on photographic and artistic abilities and English teachers' recommendations.

\*\*\* **Yearbook 2**

2 semesters                      1 credit

**Elective. Open to seniors only.**

**Prerequisite: Completion of Yearbook 1.**

Students will learn and apply the principles of visual arts (composition, elements of visual arts, and design) and the elements of digital photography to the creation of layouts to be used in a variety of school publications. During this course, students will learn and use *Adobe InDesign*, *Adobe Photoshop*, and *Jostens YearTech* to create assigned pages on a variety of subjects. Students must adhere to the principles of design and composition to create pleasing layouts for both pages describing events and for paid ads. This class will familiarize students with graphic design and layout principles used by professionals.

\*\*\* **C++ Programming - JVLA**

1 semester (Fall) .5 credit

**Open to sophomores, juniors, and seniors.**

This is a traditional programming course for the C++ programming language. The content of the course is categorized into seven modules: 1. Introduction to Programming and C++, 2. Creating Applications with C++, 3. Input, Variables, Constants and Calculations, 4. Making Decisions, 5. Loops, 6. General Procedures and Functions, 7. Lists, Standard Modules, Arrays and Files.

## *Theology*

*All students are required to take Theology each semester at Notre Dame Preparatory, in accordance with Diocesan school standards.*

\*\*\* **Theology 1**

2 semesters 1 credit

**1<sup>st</sup> semester The Revelation of Jesus Christ in Scripture (History of Scripture I)**

The purpose of the course is to give students a general knowledge and appreciation of Sacred Scripture. Through the study of the Bible, students will come to encounter the living Word of God, Jesus Christ. They will learn about the Bible, authored by God through Inspiration, and its value to people throughout the world. Students will learn how to read the Bible and will become familiar with the major sections of the Bible and the books included in each. They will pay particular attention to the Gospel so that they may grow to know and love Jesus Christ more personally.

**2<sup>nd</sup> semester Who Is Jesus Christ? (History of Scripture II)**

The purpose of the course is to introduce students to the mystery of Jesus Christ, the living Word of God, the Second Person of the Blessed Trinity. In this course students will understand that Jesus Christ is the fullness of revelation to us from God. In learning about who Jesus is, the students will also learn who He calls them to be.

\*\*\* **Theology 2**

2 semesters 1 credit

**1<sup>st</sup> semester The Mission of Jesus Christ (The Paschal Mystery)**

The purpose of the course is to help students understand all that God has done for us through His Son, Jesus Christ. Students will learn that for all eternity God has planned for us to share eternal happiness with Him and that this is brought about through the act of redemption. Students will learn further that they share in this redemption only in and through Jesus Christ. Finally, they will be introduced to what it means to be a disciple.

**2<sup>nd</sup> semester Jesus Christ's Mission Continues in the Church**

The purpose of the course is to help students understand that in and through the Church they encounter the living Jesus Christ. They will be introduced to the fact that the Church was founded by Christ through the Apostles and is sustained by Him through the Holy Spirit. The students will come to know that the Church is the living Body of Christ today. This Body has both divine and human elements. In this course, students will learn not so much about events in the life of the Church but about the sacred nature of the Church.

\*\*\* **Theology 3**

2 semesters 1 credit

**1<sup>st</sup> semester Sacraments as Privileged Encounters with Jesus Christ**

The purpose of the course is to help students understand that they can encounter Christ today in a full and real way in and through the sacraments, and especially through the Eucharist. Students will examine each of the sacraments in detail so as to learn how they may encounter Christ throughout life.

**2<sup>nd</sup> semester                      Responding to the Call of Jesus**

The purpose of the course is to help students understand the vocation of life: how Christ calls us to live. In this course, students will learn how all vocations are similar and how they differ. The course is structured around married life, single life, priestly life, and consecrated life. Students learn what it means to live life for the benefit of others and the value in considering a vocation in service to the Christian community.

\*\*\* **Theology 4**

2 semesters                      1 credit

**1<sup>st</sup> semester                      Catholic Church History**

The purpose of the course is to supply students with a general knowledge of the Church's history from apostolic times to the present. They will be introduced to the fact that the Church was founded by Christ through the Apostles and is sustained by Him throughout history through the Holy Spirit. The students will come to know that the Church is the living Body of Christ today and, as such, has both divine and human elements. Students will learn about the Church's 2,000 years of history and about how the Church is led and governed by the successors of the Apostles.

**2<sup>nd</sup> semester                      Life in Jesus Christ**

The purpose of this course is to help students understand that it is only through Christ that they can fully live out God's plan for their lives. Students are to learn the moral concepts and precepts that govern the lives of Christ's disciples.

\*\*\* **History of Christian Arts and Spirituality Honors**

1 semester                      .5 credit

**Elective.**

**Open to juniors and seniors.**

**Prerequisite: An A- or better in Theology and an A- in English or Social Studies.**

This is a humanities course that presents a historical overview of Christian spirituality as it is exemplified through art, architecture, literature, music, and theatre and film. Students will explore and investigate eight major time periods of spiritual growth and renewal in Christian history, including the pre-Constantine period of persecution, the Celtic monastic movement, Franciscan and Jesuit spirituality in the Americas, and St. John Paul II's New Evangelization. This course uses historical research as a means to explore personal spiritual growth via technology and multi-media. Artistic talent is not necessary for successful completion of this course. This course is reading and research intensive.

\*\*\* **Social Justice (Christian Response to Social Issues)**

1 semester                      .5 credit

**Elective.**

**Open to sophomores, juniors, and seniors.**

**Required: Students must have their own transportation to attend Christian Service opportunities after school and on weekends. Students will meet some Christian Service requirements through this class.**

This course presents a basic overview of Catholic Social Teaching according to the documents of the church. This course will immerse students in God's vision of justice to help students find God in their pursuit of justice. It will foster student's sense of compassion for those who suffer from injustice. It will enable students to critically examine society according to the criteria of justice.

\*\*\* **World Religions**

1 semester                      .5 credit

**Elective.**

**Open to juniors and seniors.**

In keeping with the Vatican Council II *Declaration on the Relationship of the Church to Non-Christian Religions*, this course will provide an overview of the religious beliefs of some of the major faiths of the world. The

emphasis will be on understanding the beliefs of the world's people and how they came to accept those beliefs as truth. Students will be given the opportunity to discuss various world religions in a comparative context with Roman Catholicism. In addition, the student will be influenced in areas of art, literature, politics, and human relations.

\*\*\* **Ignatian Discernment: The Art of Finding Your Way – JVLA**

1 semester (Fall) .5 credit

*This course is provided by Seattle University's Matteo Ricci College in partnership with the JVLA.*

**Elective.**

**Open to seniors only.**

How can you trust that the choices you make are authentically your own? What forces internal and external influence your decisions? What does it mean to make whole-hearted choices? This course is designed to strengthen students' skills of self-awareness and critical decision-making. They will be challenged to express themselves clearly and coherently in written and oral online formats while exploring the practices of self-examination and discernment central to the Jesuit spiritual and educational tradition. Students will be asked to apply learned skills in their own decision-making while engaging diverse discernment scenarios. Particular attention will be given to the relationship between making decisions and seeking meaning in one's life, the obstacles and aids to effective discernment, and the foundational discernment of vocation.

**OF SPECIAL NOTE:** Students who successfully complete the Discernment course will be eligible to apply to Seattle U for a spot in the exclusive 3-year Bachelor of Arts in Humanities with an option to earn a second degree, not a double major. The advantages are many with NO drawbacks. See website and click on "Bachelor of Arts Humanities for Consortium Students" - <http://www.seattleu.edu/matteo-ricci/>.

\*\*\* **Science and Religion - JVLA**

1 semester (Fall) .5 credit

**Elective.**

**Open to juniors and seniors.**

This course will analyze the historical and contemporary dialogue between religion and science through various theological, psychological and biological perspectives. From a philosophical viewpoint, various questions surrounding human nature will be addressed through the social sciences: What does it mean to be religious in a scientific age? Is human nature genetically determined or socially constructed? Are free will and determinism mutually exclusive concepts? Is evolution compatible with a humanity made in the image of God? Students will foster an appreciation for integrating what we believe with what we can prove while developing a research position paper on a contemporary issue of religion and science. Topics will include the anthropology of John Paul II; scientific factors in moral development; the debate between intelligent design theory and evolutionary biology; the moral challenges posed by genetic research; and how Catholicism has sought to integrate recent scientific advancements.

\*\*\* **Bioethics – JVLA**

1 semester (Spring) .5 credit

**Elective.**

**Open to juniors and seniors.**

This course is a general introduction to ethical theory and reasoning and its application to a number of hot current world issues, with particular emphasis on bioethics (moral dilemmas of modern biological and medical fields). It begins by addressing the question, why do ethics and moral decision making matter at all in a world we see operating so frequently without them? It surveys major ethical paradigms (common-good ethics, rights ethics, virtue ethics, and ethical relativism) and considers how each can help and hinder our pilgrimage to responsible, life giving choices for us and for our larger human family. Respectful consideration of opposing viewpoints, including the official teachings of the Catholic Church, is a hallmark of the course. By the end of the course, students should be able to manage some real cases on a committee of fellow ethicists using the vocabulary germane to ethicists in hospitals today. Learn more here, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Nxa0CC5Cs2M>.

\*\*\* **Living as a Disciple of Jesus Christ in Society (USCCB Framework: Option C) – JVLA summer only; remediation**

1 semester (Fall) .5 credit

**Elective.**

**Open to juniors and seniors.**

The purpose of this course is to introduce students to the Church's social teaching. Students are to learn how Christ's concern for others, especially the poor and needy, is present today in the Church's social teaching and mission.

\*\*\* **Responding to the Call of Jesus Christ (USCCB Framework: Option D) – JVLA summer only; remediation**

1 semester (Spring) .5 credit

**Elective.**

**Open to juniors and seniors.**

The purpose of this course is to help students understand the vocations of life: how Christ calls us to live. Students learn how all vocations are similar and how they differ. The course examines married life, single life, priestly life, and consecrated life. Students learn what it means to live life for the benefit of others and the value in considering a vocation in service to the Christian community.

\*\*\* **Ecumenical and Interreligious Issues (USCCB Framework: Option E.) – JVLA summer only; remediation**

1 semester (Spring) .5 credit

**Elective.**

**Open to juniors and seniors.**

The purpose of this course is to help students understand the manner in which the Catholic Church relates to non-Catholic Christians as well as to other religions of the world. Building on the foundational truth that Jesus Christ established the Catholic Church and entrusted to her the fullness of God's revelation the course helps students recognize the ways in which important spiritual truths can also be found in non-Catholic Christian churches and ecclesial communities as well as in non-Christian religions. It also helps students recognize the ways in which other systems of belief and practice differ from the Catholic faith.

## *World Languages*

\*\*\* **French 1**

2 semesters 1 credit

**Placement determined by admissions portfolio.**

French 1 uses a multi-media approach to meet the National Communicative Standards for World Languages. Through the development of listening skills, the student begins to converse in the French language. Listening, speaking, reading, writing, and responding exercises are based on communicative objectives. Cultural narratives help the student learn about the customs and ideas of foreign culture. The text is supplemented by two workbooks.

\*\*\* **French 2**

2 semesters 1 credit

**Prerequisite: Completion of French 1 or admissions portfolio.**

French 2 students continue to develop skills in listening, speaking, reading and writing, allowing them to express themselves more freely in the oral and written skills of the target language. There are continued multi-media components that meet national standards. Each chapter has communicative objectives. Added cultural notes and supplements will allow students to become familiar with dress, customs, and value systems through broadening their realm of experience. The text is supplemented by two workbooks. Students will be required to purchase supplementary materials.

\*\*\* **French 3 Honors**

**Dual Enrollment option**

2 semesters 1 credit

**Prerequisite: Completion of French 2.**

French 3 students continue to develop skills in listening, speaking, reading and writing, practicing these skills at an accelerated pace. This course is intended for students who plan to continue studies in French after the third

year. A literature component is introduced, and a stronger focus is placed on written expression. Instruction is mostly in French, and students are expected to build to an intermediate level of fluency. Students will be required to purchase supplementary materials.

\*\*\* **French 4 Honors – Language, Literature, and Culture**

**Dual Enrollment option**

2 semesters                      1 credit

**Prerequisite: Completion of French 3 Honors.**

This class will incorporate language learning and the culture of French and Francophone countries. Students will also be required to read works written in French and Francophone novels in translation in order to better understand Francophone culture. Students will be required to speak French during class.

\*\*\* **AP French – Language**

**Dual Enrollment option**

2 semesters                      1 credit

**Prerequisite: Completion of French 3 Honors with a B+ or better.**

The AP French course is part of the Advanced Placement Program sponsored by the College Board. Students in this course are engaged in learning a strict and intensive regime of practice of speaking, reading comprehension, and writing. Students will learn to write well-organized compositions on a variety of subjects. The French AP class is *conducted entirely in French*, and students will be expected to actively participate. In addition, students will continue to review vocabulary used in everyday situations and study intricate grammatical structures necessary for the AP exam. *Students are required to take the AP exam in May and are responsible for exam fees.*

\*\*\* **Spanish 1**

2 semesters                      1 credit

**Placement determined by admissions portfolio and World Language placement test results.**

Spanish uses a multi-media approach to meet the National Communicative Standards for World Languages. Through the development of listening skills, the student begins to converse in the foreign language. Listening, speaking, reading, writing, and responding exercises are based on communicative objectives. Cultural narratives help the student learn about the customs and ideas of foreign culture.

\*\*\* **Spanish 1 Honors**

2 semesters                      1 credit

**Placement determined by admissions portfolio and World Language placement test results.**

Students will develop skills in listening, speaking, reading, and writing, allowing them to express themselves more freely in the oral and written skills of the target language and at higher levels. There are continued multi-media components that meet national standards. Each unit has rigorous communicative objectives. Added cultural notes and supplements will allow students to become familiar with dress, customs, and value systems through broadening their realm of experience.

\*\*\* **Spanish 2**

2 semesters                      1 credit

**Prerequisite: Completion of Spanish 1.**

Students continue to develop skills in listening, speaking, reading, and writing, allowing them to express themselves more freely in the oral and written skills of the target language. There are continued multi-media components that meet national standards. Each chapter has communicative objectives. Added cultural notes and supplements will allow students to become familiar with dress, customs, and value systems through broadening their realm of experience.

\*\*\* **Spanish 2 Honors**

2 semesters                      1 credit

**Prerequisite: Completion of Spanish 1 Honors with a B or better or Spanish 1 with an A- or better and skills assessment.**

Students continue to develop skills in listening, speaking, reading, and writing, allowing them to express themselves more freely in the oral and written skills of the target language and at higher levels. There are continued multi-media components that meet national standards. Each chapter has rigorous communicative objectives. Added cultural notes and supplements will allow students to become familiar with dress, customs, and value systems through broadening their realm of experience.

\*\*\* **Spanish 3**

2 semesters 1 credit

**Prerequisite: Completion of Spanish 2.**

In this course, the student achieves a conversational level of fluency in the language. A greater variety of reading selections are discussed in the target language according to the student's ability. Opportunities for enjoyment of the customs, ideas, and heritage increase. Several personalities and celebrities of the Spanish-speaking world are presented in this course. Students will be able to compare and contrast the different customs and celebrations within the Hispanic world. Literature is also introduced at this level, while continuing to use multi-media components.

\*\*\* **Spanish 3 Honors**

2 semesters 1 credit

**Prerequisite: Completion of Spanish 2 Honors with a B or better or Spanish 2 with an A- or better and skills assessment.**

This course moves faster than Spanish 3 and has added literature and grammar opportunities. In this course, the student achieves a higher conversational level of fluency in the language. A greater variety of reading selections are discussed in the target language according to the student's ability. Opportunities for enjoyment of the customs, ideas, and heritage increase. Several personalities and celebrities of the Spanish-speaking world are presented in this course. Students will be able to compare and contrast the different customs and celebrations within the Hispanic world. Literature is also introduced at this level, while continuing to use multi-media components.

\*\*\* **Spanish 4**

2 semesters 1 credit

**Prerequisite: Completion of Spanish 3.**

In this course, all communication skills are enhanced and comprehensively developed in the target language. Students at this level are required to speak, understand spoken Spanish, and to read and write at the Advanced-Intermediate level as defined by the National Foreign Language Standards. The students will learn more advanced verb tenses, like the subjunctive, and they will study more advanced vocabulary as well. The textbook is supplemented with two workbooks.

\*\*\* **AP Spanish - Language  
Dual Enrollment option**

2 semesters 1 credit

**Prerequisite: Completion of Spanish 3 Honors or Spanish 4 Honors.**

The AP Spanish course is part of the Advanced Placement Program sponsored by the College Board. Students in this course are engaged in a strict and intensive regimen of practice of speaking, reading comprehension, listening comprehension, and writing. They will learn to write well-planned compositions on a variety of subjects. Students participate regularly in discussions of current events and ideas. In addition, students will continue to review vocabulary used in everyday situations and study intricate grammatical structures necessary for the AP exam. *Students are required to take the AP exam in May and are responsible for exam fees.*

\*\*\* **AP Spanish Literature and Culture**

2 semesters 1 credit

**Open to juniors and seniors.**

**Prerequisite: Completion of AP Spanish Language with a B or better.**

Following the College Board curriculum, this course is "designed to provide students with a learning experience equivalent to that of an introductory college course in literature written in Spanish. The course introduces students to the formal study of a representative body of texts from Peninsular Spanish, Latin American, and U.S. Hispanic

literature. The course provides opportunities for students to demonstrate their proficiency in Spanish across the three modes of communication (interpersonal, interpretive, and presentational) and the five goal areas (communication, cultures, connections, comparisons, and communities) outlined in the Standards for Foreign Language Learning in the 21st Century. The overarching aims of the course are to provide students with ongoing and varied opportunities to further develop their proficiencies across the full range of language skills — with special attention to critical reading and analytical writing — and to encourage them to reflect on the many voices and cultures included in a rich and diverse body of literature written in Spanish.” *Students are required to take the AP exam in May and are responsible for exam fees.*

\*\*\* **Arabic Level 1 - JVLA**

2 semesters                      1 credit

**Open to sophomores, juniors and seniors.**

**Required: Approval of Assistant Principal for Academic Affairs.**

This yearlong course (for students with little or no prior knowledge of Arabic) combines the study of the Arab language with an introduction to Arab-speaking cultures. Students will gain practical experience in speaking Arabic with proper pronunciation to acquire basic conversational skills on topics, such as, greetings, shopping, and travel. Moving from English language-centered to an Arabic-centered class, students will learn basic vocabulary and sentence patterns used in daily life and social interaction. Cultural notes will be given along with speaking practice necessary for interpersonal communication.

\*\*\* **Arabic Level 2 – JVLA**

2 semesters                      1 credit

**Open to sophomores, juniors and seniors.**

**Prerequisite: Arabic Level 1 or equivalent.**

**Required: Approval of Assistant Principal for Academic Affairs.**

Arabic Level 2 builds on the grammar, writing, and conversational skills established in Arabic Level 1.

\*\*\* **Chinese Mandarin Level 1 – JVLA**

2 semesters                      1 credit

**Open to sophomores, juniors and seniors.**

**Required: Approval of Assistant Principal for Academic Affairs.**

This course combines the study of the Chinese language with an introduction to Chinese culture. Students will gain practical experience in speaking Mandarin with proper pronunciation using the pinyin system to acquire basic conversational skills. Students will learn basic vocabulary and sentence patterns used in daily life and social interaction. Culture notes will be given along with speaking practice necessary for interpersonal communication. In addition, a certain amount of Chinese written characters are studied with a fun approach.

\*\*\* **Chinese Mandarin Level 2 – JVLA**

2 semesters                      1 credit

**Open to sophomores, juniors and seniors.**

**Prerequisite: Chinese Mandarin Level 1 or equivalent.**

**Required: Approval of Assistant Principal for Academic Affairs.**

Mandarin Level 2 builds on the grammar, writing, and conversational skills established in Mandarin Level 1.

\*\*\* **Italian Level 1 – JVLA**

2 semesters                      1 credit

**Required: Approval of Assistant Principal for Academic Affairs.**

Introduction to the basics of conversational Italian, including nouns, regular and irregular verbs, and basic conversations from Italian to English and English to Italian. This course will be team taught with by an Italian teacher in the United States and an English teacher in Italy. Students will communicate in Italian with native speakers in Italy. Successful completion of Italian 1 is a prerequisite for admission into Italian 2, 3, and AP Italian.

\*\*\* **Italian Level 2 – JVLA**



2 semesters                      1 credit

**Prerequisites: Italian Level 1 or equivalent.**

**Required: Approval of Assistant Principal for Academic Affairs.**

This course provides a quick overview of grammar, comprehension, and conversation skills covered in Italian Level 1, and then moves into intermediate grammar and vocabulary. This course offers students the opportunity to practice their Italian with native speakers.

## *Other Elective Courses*

**\*\*\* Christian Leadership**

1 semester                      .5 credit

**Open to all students.**

This class is open to all students who want to pursue the National Association of Student Councils Certified Student Leader Program (NASC CSLP) certificate. Emphasis in this class will be on learning and developing leadership skills, such as leadership qualities, goal setting, team building, problem solving, communication, time management, and decision making. This will allow students to enhance the skills they learn based on six themes of Christian leadership: leadership styles, listening skills, conflict resolution, trust and responsibility, leadership and disciples, and planning and strategy. Students will complete the NASC portfolio in this class.

**\*\*\* Office Aide/ Teacher Assistant**

1 semester                      0 credit

**Open to sophomores, juniors, and seniors with a 3.0 unweighted GPA or higher. Must be responsible and self-motivated individuals in good standing.**

**Can be repeated.**

**Required: For Teacher Assistants, must be coordinated with teacher in advance of scheduling.**

Office Aides and Teacher Assistants serve Notre Dame Prep teachers and staff by carrying out tasks, such as assisting with clerical work, posting and delivering messages, running errands, organizing documents. Students will help in various locations, depending on need. Students receive a Pass/Fail grade. Student may not enroll in a study hall during the same semester.

**\*\*\* Academic Tutor**

1 semester                      .5 credit

**Open to juniors and seniors with a 3.5 unweighted GPA or higher.**

**Application and approval.**

**Required: Must be coordinated with teacher in advance of scheduling.**

The student/teacher arrangement must be planned before registration with the teacher communicating to the Counseling Department that he/she would like the student to be an Academic Tutor. Students who assist as an Academic Tutor will tutor individuals as well as small groups in areas that they have previously studied and have some expertise. By helping others, student tutors will practice skills and concepts they have learned, thereby strengthening their own understanding. Students receive a Pass/Fail grade. Assignment is based on only one TA per teacher, when the teacher has an assigned class. Student may not enroll in a study hall during the same semester. If the arrangement is not feasible due to the scheduling of academic classes, then the student cannot be a TA.

**\*\*\* Free Period**

1 semester                      0 credit

**Seniors only.**

Seniors may elect to take A or H period as a free period with the approval of parents and counselor. Only one per semester. This may not be taken concurrently with a study hall or non-credit bearing courses such as Office Aide.

**\*\*\* Study Hall**

1 semester                      0 credit

Students may elect to take a study hall each semester. This course is not taken for credit but allows students to work on homework or other assignments. Students are expected to keep busy the entire period, and teachers assigned will maintain a quiet environment for study.

## Appendix

\*\*\* **Web Design 1 – Not offered**

1 semester .5 credit

This course is an overview of website design principles built around the production of multiple websites. The course will include HTML & CSS tags and codes including tables, forms, images, links and multimedia. The objectives of this course are to help students understand the principles of web page layout and design, to help them learn to use graphical user interface applications to create a web page/site, to help them see the ways the digital world is changing our society, to help them learn the ethics of technology use and to provide them with business like situations in web design.

\*\*\* **Web Design 2 – Not offered**

1 semester .5 credit

**Prerequisite: Web Design 1**

Students may repeat the course to work on creating a live website that will be owned by the student to use even after they have graduated from NDP. The yearly cost will cover the site domain & hosting and will vary upon the type of website the student creates. Students create personal sites to promote their athletics, academics or activities that could assist them with standing out to colleges. To get acceptance to retake this course, the student must discuss with the teacher prior to class approval on their goal for a website. All websites created will be monitored by the instructor daily. Further continuation of this course will teach the student Google analytics, SEO, creating web ads, online marketing skills, social media and monitoring/promoting of a live site.

\*\*\* **Christian Literature: C.S. Lewis – Not offered**

1 semester .5 credit

**Elective. Open to sophomores, juniors, and seniors.**

Students will explore the writing of C.S. Lewis, both fiction and non-fiction. They will analyze the theology presented through his writings. Students will read several of Lewis's works and actively engage in discussions and analysis of the personal theology that is developed through Lewis's own conversion and devotion to Christianity.

\*\*\* **Introduction to Mythology – Not offered**

1 semester .5 credit

**Elective. Open to sophomores, juniors, and seniors.**

This course is an introduction to various myths that have influenced the Western World. Participants will begin by examining the term *myth* itself to gain understanding on what a *myth* is and how *myth* informs various aspects of culture. The course will focus on seminal myths, providing participants an opportunity to learn the names and relationships of the gods and goddesses, the plots of significant myths, and the various cosmologies of the universe. In addition, participants will examine how these various myths have impacted Western culture. This class is designed for those students who have an interest in the both the study of stories and in the discovery of origins (words and ideas). This course might also be of interest to students who plan to take Honors or Advanced Placement English courses since it will provide them with a foundation on those elements from mythology frequently alluded to by poets and authors.

\*\*\* **Introduction to Science Fiction – Not offered**

1 semester .5 credit

**Elective. Open to sophomores, juniors, and seniors.**

This course is designed to introduce students to the genre of science fiction by investigating its origins and development, by studying its well-known authors, and by exploring its various forms (hard sci-fi, soft sci-fi, and fantasy). By analyzing both written and visual texts, participants will discover and discuss the issues with which

science fiction has concerned and continues to concern itself today. Participants will also analyze the mythic impact science fiction has on contemporary culture. This course is designed for those students interested in reading and discussing works of science fiction and for those students who enjoy exploring and discussing issues found in science fiction.

\*\*\* **Physical Geology – Not offered**

2 semesters                      1 credit

**Prerequisite: Completion of Biology.**

Students will explore the physical composition of our world and the natural processes that shape our planet through scientific critical thinking applications. The major topics covered are Earth materials, geologic processes and structures, geologic time, and topographic mapping. Oral reports, labs, projects, and research papers are incorporated into this course.

\*\*\* **Environmental Science – Not offered**

2 semesters                      1 credit

**Prerequisite: Completion of Biology and Chemistry.**

Students will be presented with an environmental approach to evaluating our Earth's natural resources through scientific critical thinking application. The importance of environmental responsibility to ensure future sustainability will be a strong theme throughout this course. The major topics covered are basic ecology, society and our environment, renewable and non-renewable natural resources, mining and mineral resources, waste, pollution, conservation, and stewardship of the environment. Oral presentations, labs, projects, and research papers are incorporated into this course.

\*\*\* **AP Environmental Science – Not offered**

2 semesters                      1 credit

**Prerequisite: Completion of Biology and Chemistry with an A- or better in each or Biology Honors and Chemistry Honors with a B+ or better.**

Students will use scientific principles, concepts, and methodologies to understand the interrelationships of the natural world, to identify and analyze environmental problems both natural and human-made, to evaluate the relative risks associated with these problems, and to examine alternative solutions for resolving or preventing them. As environmental science is interdisciplinary, a wide variety of topics from different areas of study will be examined, including earth systems, the living world, ecology, natural resources, energy resources, natural resource consumption, and pollution. Oral and written reports and laboratory experiments are incorporated into this course. *Students are required to take the AP exam in May and are responsible for exam fees.*