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# ACADEMIC PROGRAM OVERVIEW

**Middle School (6-8)** – Throughout their Middle School years students complete courses in English, Math, Physical Education, Science, Social Studies and Theology. In addition, sixth graders engage in enrichment experiences in the areas of foreign language, information literacy, study skills and the arts. Seventh graders complete semester courses in both health and computer literacy, while eighth graders complete semester courses in performing and visual arts. All seventh and eighth graders complete a full year of study in both music and foreign language (Language Other Than English/LOTE).

**High School (9-12)** - All students must complete the following courses:

**Art, Music or Theatre - 1 credit**

All students are required to take one full credit of Art or Music or Theatre in ninth grade; students may choose from Studio in Art, Orchestra, Women’s Choir, Show Choir or Introduction to Theatre during the freshmen year.

**English - 4 credits**

English 9 or 9 Honors  
English 10 or 10 Honors  
English 11 or Pre-AP or AP Language & Composition  
English 12 or AP Literature and Composition

**Foreign Language (LOTE) –3 credits**

The first three levels (1, 2, 3) are required in one language –either Spanish, French, or Latin; some students will complete level 1 prior to ninth grade by completing a full year of that language in seventh and in eighth grade.

**Health - .5 credit**

All students are required to successfully complete one semester of Health, usually completed during the sophomore year.

**Mathematics – 4 credits**

Algebra and Geometry are required for all students; some students will have completed Algebra in eighth grade and will therefore begin with Geometry as their first Math course in ninth grade.

Students may choose from Alg. 2 Trig, Math 3 or Pre-College Algebra for their third year of Math;

Options for the fourth year are indicated in the chart on page 22.

**Physical Education -2 credits**

All students are required to take PE every year, completing half a credit at each grade level.

**Science -3 credits**

Biology is required of all students.

The second year of science will be Earth Science for some students; others will take Chemistry.

Options for the third year of science are indicated in the chart on page 30.

**Social Studies - 4 credits**

Global History & Geography 1 or Pre-AP World History (Grade 9)

Global History & Geography 2 or AP World History (Grade 10)

US History or AP US History (Grade 11)

Economic & Government or AP European History or AP US Government & Politics (Grade 12)

**Theology -4 credits**

There are required courses at each grade level indicated within *Program of Studies*.

**Additional units of credit from the courses listed in the Program of Studies may be used to earn the required 29 high school credits required for graduation.**

Students in grades 9 and 10 are required to take 7.5 credits each year.

Students in grades 11 and 12 are required to take 7 credits each year.

Seniors taking three Advanced Placement courses have the option of taking a minimum of 6 credits.

**In addition to the requirements above, students will meet the following requirements in order to earn a high school diploma from Our Lady of Mercy:**

Students must complete at least one AP or Dual Credit course.

Students must complete the Motto Capstone Project.

**Students who wish to pursue an independent study course beyond the required courses should contact the Curriculum Leader of that discipline and their School Counselor.**

## **Advanced Placement Courses**

The Advanced Placement Program® gives willing and academically prepared students the opportunity to engage in college-level work while receiving high school support. AP courses can result in students receiving college credit, and can also support students in gaining confidence in their ability to succeed at the college level. Curiosity, creativity, motivation and commitment are key ingredients for success in AP courses. Guidelines from the College Board suggest “you don't need to be top of your class to be an AP student, but you'll want to be prepared for the AP course you choose. All AP courses require that you come to each class prepared and willing to do your best work. To choose an AP course that's right for you, talk to your counselor or a teacher about the subjects that interest you and ask about your options for learning the skills to help you succeed.”

Students enrolled in any AP course are required to take the AP Exam and pay the exam fee.

If a student has an interest in an AP course not offered at Mercy, or if an AP course is cancelled due to insufficient enrollment, she may have the opportunity to take the course online, and she should see her counselor for further information.

## **The Motto Project**

The Motto Project allows students to connect their talents, passions and interests through a coordinated effort developing and executing service, research and presentation. Students integrate their foundational skills with a commitment to the Mercy Core Values and the Critical Concerns of the Sisters of Mercy. Every Mercy graduate completes a Motto Project as a culmination of her Mercy experience. For more information on Motto, [Click Here](#) or go to <http://mercyhs.libguides.com/MOTTO>.

## **Course Selection Process**

Students receive the Program of Studies in February in digital format through the Mercy website. Parents and students are encouraged to thoroughly review the Program of Studies and contact the School Counselor with any questions. Course Selection Forms are distributed and are due back by late February with both student and parent signatures. Course selection and preliminary scheduling are completed in early spring. Insufficient course enrollment may result in the cancellation of the course.

## **Dropping an Elective Course**

Students are expected to honor the enrollment requests they made in the Spring. No changes will be made unless mandated by student year-end performance.

## **Appeals Process**

Our goal is to challenge all students to reach their full potential without undue stress. If a student desires to enroll in a course without a teacher recommendation, she must follow the appeals process. In the spring, the student will meet with the appeals board, comprised of the appropriate curriculum leader, her current teacher in that discipline, the student's counselor and the principal. Parents are welcome to attend. The student will articulate her reasons for choosing the course, and why she believes she can be successful. The appeals board will evaluate the student's presentation and make a decision regarding whether taking the course is in the student's best interest. If a student is approved to take the course, she will sign a form which documents that she has completed the appeals process.

## **Academic Honors**

All credit-bearing courses are considered for the following:

- *Honor Roll* – A weighted average of 85% (B+) or higher, and no grade below 65% (D)
- *Scholarship Roll* – A weighted average of 93% (A) or higher, and no grade below 80% (B)

Students will be recognized at graduation with the following designation:

- *Summa Cum Laude* - A cumulative average of 95% (A+) or above with completion of at least 3 AP or dual- credit courses.
- *Magna Cum Laude* - A cumulative average of 90% (A) or above with completion of at least 2 AP or dual- credit courses.
- *Cum Laude* - A cumulative average of 85% (B+) or above with completion of at least 1 AP or dual- credit course.

## **Summer Courses**

If a student fails a course required for graduation, she must meet with her counselor and the principal to design a remediation plan that she must complete prior to advancing to the next grade level in the fall. This could include summer school, tutoring, and reassessment.

# ART

## **6300 ART 6**

This course gives students numerous opportunities to develop their self-expression. Students are introduced to a variety of materials and mediums and encouraged to experiment with them as they create their art projects. There is particular focus on helping students to make connections between art and their other courses, such as Social Studies and English. The aim of the course is to engage students in critical thinking and problem-solving as they build their appreciation for and knowledge of art.

## **0180 ART 8**

Art 8 is a semester course in which students develop an awareness of and appreciation for the world of art. They become acquainted with art terminology and develop methods of self-expression through activities in a variety of media and techniques.

## **0110 STUDIO IN ART (9-12)**

This full year course offers students an opportunity to learn the elements of art (color, value, etc.) and the principles of design (balance, unity, etc.) through a variety of 2 and 3-D media and techniques. Students also examine various movements and trends in the history of art. They learn to respond critically to a variety of art works and to analyze their own pieces. This is a foundation course and is a recommended prerequisite for most additional art classes. Lessons include drawing, painting, printmaking, ceramics.

## **0120 DRAWING AND PAINTING (10-12)**

In this full year elective course, students will explore a variety of drawing and painting methods from both traditional and contemporary perspectives. Students are encouraged to develop individual subject matter and interpretation, strengthening and broadening their approach to art production. A strong emphasis will be placed on critical discussion and analysis of personal and historical artworks in a group critique setting.

**Prerequisite: Studio in Art**

## **0122 ADVANCED ART STUDIO (11-12)**

This full year course provides a college style studio experience where students are given the opportunity to expand upon skills and knowledge gained in Drawing and Painting. A strong emphasis will be placed on critical thinking and self-expression in projects designed to challenge a student's conventional understanding of art and design. Students will also engage in rigorous training in traditional art techniques while honing vital craftsmanship skills. Contemporary and historical artworks will be analyzed through formal writing and in-depth class discussion. Students planning on a future in the fine or applied arts will be able to explore career opportunities and build a college entrance portfolio.

**Prerequisite: Drawing and Painting**

- 0123 CERAMICS (10-12)**  
Ceramics is a full year course designed for the student who is interested in working with clay. The forming and finishing of ceramic objects is the main focus of this course. The student learns how to plan and visualize a complete 3-D object. Students study the history of ceramics as well as contemporary styles.  
**Prerequisite: Studio in Art**
- 0127 ADVANCED CERAMICS (11-12) \***  
Ceramics is a full year course designed for the student who is interested in working intensely with clay. The forming and finishing of ceramic objects is the main focus of this course. The student learns how to plan and execute a body of work focused on their area of ceramic interest.  
**Prerequisite: Ceramics**
- 0125 POTTERY 1 (10-12)**  
This semester course is offered for students who want a clay experience using the potter's wheel. Students will learn how to use the potter's wheel to create thrown clay pieces. Students will produce a variety of useful pottery items which will then be fired and glazed in the kiln.
- 0126 POTTERY 2 (10-12)**  
This semester course is a continuation of the Pottery 1 experience. Students will continue to develop their skills on the potter's wheel to create clay items. Students will produce a variety of useful pottery items which will then be fired and glazed in the kiln.  
**Prerequisite: Pottery 1**
- 0135 CONTEMPORARY APPLIED ARTS (10-12)**  
A semester course for students who desire an art experience exploring traditional crafts skills and techniques, as well as contemporary materials and attitudes. Students will develop an appreciation of fine crafts, as well as express themselves through designs and construction. A variety of creative experiences may include functional pieces, jewelry, papermaking, fiber arts, printmaking or painting.
- 0136 INTRODUCTION TO DIGITAL PHOTOGRAPHY**  
This semester course provides students with an introduction to Digital Photography as both an art and a science. While establishing technical skills, students will discover the possibilities for visual communication and personal expression through digital imaging. Students will study photography from both historical and contemporary perspectives, while gaining an extensive knowledge of image editing programs such as Adobe Photoshop.
- 0138 ADVANCED DIGITAL PHOTOGRAPHY (10-12)**  
This semester course provides students with an opportunity to expand their creative and technical skills honed in the introductory photography course. In addition to traditional digital photography, students will discover and explore new programs within Adobe Creative Suite through projects involving graphic design, animation and video production. Students will also be encouraged to pursue their own artistic vision through independent research projects.  
**Prerequisite: Digital Photography**

**0130 SENIOR PORTFOLIO**

Senior Portfolio is a full year elective designed for senior art students interested in developing their artistic skills on the collegiate level. All students will be encouraged to discover and cultivate their own artistic voice through a cohesive series of artworks with a common conceptual goal. Each series of work will be directly relevant to each student’s future collegiate or career aspirations. A strong emphasis will be placed on aesthetic and historical art theory, explored through in- depth class discussion and formal writing.

**Prerequisite: Advanced Art Studio**

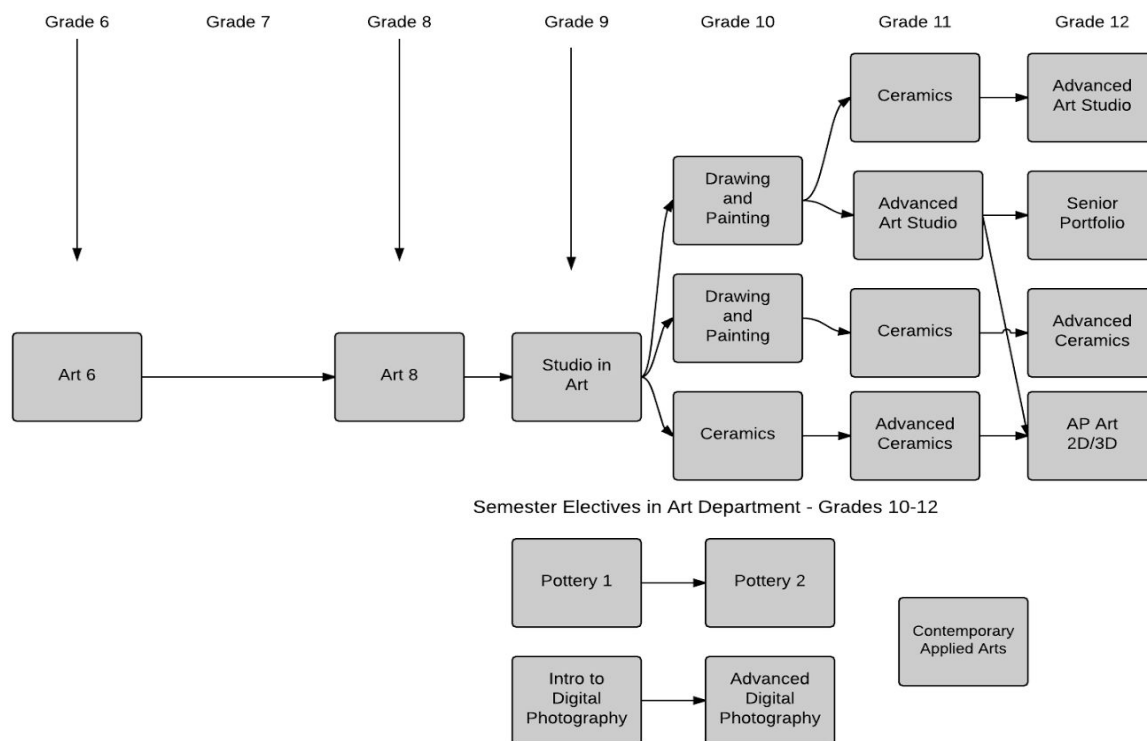
**0124 AP STUDIO ART: 2D OR 3D DESIGN**

This program offers is available for motivated art student to initiate and plan the experience of a college level art course on an individual basis by working with the art department for approval and support before signing up. Critique and a sustained workload will be included for this college level course. Please seek out your current art teacher for information.

**Prerequisite: Advanced Art Courses**

**Recommendation: Teacher approval**

**Art Course Sequence**



All prerequisites are listed in the *Program of Studies*.



# BUSINESS / TECHNOLOGY

## **0279 COMPUTER 7**

This course offers students detailed instruction regarding Microsoft 2013 applications (Word, Excel, and PowerPoint) as well as internet ethics and navigation strategies. Students will also be given an opportunity to enhance personal keyboarding skills as well as learn the fundamentals of using their Google Drive account.

## **0221 ACCOUNTING (11, 12)**

**\*(ACC 101, 4 college credits)**

This full year course introduces the language of business used in all careers and includes the basic principles of financial accounting with an emphasis on the valuation of business assets, measurement of net income, and double-entry techniques for recording transactions. Accounting examples and concepts are illustrated through the use of a sole-proprietor service business and a retail merchandising corporation. Coursework is completed through the use of an online textbook and workbook.

## **0223 ADVANCED MICROSOFT APPLICATIONS (10-12)**

**\*(CRC 125, 4 college credits)**

This semester course offers the students the opportunity to acquire critical collegiate software skills in Microsoft 2013 Access, Excel, PowerPoint and Word. Most colleges and universities require this as a freshman course. Students may earn 4 college credits here as our classes receive the same instruction, required computer lab time, and text as they would in college. Students will build upon their current knowledge to become highly proficient in all required software.

## **0225 PERSONAL FINANCE (10-12)**

**\*(EC0 103, 3 college credits)**

This semester course targets the essential information and skills required for life-long financial literacy. Class discussions, personal research, and realistic applications will provide students with a clear understanding of many topics related to financial decision-making. This knowledge will build their confidence and help them feel empowered to make wise financial choices and achieve financial freedom. Students will learn how to successfully budget their money and create a financial plan to realize their future goals. They will be taught how to build and maintain positive credit, manage debt, assess financial instruments and investments (stocks and bonds), and grow to understand the financial industry.

## **0224 PRINCIPLES OF BUSINESS (10-12)**

**\*(BUS 104, 3 college credits)**

This semester course will introduce students to the career planning process as they are guided through a series of technology-based personal assessments. This is followed by the opportunity to explore various career interests while fine-tuning their resume-writing and interviewing skills. Students will also receive an overview of relevant business concepts and connect our students to the changing world around us. Students will develop a foundation in a variety of business topics such as leadership, social responsibility, finance, marketing, and human resource management via independent research, class discussion, and team projects.

**0240 ENTREPRENEURIAL STUDIES (11-12)****\*(BUS 110, 3 college credits)**

This semester course is an introduction to business wrapped within the entrepreneurial spirit. Students will receive a realistic and sophisticated understanding of the following: small business opportunities, legal forms of ownership, franchises, new venture requirements, sources of financing, advertising, social media and marketing strategies. Students will also learn the key components of a business marketing plan, review case studies, listen to guest speakers, and present a culminating marketing (team) project to selected community entrepreneurs.

**0241 BUSINESS ANALYTICS (12)**

This semester course builds on the Entrepreneurial Studies course foundation as it expands students' academic and analytic understanding of business practice. Partnering with the Rochester Institute of Technology E. Philip Saunders College of Business, as well as working with additional community experts, participating in field trips and class discussion, student teams will research, create, and present a viable, new product in a 30 page business plan with 3 years of projected financials. This plan may be presented at the DECA State competition in March (additional membership and registration costs). Additional topics include: business decision-making, management, corporate finance, business ethics and the impact of the global economy.

**Prerequisite: None****Requirement: 2-3 students per team; Minimum of two weeks summer work****Recommendations: Enrollment in Accounting 101 and in Entrepreneurial Studies, previous DECA experience****Top 5% of OLM Business students****Recommendation from core curriculum teacher****0270 TECHNOLOGICAL STUDIES AND APPLICATIONS (10-12)**

This year-long course is a guided independent-study course. Students in the course will meet with the instructor at least two of the six cycle days. During this time the instructor will conduct classes on various technology related issues and provide computer support. The remaining days students will complete individual and group work, help provide support, and fix computer issues from other students and faculty, maintain a personal blog, and work on a technology-related Individual Learning Endeavor (ILE) of their choosing. Students in this course must also be available to work at the Help Desk a minimum of once a week (more is encouraged). These times at the Help Desk could include mornings before school, during advisements, during study halls, or after school.

**\*COLLEGE CREDIT OPTION**

Students who choose the dual credit option pay a fee directly to Monroe Community College (fee is approximately \$200). This fee includes all required collegiate texts and lab time. Upon successful completion of the course, the student earns college credit transferable to most American colleges and universities.

# ENGLISH

## 6000 ENGLISH 6

The 6th grade English course aims to strengthen students' skills in reading and writing by integrating reading strategies, utilizing organizational tools such as graphic organizers, and conducting vocabulary study of Greek and Latin roots. As a whole class, students will read novels on various themes which include growing up, persevering through challenges, developing a voice, being a member of a community, and solving problems. The students will also develop expressive and analytical writing skills in the genres of memoir, persuasive essay, and poetry. The six-grade course lays a strong foundation for literacy skills needed at Mercy in seventh grade and beyond.

**Requirement: Summer reading**

## 0370 ENGLISH 7

This course integrates the standards of reading, writing, listening, and viewing. Literature is thematically arranged around the concept of the transformation of the individual through a physical or emotional journey. It assists students in sharpening their critical thinking and writing skills, focusing on annotating the text and developing a thesis-driven response through the study of novels, short stories, poetry, nonfiction, and drama. Vocabulary and grammar skills are continually reinforced through these units. Students will complete a portfolio which documents their growth as a reader, writer and thinker as a final assessment.

**Requirement: Summer reading**

## 0380 ENGLISH 8

This course integrates the standards of reading, writing, listening, and viewing. Literature is thematically arranged around the concept of developing compassion for the outsider through novels, short stories, non-fiction pieces and drama. It continues to reinforce the critical thinking and writing skills begun in seventh grade with emphasis placed on annotation, sentence revision, grammar enrichment, and the thesis-driven response. Students will complete a portfolio which documents their growth as a reader, writer and thinker as a final assessment.

**Requirement: Summer reading**

## 0310 ENGLISH 9

This college-prep course is set up as a survey of Western literary culture focusing on the following literacy strands: reading, writing, listening, speaking and viewing. The literature genres include the novel, Greek epic, Shakespearean drama, modern short story and poetry. The reading curriculum focuses on annotation strategies, comprehension and analytical skills, while the writing curriculum emphasizes logical organization and proper citation in paragraphs, expository essays and research. Writing skills, including creative writing, are enhanced through a study of basic grammar, Greek and Latin roots, and vocabulary in context. The students will engage in the research process.

**Requirement: Summer reading**

**0311 ENGLISH 9 Honors**

This course is designed for the student whose aptitude for language arts enables her to work independently as a critical thinker. In addition to reading the same texts as English 9, the students are expected to read supplemental texts independently. This course moves at an accelerated rate that requires intrinsically motivated readers and writers. Students maintain a reader response journal with an emphasis placed on poetry and dialectical techniques. A research paper and other critical and creative writing assignments are integrated with the study of literature and nonfiction.

**Recommendation: Teacher recommendation or performance on entrance exam**

**Requirement: Summer reading**

**0320 ENGLISH 10**

The study of the elements of literature based upon the reading and critiquing of short stories, poetry, plays and novels forms the foundation for literary analysis and writing assignments. Students practice the research skills necessary to write a thesis-driven cultural context paper. Additional components of the curriculum include speaking, listening, reading, grammar and usage, with an emphasis on Latin and Greek vocabulary study and practice. Summer reading required.

**Requirement: Summer reading**

**0321 ENGLISH 10 HONORS**

This course is designed for students who have successfully completed English 9 Honors. Students should be intrinsically motivated scholars. Study includes the consideration of historical, political and cultural texts within the following literary traditions: African, mid-Eastern, North and South American, and European. Students practice techniques of literary criticism and research. Class discussion, literary essays, creative writing, public speaking and language arts practice are all included in the curriculum.

**Requirement: Summer reading**

**Recommendation: Teacher recommendation**

**0330 ENGLISH 11**

This is a survey course with emphasis on major movements in American literary life. The chronological approach to literature clearly establishes the relationship between the historical development of our country and the literature produced from the changing cultural context. Students completing this course will know how to: perform a close reading, compose a critical analysis that delineates how an author conveys meaning through his/her craft, articulate the purpose and effectiveness of works of nonfiction, and synthesize themes from works of nonfiction with works of fiction. Students benefit from close teacher guidance in reviewing and practicing critical thinking, reading, and writing skills. Summer reading required.

**Requirement: Summer reading**

**0351 AP LANGUAGE & COMPOSITION (11)**

AP Language and Composition is designed as a writing-focused college-level course to prepare students for the AP Language and Composition exam, to increase the cultural and historical awareness needed for that exam, and to develop skill in analyzing the use of rhetorical and literary devices in written and visual works. Although students will read some works of fiction and poetry, the focus will be primarily on nonfiction books, essays, speeches, letters, and political cartoons. In addition to class reading assignments, students will independently read and write about several major works, and will be required to read and report on news articles weekly.

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

**Requirement: Summer reading**

**Recommendation: Teacher recommendation**

**0340 ENGLISH 12**

In this college preparation course, students will examine a variety of literary genres, including novels, drama, poetry, essays, and film. The literature includes texts from different cultures, with an added emphasis on women and cultural diversity. Students will write a number of essays, short answer, and reflection pieces, and will produce a group research project that also follows a genre study approach. The course also includes writing exercises, grammar and vocabulary work, and peer critiquing. The college essay and application process are a critical component of this course.

**Requirement: Summer reading**

**0350 AP LITERATURE & COMPOSITION**

This is a full-year course for seniors seeking a college-level literature and writing seminar. Students study works from the early seventeenth century to the present and refine skills such as performing a close reading and explication of a text, preparing that text for discussion, and responding to complex literature through the writing of analytical and evaluative essays. Students will also keep a dialogical journal, learn to lead Shared Inquiry, and maintain a working portfolio from which exemplary samples will be selected for the final Senior Portfolio Exam. Early in the year, each student will also select an author from a list provided by the College Board, become conversant with that author and write a thesis-driven paper that demonstrates the student's knowledge of her subject. This independent reading project which begins in September will constitute her major grade for fourth quarter.

**Prerequisite: English 11 or AP Language and Composition**

**Requirement: Summer reading**

**Recommendation: Teacher recommendation**

**0334 WRITERS' WORKSHOP (11-12)**

In this semester elective, students learn about techniques used by published writers and experiment with devices and methods to hone their own writing skills. They write in a variety of genres, including creative essays, memoir, short talks, news stories, short fiction, and several types of poems. The course is ideal for practicing and perfecting the college application essay, as well as creating pieces for submission to *Mercedes* and other outside publications and contests. Emphasis is on process writing, especially the revision component of the process. Students work in small writing groups to encourage, critique, and share with one another.

**0336 SPEECH (11-12)**

In this semester elective students learn the proper techniques of public speaking, including methods of dealing with performance anxiety and stage fright. Students will write and present original speeches and poetry, conduct group and individual debates, and participate in classroom discussions. Students will demonstrate their understanding of various types of speeches, including informational, persuasive, motivational, and demonstration. Informal presentations include discussing current events and preparing for career and college interviews.

# FOREIGN LANGUAGE (LOTE)

## 0472 LATIN 7

This course provides students with a basic knowledge of the Latin language through simple stories and vocabulary building activities. Emphasis is placed upon making connections between the ancient and modern world. Students will also be introduced to the history, geography, culture, and mythology of Ancient Rome.

## 0482 LATIN 8

This course is a continuation of Latin 7. Students will further develop their vocabulary, grammar, derivation, and word structure skills. Aspects of Roman history, mythology, and culture will also be explored. Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to advance to high school level Latin 2.

## 0414 LATIN 1 (9-12)

In this course, high school students are introduced to the basics of the Latin language and Roman civilization. Language structure, grammar and vocabulary are stressed. Students are also exposed to Roman history, culture, mythology and geography.

## 0424 LATIN 2

This course is a continuation of Latin 1. Intermediate Latin grammar, translation skills and composition are stressed. In addition to review of past culture topics, chariot racing, dining customs, and education are discussed in depth.

**Prerequisite: Latin 7 and Latin 8 or Latin 1 (Grade 9)**

## 0434 LATIN 3

In this course, students will be fine-tuning their knowledge of Latin grammar, vocabulary, and word derivation. A variety of adapted and authentic literature written by Ancient Roman authors will be incorporated throughout the year. In addition to review of past culture topics, students will learn about the Roman army, important Late Republican and Empiric figures, literary terms, and famous Roman authors.

**Prerequisite: Latin 2**

## 0446 LATIN 4 Honors (Syracuse University LAT 201)

This four-credit Syracuse University course is intended for students who have successfully completed three years of high school Latin. Through review of syntax and sentence structure, and further study of idioms and rhetorical figures, students transition from reading adapted to unadapted Latin literature. In addition to increasing their skill in reading Latin, students learn about classical Roman culture and gain a greater appreciation for the eloquence of Latin prose. The class structure is largely lecture and discussion. Assessment is based on class participation, out-of-class written assignments, periodic in-class exams, and a final exam.

**Prerequisite: Latin 3**

**Requirement: Teacher recommendation**

**Recommendation: 85% or higher average in Latin 3**

**0447 AP LATIN**

AP Latin students will read, understand, translate, and analyze Latin poetry and prose at a level equivalent to an upper-intermediate (typically fourth or fifth semester) college or university Latin course. Students will prepare and translate required Latin readings, as well as read and comprehend passages at sight. Students will develop their language skills through various activities: producing precise literal translation of poetry and prose; reading and comprehending passages from both poetry and prose at sight; and composing clear and cogent written analyses supported by textual examples.

**Prerequisite: Latin 4 Honors**

**Recommendation: 85% average in Latin 4 Honors**

**0470 FRENCH 7**

Students are introduced to French through the development of listening, speaking, reading and writing skills. Vocabulary and grammar topics are based on everyday, useful French.

Students learn about the Francophone world with an emphasis on the culture and geography of France.

**0480 FRENCH 8**

Reviews and builds upon the core language skills of listening, speaking, reading and writing. There is an increased emphasis on grammar and verb usage. Students develop a greater awareness and appreciation of the Francophone world through cultural activities and media. Upon successful completion of French 8, students advance to high school level French 2.

**0410 FRENCH 1 (9-12)**

High school students are introduced to French through the development of the four basic language skills: listening, speaking, reading and writing. At this level, emphasis is placed on the acquisition of listening and speaking skills as well as language structure and vocabulary. Students learn about France, French speaking countries and French people through a study of French culture.

**0420 FRENCH 2**

The communication skills introduced at the first level are reinforced, with more emphasis on reading, writing, speaking, and listening. Correct grammatical application in oral and written expression is expected. Vocabulary and cultural understandings are reinforced through simple literary selections, video, internet resources and current French items.

**Prerequisite: French 7 and French 8 or French 1 (Grade 9)**

**0430 FRENCH 3**

At French level 3, the skills acquired in levels 1 and 2 are reinforced and expanded. Emphasis is on listening skills, everyday topical conversation, reading comprehension across a wide variety of subjects, and short composition. Along with greater use of French in the classroom, students increase their knowledge and appreciation of the Francophone world through the use of media, film, music and Internet. This course prepares students for the level 4 Honors program.

**Prerequisite: French 2**



**0440 FRENCH 4 Honors**

French 4 Honors offers students a unique opportunity to explore French culture, literature, cinema, music and grammar at an advanced level. The course includes a thorough review of advanced grammar, readings from poets and authors, and practice in reading, writing, listening and speaking skills. The course provides an excellent background for the AP French Language course.

**Prerequisite: French 3**

**Recommendation: 85% average in French 3 or Teacher recommendation**

**0450 AP FRENCH LANGUAGE AND CULTURE**

This is a college-level course in preparation for the French Language and Culture Exam in May. Reading, writing, speaking and listening skills are emphasized through each of the three modes of communication: interpersonal, interpretive, and presentational. Students will also study and compare French language and culture with their own, throughout six course themes. French is used almost exclusively in the classroom. Written and audio-visual materials are in accordance with the College Board requirements.

**Prerequisite: French 4 Honors**

**Recommendation: 85% average in French 4 Honors or Teacher recommendation**

**0471 SPANISH 7**

This course is designed for the 7<sup>th</sup> grader with little or no previous experience with the Spanish language and culture. The student is introduced to Spanish through the development of listening, speaking, reading and writing skills. Vocabulary, grammar and verb conjugation are stressed. Spanish and Hispanic culture are explored through cultural activities, geography, and technology.

**0481 SPANISH 8**

This 8<sup>th</sup> grade course is a continuation of Spanish 7. Vocabulary, grammar and verb conjugation continue to be stressed. Spanish and Hispanic culture are explored through cultural activities, geography, and technology. At the completion of the two year study and with the recommendation of the teacher, the student will be prepared to enter Spanish at the high school level.

**0412 SPANISH 1 (9-12)**

High school students are introduced to Spanish through the development of the four basic language skills: listening, speaking, reading and writing. At this level emphasis is placed on the development of listening and speaking skills, as well as language structure and vocabulary. Students learn about Latin America, Spain and the Spanish people through a study of Spanish culture.

**0422 SPANISH 2**

The skills introduced at the first level are reinforced, with special emphasis on reading, writing, conversation, and grammatical structures. Vocabulary building and cultural understanding are developed through simple literary selections, films, artwork and the use of the Internet. Spanish is used as much as possible in the classroom.

**Prerequisite: Spanish 7 and Spanish 8 or Spanish 1 (Grade 9)**

**0432 SPANISH 3**

At the third level, the skills introduced and strengthened in levels one and two are reviewed with more emphasis on reading, conversation, and simple composition. Knowledge of grammatical structures is expanded. Spanish is the medium of communication as much as possible in the classroom. This course prepares the student for the level 4 Honors program.

**Prerequisite: Spanish 2**

**0442 SPANISH 4 Honors**

Spanish 4 Honors provides students with the opportunity to explore the Spanish language at the advanced level. The course concentrates on reading, listening skills, spoken and written language. Students read, write, and discuss, in Spanish, aspects of culture, excerpts from the literature and history of various Spanish speaking countries. The course provides an excellent background for the AP Spanish Language course.

**Prerequisite: Spanish 3**

**Recommendation: 85% average in Spanish 3 or Teacher recommendation**

**0452 AP SPANISH LANGUAGE**

AP Spanish Language concentrates on an advanced ability to communicate in Spanish. It offers oral practice, reading and discussion of contemporary literature and articles, frequent written assignments as well as a comprehensive review of grammar. Spanish is used almost exclusively in the classroom. Students are required to take the AP Exam in May.

**Prerequisite: Spanish 4 Honors**

**Recommendation: 85% average in Spanish 4 Honors or Teacher recommendation**

**0460 AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE (ASL) (11-12)**

This full-year elective course will introduce students to basic vocabulary, structure, syntax and grammar. Students will focus on mastering the basics of fingerspelling, numbers, colors, facial grammar and sentence structure; students will also learn conversational/cultural behaviors necessary to hold a beginning-level conversation in ASL, with Deaf/hard-of-hearing native users of the language. Introductory information about Deaf culture will also be presented to provide students with a broad picture of language and culture. This course cannot be used to fulfill the three-credit foreign language requirement.

# MATHEMATICS

## **6100 MATH 6**

This course, assessed through a standards-based approach, is designed for students to grow and strengthen problem-solving and fluency skills. After reviewing essential fifth grade topics at the beginning of the year through a problem-solving lens, major emphases in this course include ratios and rates, fractions, decimals, and percents, expressions and equations, geometry, and statistics. In an effort to improve fluency skills, students will not use a calculator for this course.

*For the following Math courses, a TI-30xIIS scientific calculator is required.*

## **0570 MATH 7**

This course covers a development of the rational and irrational number systems with applications in areas such as pre- algebra, geometry, graphing, probability, statistics, and measurement. Fluency with number facts and computations is built without dependence upon calculators. Logical reasoning and problem-solving are emphasized.

## **0571 MATH 7/8**

This course, for the accelerated 7<sup>th</sup> grader, is designed to develop student mastery of the real number system (perform rational number operations and analyze proportional relationships). It provides further development of concepts in algebra, geometry, and statistics and probability.

**Recommendation: Teacher recommendation**

## **0580 MATH 8**

This course is designed to develop student mastery of the real number system (perform rational number operations). It provides further development of concepts in algebra (specifically in regards to proportional relationships and lines), geometry (congruence and similarity), and statistics and probability (bivariate data). Practical applications and problem-solving are strongly emphasized.

## **0515 ALGEBRA 1-8 Honors**

This course is organized around families of functions (define, evaluate, and compare), with an emphasis on linear and quadratic functions and the ability to represent them in multiple ways, as well as model relationships. In addition, data analysis, and geometry topics will be covered. Throughout the course, an emphasis on reasoning and problem-solving will be stressed.

**Prerequisite: Math 7/8**

## **0516 ALGEBRA 1 (9)**

This course is organized around families of functions (define, evaluate, and compare), with an emphasis on linear and quadratic functions and the ability to represent them in multiple ways, as well as model relationships. In addition, right triangle trigonometry, data analysis, and geometry topics will be covered. Throughout the course, an emphasis on reasoning and problem-solving will be stressed.

**0524 GEOMETRY (9-10)**

This course extends the topics in geometry taught in Algebra 1, and introduces locus, circles, right triangle trigonometry, and Euclidean proofs. The ability to produce a formal proof is developed. Successful completion of this course prepares students for Algebra 2/Trig.

**Prerequisite: Algebra 1**

**0525 GEOMETRY Honors (9-10)**

This course extends the topics in geometry taught in Algebra 1, and introduces locus, circles, right triangle trigonometry and Euclidean proofs with a high degree of rigor. The ability to produce a formal proof is developed. Successful completion of this course prepares students for Algebra

2/Trig Honors.

**Prerequisite: Algebra 1 Honors or Algebra 1**

**Recommendation: 89% average in Algebra 1-8 Honors or 89% average in Algebra 1**

**0531 MATH 3 (11)**

The emphasis of this course is to examine and reinforce the basic topics of intermediate algebra and trigonometry. Topics explored prepare the student for the rigors of Algebra 2/Trig.

**Prerequisite: Geometry**

**0532 ALGEBRA 2/TRIG (10-12)**

This rigorous course is a continuation of our 3 course curriculum, and includes an in-depth study of algebra, and trigonometry. Topics included are: functions, polynomials, radicals, logarithms, exponentials, complex numbers, regression, and circle and analytical trigonometry. Probability and statistics may be studied, if time permits.

**Prerequisites: Algebra 1, Geometry, Math 3**

**Recommendation: 80% average in Algebra 1 and Geometry**

**85% average in Math 3**

**0530 ALGEBRA 2/TRIG Honors (10-11)**

This course is for students who have a thorough understanding of basic algebra and are ready for extra challenges. This rigorous course is a continuation of our 3 course curriculum and includes an in-depth study of algebra, and trigonometry. Topics include the real and complex number systems, functions, polynomials, radicals, logarithms, exponentials, conics, regression, and circle and analytical trigonometry. Probability and statistics may be studied, if time permits.

**Prerequisites: Geometry Honors or Geometry**

**Recommendation: 90% average in Geometry Honors**

**93% average in Geometry**

**0556 PRE-COLLEGE ALGEBRA (11-12)**

This course prepares the student for college level mathematics. The student is given the opportunity to review, strengthen, and examine areas of study including advanced topics in algebra, geometry, statistics and probability, and trigonometry.

**Prerequisite: Math 3 or Algebra 2/Trig**

**0534 PRE-CALCULUS (A) (11-12)**

This is a course in elementary functions (linear, polynomial, rational, exponential, logarithmic, trigonometric, inverse trigonometric and piecewise defined) with an emphasis on modeling, problem-solving, and critical thinking. It also includes study of other topics -- matrices, vectors, conic sections, complex numbers, polar coordinates, and sequences and series -- as time allows. Throughout, emphasis is on exploration using the "Rule of Four:" analytical, numerical, graphical, and verbal methods, and their inter-relationships. This course is designed, in pace, scope, and rigor, to prepare the student for a first course in Calculus.

**Prerequisite:** Algebra 2/Trig

**Recommendation:** 80% average in Algebra 2/Trig

**0533 PRE-CALCULUS-Honors (11-12)**

This is fundamentally a course in elementary functions (linear, polynomial, rational, exponential, logarithmic, trigonometric, inverse trigonometric and piecewise defined) with an emphasis on modeling, problem-solving, and critical thinking. It also includes study of other topics useful in higher mathematics: conic sections, polar coordinates, parametric representations of functions, matrices, vectors, and sequences and series, as time allows. Throughout, emphasis is on exploration using the "Rule of Four:" analytical, numerical, graphical, and verbal methods, and their inter-relationships. This course is designed, in pace, scope, and rigor, to prepare the advanced learner for AP Calculus or its equivalent.

**Prerequisite:** Algebra 2/Trig Honors or Algebra 2/Trig

**Recommendation:** 90% average in Algebra 2/Trig Honors  
93% average in Algebra 2/Trig

**0551 CALCULUS (12)**

This is an introductory course covering basic concepts of differential Calculus, with emphasis on applications. Students explore the calculus of polynomial, rational, radical, trigonometric, exponential, and logarithmic functions using a four-pronged approach -- analytical, graphical, numerical, and verbal -- with the expectation that they will be able to demonstrate an understanding of calculus beyond the manipulation of symbols. The option of Dual Credit with Monroe Community College is offered (approximate cost of \$200) when demand requirement is met.

**Requirement:** Monroe Community College requires an average of 83% in Pre Calculus or Pre-Calculus Honors to enroll in its dual credit program.

**0550 AP CALCULUS (AB)**

A rigorous college-level course in calculus, aligned with the College Board's syllabus for AP Calculus AB. Emphasis is on understanding core concepts of differential and integral calculus of a single variable and not just algorithmic computation. Exploration uses the "Rule of Four:" analytical, numerical, graphical, and verbal methods and their inter-relationships. Beyond the AP Exam in May, the curriculum contains additional calculus topics as time and interest dictate. Students are given the opportunity for independent work and presentation to their peers.

**Prerequisite:** Pre-Calculus H or Pre-Calculus A

**Requirement:** Teacher recommendation

**Recommendation:** 90% average in Pre-Calculus H  
93% average in Pre-Calculus A

**0554 AP CALCULUS (BC)**

This is a college-level course that covers the AP Calculus BC syllabus as prescribed by the College Board. The core of differential and integral calculus as it applies to elementary functions is covered, including limits, derivatives and their applications, integrals and their applications, and simple differential equations. In the second semester, Calculus topics of sequence and series, and polar and parametric equations are covered. A four-pronged approach is used with the goal of having students incorporate the analytical, graphical, numerical and verbal points of view. This course prepares students to take the AP Calculus BC exam in May. This class meets 9 times during every 8-day cycle, and earns the student 1.5 credits.

**Prerequisite:** Pre-Calculus H or Pre-Calculus

**Requirement:** Teacher recommendation

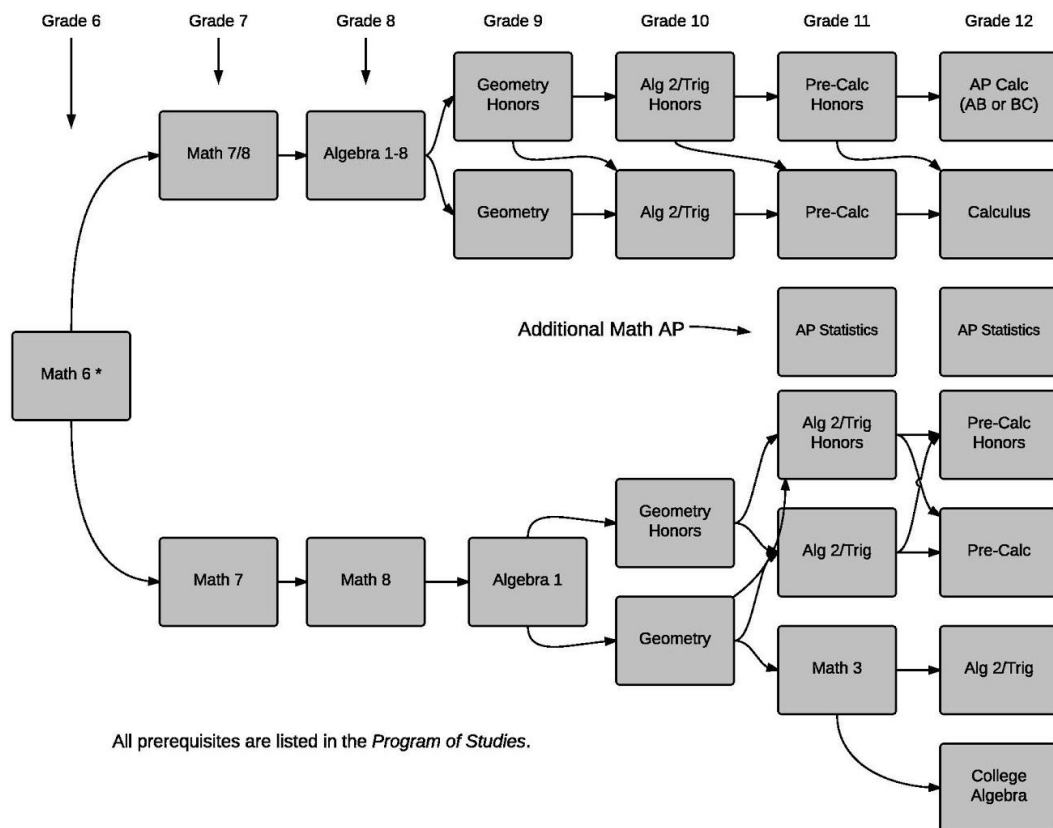
**Recommendation:** 90% average in Pre-Calculus H  
93% average in Pre-Calculus

**0555 AP STATISTICS**

This course is designed to introduce students to the major concepts and tools for collecting, analyzing and drawing conclusions from data. Students are exposed to four broad conceptual themes: exploring data, sampling and experimentation, anticipating patterns, and statistical inference.

**Prerequisite:** Algebra 2/Trig

**Math Course Sequence**



# PERFORMING ARTS

## **6700 6th GRADE ORCHESTRA**

This ensemble is available for any student with at least one year of study on their instrument. Instruments accepted are: Violin, Viola, Cello, String Bass, Piccolo, Flute, Clarinet, Bass Clarinet, Oboe, Bassoon, Saxophone, French Horn, Trumpet, Trombone, Baritone, Tuba, Percussion, and Piano. Students will rehearse standard orchestral music to build foundational instrumental music skills. 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Orchestra will perform a Christmas concert and a spring concert. Students are responsible for providing their own instrument, with the exception of trombone, baritone, and tuba. Private lessons are strongly encouraged but not required.

## **0672 MIDDLE SCHOOL ORCHESTRA (7-8)**

The Middle School Orchestra is comprised of 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade students and performs a Christmas concert and spring concert. This ensemble will enjoy a challenging classical, contemporary and spiritual repertoire to continue building foundational instrumental music skills but also to strengthen individual instrumental technique. Instruments accepted are: Violin, Viola, Cello, String Bass, Piccolo, Flute, Clarinet, Bass Clarinet, Oboe, Bassoon, Saxophone, French Horn, Trumpet, Trombone, Baritone, Tuba, Percussion, and Piano. Students are responsible for providing their own instrument, with the exception of trombone, baritone, and tuba. Private lessons are strongly encouraged but not required.

## **0683 CHOIR 7**

Participants in this performance group learn how to sing as a member of a large ensemble. No prior experience is necessary. The ensemble rehearses and performs two-part choral arrangements in various styles. Basic vocal technique, essential music theory and history are also incorporated into the curriculum. Daily participation and concert attendance are mandatory.

## **0684 CHOIR 8**

Participants in this performance group learn how to sing as a member of a large ensemble. No prior experience is necessary. The ensemble rehearses and performs two and three -part choral arrangements in various styles. Basic vocal technique, essential music theory and history are also incorporated into the curriculum. Daily participation and concert attendance are mandatory.

## **0670 MS INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC LESSONS FOR THE BEGINNER/ORCHESTRA**

This year-long experience is for the student interested in learning to play an orchestra instrument. No prior experience is necessary. Semester 1 will include small group in-school lessons to begin learning the new instrument and reading music. During semester 2, students will join the orchestra rehearsals as well as in-school lesson groups. Please consult with Mrs. Amy Marron, Director of Instrumental Music, For a complete list of orchestra instrument options and for assistance in renting/purchasing an instrument.

**0381 THEATRE ARTS 8**

This semester course focuses on the development of public speaking and dramatic interpretation skills. Theatre Arts 8 students will experiment with various types of performance art including mime, pantomime, improvisation, dialogue and monologue analysis, vocal and movement techniques, as well as script writing.

**0611 – THE MCAULEY SINGERS - SINGERS IN SERVICE (9-12)**

This performing group is open to all students in grades 9-12. The mission of this exciting class is to bring awareness to the Mercy Critical Concerns and Core Values by performing in charity concerts as well as outreach programs in the community and city schools. (Some short after school or evening commitments with possible daytime outreach to elementary city schools.) Students with piano, percussion and guitar skills welcome. Travel opportunity in spring of 2016 for competition. There will be opportunities to perform all styles of music as a choir, soloist or in a small group. Students are required to take part in the planning, publicity and execution of all performances. There are 4 leadership positions available: Manager, Secretary, Treasurer and Librarian. These students will facilitate the planning with the director and the group members to choose a charity or cause connected with the Mercy Critical Concerns and Core Values. Assessments will be based not only on performance, but on the process: the organization, facilitation and execution of the events. This class can be taken for a full year for 1 credit or by semester for ½ credit.

**0613 HIGH SCHOOL ORCHESTRA (9-12)**

High School instrumental music students in this performance-based group will be challenged with more advanced level music and several performances throughout the year. Repertoire will include larger classical orchestral works, pops, contemporary works, and sacred works with a large focus on ensemble playing and individual musical technique. Performing opportunities include: a Christmas concert, a spring concert, Community Outreach concerts, school masses, school concerts, music festivals, and competitions. Instruments accepted are: Violin, Viola, Cello, String Bass, Piccolo, Flute, Clarinet, Bass Clarinet, Oboe, Bassoon, Saxophone, French Horn, Trumpet, Trombone, Baritone, Tuba, Percussion, and Piano. Students are responsible for providing their own instrument, with the exception of trombone, baritone, and tuba. Private lessons are strongly encouraged but not required.

**0671 HS INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC LESSONS FOR THE BEGINNER / ORCHESTRA**

This year-long experience is for the student interested in learning to play an orchestra instrument. No prior experience is necessary. Semester 1 will include small group in-school lessons to begin learning the new instrument and reading music. During semester 2, students will join the High School Orchestra rehearsals as well as in-school lesson groups. Please consult with Mrs. Amy Marron, Director of Instrumental Music, for a complete list of orchestra instrument options and for assistance in renting/purchasing an instrument.



**0620 SHOW CHOIR (9-12)**

This select performance ensemble combines choreography of all styles with challenging four to eight part harmony to create unique, upbeat performances. The repertoire includes, but is not limited to, Musical Theatre, Jazz and Pop styles. Daily Class, some after school rehearsals, participation in performances and participation in the McAuley Choir (combined Show Choir and Women's Choir) are requirements of this ensemble. The group performs in the Rochester Community and travels to annual music festival competitions. Participants will supply their own costumes, dance shoes and makeup. Enrollment is limited to 20 students.

**Requirement: Audition**

**Recommendation: Previous singing and dancing experience**

**0325 INTRODUCTION TO THEATRE (9)**

This full year course offers students the opportunity to explore theatre performance in all areas of the world including Ancient Greece and Rome, England, Japan, and America. Students will identify the roles of women, religion, and political agendas in relation to theatrical performances throughout history. Introduction to Theatre students will participate in many in-class performance related activities throughout the year including improvisation, musical theatre technique, and kabuki make-up design.

**0641 THEATRE PERFORMANCE/ INDEPENDENT STUDY (11-12)**

This semester elective provides old students the opportunity to participate in theatre. Theatre performance students will be exposed to all aspects of theatre including monologue and dialogue coaching, individual and group vocal lessons, movement and choreography exercises, and audition preparation. This course is designed for students who are preparing for college auditions.

**Requirement: Teacher approval**

**0640 VOCAL PERFORMANCE/ INDEPENDENT STUDY (12)**

This course is recommended for students who plan on pursuing music in college or want to further expand their own personal growth as a musician. Students will be exposed to in-depth study of music theory (including composition and transposition), conducting, music history and much more.

**Prerequisite: High School Orchestra or Show Choir**

**Requirement: Teacher approval**

# PHYSICAL/HEALTH EDUCATION

## **6600 PHYSICAL EDUCATION (6)**

This course gives students the opportunity to participate in a wide range of specific sports and games to develop the qualities of cooperation, coordination, sportsmanship and team play. In addition to specific instruction in game terminology and skills, the students are introduced to various activities such as dance, tumbling, yoga and jump rope. Our aim is to promote the growth of the mind, body and spirit of our students through physical activity.

## **0770 PHYSICAL EDUCATION (7-8)**

The emphasis of this program is on the introduction of team sports. Basic skills, game strategy and general knowledge of each sport are presented. In addition to team sports, tumbling, fitness, dance and project adventure activities are taught. Fitness testing is also incorporated into the program.

## **0710 PHYSICAL EDUCATION (9-10)**

At this level, the focus is on providing the student with several team and individual sport opportunities, as well as affording the student a chance to improve her level of fitness. Fitness levels are charted in both the fall and spring. Some of the activities offered are badminton, basketball, dance, fitness, lacrosse, orienteering, soccer, softball, team handball, track and field, and volleyball.

## **0710 PHYSICAL EDUCATION (11-12)**

At this level, the focus is on providing the student with individual or lifetime sport opportunities. Skills are taught and practiced so that activity can be enjoyed now and in the future. Some of the activities offered include archery, fitness, first aid and CPR, golf, recreational games, and personal safety. Fitness levels are charted in both the fall and the spring.

## **0771 HEALTH EDUCATION (7)**

Current issues in health are studied in order to help students become aware of recent developments and trends in the field. Topics related to physical, mental, emotional, social and spiritual health are explored to aid students in intelligent decision-making. Among these topics are nutrition, relationship – building, and abstinence education. Students apply critical thinking skills and discuss topics in light of Catholic traditions and faith values.

## **0721 HEALTH EDUCATION (10)**

The health program affords students opportunities to expand their awareness and knowledge of a variety of health issues that include communication, personality, stress management, drugs, nutrition, and human sexuality. The class focuses on a holistic approach to wellness and encourages students to make healthy decisions in regard to their total well-being. This semester course is required for graduation.

**JUNIOR/SENIOR ATHLETIC EXEMPTION**

Juniors and seniors may use their athletic experience in a junior varsity or varsity sport for Physical Education credit. Athletes may exempt for ONE quarter of the school year, and must do so during the particular quarter in which their sport competes: (Fall Sport – 1<sup>st</sup> Qtr; Winter Sport – 3<sup>rd</sup> Qtr.; Spring Sport – 4<sup>th</sup> Qtr.). Each coach will grade student athletes according to the Physical Education Department Rubric.

**JUNIOR/SENIOR INDEPENDENT STUDY**

Juniors and Seniors may earn Physical Education credit for ONE quarter by participating in 30 hours of instruction from a qualified professional at a commercial facility. This option is ONLY for juniors and seniors who are actively pursuing higher levels of certification and/or more competitive levels of performance (e.g. dance, martial arts, etc.). All Independent Study Course plans must be pre-approved by the Physical Education Department.

# SCIENCE

## **6800 LIFE SCIENCE (6)**

This course will prepare students for the Mercy middle and high school science courses. Students will establish a solid science foundation by studying scientific principles and the scientific method. Scientific literacy skills are embedded in instruction as students learn about and complete laboratory reports. The Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS) are the basis for instruction. The curriculum is enriched through several cross-curricular units with ELA, social studies, and math. Major topics of study include the metric system, plants, cells, an introduction to physics, matter, Earth and space, waves, light, sound, and the heart.

## **0870 LIFE SCIENCE (7)**

This course follows the Next Generation Science Standards. Concepts and skills necessary for the study of life science are introduced, with an emphasis on active participation by the students, reading and writing in science. Topics covered include scientific method and measurements, life characteristics, cell structures, organism classification, the 5 kingdoms of organisms, and the environment.

## **0880 PHYSICAL SCIENCE (7-8)**

This course follows the Next Generation Science Standards. It is a course designed to develop the processing skills along with reading and writing skills that are needed to understand the concepts of the physical sciences, which include Physics, Chemistry, and Earth Science.

## **0820 BIOLOGY (8)**

This course reflects Next Generation Science Standards. Topics include biochemistry, cellular biology, human biology, genetics, molecular biology, ecology and evolution. This course requires regular laboratory work.

## **0821 BIOLOGY (9)**

This course reflects Next Generation Science Standards. Topics include biochemistry, cellular biology, human biology, genetics, molecular biology, ecology and evolution. This course requires regular laboratory work.

## **0811 EARTH AND SPACE SCIENCE (9-12)**

Earth and Space Science is a laboratory course with interdisciplinary study related to the earth based on next generation science standards. Topics include astronomy, geology, meteorology, energy and environmental cycles. Students are required to complete 1200 minutes of laboratory work.

**Prerequisite: Algebra I**

**0831 CHEMISTRY (9-12)**

This course reflects the Next Generation Science Standards related to chemistry. Topics include: matter and energy, atomic structure, bonding, the periodic table, thermodynamics, kinetics and equilibrium, acid-base theories, and nuclear chemistry. Laboratory work is required. Students take a final assessment in June.

**Prerequisite: Algebra I**

**Recommendation: Teacher approval**

**0841 PHYSICS (10-12)**

This is a course emphasizing analytical skills and the development of problem-solving. Topics include motion, forces, energy, work, power, electromagnetism, and waves. Regular laboratory work and a local final exam are required parts of this course.

**Prerequisite: Algebra 2/Trig**

**0845 APPLIED SCIENCE (10-12)**

**An Andrew J. Kirch Charitable Trust Applied Science Course in memory of Victoria Ciaccio**

This course is designed to develop real world scientific applications. Students will develop an understanding of how all sciences affect everyday life. All students will be held to Next Generation Science Standards. Topics include: our environment, marine biology, and forensic sciences.

**Prerequisites: Completion of at least 2 Science courses**

**0864 THE GLOBAL ENVIRONMENT AND THE EVOLUTION OF HUMAN CULTURE (10-12)**

Students will examine the complex scientific and social issues behind the development of human societies and resource use strategies throughout human history. The focus is on population growth and developmental pressures on physical and biotic resources. Topics include energy use issues, causes and socioeconomic implications of climate change, pollution, and loss of biodiversity. This is a dual credit course in conjunction with the State University of New York College of Environmental Science and Forestry (SUNY ESF). There is a tuition fee is required of approximately \$200.00. This course may be taken concurrently with another Science course.

**Prerequisite: Completion of at least 3 Science courses (any AP Science Course, Biology, Chemistry, Earth & Space Science and/or Physics), or concurrently with your third science course.**

**0850 AP BIOLOGY (10-12)**

This course follows the AP Biology curriculum defined by the College Board, and is the equivalent of a college introductory biology course. Students must exhibit strong math skills, a high level of interest, and significant time commitment. Topics include biochemistry, cellular mechanics, plant and animal physiology, human physiology, genetics, reproduction and development, molecular biology, ecology and evolution. An integral portion of the course is comprised of laboratory experiments.

**Prerequisite: Chemistry and Algebra 2/Trig, or concurrently with Algebra 2/Trig with Teacher approval**

**0862 AP PHYSICS 1 (11-12)**

This course is the equivalent to a first-semester college course in algebra-based physics. The course covers Newtonian mechanics (including rotational dynamics and angular momentum); work, energy, and power; mechanical waves and sound. It will also introduce electric circuits. Regular lab work required as part of this course.

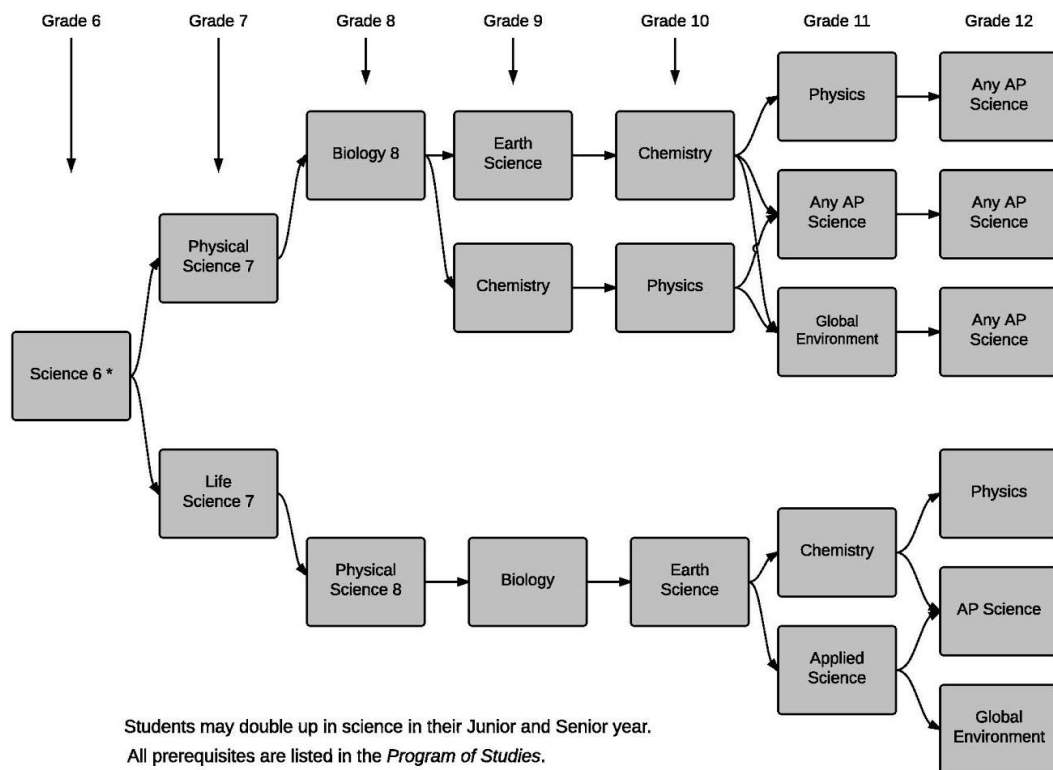
**Prerequisite: Algebra 2/Trig**

**0856 AP CHEMISTRY (10-12)**

This course follows the AP Chemistry curriculum of the College Board. Students must exhibit strong math skills and a high level of interest and time commitment. Topics include kinetics, types of reactions, stoichiometry, and thermodynamics. An integral portion of the course is comprised of laboratory experiments.

**Prerequisite: Chemistry and Algebra 2/Trig, or concurrently with Algebra 2/Trig with Teacher approval**

**Science Course Sequence**



# SOCIAL STUDIES

## **6900 SOCIAL STUDIES 6**

The goal of the course is to build a strong foundation of literacy skills students will need as they continue their studies. The students begin the course with an in-depth study of the geography of the United States; they then learn about the Paleolithic and Neolithic Revolutions. The students will further broaden their understanding of history by analyzing a variety of ancient cultures and civilizations. Students will explore the cultures of Mesopotamia and the Fertile Crescent, Ancient Egypt, India, and China, and Ancient Greece and Rome. Students will develop literacy skills such as reading a map, studying primary and secondary sources, and organizing notes.

## **0970 SOCIAL STUDIES 7**

This course examines the history of America from Pre-Columbian times to the Civil War. Topics include the first Americans, European explorers, settlers and the colonists of America. The forging of a national identity from a diverse population and the broadening and strengthening of a democratic institution are emphasized. The political, social and economic changes during this time are stressed, and compared and contrasted to a modern America.

## **0980 SOCIAL STUDIES 8**

A continuation of the study of the United States, from the Civil War to the present, this course stresses the political, social and economic changes that the United States has undergone over this span of time. The course emphasizes American values and traditions.

## **0910 GLOBAL HISTORY AND GEOGRAPHY 1 (9)**

This course begins with the Rise of Civilizations and ends with the Age of Exploration presented through a chronological and thematic approach. Themes central to the study of human history are explored such as geography, social relations, political structures and economic organization. The study is global in context with the exception of the United States.

## **0911 PRE-AP WORLD HISTORY (9)**

This course is the first half of a two year course that develops an understanding of global evaluation. This course highlights the nature of changes in a world context from the beginnings of human development until the 18<sup>th</sup> century. An emphasis is placed on causes and consequences of societal interactions.

**Recommendation: Teacher recommendation or performance on entrance exam**

## **0920 GLOBAL HISTORY AND GEOGRAPHY 2 (10)**

This course is a continuation of study from Global History and Geography 1. It begins with the Age of Enlightenment and ends with current world issues. The area of study remains global, with the exception of the United States. An emphasis on cultural elements and global interdependence is highlighted.

**0921 AP WORLD HISTORY (10)**

This course is offered to sophomores who have successfully completed Pre-AP World History in their freshmen year. The course begins chronologically with 1750 CE and ends with present day; building on an understanding of cultural, institutional and technological precedents that, along with geography, set the human stage. Specific time periods are studied for change and continuity throughout the course.

**Recommendation: 90% average in Pre-AP World History  
93% average in Global History 1**

**0930 U.S. HISTORY & GOVERNMENT (11)**

This course covers six major units of United States history. The first unit emphasizes the study of the roots of democracy and the origins and development of the Constitution during the early years of our history, stressing the expansion of individual rights and civil liberties. The other five units follow the United States chronologically since 1865, concentrating on economic, political, social and foreign policy changes.

**0950 AP UNITED STATES HISTORY (11)**

This course is a detailed look at the political, economic, and social aspects of American history from pre-Columbian days to the present. Nine periods of study are viewed chronologically with the major emphasis being placed on critical analysis and historical interpretation. Special effort is given to developing the Historical Thinking Skills and Thematic Learning Objectives as outlined in the College Board Course and Exam Description for United States History.

**Recommendation: 90% average in AP World History  
93% average in Global History 2**

**0931 AP UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS (11-12)**

The course introduces students to key political ideas, institutions, policies, interactions, roles, and behaviors that characterize the political culture of the United States. Students will examine politically significant concepts and themes, will learn to apply disciplinary reasoning to assess causes and consequences of political events, and will interpret data to develop evidence-based arguments. This course can be used to fulfill one year of the Social Studies requirements.

**0940 ECONOMICS (12)**

This semester course presents basic concepts and principles to provide the economic understanding necessary to function effectively and intelligently as citizens of the United States. Comparisons are made with other national economic systems. Microeconomics is also covered in terms of the interplay between business, government, labor and the consumer.

**0941 PARTICIPATION IN GOVERNMENT (12)**

This semester course provides the student with the necessary knowledge and skills to enable her to participate actively in the democratic process. Students evaluate actual and proposed public policies at the school level, as well as at local, state, national and international levels. In lieu of a final exam, students are required to work in cooperation with others in researching and evaluating a proposal which impacts public policy.



**0951 AP EUROPEAN HISTORY (12)**

This course follows the AP European History curriculum of the College Board. The course is developed on the basis of religion, politics, economics, society and military life, showing the interaction of countries of Western Europe. An emphasis is placed on deductive analytical thinking in the presentation of essay and document based questions. Students produce a project on Public Policy Formulation.

**Prerequisite: AP United States History or United States History**

**Recommendation: 90% average in AP United States History  
93% average in United States History**

**0942 PSYCHOLOGY (11-12)**

This semester elective introduces students to the systematic and scientific study of human behavior and mental processes. While considering the psychologists and studies that have shaped the field, students explore and apply psychological theories, key concepts, and phenomena associated with such topics as the biological basis of behavior, memory and learning, personality, psychological disorders, social cognition, and social interaction. Throughout the course, students employ psychological research methods, including ethical considerations, as they use the scientific method, analyze bias, evaluate claims and evidence and effectively communicate ideas.

**0952 AP PSYCHOLOGY (11-12)**

The Advanced Placement Psychology course introduces students to the systematic and scientific study of human behavior and mental processes. While considering the psychologists and studies that have shaped the field, students explore and apply psychological theories, key concepts, and phenomena associated with such topics as the biological basis of behavior, sensation and perception, learning and cognition, motivation and emotion, developmental psychology, testing and individual differences, psychological disorders and treatment, and social psychology. Throughout the course, student employ psychological research methods, including ethical considerations, as they use the scientific method, analyze bias, evaluate claims and evidence and effectively communicate ideas. After completing the AP exam, students are required to prepare a personality project and presentation.

**0955 CRIMINAL JUSTICE (11-12)**

This semester elective is designed to provide students with an understanding of the operation of the American criminal justice system. Student will explore the law, procedures and issues surrounding crimes against people and property, defenses, investigation, proceedings before trial, trial and sentencing/corrections. Students will become familiar with the role of police in investigating criminal activity and the right of accused persons. Students will interpret, analyze and think critically about the major issues facing the criminal justice system in America. As a culminating experience, student will experience the criminal justice system by participating in a mock trial and visiting the Hall of Justice for a court tour.

**0958 CIVIL LAW IN AMERICA (11-12)**

This semester elective introduces students to the major areas of American civil law. Students will examine individual rights and liberties such as freedom of speech, press, and religion and assembly, the right to privacy, due process, discrimination. Next, students will study family law including marriage, separation, divorce and custody, parents and children, foster care and adoption. Finally, students will learn about torts: intentional, negligence and strict liability. Throughout the course, students will interpret, analyze and think critically about the major issues and controversies facing the civil law system in America.

# THEOLOGY

## **6500 GRADE 6 THEOLOGY- OUR ANCESTORS IN FAITH**

This course encompasses study of Hebrew Scriptures to understand our roots in the first covenant between God and God's people to prepare for the new covenant in Jesus. The course includes hands on activities, faith development opportunities, service opportunities.

## **1070 THEOLOGY 7**

This course provides an introduction to the life and teachings of Jesus and how to live out the Good News as a disciple. It encompasses beliefs, practices, and traditions of the Church including the Bible, prayers, Sacraments, liturgical year and reflection on community service experiences.

## **1080 THEOLOGY 8**

This course encompasses two major areas:

- (1) The history of Christianity and the Catholic Church and
- (2) Christian Morality. It also includes reflection on community service experiences.

## **1010 GOD'S REVELATION IN SACRED SCRIPTURE PART 1 (9)**

This is an introduction to God's revelation in Sacred Scripture. The course includes an introduction to biblical interpretation through a study of the Pentateuch and the Historical, Wisdom, and Prophetic books. This course concludes with a historical context for the examination of the Gospels.

## **1020 GOD'S REVELATION IN SACRED SCRIPTURE PART 2 (10)**

This course emphasizes Jesus as the Revelation of God. Through an in-depth study of the Gospels students will explore the themes of Incarnation, Mission, Paschal Mystery, and Discipleship. This course concludes with a study of the early Church as presented in Acts of the Apostles, Epistles, Revelation, and early Church councils.

## **1030 MORAL FOUNDATIONS / ISSUES OF MORALITY (11)**

This semester course explores what it means to be a morally mature Christian. The goal of the course is to provide a framework for making good moral choices within the tradition and teachings of the Catholic faith. Students have an opportunity to examine their own moral growth and development as well as specific moral issues that face us both individually and as a society.

## **1031 LIVING SACRAMENTS (11)**

This semester course leads the students toward a deeper understanding of liturgy and of the sacraments. Concepts including the liturgical year, symbol, ritual, the Paschal Mystery and grace are explored. The Sacraments of Christian Initiation are given special attention. Throughout the course, the importance of the sacraments as graced encounters with the Risen Christ, and the strengthening of our relationship with him, are emphasized.

**1046 DISCIPLESHIP AND DISCERNMENT (12)**

This one semester course examines the baptismal call to be disciples of Christ. The course includes an examination of Marriage and Holy Orders as well as vowed Religious Life. How one discovers God's call is explored through the lens of great spiritual icons from our Catholic heritage. Film study, prayer experiences, guest speakers, small group discussion and projects are integral components of the course.

**1047 SAINTS, SAGES AND SINNERS IN THE HISTORY OF THE CHURCH (12)**

This one semester course is a Church History Course that explores the significant historical figures, events and writings of our Catholic heritage from the time of Jesus until the present. A variety of methodologies will be used in this course.

**1043 INTER-RELIGIOUS DIALOGUE (12)**

This one semester course will prepares students to become active participants in inter-religious dialogue to enhance the building of a global community. Students will develop their knowledge of the core beliefs and practices of Muslims, Hindus, Buddhists, Mormons, and the traditions of Shinto, Taoism and Judaism, in order to discover the elements of truth and virtue these have in common with Catholic Christian beliefs.

**1044 SOCIAL JUSTICE (12)**

This one semester course explores the Christian call to act justly. Through an examination of our biblical heritage, Catholic Church social teaching, and tools of social analysis, a context for examining specific issues is provided. Issues studied in this course include prejudice and racism, U.S. and global poverty, immigration, conflict, and nonviolence.

# UNIQUE ELECTIVES

## **1101 ARCHITECTURAL SEMINAR (10-12)**

This non-graded one semester seminar meets twice per cycle and explores different aspects of the field of architecture. Practical hands-on learning about floor plans, elevations, plot and landscape plans and perspective drawing will take place. Field trips and guest speakers will be incorporated as part of this seminar.

## **0271 JAVA (10-12)**

This non-credit one semester course is an introduction to the basics of computer programming, using Oracle's Java. In this course we cover the absolute basics of what it means to program and continue GUI construction. No prior technical or mathematical knowledge is required for this course and it is graded as pass/fail.

## **0270 TECHNOLOGICAL STUDIES AND APPLICATIONS (10-12)**

This year-long course is a guided independent-study course. Students in the course will meet with the instructor at least two of the six cycle days. During this time the instructor will conduct classes on various technology related issues and provide computer support. The remaining days students will complete individual and group work, help provide support, and fix computer issues from other students and faculty, maintain a personal blog, and work on a technology-related Individual Learning Endeavor (ILE) of their choosing. Students in this course must also be available to work at the Help Desk a minimum of once a week (more is encouraged). These times at the Help Desk could include mornings before school, during advisements, during study halls, or after school.