

Brother Rice High School



Course Descriptions

SPRING 2023

ESSENTIAL ELEMENTS OF AN EDMUND RICE CHRISTIAN BROTHER EDUCATION

JULY, 2006

PREAMBLE

Blessed Edmund was given the grace to respond to the call of Jesus by identifying with Christ in the poor. His example evoked a deep awareness of God's loving presence in all with whom he came in contact. He awakened within them a consciousness of their dignity as children of God. He invited his followers to share his gospel insight, and empowered them to reach out to the needy, especially the materially poor.

The life of Blessed Edmund Rice – businessman, husband, father, widower, religious brother, teacher, and founder - challenges all involved in Christian Brother education to live and teach gospel values in today's world. His charism inspires the Essential Elements of a Christian Brother Education:

“Edmund Rice was moved by the Holy Spirit to open his whole heart to Christ present and appealing to him in the poor *(1984 General Chapter)*.”

ELEMENTS

In ministry begun by Jesus Christ and inspired by the vision of Blessed Edmund Rice, a Christian Brother education . . .

Evangelize Youth within the Mission of the Church.

- proclaim the Good News of Jesus Christ in word and deed
- permeate the entire curriculum, activities, and all aspects of the educational process with the Gospel message of Jesus Christ
- encourage young people to a deeper relationship with Jesus Christ
- provide opportunities for liturgies, retreats, vocation awareness workshops and daily prayer

Proclaim and Witness to Catholic Identity.

- give priority to religious instruction with opportunities for faith development and theological understanding
- participate in the sacramental life of the Church and model a living faith through the use of rituals and symbols
- foster devotion to Mary and the communion of saints
- ensure that Catholic identity permeates all endeavors: all classes and activities, procedures and policies, services and programs

Stand in Solidarity with those Marginalized by Poverty and Injustice.

- promote policies and structures that reflect a climate of compassion for the poor and disadvantaged
- include education and advocacy for peace, justice, global awareness, and care for the Earth
- prepare students to work toward the creation of a just society
- encourage ministry experiences that work with and serve the poor and marginalized
- support mission areas at home and abroad
- establish tuition and scholarship policies that open educational opportunities to the poor and disadvantaged

Foster and Invigorate a Community of Faith.

- provide a disciplined, safe atmosphere in which students are free to grow and take responsibility for their own learning and for the life of the community
- sustain compassionate, respectful relationships among all stakeholders
- be in union with the Church through commitment to service and formation of community
- encourage faculty and staff to give daily witness to their integral role in communal faith formation
- embrace the human condition and welcome God's healing

Celebrates the Value and Dignity of each Person and Nurture the Development of the Whole Person.

- promote respect for each individual as created in the image and likeness of God
- value the diversity of the human family and seek to reflect diversity among the students, faculty and staff
- promote strong programs for personal, professional, and pastoral care
- offer co-curricular activities and programs that are important to a student's holistic education
- strive to provide just remuneration for faculty and staff

Collaborate and Share Responsibility for the Mission.

- empower all members of the community to share in the mission
- work with parents who are the primary educators
- collaborate with Edmund Rice Christian Brother ministries on local, regional, and international levels
- foster a deeper understanding of the vision of Blessed Edmund
- promote active participation in governance by boards and diocesan officials

Pursue Excellence in all Endeavors.

- promote a strong academic curriculum and cultivate a desire for excellence
- develop an educational culture that fosters the growth of the whole person, higher-order thinking, and life-long learning

MISSION STATEMENT

We, the family of Brother Rice High School, are a diverse, Catholic Christian community, committed to preparing young men for college and for the process of life-long learning. We educate young men to “Act Manfully in Christ Jesus” and to deal wisely with their world in the tradition of the Christian Brothers and the charism of Blessed Edmund Rice.

ACADEMIC POLICY AND PROGRAMS

Brother Rice High School presents its profile of those competencies and traits each student will ideally possess at the time of his graduation. These are goals for which Brother Rice High School strives, while acknowledging that all students may not fully achieve all the levels of growth described herein during their four years of high school.

RELIGIOUS PROFILE OF THE BROTHER RICE STUDENT

Upon graduation a Brother Rice Student will...

1. have the skills to effect positive change spiritually, morally, socially, and culturally in his environment.
2. continue to live a faith-centered life through habits of prayer, worship, evangelization, and service.
3. recognize the dignity of each person, respecting cultural and religious pluralism in society.
4. “Act Manfully in Christ Jesus.”

COGNITIVE PROFILE OF THE BROTHER RICE STUDENT

Upon graduation a Brother Rice student will...

1. be a logical and critical thinker.
2. be able to communicate effectively.
3. be technologically literate.
4. have an understanding of the Catholic faith.
5. be academically prepared for postsecondary education.
6. recognize that he is a lifelong learner.
7. be prepared to live a productive life in a changing world.

AFFECTIVE PROFILE OF THE BROTHER RICE STUDENT

Upon graduation a Brother Rice student will...

1. have an awareness of the tools available to him to continue to grow personally and emotionally.
2. recognize the value of knowing his strengths and weaknesses in order to enhance his self-esteem and personal individuality.

PHYSICAL PROFILE OF THE BROTHER RICE STUDENT

Upon graduation a Brother Rice student will...

1. be able to understand the basic skills and physical fitness necessary to participate in a variety of conditioning exercises, leisure activities, and cardio workouts.
2. be able to demonstrate basic water survival and swimming techniques according to the American Red Cross.

CURRICULUM

The course of study at Brother Rice High School is predominantly college preparatory. Students pursuing most of the curriculum programs and achieving passing grades will meet at least minimum requirements for college admission.

However, within this basically college preparatory framework, efforts are made to direct a student into a program consistent with his capacity and potential. Every student will be exposed to ample opportunities to discover and develop his true educational potential. *It is the responsibility of each student to make sure that he has the required courses and credits, both for graduation and for admission to the college of his choice.*

STATE UNIVERSITY REQUIREMENTS

The Illinois State Board of Higher Education has set the following requirements for admission to the state universities. Brother Rice's graduation requirements meet or exceed these state university requirements.

4 units of English

3 units of Mathematics (Algebra, Geometry, Advanced Algebra)

3 units of Lab Science

3 units of Social Studies

2 units of the same foreign language, music, art, or computers

DIVISION CHAIRPERSONS:

English/ Language	- Mr. J. Rolence, ext. 355
Math/Fine Arts-APEX	- Mr. D. Bergstedt, ext. 356
Social Science/Theology	- Mr. M. Dolan, ext. 362
Technology	- Ms. S. Jones, ext. 108
Focus Program	- Mrs. Amy Guzek, ext. 245
Guidance	- Mr. P. Creed, ext. 118
Engineering/Business/ Computer Science/Science/ Physical Education	- Mr. D. Van Dyke, ext. 373

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

Worksheet

Theology

4.0 credits required

Theology 1 _____

Theology 2 _____

Theology 3 _____

Theology 4 or PM or WC _____

English

4.0 credits required

English 1 _____

English 2 _____

English 3 _____

English 4 _____

Mathematics

3.0 credits required

Algebra 1 _____

Geometry _____

Algebra 2 _____

Social Studies

3.0 credits required

World History _____

U.S. History _____

Social Studies Elective _____

ScienceIntegrated Science* _____

4.0 credits required

Biology _____

Chemistry _____

Science Elective _____

World Language*

2.0 credits required

Spn 1, or Ger 1 _____

Spn 2, or Ger 2 _____

Physical Education

1.5 credit required

Phys Ed 1 (0.5) _____

Phys Ed 2 (1.0) _____

Electives

3.0 credits required

Microsoft Office (0.5) _____

* or higher level

Total 25.0 Credits

Students and parents are responsible for keeping abreast of the fulfillment of graduation requirements from year to year so that there will be no deficiencies at graduation time. The FOCUS Program has modified graduation requirements.

THEOLOGY

THEOLOGY I

INTRODUCTION TO THE CATHOLIC CHURCH

Credit: 1 Level: Prep

Grades Offered: 09

Prerequisites: None

This course will introduce the student to an outline of the Catholic Christian faith, from examining God's call in history and to the individual, to what it means to respond in faith to God's call. How God's call can be seen in salvation history from Adam and Eve and Abraham to Jesus' birth, especially in view of the Old Testament. The birth of the Church and the development of the scriptures will be noted and the development of the living tradition of God's word through history. The development of the sacramental structure that the Lord calls us to administer, how we incorporate that structure into our lives, and the liturgical year will be noted, as well.

THEOLOGY II

SACRAMENTS (SEMESTER I)

Credit: .5 Level: Prep

Grades Offered: 10

Prerequisites: None

This course is an analysis of Christian worship and the way God communicates his grace through the sacraments and the Church. An awareness of the connection between our lived experiences and the sacraments will be developed. Students will see the development of the sacraments throughout the history of the Church.

THE NEW TESTAMENT (Life of Christ) (SEMESTER II)

Credit: .5 Level: Prep

Grades Offered: 10

Prerequisites: None

The aim of this course is to acquaint the student with the "message of Salvation" which Jesus delivered through His public ministry and how we can apply this message to our lives. An analysis of the culture as a necessary background to understanding scriptures will be reviewed as well as the symbolism so prevalent in the Gospel writings.

THEOLOGY III

MORALITY (SEMESTER I)

Credit: .5 Level: Prep

Grades Offered: 11

Prerequisites: None

This is the continuation of the Theology I course, though on a deeper level. Students will analyze conscience as depicted in a series of films, and research the forces which shape the development of their character and morals. Emphasis is given to the role of morals and values, principles and faith in guiding and keeping them on the straight and narrow path.

ADVOCACY CLASS (SEMESTER II)

Credit: .5 Level: Prep

Grades Offered: 11

Prerequisites: None

A study of the causes of and remedies for social evils. Special emphasis is placed on the structures that cause marginalization and dehumanization of people. Issues of the role of government and societal institutions as they deal with poverty, prejudice and discrimination, war, the environment, will be reviewed in light of teaching and charism of Blessed Edmund Rice. The whole year culminates in student-organized, and run, advocacy projects. Completion of this project satisfies the Junior-Year Christian Service requirement.

THEOLOGY IV

CHRISTIAN MARRIAGE (SEMESTER I)

Credit: .5 Level: Prep

Grades Offered: 12

Prerequisites: None

Marriage will be looked at as a calling from God, and students will develop criteria for determining their callings in life. The reasons people get married, both conscious and subconscious, will be analyzed. The difference between love and infatuation will be explored, as students search for their ability to find true love, as opposed to a fantasy. Habits of communication will be explored, as well as the masculine/feminine nature, sexuality, and birth control.

WORLD RELIGIONS AND CULTURES (SEMESTER I)

Credit: .5 Level: Prep

Grades Offered: 12

Prerequisites: None

Students will study the faith and traditions of various people around the world, from primitive religions through the world's major religions of Islam, Judaism, Christianity, Hinduism, Taoism, and Buddhism. The morals, myths, rituals, symbols, and forms of worship will be analyzed as well as the impact of religions on the students' cultural milieu. The religious roots of various conflicts around the world will be analyzed as well.

FAITH (SEMESTER II)

Credit: .5 Level: Prep

Grades Offered: 12

Prerequisites: None

This course attempts to examine the phenomenon of faith as a universal human need, tying together the concepts introduced in freshman year. It attempts to study Jesus as an answer to that need, concluding the process begun in sophomore year. Finally, it seeks to probe the function of the Catholic Church as a community of believers centered on the person of Jesus.

PEER MINISTRY

Credit: 1 Level: Prep

Grades Offered: 12

Prerequisites: Approval by the Department

Brother Rice Campus Ministry, in response to the need for outreach programs and the pastoral care of its students, collaborates with the Theology Department to develop programs and activities sensitive to a student's personal and pastoral needs. Programs such as retreats, liturgies and paraliturgies, peer guidance and support, and Christian service opportunities rely on trained student ministers who participate in our shared mission to a) proclaim the Gospel message, b) promote strong Christian community, and c) develop and implement outreach programs that serve the Brother Rice community as well as the community at large. Participation in the KAIROS Retreat is a requirement.

****SERVICE HOURS**

All students are required to perform acts of service to various groups or organizations in their community as part of the Theology curriculum. The purpose of service hours is to open the eyes of the students to the needs in the community and to make them aware of how they can bring the presence of Jesus to people in need.

Freshmen and sophomores are required to log ten hours of service during their first semester. Freshmen are directed to help the elderly, and sophomores are directed to help out at their parishes. Juniors and seniors are required to perform ten hours of service for each semester. Their parameters are not specified. All service is to be directed towards individuals in need or nonprofit organizations that are designed to meet the various needs of the community.

ENGLISH I / ENGLISH I-H

Credit: 1.0 **Level:** FOCUS, Prep, Honors

Grades Course Open To: 9

Prerequisite: Entrance Exam (Ability leveling by Department Chairperson)

This course is designed to concentrate on developing writing and language tools and skills. It is intended to give the students an understanding of the terms and construction of standard grammar. Grammar will be taught extensively using a grammar/writing text. Students will write a minimum of four formal essays in English I. The primary emphasis of the literature covered in freshman year is an understanding of the general principles and terms of fiction; secondary emphasis is given to other types of prose, especially drama. The literature in the text will be supplemented with additional novels/plays selected for their literary merit. Students will be introduced to literary terms and literary periods. The students will learn basic research skills, utilizing basic reference books, electronic databases, and internet research. Students will be taught the MLA (Modern Language Association) format for citing references. Vocabulary instruction will consist of working from a vocabulary workbook with additional vocabulary taught in context via literary selections from the text and other readings.

READING

Credit: 1.0 **Level:** FOCUS

Grades Course Open To: 9

Prerequisite: Entrance Exam (Ability leveling by Department Chairperson)

This course is designed to enhance the reading and basic skills necessary for advancement not only in reading but also in all areas of study. The student will be guided toward a better understanding of reading methods and how they pertain to his own achievement and advancement in education. The program will concentrate on the following skills: word recognition, comprehension (literal/inferential), interpretation, critical reading, rate building, listening skill building, and outlining and writing summaries of the works read. The program's emphasis is on remediation. Those students who lack the basic skills in reading and vocabulary are encouraged to be in the program. The purpose of the program is to bring the student to his full potential in those areas so essential to success in high school.

ENGLISH II / ENGLISH II-H

Credit: 1.0 **Level:** FOCUS, Prep, Honors

Grades Course Open To: 10

Prerequisite: English I or I-H (Ability leveling by English I / I-H teachers)

This course is designed to concentrate on an intensive study of writing skills, combined with literature from the text and supplemented with additional novels/plays selected for their literary merit. Study of literary terms and literary periods will be continued and expanded. Grammar will continue to be taught extensively using a grammar/writing text. Students will write a minimum of six formal essays in English II. Students will learn how to conduct research in a library setting and will expand upon their knowledge of internet research. Students will continue to learn the MLA (Modern Language Association) format for citing references. The research will culminate with a formal research paper using MLA Format. Vocabulary instruction will consist of working from a vocabulary workbook with additional vocabulary taught in context via literary selections from the text and other readings.

ENGLISH III / ENGLISH III-H

Credit: 1.0 **Level:** FOCUS, Prep, Honors

Grades Course Open To: 11

Prerequisite: English II or II-H (Ability leveling by English II / II-H teachers)

This course is designed to concentrate on American Literature following an historical approach of selections from the text that will help the student acquire a knowledge of and appreciation for America's cultural and literary heritage. Additional novels/plays will be selected for their literary merit. Study of literary terms and literary periods will be continued and expanded. Grammar will continue to be taught extensively using a grammar/writing text. Students will write a minimum of four formal essays in English III, including a

comprehensive, formal research paper, with an emphasis on implementing correct MLA format in all essays. Vocabulary instruction will consist of working from a vocabulary workbook with additional vocabulary taught in context via literary selections from the text and other readings. The Honors course is offered for college credit from St. Mary's University in Minnesota's PACC Program.

AP ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND COMPOSITION

Credit: 1.0 **Level:** AP

Grades Course Open To: 11

Prerequisite: English II Honors (Ability leveling by English II-H teachers)

This course is constructed to give students various opportunities to experiment with rhetorical devices, discover authors' purposes, read and write critically, and develop their own styles in communication. The course requires expository, analytical, and argumentative writing assignments that are based on reading representing a wide variety of prose styles and genres. Students compose various writing pieces for different audiences and are to delineate the function of language in literary works to ". . . analyze and interpret samples of good writing, identifying and explaining an author's use of rhetorical strategies and techniques" (from The College Board). Students will use two anthologies, a grammar/writing textbook, and a vocabulary workbook, as well as additional books selected for their merit in fulfilling the criteria set forth by The College Board. All students are required to take the AP English Language and Composition Test in May. An additional fee is required for this test.

ENGLISH IV / ENGLISH IV-H, JOURNALISM

Credit: 1.0 **Level:** Prep, Honors

Grades Course Open To: 12

Prerequisite: English III (Ability leveling by English III teachers and application process)

This senior level English course is intended to stimulate an understanding of varying types of writing as well as basic graphic design theory and practice. The class will offer intensive experience in writing for newspapers, websites, yearbooks, and other publications. Students will be able to produce a range of work that exhibits both their individual creativity and knowledge of writing and design fundamentals. This course will develop understanding of the following skills: elements of a news story and the inverted pyramid; interviewing skills culminating in writing articles based on interviews; in-depth reporting of a sports story, an editorial, and a feature story; basic rules of journalistic grammar, usage, mechanics, and spelling per the Associated Press Stylebook; and layout emphasizing computer-assisted design. Vocabulary work will consist of words taught in context via journalistic websites, presentations, and handouts. This class stresses personal responsibility through the continual revision and improvement of content, while furthering students' experiences in executing group and individual projects and presentations. This course will also focus on the work of famous American journalists through narrative nonfiction and biographical works, which will be evaluated through essays, individual and group presentations, and video productions.

ENGLISH IV / ENGLISH IV-H, BRITISH LITERATURE

Credit: 1.0 **Level:** Prep, Honors

Grades Course Open To: 12

Prerequisite: English III, English III Honors, or A.P. English Language and Composition (Ability leveling by English III, III-H, or A.P. English Language and Composition teachers)

This course is designed to concentrate on British Literature following an historical approach of selections from the text that will help the student acquire a knowledge of and appreciation for Great Britain's cultural and literary heritage. Additional novels/plays will be selected for their literary merit. Study of literary terms and literary periods will be continued and expanded. Grammar will continue to be taught extensively using grammar/writing text and/or literary works. Students will write a minimum of five formal essays in English IV, with an emphasis on continuing to implement the MLA format in essays. Vocabulary instruction will consist of working from a vocabulary workbook with additional vocabulary taught in context via literary selections from the text and other readings. The Honors course is offered for college credit from St. Mary's University in Minnesota's PACC Program.

ENGLISH IV, MODERN LITERATURE

Credit: 1.0 **Level:** Prep

Grades Course Open To: 12

Prerequisite: English III (Ability leveling by English III teachers.)

This course is designed to concentrate on Modern and Postmodern World Literature from the 1940's to the present. Students will read a wide variety of literary works, including fiction and non-fiction. These works will be selected for their literary merit and will provide the basis for a study of literary periods, literary terms, vocabulary, and detailed, analytical reading. Grammar will be taught in conjunction with essay writing, which will include a wide range of essays: literary analysis, expository, argumentative, persuasive, and personal essays, as well as online writing. There will be a continuing emphasis on implementing the MLA Format in these essays. Vocabulary instruction will consist of working from a vocabulary workbook with additional vocabulary taught in context via literary selections from the text and other readings.

AP ENGLISH LITERATURE AND COMPOSITION

Credit: 1.0 **Level:** AP

Grades Course Open To: 12

Prerequisite: English III Honors or AP English Language and Composition (Ability leveling by English III Honors and AP English Language and Composition teachers.)

This course engages students in the careful reading and critical analysis of imaginative literature. Through the close reading of selected texts, students deepen their understanding of the ways writers use language to provide both meaning and pleasure for their readers. As they read, students consider a work's structure, style and themes, as well as such smaller-scale elements as the use of figurative language, imagery, symbolism and tone. The course includes intensive study of representative works from various genres and periods, concentrating on works of recognized literary merit. Reading in the course is both wide and deep. This reading necessarily builds upon and complements the reading done in previous English courses so that by the time students complete their AP course, they will have read works from several genres and periods—from the 16th to the 21st century. Writing is also an integral part of the course. Writing assignments focus on the critical analysis of literature and include expository, analytical, and argumentative essays. Although critical analysis makes up the bulk of student writing for the course, well-constructed creative writing assignments may help students see from the inside how literature is written. Such experiences sharpen their understanding of what writers have accomplished and deepen their appreciation of literary artistry. The goal of both types of writing assignments is to increase students' ability to explain clearly, cogently, even elegantly, what they understand about literary works and why they interpret them as they do (from The College Board). Students will use an anthology and a vocabulary workbook, as well as additional novels/plays selected for their merit in fulfilling the criteria set forth by The College Board. All students are required to take the AP English Literature and Composition Test in May. An additional fee is required for this test.

BROADCAST JOURNALISM / BROADCAST 2

Credit: 1.0 **Level:** Prep, Honors

Grades Course Open To: 10, 11, 12

Prerequisite: None

This course--an elective for sophomores, juniors, and seniors--provides the opportunity for students to learn basic journalistic and technological skills for use in television production. Students will research, gather, and analyze information to create video productions for broadcast to a variety of audiences. Students will be responsible for the writing, recording, editing, talent, and production of the Brother Rice newscast, which is posted regularly to the school website and Youtube. Members of this class will also be expected to be on hand to record film and interview participants at events that may occur outside of regular classroom hours. This course is ideal preparation for anyone considering a career related to television and/or film production.

MATHEMATICS

ALGEBRA I

Credit: 1 Level: FOCUS

Grade Offered: 9

Prerequisite: Placement by Chair or Administration

This Algebra 1 course begins by revisiting pre-algebra skills and later progressing through algebraic concepts. This class provides the needed review and repetition of taught mathematical concepts at a pace necessary for students to be successful. The course presents the foundational topics associated with a first-year algebra course. The student is exposed to the fundamentals of problem solving with an emphasis placed on basic skills and techniques. Elementary word problems are considered.

ALGEBRA I

Credit: 1 Level: Prep

Grade Offered: 9

Prerequisite: Placement by Chair

This Algebra course presents the fundamental topics associated with a first-year algebra course: real numbers, solving equations, linear concepts including systems, radicals, and exponents. The student is exposed to the fundamentals of problem solving with an emphasis placed on basic skills and techniques especially to the translation of written statements into mathematical terminology. Various types of word problems are considered to help the student apply algebraic concepts in a context.

ALGEBRA I

Credit: 1 Level: Prep

Grade Offered: 9

Prerequisite: Placement by Chair

This course presents a comprehensive treatment of a traditional algebra 1 course. Appropriate use of graphing calculator technology to solve problems is introduced. Problem solving methods and techniques are emphasized with the use of more rigorous application problems. This course introduces probability and statistics, quadratics, and a more thorough treatment of factoring.

ALGEBRA I HONORS

Credit: 1 Level: Honors

Grade Offered: 9

Prerequisite: Placement by Chair

Algebra I Honors is designed to develop the algebraic skills required of honors students. This course provides the student with an extensive treatment of first-year algebra topics with greater emphasis placed on mathematical communication. The student is exposed to higher-order problem solving with an emphasis placed on methods and techniques. This course moves at a quick pace and requires proficiencies with and without the calculator. A focus is placed on solving problems numerically, algebraically, and graphically.

ADVANCED ALGEBRA/TRIGONOMETRY HONORS

Credit: 1 Level: Honors

Grade Offered: 9

Prerequisite: Placement by Chair: grade of B or higher in a full year of Algebra I Honors taught in conjunction with a high school. High school report card/transcript will be evaluated by the Chair. Exceptional results on the Department placement exam may warrant placement in this course at the discretion of the Chair.

This course provides a comprehensive review of Algebra I Honors. This course uses the language and concepts of functions for an in-depth study of linear, quadratic, and polynomial relations, including systems of equations and inequalities. This course also treats rational expressions, radical expressions, and the transcendental functions. Real life applications are used to enhance these concepts. The significance of word problems and of strategic problem solving is emphasized throughout the course. This course is in the track leading to Advanced

Placement mathematics, so the communication standards necessary for those courses are introduced. This course requires proficiencies with and without the calculator. A focus is placed on solving problems numerically, algebraically, and graphically.

GEOMETRY

Credit: 1 Level: FOCUS

Grade Offered: 10

Prerequisite: Algebra (FOCUS)

This course covers the foundational topics of high school geometry and is designed for the student that has demonstrated the need for a less formal treatment of geometry by providing the needed review and repetition of the mathematical concepts at a pace necessary for the students to be successful. This course has a reduced emphasis on proof and algebraic concepts.

GEOMETRY

Credit: 1 Level: Prep

Grade Offered: 10

Prerequisite: Algebra 1 (Prep)

This course includes a thorough investigation of the theorems and properties of Euclidean geometry appropriate for the high school level. The student is introduced to making reasonable conclusions through deductive arguments supported by definitions, theorems, and postulates. This course revisits algebraic computation skills critical to the topics/concepts embedded in the study of Geometry. This course will investigate real world applications of said concepts with respect to art, sciences, engineering, manufacturing, nature, logistics & trades.

GEOMETRY HONORS

Credit: 1 Level: Honors

Grade Offered: 10

Prerequisite: Algebra 1 Honors or department Chair approval

Geometry Honors presents an extensive treatment of the fundamental concepts of Euclidian Geometry with an emphasis on formal proof.. An overview of trigonometry is included. The study of geometry entails a significant thought process that references facts, definitions, theorems and postulates in order to write deductive arguments that justify reasonable conclusions. Explorations and applications are used to enhance the concepts being studied. Material covered in this course will help prepare students for college level calculus courses.

ADVANCED GEOMETRY HONORS

Credit: 1 Level: Honors

Grade Offered: 10

Prerequisite: Advanced Algebra Honors or department chair approval

This course includes topics devoted primarily to plane Euclidean geometry, studied both synthetically (without coordinates) and analytically (with coordinates). Students will begin to formalize their geometry experiences using definitions and developing careful proofs. Students will learn the correspondence between numerical coordinates and geometric points, as well as the attributes and relationships of geometric objects so that they can apply skills from algebra to geometry in a more diverse context. The concepts of congruence, similarity, symmetry, area, surface area, volume, circles along with enrichment topics are taught. Students will investigate the definitions of sine, cosine, and tangent for acute angles of right triangles using the Pythagorean Theorem. Additionally, right and oblique triangle trigonometry will be investigated.

Algebra 2

Credit: 1 Level: FOCUS

Grade Offered: 11

Prerequisite: Geometry (FOCUS)

This course provides an in-depth review of Algebra I concepts and skills before beginning a study of the foundational topics found in an Algebra II course necessary for college mathematics.. This class provides the needed review and repetition of taught mathematical concepts at a pace necessary for students to be successful. Problem-solving skills and logical/sequential thinking are emphasized through the course by utilizing explorations and applications of the concepts currently being studied.

ALGEBRA 2

Credit: 1 Level: Prep

Grade Offered: 11, 12

Prerequisite: Geometry (FOCUS) or Geometry (Prep)

This course provides a comprehensive review of Algebra concepts and skills before beginning a fundamental treatment of Algebra II topic. Although a full treatment of trigonometry occurs in the College Algebra/Trigonometry course, this course does include the trigonometry needed for the ACT exam. Logical thinking and clear, concise written responses to problems are emphasized. This course continues the emphasis on problem solving.

ALGEBRA 2 w/ TRIGONOMETRY

Credit: 1 Level: Prep

Grade Offered: 11, 12

Prerequisite: Geometry (Prep)

This course focuses on reviewing and extending the main topics of Algebra. It contains an emphasis on both an algebraic and graphic approach to learning concepts. This course provides a thorough treatment of Algebra 2 topics along with trigonometry.. The method of presentation is designed to meet the needs of students who desire a strong four year mathematical foundation for future study of mathematics and science or preparation for post-high school entrance requirements.

ALGEBRA 2 w/TRIGONOMETRY HONORS

Credit: 1 Level: Honors

Grade Offered: 11

Prerequisite: Geometry Honors or department Chair approval.

This course presents a more extensive treatment of the Algebra 2 topics and also includes the topics of polynomial functions, matrices, logarithmic functions, sequences, series, and probability. In addition, the course will introduce many concepts necessary for Calculus 1 honors such as the unit circle, trigonometric functions, law of sines, law of cosines, and radian measure. Problem solving with the graphing calculator and proper communication of results is a major emphasis in this course.

STATISTICS

Credit: 1 Level: FOCUS/Prep

Grade Offered: 12

Prerequisite: Algebra 2

This is an introductory course in statistics designed to provide students with the basic concepts of data analysis and statistical computing. Topics covered include basic descriptive measures, measures of association, probability theory, confidence intervals, and hypothesis testing. The main objective is to provide students with pragmatic tools for assessing statistical claims and conducting their own statistical analyses. Statistics is the art of using data to make numerical conjectures about problems. Descriptive statistics is the art of summarizing data. Topics include: histograms, the average, the standard deviation, the normal curve, correlation.

College Algebra w/TRIGONOMETRY

Credit: 1 Level: Prep

Grade Offered: 12

Prerequisite: Algebra 2 with a C or better or department chair approval

This course focuses on reviewing and extending the main topics of Algebra 2. It contains an emphasis on both an algebraic and graphic approach to learning concepts. It includes the following topics: systems of equations, matrices, quadratic functions, polynomials, exponents, logarithms, complex numbers, conic sections, right triangle trigonometry, radian and degree measure, law of sines, and law of cosines. The method of presentation is designed to meet the needs of students who desire a strong four year mathematical foundation for future study of mathematics and science or preparation for post-high school entrance requirements.

PRE-CALCULUS

Credit: 1 Level: Prep

Grade Offered: 12

Prerequisite: Algebra 2 w/Trig with a C or better or department chair approval

This course is a more in-depth look at advanced algebra topics from a function perspective and is a prerequisite for any student taking calculus in college. Course topics include: functions, polynomials, radicals, exponents & logarithms, sequences & series, trigonometry, parametric equations, and probability. Exploratory labs and calculator investigations will be the foundation for both reviewing concepts from Algebra 2 with trigonometry and developing deeper connections between topics. Formal written communication is emphasized throughout the course.

CALCULUS HONORS

Credit: 1 Level: Honors

Grade Offered: 11, 12

Prerequisite: Pre-Calculus Honors or department chair approval

Calculus Honors is primarily concerned with developing the student's understanding of the concepts of calculus: functions, graphs and limits, derivatives, and integrals. The course starts with Precalculus concepts then studies Calculus concepts. The course emphasizes a multi-representational approach to calculus with concepts, results, and problems being expressed geometrically, numerically, and verbally. Technology is used regularly by students and teachers to reinforce different representations of functions, to confirm written work, to assist in interpreting results. Students will get an insight to what a first semester college Calculus class will be like. The Calculus AP exam will not be taken in this class.

AP CALCULUS AB

Credit: 1 Level: AP

Grade Offered: 11, 12

Prerequisite: Pre-Calculus Honors or department chair approval

AP Calculus AB is primarily concerned with developing the student's understanding of the concepts of calculus: functions, graphs and limits, derivatives, and integrals. The course emphasizes a multi-representational approach to calculus with concepts, results, and problems being expressed geometrically, numerically, and verbally. Technology is used regularly by students and teachers to reinforce different representations of functions, to confirm written work, to implement experimentation, and to assist in interpreting results. AP Calculus AB is the equivalent of a semester of college calculus. The AP standards of formal writing and communication are emphasized throughout the course. Students who take this course should plan to take the Calculus AB AP Exam.

AP CALCULUS BC

Credit: 1 Level: AP

Grade Offered: 12

Prerequisite: Pre-Calculus Honors or department chair approval

AP Calculus BC is primarily concerned with developing the student's understanding of the concepts of calculus: functions, graphs and limits, derivatives, integrals, slope fields, and infinite series with its methods and applications. The course emphasizes a multi-representational approach to calculus with concepts, results, and problems being expressed geometrically, numerically, and verbally. Technology is used regularly by students and teachers to reinforce different representations of functions, to confirm written work, to implement experimentation, and to assist in interpreting results. The AP standards of formal writing and communication are emphasized throughout the course. AP Calculus BC is the equivalent of two semesters of college calculus. Students who take this course should plan to take the AP Calculus BC Exam.

AP STATISTICS

Credit: 1 Level: AP

Grade offered: 11/12

Prerequisite:

This course introduces students to the major concepts and tools for collecting, analyzing, and drawing conclusions from data. The four major themes presented in the course are exploring data, planning a study, anticipating patterns, and statistical inference. There is a significant written component to this class. The course follows the College Board's Advanced Placement curriculum. This course is the equivalent of one semester of college statistics. Students completing this course should plan to take the AP Statistics Exam.

AP PRE-CALCULUS

Credit: 1 Level: AP

Grade offered: 11

Prerequisite:

This course is an extensive study of functions, advanced topics in trigonometry including polar relations, vector-valued functions, and parametric relations, and topics in discrete mathematics. Additionally, sequences and series will be studied with an emphasis on using them to represent functions. Students will examine scenarios, conditions and data sets to determine and validate the appropriate function model thereby deepening their understanding of each function type. Calculator graphing technology is incorporated into the class in order to learn mathematics from a multifaceted approach. Students completing this course should plan to take the AP Precalculus Exam.

SCIENCE

INTEGRATED SCIENCE

Credit: 1 Level: FOCUS, Prep

Grades Offered: 09

The Freshmen Science class teaches freshmen the scientific method utilizing various disciplines of the Natural Sciences. Topics include teaching the scientific method, various modes of measurement, and basic chemistry, biology, and physical sciences. Special emphasis is given to preparing students for the full Science curriculum. Students will be prepared for the essentials of a science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) curriculum.

BIOLOGY / BIOLOGY HONORS

Credit: 1 Level: FOCUS, Prep, Honors

Grades Offered: 09 (Honors), 10 (Prep & Honors)

Prerequisites: Ability leveling by placement scores and math level

This course emphasizes the following topics in a lecture-laboratory format: the structure of plant and animal cells and the process of cell division, compounds and elements basic to life, organic compounds, genetics, DNA, evolution, and systems of the body.

CHEMISTRY/ CHEMISTRY HONORS

Credit: 1 Level: FOCUS, Prep, Honors

Grades Offered: 10 (Honors), 11 (Prep & Honors)

Prerequisites: Ability leveling by placement scores and math level

This course provides the student with a broad introduction into the nature of chemistry. It surveys the major fields of physical, analytical, and inorganic chemistry. By classroom study and laboratory exercises, the theories of chemistry are explained and demonstrated.

ANATOMY & PHYSIOLOGY (science elective)

Credit: 1 Level: Prep

Grades Offered: 12

Prerequisites: Ability leveling by placement scores and math level

This course emphasizes the following topics in a lecture-laboratory format: Human physiology, human anatomy, human genetics, human systems, medical applications, chemistry and biochemistry.

EARTH SCIENCE (science elective)

Credit: 1 Level: Prep

Grades Offered: 12

Prerequisites: Ability leveling by placement scores and math level

Earth Science consists of the study of Earth's relationship to the atmosphere, the oceans, and space. The course stresses the importance of energy conservation, water and air pollution, and how humans can best apply technological gains to better the environment.

PHYSICS/ PHYSICS HONORS (science elective)

Credit: 1 Level: Prep, Honors

Grades Offered: 11 (Honors), 12 (Prep & Honors)

Prerequisites: Ability leveling by placement scores and math level

This course covers the following topics in a lecture-laboratory format: mechanics, heat, sound, light, electricity and magnetism, atomic and nuclear structure. A strong emphasis is placed on the use of mathematics in problem solving, along with the graphical analysis of lab data and applications to the physical world.

AP BIOLOGY (science elective)

Credit: 1 Level: AP

Grades Offered: 12 Honors

Prerequisites: Ability leveling by placement scores and math level

This course is designed to prepare college bound students to develop advanced inquiry and reasoning skills, such as designing a plan for collecting data, analyzing data, and connecting concepts across domains. The AP exam is required for this course.

AP CHEMISTRY (science elective)

Credit: 1 Level: AP

Grades Offered: 12 Honors

Prerequisites: Ability leveling by placement scores and math level

This course is designed to prepare college-bound students for university level chemistry. The course covers the field of physical, analytical, and inorganic chemistry. The AP exam is required for this course.

ENGINEERING **(Project Lead The Way)**

INTRODUCTION TO ENGINEERING DESIGN

Credit: 1 Level: Honors

Grades Offered: 10, 11

Prerequisites: Application process and approval of Engineering Division Chair

Students dig deep into the engineering design process, applying math, science, and engineering standards to hands-on projects. They work both individually and in teams to design solutions to a variety of problems using 3-D modeling software, and an engineering notebook to document their work.

PRINCIPLES OF ENGINEERING

Credit: 1 Level: Honors

Grades Offered: 11, 12

Prerequisites: Introduction to Engineering Design

Through problems that engage and challenge, students explore a broad range of engineering topics, including mechanisms, the strength of structures and materials, and automation. Students develop skills in problem-solving, research, and design while learning strategies for design process documentation, collaboration, and presentation.

AEROSPACE ENGINEERING

Credit: 1 Level: Honors

Grades Offered: 12

Prerequisites: Introduction to Engineering Design and Principles of Engineering

This course propels students' learning in the fundamentals of atmospheric and space flight. As they explore the physics of flight, students bring the concepts to life by designing an airfoil, propulsion system, and rockets. They learn basic orbital mechanics using industry-standard software. They also explore robot systems through projects such as remotely operated vehicles.

SOCIAL STUDIES

WORLD HISTORY /WORLD HISTORY HONORS

Grades Offered: 9

Credit: 1 Level: Prep and Honors

Prerequisite: None (Ability leveling by Department Chairperson)

This course is divided into units within a basically chronological framework. Each unit focuses on a broad theme in world history, and the sections within each unit directly contribute to the development of that theme. Beginning from the four centers of ancient civilization, the study of history progresses to contemporary times.

GLOBAL STUDIES WORLD HISTORY

Grades Offered: 9

Credit: 1 Level: Focus

Prerequisite: None (Ability leveling by Department Chairperson)

This course will give the student a solid background in World History, perspective of time, diversity of culture, and the moral and social issues of man. Each unit focuses on a broad theme in World History, and the sections within each unit directly contribute to that theme. The scope of this course begins with the development of Stone Age Man and goes through history to the Post WWII era.

U. S. HISTORY /U.S HISTORY HONORS

Grades Offered: 11

Credit: 1 Level: Focus, Prep, Honors

Prerequisite: Ability leveling by either the student's Social Studies or English II teacher.

U. S. History is a course divided into units within a chronological framework which encompasses colonial times up to present times of the United States. Also included in this course is coverage of the requirements prescribed in the State of Illinois school code, which is necessary for graduation; this includes material treated in the American Declaration of Independence, the Constitution of the United States, and the Constitution of the State of Illinois.

AP U. S. HISTORY

Grades Offered: 9

Credit: 1 Level: AP

Prerequisite: Ability leveling by either the student's A.P. European History or English II teacher, or Department Chair.

In addition to the requirements of the general syllabus in US History and of the Honors Addenda to that syllabus, Advanced Placement students must meet the current requirements for the May examination in U.S. History published by CEEB. Moreover, each Advanced Placement student will be expected to exercise his AP option upon completion of the course. There is a fee to cover the cost of the A.P. exam.

AP EUROPEAN HISTORY

Grades Offered: 10, 12

Credit: 1 Level: AP

Prerequisite: Ability leveling by the student's Honors World History teacher or Department Chair.

In this course European History is seen in a broad perspective, reflecting an awareness of other disciplines and a diversity of techniques of presentation. Intellectual-cultural, political-diplomatic, and social economic history questions form the basis for the course. Students are expected to demonstrate knowledge of basic chronology and of major events and trends from approximately 1450 to the present, that is, from the High Renaissance to the very recent past. In addition to providing a basic narrative of events and movements, the goals of the AP Program in European History are to develop a) an understanding of some of the principal themes in modern European History, b) an ability to analyze historical evidence, and c) an ability to analyze and to express historical understanding in writing. There is a fee to cover the cost of the A.P. exam.

AP UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT & POLITICS

Grades Offered: 11, 12

Credit: 1 Level: AP

Prerequisite: Ability leveling by either the student's A.P. or Honors U.S. History or Department Chair.

Advanced United States Government and Politics is designed with a two-fold purpose in mind: 1) to acquaint the student with the structure and function of the governments of the United States – Federal, State, County and Local – and 2) to analyze man's political behavior for solving the basic human problems of a society. It is an intensive study of the formal and informal structures of American government and political systems. This year-long course is designed to prepare students for the AP exam. There is a fee to cover the cost of the A.P. exam.

U. S. HISTORY III/ U.S. HISTORY III HONORS

Grades Offered: 12

Credit: 0.5 Level: Prep, Honors

Prerequisite: Ability leveling by the student's US History teacher or the Department Chair.

U. S. History III is a course divided into units within a chronological framework which encompasses World War II to present times of the United States. This class will cover how World War II affected the direction of the United States, discussing economic, intellectual, cultural, and diplomatic events including, but are not limited to, the Cold War, "stagflation," "Reaganomics," divided government, and the War on Terror. This course will be paired with another senior elective course to satisfy graduation requirements.

SOCIAL STUDIES ELECTIVES

Government in America:

Grades Offered: 12

Credit: 0.5 Level: Prep, Honors

Prerequisite: Ability leveling by the student's US History teacher or the Department Chair.

Description: This course is designed with a twofold purpose in mind: 1) to acquaint the student with the structure and function of the governments of the United States - Federal, State, County and Local - and 2) to

analyze man's political behavior for solving the basic problems of a society. This course is paired with U.S. History III to satisfy graduation requirements.

Psychology:

Grades Offered: 12

Credit: 0.5 **Level:** Prep, Honors

Prerequisite: Ability leveling by the student's U.S. History teacher or the Department Chair.

Description: This course is an overview of the historical development of the field of psychology, as a multi-disciplinary academic approach, "crossing" and "drawing" from the various areas of natural science and social science. This historical background is traced from the myths of demonology, witchcraft and pseudo-religious views of the earliest times through the more humane approaches to the current trends of the biological. This course is paired with U.S. History III to satisfy graduation requirements.

Vietnam Conflict:

Grades Offered: 12

Credit: 0.5 **Level:** Prep, Honors

Prerequisite: Ability leveling by the student's U.S. History teacher or the Department Chair.

Description: This is a course, which will analyze the political, social and economic factors which contributed to the United States involvement in Vietnam. The thrust of the course will be an "in-country" look at the American GI and how those contributing factors affected him. The chronological approach will concentrate on main issues including the fall of Dien Bien Phu, the assassination of Diem, the first U.S. combat troops, A GI's life in Vietnam, protest movement, the Paris Peace Accord, the fall of Saigon and finally, "the wall." Through the use of videos, guest speakers and lectures the student will begin to develop an understanding of America's longest and most controversial war. This course is paired with U.S. History III to satisfy graduation requirements.

Economics:

Credit: 0.5 **Level:** Prep

Grades Offered: 12

Prerequisites: Ability leveling by the student's U.S. History teacher or the Department Chair

This one-semester course is designed to develop an objective, rational way of thinking about economic problems, which will enable future citizens to attack these problems as they encounter them in everyday life. This is a study in which all students should attain an awareness of the function of prices, wages, credit, taxes, etc.; a sound understanding of the economy; knowledge to vote intelligently on economic issues; and use of this knowledge for their own good and that of society. This course will be paired with U.S. History III to satisfy graduation requirements.

AP MICROECONOMICS:

Grades Offered: 11, 12

Credit: 1 **Level:** AP

Prerequisite: Ability leveling by either the student's U.S. History teacher or the Department Chair

The purpose of an AP Microeconomics course is to give students an advanced understanding of the principles of economics that apply to the functions of individual decision makers, both consumers and producers, within the economic system. It places emphasis on the nature and function of product markets and includes the study of factor markets and the role of government in creating greater efficiency and equity in the economy.

WORLD GEOGRAPHY:

Grades Offered: 10, 11, 12

Credit: 1

Prerequisite: None

This course presents an overview of the formation of earth, its regions, social make-up, and all countries. It studies both physical and human geography, as well as the interactions between humans and various landforms. Students will develop an understanding of the different elements which make up how a person lives in a place different than their own.

FOREIGN LANGUAGES

Two years of the same foreign language are required for graduation. For most students, this requirement is fulfilled by successfully completing the level I and II courses. Level II language courses are open to incoming freshmen if proficiency in the first year skills has been established.

Many colleges and universities strongly recommend three to four years of foreign language study and may waive their language requirement for students who have successfully studied one foreign language for four years.

GERMAN I

Credit: 1 Level: Prep and Honors

Grades Offered: 9, 10, 11

Prerequisite: None. Designed for students with no or minimal prior knowledge of German. Leveling by entrance exam.

The first-year course introduces the student to the fundamentals of the German language and to the culture of German-speaking countries. The four language skills – reading, writing, listening, and speaking – are equally emphasized. Students are guided to proficiency through a variety of activities designed to increase comprehension of authentic language, to increase awareness of sentence structure, to provide guided practice, and to provide opportunities for self-expression. Emphasis is put on communication of simple ideas, statements, needs, and questions.

GERMAN II

Credit: 1 Level: Prep and Honors

Grades Offered: 9, 10, 11, 12

Prerequisite: Successful completion of German I. Leveling by German I teacher.

This course emphasizes communication and stresses interpersonal relationships in meaningful, cultural contexts. Through the spiraling of functions, vocabulary and grammar, students are presented with opportunities to increase retention of newly acquired language and to use the language in various situations. A variety of activities and strategies meets individual student needs to achieve greater proficiency in German.

GERMAN III

Credit: 1 Level: Prep and Honors

Grades Offered: 10, 11, 12

Prerequisites: Successful completion of German II with a grade of C+ or better; teacher recommendation. Leveling by German II teacher.

In this course, students will continue to develop reading, writing, listening, and speaking skills, as well as cultural understanding. Students will build on their German-language skills and learn new vocabulary and grammatical concepts to participate in meaningful interactions. Authentic materials include feature films, short stories, newspaper articles, as well as news broadcasts. The course is conducted mainly in German.

GERMAN IV

Credit: 1 Level: Prep and Honors

Grades Offered: 11, 12

Prerequisites: Successful completion of German III with a grade of C+ or better; teacher recommendation. Leveling by German III teacher.

This course expands and refines students' language skills in the interpersonal, interpretative, and presentational modes. Command of spoken and written German is further developed through intensive vocabulary acquisition and through strengthening and reinforcing of the language skills acquired in levels one through three. Authentic sources include poetry, fiction, non-fiction, podcasts, and films. The course is conducted almost exclusively in German.

AP GERMAN LANGUAGE AND CULTURE

Credit: 1 Level: Honors

Grades Offered: 11, 12

Prerequisites: Successful completion of German III Honors with a grade of B+ or better; teacher recommendation.

AP German Language and Culture is designed for highly motivated honor-level students in the fourth year of language study who have demonstrated not only the ability but also the desire to achieve a high level of performance. The course explores a variety of interdisciplinary themes that provide students with the opportunity to gain an understanding of the products, practices, and perspectives of the people of German-speaking countries. Students will demonstrate this understanding by using German to draw comparisons and make connections between and within their own culture and that of German-speaking countries. The course focuses on preparing students to use German in real-life settings by strengthening students' written and spoken interpersonal communication skills, written and spoken presentational communication skills, and interpretative skills from a variety of authentic audio, visual, audiovisual, written, and print sources. To achieve this end, the course is conducted almost exclusively in German, and the students are strongly encouraged to use German not only while within the German classroom, but also during interactions with the teacher and fellow students outside the classroom.

SPANISH I

Credit: 1 Level: Prep and Honors

Grades Offered: 9, 10, 11

Prerequisite: None. Designed for students with no or minimal prior knowledge of Spanish. Leveling by entrance exam.

This beginning course is appropriate for students who have minimal or no previous knowledge of the Spanish language and culture. The course is aimed at providing the student with a panoramic survey of the language through speaking, listening, reading, and writing skills. The students will be able to use the language to ask and answer simple questions and make simple statements. They will gain knowledge of Spanish customs, history, geography, and traditions.

SPANISH II

Credit: 1 Level: Prep, and Honors

Grades Offered: 9, 10, 11, 12

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Spanish I. Leveling by Spanish I teacher.

In Spanish II basic grammar is expanded. Situational vocabulary and pertinent verbs are emphasized within three chapters of each unit. The unit background provides material and cultural aspects of Spanish speakers in the United States, western hemisphere, and Spain. Focused dialogue and cultural stories incorporate all chapter material. Oral presentations and cooperative projects interface with chapter material. Videotapes and dialogue provide an alternative learning style.

SPANISH III

Credit: 1 Level: Prep and Honors

Grades Offered: 10, 11, 12

Prerequisites: Successful completion of Spanish II with a grade of C+ or better; teacher recommendation. Leveling by Spanish II teacher.

This level of study emphasizes oral communication, linguistic understanding, and culture as it builds on previously learned concepts. Students are encouraged toward greater creativity in the language as they continue their study of Hispanic peoples and culture. Command of spoken and written Spanish is further developed through intensive vocabulary acquisition and by increasing the breadth and scope of students' language skills. The class is conducted primarily in Spanish.

SPANISH IV

Credit: 1 Level: Prep and Honors

Grades Offered: 11, 12

Prerequisites: Successful completion of Spanish III with a grade of C+ or better; teacher recommendation. Leveling by Spanish III teacher.

While emphasizing further mastery of the communication skills introduced and developed in previous levels, this advanced study of Spanish continues to explore a variety of interests including cultural concepts, geography, history, famous Spanish-speaking people, literature, and art. Student study focuses on communicative skills, global understanding, and content-based instruction. The class is mainly conducted in the target language.

BUSINESS

ACCOUNTING/ACCOUNTING HONORS

Credit: 1 Level: Prep and Honors

Grades Offered: 11, 12

Prerequisites: Approval of selection and leveling by the Business Department.

This two-semester advanced accounting/business course is designed to teach students basic accounting principles and procedures and their application in a merchandising business organization. Increased emphasis is placed on the preparation and interpretation of specific financial reports, including cost analysis, inventory methods, and cash flow. The course provides an excellent background for students interested in taking business classes in college.

BUSINESS ENTREPRENEURSHIP

Credit: 1 Level: Honors

Grades Offered: 11, 12

Prerequisite: Approval by the Business Department/Instructor. A face-to-face interview with the Instructor is also required.

This two-semester advanced business course offers a project-based, hands-on learning experience designed to teach students business principles and procedures as they apply to a lean start-up enterprise. The course places an emphasis on an understanding of the problems and questions that are common to start-ups. Extensive group work is involved. During the year, the student groups will work on many projects, culminating in a 7- to 10-minute business pitch slide presentation supporting their business plan, conducted before a panel of judges and/or other possible investors.

FINANCIAL LITERACY

Credit: 1 Level: Prep

Grades Offered: 11, 12

Prerequisites: Approval by the Business Department/Instructor

This course introduces students to the concepts of personal finance. Students will learn about multiple topics, including managing their money, developing a budget, consumer credit, investments, banking, housing, insurance, and taxes.

COMPUTER SCIENCE

GOOGLE SUITE

Credit: .5 Level: Prep

Grades Offered: 09

Prerequisites: freshmen requirement

Crusader Seminar has been developed to help ensure the success of our students while at Brother Rice and prepare them for life after high school. The goal of the course is for students to become proficient in their use on Google Workspace (Docs, Slides, Sheets, etc.), as well as focusing on leadership and character development through the implementation of the Character Strong curriculum. All course material is designed to be engaging and practical.

INTRO TO WEB PAGE DESIGN

Credit: 1 Level: Honors

Grades Offered: 10, 11, 12

Prerequisites: approval by the department

This introductory course has students implementing current techniques for Internet Web Page Design. This is a hands-on, project driven class. Students will be responsible for individual as well as group projects. Various software applications will be used to create, insert graphics, photos and other media in websites. Exploration of the HTML code, file format for creating web pages and site management skills will be presented.

IT ESSENTIALS

Credit: 1 Level: Honors

Grades Offered: 10, 11, 12

Prerequisites: approval by the department

This course offers students a hands-on approach to personal computer maintenance. The history of computers is reviewed as well as the most recent innovations of personal computers. Students spend time troubleshooting problems and solutions for personal computers. Students will also build a computer and install motherboards, disk drives, and other multimedia components.

CODE-HS

Credit: 1 Level: Honors

Grades Offered: 11, 12

Prerequisites: approval by department

CodeHS teaches students the basics of computer programming/coding. CodeHS is a nationally recognized self paced program. The web-based curriculum, tools and resources help students develop critical thinking skills as they solve problems using logic and creativity. Both block and script based coding are covered. Students demonstrate mastery by completing challenges and projects which build on previous knowledge and increase in difficulty throughout the year.

FUNDAMENTAL CONCEPTS OF GAMING

Credit: 1 Level: Prep

Grades offered: 10,11

Prerequisites: At least a 2.0 and an application.

In this STEM.org accredited class, students will explore gaming and esports history, game genres, gaming technology and hands-on troubleshooting. College and career readiness skills are taught with a technology focus. The course allows students to study the principles that make video games engaging and fun through collaboration, explorative play, historical context, reflection and creativity. Students will also learn healthy gaming and digital citizenship practices and will explore the abundant career opportunities and pathways within the multi-billion dollar gaming industry.

MUSIC

BEGINNING BAND

Credit: 1 Level: Prep

Grades Offered: 10, 11, 12

Prerequisites: Students are placed into class by ability

Students enrolled in this course will focus on the fundamentals of musical performance. The course will be placed at a speed for students who have never played an instrument, students who wish to transition to a new instrument, or students who have had little to no experience with a wind instrument. (1 year or less)

CONCERT BAND

Credit: 1 Level: Prep

Grades Offered: 09, 10, 11, 12

Prerequisites: Students are placed into class by ability

This course is for students in grades 9 - 12 who have mastered the fundamentals of music. (i.e. note reading, physical form, basic playing techniques) Students in this course will learn music theory concepts as they relate to music performance and will begin to perform more complex arrangements with greater variety of musical keys and time signatures. Students will be placed in the class at the discretion of the director.

**See Marching Band Note Below

SYMPHONIC BAND

Credit: 1 Level: Honors

Grades Offered: 09, 10, 11, 12

Prerequisites: Students are placed into class by ability

This course is for students in grades 9 - 12 who have mastered the fundamentals of music and intermediate music theory/performance concepts. Students in this course will work on the "Core" of wind ensemble literature. They will perform original works written to help the instrumentalist reach the pinnacle of music performance. Members of this ensemble will be exposed to the gamut of key and time signatures as they relate to music composed in the common practice period of music. Additionally, students in this ensemble will practice and perform with the Symphony Strings class. Students will be placed in this course at the discretion of the director.

**See Marching Band Note Below

WIND ENSEMBLE BAND

Credit: 1 Level: Honors

Grades Offered: 09, 10, 11, 12

Prerequisites: Students are placed into class by ability

The Brother Rice and Mother McAuley Philharmonic band is composed of the top musicians in the music program. Students must audition to be part of this ensemble and they must meet regular benchmarks of performance. The band has performed music from all periods of music within the common practice period. (Arrangements and Original Works) The Rice/McAuley band has performed for the greater Chicago Community and is excited to take their music on the road! This band combines with the Symphonic and Concert bands to make up the Brother Rice and Mother McAuley Marching Band.

**See Marching Band Note Below

****MARCHING BAND**

(Not a separate course, part of the Concert, Symphonic Courses, and Philharmonic Bands)

Students enrolled in the intermediate and advanced winds will perform repertoire as a Marching Band during the months of August and September. While performances will sometimes occur outside these months, students will only rehearse as a marching band for the first two months of the academic year.

CHORUS

Credit: 0.5 Level: Prep, Honors

Grades Offered: 09, 10, 11, 12

Prerequisites: Students are placed into class by ability

Honors - Students in this course will meet five days a week at 7:00A.M. These students will perform modern and sacred music for a variety of functions. (School liturgies, Concerts, and Community Performances)

Students enrolled in the honors course will be required to take leadership roles and attend extra practices from time to time outside of the normal schedule.

Regular - Students in this course will meet five days a week at 7:00A.M. These students will perform modern and sacred music for a variety of functions. (School liturgies, Concerts, and Community Performances)

AP MUSIC THEORY

Credit: 1 Level: AP

Grades Offered: 11, 12

Prerequisites: Students are placed into class by ability

This course covers complex musical composition. Beginning with the foundations of music, students quickly work to analyze music on a theoretical level. Breaking down notes from within compositions, students will work to understand the rationale behind how music is composed. Students will also work on aural skills as they are associated with analysis of music. This is a very challenging and fast paced course.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

FRESHMAN PE

Credit: 0.5

Grades Offered: 9

Freshmen take swimming for half of a semester. This includes the American Red Cross skills dealing with breathing techniques, floating, gliding, survival techniques, treading water, and a variety of swimming strokes. During the second half semester the freshmen will be in the gym for conditioning, physical fitness testing, softball, indoor soccer, basketball, circuit weight training, and cardiovascular testing.

SOPHOMORE PE

Credit: 1

Grades Offered: 10

Sophomore students will be instructed with the same swimming skills as freshmen, but at an intermediate level and following up to Red Cross level 8 and using all American Red Cross skills, drills, and testing. Additionally, the sophomore will do more "lap" swimming, swimming turns, and disrobing in the water skills and basic rescue and water safety skills. Sophomores will also be in the gym for conditioning, physical fitness testing, softball, indoor soccer, basketball, circuit weight training, and cardiovascular testing.

Health: (Required of all sophomores)

This course is a half semester course within the sophomore physical education curriculum. This course fulfills the state health requirement. The course covers nutrition, physical, social and mental health. Students learn the effects and long term risks of using drugs, tobacco, and alcohol on the body and mind. The course promotes the understanding and the importance of prevention of infectious diseases and their effects on public health.

IHSA SPORTS OFFICIATING (PE elective) Class will be held at Mother McAuley.

Credit: .5 Level: Prep

Grade offered: 11, 12

Prerequisite: Application process

This course is for students who are interested in sports, sports officiating or interested in a pathway to a part time job as a sports official either for the IHSA (Illinois High School Association) or local rec and club leagues. Students will learn rules and regulations of selected team sports (volleyball, basketball, soccer, softball and lacrosse), developing skills in the area of communication, decision-making, and conflict management, which are needed to officiate team sport competitions. Students will be given the opportunity to participate in the sports while learning to officiate. At the conclusion of the course, students will be required to take at least one of the IHSA rules exam to get certified. There is a testing fee of \$70 for the first sport.

ATHLETIC TRAINING (PE elective)

Credit: 1 Level: prep

Grade offered: 11,12

Prerequisite: none

This course is for students who are interested in athletic training or physical therapy as a career. Students will learn about injury prevention, caring for injuries and recovering from injuries. This includes learning about the anatomy of the human body, hydration, taping, rehabilitation and nutrition. Some hours outside the classroom will be required for the class.

ART

ART 1:INTRODUCTION TO DRAWING Class will be held at Mother McAuley first semester.

Credit: .5 Level: Prep

Grade offered: 10,11

Prerequisite: none

ART:2 INTRODUCTION TO PAINTING Class will be held at Mother McAuley second semester.

Credit: .5 Level: Prep

Grade offered: 10,11

Prerequisite: none