

# **Guide to Academic Achievement 2017-2018**

SAINT MARY'S HIGH SCHOOL

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



# Saint Mary's High School

Empowering Character, Innovation, and Leadership in our students, Saint Mary's High School is a dynamic, contemporary, Catholic value-centered school, combining a commitment to academic excellence and educational innovation, with a passion for learning, and an emphasis on moral character development through the pursuit of truth as discovered in faith and reason.

Saint Mary's transforms the lives of its students and our community through the power of learning and academic excellence, preparing young people to assume a life of integrity, academic success, career fulfillment and service to the community.

## *Mission Statement*

Saint Mary's High School, an integral part of the ministry of St. Mary's Parish, is a Roman Catholic, coeducational community guided by the message of the Gospel in its commitment to nurturing each individual, engendering respect for the dignity of the human person, and maintaining the highest standards of academic excellence.

## *Saint Mary's Educational Goals*

### CHARACTER

#### *Spiritual Formation*

To foster value-centered learning and sharing Gospel values in a nurturing environment

To provide opportunities for worship, service and reflection

To educate students to be lifelong learners who grow in their capacity to know, love and serve God and man

To make a difference through service to our diverse community

#### *Academic Achievement*

To challenge students to achieve their personal best in each academic discipline by providing each student with a flexible course selection that encourages growth and excellence

### LEADERSHIP

#### *Social and Emotional Growth*

To empower students to take responsibility for their education and their future by striving in all facets of their academic experience and pursue truth and justice in their lives and communities

To strengthen students' self confidence and esteem by providing a supportive environment that facilitates positive inclusive relationships among peers through extracurricular and service oriented programs

#### *Aesthetic Awareness*

To cultivate the students' appreciation for the arts through experiences in the Performing and Fine Arts Program

#### *Physical Ability*

To enhance the development of the students' balanced wellbeing and lifestyle by focusing on the value and appreciation of exercise, nutrition and teamwork through the Health and Physical Education Program and Interscholastic Sports

## **Saint Mary's High School**

51 Clapham Avenue, Manhasset, New York 11030

516.627.2711 | [www.inspiredthinkers.org](http://www.inspiredthinkers.org) | [highschool@stmary.ws](mailto:highschool@stmary.ws)

### *Accreditation*

Saint Mary's High School is chartered and registered by the Regents of the University of the State of New York and by the State Education Department. Saint Mary's is accredited by the Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools.

### *Member*

College Entrance Examination Board

National Catholic Education Association

National Association of Secondary School Principals

The Association for Supervision and Curriculum

The College Board Association

National Honor Society (Thomas More Chapter)

# Registration Procedures for Course Selections

- Current Students enrolled will receive course registration materials and directions at scheduling assemblies to be held the last week of February.
- Carefully review the Program of Studies, diploma requirements, and course descriptions in this booklet.
- Consult with your parents, teachers and guidance counselor prior to the official meeting conference.
- At the official scheduling meeting with your counselor, you will generate the Course Selection Sheet and receive any other pertinent forms.
- Complete all necessary applications and comply with requirements such as interviews, essays, recommendations, payments.

At the end of the first semester in January, eligibility for Advanced Placement, Honors, CORE and Regents courses are determined based upon the student's current performance, teacher recommendation, graduation requirements, pre-requisites, etc...

If you wish to enroll in Advanced Placement courses you must complete the **Advanced Placement Form** available in the Guidance Office.

If you wish to register for Publications I, Journalism I, or Computer Skills Teaching Practicum, you must complete an **Elective Course Registration Form** also available in the Guidance Office.

Please remember that guidance counselors, departmental chairpersons and administrators along with the faculty are available for assistance during this process. Department chairpersons are listed on the back cover of this Guide and they are available to help with student placement. You and your parents are encouraged to utilize these resources as well.

## *Important to Note*

Choose your courses carefully. Once the schedule is completed, students will not be able to drop courses. Changes will only be made due to academic need (to fulfill graduation requirements, change in placement, etc.). The first day of the second cycle of the school year is the deadline for academic need course changes. In some situations, course changes may require a \$50 fee. Students may not drop courses in September.

## *Late Course and Incomplete Registration Fee*

Students who fail to submit course selection materials (forms and fees) on time, or submit course selection without appropriate forms/and or signatures will incur a late processing fee of \$50. Absence from school does not exempt a student from this late fee since there is ample time from meeting dates to deadline dates to complete the process.

## *Parental Override Request Policy*

Parents who would like their child's placement in a given course reviewed by the administration may fill out a **Parental Override Request**, which is available in the Guidance Office. This form must be filled out and submitted with all other course selection materials to the guidance counselor by the scheduled meeting date. A student may not move up a level in a given subject without at least an average of 80%. A student may not move down a level if the subject average is above 80%. The school administration, however, will make the final determination of the student's placement.



# The Program of Studies

The program of studies at Saint Mary's is designed to provide each student with a comprehensive college preparatory education. The emphasis of the Academic Program is on core curriculum skills and strong foundations while preparing students to satisfy the New York State-adopted Common Core State Standards in education. As a result, most courses for the first three years are required. Within the framework of this basic curriculum, St. Mary's recognizes individual differences by providing a range of skill levels for many courses. Every effort is made to design a program for each student in which he or she will be challenged and be successful.

Depending on the subject, the course may have one, two, or three skill levels. The levels and descriptions for courses are:

- **Advanced Placement Course (AP)** is an accelerated course appropriate in some subjects which prepares students to take an AP Examination.
- **Honors Course (H)** is an accelerated course appropriate in some subjects which covers the required curriculum and extra topics in greater depth and detail than in the regular course. Selection for Honors is based on a student's ability, past achievement in the content area and enrollment limitations.
- **Regular Course (R)** covers the full State approved curriculum of a subject. For a Regents subject this course will prepare students to take the Regents Examination.

Religious studies, English, social studies and physical education are required each year. Students are also required to take three years of mathematics and science (four are strongly recommended), two years of a foreign language (three are recommended) and two years of fine arts. Health education and SAT Prep and Technology are also required courses. After fulfilling their required course work, students must choose electives. Sample course schedules follow:

<b>Grade 9</b>	<b>Grade 10</b>	<b>Grade 11</b>	<b>Grade 12</b>
Religion	Religion	Religion	Religion
English	English	English	English
Social Studies	Social Studies	Social Studies	Social Studies
Modern Language	Modern Language	Mathematics	Physical Education
Mathematics	Mathematics	Science	+ Required Electives
Science	Science	Physical Education	(minimum of three credits)
Art or Music	Art or Music	+ Required Electives	
SAT Prep & Technology	Health	(minimum of two credits)	
Physical Education	Physical Education		
Preparation Period	+ One Elective or Preparation Period		

*Electives include: Modern Language, Mathematics, Science, Computer Science, Computer Skills Teaching Practicum, Computer Networking Practicum, Civil & Criminal Law, Fine Arts, Forensic Science, Journalism, Musicology, Publications, Psychology (Grade 12), First Aid and CPR. Juniors and seniors may choose Publications and First Aid CPR, if available, only as an extra elective (in addition to required electives). Independent Study courses do not count towards the electives mandate for juniors and seniors.*

## *College Credit*

In courses for which college credit from **St. John's University** is available, a student must have a minimum average of 80% (85% for juniors) in English, modern language, mathematics, science and social studies and a combined score of 1000 on the PSAT or SAT. In courses for which college credit from **Adelphi University** is available, a student must have an average of 90% or a combined score of 1000 on the SAT.

Courses that have received National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) approval for use in establishing the initial eligibility certification status of student-athletes appear in this Guide with the code: *NCAA Approved*. All athletes considering playing in college must enroll in NCAA approved courses listed in the Course Offerings section.

# Marking System

## Numerical Marks

- Students receive 60 through 100 for quarterly grades.
- Students receive the actual mark earned for Regents and final exams.
- Passing mark is 70 for quarterly, final exam and final course grades.
- Passing mark is 65 for a Regents Examination.

Midterm exams are weighted 5% of the course final average.

Final Exams/Regents Exams 15% of the course final average.

## Alpha Marks (Physical Education)

A, B, C, D, F

St. Mary's Marking System consists of two semesters. Each semester contains two quarters. Progress reports are made available halfway through each quarter.

## Weighting

St. Mary's uses a weighted average formula to determine a student's academic average. Students grades are assigned differing weights depending on the course taken:

Course Type	Weighting	Multipliers Level
Regular Course (R)	1.00	2
Honors Course (H)	1.03	1
Advanced Placement Course (AP)	1.06	4

The actual numeric grade for the course does not change; only the student's average changes.

## Honors

First Honors is awarded to a student who achieves a 93% average and has no grade below 85%. Second Honors is awarded to a student who achieves an 85% average and has no grade below 80%.

## Failure Policy

A student who fails one or two subjects for the year must successfully complete these subjects in summer school before he/she is readmitted in September. A student who fails three or more subjects for the year will be required to withdraw from St. Mary's.

# Diploma Requirements

## **REGENTS DIPLOMA\***

22 credits

### **Course Requirements:**

English – 4 credits  
Social Studies – 4 credits  
Mathematics – 3 credits  
Science – 3 credits  
Fine Arts – 1 credit (2-1/2 credits)  
Health – 1/2 credit  
Modern Language - LOTE – 1 credit  
Physical Education – 2 credits (4 - 1/2 credits)  
Sequence & Electives - 3.5 credits

### **Testing Requirements:**

Passing the following Regents Exams  
(with a grade of 65 or above)

- Comprehensive English
- Global History & Geography
- U. S. History & Government
- Common Core Algebra
- Life Science - Living Environment

## **REGENTS DIPLOMA WITH ADVANCED DESIGNATION\***

22 credits

### **Course Requirements:**

English – 4 credits  
Social studies – 4 credits  
Mathematics – 3 credits  
Science – 3 credits  
Fine Arts – 1 credit (2-1/2 credits)  
Health – 1/2 credit  
Modern Language - LOTE – 3 credits  
Physical Education – 2 credits (4 - 1/2 credits)  
Sequence & Electives - 1.5 credits

### **Testing Requirements:**

Passing the following Regents Exams  
(with a grade of 65 or above)

- Comprehensive English
- Global History & Geography
- U. S. History & Government
- Common Core Algebra I
- Life Science – Living Environment
- Common Core Geometry
- Common Core Algebra II
- One Physical Science  
(Chemistry, Earth Science, or Physics)
- Modern Language LOTE (Italian or Spanish) by passing the SED mandated and certified Regents Examination.

## **REGENTS DIPLOMA WITH ADVANCED DESIGNATION WITH HONORS\***

An average of 90 or above on all Regents Exams required for this diploma. (See Testing Requirements)

### **Regents Diploma with Honors\***

An average of 90 or above on all Regents Exams required for this diploma. (See Testing Requirements)

\* In addition to New York State mandated coursework and tests, St. Mary's requires four years of Theology, at least two years of a modern language and one year of SAT Prep and Technology to graduate.

Seniors must take at least 4 credits of coursework in addition to Religion and Physical Education. Juniors must take at least 5 credits of coursework in addition to Religion and Physical Education. Independent study courses may not count towards the elective mandate for juniors and seniors.

### *Please Note*

All students are required to earn credits in Physical Education. Students unable to participate due to documented medical reasons are required to fulfill the requirement through written assignment.

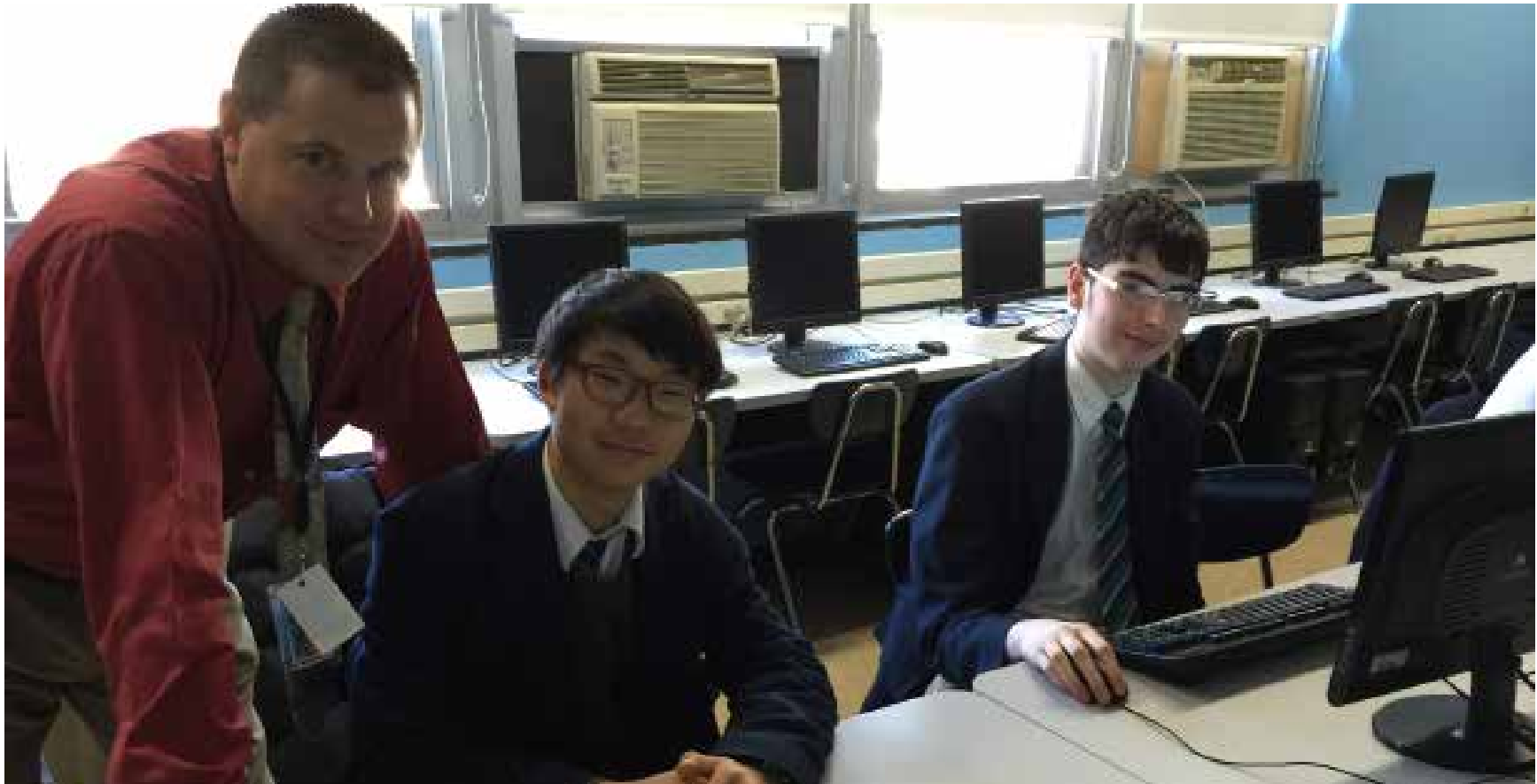
# Guidance Department

The members of the Guidance Department seek to help students with their educational, vocational and personal development. This is accomplished through individual conferences with the student and his/her counselor. Assessments are also administered as a help to students, parents and counselors in appraising the interests and abilities of each student.

It is important that parents work closely with the School for the purpose of helping their children grow into positive, productive adults since the parent-child relationship is more intense than the student-counselor relationship. Parents are encouraged to seek the assistance of a counselor whenever the need arises.

Students retain the same guidance counselors throughout high school. Students are assigned guidance counselors on the basis of their last names. Counselor alphabetical breakdown is as follows:

- Mr. Vincent Gschlecht     A-E
- Ms. Jessica Moraitis     F-M
- Mr. Robert Sventora     N-Z



# Course Offerings

## RELIGIOUS STUDIES

### Religion 9

Grade: 9; Credit: 1/2; Type: Regular  
Pre-Requisite: None

This is an introductory course which surveys Hebrew Scripture, faith development and the sacraments of the Church. This course leads students to an understanding of themselves as persons loved by God and called to enter the Christian Covenant. Special emphasis will be placed on developing each student's relationship with self, with God and with others.

### Religion 9 Honors

Grade: 9; Credit: 1/2; Type: Honors  
Pre-Requisite: Placement score on Placement Test

Theology 9 Honors will ask students to investigate the meaning of faith and the relevance of religious teachings in their own lives, with an emphasis on Catholic Christian teaching and an introduction to the Gospel Values. The focus will be on the revelation of God as interpreted by the major religious traditions while delving into the Hebrew Scriptures and traditional proofs of the existence of God.

### Religion 10

Grade: 10; Credit: 1/2; Type: Regular  
Pre-Requisite: None

This course increases the student's knowledge of Jesus Christ as revealed in the New Testament. It also explores the student's religious convictions. Studying the New Testament also reveals the origin and composition of the Gospels, recounts the actual life of Jesus Christ, and analyses the justification for the Church's continued efforts to communicate His message.

### Religion 10 Honors

Grade: 10; Credit: 1/2; Type: Regular  
Pre-Requisite: None

This course will ask students to examine

the Christian message as revealed in the New Testament. It will give the student an understanding of the various approaches of Biblical criticism while examining the origins and development of the Gospels in relationship to each other and to the Church's communication of Divine Revelation. The students will also explore the Scriptural sources of the Catholic Social teaching.

### Religion 11

Grade: 11; Credit: 1/2; Type: Regular  
Pre-Requisite: None

This course is designed to provide students with the basic tools to develop as morally mature individuals. This study of the principals of Christian morality includes: the natural stages of moral development, the moral teachings of Jesus, the elements of conscience formation, the roles of law and authority, and the demands of society. These principals will be enhanced by the guidance provided from Church teaching, the need for personal commitment to Christian values and an appreciation for each student's place in the Christian community. Students will then employ these principles in the analysis of contemporary, ethical, social, economic and political issues.

### Religion 12

Grade: 12; Credit: 1/2; Type: Regular  
Pre-Requisite: None

This course is designed to examine what it means to respond to our call to live fully human lives as children of God with an emphasis on Catholic social teaching. Starting with an examination of the existence and nature of God and its relationship to our existence and purpose and then employing the seven Gospel Values, students will apply Christian love to social issues, including but not limited to abortion, capital punishment, poverty, environmental issues, and racism. Students will be expected to get involved in a specific issue and take action to bring about a just resolution to the issue.

### Comparative Religions

Grade: 10-12; Credit: 1/2; Type: Regular  
Pre-Requisite: None

Introduction to several religious world views from an historical and comparative perspective, with descriptive analysis of their belief system, moral code and symbolic rituals.

### God in Cinema

Grade: 12; Credit: 1/2; Type: Regular  
Pre-Requisite: None

A survey of films that have depicted God in various ways followed by in-depth analysis of the portrayals in the context of the times through Catholic Doctrine. The course will use cinema as a tool to examine the impact that the culture and faith have on one another.

### Bioethics

Grade: 12; Credit: 1/2; Type: Regular  
Pre-Requisite: None

A look at contemporary issues that raise ethical questions (genetic engineering, cloning, stem-cell research and more) through Catholic Doctrine. What are the Church teachings about these issues? How does the Church our faith inform us in making decisions in the current technological milieu?



# ENGLISH

## English 9

*Grade: 9; Credit: 1; Type: Regular*  
*Pre-Requisite: None*  
 NCAA Approved

This course is a study of the basic skills of reading comprehension, writing, vocabulary, communication and grammar. This course is designed to develop abilities in the area of written language by inspiring thought and expression. The students will study various genres of literature (novel, short story, poetry, essay, and drama).

## English 9 Honors

*Grade: 9; Credit: 1; Type: Honors*  
*Pre-Requisite: Placement score on Placement Test*  
 NCAA Approved

This is an advanced program which offers students the opportunity to read and analyze challenging literary works. The writing styles of narration, exposition and persuasion are introduced and developed. Self-confidence is fostered through both spoken and written expression.

## English 10

*Grade: 10; Credit: 1; Type: Regular*  
*Pre-Requisite: English 9,*  
 NCAA Approved

This literature and writing course is based on a survey of major works by American authors from Puritan times to the present. Short stories, poetry, novels, plays and essays are read and analyzed. Time is spent improving writing style and accuracy, and in developing tools for research. The skills of writing a research paper are introduced. A short research paper is required. The study of language skills and vocabulary is continued.

## English 10 Honors

*Grade: 10; Credit: 1; Type: Honors*  
*Pre-Requisites: English 9 and student's past achievement in the content area*  
 NCAA Approved

This course is for students who have excelled in English 9. It requires the study of the core curriculum outlined for English 10, but at a more accelerated and intensive pace. The students will be required to do additional works and projects, as well as refine their writing ability. The process of writing a research paper will be introduced, and a short, insightful paper concerning literature is required. Students will take the English Regents exam at the end of the course in June.

## English 11

*Grade: 11; Credit: 1; Type: Regular*  
*Pre-Requisite: English 10*  
 NCAA Approved

English 11 is a literature and writing course based on British literature. Novels, plays, poetry, short stories and essays are read, discussed and analyzed in detail. Writing skills are further developed via the literature, enhancing student's ability to analyze and synthesize. A research paper based on a teacher approved topic is required. The study of language skills and vocabulary is continued. The English Regents is taken in January.

## English 11 Honors

*Grade: 11; Credit: 1; Type: Honors*  
*Pre-Requisite: English 10 & student's past achievement in the content area*  
 NCAA Approved

This course is for students who have excelled in both English 9 and English 10. It includes the study of the core curriculum outlined in English 11, but at a more accelerated pace. A supplemental reading list containing works of British authors is used, and greater demands are placed on the students' reading and writing skills. Students are required to develop further research skills by completing at least one

formal research paper on a teacher-approved topic. Selection of this course is recommended for students wishing to take the Advanced Placement English course offered during senior year.

## Journalism I (Grade 11)

**Journalism II (Grade 12)**  
*Grades: 11/12; Credit: 1; Type: Honors*  
*Pre-Requisites: Application and interview*  
 NCAA Approved

These courses are designed to expose students to skills, issues and responsibilities involved in contemporary journalism. Students are taught how to communicate effectively through the digital and print media. Students gain experience in writing, editing, photography, layout and design. The class is responsible for producing The Magnificat, St. Mary's High School online newspaper. Enrollment is limited by departmental approval.

## Advanced Placement English

*Grade: 12; Credit: 1; Type: AP*  
*Pre-Requisites: Student's past achievement in the content area; AP Form*  
 NCAA Approved

The Advanced Placement course is designed to afford students the opportunity to pursue college level studies while still in high school. The Advanced Placement Exam is required at the completion of this course. A student can gain college credit and/or advanced placement at many colleges by scoring well on this test. The focus of this course is on literature and composition. Curriculum covered includes the reading and in-depth analysis of plays, novels, short stories, poetry and essays. A research paper and creative project are required. A \$90 AP Exam fee will be collected at registration. A doctor's note must be presented if absent for the AP exam. Checks should be made payable to St. Mary's High School. College credit from St. John's University may be available. Refer to the "College Credit" section (page 4).

## English 12 Composition

*Grade: 12; Credit: 1/2; Type: Regular -*  
*Pre-Requisite: English 11 (link w Literature)*  
 Semester Course  
 NCAA Approved

This course emphasizes the analysis of prose, both nonfiction and fiction, and the writing of clear effective essays. Using essays, short stories and drama, the students will explore various techniques of writing and types of rhetoric as a means to develop their own individual style. Students will plan, write, and revise narrative, expository and persuasive essays. The importance of language and the various ways one can mold and manipulate by means of language will also be emphasized. The goal is the student writer's increased skill as rated by instructor and peer evaluation. A research paper, which exemplifies the extended, documented essay, is required. College credit from St. John's University may be available. Refer to the "College Credit" section (page 4).

## Pre-College Literature/Composition Honors

*Grade: 12; Credit: 1; Type: Honors*  
*Pre-Requisites: English 11 and student's past achievement in the content area*  
 NCAA Approved

This course is designed to develop skills recommended by colleges as necessary for successful achievement in college. It will stress composition and literary study and further mastery of analysis, vocabulary, rhetoric and grammar. The literary masterpieces from various countries will be used as a basis for this analysis. A research paper and creative project will be required. College credit from St. John's University may be available. Refer to the "College Credit" section (page 4).



# MODERN LANGUAGE

## English 12: World Literature

Grade: 12; Credit: 1/2; Type: Regular  
Pre-Requisite: English 11 (link w Comp.)  
Semester Course  
NCAA Approved

This course, which will act as a complement to the Composition course, is designed to further develop reading comprehension skills needed both in college and in the work place. It will include analysis of various literary genres, composition, vocabulary and grammar. An assigned research paper, following MLA format, is a course requirement.

## Literature and Film

Grade: 12; Credit: 1/2; Type: Regular  
Pre-Requisites: English 11 and student's past achievement in the content area  
Semester Course

The course will cover the means by which cinema relates to film technology, economic forces, social issues, and aesthetic evaluation. The students will acquire a higher level of visual literacy and writing skills through exposure to the films they view in class. The assignments are designed to make students analyze, evaluate and demonstrate knowledge of the subject area and recognize the role of the film industry in their everyday lives.

## Irish Literature

Grade: 10, 11, 12 ; Credit: 1/2; Type: Regular  
Pre-Requisites: English 11 and student's past achievement in the content area  
Semester Course

Through a study of Irish poetry, plays, fiction, and film, this course will explore how the culture and history of Ireland is reflected in and has shaped its literature. Special attention will be paid to various literary works that offer insight into the history and politics of the nation. In addition to in-depth analysis of literature, projects and written compositions will assist in developing core skills, thus enhancing student's ability to interpret and analyze.

## Spanish I

Grade: 9; Credit: 1; Type: Regular  
Pre-Requisites: None  
NCAA Approved

This course is designed to give students an opportunity to express themselves in another language. Students will be introduced to fundamental vocabulary and linguistic structures. Students will work towards developing the four communicative skills of: (1) to engage in simple conversation; (2) to understand basic messages and simple media announcements; (3) to comprehend short readings and authentic documents; and (4) to write friendly notes and short essays. Students will have achieved the State benchmark of Checkpoint A Proficiency.

## Spanish I Honors

Grade: 9; Credit: 1; Type: Honors  
Pre-Requisites: Placement Scores on Placement Test  
NCAA Approved

This course is designed to give students an opportunity to express themselves in another language. Students will be introduced to vocabulary and linguistic structures while achieving the State benchmark of Checkpoint A and integrating Checkpoint B proficiency. Students will work at a challenging pace towards developing the four communicative skills: (1) to engage in conversations that eventually include more complex vocabulary and structures; (2) to understand detailed messages and media announcements; (3) to comprehend short readings and authentic documents; and (4) to write friendly notes and short essays.

## Spanish II

Grade: 9, 10; Credit: 1; Type: Regular  
Pre-Requisite: Spanish I  
NCAA Approved

This course is designed to continue the students' proficiency in the language. Students

communicative skills of: (1) to engage in more complex conversations using a greater variety of vocabulary and linguistic structures; (2) to understand more detailed messages and media announcements; (3) to comprehend a wider variety of short readings and authentic ads; and (4) to write short notes, short letters and basic compositions.

## Spanish II Honors

Grade: 9, 10; Credit: 1; Type: Honors  
Pre-Requisites: Spanish I / IH and student's past achievement in the content area  
NCAA Approved

This course is designed for students who excel in language acquisition skills. In this accelerated course, the students will develop the following communicative skills completing proficiency at the State benchmark of Checkpoint B while familiarizing students with necessary skills required for more advanced Spanish studies. Students will: (1) understand and be understood by a native speaker at a near native rate of speed on topics of general interest; (2) comprehend longer and more detailed spoken messages and longer media announcements; (3) comprehend short stories, articles and authentic materials; (4) write letters and essays. Students will take the NY State Certified Examination (FLACS Exam) at the end of this course.

## Spanish III

Grade: 10, 11; Credit: 1; Type: Regular  
Pre-Requisite: Spanish II  
NCAA Approved

This course is designed to master the students' proficiency at Checkpoint B. Students will: (1) understand an educated native speaker at a near native rate of speed and to converse using real life topics and situations as stimuli; (2) comprehend more detailed spoken messages and media announcements as well as get the general idea of longer broadcasts; (3) comprehend longer literary selections and

authentic materials; and (4) write compositions and letters on a variety of themes aligned with the NY State writing rubric for Checkpoint B proficiency. Students will take the NY State Certified Examination at the end of this course.

## Spanish III Honors

Grade: 10, 11; Credit: 1; Type: Honors  
Pre-Requisites: Spanish II / II Honors, student's past achievement in the content area  
NCAA Approved

This is a challenging, preparatory course for the AP Spanish Language and Culture Exam, primarily intended for students who plan to continue on to AP Spanish. The students will begin to develop the skills to comprehend and communicate in formal and informal Spanish at the native level. They will learn the basics of expository writing as well as begin to acquire an advanced level of vocabulary and structures for accurate reading of newspapers and magazines.

## Spanish 4 Honors: Exploration of Spanish Culture

Grade: 10, 11, 12; Credit: 1 ; Type: Honors  
Pre-Requisites: Successful completion of the New York State Certified Examination (FLACS Exam)  
NCAA Approved

Specific emphasis is placed on expanding the students' knowledge of and familiarity with Hispanic cultures. The avenues of films, the arts, current events and literature will be utilized. Computer applications, research and thematic skits will serve to further expose students to real life applications as they learn about the traditions and customs of the various Spanish countries. This course will introduce the students to the Checkpoint C level of proficiency. College credit from St. John's University or Adelphi University may be available. Refer to the "College Credit" section.

### **Advanced Placement Spanish**

*Grade: 11,12; Credit: 1;Type:AP  
Pre-Requisite: Spanish III / III Honors, student's past achievement in the content area;AP Form NCAA Approved*

This course provides the opportunity for students to pursue college level studies while still in high school. Students will develop the ability to comprehend formal and informal spoken Spanish. They will also develop: the ability to compose expository passages (essays and compositions); to express ideas orally with accuracy and fluency; to further the acquisition of vocabulary and structures so as to permit the accurate reading of newspapers and magazines as well as literature. A \$90 exam fee will be collected at registration. A doctor's note must be presented if absent for the Exam. College credit from Adelphi University or St. John's University may also be available. Refer to the "College Credit" section (page 4).

### **Spanish for the Workplace and Travel**

*Grades 10-12; Credit 1/2;Type: Regular;  
Pre-requisite: Successful completion of the New York State Certified Examination (FLACS Exam) Semester Course*

This conversation-based course will teach useful vocabulary and expressions that students can use in their part-time jobs or future careers, as well as needed vocabulary and expressions for travel. Examples may include but not limited to office jobs, supermarkets, department stores, medical offices and various other customer service opportunities. Additionally, students will learn successful communication for travel in Italy. Students will be able to deepen their understanding and appreciation of the Italian culture as they explore the highlights of travel in the target culture. This class will focus on the communication aspects of the language based on the grammar mastered in the first three levels of language.

### **Italian I**

*Grade: 9; Credit: 1;Type: Regular  
Pre-Requisite: None  
NCAA Approved*

This course is designed to give students an opportunity to express themselves in another language. Students will be introduced to fundamental vocabulary and linguistic structures. Students will work towards developing the four communicative skills of: (1) to engage in simple conversation; (2) to understand basic messages and simple media announcements; (3) to comprehend short readings and authentic documents; and (4) to write friendly notes and short essays. Students will have achieved the State benchmark of Checkpoint A Proficiency.

### **Italian II**

*Grade: 9,10; Credit: 1;Type: Regular  
Pre-Requisite: Italian I  
NCAA Approved*

This course is designed to continue the students' proficiency in the language. Students will work towards improving the following four communicative skills: (1) to engage in more complex conversations using a greater variety of vocabulary and linguistic structures; (2) to understand more detailed messages and media announcements; (3) to comprehend a wider variety of short readings and authentic ads; and (4) to write short notes, short letters and basic compositions.

### **Italian II Honors**

*Grade: 9,10; Credit: 1;Type: Honors  
Pre-Requisites: Italian I, student's past achievement in the content area  
NCAA Approved*

This course is designed for students who excel in language acquisition skills. These students develop the following communicative skills for proficiency at the State benchmark of Checkpoint B Proficiency. Students will: (1) understand and be understood by a native speaker at a near native rate of speed on topics of general interest; (2) comprehend longer spoken messages and media announcements; (3) comprehend short stories, articles of general interest and authentic materials; and (4) write letters and short compositions aligned with the NY State writing rubric for Checkpoint B.

### **Italian III**

*Grades: 10,11; Credit: 1;Type: Regular  
Pre-Requisite: Italian II  
NCAA Approved*

This course is designed to master the students' proficiency at Checkpoint B. Students will: (1) understand an educated native speaker at a near native rate of speed and to converse using real life topics and situations as stimuli; (2) comprehend more detailed spoken messages and media announcements as well as get the general idea of longer broadcasts; (3) comprehend longer literary selections and authentic materials; and (4) write compositions and letters on a variety of themes aligned with the NY State writing rubric for Checkpoint B proficiency. Students will take the NY State Certified Examination at the end of this course.

### **Italian III Honors**

*Grades: 10,11; Credit: 1;Type: Honors  
Pre-Requisites: Italian II, student's past achievement in the content area  
NCAA Approved*

This course is designed for students who continue to excel in the attainment of proficiency. The four language skills of listening, speaking, reading, and writing are strongly developed. Emphasis will be placed on composition and the application of advanced grammar. Students will take the NY State Certified Examination at the end of this course.

### **Italian 4 Honors: Exploration of Italian Culture**

*Grades: 11, 12; Credit: 1;Type: Honors  
Pre-Requisites: Italian III  
NCAA Approved*

Specific emphasis is placed on expanding the students' knowledge of an familiarity with the Italian culture. The avenues of films, the arts, current events and literature will be utilized. Computer applications, research and thematic skits will serve to further expose students to real life applications as they learn about the traditions and customs of Italy. This course will introduce the students to the Checkpoint C level of proficiency.

### **Advanced Placement Italian**

*Grade: 12; Credit: 1;Type:AP  
Pre-Requisite: Student's past achievement in the content area;AP Form NCAA Approved*

This course provides the opportunity for students to pursue college level studies while still in high school. Students will develop the ability to comprehend formal and informal spoken Italian. They will also develop: the ability to compose expository passages (essays and compositions); to express ideas orally with accuracy and fluency; to further the acquisition of vocabulary and structures so as to permit the accurate reading of newspapers and magazines as well as literature. A \$90 exam fee will be collected at registration. A doctor's note must be presented if absent for the Exam. College credit from Adelphi University or St. John's University may also be available.

### **Italian for the Workplace and Travel**

*Grades 10-12; Credit 1/2;Type: Regular;  
Pre-requisite: Successful completion of the New York State Certified Examination (FLACS Exam) Semester Course*

This conversation-based course will teach useful vocabulary and expressions that students can use in their part-time jobs or future careers, as well as needed vocabulary and expressions for travel. Examples may include but not limited to office jobs, supermarkets, department stores, medical offices and various other customer service opportunities. Additionally, students will learn successful communication for travel in Italy. Students will be able to deepen their understanding and appreciation of the Italian culture as they explore the highlights of travel in the target culture. This class will focus on the communication aspects of the language based on the grammar mastered in the first three levels of language.

# MATHEMATICS

## Algebra I Common Core

Grade: 9; Credit: 1; Type: Regular  
Placement: Scores on Placement Test  
NCAA Approved

This course provides the foundation for future New York State mathematics courses by presenting the topics listed in the State syllabus for Common Core Algebra. There will be a final examination in the course and a NYS Common Core Algebra Regents exam in June. A graphing calculator is required.

## Algebra I Common Core Honors

Grades: 9; Credit: 1; Type: Honors  
Placement: Scores on Placement Test  
NCAA Approved

This course is designed for higher ability students. All of the topics in the NYS curriculum are covered, but at a faster pace and in more depth. There will be a final examination in the course and a NYS Common Core Algebra Regents exam in June. A graphing calculator is required.

## Geometry Common Core

Grades 9, 10, 11; Credit: 1; Type: Regular  
Pre-Requisite: Common Core Algebra I and student's past achievement in the content area  
NCAA Approved

This is the second course in the New York State Mathematics Common Core Curriculum. Topics include those topics listed in the State syllabus for Common Core Geometry. There will be a final examination in the course and a NYS Common Core Geometry Regents exam in June. A graphing calculator is required.

## Geometry Common Core Honors

Grades: 9, 10, 11; Credit: 1; Type: Honors  
Pre-Requisite: Common Core Algebra I and student's past achievement in the content area  
NCAA Approved

This is the second course in the New York State Mathematics Common Core Curriculum. This course is designed for higher ability students. All of the topics in the NYS curriculum are covered, but at a faster pace and in more depth. There will be a final examination in the course and a NYS Common Core Geometry Regents exam in June. A graphing calculator is required.

## Algebra II Common Core

Grades: 10, 11, 12; Credit: 1; Type: Regular  
Pre-Requisites: Geometry Regents/Geometry Regents Honors & student's past achievement in the content area  
NCAA Approved

This is the third course in the New York State Regents curriculum. Topics include intermediate algebra, trigonometry, function notation and are enhanced with practical applications. A graphing calculator is required. The Regents Examination in Algebra 2/Trigonometry Regents will be administered in June.

## Algebra II Common Core Honors

Grades: 10, 11, 12; Credit: 1; Type: Honors  
Pre-Requisites: Geometry Regents/Geometry Regents Honors & student's past achievement in the content area  
NCAA Approved

This course is designed for high ability students. It continues the concepts presented in Algebra, Geometry, Probability and Trigonometry. Additional topics include Analytic Geometry and Pre-Calculus in preparation for Calculus. A graphing calculator is required. The Regents Examination in Algebra 2/Trigonometry Regents will be administered in June.

## Intermediate Algebra/Trigonometry

Grades: 11, 12; Credit: 1; Type: Regular  
Pre-Requisites: Geometry/Geometry Regents and student's past achievement in the content area  
NCAA Approved

This course is a continuation of the study of Algebra. It will encompass the solution of quadratic equations with irrational and imaginary roots as well as the solution of absolute value, radical, exponential and logarithmic equations, their graphs and applications. Right-triangle trigonometry will be extended to triangles.

## Advanced Algebra

Grades 11, 12; Credit: 1; Type: Regular  
Pre-Requisites: Trigonometry and/or student's past achievement in the content area

This course is an advanced mathematics program that extends algebraic concepts and applications into the development of trigonometric functions and applications. Through meaningful problems and appropriate technologies, students will study radical, rational, polynomial, exponential, circular and logarithmic functions. This course will continue to develop topics from Intermediate Algebra/Trigonometry and College Algebra.

## College Algebra

Grades: 11, 12; Credit: 1/2; Type: Regular  
Pre-Requisites: Trigonometry/Trigonometry Honors & student's past achievement in the content area; (link w PreCal/CalH), Semester Course (Fall)  
NCAA Approved

College Algebra is a college level mathematics course. College credit may be available from St. John's University Refer to the "College Credit" section (page 4). A graphing calculator is required.

## Pre-Calculus

Grades: 11, 12; Credit: 1/2; Type: Regular  
Pre-Requisites: Trigonometry/Trigonometry Honors and student's past achievement in the content area Semester Course (Spring)  
NCAA Approved

Pre-Calculus is a one semester (spring) course designed to prepare students for the study of Calculus. College credit may be available from St. John's University Refer to the "College Credit" section (page 4). The College Algebra/Pre-Calculus combination provides a strong background for the college-bound student. A graphing calculator is required.

## Calculus Honors

Grades: 11, 12; Credit: 1/2; Type: Honors  
Pre-Requisite: Pre-Calculus or Trigonometry/Trigonometry Honors and student's past achievement in the content area  
NCAA Approved

This course is designed to explore topics in Calculus. Differentiation and integration of functions and their applications will be the focus of the course. A graphing calculator is required.

## Advance Placement Calculus

Grade: 12; Credit: 1; Type: AP  
Pre-Requisites: Pre-Calculus or Calculus Honors & student's past achievement in the content area; AP Form. There is a \$25 workbook that each student is required to buy.  
NCAA Approved

This course will help students to master techniques of differentiation and integration; to apply technique to practical problems; to gain full insight into the meaning and implication of maximization and minimization. From a practical point of view, the course will prepare students for the Advanced Placement Examination. A doctor's note must be presented if absent for the AP exam. College Credit from St. John's University may be available Refer to the "College Credit" section (page 4). A \$90 exam fee will be collected at time of registration. A graphing calculator is required.

## Advance Placement Statistics

Grade: 12; Credit: 1; Type: AP  
Pre-Requisites: Trigonometry Honors and student's past achievement in content area; AP Form. There is a \$25 workbook that each student is required to buy.  
NCAA Approved

This course is a college level course that introduces the students to the major concepts and tools for collecting, analyzing, and drawing conclusions from data. Students are exposed to four broad conceptual themes: the exploration of data, sampling and experimentation, anticipating patterns, and statistical inference. Students will be required to also complete all projects given in class. In May, the students will sit for the AP Statistics

Exam: A doctor's note must be presented if absent for the AP Exam. A \$90 Exam Fee will be collected at time of registration. A graphing calculator is required.

### **Financial Algebra**

*Grades: 11, 12; Credit: 1/2; Type: Regular*  
*Pre-Requisites: Geometry Regents/Geometry Regents Honors & student's past achievement in the content area*  
*NCAA Approved, Semester Course*

This course is designed to allow students to use their algebra foundation to solve financial problems that occur in everyday life. The course studies investing, credit, banking, auto insurance, mortgages, employment, income taxes, and budgeting with the topics algebra, precalculus, probability and statistics, and geometry. Projects, computer spreadsheets, and graphing calculators are key components of the course.

## SCIENCE

### **Living Environment**

*Grades: 9, 10; Credit: 1; Type: Regular*  
*Pre-Requisite: None*  
*NCAA Approved*

This course in modern biology has been developed to meet the NY State Standards for Science. The focus of the course is that students will understand and apply scientific concepts that pertain to the natural world. Principles of evolution, genetics, physiology, and ecology will be studied using the scientific method. Emphasis will be placed on students developing skills in analyzing, synthesizing, and evaluating material in theoretical, laboratory and real-world situations. The course meets the Regents requirement for the Life Science Setting.

### **Living Environment Honors**

*Grade 9; Credit: 1; Type Honors*  
*Pre-Requisite: School Approval*  
*NCAA Approved*

This course in modern biology will examine, in detail, the principles of evolution, genetics,

physiology, and ecology. In addition, topics presented on the SAT II in biology will be explored in this laboratory science. This course meets the Regents requirement for the Life Science Setting

### **Earth Science**

*Grade: 10; Credit: 1; Type: Regular*  
*Pre-Requisites: Living Environment and student's past achievement in the content area*  
*NCAA Approved*

Earth Science is an in-depth study of the structure and composition of the earth and its place in the universe. Included are the present features of landmasses, oceans, weather and climate, fossil records and the geological past, and the indications for the future in resources and space. Laboratory investigation reinforces the material by requiring the student to become familiar with measurement techniques, computations, maps, graphs and simulations. T

his course meets Regents requirements for the Physical Setting.

### **Chemistry**

*Grades: 10, 11; Credit: 1; Type: Regular*  
*Pre-Requisites: Living Environment and student's past achievement in the content area*  
*NCAA Approved*

This course in chemistry teaches the student to: read the periodic table, write formulas, chemical equations, and concentration calculations; understand the gas laws, phases of matter, the atomic nucleus, and atomic structure. An extensive laboratory program has been designed to familiarize the student with elementary laboratory apparatus and techniques. This course meets Regents requirements for the Physical Setting.

### **Chemistry Honors**

*Grade: 10, 11; Credit: 1; Type: Honors*  
*Pre-Requisites: Living Environment and student's past achievement in the content area*  
*NCAA Approved*

This course includes the same topics and

laboratory work as the Regents Chemistry course. However, the topics are explored in much greater depth, especially the mathematical aspects of Chemistry.

### **Physics Honors**

*Grade: 11, 12; Credit: 1; Type: Honors*  
*Pre-requisites: 2 years laboratory science and student's past achievement in the content area*  
*NCAA Approved*

Physics Honors is a college preparatory course that is most helpful for students interested in the sciences, medicine, or engineering. Topics covered include: force, motion, energy, waves, electricity, and modern physics. This course meets the Regents requirements for the Physical Setting.

### **Human Biology**

*Grades: 11, 12; Credit: 1; Type: Regular*  
*Pre-requisites: Two years of laboratory science and student's past achievement in the content area*  
*NCAA Approved*

This course provides students with an understanding of how the human body works. The basic anatomy and physiology of each of the major body systems are explored. This is accomplished by learning medical terminology, anatomical directions, the structure and function of the various organs. Also included are current methods in prevention, detection and treatment of the disease process. A laboratory program will be used to help familiarize students with various systems.

### **Forensics I**

*Grades 11-12; Credit: 1/2; Type: Regular; Semester Course*  
*Pre-requisite: Living Environment and Chemistry or Earth Science*

Students will engage in a variety of sciences used in Forensics; including anthropology, ballistics, and toxicology and learn how to apply them to real-world criminal investigation. Methods will include hands-on activities, exploration of outdoor scenes, use of laboratory equipment, online research, small group work, and report writing.

### **Forensics 2**

*Grades 11-12; Credit: 1/2; Type: Regular; Semester Course*  
*Pre-requisite: Living Environment and Chemistry or Earth Science*

Students will explore topics not covered in Forensics I. Arson investigation, cybercrime, fraud investigation, forensic psychology, cold case investigation, international challenges, and more will be examined. Students will be participating in rotating teams to engage topics, use online resources and interact with guest speakers.

### **Ecological Exploration: A Study of Biomes**

*Grades 10-12; Credit: 1/2; Type: Regular; Semester Course*  
*Pre-requisite: Living Environment*

For those students who wanted a more comprehensive view of the world biomes, this course will explore the abiotic and biotic factors, and the interrelationships that exist between them, along with the impact of human activity on the biomes. Students will be required to do projects and present their findings to the class.

### **Explorations in Science: A STEM Based Approach**

*Grades 10-12; Credit: 1; Type: Regular; Full Year Course*  
*Pre-requisite: One year of a lab science*  
*Using the STEM curriculum (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) students will use an interdisciplinary approach to inquiry-based lessons. By integrating these four disciplines, students will learn how to focus on problem solving skills and real-world applications.*

### **Science Research**

*Grades 10-12; Credit: 1; Type: Honors; Full Year Course*  
*Pre-requisite: Living Environment and Chemistry*

Upon approval of the instructor, students will create an original research project with the goal of entering their research into a local, state, and/or national contest. Due to

the nature of this class, enrollment is limited. Students wishing to take this class will need written approval by the chairperson.

### **Advanced Placement Environmental Science**

*Grades: 11, 12; Credit: 1; Type: AP*  
*Pre-Requisites: Two lab sciences & student's past achievement in the content area; AP Form*  
*NCAA Approved*

This course is a college level course that integrates the physical and biological sciences. It is intended for students interested in engineering or wild life biology. The goals of the course are: (1) provide students with the scientific principles and methodologies to understand the interrelationships of the natural world (2) to identify and analyze environmental problems of natural and human origin (3) to evaluate the relative risks associated with these problems and (4) to examine alternative solutions for resolving and/or preventing them. Experiments include both work in the laboratory and in the field. In May, the students will take an examination administered by the Educational Testing Service, which enables the students to earn advanced placement or college credit. A doctor's note must be presented if absent for the AP exam. A \$90 AP exam fee will be collected at the time of course selection. Checks should be made out to St. Mary's High School. Summer reading is required prior to the commencement of this course.

### **Advanced Placement Biology**

*Grade: 12; Credit: 1; Type: AP*  
*Pre-Requisites: Three lab sciences: Biology, Chemistry, and Physics; student's past achievement in the content area; AP Form*  
*NCAA Approved*

This course is a college level introduction to the biological sciences. It is intended for students interested in majoring in Biology or Pre-Med. The revised AP Biology curriculum focuses on four major concepts of biology—evolution, cellular processes, genetics and information transfer, and interactions and the specific content that illustrates these themes. There is a greater emphasis on inquiry-based

learning projects and open-ended laboratory experiments that allow students to develop the science practices that will be needed for future science study. In May, the students will take the advanced placement examination administered by the Educational Testing Service which enables the student to earn advanced placement or college credit. A doctor's note must be presented if absent from the AP Exam. A \$90 AP Exam fee will be collected at the time of the course selection. Checks should be made payable to St. Mary's High School.

### **Advanced Placement Physics B**

*Grade: 11, 12; Credit: 1; Type: AP*  
*Pre-Requisites: Physics Honors, entry or Trig Honors and student's past achievement in the content area; AP Form*  
*NCAA Approved*

Advanced Placement Physics B is a college level course for students interested in studying fields with an emphasis in mathematics and the physical sciences, such as engineering, architecture and aeronautics. Physics B provides instruction in five content areas: Newtonian mechanics, fluid mechanics and thermal physics, electricity and magnetism, waves and optics, and nuclear physics. Understanding of the basic principles that govern the physical world and the ability to apply these principles in the solution of problems are the major goals of the course. Consequently, the course utilizes guided inquiry experiments and student-centered learning to foster the development of critical thinking skills. Almost one-third of the instructional time is devoted to laboratory work. In May, the students will take an examination administered by the Educational Testing Service which enables the student to earn advanced placement or college credit. A doctor's note must be presented if absent from the AP Exam. A \$90 AP Exam fee will be collected at the time of the course selection. Checks should be made payable to St. Mary's High School.



## **HISTORY**

### **Global History and Geography I**

*Grade: 9; Credit: 1; Type: Regular*  
*Pre-Requisites: None*  
*NCAA Approved*

This course is the first part of a two year study of Global History. In Global History and Geography I students will explore the civilizations, peoples, events and global processes that shaped the world from the Peopling of the Earth to the Era of Global Interactions (1450-1750). Students will also investigate historical issues and themes from multiple perspectives and make global connections and linkages that lead to an in-depth understanding of global history.

### **Global History and Geography I Honors**

*Grade: 9; Credit: 1; Type: Honors*  
*Pre-Requisites: None*  
*NCAA Approved*

This course is the first part of a two year study of Global History. In Global History and Geography I Honors students will explore the civilizations, peoples, events and global processes that shaped the world from the Peopling of the Earth to the Era of Global Interactions (1450-1750). An emphasis of the

course is to develop historical thinking skills in combination with relevant factual knowledge. Students will also investigate historical issues and themes from multiple perspectives and make global connections and linkages that lead to an in-depth understanding of global history.

### **Global History and Geography II**

*Grade: 10; Credit: 1; Type: Regular*  
*Pre-Requisites: Global History I*  
*NCAA Approved*

This course is the second part of a two year study of Global History. In Global History and Geography II students will explore the civilizations, peoples, events and global processes that have shaped the world from 1750 to the present. Students will also investigate historical issues and themes from multiple perspectives and make global connections and linkages that lead to an in-depth understanding of global history. At the end of the course of study students will take the New York State Global History and Geography Regents Exam.





### **Global History and Geography II Honors**

*Grade: 10; Credit: 1; Type: Honors*

*Pre-Requisites: Global History I and student's past achievement in the content area  
NCAA Approved*

This course is the second part of a two year study of Global History. In Global History and Geography II students will explore the civilizations, peoples, events and global processes that have shaped the world from 1750 to the present. An emphasis of the course is to develop historical thinking skills in combination with relevant factual knowledge. Students will also investigate historical issues and themes from multiple perspectives and make global connections and linkages that lead to an in-depth understanding of global history. At the end of the course of study students will take the New York State Global History and Geography Regents Exam.

### **Advanced Placement World History**

*Grades: 10; Credit: 1; Type: AP*

*Pre-Requisites: Student's past achievement in the content area ; AP form  
NCAA Approved*

This course is a college level survey of World History. The course is designed to develop a greater understanding of the evolution of global processes. The course highlights the nature of changes in international frameworks and their causes and consequences, as well as comparisons among major societies. Students are required to combine their own research with classroom work. At the conclusion of the course the students will take the Advanced Placement Examination. A doctor's note must be presented if absent for the AP exam. A \$90 exam fee will be collected at the time of registration. Checks should be made payable to St. Mary's High School.

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

*Grade: 11; Credit: 1; Type: AP*

*Pre-Requisites: Global History & student's past achievement in the content area; AP Form  
NCAA Approved*

This course is a survey of United States History from 1491 to the Present. An emphasis of the course is to develop historical thinking skills in combination with relevant factual knowledge. The course enables students to use historical facts and evidence in the service of creating deeper conceptual understandings of critical developments in U.S. history. At the end of the course of study students will take the AP United States History Exam as well as the New York State United States History and Government Regents Exam. A doctor's note must be presented if absent from either exam. A \$90 exam fee will be collected at registration.

### **United States History and Government**

*Grade: 11; Credit: 1; Type: Regular*

*Pre-Requisites: Global History  
NCAA Approved*

In this course students will explore the peoples, events and issues that have shaped the development of the United States as well as the basic principles and core values of the government. At the end of the course of study students will take the New York State United States History and Government Regents Exam.

### **United States History and Government Honors**

*Grade: 11; Credit: 1; Type: Honors*

*Pre-Requisites: Global History & student's past achievement in the content area  
NCAA Approved*

In this course students will explore the peoples, events and issues that have shaped the development of the United States as well as the basic principles and core values of the government. An emphasis of the course is to develop historical thinking skills in combination with relevant factual knowledge. At the end of the course of study students will take the New York State United States History and Government Regents Exam.

### **Advanced Placement European History**

*Grades: 10, 11, 12; Credit: 1; Type: AP*

*Pre-Requisites: Global History and student's past*

*achievement in the content area; AP form  
NCAA Approved*

This course is a survey of European History from 1450 to the Present. An emphasis of the course is to develop historical thinking skills in combination with relevant factual knowledge. The course enables students to use historical facts and evidence in the service of creating deeper conceptual understandings of critical developments in European history. At the end of the course of study students will take the AP European History Exam. A doctor's note must be presented if absent from the exam. A \$90 exam fee will be collected at registration.

### **American Government**

*Grade: 12; Credit: 1/2; Type: Regular*

*Pre-Requisites: Global History U.S. History-Govt;  
Semester Course  
NCAA Approved*

In this course, the student will examine the ways people organize and act in concert to deal with common problems. The student will study in detail the structure of the American Government system and gain an understanding of the dynamics of American politics. Students also will use some of the tools employed by social scientists.

### **Economics**

*Grade: 12; Credit: 1/2; Type: Regular*

*Pre-Requisites: Global History & U.S. History and Government; (link w American Govt)  
Semester Course  
NCAA Approved*

The student will study the basic principles of micro and macro economics. Topics covered will include the market system, supply and demand, opportunity cost, money and banking, monetary and fiscal policy.

### **Psychology**

*Grade: 12; Credit: 1/2; Type: Regular*

*Pre-Requisites: None  
Semester Course  
NCAA Approved*

This course is an introduction to the psychological study of human behavior. The primary goals are to instill an appreciation

of the psychological perspective on human behavior, to illustrate the application of the scientific methodology to the study of such behavior and to give students an understanding of the range of issues and problems of concern to modern psychologists. Topics include social behavior, personality, motivation, perception, individual differences, intelligence, memory, learning, mental disorders and developmental disorders and development changes in behavior. College credit from St. John's University or Adelphi University may be available Refer to the "College Credit" section (page 4).

### **Civil and Criminal Law**

*Grades: 11, 12; Credit: 1/2; Type: Regular*

*Pre-Requisite: Student's past achievement in the content area  
Semester Course  
NCAA Approved*

This course is a basic overview of civil, personal and criminal law. Emphasis will be placed on specific aspects of American law which include crimes, arrests, trials, prisons, and rehabilitation. The use of forensic evidence in law is also discussed. Lessons are enhanced via classroom discussions, video presentations, guest lectures from law enforcement personnel as well as lawyers. This course is recommended for students intending to pursue university study involving law, business, criminal justice, forensics and other related fields of study.

### **Geopolitics: 1945-Present**

*Grade: 12; Credit: 1/2 Type: Honors*

*Pre-Requisites: Global History and US History  
Semester Course, NCAA Approved*

This course explores the role of the balance of power in the conduct of international relations in the Post World War II Era. Considerable time will be spent on the origins, consolidation and end of the Cold War. Post Cold War topics include the search for peace and stability in regional hotspots as well as the role of multilateral diplomacy in confronting international crises.



### **21st Century Challenges**

*Grade: 10, 11; Credit: 1/2 Type: Honors*

*Pre-Requisites: Global History 9*

*Semester Course, NCAA Approved*

The purpose of this course is to develop critical approaches to the study of global issues. This course will explore challenges that confront the international community. Topics of study will range from the environment to the emergence of international terrorism. Students will be expected to write regularly, work cooperatively and participate in seminar discussions.

### **American Government and American Government Honors**

*Grade: 12; Credit: 1/2; Type: Regular Pre-Requisites:*

*Global History & U.S. History and Government;*

*(linked w Economics) Semester Course NCAA*

*Approved*

This course aims to provide students with opportunities to become engaged in the political process by learning the knowledge and practicing the skills necessary for active citizenship. Content specifications are not included so that the course can adapt to present local, national, and global circumstances, allowing teachers to select flexibly from current events to illuminate

key ideas and conceptual understandings.

Participation in government and in our communities is fundamental to the success of American democracy.

### **Economics and Economic Honors**

*Grade: 12; Credit: 1/2; Type: Regular Pre-Requisites:*

*Global History & U.S. History and Government;*

*(linked w American Govt) Semester Course NCAA*

*Approved*

This course examines the principles of the United States free market economy in a global context. Students will examine their individual responsibility for managing their personal finances. Students will analyze the role of supply and demand in determining the prices individuals and businesses face in the product and factor markets, and the global nature of these markets. Students will study changes to the workforce in the United States and the role of entrepreneurs in our economy, as well as the impact of globalization. Students will explore the challenges facing the United States free market economy in a global environment and various policy-making opportunities available to government to address these challenges.

## **FINE AND PERFORMING ARTS**

### **Studio in Art I**

*Grade: 9; Credit: 1/2; Type: Regular*

*Pre-Requisites: Portfolio review, sample of art work at registration*

*NCAA Approved*

The goal of the Studio Art Program is to give students the opportunity to work in many different media in order to understand and appreciate the elements of pictorial design: line, color, shape and form, space and texture and the principles of pictorial design: balance, unity, contrast, emphasis, movement and rhythm. The making of art will challenge the student to solve problems creatively, improve present art skills and say something about themselves in the world. They are encouraged to strive for excellence in all they do. Art lessons are supplemented by references to the great masters, classical and modern.

learning to see with accuracy and sensitivity. These will include contour (blind and controlled), gesture, outline, mass, memory and positive and negative. These art activities that train the eye, mind and hand to work together will then transfer over to a disciplined freedom of exploration of many avenues of expression in painting. The further study of artists and art history (classical and contemporary) will be introduced.

### **Senior Portfolio Preparation**

*Grade: 12; Credit: 1; Type: Regular*

*Pre-Requisite: Student's past achievement in the content area*

This is an advanced course recommended for 12th grade students who wish to build a portfolio. Concentration will be in areas of still life painting and figure drawing.

### **Studio in Art II**

*Grade: 10; Credit: 1/2; Type: Regular*

*Pre-Requisite: Studio in Art I*

This course is designed for students with some competency in art and the potential desire to pursue further study in this subject area. Studio In Art II provides training in the basic skills of drawing, such as perspective, proportion, and modeling of light and shadow. Additional objectives are the mastery of various painting media (watercolor and tempera) and an appreciation of various artistic movements throughout history. Basic graphic design and the art of the printed page will also be introduced.

### **Advertising/Graphic Design**

*Grade: 10; Credit: 1/2; Type: Regular*

*Pre-Requisite: Studio in Art I Semester Course*

This course will introduce Adobe Creative Suite: specifically Photoshop and InDesign. Students will create product design, advertising design for print, business card and letterhead design as well as surface design. Photography is an essential part of the curriculum and a student owned digital SLR camera is required. Intermediate level computer skills are required for this course.

### **Publications I**

*Juniors / Semester Course (Spring)*

### **Publications II**

*Seniors / Semester Course (Fall)*

*Grades: 11, 12; Credit: 1 (2-1/2 credits);*

*Type: Regular*

*Pre-Requisites: Application and interview with*

*Mrs. Prochilo, yearbook advisor*

*NCAA Approved*

### **Advanced Drawing and Painting**

*Grade: 11; Credit: 1; Type: Regular*

*Pre-Requisites: Studio in Art III & student's past achievement in the content area*

This is an advanced course dealing with eye training, space, composition and media exploration. Drawing experiences focus on

This course trains the student in the basics of book design and good photography skills (Grade 11). The student then takes those skills and carries out production of the school yearbook (Grade 12). The student must accomplish the necessary work by a deadline. He/she also learns the basics of desktop publishing through the programs InDesign CS and Photoshop 7.0.

### **Advanced Placement Art History**

*Grades: 11, 12; Credit: 1; Type: AP  
Pre-Requisite: Department Approval*

This is a college level course that traces human artistic development from cave painting to contemporary works of art. Examples of architecture, sculpture, and painting are explored through slides, discussion and research. Several field trips to major museums in Manhattan will be an integral part of the course work. Students will be required to take the AP Art history exam in May.

### **Set Design and Construction for Performing Arts Production**

*Grades 9-12; Credit: 1/2; Type: Regular  
Requirement: Extra Hours Required After School*

Introduction to the world of set design and creation for performing arts projects. The class will allow the student to work hand in hand with set artists, design and construction professionals. Students will learn the basic skills and then put those skills to use to create working sets and scenery for the school's performing arts program. Students will learn the technique used in designing a working set from a professional set designer. Students will work hands on designing, creating, building, painting and finishing working sets while under the supervision of professional Artists.

### **Freshman General Music**

*Grade: 9; Credit: 1/2; Type: Regular  
Pre-Requisite: None*

This course concentrates on the fundamental elements of music: rhythm, melody, harmony, dynamics and tone color. The student will gain a basic understanding of music notation, instrumental timbre, and the process of studio

recording. A more in depth knowledge of how music is made will contribute toward a greater understanding of how music is a reflection of culture.

### **Sophomore General Music**

*Grade: 10; Credit: 1/2; Type: Regular  
Pre-Requisite: None*

This course is a survey of music history from the earliest documented cultures to pop music of the present day. World and Folk music, European classical music, Jazz, Blues, Rock, Hip Hop and Pop music will be discussed. Via chronological presentation, the student's awareness of musical evolution will be intensified, and thereby enhance their ability to compare and contrast the styles. Cross-cultural influences will be highlighted as the student learns how different times and cultures express themselves through music as a common medium.

### **Orchestra**

*Grades: 9-10; Credit: 1/2; Type: Regular  
Grades 11-12; Credit: 1; Type: Regular  
Requirement: Past experience with musical instrument*

Orchestra is a Fine Arts elective for freshmen and sophomores and a one credit elective for juniors and seniors. The class will offer instrumental music to players of string, wind and percussion instruments and will perform two annual concerts in addition to other performance opportunities.

### **Composition**

*Grades: 11-12; Credit: 1/2; Type: Regular  
Pre-Requisites: None*

This class will teach students to compose music using both modern computer-based techniques as well as traditional notation. Students will compose pieces for performance at bi-annual recitals and concerts. Consent of instructor required.

### **Jazz Ensemble**

*Grades: 9-12; Credit: 1/2; Type: Regular  
Requirement: Past experience with musical instrument*

This course is open to any student who plays an instrument and it is a performance based

class. Students who enroll in this class will learn to perform and improvise jazz through study of historical styles from early 20th century to the present. In addition to playing instruments, the students will study historical recordings, the lives of important American musicians, and the history of jazz in America.

### **Chorus**

*Grade: 9, 10; Credit: 1/2; Type: Regular  
Grade 11, 12; Credit: 1; Type: Regular  
Requirement: Participation in all concerts; some weekend sessions required*

This course provides the opportunity for students to experience the beauty of sung sound by incorporating as many vocal parts as group capability allows. An individual's talent is recognized as much as possible.

### **Chamber Chorus**

*Grades: 11, 12; Credit: 1; Type: Regular  
Pre-Requisite: Audition  
Requirement: This is an after school course. Two session after school week, session 1hr 15 minutes*

This course is designed for students interested in continuing their group-based vocal studies. It provides highly motivated students with the opportunity to explore more advanced choral repertoire and in addition, the department's program of music. These students will perform at church liturgies, the Christmas Concert, the Spring Concert and at other special occasions.

### **Musicology**

*Grades: 11, 12; Credit: 1; Type: Regular  
Pre-Requisites: None*

This course will focus on the connections between music, history and sociology. Topics include: contemporary and historical musicians, composers and performers and use their creative output as a means to analyze the historical and cultural context of their music. Text books will include: *Music: A Very Short Introduction* by Nicholas Cook and *Blues People* by Amiri Baraka. These publications will be available in the Marist Library.

### **Dance Instruction for the Performing Artist**

*Grades: 9-12; Credit: 1/2; Type: Regular  
Pre-Requisites: None*

In this class students will investigate the vocabulary and creative potential of performance techniques through dance. Students will engage with these techniques through in-class technical teaching, practices and performances. This course will focus on preparation for the final performance. Styles of dance used in the musical theater world will be touched on in this class. The course is designed to prepare students for careers in the field of professional dance and theater, further study at university, or in preparation for a professional audition. The class will generate a dance recital performance in June.

### **Introduction to the Musical Theater**

*Grades: 9-12; Credit: 1; Type: Regular  
Pre-Requisites: None  
Requirement: This course requires three sessions a week after school 1hrs 45 minutes*

Students assume leadership positions in the production of a theatrical event as they take part in building a musical theater production from the ground up. Experiences may include acting, dance, singing, directing, design, and from behind the scenes of the production side. Students will study the various areas of show production. Students will become more acquainted with the acting process, theater terminology, music and script analysis, improvisation, and other fundamentals to give them a greater sense of building a musical theater production. Students will be taught to tap their own powers of concentration, observation, discipline, creativity, and imagination. Course is designed to prepare students for careers in the field of Professional acting, singing, dance, further study at university, or in preparation for a professional audition. The class will generate a musical theater production and performance.

### **Master Class: Introduction to Acting for the Performing Artist**

*Grades: 11-12; Credit: 1; Type: Regular  
Pre-Requisites: 2 credits Musical Theater; Auditions  
Requirement: This is an after school course. One session after school week, session 1hr 15 minutes*

This class introduces the student to the basic

principles of the art of acting - focusing on how and why actors do what they do in preparation for a performance. Students will become acquainted with acting processes, theater terminology, script analysis, improvisation, and other fundamentals to give them a greater sense of the actor's work as an artist. In doing so, students must tap their own powers of concentration, observation, discipline, creativity, and imagination. A major focus in the course is the development of the ability to analyze one's own work and the work of peers in the class. Problem-solving in solo, paired, and/or large groups is a requirement. Some attention will be given to physical and the vocal characterization of the character. Course is designed to prepare students for careers in the field of professional acting, further study at university, or in preparation for a professional audition. The class will generate an actor's staged reading or performance.

### **Master Class: Advanced Voice instruction for the Performing Artist**

*Grades: 11-12; Credit: 1; Type: Regular*  
*Pre-Requisites: 2 credits Musical Theater; Auditions*  
*Requirement: This is an after school course. One session after school week, session 1hr 15 minutes*

This class is both an acting and voice lesson class for musical theater performers. Students will work in a master class format, learning basic vocal technique, song preparation and performance techniques while performing solos, duets, ensemble, and chorus songs. Focus will be on acting in song, musical interpretation, vocal technique, styling, and stage presentation. Course is designed to prepare students for careers in the field of professional singing and theatre, further study at university, or in preparation for a professional audition. The class will generate a vocal recital performance.

### **Musical Instrument Instruction for the Musical Theater**

*Grades: 9-12; Credit: 1/2; Type: Regular*  
*Pre-Requisites: None*  
*Requirement: This is an after school course. One session a week after school, 1hr 15 minutes*

Students will have the opportunity to work with professional instrumentalists in small group classes. These master classes will focus on taking an individual student's talent to another level by teaching the techniques of the pros. Focus will be on study and performance, musical interpretation, styling, and stage presentation. Course is designed to prepare students for careers as Professional Musicians, further study at university, or in preparation for a professional audition. Class will generate an opportunity for the student to play with or sit beside the pro in the pit of the annual Musical Theater Production. (Note: Instrument studies offered will be subject to artist availability semester to semester. Students will be provided instrument studies offered for particular semester at time of registration).

### **Introduction to Culinary Arts**

*Grade: 9 - 11; Credit: 1/2; Type: Regular*  
*Pre-Requisite: None*  
*Requirement: This is an after school course. Two sessions a week 2hrs after school.*

This class will instruct the student on the basics of cooking, including: sanitation, food and tool identification, basic techniques and knife skills, and food science. Enrollment is limited. The students will be graded on attendance, participation, and written practical exams. The course will conclude in just prior to the end of the spring semester with a student culinary showcase that parents/ guardians, family, etc. are encouraged to attend.

### **Culinary Arts II**

*Grade: 9 - 12; Credit: 1/2; Type: Regular*  
*Pre-Requisite: Introduction to Culinary Arts*  
*Requirement: This is an after school course. Two sessions a week 2hrs after school.*

This course will reinforce all of the basics from Culinary I as well as teach basic restaurant/ food business management and a more advanced cooking level. The students will be given the opportunity to tour a professional working commercial at one of New York City's popular restaurants. Students will be graded on attendance, class participation, quizzes and a project which will be assigned. Enrollment is limited,

# COMPUTER SCIENCE

### **SAT Preparation and Technology**

*Grade: 9; Credit: 1/2; Type: Regular*  
*Pre-Requisites: None*

A crucial component in the college admission process is investing time in test preparation. This required course gives freshmen sufficient momentum in this process by teaching students the essential strategies, format and content of the PSAT/NMSQT and SAT standardized exams. While integrating cooperative technology presentations, students are taught critical skills to optimize success in the areas Critical Reading & Writing of the test. The methodology employed in this course places an emphasis on note taking, time management and interdisciplinary study skills. In addition, as the keystone course for the freshman curriculum regarding Gospel Values, all of the disciplines align themselves with the technology portion and provide the students with the overview of how these values and projects integrate throughout the curriculum. The electronic portfolio begins here and continues throughout high school.

### **Digital Media**

*Grades: 10-12; Credit: 1/2; Type: Regular*  
*Pre-Requisites: None*  
*Semester Course*

Digital Media is a class that explores the use of the technology and software used to create digital products. Video and photography will be the primary sources of content. Students will learn how to stage videos and photographs, primarily for events that occur at St. Mary's. The students will learn to use the variety of features on a video camera, a DSLR camera, and an iPad. Students will also be instructed on the variety of tools that are associated with Final Cut Pro, iMovie, and

Photoshop. Much of the content produced will be uploaded to a St. Mary's YouTube channel or utilized by the Communications Department at St. Mary's.

### **Introduction to Computer Programming**

*Grades: 10-12; Credit: 1; Type: Honors*  
*Pre-Requisite: Student's past achievement in content area*

This course is an introduction to computer science at a level appropriate for those considering a career in computer science. Topics covered include programming methodology with an emphasis on problem-solving, algorithm development, data structures, formal analysis of algorithms and other advanced topics of computer science. A fee of \$65 is required for the textbook and materials.

### **Advanced Placement Computer Science**

*Grade: 12; Credit: 1; Type: AP*  
*Pre-Requisite: Student's past achievement in the content area; AP Form*

This course is an in-depth introduction to computer science at a level appropriate for students entering a computer science career. This course covers programming methodology with an emphasis on problem solving, algorithm development, data structures, formal analysis of algorithms and other advanced topics in computer science. A fee of \$65 is required for textbooks and materials. An additional fee of \$90 will be collected at registration for the May AP examination. A doctor's note must be presented if absent for the AP exam.

### **Advanced Placement Computer Science Principles**

*Grade: 11 & 12; Credit: 1; Type: AP*  
*Pre-Requisite: Student's past achievement in the content area; AP Form*

AP Computer Science Principles offers a multidisciplinary approach to teaching the underlying principles of computation. The course will introduce students to the creative aspects of programming, abstractions, algorithms, large data sets, the Internet,

# PHYSICAL EDUCATION

cybersecurity concerns, and computing impacts. The AP Computer Science Principles assessment consists of two parts: completion of through-course performance tasks and the end-of-course AP Exam. An additional fee of \$90 will be collected at registration for the May AP examination. A doctor's note must be presented if absent for the AP exam.

## Computer Skills Teaching Practicum

*Grades: 11, 12; Credit: 1; Type: Regular*  
*Pre-Requisites: Application and interview*

This course is designed to provide students with practical teaching experiences involving computer skills. Topics and experiences include serving as teacher assistant, preparing lessons, executing assignments, problem solving, coping with technical issues, and providing individual attention to students. Students accepted will be placed into SAT Prep and Technology classes under the direct supervision of the teacher and assist in the educational process.

## Computer Networking Practicum

*Grades: 11, 12; Credit: 1; Type: Regular*  
*Pre-Requisite: Application, interview and two week summer internship required*

This full year course is designed to give students hands-on experience in dealing with every day network problems. The course involves hardware related items such as: cat5/cat6 cabling, hubs, switches, routers, desktop systems and server systems. The course familiarizes students with software packages such as: Windows 7, Windows Server 2008/Windows Server 2008R2 including Active Directory.

## Introduction to Cryptography

*Grades: 11, 12; Credit: 1/2; Type: Regular*  
*Pre-Requisite: Student's past achievement in content area*  
*Semester Course*

Cryptography is an indispensable tool for protecting information in computer systems. This course explains the inner workings of cryptographic primitives and how to correctly use them. Students will learn how to reason about the security of cryptographic constructions and how to apply this knowledge to real-world applications.

## Physical Education 9

### Physical Education 10

*Grades: 9, 10; Credit: 1/2*  
*Pre-Requisite: None*

The physical education program concentrates on the organic and physical development of the student. The student is exposed to a number of different activities, with skill progression in each of these activities being carried on over the two year program. Some of these activities include track and field, volleyball, softball, basketball, badminton, soccer, flag football, team handball, self-defense, and cooperative games. Camaraderie and sportsmanship are consistently encouraged throughout the physical education program.

## Physical Education 11

### Physical Education 12

*Grades: 11, 12; Credit: 1/2*  
*Pre-Requisite: None*

The physical education program is designed to provide opportunities for students to achieve skills, knowledge and attitudes which will allow them to obtain optimal quality of life and well-being. At the eleventh and twelfth grade levels, experiences gained at lower levels are built upon and expanded. A variety of activities, both individual and team oriented are offered. Some of these activities include aerobics, track and field, volleyball, softball, basketball, badminton, soccer, flag football, team handball, self-defense, weight training, cooperative games, mediation and ultimate Frisbee.

*Grade: 10; Credit: 1/2; Type: Regular*

*Pre-Requisites: None*

This is a full year course which meets the New York State Standards for commencement level health education. Issues in the areas of human growth and development, emotional health, nutrition, environmental health, parenting, disease/disorders, tobacco, alcohol and other drugs, community health, first aid and consumer health will be examined.

## First Aid and CPR

*Grade: 11, 12; Credit: 1/2; Type: Regular*  
*Pre-Requisites: None*

The goal of the First Aid and CPR course is to provide students with the knowledge and skills necessary to call for help in an emergency, to help keep someone alive, to reduce pain, and to minimize the consequences of injury or sudden illness until professional help arrives. The course content and activities will prepare students to make appropriate decisions about the care to provide in an emergency. The course will also provide information on the prevention of injury and illness with a focus on personal safety. A \$45 fee for certification from the American Red Cross will be collected at registration.

## Physical Fitness

*Grade: 10-12; Credit: 1/2; Type: Regular*  
*Pre-Requisites: None*  
*Semester Course*

Students will be provided with the tools to sustain a healthy lifestyle through physical fitness program. Activities will include cardiovascular endurance, muscular endurance, strengthening, & flexibility. Students will learn proper form for various exercises and seek to improve their physical, mental and emotional wellness

# Administration and Faculty

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