

MARY HELP OF CHRISTIANS ACADEMY

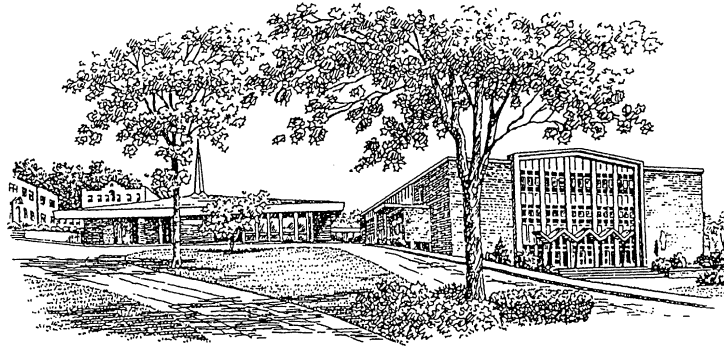
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Program of Studies



Mission Statement:

Mary Help of Christians Academy is committed to making an integral Catholic secondary college-prep education accessible to young women of diverse backgrounds. Our mission is to provide a student-centered learning environment within a family atmosphere that embodies the Salesian philosophy of reason, religion, and loving kindness as taught by St. John Bosco and St. Mary Mazzarello. We challenge our students to develop their potential and to dedicate themselves to academic excellence, faith, leadership and service as they take their place in our rapidly changing and pluralistic society.



Philosophy of Education:

Mary Help of Christians Academy, located in the Diocese of Paterson, New Jersey, is a private Catholic secondary school for young women. It is conducted by the Daughters of Mary Help of Christians, the Salesian Sisters of St. John Bosco, in collaboration with laypersons committed to Catholic education. Within a community rooted in the Gospel and in Catholic teachings, traditions, and moral values, Mary Help of Christians Academy seeks to enable the young women to establish a living relationship with Christ. This relationship empowers the individual to make a positive impact on her family, local, and world communities.

Mary Help of Christians Academy recognizes that the task of education is the responsibility of all: faculty, parents, collaborators and students. By embracing a diverse population, individual differences and abilities, the members of the educating community create an intellectually challenging environment. Here the students can prepare for college and the workplace with a life-long commitment to faith, education, leadership, and service in a multicultural society.

Mary Help of Christians Academy utilizes the Preventive System developed by St. John Bosco and given a specifically feminine dimension by St. Mary Mazzarello. This system of education characterizes the interaction among the members of the educating community who seek in every situation to appeal to reason and faith with loving kindness. The mutual respect and trust promote feelings of self-worth and confidence.

Mary Help of Christians Academy values educational principles and learning experiences extending beyond the classroom. Each student is encouraged to develop solid convictions and to gradually assume responsibility for her personal growth and faith formation. She is thereby empowered to realize her unique plan and purpose in an ever-changing and complex society.

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Academic Guidelines

To receive a MHCA diploma, students must earn 160 academic credits by successfully completing the courses indicated below. In addition, community service hour and attendance requirements must be met. The course requirements meet both diocesan and state mandates for high school graduation. All course curricula meet the criteria of the New Jersey Core Curriculum Content Standards. In many departments, the standards of recognized national educational associations have also been incorporated (e.g. those of the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics, etc.).

<u>Field of Study</u>	<u>Years</u>	<u>Total Credits</u>
Personal Finance & SAT Mastery	1	5.00
English	4	20.00
Mathematics	3	15.00
Physical Ed., Health, Safety & Driver Ed	4	20.00
Science	3	15.00
Social Sciences	3	15.00
Theology	4	20.00
Visual, Performing & Practical Arts	2	10.00
World Languages	2	10.00
Electives	6	30.00

Honors, College Preparatory, and Regular Courses

Initial placement within a field of study is determined by grades, standardized scores, placement test results and teacher recommendations at the time of entry into the Academy. Thereafter, a move to a higher level requires an average of 93 or better in the latest course taken. Students must maintain the minimum average of 89 in an Honors course or 76 in a College Prep course to return at that same level in the next year.

Class rank is determined by the Adjusted Grade Point Average, in which passing scores are given additional weight in Honors classes (by a factor of 1.05) College Prep courses (by a factor of 1.0), and are given reduced weight in non-College Prep classes (by a factor of 0.95).

Note that changes in course selections are *rarely permitted* at the start of the new academic year.

BUSINESS EDUCATION

BUSINESS COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS

An Academic Business Internship Program

This specialized program provides qualified seniors the opportunity to experience the professional environment of major financial establishments under the guidance of business professionals. The program combines on-site business experience at local financial establishments, advanced electives, and the opportunities to earn an MHCA Jr. MBA. To be eligible for the business internship during her senior year, a student must have taken or be enrolled in Introduction to Business and either Marketing I or Accounting. She must have a GPA of 90, both in general and in her business courses. Finally, she must have the recommendation of the business faculty. To earn the recognition at graduation of an MHCA Jr. MBA, a student must have completed five (5) Business Education Courses, including Introduction to Business. She must have an overall GPA of 85 and a GPA of 85 in her business education courses.

Besides the courses listed in this section of the catalog, the following courses will also qualify a student for the MHCA Jr. MBA:

- Introduction to Law
- Consumer Math
- Adobe Photoshop/Illustrator (Reg.)
- Web Design

ACCOUNTING I

Middle College course

Grades: 10-12 (Elective)

Two Semesters - 5 Credits

Accounting is the language of business and it is an essential component of every institution and organization. Accounting I presents the fundamental principles of accounting. It is designed to emphasize the theory of accounting. The accounting cycle is presented as it pertains

to proprietorships, partnerships, and corporations. Extensive accounting terminology and theory challenge the student to develop skills they will use in life as well as in the business or accounting profession. Both manual and automated methods are used to evaluate students' ability to apply what they have learned.

INTRODUCTION TO BUSINESS

Grades 10 – 12 Elective

One Semester - 2.5 Credits

Introduction to Business provides students with a broad view of the U.S. business system. While focusing on this business model, students will be introduced to key business functions, the role of economics in business, leadership skills, and business ethics and responsibility. The course will also introduce and explore such topics as owning and operating a small business, the role of government in business, and the impact of culture and diversity in the workplace. The course will emphasize such workplace skills as problem solving, critical thinking, teamwork, and good communication through varied activities

INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS

Grades 10-12 (Elective)

One Semester - 2.5 Credits

International Business is the study of today's global economy and the interrelated goodness of one country's political policies and economic practices with those of other countries. Students will realize how one event can cause a "ripple effect" within the global economy. They will develop an appreciation of the global business environment by studying the cultural, political, legal, economic, and ethical systems of various countries. Basic concepts related to international finance, management, and trade relations will be presented.

MARKETING I

Middle College course

Grades 11-12 (Elective)

Two Semesters - 5 Credits

Marketing education introduces students to the processes and functions involved in transferring

business products or services to a consumer. Students may be inspired to study marketing at a more advanced level, which can be a springboard for a challenging and lucrative career. In this course, the students learn the basic competencies needed for marketing and distribution careers. Emphasis is on selling techniques, knowledge of the channels of distribution, target marketing, and skills for obtaining employment. This course also provides an understanding of the economics of the free enterprise system and its implications for the global economy. Students will also participate in DECA, a marketing association for students, and they will have an opportunity to take part in various competitions at regional and state levels.

MARKETING II

Grades 11, 12 (Elective)

Two semesters - 5 Credits

Prerequisite: Average of 80 in Marketing I

This course is designed for students who have completed Marketing I and have a strong desire to continue their study of more complex marketing topics. Students will have an opportunity to explore in depth such topics as promotion and advertising, marketing research and the marketing strategy. There will be an in-depth study of fashion marketing which will include promoting a fashion image, merchandising and buying, and fashion marketing careers. Students will belong to DECA, a marketing association for students, and they will take part in various competitions at regional and state levels

COLLEGE AND CAREERS

The Diocesan Education Council and the NJ State Standards stipulate that secondary schools' curricula must address Career Education and Consumer, Family, and Life Skills. This requirement is satisfied through the following career education, as well as through participation in specific internship experiences. The Guidance department will oversee the following guidance and career components and topical areas through their integration into the various subject areas:

- Personal Survey
- Career Exploration
- Study Skills
- Writing Skills
- Interview Skills
- College Career Prep
- SAT Proficiencies
- Personal Finance
- Guidance Student/Parent Handbook

The Guidance will coordinate these efforts with the various department heads. In class presentations, grade level assemblies and programs, individual counseling sessions, student/parent conferences, outside speakers and presenters, on-line and hardcopy resources will be utilized.

SAT MASTERY

Grade 10 (Required)

2.5 Credits (Fall Semester)

Students will use nine weeks in the fall of their sophomore year to strengthen their math and English skills and improve their test taking strategies. Using a computerized SAT program, each student will obtain detailed skill analysis and feedback on her own SAT performance. By following a sequence of individualized skill lessons and quizzes, she will build the skills and confidence needed for an improved SAT score.

PERSONAL FINANCE

Grades 10 (Required)

Elective – 2.5 Credits (Spring Semester)

This course will meet the state requirement for preparing students for their own adult financial management skills. They will establish a plausible budget and set personal time management rules to support the accomplishment of their academic, extracurricular, and work goals. Active research into scholarships, loans, and grants leads to applications for the same. After the arrival of college application responses, a college budget is crafted. Students are made aware of the impact of the global economy on individual careers and of the factors that can influence one's income from employment

ENGLISH

The Academy, in keeping with the requirements of the State of New Jersey and of the Diocese of Paterson, requires four years of English studies. The core courses meet that requirement as they develop proficiency in three essential areas: literature, written communication, and oral communication. Other courses may be taken as electives and are encouraged for students considering a degree in liberal arts, education, or communications. The four literature courses (Introduction, American, British and World) are also offered at the Regular, College-Prep Honors & AP levels.

ENGLISH COMPOSITION

Grades 9, 10 (By Determination)

Two Semesters – 5 Credits

The study of literature acquaints the student with the genre of short story, poetry, biography, drama, and the novel. There is an intensive review and expansion of basic language skills. Sentence structure, paragraphing, outlining, spelling, and vocabulary are emphasized. The student is also introduced to the writing of letters and essays. Each student is required to keep a journal. She is also required to make at least one oral presentation.

INTRODUCTION TO LITERATURE

Grade 9 (Required)

Two Semesters – 5 Credits

The study of literature acquaints the student with the genre of short story, poetry, biography, drama, and the novel. There is an intensive review and expansion of basic language skills. Sentence structure, paragraphing, outlining, spelling, and vocabulary are emphasized. The student is also introduced to the writing of letters and essays. Each student is required to keep a journal. She is also required to make at least one oral presentation.

AMERICAN LITERATURE

Grade 10 (Required)

Two Semesters – 5 Credits

Classics of American Literature dating from the Colonial Period to the present are examined in order to develop skills in close reading and understanding in a variety of genres: short story, biography, autobiography, poetry, drama and the novel. Studies in oral communication teach the student how to take part in discussions. Writing skills are reinforced with an emphasis on the MLA research paper process and vocabulary building. The student is required to keep a journal.

BRITISH LITERATURE

Grade 11 (Required)

Two Semesters – 5 Credits

British literature is studied chronologically with a strong emphasis on Shakespearean drama. The student is offered a further opportunity to develop writing skills. She learns to formulate a thesis statement and develop a controlling idea into a longer essay. Special emphasis is put on writing well-developed paragraphs and organizing the entire essay. The student keeps a journal, and weekly word study develops vocabulary. Communication skills are reinforced through assignments that require the student to present oral reports of critical analysis.

WORLD LITERATURE

Grade 12 (Required)

Two Semesters – 5 Credits

World Literature, from a wide range of authors, is examined in a comprehensive and balanced program that masters skills in reading and comprehension of literary genres. There is special emphasis on critical analysis as well as responding to literature through writing. Student keeps a journal and develops vocabulary through weekly word study. Communication skills are refined through seminar discussions that require the student to respond in a constructive and concise manner.

AP LITERATURE

Grade 12 (Elective or in lieu of 4th year of English)

Two Semesters – 5 Credits

Prerequisite: *95 average in most recent Literature class & Departmental approval*

In this Advanced Placement course, literature is studied thematically with a concentration on the classics and a close reading of the text. The course content is pursued in great detail and depth for the purpose of challenging the more advanced student. Students should have a well-developed vocabulary, a command of English grammar, well-developed communication skills (both written and oral) and the ability to think critically and to interpret literature independently. There is strong emphasis on independent reading and individual learning. In addition, students will be expected to do preparatory reading during the summer. All enrolled will be required to take the Advanced Placement Exam in English Literature and Composition.

CREATIVE WRITING

Grades 11, 12 (Elective)

One Semester – 2.5 Credits

Meets the NJ arts requirement

Creative Writing introduces the student to writing in different literary genres (short fiction, creative non-fiction, poetry, plays). Instruction is given in the art of free writing, a writer's technique for gaining ideas and facilitating word flow before actually creating a piece. Practical exercises and professional works are the focus of the course. Additionally, students grow to appreciate the process of interacting with other writers through peer critiques.

JOURNALISM

Grades 11, 12 (Elective)

Two Semesters – 5 Credits

This course develops an understanding of the important role of print journalism in contemporary society. The student learns the fundamentals of newspaper organization, layout, and artistic composition. She builds her skills in writing clear, concise copy appropriate for newspaper

features, editorials, straight news stories, sports stories, etc. She explores the variety of career opportunities in journalism and learns about the legal and ethical issues that are part and parcel of a journalistic career.

INTRODUCTION TO PUBLICATION DESIGN

Grade 11 (Elective)

One Semester (Spring) – 2.5 Credits

Juniors who are interested in becoming a member of the yearbook staff in their senior year are required to take this course in the spring of their junior year. The juniors will work with the outgoing seniors who will be completing their yearbook in order to learn the practical and relevant skills, techniques, and procedures that will enable them to successfully complete their yearbook during their senior year.

PUBLICATION DESIGN

Grade 11 by invitation, Grade 12 (Elective)

Two Semesters – 5 Credits

Prerequisite: *Department approval*

Students in this course plan and produce the school yearbook. They create copy, design layouts, and take, select, and crop photographs. They expand their journalism skills by learning to write in feature format and to formulate clear, concise captions. Proofreading, editing, and layout design are key elements of the course. Members of the class learn the computer skills necessary to produce the yearbook using the assigned publisher software.

INTRODUCTION TO THEATER

Grades 10, 11, 12 (Elective)

One Semester (Spring) – 2.5 Credits

(Meets the NJ Arts requirement)

This class provides a preliminary foundation in all components of theater. It encourages the student to view the world of theatrical drama with a more discerning eye, understanding the relationships between all areas of a production. It promotes an appreciation for creative abilities and the technical skills that are woven together in the development of any dramatic presentation. The

curriculum addresses theater as an art form, analyzing aspects of theater production, exploring all principles of technical and performance theater, and examining the history of the theater. The focus is on understanding human behavior and finding an artistic means to convey the innermost realities of man. Emphasis is on comparative critical analysis and exploring the relationships between the actor and actor, the actor and his text, and the actor and his world. A critical focus will be on viewing theater as a collaborative effort. Students will attend and critique outside performances, as well as be required to participate in the school spring musical in some capacity. Class sessions will include lectures, videos, group discussions, writing responses, and performance tasks.

SHAKESPEARE

Grades 11, 12 (Elective)

One Semester – 2.5 Credits

This course introduces the active reader to the world and works of William Shakespeare. It highlights the contribution of the Globe Theater and the plays presented there to the development of English drama. Students learn to read and analyze drama, examine dramatic devices, and write critical analyses on plot and character. One play from each of Shakespeare's periods is studied in depth

WRITTEN AND ORAL COMMUNICATION

Grades 11, 12 (Elective)

One Semester – 2.5 Credits

This course develops proficiency in two specific areas of study – oral communication and written communication — emphasizing ethics and social responsibility in a unique approach to the role of communication in our lives. Course features include: written and oral preparation techniques; writing styles for varied contexts; speeches for specific and varied purposes, occasions and audiences; parliamentary procedure; debate. Presentation is strongly emphasized, incorporating specific components of delivery and speaker evaluation.

MATHEMATICS

All students are required to take three years of mathematics. Pre-Algebra, if required for a given student, does not satisfy this requirement. The preferred sequencing for mathematics courses is Algebra I — Algebra II — Geometry. Students with advanced mathematics ability, who complete the summer enrichment program before their freshman year or who by other assessments are placed into a course beyond Algebra I, still must take three years of pure mathematics to meet diploma requirements. Courses are offered at the Regular, College Prep, Honors & AP Levels

ALGEBRA I

Grades 9 (Required)

Two Semesters – 5 Credits

Regular, College Prep. and Honors

Building on their knowledge of real numbers, students manipulate and solve linear equations and inequalities. They learn both to generate and interpret graphed representations of the same. The students use manipulatives, calculators and computers, without becoming dependent upon them, in applying algebraic concepts to model and analyze relationships and functions in real life. While the Fundamentals level class will end the year with the study of exponents and exponential functions, the students in College Prep. and Honors Algebra I will study quadratic equations and inequalities, polynomials, and factoring. The Honors students also are introduced to rational expressions and radicals, in preparation for the study of Algebra II Honors.

ALGEBRA II

Grades 9-12 (Required)

Two Semesters – 5 Credits

Regular and College Prep

Prerequisite/Co-requisite: Geometry

Beginning with a review of linear and quadratic equations, inequalities and functions, students extend their understanding of the number system as algebraic solutions lead to irrational and

complex numbers. Students learn to utilize graphs and their transformations, matrices, vectors, and algebraic algorithms to model and solve problems. Polynomial, radical, exponential and logarithmic functions, rational equations and functions, and trigonometric functions are explored and related to real-world applications.

ALGEBRA II/TRIGONOMETRY

Grades 9-12 (Required)

Two Semesters – 5 Credits

Honors

Prerequisite/Co-requisite: Geometry

Students in this Honors course cover all the content material of the College Prep. Algebra II course, but with a greater depth and at a more challenging pace. They will solidify their grasp of number relationships, uses and interpretations, and their mastery of the application of the laws of the real number system. They will learn the fundamentals of conic sections and probability. Circular and triangular trigonometry and harmonic action will dominate their studies in the fourth quarter of the year and prepare the students for further elective studies in mathematics.

GEOMETRY

Grades 9-12 (Required)

Two Semesters – 5 Credits

Regular, College Prep and Honors

Prerequisite/Co-requisite: Algebra I

The course develops the concepts of plane geometry and simple solid geometry through the study of lines, angles, and two and three-dimensional geometric figures. The students build their logical and critical thinking skills as they navigate their way through the postulates and theorems that define our understanding of space. They strengthen their powers of observation and inductive reasoning through the discovery of spatial relationships and exercise the discipline of deductive reasoning in formal and informal proofs. As some concepts are revisited (transformations, coordinates, vectors, and trigonometric ratios), students realize the mathematical relationships between algebra and geometry.

CONSUMER MATH

Grades 11, 12 (Elective)

One Semester – 2.5 Credits

Most of the course will be spent applying fundamental mathematical skills to various consumer topics such as gross income, net income, checking and savings accounts, cash purchases, charge accounts and credit cards, loans, automobile leasing and purchases, housing costs, insurance and investments, budgets and general recordkeeping. Students prepare to become savvy and smart consumers while reinforcing their mathematic skills with decimals and percentages, graph and chart reading, rounding, and various types of problem solving.

MATH IV

Grades 11, 12 (Elective)

Two Semesters – 5 Credits

This course offers a synthesis of the algebraic and geometric concepts studied in previous years, integrating and extending them. Further topics such as numeration systems, logic and set theory, logarithms and selected discrete math applications are explored. This course serves as an excellent refresher for the SAT and preparation for college entrance examinations in mathematics. It is ideal for college-bound students who do not intend to major in math or science

PRECALCULUS

Grades 11, 12 (Elective)

Two Semesters – 5 Credits

Honors

Department Approval

Prerequisite: *A minimum average of 85 in Algebra II/Trig*

or 85 in Algebra II and Department Approval.

This course covers an in-depth study of linear, quadratic, polynomial, rational, exponential, logarithmic, and trigonometric functions. Students learn to solve systems of equations and inequalities algebraically, geometrically, and through matrix operations. They work in rectangular and polar systems, combining

algebraic skills with those of analytic geometry. A study of sequences and series completes the course. A solid foundation is laid for further studies with graphs and concepts in calculus.

ADVANCED PLACEMENT CALCULUS – AB

Grade 12 (Elective)

Two Semesters – 5 Credits

AP

Pre-requisite: *A minimum average of 85 in Pre-Calculus*

This course delves into analytic geometry, limits, derivatives, differentials, anti-differentials, integration, and applications of the integral. Other topics include exponential, logarithmic, and inverse trigonometric functions. Additional topics that could be explored after the actual AP exam, as time allows, can be selected from the following: hyperbolic and inverse hyperbolic functions, infinite series, polar coordinates and parametric forms, vectors in the plane and in space, and an introduction to vector calculus. Upon completion of all requirements, students will take the College Board's Advanced Placement Examination in Calculus AB.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION, HEALTH & SAFETY

PHYSICAL EDUCATION I, II, III, IV

Grades 9-12 (Required)

Three Quarters – 3.75 Credits - Grades 9

Two Quarters - 2.5 Credits- Grade 10

Three Quarters – 3.75 Credits- Grade 11

Three Quarters – 3.75 Credits – Grade 12

These classes are designed to develop fundamental appreciation and knowledge of and basic complex skills in a range of sports activities. Students study and experience soccer, volleyball, hockey, basketball, flag football, badminton, tennis, track, recreational activities, and softball. Good practices are taught for achieving and maintaining general physical fitness through exercise and healthy life choices. In addition, a physical fitness test is administered yearly which follows the standards of The Presidential Challenge Physical Activity and Fitness Awards Program. Highest scoring students are acknowledged at the yearly awards assembly.

HEALTH I

Grade 9 (Required)

One Quarter – 1.25 Credits

This course encourages students to think critically, to read about and discuss current health issues, and to do research in order to develop informed decisions. Students will read current media coverage of health issues and complete an inquiry-based project on a health topic of their choice. Topics to be covered are: self-esteem, health behaviors, stress, grooming & hygiene, female development, male development, and sexually transmitted diseases.

HEALTH II

Grade 10 (Required)

One Quarter – 1.25 Credits

Health II is designed to prepare the student to enter the next phase of her life armed with skills necessary for a balanced and healthy existence. In addition to class discussion, students will

practice critical thinking and decision making by reading and reporting on current health issues and completing an inquiry-based research project. Practical skills such as how to buy nutritious food on a limited budget, how to stay physically fit for life, and how to navigate the health care system will be emphasized. Topics to be covered include:

substance abuse – alcohol, drugs, tobacco, health articles, self-protection, real baby care, review of sexually transmitted diseases, review of male and female anatomy, review of stress management techniques.

HEALTH III

Grade 11 (Required)

One Quarter – 1.25 Credits

Health III is designed to prepare the student to enter the next phase of her life armed with skills necessary for a balanced and healthy existence. In addition to class discussion, students will practice critical thinking and decision making by reading and reporting on current health issues and completing an inquiry-based research project. Topics to be covered include: health concerns, nutrition, exercise and weight management, mental health, aging process, relationships, infectious and non-infectious diseases.

DRIVER EDUCATION

Grade 10 (Required)

One Quarter – 1.25 Credits

This course teaches students to be responsible, honest, defensive, and sober drivers. It is designed to enable motor vehicle operators to be more efficient and courteous roadway users, knowledgeable about the New Jersey automotive transportation system. The main objectives of Driver Education are to encourage students to become traffic-safety conscious and to take pride in having a good traffic-safety record, to familiarize students with the use of all driving controls and the basics of car maintenance, to emphasize the importance of caution, courtesy, and critical thinking, and to teach the laws of

driving as specified in the New Jersey State Driver's Manual.

FIRST AID

Grade 12 (Required)

One Quarter – 1.25 Credits

Students use American Red Cross materials as they learn to identify ways to prevent injury or illness, recognize when an emergency has occurred, follow emergency action steps, and provide initial care for injury or sudden illness until the victim can receive emergency medical help. Upon successful completion of written and skills tests, students may opt to receive certificates from the American Red Cross in Adult Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR), Infant and Child CPR, and General First Aid.

CHILD CARE AND DEVELOPMENT

Grades 10-12 (Elective)

Two Semesters – 5 Credits

This course concentrates on the physical, emotional, social, moral and intellectual development of a child from birth to 6 years of age. Pregnancy, childbirth, parenting skills for both teen and adult parents, nutrition, and special challenges for children are areas of focus for specific study. Emphasis will be placed on the belief that the relationship between a parent/caretaker and the child is a delicate and spiritual one. Key elements in developing this relationship are mindfulness and respect of the child. This full year course will conclude with the examination of career opportunities that involve working with children. Students will explore how children learn. They will develop their personal approach to working with the young child. Class sessions will include lectures, videos, group discussions, and role-playing. Occasional guest speakers will add to the variety of the curriculum. A half- day of field study is an added highlight during this course. In addition to the traditional course work in the text, the students will be asked to read one biographical case study of book length.

SCIENCE

Three years of science studies, all with a lab component, are required for graduation. Courses are offered at the Regular, College Prep, Honors and AP levels.

GENERAL SCIENCE

Grade 9 (Required)

Two Semesters – 5 Credits

Regular, College Prep and Honors

This course is designed to provide a solid foundation for later courses in bio-logy, chemistry, and physics by connecting and supplementing material from previous junior high science courses. The topics covered include the scientific method, writing formal lab reports, SI (international) measurement, data analysis, matter, energy, the structure of atoms, chemical/physical changes, forces, motion, work, electricity, magnetism, waves, the earth's structure, rock types, and the universe. The syllabus balances theory with lab activities designed to help students build and practice critical thinking and problem solving skills.

SUMMER HONORS BIOLOGY

Sophomores , Incoming Freshmen

Five weeks (June 30 - August 1) - 5 credits

Fulfills Biology requirement

Honors

Prerequisites: *Department approval*

Course Fee: \$400

This intensive course in Biology meets daily, Monday - Friday, from 8:00 a.m. until 12:30 p.m. (See the Biology course description that follows this entry.) Focused students who are interested in the Health Care Connections Program, who want to advance in the sciences, or who want to make room in their course schedule for other electives can profit from taking Summer Honors Biology. (see Biology course description below)

BIOLOGY

Grade 10, Grade 9 by designation - Required

Two Semesters – 5 Credits

Regular, College Prep and Honors

This course establishes principles by which students can identify and understand interacting life systems and their components. Biology is taught in a Christian environment that appreciates multiculturalism. Contributions made by scientists from various cultural backgrounds are recognized in the curriculum and add an area wherein each student can identify with and take pride in her heritage. Application of the scientific method allows greater understanding in a hands-on approach to science. Interactive CD-ROM and video technology, guided Internet explorations and hands-on laboratory experiences encourage an independent approach to learning and permit the students to go beyond the scope of the textbook and the classroom. The multisensory approach to science gives each student an opportunity to reach her potential. Indoor and outdoor classroom experiences are scheduled as needed to complement the curriculum.

BIOLOGY ADVANCED PLACEMENT

Middle College course

Grades 11, 12 (Elective) Honors

Two Semesters – 5 Credits

Prerequisite: *Min. 85 average in Biology and Chemistry*

This course is designed for students who have successfully completed a year each of high school Biology and Chemistry. It will include topics regularly covered in a college Biology course for majors. It differs from an introductory biology course in the range and detail of the topics covered. Topics include: molecules and cells, energy transfer, heredity and evolution, diversity in the structure and function of living things, and interdependence in nature. Laboratory work will be an important component of the course. Students who enroll will be required to master several chapters of the text in the summer preceding the actual course. Upon completion of all requirements, students will take

the College Board's Advanced Placement Examination Biology.

CHEMISTRY IN THE COMMUNITY

Grades 11, 12 (Elective)

Two Semesters – 5 Credits

Chemistry in the Community was developed by the American Chemical Society. It uses an interdisciplinary approach based on a series of investigations of societal issues which involve chemistry and which students find relevant in their lives. These include the conservation of the earth's resources; air and water pollution; and the food, petroleum, and nuclear industries. This course is for students who want to learn chemistry but do not intend to pursue higher studies in chemistry and/or biology.

CHEMISTRY I

Grades 10-12 (Elective)

Two Semesters – 5 Credits

College Prep and Honors

Prerequisites: *General Science, Biology*

Min. average of 80 in the last Algebra class

This course expands greatly on the introduction to chemical processes provided in General or Physical Science. The goal is to develop an understanding of atomic theory; the importance and use of the Periodic Table; the concepts of moles and molar mass; the properties of solids, liquids, and gases; and the properties of acids, bases, and pH. Math skills are an important tool in the study of chemistry and the students must be able to use simple mathematical and algebraic processes to solve problems successfully.

CHEMISTRY II

Middle College course

Grades 11, 12 (Elective)

Two Semesters – 5 Credits

College Level

Prerequisite: *Minimum average of 85 in Chemistry I*

This course is a continuation of Chemistry I and includes material on solutions, equilibria, thermochemistry, organic, and biochemistry.

Students are given the opportunity to act more independently than in previous courses when carrying out lab investigations. Although the course is designed for students interested in science majors in post-secondary institutions, students looking to round out their background with more science courses will profit from the course.

ANATOMY AND PHYSIOLOGY

Grades 11, 12 (Elective)

*Two Semesters – High School course: 5 Credits
College Prep*

Prerequisites: *Min. average of 80 in Biology*

Co-requisite: *Chemistry I*

This course deals with two very distinct yet interrelated sciences: anatomy and physiology. The course of study introduces structure and function of the human body. It emphasizes the dependency of human organism and what is needed to sustain life. It looks deeply into the cell and follows it through each level of organization and considers the challenges that each level encompasses over time. Laboratory experiences include microscopic anatomy as well as gross anatomy and dissections.

ANATOMY AND PHYSIOLOGY- UMDNJ

Course

Grades 11, 12 (Elective)

Two Semesters – UMDNJ course: 6 Credits

Prerequisite: *Biology (GPA-85 or above & Dept. Approval)*

Co-requisite: *Chemistry I*

Textbook must be purchased

This course follows the curriculum required by the University of Medicine & Dentistry of New Jersey. It is open to students enrolled in the Health Care Connections Program. Students are expected to complete a preparatory worksheet over the summer and return for two classes in August. Students must complete 24 Chapters in their college textbooks. It is necessary to meet for additional class sessions to fulfill this requirement. Saturday classes begin in October

and are mandatory. College credit is awarded upon graduation.

PHYSICS

Grades 11, 12 (Elective)

Two Semesters – 5 Credits

Honors

Prerequisite: *Minimum average of 85 in Algebra II, or taking Pre-calculus or Trigonometry*

Physics involves universal laws and the study of the behavior and relationships among a wide range of important physical phenomena. In the first semester, students study mechanics (motion, forces, and conservation laws), waves, sound, and fluids. They work with kinematics, dynamics, energy momentum, rotation, and the mechanical properties of matter. The second semester addresses heat and heat transfer, electricity and magnetism, light, atomic structure, and radioactivity.

Throughout the course, the laws of physics are investigated with emphasis applied to practical problem solving. Rigorous and continuous practice is used to enable the student to interpret physical phenomena, translate these into applicable physical relationships, and apply mathematical tools for their solution. Lab work projects span several lab periods, with emphasis on both hands-on experimental techniques and applications of physical laws. Computers are employed to reinforce and extend the material presented. Physics has many practical applications in the realms of technology and applied sciences such as engineering, chemistry, medicine, and many other fields

ANIMAL BEHAVIOR

Grades 11, 12 (Elective)

One Semester – 2.5 Credits

This course provides and develops a general overview of animal behavior. Topics such as foraging and storing food, hierarchy, migration, mating rituals, social behavior, and predation are covered. The emphasis is on how animals interact with each other and their environment. Through hands-on activities students study a variety of invertebrates and vertebrates.

GENETICS

Grades 11, 12 (Elective)

One Semester – 2.5 Credits

Prerequisite: *Minimum grade of 85 in Biology*

Genetics introduces the basic concepts of genes, how they are studied, Transmitted, and how they work. This course will use Mendelian genetics to unwrap the basis for the Laws of Segregation and Independent Assortment in the inheritance of human genetics and probability. It will also study population genetics and the applications of genetics in medicine and forensics. Christian values and moral decision making will underline the bases of legal and ethical issues in genetics today.

ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE

Grades 11, 12 (Elective)

One Semester – 2.5 Credits

This second semester course allows students to develop an understanding of their natural environment and how man's activities have created problems for the planet. Problems such as pollution, the greenhouse effect, and the depletion of the ozone layer will be discussed and investigated.

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Grades 11, 12 (Elective)

One Semester – 2.5 Credits

This first semester course investigates the integration of scientific technology in a variety of industries. It is based on an interdisciplinary modular system with each module requiring approximately six weeks of instruction. The modules to be covered are *Discovering New Medicinal Drugs*, *Medical Laboratory Technology*, and *Forensic Science*. The course experience is lab-driven, with students working in lab groups with a degree of autonomy, meeting performance deadlines. The activities, developed by the American Chemical Society, focus on the role of scientific technicians in industry.

INDEPENDENT SCIENCE RESEARCH

Middle College course

Grades 11, 12 (Elective)

“One plus” Semesters – 3.5 Credits

College level

Prerequisite: *approval of Science faculty*

Students will select and research background information and carry out a research project on a topic in science selected by the student with assistance from a member of the faculty. Meetings to select a topic and to research the project will be held one day after school each week for one hour throughout the first semester. The research project will be carried out in scheduled class time in the second semester. A final report is due upon completion of the project by the end of the year.

HEALTH CARE CONNECTIONS

A Medical Academic Internship Program

This is a specialized program for students who are interested in a health care profession. Its purpose is to provide school to college/career preparation for multiple health careers through a core curriculum emphasizing science and the spiritual and human organizational side of health care. Students can explore the healthcare delivery system, learn foundational skills, and practice them in a clinical setting.

Incoming freshmen interested HCCP are strongly advised to consider taking the Summer Honors Program.

Acceptance in the HCCP requires a GPA of 85 or above, strong writing skills, a high level of academic motivation and teacher recommendations. In determining the acceptance into the college-level courses a student must earn an 85 or above in Biology. Students who earn a minimum average of 80 in Biology will be considered for high school level courses and may apply for acceptance into the program for their senior year.

All students who intend to earn college credits through the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey must, within the two years of the program, enroll in *Dynamics of Health Care in Society with a Hospital Internship*. Students

must take an *Anatomy and Physiology* course, either at the high school level or for college credits

Students interested in HCCP are encouraged to take:

Medical Terminology – 10th Grade

Dynamics of Health Care -11th/12th Grades

Anatomy & Physiology – 11th/12th Grades

Health Care Theory & Practice – 12th Grade

Physics, Advanced Chemistry, Advanced Biology

Students who do not qualify for college level courses but are still interested in a career in health sciences may enroll in:

HS level Anatomy & Physiology – 11th/12th Grades

Introduction to Health & Medical Terminology – 11th/12th Grades

All college credits earned from UMDNJ will not be awarded until after graduation. You must hold a valid high school diploma be the university will officially award your grades.

INTRODUCTION TO HEALTH CARE & MEDICAL TERMINOLOGY

Grades 11, 12 (Elective)

Two Semesters – 5 Credits

Prerequisite: *Minimum average of 80 in Biology*

This is a high school level course will briefly discuss the basic concepts in the Dynamics of Health Care and introduce words and definitions used in the medical sciences. Students enrolled in this class will be considered for admissions to the HCCP and Health Care Theory and Practice. A grade of 85 or above and proof of 80 hours of documented independent health care experiences must be earned and presented before acceptance into the program.

DYNAMICS OF HEALTH CARE IN SOCIETY

UMDNJ Course

Grades 11, 12 (Elective)

Two Semesters – Course: 4 Credits

Internship1: 2.5 Credits

College: 3 Credits

College Level

Prerequisite: *teacher approval through interview*

Students taking this college level course will explore a wide range of occupations and educational requirements directed to various careers in health care. The course provides an orientation to health care and its delivery system, with a focus on skills such as critical thinking, ethical reasoning, effective communication, and self-directed learning abilities. Emphasis is placed on general issues common to all health care providers in order to develop professional competencies directed to the role of the health care practitioner who is both the provider and consumer of health care services.

Dynamics I Internship at St. Joseph's Medical Center in Paterson is a vital component of this course. Accountability, reflective writing, communications, and hospital skills make a significant portion of the grade.

HEALTH CARE THEORY AND PRACTICE

Grade 12 (Elective)

Two Semesters – Course: 4 Credits

Internship II: 1 Credit

Prerequisite: *teacher approval through interview*

This course follows the NJ State Curriculum for Certified Patient Care Assistants in collaboration with its hospital affiliation. This class is structured to address the needs of the whole patient within the hospital setting and provides the opportunity to gain knowledge, skills to practice the fundamentals health care. Students will learn key terms and work through case studies while learning practical applications of communication, teamwork, and resource management of time and supplies.

Health Care and Practice, Internship II at St. Joseph's Medical Center in Paterson is a vital component of this course. In addition to the requirements of the Dynamics I Internship, content research of individual case studies make-up a significant portion of the course grade.

MEDICAL TERMINOLOGY

UMDNJ Course

Grades 10-12 (Elective)

Two Semesters – Course: 5 Credits

College: 3 Credits

College Level

Prerequisite: *Teacher Recommendation*

This course serves to provide the students with a comprehensive knowledge of the construction, definition and use of terms related to all areas of medical science. These include, but are not limited to words related to human anatomy and physiology, structures and functions of body systems, pathology, and diagnostic and treatment procedures. Students will also become familiar with the abbreviations and the meanings that are used in health care. This course compliments the Anatomy and Physiology class and the hospital internship. All students will take a college exam on completion of this course, however students already enrolled in the HCCP must enroll at the end of this course and take Dynamics of Health Care in Society to earn college credits.

SOCIAL SCIENCES

WORLD HISTORY

Grade 9 (Required)

Two Semesters – 5 Credits

College Prep

The main purpose of this course is to help students understand World History from the Middle Ages to the Twentieth Century. This course focuses on the interactions of people, nations, and cultures of the world. Employing a global perspective, students will learn the salient features of politics and leadership, religious thought, invention and discovery, art and creative thought, as well as economic developments and principles. The pupil will engage in more than passive absorption of facts, dates, names, and places. Real historical understanding demands the student to engage in historical thinking, to raise probing questions, and marshal evidence in support of their answers; to go beyond facts presented in their textbooks and examine the historical record; to consult source documents and other evidence of the past, taking into account the historical context in which these records were created and analyzing opposing view points regarding the material.

US HISTORY I

Grades 10 (Required)

Two semesters – 5 Credits

College Prep and Honors

Honors Prerequisite: *minimum average of 90 in World History course*

Students in this course will focus on the meeting of the Native American, West African, and European cultures in the early years of America. They will study the Enlightenment and the Revolutionary Era as lived during the colonists' struggle for independence. The course will bring the students to the period of Reconstruction after the Civil War. Students will examine the Constitution in its origins, expansion, reform, and eventual conflicts. Critical thinking exercises and theme related group and individual projects deepen the students' understanding of the past,

and how the actions and events of the past have shaped our present time.

US HISTORY II

Grade 11 (Required)

Two Semesters – 5 Credits

College Prep, Honors

In a chronological and thematic approach, this course covers the period of American history from the post-Civil War era until the present. The emphasis is placed on historic trends, cause and effect relationships, and relevance to modern American life. Students are exposed to both the "what" and the "why" of history through the text, primary source materials, and current events. Four term projects are required which provide the opportunity to acquire an in-depth knowledge of an historic person or event which interests the individual student, as well as to develop research, reporting, and presentation skills.

ADVANCED PLACEMENT US HISTORY

Grade 11-12 (Elective)

Two Semesters – 5 Credits

Prerequisite: *min. average of 90 in US History 1 Honors*

Advanced Placement

The Advanced Placement program in United States History is designed to provide students with the analytical skills and enduring understandings necessary to deal critically with the problems and materials in United States history. The program prepares students for intermediate and advanced college courses by making demands upon them equivalent to those made by full-year introductory college courses. Students learn to assess historical materials — their relevance to a given interpretive problem, their reliability, and their importance — and to weigh the evidence and interpretations presented in historical scholarship. This course develops the skills necessary to arrive at conclusions on the basis of an informed judgment and to present reasons and evidence clearly and persuasively in an essay format. All enrolled will be required to take the Advanced Placement Exam in US History.

POLITICAL SCIENCE

Grades 11, 12 (Elective)

Two Semesters – 5 Credits

College Prep

This course presents to the students the fundamentals of American government: what it is, how it works, how it affects lives, and how one can participate in it actively. Students will study U.S. government on the federal, state, and local levels, explaining how these governments work separately and together, and how they work with other governments of the world. The aim is to equip students with the knowledge and appreciation of government and politics needed to become actively participating citizens of our democracy.

INTRODUCTION TO LAW

Grades 11, 12 (Elective)

Two Semesters – 5 Credits

College Prep

Students will examine and analyze fundamental aspects of law in our society. This approach to law-related education will expose students to the knowledge and skills necessary for survival in an increasingly litigious culture. Civil and criminal distinctions, the adversary system, the criminal justice process, contracts, and housing laws are among the topics for discussion. The instruction will include case studies, mock trials, role playing, small group exercises, opinion polls, and visual analysis activities. Such methodology enables students to employ their individual learning styles to participate effectively in the legal and political system.

INTRODUCTION TO PSYCHOLOGY

Grades 11, 12 (Elective)

Two Semesters – 5 Credits

College Prep

Prerequisite: *Minimum GPA of 85*

This course offers insight into human behavior and provides skills for healthy adjustment by exploring human growth and development, cognitive processes, consciousness, motivation, emotion and perception. The course delves into the four major theories of personality

development and characteristics of a healthy personality. It explores gender differences and the powerful influences of social situations on the behavior of individuals. Frustration, conflict, and stress are studied in order to explore positive strategies for coping and developing a healthy lifestyle. Psychological disorders and maladaptive behaviors are discussed, along with techniques of assessments and the availability of therapy treatments. These will orient the students to their perspectives on abnormal behavior. Finally, socio-cultural influences and relationships are researched.

SOCIOLOGY

Middle College course

Grades 11, 12 (Elective)

Two Semesters – 5 Credits

College level

Prerequisite: *minimum GPA of 80 in Social Sciences*

This course examines the essential concepts, principles, and methods central to the scientific study of sociology. The goal is to meet three Fundamental needs: to teach students to think like sociologists, to develop a sociological imagination which will allow them to view their own lives within a larger social and historical context, and to understand and appreciate the rich diversity that is possible in social life by exposing them to a wide variety of data or cross-cultural and historical sources.

THEOLOGY

JESUS CHRIST: IDENTITY & MISSION

Grade 9 (Required)

Two Semesters – 5 Credits

Who is Jesus? What does that mean for me? This first-year course addresses those fundamental questions and introduces the students to the mystery of Jesus Christ, the Second Person of the Blessed Trinity, as they study the doctrines of the Catholic Church. In learning about God's redemptive love -- from Creation to the Paschal Mystery and the continuing action of the Holy Spirit in the Church -- students will also learn who God calls them to be. The students are also helped to understand the Ten Commandments as gifts from God so that human beings may live a moral life. Each commandment is studied in the light of God's plan for human fulfillment and the building of his kingdom, as exemplified in the lives of Salesian saints.

REVELATION OF JESUS CHRIST IN SCRIPTURE

Grade 10 (Required)

Two Semesters – 5 Credits

What do I know and understand about the Bible, its stories and its teachings? Can the Bible really help me to know God, myself, and others better? Through their study of the Hebrew and Christian Scriptures, the students will gain a greater understanding of the faith heritage and of Jesus as the fulfillment of God's promise of salvation. By reading and becoming familiar with the major sections of the Bible and the books included in each section, students will develop a deeper knowledge and appreciation of Jesus as the living Word of God. This course will pay particular attention to the Gospels through which the students may come to know and love Jesus Christ more personally.

SACRAMENTS AS PRIVILEGED ENCOUNTERS WITH JESUS CHRIST

Grade 11 (Required)

One Semester – 2.5 Credits

What are the sacraments? The purpose of this course is to help students understand that they can encounter Christ today in a full and real way in and through the sacraments, and especially through the Eucharist. Students will be helped to explore the deeper meaning, scriptural background, symbolism, rituals, and life connections of each Sacrament, so

that they may learn how to encounter Jesus Christ throughout their life journey.

MORALITY & BIO-ETHICS: LIFE IN JESUS CHRIST

Grade 11 (Required)

One Semester – 2.5 Credits

During this semester, the students study the basic principles and foundations of Christian morality so that they can live out God's plan for their lives as disciples of Jesus Christ. The purpose of this course is to assist the students in developing an informed Catholic conscience and to explore the current moral and ethical issues of our society in the light of the Gospel according to the teachings of the Catholic Church.

SOCIAL JUSTICE – LIVING AS A DISCIPLE OF JESUS CHRIST IN SOCIETY

Grade 12 (Required)

One Semester (Fall) – 2.5 Credits

What does it mean to live justly? Where are the injustices in our world today? What can we do about them? Is there any hope for our world? Through this course, the students will study the concepts of justice and peace in the light of Gospel values and the teachings of the Catholic Church. Students will learn the seven principles of Catholic Social Teaching and how they can apply these principles to current local, national, and global social issues. It leads students to critical thinking and practical social action as fundamental aspects of mature Christian living.

SENIORS MUST PICK ONE OF THE FOLLOWING COURSES FOR THE SPRING SEMESTER

HISTORY OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH

Grade 12 (Required)

One Semester (Spring) –2.5 Credits

What is the Catholic Church? How did the Church come to be? What makes the Church Catholic? In this course, the students will explore the lives, persons, and events that gave birth to the Church – the living Body of Christ today. The students will gain a fundamental knowledge of the Church’s history from apostolic times to the present, better understanding what sustained and challenged its growth and continues to do so today. Through films, short biographies, and online research, they will reflect on the Church’s origin, nature, meaning, images, and marks; the Church as guide for moral living; and the role of prayer in the Church. Contemporary issues and developments in the Church over her 2,000-year history will also be explored.

RESPONDING TO THE CALL OF JESUS CHRIST

Grade 12 (Required)

One Semester (Spring) –2.5 Credits

Who am I and what is God’s plan for me? In this course, students build upon previous knowledge gained from their Sacraments course and explore the values and lifestyles that result from a mature Christian faith. Students will examine the role and importance of the different vocations in the church and how each person is called to live Christian life in different ways. All vocations - married, single, priestly, and consecrated life - are examined. There is also attention given to the lay ecclesial ministries, which are open to all as a means to live out the common baptismal call.

ECUMENICAL AND INTER-RELIGIOUS ISSUES

Grade 12 (Required)

One Semester (Spring) –2.5 Credits

The purpose of this course is to help the students understand the manner in which the Catholic Church relates to non-Catholic Christians as well as to other religions of the world. Building on the foundational knowledge gained from previous courses, this course is intended to help students recognize the ways in which important spiritual truths can also be found in non-Catholic Christian churches and ecclesial communities as well as non-Christian religions. The course will further help the students recognize how beliefs and practices differ from the Catholic faith.

LEADERSHIP SEMINAR

Grades 11, 12 (Elective)

One Semester (Spring) – 2.5 Credits

Prerequisite: approval by Department Chair

This “hands-on” course will help students to develop and practice the skills necessary to lead others as informed and responsible citizens in society. They will have the opportunity to increase their understanding of and effectiveness in: communication skills, group process, managerial skills, organization, and human relations. They will use these skills in preparing school-wide prayer, worship and retreat experiences as well as service activities/projects.

VISUAL, PERFORMING & PRACTICAL ARTS

Two semesters (5 credits) of study in the **visual or performing arts** are required for graduation. These arts credits can be earned in one or more areas of the student's preference: computer graphics or technology, culinary arts and clothing design, fine arts, graphic arts, music, and even through some electives in the literary arts. MHCA requires that all students meet the NJ State requirement in **practical arts** through three semesters (7.5 credits) of technology studies (*Integrated Software Systems & another elective in technology*).

COMPUTER TECHNOLOGY

INTEGRATED SOFTWARE SYSTEMS

Grade 9 (Required)

Two Semesters – 5 Credits

Students learn to navigate and integrate the programs in the Microsoft Office Suite (Word, Excel and PowerPoint). They gain procedural knowledge of the software operations as they develop an appreciation for what can be accomplished electronically with application software. Instructional emphasis is placed upon accuracy, presentation, reasonable speed, and general understanding of the program used in each of the projects. Skills learned in this course are integrated in other curricular areas in the completion of papers, projects, and presentations.

TELEVISION PRODUCTION 1

Grades 9-12 (Elective)

Two Semesters – 5 Credits

This course provides opportunities for students to develop skills in basic editing as well as video camera operation, post production skills in graphics, audio, and script writing, story boarding; skills in direction and production of video projects. Coverage of school activities, as well as assigned projects are included in connection with the workshop experience.

Hands-on activities are integral to this course. This generally requires students to participate in activities beyond the school day.

TELEVISION PRODUCTION 2 & 3

Grades 10-12 (Elective)

Two Semesters – 5 Credits

Successful completion of the previous TV Production course is a prerequisite

The purpose of this course is to exhibit the ability to apply television skills in the planning, directing, and recording of television programs, demonstrate the ability to write script and dialogue for a television program, and demonstrate the ability to produce a television program. TV 3 students will be assigned a TV 2 student and part of their grade will depend on their ability to mentor the TV 2 student in the daily broadcast and assigned projects. Hands-on activities are integral to this course. This generally requires students to participate in activities beyond the school day.

WEB DESIGN

Grades 10 - 12 (Elective)

Two Semesters – 5 Credits

Web Design is a course based on *Dreamweaver 4, Flash 5, and Fireworks 5* software packages. The development of an attractive, efficient, and meaningful web page, working with graphics, and animations are the three main components of this class. Skills learned are applied to both school-wide projects and activities and various subject areas.

ADOBE PHOTOSHOP AND ILLUSTRATOR

Grades 9-12 (Elective)

One Semester – 2.5 Credits

This is an elective open to students who have an interest in learning how to use the computer as a tool to create art and edit photographs. The class covers two applications: Adobe Illustrator and Photoshop.

In working with Illustrator, the students learn how to use the different menus to create and produce high quality artwork, from logos to graphics that

could be reproduced or used in the television shows produced at the school.

In Photoshop, the students work with exciting color editing and production capabilities. Pieces of art, as well as photographs, are scanned, re-sized, altered, and incorporated into projects. Both programs cover the paint and color palette and the tools necessary to utilize them. Graphic designers, artists, illustrators, and photographers respond to their different areas of study working with both programs.

CULINARY ARTS AND FASHION DESIGN

INTRODUCTION TO CULINARY ARTS

Grades 11, 12 (Elective)

One Semester – 2.5 Credits

This course is offered as an introduction to essential knowledge and skills in the field of culinary arts. The topics covered are presented from a professional standpoint in the food industry, as well as from a family perspective. Students are encouraged to apply all concepts to both approaches. They will explore the different meanings that food has to people, i.e. for survival, as cultural traditions, as religious symbols, or as a sign of hospitality. Specific concentrations will focus on nutrition, safety, creating menus specific to the gathering, and being a smart consumer. The students will have the opportunity to express their creativity through food preparations, as well as creating the ambience in the environment where people share a meal. All students will develop skills in techniques for cold preparation of foods as well as some simple hot food preparations.

CULINARY ARTS

Grade 12 (Elective)

One Semester – 2.5 Credits

Prerequisite: *Min. average of 85 in Intro to Culinary Arts*

This course provides the opportunity for the student to build on the foundation knowledge from the introductory course. Actual food preparation includes more hot kitchen items

using the basic techniques learned in semester one. In addition to American cuisine, the students will travel the globe by recreating cuisine from other countries. They will be encouraged to bring their personal culinary heritage into the kitchen.

The Nutrition Section will focus on specific issues of physiology relating to food intake, i.e. eating disorders, deficiencies, vegetarian eating, and dieting. The design of one's kitchen and eating areas is revisited with an emphasis on interior decorating, understanding the development of efficiency when laying out work stations, and being a smart consumer when choosing large appliances. Exploring special topics, such as "Parties and Picnics" and "Careers in the Food Industry" will complete a full year of learning how to create aesthetically pleasing meals and serve them with grace and courtesy.

INTRODUCTION TO FASHION

Grades 11, 12 (Elective)

One Semester – 2.5 Credits

In this course the student will be introduced to the world of fashion. They will come to understand the elements of fashion, color and design, and determine quality construction. The history of clothing, as well as what factors influence the trends and fads, will be covered. In a hands-on approach, they will explore selecting a wardrobe and learn clothing care. With this base knowledge the student will construct several items using simple garment construction techniques. While considering the basic functions that clothing fulfills, the impact of culture, the media, the importance of self-expression and fashion, the students will be encouraged to form strong values of modesty, elegance, and good taste.

GARMENT MAKING

Grade 12 (Elective)

One Semester – 2.5 Credits

Prerequisite: *minimum average of 85 in Intro to Fashion*

This course will continue the work begun in the *Intro. to Fashion* course. Students will explore the history and meaning of clothing in the

practical and fashion world. They will become familiar with career opportunities in fashion. They will develop their practical skills in working with patterns and determining adjustments. They will learn to work with fabrics of various textures, scales, fibers, and finishes and will acquire more specialized sewing techniques.

FINE ARTS

ART APPRECIATION

Grades 9-12 (Elective)

One Semester – 2.5 Credits

Through observation, practice, description and analysis, and interpretation of art heritage and masterpieces, the students acquire the appropriate terminology and a broad knowledge of art history ranging from prehistory to the present. The students are introduced to the creative process through varied art projects in which they identify their interest in visual arts. They begin developing their own artistic skills and their ability to be critical, creative, and inventive decision makers. New knowledge and skills contribute to their aesthetic awareness of various expressions of art. This enhances their appreciation of the world and of the arts as a form of human expression.

3-D DESIGN

Grades 10-12 (Elective)

One Semester – 2.5 credits

In this course, the students will explore various craft and art forms of expression. They will learn the crafts of papermaking, bookmaking, jewelry arts, printmaking, and hand building with clay as forms of expression and product development. This is a hands on class with a three dimensional approach. Students will develop their conceptual and problem-solving skills while exploring the relationship between art and function. They will use a variety of tools and materials such as bookbinding needles and awls, archival papers and adhesives, clay tools, watercolor inks, acrylic paints, jeweler's tools, and semi-precious beads. Students will acquire the skills necessary to create and actually produce crafts and three-

dimensional arts such as handmade books, jewelry, art objects from clay, papermaking, embossing, and paper casting. A sketchbook will be provided for drawing and recording inspirational ideas and homework assignments.

FASHION ILLUSTRATION

Grades 10-12 (Elective)

One Semesters– 2.5 Credits

In this class we will explore the foundations of fashion design. Before a garment is sewn or a shoe is made, someone picked out the materials and the shapes, patterns and textures and imagined it two dimensionally. You will be designing your own original ideas in ready-to-wear and in accessories and creating professional presentations of your work. Don't think that you already need to know how to draw, just bring your creative ideas and great fashion sense of style!

INTERIOR & EXHIBIT DESIGN

Grades 10-12(Elective)

One Semester (Spring) – 2.5.Credits

Prerequisite: Art Appreciation

Do you love to decorate and pick out fabric patterns? Maybe you are good at envisioning a room or space and how you would arrange the furnishings. In this class we will explore how to manage space with relation to its function. We will combine this with color, atmosphere, lighting, art, design, texture and acoustics. We will be creating floor plans, designing furniture, selecting coordinating fabrics, textures and materials and presenting them in a professional manner. You do not need previous drawing experience, just an enthusiasm for the improving the spaces in which we live.

STUDIO ART I

Grades 10-12 (Elective)

Two Semesters – 5 Credits

Prerequisite: Art Appreciation, teacher approval

This course is the foundation for the developing artist and stresses the basic skills needed to

create art. The student will develop a sense of aesthetics that leads to artistic and personal growth and expression. She will focus on sharpening her perception and learning to “see” with emphasis on space, volume, shape, form, line, texture, color, and balance. She will acquire a better understanding and application of art elements and principles such as composition, harmony, emphasis, proportion, movement, rhythm and unity in art. She will also be introduced to interdisciplinary approaches in expressing and understanding art and the human experience.

A strong emphasis will be placed on drawing, the most fundamental and important part of creating works of art. Principal media used are charcoal, pencil, pastels, acrylic, and watercolor paints. Studio Art I is recommended for those students considering vocational opportunities in art and the development of an art portfolio.

STUDIO ART II

Grades 10-12 (Elective)

Two Semesters – 5 Credits

Prerequisite: *Studio Art I, teacher approval*

This course will deepen the student's appreciation and understanding of art methods and techniques necessary in mastering various mediums such as watercolor, pastel, acrylic paint, and oils. She will enhance her physical and technical skills and learn pertinent techniques that apply to the successful completion of artistic tasks.

The student will be introduced to music and literature relative to the movements and periods of the works of art studied. The development of her sensory acuity (perceptual skills) will enable her to perceive and acknowledge various viewpoints. Through an appropriate atmosphere and maturing artistic expression, the student will develop freedom and originality in her art. Studio Art II is recommended for those students with a passion for art considering undergraduate studies in the visual arts and the development of an art portfolio.

MUSIC

MUSIC APPRECIATION

Grades 9-12 (Elective)

One Semester – 2.5 Credits

Students will have the opportunity to become more cultured members of society through a wide exposure to the musical arts. This course is intended to provide students with insight, comprehension, knowledge and appreciation of music. They will sample the music of prominent composers and musicians from different periods of music history. Their study will expand into recent times and styles through guided independent research. The students will explore music first-hand as they learn a healthy approach and technique for singing, and they will apply this in practice and in a seasonal performance. In the process, students will learn enough of the fundamentals in music theory to be able to sight-sing.

INSTRUMENTAL (Keyboarding) MUSIC

Grades 9-12 (Elective)

One Semester – 2.5 Credits

Student purchase of instrumental and theory books & student-ownership of instrument in most cases

This course is designed to enable students to gain and improve skills, knowledge, and insights in expressing music through an instrument of choice. Students who have never studied an instrument before and those looking to continue their studies are welcome to enroll. Each student will receive individual attention through a weekly rotation of lessons, allowing the manner and content of instruction to be tailored to the individual student. The students will explore elements of music theory in an applied manner, as well as concepts of technique and interpretation. Through selected reading materials, audio recordings, and video footage, the class will also be exposed to various prominent instrumentalists, the different styles of music they play, and their personal playing styles. This study will be further extended

through guided independent research on provided topics.

VOCAL MUSIC

Grades 9-12 (Elective)

One Semester – 2.5 Credits

This course is designed to develop and enhance the vocal skills of students for both solo and choral singing. Elements of vocal technique, style, interpretation, sight singing, and performance will be addressed and explored. During the group portion of each class meeting, students will receive vocal training in the small ensemble setting, exploring concepts such as blending, harmony, and choral sounds. Each student will also receive individual attention through a weekly rotation of lessons, which allows for the manner and content of instruction to be tailored to the student. This course is intended for any student interested in improving her singing, regardless of her level of vocal experience or skill upon entering the course. Students in this course will be required to participate in either The Majestic Sounds or the Chapel Singers, depending on which ensemble they are assigned by the instructor.

WORLD LANGUAGES

Students may study more than one language if they so choose as long as the minimum requirement of two years of study in the *same* world language is met. Further studies are possible up to the third or fourth year in an Advanced Placement course. Placement in the sequence of Spanish courses is based upon performance on the initial Placement Test, and upon subsequent performance levels. (The first year of language study may be deferred to sophomore year, in favor of taking a course in English Composition or in the arts.) Courses are offered at the Regular, College Prep, Honors and AP levels

FRENCH I CP

Grades 9-12 (Elective)

Two Semesters – 5 Credits

This course uses a natural approach and immersion method designed to develop the six aspects of the learning language experience: listening and reading comprehension, vocabulary, phonetics, grammar, and oral and written expression. All the aspects are essential and are developed simultaneously. Phonetics and listening comprehension are foundational at this level and help the students to achieve their first steps in the learning process. Basic vocabulary and grammar provide them with the elements needed to develop oral and written expression according to their level: simple but correct interaction in French. The students are introduced to French culture and “Francophonie” through authentic documents such as movies, projects, readings, etc.

FRENCH II CP

Grades 9-12 (Elective)

Two Semesters – 5 Credits

Prerequisite: *French I CP*

This course reinforces the students’ beginning steps in French and allows them to reach the pre-intermediate level, communicating in French in familiar and more complex situations). This

course follows their learning experiences through the familiar immersion. While all six aspects of the learning language experience are essential and are developed simultaneously, vocabulary acquisition, grammar application, and oral expression are the main elements of this course. Phonetics are corrected when needed.

FRENCH III HONORS

Grades 10-12 (Elective)

Two Semesters – 5 Credits

Prerequisite: *minimum average of 85 in French II CP*

This course reinforces students’ previous French studies and allows them to reach the intermediate level, using more complex vocabulary and being able to follow the general meaning of a more involved conversation. The familiar immersion method is used, developing the same six aspects of their learning language experience simultaneously. More complex grammar structures and vocabulary acquisition are the main aspects of this course and allow the students to acquire oral and written expression at their level with a certain amount of confidence and fluency. Students are also exposed to French culture, history, and famous figures.

ADVANCED PLACEMENT FRENCH

Grades 11, 12 (Elective)

Two Semesters – 5 Credits

Honors Level

Prerequisite: *minimum average of 85 in French III Honors*

This course is designed to give students a further command of French language patterns through a general review, including very complex grammar structures and diversified vocabulary. Correct comprehension and fluency close to native speed are the main aspects which allow the students to arrive at the post-intermediate level.

Strong written practice and a cultural approach are provided through the study of French literature. This advanced course completes the students’ high school language education. It prepares them to take the required College

Board AP examination and to continue their French studies at the college level.

SPANISH I

Grades 9-12 (Elective)

Two Semesters – 5 Credits

This course is for students with little or no exposure to the Spanish language. The class is based on and provides practice in all six aspects of the language learning experience: listening and reading comprehension, vocabulary, phonetics, grammar, and oral and written expression. It introduces the students to simple conversation and comprehension by intensive drills on pronunciation, listening exercises and gradual immersion. It also emphasizes cultural awareness through the use of visual aids, literature, and other media devices on a regular basis. More exposure to various expressions of the Spanish culture is given through projects.

SPANISH I CP

(For students with moderate exposure to Spanish)

Grades 9-12 (Elective)

Two Semesters – 5 Credits

This course is for students who are somewhat familiar with the sight words and oral expression of the Spanish language. (These may be students who commonly overhear Spanish in their home or neighborhood or who studied it for some time already in grammar school.) The class is based on and provides practice in all six aspects of the language learning experience: listening and reading comprehension, vocabulary, phonetics, grammar, and oral and written expression. It introduces the students to simple conversation and comprehension by intensive drills on pronunciation, listening exercises and gradual immersion. It also emphasizes cultural awareness through the use of visual aids, literature, and other media devices on a regular basis. More exposure to various expressions of the Spanish culture is given through projects.

SPANISH I HONORS

(For fluent Spanish speakers, with writing skills)

Grades 9-12 (Elective)

Two Semesters – 5 Credits

This audio-lingual course is designed to develop proper conversational and writing skills in students who live immersed in Spanish at home, enhancing their respect for and love of the Spanish language. Conversation and writing are improved by intensive drills in pronunciation, reading, and especially writing. Students are also familiarized with their Spanish cultural heritage through readings, projects, and class activities.

SPANISH II, SPANISH II CP

Grades 9-12 (Elective)

Two Semesters – 5 Credits

Prerequisite: Spanish I or I CP

Spanish II is a continuation of Spanish I. Placement is determined by the department chairperson in conjunction with the instructor of the prior year. The course gives greater emphasis to listening, reading comprehension, and creative composition. It provides intensive conversational drills and an ever increasing knowledge of grammar and vocabulary. More exposure is given to culture through frequent projects and cultural activities.

SPANISH II HONORS

(For fluent Spanish speakers, with writing skills)

Grades 9-12 (Elective)

Two Semesters – 5 Credits

Prerequisite: Spanish I CP/Honors

Spanish II is a reinforcement and continuation of Advanced Spanish I. It gives greater emphasis to reading comprehension, writing, and oral expression. An introduction to Spanish-American literature and geography and more exposure to the culture are given through frequent projects and cultural activities.

SPANISH III CP

Grades 10-12 (Elective)

Two Semesters – 5 Credits

Prerequisite: *minimum average of 80 in Beginning or Spanish II CP*

This course is designed for students who want to advance their study of the Spanish language. This course reinforces their previous Spanish courses and allows them to acquire the intermediate level speaking and reading skills. More complex grammar structures and vocabulary acquisition are the main focus of this course and help the students to acquire oral and written expression at their level with a certain amount of confidence and fluency.

SPANISH III HONORS

Grades 10-12 (Elective)

Two Semesters – 5 Credits

Prerequisite: *minimum average of 80 in Spanish II Honors*

This course continues Spanish education for the native speakers and advanced proficiency students whose focus has been directed more to the study of Spanish literature and culture are utilized as a vehicle for developing their language skills. It is a pre-AP Spanish course.

ADVANCED PLACEMENT SPANISH

Grades 11, 12 (Elective)

Two Semesters – 5 Credits

Prerequisite: *minimum average of 85 in Spanish III Honors or in Spanish II Honors with department approval*

This course places emphasis on reading comprehension and written and oral expression with a review and use of complex grammar structures and diversified Spanish vocabulary. Students focus on varied topics of modern life, developing their critical thinking while expressing themselves in the Spanish language. The students are introduced to Spanish writers and poets. A cultural background provides the students with a better understanding of both the historic and the literary currents of the epochs.

The students are prepared to take the required College Board AP Examination in Spanish Language and to continue their Spanish studies at the college level.

