



St. Joseph High School  
2019-2020  
Course Catalog  
7<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> Grade

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# St. Joseph High School Course Catalog

## NOTE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

The course catalog is to help provide information on your courses for the upcoming school year. Parents, please help your student in choosing their elective classes. Graduation requirements are listed and career goals should be considered as you check over your schedule.

Parents submitting the Course Request form through ParentsWeb acknowledge approval for the courses chosen.

Thank you for your interest, concern, and support.

Diane Wolfe  
High School Principal  
Head of Schools

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## GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

*The following graduation requirements have been established by St. Joseph Catholic School in compliance with the standards of the Arkansas Non-Public School Accrediting Association (ANSAA) and of the Office of Catholic Schools of the Diocese of Little Rock. These requirements surpass those of the Arkansas Department of Education.*

### CORE COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

Subject	Credits	Specifics
Religion	4	Religion 9, Religion 10, Religion 11, and Religion 12
English	4	English 9, English 10, English 11, English 12. Students may apply to take Honors English 9, Honors English 10, Honors English 11, or Honors English 12.
Mathematics	4	Algebra I, Geometry, Algebra II, and one additional selection: Algebra III or Trigonometry & Pre-Calculus. Students may apply to take Honors Algebra I, Honors Geometry, Honors Algebra II, and Concurrent Trigonometry & Pre-Calculus
Sciences	3	Physical Science, Biology, and one additional selection: Anatomy, Chemistry, or Physics. Students may apply to take Honors Physical Science, Honors Biology, Honors Anatomy, Honors Chemistry, or Honors Physics.
Social Studies	3	Economics (one-semester), Civics (one-semester), U.S. History, and World History. Students may apply to take Honors U.S. History or Concurrent World History.
Computer Science	1	Computer I
Physical Education	1	Advanced Health/PE or Athletics/Health (basketball)
Fine Arts	1	Art 1 or Band
Business	1	Oral Communications (one-semester), Personal Finance (one-semester)
Electives	3	Students will take additional electives. Selections may be for personal interest, to prepare for college, or to complete Honor Graduate requirements.
Total Credits	25	Credits required to earn a diploma from St. Joseph High School

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**MINIMUM CORE OF HIGH SCHOOL COURSES RECOMMENDED FOR  
PREPARATION FOR HIGHER EDUCATION**

Research and the experience of students, faculty, and administrators indicate that students taking a solid high school core of courses have better test scores and greater success in institutions of higher education. To increase your chances of success the following minimum core of courses is recommended:

- **English** - Four units with emphasis on writing skills
- **Natural Science** - Three units, with labs, chosen from general Biology, Chemistry, or Physics.
- **Mathematics** - Four units, including Algebra I, Geometry, Algebra II, and Trigonometry/Pre-Calculus.
- **Social Studies** - Three units, including one unit of U.S. History, World History, Civics (½ unit) and Economics (½ unit).
- **Foreign Language** - Two units in one foreign language.

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**GRADING SYSTEM**

Grade Points	Grade Scale	
A = 4	90 - 100	A
B = 3	80 - 89	B
C = 2	70 - 79	C
D = 1	60 - 69	D
F = 0	59 and below	F

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**STANDARDIZED TESTING  
GRADES 7 - 12**

The following standardized tests are given in the specified grade levels. Any grade level marked “TBA” will be given the most up-to-date testing information at the beginning of the school year once all decisions on the school and diocesan level have been made in regards to the standardized test that will be used for the upcoming school year.

7 <sup>th</sup> grade	Terra Nova
8 <sup>th</sup> grade	Terra Nova
9 <sup>th</sup> grade	PSAT-9
10 <sup>th</sup> grade	Pre-ACT
11 <sup>th</sup> grade	PSAT, ASVAB, *ACT, *SAT
12 <sup>th</sup> grade	*ACT, *SAT

\* The SAT is not given at St. Joseph School. The ACT is given at St. Joseph on the October and December national testing dates. There will be an “in school” testing date in the Spring for the 11th grade to take the ACT. Information about registering for these college entrance exams can be obtained from Mrs. Breeding or Mrs. Piraino. Parents and students can also get information about these tests from the following websites:

*ACT*

[www.act.org](http://www.act.org)

*PSAT or SAT*

[www.collegeboard.com](http://www.collegeboard.com)

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## ARKANSAS ACADEMIC CHALLENGE SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

The Arkansas Department of Higher Education sponsors the Arkansas Academic Challenge Scholarship Program to recognize selected students for scholastic achievement as measured by their ACT scores. *For private school students, the only eligibility requirement is a 19 Composite ACT score or better.* For more information, visit [www.adhe.edu](http://www.adhe.edu).

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### HONORS STATUS PROGRAM Grades 9-12

St. Joseph High School seeks to challenge students to reach their greatest academic potential. “Ultimately, the goal is that of true education: development of the whole person—soul, mind and body.” Toward this end, SJHS is offering an Honors Status Program to challenge high achievers to greater heights and depths of academic accomplishment in chosen courses. Honors sections are conducted at an accelerated pace and with greater intellectual intensity and depth.

FRESHMAN YEAR	SOPHOMORE YEAR
Honors English I Honors Algebra I Honors Physical Science	Honors English II Honors Geometry Honors Biology
JUNIOR YEAR	SENIOR YEAR
Honors English III Honors Algebra II Honors U.S. History Honors Anatomy & Physiology Honors Chemistry	Honors English IV Honors Calculus Honors Anatomy Honors Chemistry Honors Physics

#### HONORS STATUS DESIGNATION:

Honors Status Designation course addendum is intended to provide motivated and highly capable students with significant academic rigor beyond the expectations of the general curriculum. Honors Status Designation is designed to promote independent, higher level thinking skills and encourage inquiry and self-directed learning. The Honors Status course addendum is designed to provide additional depth of content, accelerated pacing, advanced concepts, and extended independent learning opportunities.

#### Characteristics and Abilities:

A successful student with Honors Status designation exemplifies the following characteristics and has the following abilities:

- \*Academic initiative and enthusiasm
- \*Self-motivation and independent work ethic
- \*High standards of honesty and reliability
- \*Strong reading and writing skills
- \*Ability to use higher level thinking
- \*Ability to handle an accelerated pace and independent learning

## **Enrollment Process Indicators and Requirements:**

Please be aware of that the items below are required and will be reviewed by an undisclosed committee as a part of the enrollment process:

- \*Cumulative GPA requirement is 3.25.
- \*Subject area GPA requirement is 3.5 (The subject area in which you are applying.)
- \*Previous grades and/or standardized test scores
- \*Independent learning capabilities
- \* Student exemplifies the Characteristics and Abilities listed above.
- \*Recommendations from instructors or other school officials

## **The following stipulations apply for Honor's Status in a course:**

- Courses must be submitted by the instructor for designation as an Honors Status course. An addendum to the current curriculum must be established for a course to be approved.
- Students who desire Honors Status in an approved class must apply using the Application for Consideration. Student records (GPA, standardized test scores, transcript, and teacher recommendation) will be reviewed by an undisclosed committee to determine if the student will be admitted to an honors class. All decisions made by the committee are final.
- In order to apply, applicants must have a minimum **cumulative** GPA of 3.25 and subject area GPA of 3.5.
- Students who are accepted for Honors Status will receive instruction in regular classes; however, additional independent work, guided by the teacher, will constitute the Honors Status addendum.
- Regular meetings with the instructor and other Honors students are a necessary part of the Honors Status program. These meetings may take place before school, during lunch, or after school.
- Students must maintain a 90% semester average or better in all Honors Status courses, successfully complete course requirements for Honors Status students, and consistently adhere to the SJHS Code of Excellence.
- Students must complete 100% of work in Honors courses to maintain Honors Status.
- All students are graded on a 4.5 grading scale in Honors classes. Because of the above-grade-level challenge, students are given 0.5 additional quality points for taking Honors courses.
- Honors Status will be assessed at semester report time.
- If a student falls below Honors Status for academic reasons, meaning the semester average is less than 90% (A), he/she will be removed from the Honors class for the next semester.
- Honors Status courses (including AP, Honors, IB) that are transferred from other academic institutions must meet the same criteria and requirements of SJHS Honors Program, and if requirements are met, the student may receive a weight no higher than .5 for the class.
- The administration reserves the right to make any necessary changes or addendums to the Honors Status Program at St. Joseph School.
- Students who apply, are accepted, and maintain “concurrent status” in the UCA Concurrent Credit Program will be given Honors Status as well. Students dually enrolled in both programs will not be required to maintain the 90% average. However, if they drop the concurrent status in a particular class, they will automatically be dropped from the Honors Status Program if they do not have a 90% average or better in the Honors course. The UCA transcript will NOT have a weighted grade or GPA.
- Honors Status in a course is designated by an "H" or “Honors” on the high school transcript and requires a more stringent academic workload in that particular subject. Honors Status courses will be chosen from the Math, Science, English, and Social Studies departments.

### **St. Joseph High School Code of Excellence**

St. Joseph High School strives to develop a deep sense of respect toward self and others in each individual student. Christ is the reason for our existence and our behavior should follow His admonition to “love our

neighbor as ourselves.” Students are taught at every level the importance of honesty, trust, respect, and integrity in their daily lives.

St. Joseph High School Code of Excellence is:

*“As a student at St. Joseph High School, I commit to a standard of living that will reflect trust, honesty, and respect for my peers, authority, and others’ property. I understand that such a standard of living does not include cheating, plagiarism, stealing, or any other SJS student conduct violations. Committing to our School Code of Excellence demonstrates the respect I have for myself, for my school, and for my community, in both word and action, as I develop into the successful person I’m meant to become.”*

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## HONOR GRADUATE REQUIREMENTS

### Grades 9-12

To **graduate with Honors** at the completion of high school, SJHS students must have minimally met the following stipulations:

**All Honor Graduates must take:**

- Chemistry OR Physics
- 2 consecutive years of one Foreign Language
- Trigonometry/Pre-Calculus
- Earn at least 4 credits with Honors Status,
- Maintain an overall 3.5 average in all classes throughout their high school career (9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade), and
- Demonstrate consistent adherence to the SJHS Code of Excellence.

St. Joseph uses the weighted GPA when determining a student’s class rank. Honor Graduates will be ranked higher than students who choose not to fulfill the Honor Graduate Requirements listed above. Valedictorian is the top ranking Honor Graduate(s). Salutatorian is the second highest top ranking Honor Graduate(s). In order to be named Valedictorian or Salutatorian, a student must also be enrolled at St. Joseph School for 11th and 12th grade.

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## ST. JOSEPH HIGH SCHOOL CONCURRENT CREDIT PROGRAM

Concurrent credit is a cooperative program between St. Joseph High School and the University of Central Arkansas through which seniors may enroll in college-level courses prior to graduation. Through concurrent credit, approved high school teachers teach UCA courses during the high school schedule. The course materials, assignments, and grading standards used in the courses must meet the same standards as other UCA courses.

**Enrollment Requirements**, Spring 2019 (*UCA may change these requirements at any time*):

- Junior or Senior Level
- 3.0 GPA
- 19 Reading (All Courses)
- 19 in Math if taking a Math course
- Recommendation of the principal

**Registration Requirements:**

- Students in this program are official UCA part-time pre-baccalaureate students, and they must

- register for the courses like any other college student.
- All official student records for concurrent credit sections of the UCA courses are maintained by the UCA registrar's office.
- In addition to registering for the SJHS course, students must also complete a UCA application form, a concurrent credit enrollment form, and a record release form.
- UCA will determine the cost of tuition.
- All registration paperwork for concurrent classes is handled through the SJHS Counselor's office.
- At this time, concurrent classes are offered the senior year of high school.

*Course offerings, current Enrollment and Registration Requirements, UCA Concurrent Student Handbook, how to apply/register and upcoming deadlines will be available through the SJS Counselor's Office in May.*

## INFORMATION CONCERNING COURSE SELECTION

1. In counting credits for graduation, courses taken in grades nine through twelve are considered.
2. The following credits are given for courses:
 

½ credit - one semester course	1 credit - one year course
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3. Students selecting a one year course will remain in that course for the full year.

## SCHEDULE CHANGES

Schedule changes have serious effects both on each student's individual schedule and on the class size of the course into which he/she is transferring. Decisions about the number of sections per department or whether or not an elective will make it on the Master Schedule are made in the spring based upon student course selections during the registration process. Each student is registered individually and given ample time to make his/her schedule choices.

Procedures:

1. During the first five days of the school year, elective courses may be changed IF there is room in the class the student desires to add.
2. For an elective change to be considered, students must turn in a "Schedule Change Request" signed by parents.
3. Since all elective courses at SJHS are year-long courses, students will remain in the course for the full year. Dropping at semester is not an option for year-long courses.
4. No changes can be made to the student schedules after the first week of school. If the principal approves a class change or removes a student from a class, the student will receive a "W" for that semester in the course.
5. Schedule changes will not be made so that students can be in class with friends.
6. Student or parent requests in regards to the order of a student's classes, the time of day of a class, who a student does not want to be in class with, who the student would like to be in class with, etc., will not be accepted or honored.
7. Students must always attend the classes on his/her schedule until receiving an official schedule from the SJHS Counselor's office reflecting the new class(es).

# Course Descriptions

*\*Please note: These course descriptions are overviews. Course content will be modified as needed.*

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## *Business Education*

### **COMPUTER I**

Grade level: 9

Credit: 1 Unit

Prerequisite: None

In Computer I, students gain skills that will serve them throughout their school years, in their personal lives, and in their careers. Specifically, students will learn to:

- Touch keyboard at a rate that exceeds 40 wpm
  - Apply basic language arts principles correctly while typing a variety of documents
  - Type both business and academic reports
  - Format business letters three ways and format memos
  - Prepare tables, boxed and open
  - Create desktop published fliers
  - Create and present PowerPoint presentations
  - Use Excel
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## *Communications*

### **ORAL COMMUNICATIONS**

Grade Level: 11

Credit: 1/2 Unit

Prerequisite: None

In this course, students will develop effective communication skills through a continuous cycle of discovery and application with hands-on project-based activities. Some of the goals of this course include:

- Identifying and defining the elements of communication
- Defining intrapersonal communication
- Analyzing self as a communicator
- Sending accurate messages
- Developing relationships
- Demonstrating interviewing skills
- Use of informal communication
- Utilizing appropriate and critical listening skills
- Examining and participating in group process
- Developing public speaking skills
- Demonstrating debate skills
- Exploring effective use of technology in relation to oral communication



## **PERSONAL FINANCE**

Grade 11

Credit: 1 unit

Prerequisite: none

In personal finance students will learn the importance of budgeting, saving, debt, etc. With this being an online course students will be able to move at their own pace while the instructor guides them through each section. Students are expected to watch videos of Dave Ramsey who provides this course and will be asked to answer questions, write journals of their own experiences, and be tested with this material as well. Students will learn the importance of money, and will leave the class with a better understanding of how it works.

Sections completed will include:

- Intro to personal finance
- Savings
- Budgeting
- Debt
- Consumer awareness
- Insurance
- Taxes
- Investing

## **JOURNALISM**

Grade Level: 10, 11, 12

Credit: 1 Unit

Prerequisite: Computer I

St. Joseph's journalism classes function as a publishing house for both the school annual and newspapers. Students receive hands-on training in writing, photography, page layout, interviewing skills, and the design and sale of advertising. The latter is required to financially support the publication of the yearbook.

Our yearbook has a Fall delivery date, so it's all-inclusive in its coverage of school events. There are two newspapers, one for Pre-K through 6th grade, and the other is for 7th-12th grades. Both are distributed 6-8 times a year.

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# *Driver Education*

## **DRIVER EDUCATION**

Grade Level: 9, 10, 11

Prerequisites:

- Student must be 14 years old.
- Student must have a valid Arkansas Learner's permit.

Driver's Education takes place after school at the end of the spring semester. Class time is after school Monday through Friday and sometimes on Saturday. The course includes classroom instruction including test work. It also includes "behind the wheel driving" in dual control vehicle under the supervision of a certified instructor. This class has limited enrollment. The cost of the class and information will be available in the spring. Please note that this is not a beginning driving course.

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# *Family & Consumer Science*

## **Basic Food Prep**

Grade Level: 10<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup>

Credit: 1 Unit

Prerequisite: None

Basic Food Preparation begins with the fundamentals and principles of cooking and the science of baking. This course includes nutrition basics, health and wellness, food decisions, kitchen basics, food preparation, and food combinations. Students will learn time management, production and leadership skills, cooperation, and cooking techniques.

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## *Fine Arts*

### **ART I**

Grade Level: 10<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup>

Credit: 1 Unit

Prerequisite: None

Art I is a year-long course. Students will study the social influences and the significance of art throughout history from the Paleolithic period to the Renaissance. They will examine characteristics of art including themes, mediums, processes, techniques and tools, which will be used to compose original works of art that demonstrate the student's understanding of the elements and principles of art. While critiquing artwork, students will use basic terminology and higher order thinking skills to draw inferences from the artwork we study. Students will also assemble an electronic portfolio of their artwork that reflect personal growth and demonstrates a successful completion of Art I.

### **ART II**

Grade Level: 11<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup>

Credit: 1 Unit

Prerequisite: Art I & Teacher Approval

Art II is a two-semester course for students who have successfully completed Art I. Students will explore and experiment with a broad variety of mediums, techniques, processes and tools to create original, complex compositions that reflect personal growth, ability to solve visual art problems and communicate ideas. Students will expand their knowledge of the elements and principles of art through criticism of visual art and production of drawings, paintings, and sculptures. Students will study different artist, styles, processes and techniques of art and their relationships in history from the Neoclassical period to Modern Art. Students will also assemble an electronic portfolio of their artwork that reflect personal growth and demonstrates a successful completion of Art II. At the end of the year all senior art students are required to set up an exhibit of their artwork.

### **BAND**

Grade Level: 7-12

Credit: 1 Unit

Prerequisite: Beginning Band

High School Band is a continued course for students with one or more year of previous band experience (or at the director's discretion) playing a wind (woodwind or brass) or percussion instrument. Class activities emphasize the continued development of instrumental technique, tone production, tuning, fundamentals of music theory, music literacy, music

performance and listening skills through ensemble performance of a varied band repertoire. The continued development of independent practice habits are highly encouraged. Performances are required. Students must provide their own instruments. (There are a limited number of instruments available for student use, please see the director for more information.)

\*Note: This is an 8th hour class.

### **BASIC ART**

Grade Level: 8

Credit: ½ Unit

Prerequisite: None

Basic Art is a semester course. It is a general survey of fine arts. The students will explore and demonstrate an understanding of the elements of art, concepts and practices of fine art. They will demonstrate creativity while using a variety of mediums, techniques, processes, and tools to develop expressive works of art. Students will reflect and respond in a variety of ways to the visual art of self and community.

### **DRAWING**

Grade Level: 8<sup>th</sup>

Credit: 1 Unit

Prerequisite: None

Drawing is a two-semester course designed for students who are interested in art. Students will experiment with a variety of techniques, processes and drawing mediums such as pencil, pen and ink, chalk, pastels, charcoal, printing ink and markers. A range of drawing concepts is covered such as effective use of line, mass, value, composition and perspective. There will be an emphasis on observation drawings from real life. Sometimes students will record what they see realistically and other times they will record their interpretation of the objects to develop their skills of sharing their thoughts, opinions and feelings about the world through their artwork.

### **STUDIO ART**

Grade Level: 12<sup>th</sup>

Credit: 1 Unit

Prerequisite: Art I, Art II, & Teacher Approval

Studio Art is a two-semester course designed for students who have successfully completed Art II. Studio Art is a student directed course where students demonstrate evidence of imagination, risk taking, complex problem-solving skills, higher order thinking and innovation. Students will move toward masterfully using the elements of art and principles of design in their artwork. Their artwork will consist of paintings drawings, ceramics, sculptures, mixed media, or other 2-D and 3-D mediums. Students will be required to create and maintain an electronic portfolio, that reflects personal growth in mediums, techniques, processes, and tools used to create complex 2-D and 3-D compositions. At the end of the year all senior art students are required to set up an exhibit of their artwork.

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## *Foreign Language*

### **SPANISH I**

Grade Level: 10

Credit: 1 Unit

Prerequisite: Teacher recommendation

This is a beginning high school level course in Spanish. The emphasis is on interpersonal communication using extensive listening, speaking, reading and writing practice in the classroom. A basic Spanish vocabulary, along with the study of the products, practices, and perspectives of culture and geography of Spanish-speaking countries is incorporated in the lessons. This course is designed with one goal in mind: to learn to communicate appropriately in Spanish at a basic level, a skill which is becoming more important in our ever-increasing multi-cultural society.

## **SPANISH II**

Grade Level: 11

Credit: 1 Unit

Prerequisite: Spanish I; teacher recommendation

This course is a review and an extension of Spanish I. There is an emphasis on learning to speak, read, and write Spanish in order to produce more detailed and proficient communication. Spanish grammar is studied in more depth, including past, future, and perfect verb tenses, sentence structure, and an increased level of vocabulary. As well, the practices, perspectives, and products of Spanish-speaking countries are studied. Several of our graduates have passed college Spanish proficiency tests, giving them credit for beginning college Spanish without having to take the course.

## **SPANISH III**

Grade Level: 12

Credit: 1 Unit

Prerequisite: Spanish I and II; teacher recommendation

This course is a review and an extension of Spanish II. The emphasis is on learning to speak, read, write, and listen in Spanish at a more advanced level. As well, students will study the practices, products, and perspectives of Spanish-speaking cultures through literature, film, and other culturally expressive forms. Spanish grammar is expanded upon in past, future, and passive tenses, as well as through other more advanced sentence structures and vocabulary.

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# *Health and P.E.*

## **HEALTH/PHYSICAL EDUCATION**

Grade Level: 7, 9

Credit: 1 Unit

Prerequisite: None

The course objectives for Health Education is to increase the students' awareness in the different areas of health--physical, mental, and social--and to develop an understanding of healthful behavior and ability to better one's own health level. The course content includes the following units: Health Choices, Mental Health, Nutrition, Physical Fitness, Substance Abuse, and First Aid and Personal Safety.

The activities in Physical Education are whiffle ball, kick ball, basketball, ultimate frisbee, ping pong, croquet, washers/horseshoes, volleyball, physical fitness testing, and more. The main goal or purpose of this class is to help students find activities they can enjoy after school hours.

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# *Industrial Technology*

## **INDUSTRIAL TECH - I**

Grade Level: 9 - 12

Credit: ½ Unit

Prerequisite: None

This course features introductory instruction in drafting and carpentry skills. Emphasis is given to the development of competencies related to the use of manual drafting equipment, measuring skills, design process and the proper use of hand tools. Introductory instruction in carpentry skills are practiced on functional projects in a laboratory setting using benchwork. Students will learn proper hand tool techniques, carpentry terminology and safety practices. This course will prepare students for the prerequisite skills needed for Industrial Technology - II.

## INDUSTRIAL TECH - II

Grade Level: 9 - 12

Credit: ½ Unit

Prerequisite: Industrial Tech - I

This course features instruction in the design, drafting and production of benchwork projects. Emphasis is given to the development of competencies in the use of basic carpentry power tools. Carpentry skills will be practiced on functional projects in a laboratory setting using benchwork. Students will learn proper power tool techniques, terminology and safety practices.

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## Language Arts

### ENGLISH 7

Grade Level: 7

Credit: 1 Unit

Prerequisite: None

In seventh grade English, grammar, writing, literature, spelling, and vocabulary are studied. Time is spent on grammar, covering parts of speech, subject-verb agreement, parts of the sentence, phrases and clauses. The writing units include studying sentence structure, writing paragraphs with a topic sentence, writing three-point essays with thesis statements, and writing book reports. In literature, short stories, poems, and novels are studied including the works *The Giver*; *Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry*; *The Monsters Are Due on Maple Street*; *A Christmas Carol: Scrooge and Marley*; and Shakespeare's *The Taming of the Shrew*. Seventh graders will continue to build and strengthen their comprehension of and appreciation for Shakespeare and his works. Students also have grade level appropriate vocabulary lessons. There are required technology components for various assignments throughout the year.

### ENGLISH 8

Grade Level: 8

Credit: 1 Unit

Prerequisite: English 7

In eighth grade English, grammar, writing, literature, and vocabulary are studied. Grammar studies begin with a review of the parts of speech and parts of the sentence, as well as learning to avoid run-ons and sentence fragments through writing exercises consisting of paragraphs, essays, letters, book reports and reviews, poetry, and responses to reading informational text as well as literature. Students are introduced to MLA writing and citation techniques, in addition to the avoidance of plagiarism (which is rigorously discussed) throughout the process of writing a 2-3 page paper that requires 2 sources, on a topic of the student's choice. Eighth grade students will read short stories, poems, plays, and novels including, the novel *The Outsiders* and Shakespeare's play *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. Students also have grade level appropriate vocabulary lessons. There are required technology components for various assignments throughout the year.

### ENGLISH 9

Grade Level: 9

Credit: 1 Unit

Prerequisite: English 8

In ninth grade English, freshman study writing, literature, vocabulary, and grammar. The writing lessons will include the study and practice of different kinds of essays such as personal, descriptive, narrative, expository, persuasive, as well as the research paper where the MLA writing style will be further developed. The research paper will consist of students discussing a particular career that they are interested in, which will be based on a variety of 3 sources, and will be presented through a 4-5 page research paper. Grammar lessons will include the study and practice of basic writing skills such as sentence structure, problem sentences, verb tenses, and punctuation. Short stories and poetry are part of the reading program. The novels read and studied are *To Kill a Mockingbird* and *Jane Eyre*. This course also covers Shakespeare's *Othello* and an introduction to classical mythology and the reading of *The Odyssey*, an epic poem. As a non-fiction

selection, students may also read *Heaven Is for Real*. Students also have grade level appropriate vocabulary lessons. There are required technology components for various assignments throughout the year.

### **HONORS ENGLISH I:**

Grade Level: 9          Credit: 1 Unit          Prerequisite: Acceptance into Honors Program for English

In Honors English I, students will be asked to select and analyze two novels from the recommended summer reading list and write a comparison/contrast of the novels, paying careful attention to the texts' writing techniques (style, diction, syntax, etc.) and their effect on the novels. This assignment will be due the first Friday of the first full week of school to remain in Honors. In addition, students will do an in-depth author study of a modern young adult author. Honors students will also complete a special project on Shakespeare based upon a personal interpretation of one of his plays, as well as a project on Agatha Christie's *And Then There Were None*. Honors students will also work together to produce and publish a literary or poetry book comprised of poems and essays written by the student body. All of the above work is to be completed in addition to the English I requirements. Also, students in Honors are held to a higher standard of finished product than students in standard English courses.

### **ENGLISH 10: World Literature**

Grade Level: 10          Credit: 1 Unit          Prerequisite: English 9

In tenth grade English, sophomores study a variety of writing, world literature, vocabulary, and grammar. Grammar lessons are taught as the need arises as noticed through student writing and technique. The different types of essays include persuasive writing, character analyses, book reports, response to readings in informational texts as well as literature, and a research paper in MLA format where the avoidance of plagiarism (which is rigorously discussed) throughout the process of writing a 5-6 page paper that requires 3 sources, on a topic concerning social issues. Short stories and poetry are part of the reading program, along with *Julius Caesar*; *Heroes, Gods and Monsters of Greek Mythology*; and *Night*. Students also have grade level appropriate vocabulary lessons. There are required technology components for various assignments throughout the year.

### **HONORS ENGLISH II:**

Grade Level: 10          Credit: 1 Unit          Prerequisite: Acceptance into Honors Program for English

In Honors English II, Summer Reading will be an analysis and comparison of two novels from the teacher approved list. This will require close reading of the texts' writing techniques (style, diction, syntax, etc) and its effect on the novel, as well as whether the contemporary novel is a suitable introduction for students to the original classic. This assignment will be due on the first Friday of the first full week returning to school to remain in Honors. First semester projects will include researching an individual who has significantly impacted St. Joseph School and whose accomplishments will be discussed in a MLA formatted persuasive paper, presented to the Alumni Association for consideration of the year's Honorary Alumni (students are graded on writing only, not whether or not their choice is selected by Alumni Assoc.). Students will compile information through research, and interviews of sources. Second semester will focus on a Shakespearean project, which will also include research and group work to compile. There are required technology components for various assignments throughout the year, and honors students will be graded on a higher scale than standard English class students. Honors students must also attend one college or university event and write a two page analysis of their experience (one per semester). This can include an art exhibit, play/performance, speaker, poetry reading, or performance art workshop.

### **ENGLISH 11: American Literature**

Grade Level: 11          Credit: 1 Unit          Prerequisite: English 10

The focus of eleventh grade English is American literature. Various genres from the different time periods in American history are studied through a range of poems and novels, including Nathaniel Hawthorne's *The Scarlet Letter* and F. Scott Fitzgerald's *The Great Gatsby*. The two plays studied are Arthur Miller's *The Crucible* and William Shakespeare's *Hamlet*

(the only piece of literature that is not from the American genre in this course), which is studied in preparation for English IV's comprehensive examination of historical British literature. Writing is also an important part of this course. Students will have the opportunity to practice writing various types of essays: personal narrative, character analysis, response to literature, comparison and contrast, persuasive, as well as the research paper. The major writing project is a research paper where students will argue the significant impact of an American literary or historical figure or event, which students will base on a variety of four sources to compile their analysis, and will present such findings through a 6-7 page research paper. MLA writing format is also reinforced throughout this writing process. Students also have grade level appropriate vocabulary lessons. There are required technology components for various assignments throughout the year.

### **HONORS ENGLISH III:**

Grade Level: 11      Credit: 1 Unit      Prerequisite: Acceptance into Honors Program for English

In Honors English III, students will be asked to select and analyze two novels from the recommended summer reading list and write a comparison/contrast of the novels, paying careful attention to the texts' writing techniques (style, diction, syntax, etc.) and their effect on the novels. This assignment will be due the first Friday of the first full week of school to remain in Honors. Honors students will also read and analyze American classics that cover a variety of time periods in America's history, such as Margaret Mitchell's *Gone with the Wind*, Thornton Wilder's *Our Town*, or Tennessee Williams's *Cat on a Hot Tin Roof*. Students will complete unique projects that will enhance the understanding of the themes present in the novels. Honors students will teach a lesson based on background information about a selection taught in English III; copies of their researched material will be distributed to their classmates. Honors students will also work together to produce and publish a literary or poetry book comprised of poems and essays written by the student body. All of the above work is to be completed in addition to the requirements of English III. In addition, students in Honors are held to a higher standard of finished product than students in standard English courses. There are required technology components for various assignments throughout the year.

### **ENGLISH 12: British Literature**

Grade level: 12      Credit: 1 Unit      Prerequisite: English 11

The focus of senior English is Historical British literature. Various genres from the Anglo-Saxon Period, the Medieval Period, the Renaissance, the Seventeenth Century, the Romantic Period, The Victorian Era and Modern English are studied. The novels for senior English are adapted to support the historical context of the time period being studied, as well as a means for students to analyze the events, beliefs, and social customs of the time period as mentioned in the literary works. The novels include readings from Geoffrey Chaucer's *Canterbury Tales*, Mary Shelley's *Frankenstein*, Charles Dickens' *A Christmas Carol*, George Orwell's *1984*, and informational texts covering various topics and issues linked to the literary readings. The plays studied are George Bernard Shaw's *Pygmalion* and Shakespeare's *Macbeth*. Writing styles and techniques are important aspects of this course since students will compose a variety of papers including various forms of responses to informational texts as well as literary works. The major writing project is a research paper where students will argue the significant impact a British literary or historical figure has had, which students based on a variety of four sources to compile their analysis, and will present such findings through a 7-8 page research paper and an oral presentation. The process of writing a paper in MLA format is reinforced and the avoidance of plagiarism is rigorously reviewed. Students also have grade level appropriate vocabulary lessons. There are required technology components for various assignments throughout the year.

### **HONORS ENGLISH IV:**

Grade Level: 12      Credit: 1 Unit      Prerequisite: Acceptance into Honors Program for English

Honors English IV includes an in depth study of time periods including various topics such as disease, living conditions, the role of the Catholic Church, author studies, and analysis of historical events on the text, where students will do presentations for the standard English class. Summer Reading will be an analysis and comparison of two novels from the teacher approved list, which will require close reading of the texts' writing techniques (style, diction, syntax, etc) and their effects on the novel, as well as whether the contemporary novel is a suitable introduction for students to the original classic. This assignment will be due on the first Friday of the first full week returning to school to remain in Honors. First semester projects will include researching an individual who has significantly impacted St. Joseph School and whose

accomplishments will be discussed in a MLA formatted persuasive paper, and presented to the Alumni Association for consideration of the year's Honorary Alumni (students are graded on writing only, not whether or not their choice is selected by Alumni Assoc.). Second semester will focus on a Shakespearean project, which will also include research and group work to compile. There are required technology components for various assignments throughout the year, and honors students will be graded on a higher scale than standard English class students. Honors students must also attend one college or university event and write a two page analysis of their experience (one per semester). This can include an art exhibit, play/performance, speaker, poetry reading, or performance art workshop.

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## *Library*

### **HIGH SCHOOL LIBRARY**

Objectives:

- Promote and encourage reading
- Provide materials to support and supplement classroom activities.
- Teach students to identify and use authoritative information sources.

The library is used in assistance with the following types of projects:

- Reports about chemical elements in the Chemistry class.
- Doing research and writing reviews in the General Science class.
- Doing research for different types of projects in the Life Science class.
- Assisting in the research for the research papers in the 10<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup>, and 12<sup>th</sup> grade English classes.
- Assisting in novel reviews in 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade English classes.

The librarian is available to assist with these projects by helping teachers to locate resources and shape the assignment. Students are also introduced to the types of print and non-print resources available and teach them how to use the subscription databases. The librarian is also there to help locate appropriate Internet sites and place pathfinders on the student computers.

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## *Mathematics*

### **ALGEBRA I**

Grade level: 9

Credit: 1 Unit

Prerequisite: Pre-Algebra

The content of Algebra I is organized around families of functions, with special emphasis on linear and quadratic functions. As students learn about each family of functions, they will learn to represent them in multiple ways--as verbal descriptions, equations, tables, and graphs. They will also learn to model real-world situations using functions in order to solve problems arising from those situations. Students will also explore probability and data analysis as well as numerous examples and exercises involving geometry. The mathematical concepts and skills included and given appropriate emphasis in this course are aligned for the Common Core State Standards Initiative.

### **HONORS ALGEBRA I:**

Grade Level: 9

Credit: 1 Unit

Prerequisite: Acceptance into Honors Program for Math

In Honors Algebra I, besides completing the requirements for the regular class, students will work eight challenge



problems each quarter. These problems are related to the material in each chapter covered in the general curriculum. In addition, each quarter, students will complete an additional project that will include basic or applied research. Some projects will require a two page typed paper and classroom presentation. Most of these projects will require individual and group effort. Sample topics include exploring the binary number system, gathering data for mathematical experiments and using this information to create tables, equations, graphs, and for making predictions, a six week stock market scenario, and researching various number systems and creating one of their own using operations that they have designed.

## **ALGEBRA II**

Grade level: 11

Credit: 1 Unit

Prerequisite: Algebra I, Geometry

The content of Algebra II is organized around families of functions, including linear, quadratic, exponential, logarithmic, radical, and rational functions. As students study each family of functions, they will learn to represent them in multiple ways--as verbal descriptions, equations, tables and graphs. They will also learn to model real-world situations using functions in order to solve problems arising from those situations. Students will also explore probability and data analysis as well as numerous examples and exercises involving geometry and trigonometry. The mathematical concepts and skills included and given appropriate emphasis in this course are aligned for the Common Core State Standards Initiative.

## **HONORS ALGEBRA II:**

Grade Level: 11

Credit: 1 Unit

Prerequisite: Acceptance into Honors Program for Math

In Honors Algebra II, besides completing the requirements for the regular class, students will work eight challenge problems each quarter. These problems are related to the material in each chapter covered in the general curriculum. In addition, each quarter, students will complete an additional project that will include basic or applied research. Some projects will require a two page typed paper and classroom presentation. Most of these projects will require individual and group effort. Sample topics include investigating the Fibonacci numbers, recognizing and designing quadratics in the real world in order to make calculations, using the graphing calculator to create art forms with various mathematical equations, and doing research and gathering data to create tables, equations, graphs, and for making predictions.

## **ALGEBRA III**

Grade Level: 12

Credit: 1 Unit

Prerequisite: Algebra II

“Algebra and Trigonometry for College Readiness” has been designed to prepare today’s students for college-level mathematics courses. The table of contents has been specifically crafted to meet the needs of those who have completed Algebra II but require another year of mathematics to prepare them for credit-bearing courses in college. The text takes a traditional skill-building and problem-solving approach and includes numerous, modern applications. The many exercises in this text supply ample opportunity for students to sharpen their skills. All of the topics needed for success in college-level College Algebra and Pre-Calculus courses are covered thoroughly. In addition, several topics are included that will prepare students for college courses in Finite Mathematics: basic set theory, counting theory, and probability theory; and extensive work with systems of equations and matrices.

## **GEOMETRY**

Grade level: 10

Credit: 1 Unit

Prerequisite: Algebra I

This course in Geometry will require students to use logical reasoning and geometrical methods to study mathematical concepts and the relationships among them. Specifically, this course will cover: Patterns, Inductive/Deductive Reasoning, Proofs, Constructions using compass and straight edge, Measuring segments/angles, Congruent segments/angles, Coordinate Geometry, Properties of Polygons, Similar Polygons, Properties of Triangles, Pythagorean Theorem and Applications, Properties of Quadrilaterals, Transformations, Properties of Circles, Areas of Plane Figures, and Volumes of Solids.

## **HONORS GEOMETRY:**

Grade Level: 10                      Credit: 1 Unit  
Prerequisite: Acceptance into Honors Program for Math

In addition to the general curriculum, Honors students will be expected to solve additional challenge problems with each assignment as the chapters and sections are completed. These challenge problems require a deeper level of understanding and helps build upon an already developed mathematical foundation to prepare students for more advanced topics in the future. Honors students will also complete more geometric proofs throughout the year on both homework assignments and tests.

## **MATH 7**

Grade Level: 7    Credit: 1 Unit    Prerequisite: None

Seventh grade math is designed to allow students to review foundational skills over basic math computations, concepts, and applications. The instructional objectives are to extend skills in analysis, real-life application, critical thinking, and problem solving. Areas of focus include rational and irrational numbers, analyzing two and three dimensional geometric shapes, ratio and proportion, percentages, and statistics and probability. Other instructional objectives are to establish a foundation in algebra such as equations, inequalities, functional relationships, and linear relations. Enrichment work will also be given to challenge those students who are more advanced. Tutorials are scheduled for those students who are in need of extra help.

## **PRE-ALGEBRA**

Grade Level: 8    Credit: 1 Unit    Prerequisite: Math 7

Pre-Algebra will go beyond basic concepts and skill with whole numbers, fractions, decimals, and integers. It is designed to give each student a strong foundation in algebra, formulating and reasoning about expressions and equations. It will include modeling data with a linear equation, solving linear equations, and systems of linear equations. It will also introduce them to geometry by analyzing two-and three-dimensional space and figures using distance, angle, similarity and congruence. Statistics and probability with data analysis will be explored along with reading, interpreting, and designing graphs. The course requires a deeper level of concentration and the ability to progress logically from one step of a problem to the next. A variety of instructions and assessment techniques will be utilized throughout the course including (but not limited to) individual and group work, board work, use of manipulatives, and more.

## **TRIGONOMETRY / PRE-CALCULUS**

Grade level: 12    Credit: 1 Unit  
Prerequisite: Geometry, Semester Average of "A" or "B" in Algebra II

This course in Trigonometry/Precalculus will require students to use both algebraic and geometrical reasoning. Specifically, this course will cover: Trigonometric Functions, Inverse Trigonometric Functions, the Unit Circle, Transformations of Sinusoids, Applications of Trigonometry, Analytic Trigonometry, Deriving and Proving Trigonometric Identities, Law of Sines and Cosines, Vectors, Polar Coordinates, Conic Sections, and introduction to Limits.

## **CONCURRENT MATH 1580 (previously called HONORS TRIGONOMETRY / PRE-CALCULUS):**

Grade Level: 12    Credit: 1 Unit  
Prerequisite: Acceptance into UCA Concurrent Program

In addition to the general curriculum, Honors students will be expected to solve challenge problems with each

assignment from the text as the chapters and sections are completed. These challenge problems should build upon an already developed mathematical foundation and are generally either abstract or application type problems that will require a deeper level of mathematical understanding.

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# Religion

## Religion 7

Grade: 7

Credit: 1 Unit

Prerequisite: Religion 6

Objectives:

Holiness:

- Foster and develop a committed personal relationship with Jesus, enriched by daily spiritual exercises and prayer i.e. the Rosary, prayers of the Church, spontaneous prayer, Bible reading, meditation, Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, weekly school Mass, participation in the ministries of the Mass four times a school year, prayers for the unborn, and prayer leadership.

Formation:

- Study God's faithful love as revealed in the Scriptures, particularly the Gospels
- Grow in knowledge and love of the Church and deepen a personal relationship with Jesus
- The above will be accomplished by using the text *Call To Faith*, Youth Catechism of the Catholic Church, Scriptures, Lives of the Saints, and Catholic Social Teaching. .
- Integrate the "Circle of Grace" Diocese of Little Rock Safe Environment Program a mandatory educational training Protecting God's Children
- Explore several issues relating to sexuality using John Paul II's middle school *Theology of the Body*

Evangelization:

- Students will witness the living of their faith to family, fellow students, friends, and faculty, particularly through service to others.
- Students will participate in one class service project (to be decided – around Christmas)
- Students will do a total of 16 hours service (8 per semester) with two written summaries due in December and in April. These are accountable in class.

## RELIGION 8

Grade 8

Credit: 1 Unit

Prerequisite: Religion 7

Objectives:

Holiness--

- To foster and develop a committed personal relationship with Jesus Christ, enriched by daily spiritual exercises and prayer, the Rosary, prayers of the Church, spontaneous prayer, Bible reading, meditation, and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, weekly school Mass, participation in the ministries of the Mass four times a school year, prayers for the unborn, and prayer leadership

Formation:

- To study God's faithful love as revealed in the Church founded by Jesus Christ,
- To develop roots in the Catholic Church in Tradition, Scripture, doctrine, parish life, and ecumenism,
- To explore issues relating to sexuality using John Paul II's "Theology of the Body" for middle school.
- To grow in knowledge and love of the Church by using the textbook "*Alive in Christ*," the Youth Catechism of the Catholic Church, *The Catholic Teen Bible*. Scriptures, the Lives of the Saints, Catholic Social Teaching, and "Theology of the Body for Middle School," and *Decision Point*.

Evangelization:

- The students will witness the living of their Faith to family, fellow students, friends, and faculty, and participate in one service project per semester, as funding permits.

- Integrate the “Circle of Grace” Diocese of Little Rock Safe Environment Program a mandatory educational training Protecting God’s Children
- Students will **complete** a total of 16 hours service (8 per semester) with written summaries due at the end of each semester (teacher will specify exact date). These will count as class grades.

## RELIGION 9

Grade Level: 9

Credit: 1 Unit

Prerequisite: Religion 8

This course assists high school freshmen to develop a “living, explicit, and active faith through formation in doctrine and the experience of Christian living” (*Code of Canon Law # 773*). In other words, this course helps adolescents open themselves to God’s gift of faith so that it becomes real and meaningful--something that will help shape the people they are now and will someday become.

The course also motivates students to become involved in Christian community (especially through liturgy and prayer) and in the lived practice of faith (through morality and social justice). In previous years, this course has been linked with the teachings for the Sacrament of Confirmation. This curriculum inspires collaboration between students through two textbooks, *The Bible* the first semester and *Jesus Christ* the second semester. This course is developed in line with U. S. Bishops' High School Curriculum Framework and provides key doctrine from the Catechism of the Catholic Church in a clear and accessible way, making it relevant for the students today.

*The Bible: The Living Word of God* provides an introduction to the Sacred Scriptures and to the unfolding of salvation history, with a particular focus on Jesus Christ as the fulfillment of salvation history. This course guides the students in coming to know the people of salvation history, including the early leaders of Israel, the Judges, kings, and the prophets. The students also learn through their own innovative ideas of discovery and technology the role of the Scriptures in their lives as individuals as well as the life of the Church. In the second semester, the text *Jesus Christ: God's Love Made Visible* the students encounter Jesus Christ, the Second Person of the Trinity. This course leads the students toward a deeper understanding of Divine Revelation, the Trinity, the Incarnation, Jesus, salvation, and discipleship as a response to God's love.

- Students will **complete** a total of 16 hours service (8 per semester) with written summaries due at the end of each semester (teacher will specify exact date). These will count as class grades.
- Integrate the “Circle of Grace” Diocese of Little Rock Safe Environment Program a mandatory educational training Protecting God’s Children.

## RELIGION 10

Grade Level: 10

Credit: 1 Unit

Prerequisite: Religion 9

The purpose this course is to help students understand why God redeems us and how the Incarnation fulfills His plan of redemption. It is through His Ascension and sending of the Holy Spirit that our redemption is made possible. Students will see how through His suffering Jesus stands in solidarity with all humanity and calls us to do the same. Students will learn how the Paschal Mystery (Passion, Death, Resurrection, & Ascension) calls us to a life of holiness.

Students will learn what we mean when we speak of the Church. Students will study the origins of the Church, the meaning of the four marks of the Church (One, Holy, Catholic, & Apostolic). They will explore how the Church carries out her mission and becomes a light to all people. Students will learn how God calls us to be Disciples in the Church.

The first semester course uses the book: *The Paschal Mystery: Christ's Mission of Salvation*. The second semester course uses to book: *The Church: Christ in the World Today*. We will continue discussing sexuality, relationships, responsible decision-making, and the Church teachings on these themes using *You:Life, Love and the Theology of the Body*.

- Integrate the “Circle of Grace” Diocese of Little Rock Safe Environment Program a mandatory educational training Protecting God’s Children
- Students will **complete** a total of 16 hours service (8 per semester) with written summaries due at the end of each semester (teacher will specify exact date). These will count as class grades.

## RELIGION 11

Grade Level: 11

Credit: 1 Unit

Prerequisite: Religion 10

This high school religion course engages the student in the concept of learning "Understanding by Design" following a three-stage process of desired results, acceptable evidence, and the learning plan. This learning style encourages the student to "uncover" information and ideas as opposed to covering it.

This curriculum inspires collaboration between students through two textbooks, *The Sacraments* the first semester and *Christian Morality* the second semester. This course is developed in line with U. S. Bishops' High School Curriculum Framework and provides key doctrine from the Catechism of the Catholic Church in a clear and accessible way, making it relevant for the students today.

*The Sacraments: Encounters with Christ* provides an opportunity to encounter Christ in a full and real way. The focus of this course is to help the students learn about the Seven Sacraments, especially the Eucharist, in order to enable them to more fully participate in them. The course also explores the history, scriptural foundation, and current practices of the sacraments. In the second semester, the text *Christian Morality: Our Responses to God's Love* recognizes students face countless choices and challenges in their daily lives. This course addresses how a relationship with Christ and the Church can lead to choices that are in accord with God's plan. The students learn what it means to live as a disciple of Christ and how the Church strengthens this discipleship. We continue discussion on tough issues, ethical moral questions, responsible decision-making, and the Church teachings on these themes using *Theology of the Body for Teens* and *Beginning Apologetics: Tough Issues*.

- Students will **complete** a total of 16 hours service (8 per semester) with written summaries due at the end of each semester (teacher will specify exact date). These will count as class grades.
- Integrate Students will **complete** a total of 16 hours service (8 per semester) with written summaries due at the end of each semester (teacher will specify exact date). These will count as class grades.
- Service - learning is a component of the eleventh grade religion program witnessed in the local community. Lessons engage the students in looking at the relational aspect of the service and discernment of stewardship in their service of time and talent.

## RELIGION 12

Grade level: 12

Credit: 1 Unit

Prerequisite: Religion 11

In this course, students will begin by learning to live our Christian Vocation and how to respond to God's call. They will explore the theology of Christian Marriage and study the Sacrament of Marriage. Students will learn the theology of Holy Orders and the three degrees of Holy Orders. They will investigate the formation of a priest preparing for the Sacrament of Holy Orders. Students will gain an understanding of consecrated life and see how some members of our parish (priest, deacon, and sister) have discerned that God was calling them to their vocation.

In the second semester students will learn and understand the Catholic Social Teachings in the Modern Age. They will see how to create a just society, respect human dignity, promote peace, examine economic justice, learn to live justly, and to provide services to others through individual or group projects. In the second semester students will also study *Basic Apologetics - How to Explain and Defend the Catholic Church*. This will be especially important as students leave St. Joseph School and go off to college or work and begin interacting with many more non-Catholics who might question them about the Catholic faith.

We will continue discussing sexuality, relationships, and responsible decision-making, and the Church teachings on these themes using: *You: Life, Love and the Theology of the Body*. We will continue to use *The Catholic Teen Study Bible*. First semester we will be using the text *Vocations: Answering God's Call*. The second semester we will use both *Catholic Social Teaching: Christian Life in Society*, and *Beginning Apologetics: How to Explain and Defend the Catholic Faith*.

- Integrate the "Circle of Grace" Diocese of Little Rock Safe Environment Program a mandatory educational training Protecting God's Children.
- Students will complete a total of 16 hours of service (8 per semester) with written summaries due at the end of each semester (teacher will specify the exact date). These will count as class grades.

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# Science

## ANATOMY

Grade Level: 11, 12

Credit: 1 Unit

Prerequisite: Biology

Anatomy is the study of the form and function of the human body. This course presents anatomical and physiological concepts, along with information on disease and dysfunction to enhance and reinforce an understanding of normal human life and health. The systems studied include: (1) Integumentary, (2) Skeletal, (3) Muscular, (4) Nervous, (5) Endocrine, (6) Cardiovascular, (7) Respiratory, (8) Digestive, (9) Lymphatic, (10) Urinary and (11) Reproductive.

**HONORS ANATOMY:** 11th or 12th grade

Grade Level: 11/12

Credit: 1 Unit

Prerequisite: Acceptance into Honors Program for Science

The Honors students will complete some type of research project each quarter. They will either prepare complete research paper, citing sources, or they will create an oral presentation with sources cited, along with a page of notes for each class member and the instructor. Sample topics for Anatomy are *Cancer Types and Treatments*, *Sports Injuries and Surgical Procedures*, *Diabetes or Other Diseases Involving Hormonal Dysfunction*, and *Fetal or Child Development Issues*.

## BIOLOGY

Grade Level: 10

Credit: 1 Unit

Prerequisite: General Science

Biology is the study of living things. The course covers zoology, botany, cell biology, microbiology, genetics, and ecology. The laboratory exercises that accompany the chapters enhance the textbook material. The biology labs include DNA isolation and a DNA fingerprinting and a forensics lab. There are dissection labs--worms, grasshoppers, fish and frogs.

**HONORS BIOLOGY:**

Grade Level: 10

Credit: 1 Unit

Prerequisite: Acceptance into Honors Program for Science

The Honors students will complete some type of research project each quarter. They will either prepare a complete research paper, citing sources, or they will create an oral presentation with sources cited, along with a page of notes for each class member and the instructor. Sample topics for Biology are *Famous Biologists and Their Discoveries*, *Human Genetic Diseases: Causes and Treatments*, *Evolution and Ecological Issues*, and *Natural History of an Organism of your choice*.

## CHEMISTRY

Grade Level: 11, 12

Credit: 1 Unit

Prerequisite: Algebra I, Algebra II (successful completion or concurrent enrollment)

Chemistry is the study of matter, changes in matter, and the energy associated with these changes. The concepts of atomic structure, periodicity, stoichiometry, gas laws, solutions, acid-base theory, kinetics, and organic chemistry are studied.

This class is college preparatory and designed to introduce the student to the fundamental science of chemistry, including laboratory experiences, mathematical concepts, computational skills, and analytical skills necessary to be successful in a beginning college science course. Students will learn the chemical language of symbols, formulas, and equations, and their relationships to actual reactions and real world chemical processes. Demonstrations and labs will

enhance the process and a good background in Algebra is required.

## **HONORS CHEMISTRY**

Grade Level: 11/12      Credit: 1 Unit      Prerequisite: Acceptance into Honors Program for Science

The Honors students will complete some type of research project each quarter. They will either prepare a complete research paper, citing sources, create an oral presentation with sources cited, along with a page of notes for each class member and the instructor, or design and present a chemical reaction to demonstrate a principle of chemistry. Sample topics for Chemistry are *Famous Chemists and Their Discoveries*, *Radiation Uses in Medicine and Treatment of Disease*, *Chemistry in Industry*, and *Recent Advances in Biochemistry and Medicine*.

## **GENERAL SCIENCE**

Grade Level: 11, 12      Credit: 1 Unit      Prerequisite: Biology

The course objectives are to increase the students' awareness in different areas of general science and to develop an understanding of the different levels and branches of science. Students will see how the different levels of science are part of their own lifestyle.

## **PHYSICAL SCIENCE**

Grade Level: 9      Credit: 1 Unit      Prerequisite: Earth Science

Physical Science is the study of energy and matter. In the first semester, the following units are studied: scientific method; measurements; finding mass, volume, and density; changing Fahrenheit to Celsius and vice-versa; fundamental properties of matter; determining acceleration, force, and motion; energy sources; waves; sound; light and lenses, and spectrum uses for light. In the second semester, the following is studied: the structure of matter; metal and nonmetal; the periodic table; radioactivity--alpha, beta, and gamma decay; ionic and covalent compounds; suspensions and colloids; chemical formulas; chemical reactions; acids, bases, and pH; carbon compounds; electricity; and magnetism. Labs are a part of this course in order to enhance what is learned in the text.

## **HONORS PHYSICAL SCIENCE**

Grade Level: 9      Credit: 1 Unit      Prerequisite: Acceptance into Honors Program for Science

The Honor students will complete some type of research project each semester. The 1<sup>st</sup> semester the project will be on a Chemistry topic of their choosing, and the 2<sup>nd</sup> semester the project will be on a Physics topic of their choosing. The students will present the project in class and provide their classmates with notes and background information on their topic. The students will also write a three page report on their topic and explain why they choose that topic.

## **PHYSICS**

Grade Level: 12      Credit: 1 Unit  
Prerequisite: Geometry, Algebra II, and Advanced Math (Trig/Pre-Cal) enrollment

This is an introductory course of Physics and is heavily math based. The topics that will be covered are: Displacement and Distance, Motion in One Dimension, Velocity, Acceleration, Vectors, Motion in Two Dimensions, Newton's Laws of Motion, Work, Power, Energy, Momentum/Collisions, and Fluid Mechanics. Once these topics are covered the following topics will be covered based on student interest: Circular Motion, Temperature Scales, Thermodynamics, Harmonic motion, Wave motion, Properties of Waves, Current, Magnetism, and Quantum Mechanics.

## **HONORS PHYSICS: 12th grade**

Grade Level: 12

Credit: 1 Unit

Prerequisite: Geometry, Algebra II, and Advanced Math concurrent enrollment & acceptance into Honors Program for Science

In addition to the general curriculum, the Honors students will solve additional problems on applications for each section as designated by the instructor. These problems will be more advanced, requiring students to go deeper into the concepts. Students will also be expected to complete extra analysis questions on labs completed throughout the course.

## **SCIENCE 7 / SCIENCE 8**

Grade Level: 7 / 8

Credit: 1 Unit

Prerequisite: None

Both 7th and 8th grade Science is an integrated Science that incorporates Earth Science, Life Science, and Physical Science.

- Science 7 focuses on Earth Structures, Ecology and the Environment, Forces and Energy.
- Science 8 focuses on Water and the Atmosphere, The Diversity of Life, Sound and Light

Both Science 7 and Science 7 uses *Interactive Science* text and resources. *Interactive Science* is a comprehensive middle school science curriculum that supports project-based inquiry and hands-on learning. Lessons incorporate Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS) including Disciplinary Core Ideas (DCI), Crosscutting Concepts (CCC), and Science and Engineering Practices (SEP). Interdisciplinary STEM activities and projects are included in every chapter. *Interactive Science* provides new digital lessons and teaching tools for blended learning experiences that engage students and drive inquiry.

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# *Social Studies*

## **ARKANSAS HISTORY**

Grade Level: 8

Credit: ½ Unit

Prerequisite: None

This one-semester course examines Arkansas' geographic, political, and cultural history from the time it was explored by Thomas Jefferson's commissioned expedition in 1804 through the mid-20th century.

Sixteen weeks is a short time to cover more than 200 years of history, so this course necessarily highlights a number of the state's most important events. To get a sense of place, it begins with a look at Arkansas' 75 counties and their county seats. That's followed by a study of the establishment of St. Joseph Church in 1879 and the growth and development of its educational system. The Hunter-Dunbar expedition comes next. It was a part of the exploration of the newly-acquired Louisiana Purchase in the early 19th century. The introduction of slavery into Arkansas' economy follows and moves into the Civil War. Then comes westward expansion and frontier justice in Northwest Arkansas where Judge Isaac Parker held court for 20 years. The Great Depression and the forced migration of rural sharecroppers is the next unit. World War II comes along, and with it the forced entry of thousands of Japanese-American citizens who were transported from their homes on the West Coast to internment camps built in the Arkansas delta. Finally, another minority group suffered indignities during the Little Rock Central Integration Crisis. The class wraps with a look at that high school more than 50 years later.

Along with the use of textbook material, Arkansas History includes two field trips, a guest speaker or two, the viewing of several documentaries and historic films, and the creation of at least two group projects.

## **CIVICS**

Grade Level: 9

Credit: ½ Unit

Prerequisite: None

Civics is a one semester course that provides an introduction to American government and politics. Among the



topics covered in the class are the three branches of the government and their relationship to each other, the United States Constitution including the 27 amendments, and American civil and criminal law. The goal of the course is to make each student a well and informed citizen, worthy of the rights and responsibilities allowed under our Constitution.

## **ECONOMICS**

Grade Level: 9

Credit: 1/2 Unit

Prerequisite: None

This one semester course will examine basic economic principles including, but not limited to: *What is Economics*, *Microeconomics*, *Macroeconomics*, and *World Trade*. Instruction will include a combination of lecture, group activities, and supplemental material. Students will not only learn concepts about basic economics but will apply these concepts to their day to day lives.

## **AMERICAN HISTORY**

Grade Level: 8

Credit: ½ Unit

Prerequisite: None

The eighth grade American history course emphasizes a presentation of American studies from the the American War for Independence through the Spanish-American War. Social, political, and economic investigations of each time period will be presented and discussed though various resources: charts, maps, simulations, audio/visual presentations, field trips, and internet exploration and research.

The basic focal points will draw heavily on these units:

- United States War for Independence & U.S. Government foundations
- Early Republic (1789-1845)
- Manifest Destiny & U.S. expansion
- Civil War & Reconstruction
- Gilded Age (1877-1898)
- Spanish-American War & U.S. imperialism

## **INTRODUCTION TO GIS**

Grade Level: 8

Credit: ½ Unit

Prerequisite: None

Introduction to GIS in the 8<sup>th</sup> grade is a semester class intended as an introduction to GIS, or Geographic Information System, using cloud-based mapping software from ArcGIS Online. Students will visualize, question, analyze and understand data about the world and human activity and the mapping software will enable students to create original, interactive maps of collected data in order to reveal patterns, point out problems and show connections that may or may not be apparent in tables or text.

## **PSYCHOLOGY**

Grade Level: 10, 11, 12

Credit: 1 Unit

Prerequisite: None

Psychology is a social studies elective course that introduces students to the science of behavior and mental processes. Psychology seeks to explain and predict why people behave, feel, and think as they do. Psychology provides tools to help us to gain insight into our own behavior, as well as our relationships to others. The course includes an overview of the history of psychology as well as an opportunity to study individual and social psychology and how the knowledge and methods of psychologists are applied to the solution of human problems.

The content of this course includes human development; biological bases of behavior; sensation and perception; learning, memory, and cognition; behavior patterns; and psychological disorders and their treatments. Throughout the course, students will develop and apply disciplinary literacy skills: reading, writing, speaking, and listening. As students seek answers to compelling and supporting questions, they will examine a variety of primary and secondary sources and communicate responses in multiple ways, including oral, visual, and written forms.

## **UNITED STATES HISTORY**

Grade Level: 11

Credit: 1 Unit

Prerequisite: None

The eleventh grade United States history course emphasizes a presentation of American studies from the American War for Independence to modern time. Social, political, and economic investigations of each time period will be presented and discussed through various resources: charts, maps, simulations, audio/visual presentations, field trips, and internet exploration and research.

The basic focal points will draw heavily on these units:

- United States War for Independence & U.S. Government foundations
- Early Republic (1789-1845)
- Manifest Destiny & U.S. expansion
- Civil War & Reconstruction
- Gilded Age (1877-1898)
- Spanish-American War & U.S. imperialism
- Progressive Movement & World War I
- Boom and Bust (1920-1932)
- New Deal & World War II
- Postwar America (incl. Cold War and Civil Rights Movement)
- Vietnam War & 1970's politics
- 1980's Conservatism
- Special topics (1992-2017)

## **HONORS UNITED STATES HISTORY**

Grade Level: 11

Credit: 1 Unit

Prerequisite: Acceptance into Honors Program for Social Studies

In addition to the regular curriculum, Honors students will have additional essay questions on their examinations and may have additional assignments to complete throughout the course of study.

## **WORLD GEOGRAPHY**

Grade Level: 7

Credit: 1 Unit

Prerequisite: None

World Geography in the 7<sup>th</sup> grade is intended as an introduction and study of geography, both physical and cultural, during the Modern Era. The course begins with an introduction to geographic terms and concepts then explores regions of the world. Regional study will include a variety of topics examining the environment, people, interactions, and change over time. Special emphasis will be placed on current events and world affairs.

Besides its geographic context, this course will increase students reading, writing and analytical/critical thinking skills through varied assignments. It is the goal of this class to develop more spatial thinking and awareness of each student. Furthermore, this course will strive to introduce and practice project based learning and technology skills.

## **WORLD HISTORY**

Grade Level: 12

Credit: 1 Unit

Prerequisite: None

World History is a complete survey course of Western and non-Western history that fulfills state/school graduation requirements in Social Studies. The course will introduce important historical concepts, eras and events and will require students to read, digest and apply large amounts of information throughout the course. This course will help give the students a solid background in the historical, social, political, and cultural developments on which the current world exists.

Besides the historical context, this course will increase student writing and analytical skills through varied assignments including, but not limited to, essays, primary source reading reflections and topic questions. This course will

also develop the geographic and spatial thinking skills of each student. Furthermore, this course will strive to introduce and practice project based learning and technology skills.

**CONCURRENT WORLD HISTORY I & II (previously called HONORS WORLD HISTORY\*)**

Grade Level: 12            Credit: 1 Unit    Prerequisite: Acceptance into UCA Concurrent Program

In addition to the regular curriculum, Concurrent students will complete the following requirements:

- \*In depth writing expectations and assignments

- \*Essay testing

- \*Additional project requirements

- \*Any requirement given by the UCA History department necessary in fulfilling the World History I and World History II course credit

\*This class may be offered as a concurrent credit class to those students who meet the eligibility requirements.

***Please note: These course descriptions are overviews. Course content will be modified as needed.***