

**THE HIGH SCHOOL OF  
SAINT THOMAS MORE**  
Course Descriptions  
2018-2019

**Fine Arts Department**

**Art I**

**1 Credit – Year**

**Prerequisite: None**

**Grade 9, 10, 11, 12**

This survey course will introduce the students to a wide variety of art styles and movements in visual art, the skill of art criticism and a broad selection of media and techniques. Each student will understand the vocabulary of art and apply this vocabulary in their studio art, class discussion, and in writing. Throughout the course, students will learn to recognize major styles and artists throughout time and in many world cultures. Studio art lessons will introduce students to drawing, painting, sculpture, architecture, calligraphy and other media. This course is a critical foundation for students who want to explore their interest in art, develop their art skills or go on to take any of the other art courses.

**Two-Dimensional Art (Art II)(1<sup>st</sup> Semester)**

**½ Credit – One Semester**

**Prerequisite: Art I**

**Grades 10, 11, 12**

This course will consist of a more in-depth study of several art media in two-dimensional art. Two-dimensional art will include drawing, painting and digital art with several types of paint media, digital collage and printmaking. With each art lesson students will critique their work using the vocabulary of art and design to discuss their pieces. The study of art history will accompany each medium in focus and there will be a written research project during the semester. Those students seriously interested in attending a college/university fine arts school will begin preparation of slides of their work for future portfolio use.

**Three-Dimensional Art(Art II) (2<sup>nd</sup> Semester)**

**½ Credit – One Semester**

**Prerequisite: Art I**

**Grade 10, 11, 12**

Although this is a continuation of the first semester of Art II, it may be taken independently. This course will consist of a more in-depth study of 3-dimensional art media. Three-dimensional art will include sculpture in traditional media such as clay, plaster and wire as well as non-traditional media. With each art lesson, students will critique their work using the vocabulary of art to discuss their pieces and there will be one research project. Those students seriously interested in attending some college/university fine arts school will begin preparation of slides of their work for future portfolio use.

**Portfolio Creation**

**½ Credit – One Semester – can be taken twice for credit within a year(an additional year can be taken if student is enrolled in AP 2D Design)**

**Prerequisite: Art II, Ceramics II or concurrently enrolled in AP 2D Design**

**Grade 11 or 12**

In the Portfolio Creation course the study of art media will be conducted within an independent study format combined with assigned projects that will assist in building a strong portfolio. The student intensively seeks advanced skills in a medium or media of his/her personal choice with supervision from the instructor. A contract will be developed and signed by both the student and the instructor. Critiques with all students will closely resemble the college/ university format in an effort to prepare students for future experiences in the fine arts profession. This course is for serious art students who are interested in a career in the arts and going to art school.

## **AP 2D Design Studio Art**

**1 Credit - Year**

**Prerequisite: Art II, Portfolio or Ceramics II and Permission of instructor**

**Grade: 12**

This Advanced Placement course is intended to address a very broad interpretation of two-dimensional design issues. This type of design involves purposeful decision-making about how to use the elements and principles of art in an integrative way. It is for the advanced student who wished to seek AP credit through submitting a portfolio of work for consideration by the College Board and has an interest in studying art in college. Each student will develop a portfolio containing an artist's statement, a diverse range of works of art that demonstrates an area of concentrated development and to prepare a college level portfolio. Students will create and compile a body of work and create a format for presenting that work to colleges, prospective employers, galleries and art competitions.

## **Applied Arts**

**1 Credit – Year / ½ Credit – One Semester**

**Prerequisite: None**

**Grade: Any**

This course is a survey of different Applied Arts in which students apply knowledge of design and aesthetics to functional objects. They will learn media, techniques and history in a variety of crafts including ceramics, weaving, leather tooling, wood craft, copper tooling and basket weaving, among others. Design elements and principles will be integrated into the content to help students create satisfying work as well as develop appreciation of art.

## **Ceramics I**

**1 Credit – Year**

**Prerequisite: None**

**Grade: 9,10, 11, 12**

This course is a basic introduction to the processes, terminology and history of ceramics. Students will learn and apply hand building techniques, wheel throwing, glaze application techniques, ceramics vocabulary, and the history of clay in art and society. Design elements and principles will be emphasized, helping students to integrate technical production skills with aesthetic decision making in order to create a unified work of art. Opportunities will be available for students to display their work and develop a better understanding of ceramics and pottery as works of art as well as functional objects.

## **Ceramics II**

**1 Credit – Year**

**Prerequisite: Ceramics I**

**Grade: 10, 11, 12**

Ceramics II is an advanced course that will expand upon skills developed in Ceramics I. Students will work on creating pieces in series and sets as well as exploring personally expressive directions in clay. Experimentation with clay, glazes, and ceramic techniques will be encouraged as students explore design relationships in the construction and decoration of three-dimensional forms. They will also develop more in-depth understanding and skill with kilns, wheels and other studio equipment. Students will also observe the work of professional potters and private clay workers as well as research the works of modern ceramic artists.

## **Introduction to Singing-Concert Choir**

**1 Credit – Year**

**Prerequisite: None**

**Grade 9, 10, 11, 12**

This class is designed for students who wish to learn the skills necessary to sing in a confident and healthy manner. Students will learn the basic of music theory that is necessary for reading music to sing and interpret music. Students will also learn how to analyze and interpret lyrics and music to reinforce reading comprehension skills. Students will study music primarily from three different genres: Traditional/Classical, Jazz/Show tunes, and Pop/Musical Theater. Pieces of Hispanic influence will also be programmed to reinforce studies and culture points for students taking Spanish classes. Outside requirements include a fall, winter, and spring concert, performance in Solo and Ensemble, field trip to Chicago to see a live performance at the Lyric Opera, and some light homework and practicing outside of class

## **Advanced Concert Choir**

**1 Credit- Year**

**Prerequisite: Any Introductory Course**

**Grade 10, 11, 12**

Students that wish to take this course will engage in deeper musical understanding and learn more advanced music theory. Students will learn concepts that allow them to compose music on a higher level, analyze music by ear and sight, reinforce mathematical knowledge through principles and applications of chords, and learn leadership skills within an ensemble. Class will be combined with Introduction to Concert Choir but extra work--primarily online and outside of class--will be expected.

## **Concert Band**

**1 Credit – Year**

**Prerequisite: None**

**Grade 9, 10, 11, 12**

This is a non-audition band consisting of students in grades 9 through 12. The band performs a wide variety of music including traditional concert literature, current and classic rock/pop music for Pep Band, and occasionally some jazz. Students will develop the fundamentals of playing their instruments, as well as improve on individual technique, musicality, and playing as an ensemble. Playing tests are given throughout each quarter to assess each student's ability to play his/her assigned part. Individuals are given opportunities to perform with large festival groups (some of which require auditions), as well as solos and ensembles. **As a performance class the majority of work is done in class. However, attendance at all concert, contests, and performances is mandatory. There are generally only three major concerts throughout the entire year.**

## **Advanced Concert Band**

**1 Credit- Year**

**Prerequisite: Concert Band**

**Grade 10,11,12**

Students that wish to take this course will engage in deeper musical understanding and learn more advanced music theory. Students may also have the option to learn a secondary instrument as another opportunity to apply their skills and to make them more marketable to colleges. Students will learn concepts that allow them to compose music on a higher level, analyze music by ear and sight, reinforce mathematical knowledge through principles and applications of chords, and learn leadership skills within an ensemble. Class will be combined with Concert Band but extra work--primarily online and outside of class--will be expected.

## **Introduction to Percussion I**

**1 Credit – Year**

**Prerequisite: None**

**Grade 9, 10, 11, 12**

This class is designed for students who wish to learn the skills necessary to play various Percussion Instruments. Students will be introduced to Percussion by playing Snare Drum, Keyboard Percussion (Mallets/Xylophone), Concert Percussion, Accessory Instruments, Cultural Percussion Instruments, and Drum Set. Students will learn the basic of music theory that is necessary for reading music to play percussion. Students will also learn basic compositional skills and experience various genres of percussion music. Outside requirements include a fall, winter, and spring concert, performance in Solo and Ensemble, Drumline performances at home football games, field trip to Chicago to see a live performance at the Lyric Opera, and some light homework and practicing outside of class.

## **Percussion II**

**1 Credit – Year**

**Prerequisite: Successful completion of Percussion I or Teacher Recommendation (Must be completed prior to registration)**

**Grade 10, 11, 12**

This class is designed for students that wish to continue their studies of their Band or Percussion instruments. Students will continue their studies by learning how to select music and experiencing various genres and style of music as well as more advanced pieces based on the skills they are working to develop. Pieces of Hispanic influence will also be programed to reinforce studies and culture points for students taking Spanish classes. Opportunities to develop interpersonal and leadership skills will be available through group activities and rehearsing within sections/groups. Outside requirements include a fall, winter, and spring concert, performance in Solo and Ensemble, Organizational Contest, and Drumline performances at home football games (Percussion only), field trip to Chicago to see a live performance at the Lyric Opera, and some light homework and practicing outside of class. School instruments are available per request.

## **Advanced Percussion**

**1 Credit- Year**

**Prerequisite: Successful completion of Percussion II**

**Grade: 11,12**

Students that wish to take this course will engage in deeper musical understanding and learn more advanced music theory. Students may also have the option to learn a secondary instrument as another opportunity to apply their skills and to make them more marketable to colleges. Students will learn concepts that allow them to compose music on a higher level, analyze music by ear and sight, reinforce mathematical knowledge through principles and applications of chords, and learn leadership skills within an ensemble. Class will be combined with Percussion II but extra work--primarily online and outside of class--will be expected.

## **Introduction to Guitar**

**1 Credit - Year**

**Prerequisite: - None**

**Grade: 9, 10, 11, 12**

This class is designed for students who wish to learn the skills necessary to play acoustic guitar. Students will be introduced to guitar by playing the Bass Guitar, Acoustic, and Electric Guitar. Students will learn the basic of music theory that is necessary for reading music to play guitar. Students will also learn basic compositional skills and experience various genres of guitar music. Outside requirements include a fall and spring concert, performance in Solo and Ensemble, field trip to Chicago to see a live performance at the Lyric Opera, and some light homework and practicing outside of class. Students are not required to have a guitar to take this class.

## **Guitar Ensemble- Guitar II**

**1 Credit- Year**

**Prerequisite: - Successful Completion of Introduction to Guitar**

**Grade: 10, 11, 12**

This class is designed for students who wish to continue studying guitar. Students will play in an ensemble setting. Students will continue their studies of guitar by playing larger pieces as a group. Opportunities to develop individual skills will be available through units in which we will focus on solo and small group pieces. Students will focus more on applying music theory knowledge from Guitar I through composition and simple analysis of guitar repertoire. Students will also experience various genres of guitar music including pieces of Hispanic influence to reinforce studies and culture points for students taking Spanish classes. Students will perform primarily on Acoustic Guitar but will have some opportunities perform on Bass and Electric Guitar. Outside requirements include a fall and spring concert, performance in Solo and Ensemble, field trip to Chicago to see a live performance at the Lyric Opera, and some light homework and practicing outside of class. Students are not required to have a guitar to take this class.

## **Advanced Guitar**

**1 Credit- Year**

**Prerequisite: Successful completion of Guitar II**

**Grade: 11, 12**

Students that wish to take this course will engage in deeper musical understanding and learn more advanced music theory. Students will learn concepts that allow them to compose music on a higher level, analyze music by ear and sight, reinforce mathematical knowledge through principles and applications of chords, and learn leadership skills within an ensemble. Class will be combined with Guitar II but extra work--primarily online and outside of class--will be expected.

## **Piano I**

**1 Credit – Year**

**Prerequisite: - None - Purchase Copy of Faber Adult Piano Adventures - All in One Course Book #1 - No CD or DVD. - ISBN-13 - 9781616773021**

**Grade: 9, 10, 11, 12**

This class is designed for students who wish to learn the skills necessary to play piano. Students will be introduced to piano through various exercises, techniques, and pieces. Students will learn the basics of music theory that are necessary for reading music to play piano. Students will also learn basic compositional skills and experience various genres of piano music. Outside requirements include a fall and spring concert, performance in Solo and Ensemble, field trip to Chicago to see a live performance at the Lyric Opera, and some light homework and practicing outside of class. Students are not required to have a piano to take this class.

## **Piano Study - Piano II**

**1 Credit - Year**

**Prerequisite: - Successful Completion of Piano I**

**Grade: 10, 11, 12**

This class is designed for students who wish to continue their studies in piano. Students will continue their studies of piano by learning how to select music and experiencing larger and more advanced pieces based on the skills they are working to develop. Opportunities to develop interpersonal and leadership skills will be available in units that will focus on partner songs. Students will focus more on applying music theory knowledge from Piano I through composition and simple analysis of piano repertoire. Students will also experience various genres of piano music including pieces of Hispanic influence to reinforce studies and culture points for students taking Spanish classes. Students will primarily perform individually but will have some opportunities to perform with partners and with Choir and Band Ensembles. Outside requirements include a fall, winter, and spring concert, performance in Solo and Ensemble, field trip to Chicago to see a live performance at the Lyric Opera, and some light homework and practicing outside of class. Students are not required to have a piano to take this class.

## **Advanced Piano**

**1 Credit - Year**

**Prerequisite: Successful Completion of Piano II**

**Grade 11,12**

Students that wish to take this course will engage in deeper musical understanding and learn more advanced music theory. Students will learn concepts that allow them to compose music on a higher level, analyze music by ear and sight, reinforce mathematical knowledge through principles and applications of chords, and learn leadership skills within an ensemble. Class will be combined with Piano II but extra work--primarily online and outside of class--will be expected.

## **Advanced Placement Music Theory**

**1 Credit – Year**

**Prerequisite: Advanced Option of any Music Class and Teacher recommendation**

**Grade: 10, 11, 12**

This class is designed for students who wish to take an equivalent to a college level music theory class. Content will cover the identification, performance, writing, and auditory analysis of music. Specific units will cover Musical Terminology, Notational Skills, Basic Compositional Skills, Score Analysis, and Aural Skills. Students will also experience and analyze music from various cultures, styles, and genres. Pieces of Hispanic influence will also be included to reinforce studies and culture points for students taking Spanish classes. Outside requirements include attendance at the fall, winter, and spring concert, field trip to Chicago to see a live performance at the Lyric Opera, coursework over the summer, and regular homework and practice outside of class.

### **Introduction to Theatre Arts Class**

**½ Credit – One Semester**

**Prerequisite: Students must successfully pass Speech prior to enrolling in this class.**

**Grade 9,10, 11, 12**

This course will include an introduction to theatre arts including acting, design (set & costume), directing, and script analysis with a survey of theatre history.

### **Digital Media**

**1 Credit - One Year**

**Grades 9, 10, 11, 12**

This course is designed to focus on the modern usages of technology through the media, such as video and music. Students will have an understanding of the visual and digital media culture. They will be able to create and edit media (videos, images, and music).

### **Graphic Design & Graphic Design II**

**½ Credit - One Semester each**

**Grades 9, 10, 11, 12**

This class is designed to provide the basic and advanced design concepts used in the field of graphic design. Students will create professional and artistic products that a graphic designer would design, and have an understanding of the career.

### **Web Design**

**½ Credit**

**Grades 9, 10, 11, 12**

This course is designed to provide the knowledge of designing a website. Students will understand the planning and designing process of web sites. They will explore the world of html coding in creating professional website, whether personal or business.

## World Language Department

### **LATIN DEPARTMENT**

The series of Latin books “ Ecce Romani” is used in all four years of Latin. The books are divided in chapters and each of them contains a Latin passage along with Latin vocabulary, and a grammar section. Near the end of each chapter there is an English section providing cultural background material. This background material, along with supplementary materials such as movies, reference books, student projects, and field trips, help the students understand Roman society and history, especially the Roman life in the first century A. D.

At first the course material and the main grammatical points are presented by following a typical upper- class Roman family in its daily life. The events take place in A. D. 80. As the students continue reading, they will meet mythological and historical characters that played an enormous role in the Roman History/Culture and still remain a part of our cultural heritage. In addition, the students will read passages from many ancient Roman writers/authors and they will be introduced to people of different social levels, from slaves to emperors.

Another main objective of all four years of Latin courses is to point out the close relationship between the Latin and the English language. Through homework or classroom assignments the students work individually or in groups by using English dictionaries in order to determine the Latin roots of words used in the modern English language. Latin II, III, IV will participate in the National Latin Examination administered by the American Classical League.

#### **Latin I**

**1 Credit – Year**

**Prerequisite: None**

**Grade 9, 10, 11, 12**

#### **Latin II**

**1 Credit – Year**

**Prerequisite: Successful completion of Latin I**

**Grade 10, 11, 12**

The students in Latin II and Latin III participate in the National Latin Examination administered by the American Classical League.

#### **Latin III**

**1 Credit – Year**

**Prerequisite: Successful completion of Latin II**

**Grade 11, 12**

The students in Latin II and Latin III participate in the National Latin Examination administered by the American Classical League.

#### **Honors Latin IV**

**1 Credit – Year**

**Prerequisite: Successful completion of Latin III**

In this course, the grammar is completed and the students will have a wide knowledge of Latin vocabulary. They will be able to enjoy the further reading of Latin literature in addition to the passages in the textbook.

## SPANISH DEPARTMENT

In the *Avancemos* I-III program, students acquire foundational communicative skills through interactive and realistic cultural settings and situations. By actively participating in a variety of engaging activities and experiences, students will gain cultural appreciation and global understanding.

The advanced study of Spanish incorporates a rich combination of authentic opportunities to be successful in an increasingly bilingual nation and global world. The framework will include enhanced communicative skills that will allow students to use the target language more extensively.

### **Spanish I**

**1 Credit – Full Year**

**Prerequisite: None**

**Grade 9, 10, 11, 12**

This course is an interactive approach to learning how to speak, read, write, and listen in Spanish utilizing technology, engaging activities, and cultural appreciation of the Spanish-speaking world through the *Avancemos* text series and supplementary class activities. Students will be discussing subjects that interest them and Spanish-speaking teens including leisure activities, music, sports, family, friends, shopping, classes, traveling, and food. Survival skills for the global community will be emphasized as students act independently and successfully in novel cultural situations.

### **Spanish II**

**1 Credit – Full Year**

**Prerequisite: Successful completion of Spanish I or STM Spanish Placement Exam**

**Grade 9, 10, 11, 12**

Spanish II is an expansion of the communicative tasks and skills learned in Spanish I. Students must enter with basic knowledge and mastery of the first year of the language. Reading, writing, listening, and oral skills will improve as students learn to analyze, interpret, and discuss songs, articles, and stories and write more intensively. There is a continued focus on studying the Spanish-speaking world and cultural similarities and differences.

### **Spanish III**

**1 Credit – Full Year**

**Prerequisite: Successful completion of Spanish II, the STM Spanish Placement Exam, or teacher recommendation**  
**Grades 10, 11, 12, native or heritage Spanish speaker**

Spanish III is an in-depth course which is built entirely on the knowledge gained in the previous course. Therefore, it is imperative that students enter with basic knowledge in the language. Students will further develop foundational language skills in verbal and written Spanish. There will also be a continued focus on cultural aspects of the Spanish-speaking world. Students will read and write more intensively in the target language and will learn to communicate and comprehend with greater ease. Spanish is used almost exclusively in the class as students develop the ability to discuss topics related to historical and contemporary events and issues and interact with other speakers of Spanish. They will be making oral and written presentations in Spanish and as students work from concrete issues to abstract, they will demonstrate higher level thinking and more in-depth and independent work on a weekly basis.

### **Spanish IV (H)**

**1 Credit – Full Year**

**Prerequisite: Successful completion of Spanish III or teacher recommendation**

**Grades 11, 12, native or heritage Spanish speaker**

This intermediate Spanish honors course is designed to provide students with an engaging learning experience as they strengthen their language skills and develop their cultural competency while using an interactive, communicative approach. Students will develop conversational knowledge of verbal and written Spanish of Hispanic cultures through the use of authentic cultural experiences, connections with native or heritage Spanish speakers, intermediate grammar and syntax, Hispanic literary works, and immersion. Students will do research and presentations on various cultural issues in the Spanish-speaking Americas and Spain, and thereby develop cultural fluency. This course is aligned to help students turn the skills and knowledge acquired in the classroom into functional experience that can be used to excel by communicating effectively in the Spanish-speaking world.



**Spanish V (H)****1 Credit – Full Year****Prerequisite: Successful completion of Honors Spanish IV or teacher recommendation****Grade 11, 12, native or heritage Spanish speaker**

This upper-level course provides a solid framework for students to develop language skills through the analysis and discussion of engaging and culturally-relevant texts. The focus of this development will be both verbal and written and will challenge students to think critically about, and express their opinions on, contemporary issues in a global context, gaining insights as they compare and contrast Spanish-speaking cultures with their own. AP Spanish language and culture concepts will be interspersed throughout the course; however, this is not an AP course. This class will serve not only as a continuation of previous Spanish course work, but also as an introduction to college level world language classes.

**Spanish Mentoring (H)****1 Credit – Full Year****Prerequisite: Spanish IV or III with recommendation and permission from instructor****Grade: 11 for heritage learners who have completed Honors Spanish V or grade 12 or concurrent enrollment in Spanish IV**

This course combines theory and practice in the teaching of Spanish. Each student will serve as a mentor at the secondary level. Mentors plan and teach throughout the year and broaden their students' experience of the language with enrichment activities. Written reflection in the target language is required as students analyze their progress.

## LANGUAGE ARTS DEPARTMENT

### **English 9 Introduction to Literature**

**1 Credit - Year**

**Prerequisite: None**

**Grade 9**

All students must complete a summer reading requirement and any associated assignments. This course is designed to develop an understanding of truth, beauty, and goodness through fiction and nonfiction. The course challenges students to improve understanding of literary terms and concepts, to improve understanding of specific literary works and their various styles and characteristics, to develop critical thinking skills, and to improve writing skills. Course work includes basic grammar, composition, and study of various literary genres including short stories, drama, novels, poetry, and some film study. Basic composition will be improved through review of sentence construction, short essays, creative writing, and vocabulary development. Students will be introduced to basic research. A variety of approaches will be used including class discussions, group discussions, mini-lectures, and independent projects.

### **English 10 Literature and Composition**

**1 Credit - Year**

**Prerequisite: English 9**

**Grade 10**

All students must complete a summer reading requirement and any associated assignments. This course is designed to build on skills covered in English 9 and to broaden students' knowledge of truth, beauty, and goodness and skills in literature and composition. Further study of literary terms and concepts will be emphasized using selections from World Literature in a variety of genres. Coursework includes a continuing study of the short story, drama, poetry, and novels, and composition emphasizing basic essay structure. Creative writing, film study, and a continuation of basic research skills will also be included in the course. Students will receive instruction in reading comprehension and vocabulary designed to help them with college placement exams.

### **English 10 (H): World Literature and Composition**

**1 Credit - Year**

**Prerequisite: English 9, proficient and timely completion of all summer reading requirements, including writing assignments.**

**Grade: 10**

All students must complete a summer reading requirement and any associated assignments. This course is designed for those students interested in a more comprehensive and analytic approach to the study of literature and writing, all while developing further understanding of truth, beauty, and goodness. It provides significant practice in writing, critical thinking, and literary analysis using a variety of texts from World Literature. Coursework includes research, vocabulary development, and preparation for college placement exams. Students will continue to develop their abilities to write for a variety of purposes with an emphasis on the essay and some creative writing. The course is designed to prepare students for Junior and Senior advanced English courses at STM.

### **English 11: American Literature and Composition**

**1 Credit - Year**

**Prerequisite: English 10 or Honors English 10**

**Grade: 11**

All students must complete a summer reading requirement and any associated assignments. This course is designed to provide significant development in recognizing truth, beauty, and goodness in American Literature. The course features practice in reading comprehension, critical thinking, and literary analysis using major works of American authors. This course is designed to study themes in American literature in relation to American history. Genres will include short stories, drama, poetry, novels, and non-fiction selections. Emphasis will be placed on critical analysis, vocabulary development, discussion of themes, and preparation for college placement exams. Students will receive further instruction in research techniques and a variety of essays will be completed.

## **Advanced Placement English 11/12: English Literature/English Language**

**1 Credit –Year**

**Prerequisite: English 10 or Honors English 10, proficient and timely completion of all summer reading requirements, including writing assignments.**

**Grade: 11, 12**

The High School of Saint Thomas More offers two Advanced Placement English courses that are offered on an alternating year basis. School years ending in even years (2020, 2022, 2024...) will offer Advanced Placement English Literature and Composition. School years ending in odd years (2019, 2021, 2023...) will offer Advanced Placement English Language and Composition. These courses are open to both Juniors and Seniors.

All students must complete a summer reading requirement and any associated assignments. The Advanced Placement English Literature and Composition course challenges students to both recognize truth, beauty, and goodness in literature and to spread truth, beauty, and goodness through their own writing and other forms of expression. Students will become skilled readers of prose and poetry and writers for a variety of purposes and audiences. This is achieved through in depth study of the tools and techniques that an author uses to convey purpose and audience expectations. Upon completion of the course, students will be required to take the Advanced Placement test in English Literature and Composition.

All students must complete a summer reading requirement and any associated assignments. The Advanced Placement English Language and Composition course challenges students to both recognize truth, beauty, and goodness in nonfiction and literature and to spread truth, beauty, and goodness through their own writing and other forms of expression. Students will become skilled readers of prose, with a special emphasis on the rhetorical techniques used by authors. Students will also become skilled writers, focusing their writing on meeting the needs of a variety of audiences and purposes. Through careful reading and the fine tuning of writing skills, students will become aware of how the writer's purpose and attention to the audience's needs and expectations combine to create effective writing. Upon completion of the course, students will be required to take the Advanced Placement test in English Language and Composition.

## **English 12: British Literature and Composition**

**1 Credit - Year**

**Prerequisite: English 11 or Advanced Placement English 11**

**Grade: 12**

All students must complete a summer reading requirement and any associated assignments. English 12 prepares students to express truth, beauty, and goodness in college level writing and reading. The course is a writing intensive course in which students read, discuss, research, and write on current social issues. The writing process, especially revision, is emphasized. In addition to this, students read and analyze how writers make social commentary through literature. Students read various pieces from British authors and analyze how these pieces are a response to issues in society and how these issues are still seen today in our modern society. Critical thinking and analysis is a major focus of this course.

## **Speech – Introduction to Public Speaking**

**1/2 Credit – 1 Semester**

**Grade: 9, 10, 11, 12**

This course is for students who want to learn to think clearly and express themselves effectively before an audience, all while orienting their speech toward truth, beauty, and goodness. This course prepares students for various types of public speaking situations in college and their careers. Students are provided opportunities to increase their fluency as a speaker and develop their self-confidence.

## MATHEMATICS DEPARTMENT

### **Algebra I**

**1 Credit – Year**

**Prerequisite: None**

**Grade 9**

These students know how to work with fractions, integers, decimals, and percent. Emphasis will be on solving, graphing, and writing linear and quadratic equations and inequalities. A solid understanding of this course is necessary before continuing in mathematics.

### **Geometry**

**1 Credit – Year**

**Prerequisite: Successful completion of Algebra I**

**Grades 9, 10, 11, 12**

Logical reasoning and the concept of proof are covered in this class. We will investigate properties of lines, triangles, quadrilaterals, and circles. Areas and volumes of two- and three-dimensional figures will be explored. Work with similarity, right triangles, and an introduction to trigonometry is included.

### **Honors Geometry**

**1 Credit – Year**

**Prerequisite: Algebra I with a cumulative average grade of 85% or better**

**Grades 9, 10**

This is a one-year course in Euclidean Geometry that emphasizes logical reasoning, problem solving, and various types of proof. Connections between topics in geometry, other subjects in mathematics and the real world will be explored. The properties of lines, triangles, quadrilaterals, polygons, and circles will be covered. The area and volume of two- and three-dimensional figures will be explored. The course will also include transformations and an introduction to trigonometry.

### **Algebra II**

**1 Credit – Year**

**Prerequisite: Successful completion of Algebra I and Geometry or Honors Geometry**

**Grades 10, 11, 12**

This class is a continuation of Algebra I. The TI 83 or TI 84, plus graphics calculator is used in this class. Linear, polynomial, exponential, logarithmic, and rational functions are studied. Quadratic relations and the conic sections will be investigated. Work with matrices, sequences, series, probability, and statistics is included. We will explore functions, graphs, identities, and solving trigonometric equations. This class leads to Pre-Calculus.

### **Honors Algebra II**

**1 Credit – Year**

**Prerequisite: Successful completion of Algebra I and Geometry or Honors Geometry with a cumulative grade average of 85%**

**Grades 10, 11, 12**

This class is a continuation of Algebra I. The TI 83 Plus graphics calculator is used in this class. Linear, polynomial, exponential, logarithmic, and rational functions are studied. Quadratic relations and the conic sections will be investigated. Work with matrices, sequences, series, probability, and statistics is included. We will explore functions, graphs, identities, and solving trigonometric equations. This class leads to Pre-Calculus.

### **Consumer Math**

**1 Credit – Year**

**Prerequisite: Successful completion of Algebra I and any Geometry course**

**Grades 11 & 12**

Consumer Math is a course that teaches practical applications of arithmetic in everyday life (checking accounts, savings accounts, purchases, credit, loans, household and personal expenses, car buying, insurance, budgeting, etc.)

## **Statistics**

**1 Credit – Year**

**Prerequisite: Successful completion of Algebra II**

**Grades 11, 12**

This course includes topics to give students a good foundation of statistics. The student should have a good foundation of basic algebra skills. Some topics to be covered include: measuring tendencies, organizing and analyzing data, calculating probability, examining distributions, and testing hypotheses.

## **Honors Pre-Calculus**

**1 Credit – Year**

**Prerequisite: Successful completion of Algebra II or Honors Algebra II**

**Grades 11, 12**

Trigonometry and Analytical Geometry are the main subjects and focus of this course. Other topics covered include: Functions and their graphs, polynomial and rational functions, vectors, complex numbers, exponential and logarithmic functions, the Binomial Theorem, principals of counting, limits and an introduction to Calculus. Problem solving techniques of solving equations are included. This course assumes the knowledge and skills of Algebra and Geometry. A solid understanding of Pre-Calculus is necessary before taking Calculus.

## **Honors Calculus Advanced Placement**

**1 Credit – Year**

**Prerequisite: Successful completion of Pre-Calculus**

This course is intended for students entering with a firm foundation in Algebra, Geometry, and Pre-Calculus. A review of pertinent mathematical topics needed for Calculus is undertaken and includes: Lines, Functions and Graphs, Exponential and Logarithmic Functions, and Trigonometric Functions. The topics of Calculus to be covered include: Functions and models, Limits and Continuity, Derivatives, Differentiation Rules, Applications of Differentiation, Integrals, and Applications of Integration.

## PHYSICAL EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

### **Physical Education I – General Fitness**

**½ credit/semester**

**Grades 9, 10, 11, 12**

This P.E. class is designed to be more instructional, emphasizing rules, skills, technique, and physical fitness principles. The units studied and applied may include the following: flag football, basketball, soccer, volleyball, badminton, ultimate Frisbee, pickleball, softball and a variety of other individual and team sports.

Activity classes: 3 days a week Weight training: 2 days a week

#### **Evaluation**

Students will be evaluated on their skill levels, knowledge of the history and rules of the sport, and on physical fitness testing. Students will be required to participate and improve their skill levels to the best of their ability.

### **Physical Education 2 – Fitness P.E.**

**½ credit/semester**

**Grades 9, 10, 11, 12**

**Prerequisite: Successful completion of one full semester of Physical Education I –General Fitness**

This physical education class is designed for instruction in the area of physical fitness and strength training. Students who enter this class do so to become stronger individuals, both mentally and physically. The premise of the class is to work on gaining and maintaining physical strength, along with improving physical fitness. This class is open to anyone interested in getting the most out of their bodies.

#### **Evaluation**

Students will be evaluated on their ability to maintain and follow a strength training program. Students will also be evaluated on their physical fitness and strength training gains.

### **Drivers Education**

**0 Credit – 6 weeks (then students move into a PE class)**

**Prerequisite: See description**

**Grades 9, 10**

This class will teach all of the driving skills and concepts required by the state, including teaching young drivers the safe and defensive techniques needed in today's hazardous driving conditions. Each student is required to log 40 clock hours in the classroom and 6 clock hours of driving with the instructor and 6 clock hours observing. The students will receive their permit after about one week of class. This slip allows the student to drive with their parents. There is a 9 month waiting period from the time they receive their permit until they are allowed to receive their license. During this time, the student must drive 50 clock hours with their parents. **Students will be dropped from this class on their fourth absence. Students may not miss any part of the driving sequence. Driving order is based on the student's birth date; oldest students will drive first. Pass/Fail grade will be given. Students must have received a passing grade in at least eight courses over the past two semesters in order to take Drivers Ed.**

### **Health**

**1/2 Credit**

**Grades 9, 10**

**Prerequisite: None**

Health is designed to promote a lifestyle of wellness, identify hereditary, environmental, and behavioral risks, provide educational information on preventing health risks, and to help make a difference in the student's lifelong behavioral choices by offering a Catholic/Christian vision of the human person and morality. Themes that will be highlighted in this course are nutrition, violence prevention, alcohol and drugs, self-esteem, stress management, abstinence, and building healthy relationships. Guest lecturers may be invited to speak to the class. Sensitive topics of an intimate nature regarding human sexuality will not be covered in this class, as the Church teaches that parents have the sole responsibility to convey such information.

## SCIENCE DEPARTMENT

### **Phys/Chem**

**1 Credit – Year**

**Grades 9, 10, 11, 12**

This course focuses on the fundamentals of the four major areas of science: Chemistry, Physics, Earth Science and Biology. Students learn about matter, energy, motion, forces, space, Earth, cells, and microscopes. Students will explore many different topics including: structure and behavior of matter, transformation of energy, effects of forces, structure of the universe and Earth, basic weather patterns, and functions of cellular organelles. This course consists of abundant laboratory experiences to reinforce the topics presented.

### **Biology I**

**1 Credit – Year**

**Prerequisite: None**

**Grade 9**

In Biology I, students conduct field and laboratory investigations, and make informed decisions using critical thinking and scientific problem-solving skills. This course is both lecture and laboratory in nature, developing the student's intellectual foundation in both molecular and integrative biology. The themes that will be highlighted in this course include: first, basic biological principles, second, the structures and functions of cells, third, fundamentals of genetics, fourth, evolutionary theories, and fifth, interdependence of organisms, as well as dissection analysis of various specimens. Most colleges require this course for admission.

### **Chemistry I**

**1 Credit – Year**

**Prerequisites: 1. Successful completion of Biology and Geometry, or concurrent enrollment in Geometry**

**Grades 10, 11, 12**

Chemistry I is a laboratory course that focuses on the intricacies and orderliness of God's design of matter. Students will conduct investigations and use mathematical and scientific problem solving skills as they explore topics including kinetic theory, atomic structure, solutions, and chemical bonds and reactions. This course is a stepping stone for students who wish to pursue honors science course offerings and is both lecture and laboratory in nature.

### **Earth Science I**

**½ credit - One semester**

**Grades 10, 11, 12**

**Prerequisite – Successful completion of Biology and Algebra I**

This class is designed to introduce students to the dynamic forces shaping the earth's surface. This includes physical and geological aspects of the changing earth. Students will analyze the following topics: geology, mineralogy, paleontology, and plate tectonics. Careers in the earth sciences will also be explored. Students will employ Algebra as needed to solve quantitative problems.

### **Earth Science II**

**½ credit - One semester**

**Grades 10, 11, 12**

**Prerequisite – Successful completion of Biology and Algebra I**

In this class, students will analyze the following topics: climatology, meteorology, oceanography, human impact on the environment and astronomy. Careers in the earth sciences will also be explored. Students will employ Algebra as needed to solve quantitative problems.

## **Honors Anatomy and Physiology**

**1 Credit – Year**

**Prerequisites: Successful completion of Biology and Chemistry**

**Grades 11, 12**

This course has two components: an intense study of cells, tissues, and the structure of organs and organ systems; an in depth look into the functions and processes of cells, tissues, organs, and organ systems. To fully understand and appreciate the makeup of the body, students are **required to perform two dissections**. The goal of this course to instill an appreciation for the complexity of the body and the cooperativity that takes place to ensure the survival and health of the human body. Finally, this is a college level course that follows a very rigorous schedule.

## **Honors Physics I**

**1 Credit – Year**

**Prerequisites: 1. Successful completion of Biology and Chemistry and of Algebra II or concurrent enrollment in Algebra II**

**Grades 11, 12**

Physics focuses on the discovery and implication of physical law. This course will use both conception and mathematics to understand these ideas. Physics I focuses on Newtonian mechanics including: Motion, Force, Energy, Momentum, and Fluids. This course is highly recommended by colleges and is ideal for any student planning to attend college, especially those interested in pursuing carriers in computers, engineering, architecture, medicine, or science. It is both lecture and laboratory in nature.

## **Honors Physics II**

**1 Credit – Year**

**Prerequisite: Successful completion of Physics I**

**Grade 12**

Honors Physics II is a continuation of Physics I and uses conception, application, and mathematics to understand physical law. Topics include electricity and magnetism, waves and sound, and nuclear physics. This course is ideal for students planning to attend pursue a college degree requiring knowledge of the physical sciences and is both lecture and laboratory in nature.

## **Human Biology (Dual Credit through Parkland College)**

**1 credit-Year**

**Prerequisite: Parkland Placement Test and Biology I**

**Grades 11, 12**

Human Biology provides non-science (college) majors basic principles of human biology in the context of current social issues. An emphasis on the human body and its interconnectedness to health, disease, growth, development, genetics, and evolution, as they relate to individuals and society. This course is both lecture and laboratory in nature, but is largely a discussion course. Access to Parkland's Cobra student interface provides access to online discussions, quizzes and homework assignments.

## **Advanced Placement Biology**

**1 Credit - Year**

**Prerequisite: Successful completion of Biology, Chemistry and Geometry**

**Grades 11, 12**

The course is designed in accordance with the AP course descriptions. The lecture component focuses on developing conceptual and factual knowledge surrounding the four big ideas which include:

**Big Idea 1:** The process of evolution drives the diversity and unity of life,

**Big Idea 2:** Biological systems utilize free energy and molecular building blocks to grow, reproduce, and maintain

dynamic homeostasis.

**Big Idea 3:** Living systems store, retrieve, transmit, and respond to information essential to life processes.

**Big Idea 4:** Biological systems interact and these interactions possess complex properties.

Students will be completing 10 of the AP Labs throughout the year. Students are required to take the AP Biology Exam in May.



## **Advanced Placement Chemistry**

**1 Credit – Year**

**Prerequisites:** 1. **Successful completion of Chemistry I**

2. **Successful completion of Algebra II with or concurrent enrollment in Algebra II**

**Grades 11, 12**

Advanced Placement Chemistry is an advanced laboratory course focusing on the intricacies and orderliness of God's design of matter. Topics are typical of a first-year college chemistry course and include: atomic structure, chemical quantities and reactions, bonding theories, properties of solids, liquids, and gases, thermodynamics, kinetics, electrochemistry, and solution chemistry. The course follows the curriculum for AP chemistry and students are required to take the AP Chemistry Exam in May.

## **SOCIAL STUDIES DEPARTMENT**

### **World History– Ancient and Modern World History**

**1 Credit – Year**

**Prerequisite: None**

**Grades 9, 10, 11, 12**

This course begins with the origin of civilization and continues through the first millennium. It will include the early river valley civilizations, the ancient age of empires including Egypt, Assyria, Persia, ancient Greece, Rome, India, and China as well as ancient African and American empires and peoples. The course will continue through the age of the Byzantine Empire, the Mongol conquests in Asia, and life in Medieval Europe. The course will conclude with an examination of the Renaissance through the French Revolution. World religions and their influence on historical events are examined. The course will conclude with a look at early global exploration, imperialism and the crusades. Geography of each area will be closely examined. In the second semester, students will study the revolution of ideas: the Enlightenment, the scientific revolution, democratic revolutions in Europe and the Americas along with the spread of nationalism. Students will also study the effect of industrialization on the world and its people. Finally, the students will study the two world wars, the communist revolutions of the 20th century, and our expectations for the future. This course will study the geography of the countries being studied.

### **United States History**

**1 Credit – Year**

**Prerequisite: None**

**Grade 11**

United States History is a **required**, introductory survey of American history for students in their junior year. The topics covered include the social, economic, political, cultural, and diplomatic forces that have shaped this country's development from the first colonial settlement to present day. United States History is intended to acquaint the student with the basics of American history, to appreciate conflicting interpretations surrounding various topics, and to enhance the student's understanding of the multi-cultural diversity of America.

### **Advanced Placement United States History**

**1 Credit – Year**

**Prerequisites:** Requires the completion of a summer assignment that will be due the first day class is in session.

**Grade 11**

Topics covered include the social, economic, political, cultural, and diplomatic forces that have shaped this country's development from the first colonial settlement to the present day. Advanced Placement U.S. History is designed to be more of a writing-intensive course. At the conclusion of this course the student will be equipped to take the Advanced Placement test. Successful completion can lead to a student's exemption from further American history courses at the collegiate level and subsequent college credit.

## **Civics**

**½ Credit – One Semester**

**Prerequisite: None**

**Grade 12**

This is a **required**, one-semester, preparatory survey course that introduces the student to the parameters upon which the government in the United States was created and organized by the Founding Fathers. In addition to the principles upon which the government was founded, the course investigates the functions that government performs in the United States today, and discusses the role that the American people play in their system of governance. Topics covered include the origin and development of the Constitution as well as how the executive, legislative, and judicial branches of government function at both the federal and state level. Included within the curriculum is an in-depth overview of both the U. S. Constitution and the constitution of the State of Illinois. **Passing the IL and US constitutions test is required for graduation.**

## **Economics**

**½ Credit – One Semester**

**Prerequisite: None**

**Grade 12**

Economics is a **required** course that introduces students to the basic concepts that govern the economic process. Some of the topics include American economy, an explanation of monetary policy, and the importance of personal financial planning.

## **Sociology**

**½ Credit – One semester**

**Prerequisite: None**

**Grade 11, 12**

Sociology examines the characteristics that are found within society and the role they play. Some topics covered are: racism, gender, poverty, sexism, economic class, stratification, deviance, religion, and family. Students will be expected to analyze various forms of institutions, explain how diverse groups have contributed to society and other aspects. Class format is lecture/discussions, group and individual research projects.

## **Psychology**

**½ Credit – One semester**

**Prerequisite: None**

**Grade 11, 12**

Psychology studies the mysteries of the mind and body. Topics covered include human social behavior, personality, psychological disorders and treatment, learning, memory, human development, biological influences, thinking, intelligence, language, motivation, emotion, stress and health, cross-cultural psychology, and applied psychology.

## **TECHNOLOGY DEPARTMENT**

### **Computer Programming**

**½ Credit**

**Grades 11, 12**

In this course, the students will learn basic structures in several different programming languages. Students will gain an understanding of the history behind programming languages and how the different languages are written and what they are used for.

### **Computer Networking**

**½ Credit**

**Grades 11, 12**

Students will learn both the hardware and software sides of networking. They will gain a better understanding of how a network actually works and how to manipulate different aspects of network via changes in hardware or software.

## **THEOLOGY DEPARTMENT**

**(Four years required)**

### **The Revelation of Jesus Christ in Scripture**

**½ Credit – One Semester (1st)**

**Prerequisite: None**

**Grade 9**

This course offers an introduction of Sacred Scripture in the context of the person and mission of Jesus Christ. The student who successfully completes this course will understand the concept of salvation history and how Sacred Scripture reveals this history, its purpose, and its promise. Students will have a working knowledge of key persons and events in salvation history. Students will understand the various books of Sacred Scripture particularly as they relate to Jesus Christ.

### **Who is Jesus Christ?**

**½ Credit – One Semester (2nd)**

**Prerequisite: None**

**Grade 9**

This course offers an introduction into the life and mission of Jesus Christ, the Incarnate Word. The student who successfully completes this course will understand the concept of the Incarnation and how this mystery is revealed in the life of Jesus. Students will have a working knowledge of key persons and events in the life of Jesus as reported by the Gospels. Students will understand how Jesus relates to people during His Earthly ministry.

### **The Mission of Jesus Christ**

**½ Credit – One Semester (1st)**

**Prerequisite: None**

**Grade 10**

The purpose of this course is to help students understand all that God has done for us through his Son, Jesus Christ. Through this course of study, students will learn that for all eternity, God has planned for us to share eternal happiness with him, which is accomplished through the redemption Christ won for us. Students will learn that they share in this redemption only in and through Jesus Christ. They will also be introduced to what it means to be a disciple of Christ and what life as a disciple entails.

### **Jesus Christ's Mission Continues in the Church**

**½ Credit – One Semester (2nd)**

**Prerequisite: None**

**Grade 10**

The purpose of this course is to help the 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.

### **History and Theology of the Church I: From the Church of the Martyrs to the Catholic Reformation**

**½ Credit – One Semester (1st)**

**Prerequisite: None**

**Grade 11**

This course will examine Church History from the earliest Fathers of the Church up to the 16<sup>th</sup> century. It is the story of God at work among His people after the New Testament. The course will focus on the teachings of the Catholic Church as a response to various developments in history and revolve around the Church's understanding of her own mission. The many contributions of Catholic faith to civilization will be highlighted.

## **History and Theology of the Church II: From the Catholic Reformation to the Present**

**½ Credit – One Semester (2<sup>nd</sup>)**

**Prerequisite: None**

**Grade 11**

The second part of this year long course treats the Church in western history from the sixteenth century to the present. It will treat the global expansion of the Church in the modern world as well as the sometimes uneasy relationship between the Church and culture. The course culminates in understanding the Second Vatican Council and the ministry of St. John Paul II with a focus on the latter's Theology of the Body.

## **Faith and Reason**

**½ Credit – One Semester (1st)**

**Prerequisite: None**

**Grade 12**

Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to articulate why it is reasonable to believe in God, in Jesus as our Savior, and why the Catholic Church has the fullness of truth. This course is divided into two parts. The first half is a Christian apologetic (defense); Why believe in God and Christ? This section will include an exploration of why faith and reason (or religious beliefs and the findings of science) do not conflict. The second half is an apologetic for the Catholic Faith and a need to evangelize.

## **Catholic Social Teaching**

**½ Credit – One Semester (2nd)**

**Prerequisite: None**

**Grade 12**

This course will review the basic moral principles contained in the course of fundamental morality and will expand the student's view of the moral problems which will confront him as a mature human being. This course will take up social justice issues, such as, poverty, racism, war and peace, and enable the student to articulate well the Catholic vision on these important issues. The course will also include a survey of medical ethical issues confronting our society. Above all, this course on Catholic Social Teaching will help the student recognize and name injustices in our midst, know how to analyze some causes of injustice, and know how to respond to injustice both as individuals and as a Church.

## **The Catholic Experience (Honors)**

**½ Credit – One Semester (1st)**

**Prerequisite: None**

**Grade 12**

Through this course, the student will come to understand the depth and beauty of the Roman Catholic tradition and its value in contemporary culture. The class will begin by studying the question of belief, the nature and mission of Jesus Christ, and the nature of humanity. Other topics will be addressed, such as, Marian piety, the danger of subjective "liberal religion", the transforming power of love, sexual morality, and the liturgical prayer of the Church. Finally, several mysteries will be penetrated like that of vocation, suffering, beauty, and freedom. By the end of the course, the student will be able to articulate clearly the value of his Christian faith in a modern world.

## **Catholic Social Teaching (Honors)**

**½ Credit – One Semester (2nd)**

**Prerequisite: None**

**Grade 12**

The general course outline will be the same as for the regular sections of Catholic Social Teaching. However, as is typical with an Honors section, reading assignments will be more challenging and additional coursework will be required.