PROGRAM OF STUDIES 2019 - 2020

OUR LADY OF MERCY
SCHOOL FOR YOUNG WOMEN
Grades 6-12
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**Academic Program Overview**

**Middle School (6-8)**

Each year, Middle School students take a full year of the following core courses:

- English
- Math
- Science
- Social Studies
- Theology
- Physical Education

In addition, the following courses are taken:

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*High School credit-bearing courses are available to eligible students beginning in 8th grade. These include Algebra, Biology, and World Languages.*

**High School (9-12)**

Grades 9 and 10  minimum of 7.5 credits
Grades 11 and 12 minimum of 7 credits

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

Coursework in each of the following disciplines is required for graduation:

- **Courses taken each year, grades 9-12:**
  - English: 4 credits
  - Mathematics: 4 credits
  - Physical Education: 2 credits
  - Social Studies: 4 credits
  - Theology: 4 credits

- **In addition, students take the following:**
  - Leadership Studies: 0.5 credit
  - Art, Music or Theatre: 1 credit
  - World Languages: 3 credits
  - Health: 0.5 credit
  - Science: 3 credits (Biology is required for all students)
  - Electives to complete credits needed for graduation

**Graduation Requirements:**

- Total credits required for graduation = 29
- Students must complete at least one AP or dual credit course.
- Seniors must complete the Motto Capstone Project.

*Independent Study is available for some courses. Interested students should contact the Curriculum Leader of that discipline and their counselor.*

**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 their counselor with any questions. Course Selection Forms are distributed and are due back by late February with both student and parent signatures. Final course selections are completed in the spring. Please refer to the Mercy Student Handbook for information on making schedule changes.

*Please note: Insufficient student enrollment may result in the cancellation of a course.*
The Motto Project
The Motto Project allows students to connect their talents, passions, and interests through a coordinated effort developing and executing action, research, and presentation. It clearly demonstrates the impact of the Mercy Critical Concerns and the Core Values on the students’ action and research. Every graduate completes a Motto project as a culmination of her Mercy experience. For more information, contact Motto Project Coordinator Elizabeth Decosse at edecosse@mercyhs.com.

Honors and Acceleration
Students are encouraged to challenge themselves in rigorous coursework at a level that helps them to meet their full potential. Teachers have identified prerequisite skills students will need to be successful in accelerated and honors level courses, and will make recommendations accordingly. These and other measures will be taken into account when determining placement.

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.

“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.”
— The College Board

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

Dual Credit
Most Business courses, as well as Calculus, offer students the opportunity to receive college credit through Monroe Community College (MCC). Students who choose the dual credit option pay a fee directly to MCC (approximately $200). This fee includes all required collegiate texts and lab time.

The Global Environment and the Evolution of Human Culture also offer a dual credit opportunity through the State University of New York College of Environmental Science and Forestry (SUNY ESF).

Upon successful completion of the courses, the student earns college credit transferable to most American colleges and universities.

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.

Grade Reporting
Teachers will report student progress using a letter grade system. The letter grade ranges are:

**Academic Honors**

All credit-bearing courses are considered for the following:

- **Scholarship Roll:** A student must achieve an average of A or above and no grade below B.
- **Honor Roll:** A student must achieve an average of B+ or above and have no grade below C.

Students will be recognized at graduation with the following designation:

- **Summa Cum Laude:** cumulative average of 4.3-4.5 with completion of at least 3 AP or dual-credit courses.
- **Magna Cum Laude:** cumulative average of 3.8-4.2 with completion of at least 2 AP or dual-credit courses.
- **Cum Laude:** a cumulative average of 3.3-3.7 with completion of at least 1 AP or dual-credit course.

**Library Media Center**

The Mercy Library Media Center and its faculty support the ministry of the Sisters of Mercy by creating and maintaining an environment of hospitality, integrity, and respect. Working in conjunction with the school’s Mission Statement to unleash the potential of young women through a vigorous pursuit of knowledge, the Library Media Center contributes to lifelong, 21st century learners. It stimulates interest in reading, viewing, and using information and ideas for academic and personal growth, as well as provides opportunities for students to become ethical digital citizens when using technology for academic and personal use. The librarian and support staff collaborate with teachers to develop authentic learning experiences that embody the traits of a World-Class Learner.

The Library Media Center’s program of study is an integrated curriculum for grades 6-12 focusing on three areas:

- **Digital Citizenship:** Students are digital citizens who live and learn in a digital world using actions that are safe, legal, and ethical. Digital citizenship focuses on the rights of users and creators of intellectual property, as well as an awareness of one’s on-line behavior and the development of a digital footprint which demonstrates respect for self and others.

- **Research:** Students become users of information to make connections, relate ideas, find solutions, and develop new concepts. They critically assess information for validity and relevance to their topic, and apply the expected citation format [either MLA or APA] to give credit to their sources.

- **Presentation:** Students implement a variety of tools, such as slides, graphics, videos, or data in the forms of graphs/charts/tables, etc, to convey their ideas and solutions to an audience. They also use interpersonal skills, such as body language, voice, and eye contact, to create a relationship with the audience which supports their message.

**World-Class Learners**

As part of our five-year Strategic Plan, the Mercy community has identified skills and attributes that will help our girls become World-Class Learners who make a difference. We want our students to possess a [moral compass], be [risk takers], demonstrate a [growth mindset], be [globally ready], [resilient problem solvers] and [communicators]. Courses at the school help Mercy Girls achieve these attributes. Look for the ‘World-Class Learners’ symbol throughout this book, and the concepts we hope to reinforce in Mercy Girls during their education here.
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 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-D 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 artworks 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, and 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 (10-12)**
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
AP STUDIO ART: 2D OR 3D DESIGN
This program is available for motivated art students to initiate and plan the experience of a college-level art course on an individual basis (students will receive support and approval from the Art Department 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

ART COURSE SEQUENCE

All prerequisites are listed in the Program of Studies.
0250  **LEADERSHIP STUDIES (9)**
This is a required course for all 9th graders. Students will focus on the study of women who are in leadership positions—the habits of mind and dispositions they possess, the perseverance and grit they have shown when overcoming obstacles to leadership, the executive functioning skills that have helped them on their journey to leadership, and the choices they have made when pursuing their education. Students will have opportunities to reflect on how they might integrate these attributes into their own lives, as they grow into leaders at Mercy and in their communities.

0224  **PRINCIPLES OF BUSINESS (10-12)**
(MCC-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 be connected 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.

0221  **ACCOUNTING (11-12)**
(MCC-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 on-line textbook and workbook.

0225  **PERSONAL FINANCE (10-12)**
(MCC-ECO 103, 3 college credits)
This semester course targets the essential information and skills required for lifelong 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.

0240  **VIRTUAL ENTERPRISE (11-12)**
(MCC-BUS 110, 3 college credits)
The Virtual Enterprise classroom is designed to simulate an authentic business environment with traditional business equipment, furniture, and accessories. This semester course is designed for the student who demonstrates an interest and/or ability in owning, operating, or managing a business. Their business enterprise can be in any line of business from service to manufacturing, wholesale to retail.

0223  **ADVANCED MICROSOFT APPLICATIONS (10-12)**
(MCC-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.
**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 6th grade course lays a strong foundation for literacy skills needed at Mercy in 7th grade and beyond.

**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.

**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.

**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.

**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

**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.
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.
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.

0351 **AP LANGUAGE & COMPOSITION***
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. A significant portion of the course reading material comprises works of nonfiction. In addition, the course focuses on the major American literary movements. Students will independently read and write about several major works.
Prerequisite: English 10 or English 10 Honors
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 critical components of this course.

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 17th 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 will be a significant part of the course.
Prerequisite: English 11 or AP Language and Composition
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.

0341  **DIGITAL AND MEDIA LITERACY (11-12)**  
This semester course is designed to help students develop an informed and critical understanding of an ever-expanding and increasingly dominant digital and mass media in their lives. Students will examine, interpret, and evaluate the social, cultural, and political implications of digital and media messaging. The course will include informational, reflective, analytical, and argumentative writing, and emphasize critical thinking skills. The final project will entail the creation and distribution of a media message in digital or video format centered on one of the social justice or environmental concerns of the Sisters of Mercy.

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.
This course, assessed through a standards-based approach, is designed for students to grow and strengthen problem-solving and fluency skills. After reviewing essential 5th 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 7th 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/probability.

**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), statistics, and trigonometry. 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. Required: B+ in Math 7/8 or A+ in Math 7 with additional out-of-class instruction and teacher recommendation

**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: A in Algebra I or B+ in Algebra 1 Honors with teacher recommendation

0531  **FOUNDATIONS OF ALGEBRA 2/TRIG (11) *Formerly Math 3***
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 three-course curriculum, and includes an in-depth study of algebra and trigonometry. Topics include: 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: B average in Algebra 1, Geometry
B+ 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 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
Recommendation: A in Geometry or B+ average in Geometry Honors with teacher recommendation

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: B 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:** B+ average in Algebra 2/Trig Honors or teacher recommendation

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 (approximately $200) when demand requirement is met.
**Requirement:** Monroe Community College requires a B+ average 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
**Recommendation:** B+ average in Pre-Calculus or teacher recommendation

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. Please note that this class meets 9 times in every 8-day cycle.
**Prerequisite:** Pre-Calculus H or Pre-Calculus A
**Recommendation:** B+ average in Pre-Calculus or teacher recommendation
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**

All prerequisites are listed in the Program of Studies.
6700  **6th GRADE SINFONIETTA**
This ensemble is available for any student with at least one year of study on their instrument. A *Sinfonietta* is a musical ensemble that is larger than a chamber orchestra, yet smaller than a symphony. Instruments accepted are: violin, viola, cello, string bass, flute, clarinet, oboe, bassoon, saxophone, french horn, trumpet, trombone, baritone, tuba, percussion, and piano. Students will rehearse standard orchestral music to build foundational instrumental skills. 6th Grade Orchestra will perform two concerts during the school year. Students are responsible for providing their own instrument with the exception of French horn, trombone, baritone, and tuba. Private lessons are strongly encouraged but not required.

0672  **MIDDLE SCHOOL SINFONIA (7-8)**
This ensemble is available for any student with at least one year of study on their instrument. *Sinfonia* is the Latin root for the word “symphony.” The Middle School Sinfonia is comprised of 7th and 8th grade students which performs two concerts per year. This ensemble will enjoy a challenging classical, contemporary, and spiritual repertoire to continue building foundational instrumental music technique. Instruments accepted are: violin, viola, cello, string bass, flute, 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 French horn, trombone, baritone, and tuba. Private lessons are strongly encouraged but not required.

0683  **CHOIR 6/7**
Participants in this performance group learn how to sing as a member of a large ensemble and to present themselves in a composed and professional manner in front of an audience. No prior experience is necessary. The ensemble rehearses and performs two-part choral arrangements in various styles for two concerts a year. Basic vocal technique, essential music theory, and history are 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 and to present themselves in a composed and professional manner in front of an audience. The ensemble rehearses and performs two to three part choral arrangements in various styles for two concerts a year. Basic vocal technique, essential music theory, and history are 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. Weekly 30 minute lessons will teach the student fundamental playing techniques, note-reading skills, and basic ensemble playing. Instruments accepted are: violin, viola, cello, string bass, flute, clarinet, oboe, bassoon, saxophone, French horn, trumpet, trombone, baritone, tuba, and percussion. Please consult with Mrs. Amy Marron, Director of Instrumental Music, 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. 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 outreach programs in the community (some short after school or evening commitments with possible daytime outreach). Students with piano, percussion, and guitar skills welcome. Travel opportunity in spring semester for national 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 four leadership positions available: Manager, Secretary, Treasurer, and Librarian. 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. Weekly 30 minute lessons will teach the student fundamental playing techniques, note-reading skills, and basic ensemble playing. Instruments accepted are: violin, viola, cello, string bass, flute, clarinet, oboe, bassoon, saxophone, French horn, trumpet, trombone, baritone, tuba, and percussion. Please consult with Mrs. Amy Marron, Director of Instrumental Music, 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 McAuley Singers) 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 25 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. 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 (10-12)
This elective has a semester or full-year option providing flexibility in students’ elective selections. Theatre Performance is designed to deepen students understanding of performance art in a playful, encouraging, collaborative atmosphere. This course offers students an engaging introduction or continuation to theatre training, audition preparation, script writing, and directing.

0640  VOCAL PERFORMANCE/ INDEPENDENT STUDY (12)
This course is recommended for students who plan on pursuing music or musical theatre in college. Students will receive voice lessons, sight reading, music theory, and monologue coaching to prepare their college audition repertoire and fulfill pre-screening requirements. Additional fees for accompanists and recording sessions for instructor’s time outside of class will be charged hourly.
Prerequisite: Show Choir
Requirement: Teacher approval
6600 PHYSICAL EDUCATION (6)
This course gives students the opportunity to participate in a wide range of games, sports, and fitness activities. Through participation, our goal is to develop the qualities of cooperation, coordination, sportsmanship, and team play. Along with attention paid to fine and gross motor skills, students receive instruction in sport and fitness skills and related terminology. Our focus is to promote 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, yoga, and cooperative games are taught. Fitness testing is also incorporated at this level.

0710 PHYSICAL EDUCATION (9-10)
At this level, the focus is on providing team and individual sport opportunities, as well as developing related awareness of skills, rules and concepts of play. The student will also have a chance to improve her level of fitness. Individual fitness levels are charted during the second semester. Some of the activities offered are badminton, basketball, fitness, football, international games, soccer, softball, track & field, and volleyball.

0710 PHYSICAL EDUCATION (11-12)
At this level, the focus is on providing the student with individual and 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, badminton, lifetime fitness, and recreational activities. We also offer certification for ARC First Aid/CPR/AED and a Personal Safety Unit for all students. Individual fitness levels are charted during second semester.

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. Physical, mental, emotional, social/emotional, and spiritual health are explored in the areas of decision-making, stress management, substance abuse, nutrition, communication, healthy relationships, abstinence education, and disease prevention. Students apply critical thinking skills to all areas of their health.

0721 HEALTH EDUCATION (10)
Students are given the opportunity to expand their awareness and knowledge of a variety of health issues that include health and wellness, decision making, communication, stress management, substance use and abuse, nutrition, communicable disease, and sexual health. 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.

Health is offered on-line during the summer for a limited number of students. Upperclassmen needing the credit for graduation, students taking full year electives, or those taking AP Science classes will be eligible to take the summer Health course. Please see your counselor for more information.
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 – 1st Qtr.; Winter Sport – 3rd Qtr.; Spring Sport – 4th 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.
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.

This course is aligned to the Next Generation Science Standards with an emphasis on skills and thinking common to both scientists and engineers. A project-based approach will be used to engage students in the iterative design process (design, build, test, evaluate). Science topics include Newton’s Laws of Motion, density, simple machines, and forms of energy.

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, as well as concepts from the physical sciences and Earth Science.

This is a high school level course aligned to the Next Generation Science Standards. Topics include biochemistry, cellular biology, human biology, genetics, molecular biology, ecology, and evolution. Students are required to complete 1,200 minutes of satisfactory laboratory work. Required: Teacher recommendation

This course reflects Next Generation Science Standards. Topics include biochemistry, cellular biology, human biology, genetics, molecular biology, ecology, and evolution. Students are required to complete 1,200 minutes of satisfactory laboratory work.

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 1,200 minutes of satisfactory laboratory work.

This course reflects the Next Generation Science Standards related to chemistry. Using a hands-on learning approach, students will study topics such as: 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: completion of Biology and Algebra I
0841 PHYSICS (10-12)
This is a course emphasizing analytical skills and the development of problem-solving. Topics include motion, forces, energy, work, power, momentum, and waves. Regular laboratory work and a final exam are required parts of this course.
Prerequisite: Completion of Geometry; concurrently with Algebra 2/Trig

0882 FORENSICS (10-12)
In this semester course students will explore the world of forensic science. Students will follow the process used by scientists to investigate crime scenes. Students will learn about the kinds of evidence used by investigators to solve crimes, such as cell phone records, fingerprints, and fabric samples. The analysis of evidence will allow students to construct arguments about how a crime was committed. Regular laboratory work is required in this course.
Prerequisite: Biology

0884 ANATOMY AND PHYSIOLOGY (10-12)
This full-year course offers an in-depth study of the anatomy and physiology of the human body. The various tissues and organs of each of the body systems will be studied at both the macro and micro levels. The interaction of the body systems in maintaining homeostasis will be emphasized. Regular laboratory work is required in this course.
Prerequisite: Biology

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: Biology, Chemistry and Algebra 2/Trig, or concurrently with Algebra 2/Trig and teacher approval
Recommended: B+ or higher in Chemistry

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; and mechanical waves and sound. It will also introduce electric circuits. Regular lab work required as part of this course.
Prerequisite: Biology, Chemistry and Algebra 2/Trig, or concurrently with Algebra 2/Trig and teacher approval
Recommended: B+ or higher in Geometry

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: Biology, Chemistry and Algebra 2/Trig, or concurrently with Algebra 2/Trig and teacher approval
Recommended: B+ or higher in Chemistry
**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 required of approximately $200.

**Prerequisite:** completion of 3 science credits (Biology, Earth and Space Science, Chemistry, Physics, or AP Sciences) or concurrent enrollment in a third science course.

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**SCIENCE COURSE SEQUENCE**

Courses may require prerequisites. See course description for more detail. Students may double up in Science in their Junior and Senior years.
6900 SOCIAL STUDIES 6
The goal of the course is to build a strong foundation of literacy skills the students will need as they continue their studies. Students begin the course with an in-depth study of the five themes of geography and their impact on the development of civilizations. They then learn the basics of archaeology and the use of primary and secondary sources in order to understand the past. After a unit on early humans, students explore the cultures of selected ancient civilizations. Students develop historical writing skills aligned with content area through the creation of document-based essays.

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 Reconstruction to the present, this course stresses the political, social, and economic changes the United States has undergone over this span of time.

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 beginning of the Modern Age. An emphasis is placed on causes and consequences of societal interactions, and requires advanced reading and writing skills.

**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 some United States history. An emphasis on cultural elements and global interdependence is highlighted.

0921 AP WORLD HISTORY: MODERN (10)
This course begins chronologically with 1200 CE and end 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:** A average in Pre-AP World History, A+ average in Global History 1
0930  **U.S. HISTORY & GOVERNMENT (11)**

This course covers nine 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 United States history, stressing the expansion of individual rights and civil liberties. The other eight units follow the United States chronologically since 1800, 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:** A average in AP World History, A+ average in Global History 2

0943  **AFRICAN AMERICAN HISTORY (11-12)**

This course explores the history of African Americans starting with the forced removal of people from African homelands to the present. It emphasizes the reliance of the United States on the slave economy, the strategies slaves adopted to survive their ordeal, the contributions and contradictions of free people of African descent, the process of emancipation and work to end segregation, the path towards obtaining full and equal civil rights, and the achievements of African Americans which have contributed to all aspects of American society. United States history as a whole will be discovered from the particular lens of the African American experience.

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 disciplined 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 the 12th grade Social Studies requirements.

**Recommendation:** A+ average in U.S. History and Government, A average in AP U.S History

0940  **ECONOMICS (12)**

This semester course presents basic concepts and principles to provide the economic understanding necessary to function effectively as citizens of the United States. Comparisons are made with other national economic systems. Special focus will be placed on the Critical Concerns of the Sisters of Mercy. The final assessment will be a budget project involving current market trends, cost of living expenses and current indices, taxation, and an evaluation of current economic policies.

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 public policies and current events, and examine ways by which to advocate for particular policies. Special focus will be placed on the Critical Concerns of the Sisters of Mercy.
0951 AP EUROPEAN HISTORY (12)
This course follows the AP European History curriculum of the College Board. A focus on the interaction between Europe and the rest of the world, causes and effects of poverty and prosperity, European intellectual movements, national and continental identity, and the relationship between the individual and the state will guide the curriculum. Emphasis is placed on analyzing historical sources and evidence, making historical connections, chronological reasoning, and the creation and support of a historical argument.
Recommendation: B+ average in AP United States History
A average in United States History or African American 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.
Recommendation: Teacher recommendation

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. Students 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.
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, religion, and assembly; the right to privacy, due process, and 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.

SCIENCE COURSE SEQUENCE

*red arrows* indicate paths where students should refer to recommendations listed in the Program of Studies
*blue arrows* indicate paths where no recommendations need to be considered.

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<tr>
<th>Electives – Grades 11 – 12 Only</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Psychology</td>
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<td>• AP Psychology</td>
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<td>• Criminal Justice</td>
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<td>• Civil Law</td>
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<td>• AP Government and Politics</td>
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<td>• African American History</td>
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1501 TECHNOLOGY 6
This 10-week course introduces students to the fundamentals of Google Classroom and Google Apps for Education which will be used throughout their coursework at Mercy. Students will learn the essentials of Google Docs, Google Sheets, and Google Slides and will complete projects in each application to demonstrate their proficiency. Skills in file organization, digital communication, collaboration, and digital citizenship will be emphasized.

1502 TECHNOLOGY 7
In this 20-week course, students will deepen their proficiency in the use of Google Classroom and Google Apps for Education which will be used throughout their coursework at Mercy. Through a problem-based learning approach, students will learn the essentials of G Suite applications and make use of coding and design software to solve problems and communicate information. Skills in file organization, digital communication, collaboration, and digital citizenship will continue to be emphasized.

1504 AP COMPUTER SCIENCE PRINCIPLES (10-12)
Using Python® as a primary tool and incorporating multiple platforms and languages for computation, this course aims to develop computational thinking, generate excitement about career paths that utilize computing, and introduce professional tools that foster creativity and collaboration. Computer Science Principles helps students develop programming expertise and explore the workings of the Internet. Projects and problems include app development, visualization of data, cybersecurity, and simulation.
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<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tr>
<td>6500</td>
<td><strong>GRADE 6 THEOLOGY - OUR ANCESTORS IN FAITH</strong></td>
<td>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 and faith development/service opportunities.</td>
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<td>1070</td>
<td><strong>THEOLOGY 7</strong></td>
<td>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.</td>
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<td>1080</td>
<td><strong>THEOLOGY 8</strong></td>
<td>This course begins with Jesus’ Ascension and the sending of his Holy Spirit at Pentecost. We will examine the gifts and graces provided by Jesus’ Holy Spirit and evaluate how these graces promote the development of our conscience and moral behaviors. The course then moves on to an exploration of how the Holy Spirit has inspired the events that have transpired over the 2,000 year history of the Catholic Christian Church. This exploration will be examined through the lens of conscience and morality.</td>
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<tr>
<td>1010</td>
<td><strong>FOUNDATIONS OF CATHOLIC THEOLOGY AND SCRIPTURE (9)</strong></td>
<td>The first part of this course will focus on our Mercy identity and key concepts in Catholic Theology. The second part of the course is an introduction to biblical interpretation through a study of the Pentateuch and the Historical, Wisdom, and Prophetic books in Hebrew Scripture.</td>
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<td>1020</td>
<td><strong>CHRISTIAN SCRIPTURE (10)</strong></td>
<td>This course begins with a study of the historical and cultural context of Jesus in order to more fully comprehend His message. 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.</td>
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<td>1030</td>
<td><strong>MORAL FOUNDATIONS / ISSUES OF MORALITY (11)</strong></td>
<td>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.</td>
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<td>1031</td>
<td><strong>LIVING SACRAMENTS (11)</strong></td>
<td>This semester course leads the students toward a deeper understanding of the Sacraments and how their experiences might be an expression of them. Concepts including symbol, ritual, the Paschal Mystery, and grace are explored. Throughout the course, the importance and effects of the sacraments as graced encounters with the Risen Christ and our “lived out” response to these encounters is emphasized.</td>
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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 **TOPICS IN CHURCH HISTORY (12)**  
This course begins with an examination of the early Church and Christology. It continues by explaining changes in worship, art, and architecture over time. The course focuses on the role of women in the Church including Mary, the desert mothers, saints and doctors of the Church, religious orders, and modern women who make a difference. The course concludes with an in-depth analysis of Vatican II and the Church in the modern world.

1043 **WORLD RELIGIONS (12)**  
This one-semester course 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, and the traditions of Jainism, Taoism, and Judaism, and other Christian faiths in order to discover the many ways God acts in the world and in their own lives.

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.
INTRODUCTION TO LANGUAGE (6)
The goal of the Foundations of Language course is to prepare sixth grade students for further language study. Students will explore grammar that is essential to the study of language, including parts of speech, sentence structure, and other concepts common to language instruction. Students will be provided with a preview of the three different language options offered as part of the 7th grade program.

LATIN 1A (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.

LATIN 1B (8)
This course is a continuation of Latin 1A. 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.

LATIN 1 (9-12)
Students will utilize the skills learned in Latin 1A and Latin 1B, but the pace and classroom activities will be more suitable for older students. Added emphasis will also be given on word etymology and grammatical forms and structures that would benefit students who have taken another world language and help students improve their knowledge of English grammar.

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 1A and Latin 1B or Latin 1 (Grade 9)

LATIN 3
In this course, students will fine-tune 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 the 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

LATIN 4 HONORS
This course provides students with an introduction to authentic Latin literature by translating select passages of either Caesar’s De Bello Gallico or Vergil’s Aeneid, required readings for the AP Latin exam. Through these texts, students will explore how the political and historic climate of Ancient Rome influenced each author. Students will also examine how grammatical constructions, figures of speech, and literary devices enhanced each work. Students will demonstrate content knowledge through short essay and essay writing assignments. This course provides students with an excellent background for AP Latin.
Prerequisite: Latin 3
Recommendation: B+ or higher average in Latin 3 or teacher recommendation
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:** B+ average in Latin 4 Honors or teacher recommendation

0470  **FRENCH 1A (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 1B (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 1B, 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
This course is a continuation of French 1. The communication skills introduced at the first level are reinforced, with more emphasis on reading, writing, speaking, and listening. Vocabulary and cultural understandings are reinforced through simple literary selections, video, internet resources, and authentic French items.
Prerequisite: French 1A and French 1B 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 increased use of French in the classroom via application and synthesis, students increase their knowledge and appreciation of the Francophone world through the use of media, film, authentic text, and Internet exploration. 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. French is spoken almost exclusively in the classroom.
Prerequisite: French 3
Recommendation: B+ 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, through AP 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: B+ average in French 4 Honors or teacher recommendation

0471 SPANISH 1A (7)
Students are 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 1B (8)
This course reviews and builds upon Spanish 1A. 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, students will be prepared to enter Spanish 2 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
This course is a continuation of Spanish 1. 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 Internet exploration. Spanish is used as much as possible in the classroom.
Prerequisite: Spanish 1A and Spanish 1B or Spanish 1 (Grade 9)

0432 SPANISH 3
At the third level, the skills introduced and strengthened in Levels 1 and 2 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 Spanish 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 Spanish Language course. Spanish is spoken almost exclusively in the classroom.
Prerequisite: Spanish 3
Recommendation: B+ average in Spanish 3 or teacher recommendation

0452 AP SPANISH LANGUAGE
This is a college-level course in preparation for the Spanish 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 Spanish language and culture with their own culture through AP course themes. Spanish is used almost exclusively in the classroom. Written and audio-visual materials are in accordance with the College Board requirements.
Prerequisite: Spanish 4 Honors
Recommendation: B+ average in Spanish 4 Honors or teacher recommendation