

# HOLY CROSS HIGH SCHOOL COURSE OF STUDIES



Revised: **March 2024**

## **DIOCESE OF SCRANTON**

“They devoted themselves to the teaching of the apostles and to the communal life, to the breaking of the bread and to the prayers. Awe came upon everyone, and many wonders and signs were done through the apostles. All who believed were together and had all things in common; they would sell their property and possessions and divide them among all according to each one’s need. Every day they devoted themselves to meeting together in the temple area and to breaking bread in their homes. They ate their meals with exultation and sincerity of heart, praising God and enjoying favor with all the people. And every day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved.”

Acts 2:42-47

### **DIOCESAN MISSION STATEMENT**

“We, the Catholic faithful of the Diocese of Scranton, in union with our Holy Father, the Pope, are called through Baptism to share the mission, which Jesus Christ has entrusted to the One, Holy, Catholic and Apostolic Church. Priests, deacons, religious, and laity, under the leadership of our Bishop, cooperate to proclaim the Gospel in accordance with the teaching of the Church, to celebrate the sacraments, especially the Eucharist, for the salvation of all, and to witness by Grace to the Kingdom of God so as to promote a culture of life, justice and peace.”

### **CATHOLIC SCHOOLS’ MISSION STATEMENT**

“We, the Catholic Schools of the Diocese of Scranton, are committed to educate students and their families in the Catholic faith. We provide a Catholic education that is spiritually sound and academically excellent. We strive to prepare our students to be faith-filled leaders and life-long learners dedicated to serving the church and society.”

## **Holy Cross High School Mission Statement**

Holy Cross High School, an institution of excellence, is committed to the development of the whole person, offering comprehensive academic, social and athletic programs which are rooted in the Gospel and teaching of the Catholic Church. A Roman Catholic High School in the Diocese of Scranton, Holy Cross challenges its students to appreciate life-long learning and to develop character, leadership and integrity in a caring environment in order to promote a culture of peace, justice and service.

## **Holy Cross High School Belief Statements**

We Believe:

- That the Gospel teachings of Jesus serve as the core of all Religious, academic and extracurricular activities at Holy Cross High School.
- That through our Baptism we are called to share in the mission of Jesus Christ, proclaiming the Gospel, fully and actively celebrating the sacraments, and promoting a culture of life, justice and peace rooted in Christian service.
- That our Catholic faith fosters a welcoming family, faith-based environment for all people, regardless of race, creed or culture.
- That a respect for the dignity and value of self and others is essential for all growth, and that the whole person – mind, body and spirit – must be nurtured.
- That a challenging curricular program in the arts, sciences and humanities seeks to instill an appreciation for life-long learning and fosters the development of Christian leadership, character and integrity in all students.
- That our students' diverse physical and athletic abilities be developed to their full potential.
- That family participation, along with quality education, is important for our students to achieve their full potential.

# **GENERAL INFORMATION**

## **ACCREDITATION**

Holy Cross High School is accredited by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and the Middle States Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools.

## **GENERAL**

Holy Cross High School is a comprehensive high school. Students are encouraged to select courses based on individual abilities, achievement, and goals within the limits of the specialized graduation requirements. Choice in sequence is based on standardized testing, teacher recommendations, and counseling assistance. Advanced Placement (A.P.) courses are available in A.P. English Literature and Composition; A.P. English Language and Composition; A.P. United States History; A.P. United States Government and Politics; A.P. Calculus; A.P. Computer Science Principles; and A.P. Art & Design.

Career Technology courses are offered to sophomores, juniors and seniors at the Lackawanna County Career Technology Center on half-day sessions.

# **COURSE SELECTION GUIDELINES**

## **GUIDELINES FOR SCHEDULE PLANNING**

In selecting your courses, please keep in mind the following:

1. A minimum of seven and one half (7.5) credit courses, to include Theology, English, Science, Social Studies, Math and Physical Education, in each of grades 9 through 12 is required.
2. Study the description of subjects and pay special attention to the pre-requisites for certain courses.
3. Discuss choices with your current teachers. They are excellent guides to the next level of courses in their departments.
4. Learn the requirements for entrance into the college or school that you plan to attend after graduation or for entrance into the kind of work that you intend to pursue. These requirements form minimum guidelines. Do not be too quick to limit your opportunities.
5. Discuss the course selections that you have chosen with your parents.
6. Carefully select your courses since no schedule changes will be made without the permission of the Principal. The school will address schedule changes on an individual basis.

# **COURSE OF STUDY**

## **FRESHMAN**

The following courses, listed by department, are normally available for selection by students in their freshman year at Holy Cross High School. An asterisk (\*) denotes courses designated as electives.

### **Computer Science**

Introduction to Computers

### **English**

Honors English 1

English 1

English I Concepts

Grammar and Usage

### **Fine Arts/Humanities**

Introduction to Art

Introduction to Music

### **Foreign/Classic Language**

Spanish 1

French 1

Latin 1

Spanish Language Culture

### **Health/Physical Education**

Physical Education

### **Mathematics**

Honors Geometry

Algebra 1

Algebra 1 Concepts

### **Science**

Honors Physical Science

Physical Science

Physical Science Concepts

### **Social Studies**

Honors U.S. History 2

U.S. History 2

### **Theology**

Theology 1

## **COURSE OF STUDY** **SOPHOMORE**

The following courses, listed by department, are normally available for selection by students in their sophomore year at Holy Cross High School. An asterisk (\*) denotes courses designated as electives.

### **Computer Science**

Computer Applications\*  
Computer Concepts\*  
Web Design\*  
Honors Intro to Computer\*

### **English**

Honors English 2  
English 2  
English 2 Concepts  
Creative Writing\*

### **Fine Arts/Humanities**

Chorus\*  
Advanced Chorus\*  
Drawing and Painting\*  
2-D Design\*  
Printmaking & Mixed Media\*  
Digital Media\*

### **Foreign/Classic Language**

Spanish 2  
French 2  
Latin 2  
Spanish Language Culture

### **Health/Physical Education**

Physical Education

### **Mathematics**

Honors Algebra 2  
Algebra 2  
Honors Geometry  
Geometry  
Geometry Concepts

### **Science**

Honors Biology  
Biology  
Biology Concepts

### **Social Studies**

Honors American Government  
American Government  
World Geography/Int'l Relations\*

### **Theology**

Theology 2  
Awaken to Prayer\*

# **COURSE OF STUDY**

## **JUNIOR**

The following courses, listed by department, are normally available for selection by students in their junior year at Holy Cross High School. An asterisk (\*) denotes courses designated as electives.

### **Computer Science**

Computer Applications\*  
Honors Intro to Programming\*  
Design & Entrepreneurship\*  
Web Design\*  
A.P. Computer Science Principles\*

### **English**

Honors English 3  
English 3  
English 3 Concepts  
Creative Writing\*  
Literature to Film\*  
Introduction to Film\*  
A.P. English Language & Composition\*

### **Fine Arts/Humanities**

Chorus\*  
Advanced Chorus\*  
Drawing and Painting\*  
2-D Design\*  
Printmaking & Mixed Media\*  
Digital Media \*

### **Foreign/Classic Language**

Honors Spanish 3  
Honors French 3  
Honors Latin 3

### **Health/Physical Education**

Physical Education  
Health

### **Mathematics**

Honors Pre-Calculus with Trigonometry  
Pre-Calculus with Trigonometry  
Honors Algebra 2  
Algebra 2  
Algebra 2 Concepts  
Personal Finance

### **Science**

Honors Chemistry  
Chemistry  
Chemistry Concepts  
Honors Biology 2\*  
Environmental Science\*  
Forensic Science\*  
Honors Anatomy/Physiology\*  
Human Anatomy\*  
Intro to Design and Basic Engineering\*

### **Social Studies**

Honors World History 2  
World History 2 \*  
World Geography & Inter. Relations\*  
A.P. US Government\*

### **Theology**

Theology 3  
Awaken to Prayer\*

# COURSE OF STUDY

## SENIOR

The following courses, listed by department, are normally available for selection by students in their senior year at Holy Cross High School. An asterisk (\*) denotes courses designated as electives.

### Computer Science

Computer Applications\*  
Honors Intro to Programming\*  
Design & Entrepreneurship\*  
Web Design\*  
A.P. Computer Science Principles\*

### English

A.P. English Literature & Composition  
Honors English 4  
English 4  
English 4 Concepts  
Introduction to Film\*  
Literature to Film\*  
Creative Writing\*  
A.P. English Language & Composition\*

### Fine Arts/Humanities

Chorus\*  
Advanced Chorus\*  
Drawing and Painting\*  
2-D Design\*  
Printmaking & Mixed Media\*  
Digital Media \*  
A.P. Art & Design\*

### Foreign/Classic Language

Honors Spanish 4\*  
Honors French 4\*  
Honors Latin 4\*

### Mathematics

AP Calculus  
Honors Calculus  
Honors Pre-Calculus with Trigonometry  
Pre-Calculus with Trigonometry  
Honors Finite Mathematics with Statistics  
Algebra 2 Concepts

### Health/Physical Education

Physical Education

### Science

Honors Physics  
Physics  
Physics Concepts  
Honors Biology 2\*  
Honors Chemistry 2\*  
Honors Anatomy/Physiology\*  
Human Anatomy\*  
Environmental Science\*  
Forensic Science\*  
Intro to Design and Basic Engineering\*

### Social Studies

Modern America  
Honors Modern America  
A.P. U.S. History  
A.P. U. S. Government\*  
World Geography & Inter. Relations\*

### Theology

Theology 4  
St. Paul: A Man of Letters\*  
Awaken to Prayer\*



## **Immaculate Heart of Mary Honors Program Holy Cross High School**

### **Philosophy**

The Immaculate Heart of Mary Honors Program is a program that allows exceptional students to participate in a curriculum that offers courses which are broader in scope and are more demanding than the college preparatory curriculum. Students will be able to practice critical thinking and analytical skills that will aid them in developing their potential. The Immaculate Heart of Mary Honors Program will challenge outstanding students with a demanding education that stresses independent work and intense engagement with the faculty and other Honors students both in and out of the classroom.

Students completing the program will be awarded a diploma “with distinction.” Students graduating with a cumulative grade point average of 3.30 to 3.59 will be awarded a distinction of “Cum Laude,” students graduating with a cumulative grade point average of 3.60 to 3.79 will be awarded a distinction of Magna Cum Laude, while students graduating with a cumulative grade point average of 3:80 and higher will be awarded a distinction of “Summa Cum Laude.”

### **Admission**

Recommendation of students into the Immaculate Heart of Mary Honors Program will occur upon completion of the third quarter of the sophomore year. Criteria for selection include:

- a. Placement in the top **10%** of the class
- b. A cumulative grade point average of **3.50** or above
- c. Intellectual aptitude
- d. Overall school performance (past and current), including attendance and discipline records.

Characteristics of candidates include:

- a. High academic achievement and intellectual ability
- b. Self-motivation
- c. Self-discipline
- d. Good organizational skills
- e. Excellent written expression
- f. Avid interest in reading
- g. Good oral communication skills
- h. Ability to work independently and collaboratively
- i. Good citizenship and attendance



Course: **Introduction to Philosophy (PHIL 113)**

Relative Value: I.H.M. Level II

Credit: Marywood University 3 credits; Holy Cross High School 1 credit

Pre-Requisite: ENGL 160, ENGL 180, HIST 100

Location: Marywood University

An introduction to the broad range of thinkers and issues that constitute philosophy. Students will examine critically the accumulated wisdom about God, nature, and humanity in order to evaluate their own positions and choices and to make ethical decisions in an interdependent world.

## FRESHMAN SEQUENCE

**Course:** Grammar and Usage **Relative Value:** Pass/Fail  
**Credit:** 0.25  
**Pre-Requisites:** None

Since Grammar is the foundation of our English language, it is critical that students have a rudimentary understanding of how it works. This course will focus on parts of speech, phrases, clauses and sentence structure. This basic understanding will aid students in crafting words into sentences and sentences into coherent paragraphs.

**Course:** Introduction to Computers **Relative Value:** Pass/Fail  
**Credit:** 0.25  
**Pre-Requisite:** None

Introduction to Computers is a one-quarter course for students in Grade 9. Students will learn how to use the school's network including logging on, saving files, and creating an organized file system. Students will learn how to effectively use the Internet for research and internet safety will be discussed. Students will use the Google Applications including Docs, Sheets, Slides, and Drawings. Students will be introduced to the Purdue OWL website and using MLA formatting in Google Docs.

**Course:** Introduction to Art **Relative Value:** Pass/Fail  
**Credit:** 0.25  
**Pre-Requisite:** None

Introduction to Art is designed to acquaint the students with the Elements and Principles of Art/Design. Students explore new ways of observing and thinking about art and their environment. Emphasis is placed on the individual's original interpretation and the development of creativity in a variety of media, which include: paper, paint, pencil, and drawing materials as they relate to two and three dimensional design and life drawing. Opportunities for aesthetic growth, expression, and self-reflection will be offered. An historic overview of the progression of art styles is also covered. Assessment will include projects, rubrics, sketchbook work and quizzes.

**Course:** Introduction to Music **Relative Value:** Pass/Fail  
**Credit:** 0.25  
**Pre-Requisite:** None

This is a course required of all freshmen. The student will become familiar with the major elements of musical style as well as an understanding of basic notation. An understanding of fundamental music vocabulary is stressed, with emphasis on intelligent and critical listening. Students will also learn to perform popular chords and songs through the study of the ukulele.

## COMPUTER SCIENCE

Course: **Computer Applications** Relative Value: Level II  
Credit: 1.0  
Pre-Requisite: None

The students will learn essential computer applications and internet skills for personal, academic, and professional success. They will use Microsoft Word to create different types of documents such as infographics, posters, and MLA formatted papers. They will use Microsoft to create spreadsheets for both business and science applications and generate graphs to interpret spreadsheet data. Microsoft PowerPoint/Google Slides will be used to create and execute an artistic and professional presentation which includes text formatting, graphics, animation, special effects, and public speaking. Adobe Photoshop will be used to create high quality images and layouts using the basics of layers, adjustments, tools, masking, filters, and gradients.

Course: **Honors Introduction to Computer Programming** Relative Value: Level III  
Credit: 1.0  
Pre-Requisites: Algebra 1 (85 or higher) and Department Approval

The course is an introduction to object-oriented programming using Python. Python is a programming language that has relatively simple syntax, making it a good choice for beginners. Students will also be introduced to Physical Computing using Raspberry Pi and Arduino microcontrollers. Physical Computing creates interactive systems that can sense the world around them and control outputs such as lights, displays, and motors. If time allows, 3D printing may also be introduced. In addition, careers in information technology will be explored. **No prior programming experience is required.**

Course: **Computer Concepts** Relative Value: Level I  
Credit: 1.0  
Co-Requisites: Concepts College Prep Courses

This course covers similar material to Computer Applications but at a slower pace and with a smaller class size allowing for more individual assistance. The students will learn essential computer applications and internet skills for personal, academic, and professional success. They will use Microsoft Word/Google Docs/Google Drawings to create different types of documents such as infographics, posters, and MLA formatted papers. They will use Microsoft Excel/Google Sheets to create spreadsheets for both business and science applications and generate graphs to interpret spreadsheet data. Microsoft PowerPoint/Google Slides will be used to create and execute an artistic and professional presentation which includes text formatting, graphics, animation, and public speaking.

Course: **Web Design** Relative Value: Level II  
Credit: 1.0  
Pre-Requisites: Grade 10-Department Approval; Grades 11 and 12-No approval needed

This course introduces students to basic web design using HTML and CSS This course includes: planning and designing effective web pages, implementing web pages by writing HTML and CSS code, and enhancing web pages with the use of page layout techniques, text formatting, graphics, images, and multimedia. Students will also be introduced to Java scripting and open-source website creation platforms (example: WordPress). Students will produce a functional, multi-page website as the culminating project.

Course: **Design and Entrepreneurship** Relative Value: Level III  
Credit: 1.0  
Pre-Requisites: Digital Media Design OR Computer Applications plus Department Approval

This course is run in the school “maker-space” room as a project-based, in-school business with the “customers” being teachers, school departments, school clubs & teams, and the school itself. Students will meet with their customers to determine specifications for each project, determine the cost to produce and relevant mark-up if appropriate, and then design, produce, and deliver the product(s). Students will use the Adobe Suite, equipment related applications, and various other online applications to create the designs. The entrepreneur focus will be on determining costs to design and manufacture the products, appropriate markup, writing specifications, customer service, and record keeping. Equipment used to manufacture the products will include: large format printer, 3D laser cutter/printer, sublimation printer, heat transfer equipment, smart cutting machines, and 3D printers

Course: **A.P. Computer Science Principles** Relative Value: Level IV  
Credit: 1.0  
Pre-Requisites: Advanced Computer Topics and Teacher Approval

The AP Computer Science Principles course is designed to be equivalent to a first-semester introductory college computing course. This course introduces students to the fundamental concepts of computer science and explores the impact computers and technology have on our society. It will emphasize the use of problem solving and algorithm development in coding.

## **ENGLISH DEPARTMENT**

Course: **English 1** Relative Value: Level II  
Credit: 1.0  
Pre-Requisite: None

English 1 consists of units of literature, vocabulary, grammar and composition. A genre approach is followed with respect to the literature, usually beginning with a short story unit. Novels, poetry, dramas and non-fiction essays are also studied. Each student will memorize and recite one Shakespearean soliloquy from *The Tragedy of Romeo and Juliet*. Vocabulary is gleaned from the literature and incorporated into the curriculum. Freshmen will be introduced to the Collins Writing Program. A very strong emphasis is placed on the study of grammar and composition. Each quarter has at least two weeks where grammar is presented, following composition. The parts of speech and their functions are taught as well as parts of a sentence, pronoun agreement and subject-verb agreement. Understanding grammatical constructions and usage within simple sentences and clauses is a strong part of the freshman writing curriculum. The students then apply their knowledge in the composition phase of the program.

Course: **English 1 Concepts** Relative Value: Level I  
Credit: 1.0  
Pre-Requisite: None

In this course, a greater emphasis will be placed on basic reading and writing skills, accommodating the individual student. It is designed to review the basic concepts of grammar, namely, the parts of speech and the parts of the sentence. The students will improve their writing skills through the Collins Writing Program. A study of vocabulary will also be part of the curriculum, to be incorporated according to the teacher's discretion. Students will study short story, poetry, and nonfiction units. At least one novel will be studied.

Course: **Honors English 1** Relative Value: Level III  
Credit: 1.0  
Pre-Requisite: Placement Test Language Score

A review of grammar will occur at this time, and the students will develop writing skills through the Collins Writing Program. A genre approach will be used with respect to the study of literature. The students will study a minimum of three novels, two plays (one of which will be Shakespearean), one epic poem, as well as units of short stories, poetry, and nonfiction selections. A study of vocabulary is incorporated into the curriculum. Each student will memorize and recite one Shakespearean soliloquy from *The Tragedy of Romeo and Juliet*.

Course: **English 2** Relative Value: Level II  
Credit: 1.0  
Pre-Requisite: English 1

English 2 consists of the study of the short story, the novel, drama, poetry, and non-fiction works. A genre approach is used with respect to the study of literature. Students are expected to read independently and complete at least two independent reading projects during the year. Students continue to develop their writing skills through the Collins Writing Program. Grammar and usage are reviewed through this writing program. Vocabulary is also incorporated into the curriculum as students prepare for the PSAT and SAT tests. By the end of their sophomore year, students complete a research paper utilizing MLA formatting and deliver a short formal speech corresponding to their research paper.

Course: **English 2 Concepts** Relative Value: Level I  
Credit: 1.0  
Pre-Requisite: English 1 or English 1 Concepts

This course will place a greater emphasis on basic writing and reading skills, accommodating the individual student. Included in the curriculum are novels, plays and a collection of short stories, poems and non-fiction works. Vocabulary and writing skills are emphasized at this level. Grammar and usage are incorporated into the Collins Writing Program.

Course: **Honors English 2** Relative Value: Level III  
Credit: 1.0  
Pre-Requisite: Department Recommendation

Honors English 2 consists of a more advanced study of the short story, the novel, drama, poetry and non-fiction works. A genre approach is used with respect to the study of literature. Students are expected to read independently and complete at least two independent reading projects during the year. The sophomore honor students continue to develop their writing skills through the Collins Writing Program introduced to them freshman year. Grammar and usage are incorporated into this writing program. A study of vocabulary continues throughout the school year as students prepare for the PSAT and SAT tests. By the end of their sophomore year, students complete a research paper utilizing MLA formatting and deliver a short formal speech corresponding to their research paper.

Course: **English 3** Relative Value: Level II  
Credit: 1.0  
Pre-Requisite: English 2

The English 3 course is a comprehensive chronological study of American literature, from the European settlement of America to the 21<sup>st</sup> century, within the genres of poetry, drama, the short story, the novella, and the novel. Non-fiction works, including sermons, speeches, letters, journals, and essays, will also be introduced. Students will begin to engage in a greater questioning of literature and will study literary elements including figurative language, mood, imagery, symbolism, and tone. Composition, including a research paper, is also a major component of the course and the Collins Writing program will be implemented.



Course: **English 3 Concepts** Relative Value: Level I  
Credit: 1.0  
Pre-Requisite: English 2 or English 2 Concepts

This course will be a continuation of the skill levels taught in English 2 Concepts with an emphasis on a thematic approach to American literature. The study of major American novels and plays are also a requirement of the course. Varying writing assignments will be included. Grammar and usage will be reviewed through these assignments. Students will study literary terms and find examples of terms in literary selections.

Course: **Honors English 3** Relative Value: Level III  
Credit: 1.0  
Pre-Requisite: Department Recommendation

Honors English 3 is an accelerated curriculum for academically advanced students. A study of American literature through the 21st century will be reviewed exclusively through writing assignments. Grammar and usage will be reviewed through these assignments. The writing program may include creative writing assignments, the essay, and the research paper. The comprehensive study of major American novels, as well as plays may also be a requirement of the course. Vocabulary and speech requirements will also be integral to the course. Mandatory outside readings will be done in conjunction with the text.

Course: **English 4** Relative Value: Level II  
Credit: 1.0  
Pre-Requisite: English 3

The English 4 course is a comprehensive chronological study of British literature, from the Anglo-Saxon period to the Modern era, within the genres of poetry, drama, and the novel. Informational texts will also be introduced. Students will begin to engage in a greater questioning of literature and will study literary elements including figurative language, mood, imagery, symbolism, and tone. Compositions of various lengths and time frames, including a research paper, is also a major component of the course.

Course: **English 4 Concepts** Relative Value: Level I  
Credit: 1.0  
Pre-Requisite: English 3 or English 3 Concepts

The English 4 Concepts course is a survey of British literature, from the Anglo-Saxon period to the Modern era, within the genres of poetry, drama, and the novel. Informational tests will be introduced. Students will begin to engage in a greater questioning of literature and will study literary elements. Composition, over various lengths and time frames, is also a major component of the course.

Course: **Honors English 4** Relative Value: Level III  
Credit: 1.0  
Pre-Requisite: Department Recommendation

The Honors English 4 course is a comprehensive chronological study of British literature, from the Anglo-Saxon period to the Modern era, within the genres of poetry, drama, and the novel. Informational texts will also be introduced. Students will begin to engage in a greater questioning of literature and will study literary elements including figurative language, mood, imagery, symbolism, and tone. Composition, of various lengths and time frames, including a research paper, is also a major component of the course.

Course: **Advanced Placement English Literature and Composition** Relative Value: Level IV  
Credit: 1.0  
Pre-Requisite: Department Recommendation

The Advanced Placement English Literature and Composition course engages students in the careful reading and critical analysis of literature. Through the close reading of selected works students will deepen their understanding of the ways writers use language to provide both meaning and pleasure for their readers. As they read, students will consider a work's structure, style, and themes as well as other elements including figurative language, imagery, symbolism, and tone. This course follows the nine units prescribed by the College Board, which includes studies of short fiction, long fiction (including novels and play), and poetry. Compositions include monthly writings on literary topical genres typical of the expectations of college freshmen as well as essays that mimic what students will experience on the AP English Literature and Composition exam in May.

Course: **Advanced Placement English Language and Composition** Relative Value: Level IV

Credit: 1.0

Pre-Requisite: Departmental Approval

This AP English Language and Composition course aligns to an introductory college-level rhetoric and writing curriculum, which requires students to develop evidence-based analytical and argumentative essays that proceed through several stages or drafts. Students will also evaluate, synthesize, and cite research to support their arguments in a variety of speeches. Throughout the course, students develop a personal style by making appropriate grammatical choices. Additionally, students read and analyze the rhetorical elements and their effects in non-fiction texts, including graphic images as forms of text, from many disciplines and historical periods.

Course: **Creative Writing** Relative Value: Level II  
Credit: 0.5  
Pre-Requisite: None

Subject writing based on investigating and reporting whereas Creative Writing has solid roots in a writer's real-world experiences and memories. Both writing styles are fundamental in journalism. Students participating in this elective will develop their writing skills through weekly journal assignments and classroom editing. Students can expect project-based assignments. They will create their own poetry, short stories, children's book, and essays throughout the year.

Course: **Literature to Film**  
Credit: 1.0  
Pre-Requisite: None

Relative Value: Level II

The Literature to Film course offers a look at various works of literature (including novels, novellas, short stories, and children's literature) and the relationship between those works and the films that they have inspired. Students will have a chance to view black and white films, color films, and animated works including traditional animation and stop-motion animation. In addition to deepening their analytical skills, students will also gain an appreciation for film techniques.

Course: **Introduction to Film**  
Credit: 1.0  
Pre-Requisite: Department Recommendation

Relative Value: Level II

The Introduction to Film course is designed to draw awareness to the genre of film as a form of modern day literature. Careful consideration has been taken to ensure that the works studied are important works of film. Additionally, students will study a variety of scripts, storyboards, and screenplays for writing technique and analysis. Students will observe, analyze and evaluate a variety of pivotal movies over the course of the year. A sample syllabus may contain *Life is Beautiful* (Elie Weisel's *Night*), *Casablanca*, *Citizen Kane*, *On the Waterfront*, *The Philadelphia Story*, *Toy Story*, *Beauty and the Beast*, *Star Wars*, *The Maltese Falcon*, *Rear Window*, *The Wizard of Oz*, *High Noon*, *Stagecoach*, *Oklahoma!*, *Chicago*, *Meet Me in St. Louis*, *The Pride of the Yankees*, *We Are Marshall*, *Remember the Titans*, *Adam's Rib*, *Fantasia*, *Shrek*, *Cinderella*, *It Happened One Night*, *Singin' in the Rain*, *Vertigo*, *Mr. Smith Goes to Washington*, *Raiders of the Lost Ark*, *The Last Crusade*, and *The Sixth Sense*.

**FINE ARTS**

**ART DEPARTMENT**

Course: **Printmaking & Mixed Media**

Relative Value: Level II

Credit: 1.0

Pre-requisite: None

This course explores various types of traditional printmaking processes and mixed media approaches for both two- and three-dimensional works. Students will also be exposed to digital photography and Adobe Photoshop to assist in the collage processes covered. This process-oriented approach will allow students of all skill levels and abilities to foster a love of creative expression. Student success will be determined by consistent effort and openness to new ways of thinking. Creativity will be strongly encouraged throughout the coursework. Various historical printmakers and mixed media artists will be explored. Grading is based on rubric criteria, reflections, and ongoing sketchbook and artistic journaling. Participation in the Art Department exhibit is required.

Course: **2D Design**

Relative Value: Level II

Credit: 1.0

Pre-requisite: None

This course will emphasize composition development through the application of the Elements of Art & Principles of Design. Students will explore motif structures, logo creation and pattern design using both traditional studio materials and digital technologies. Adobe Photoshop and Illustrator will be covered as well as techniques for traditional fine art materials. This course will prepare students and act as a prerequisite for those considering AP 2D Design in their senior year or a career in digital arts and design fields. Creative problem-solving exercises will be provided and a 2D portfolio will be developed. Exploration of historical and contemporary artists will be introduced. Grading is based on rubric criteria, reflections, and ongoing sketchbook/bell ringer work. Participation in the Art Department exhibit is required.

Course: **Drawing & Painting**

Relative Value: Level II

Credit: 1.0

Pre-Requisites: None

This product-oriented course will allow students to create works generated from observation and experimentation with mark making. Students will address how light and shade affect such subjects as still life, landscape, and portraiture. In addition to working with traditional materials such as graphite, pastel, acrylic, and watercolor, students will work with Procreate using iPads and Apple pens. This course will prepare students and act as a prerequisite for those considering AP Drawing in their senior year or a career in illustration and traditional art fields such as drawing and painting. This course is designed for students who are gifted in drawing and painting or who want to further advance their skills in traditional studio materials. A drawing portfolio will be developed. Exploration of historical and contemporary artists will be introduced. Grading is based on rubric criteria, reflections, and ongoing sketchbook/bell ringer work. Participation in the Art Department exhibit is required.

Course: **AP Art & Design**  
Credit: 1.0

Relative Value: Level IV

Pre-Requisites: 2D Design **OR** Drawing & Painting and Department Approval

The Advanced Placement Studio Art course follows guidelines set forth by College Board and A.P. Central to allow students to work toward a portfolio that will be judged for potential college credit. There are three A.P. Studio Art courses which include Drawing, 2D Design and 3D Design. Students will be required to select one course and execute related artwork. All A.P. Studio Art courses focus on three central areas including breath, concentration and quality. All students registered for the A.P. Studio Art class must complete a portfolio and submit to A.P. Central in May (additional fees apply). A.P. Studio Art is designed for highly motivated students with an intrinsic drive to create sophisticated college level artwork. Students will be asked to work independently and in class to research and explore drawing and design problems. Participation in the Art Department exhibit is required. Summer work may be requested. Grading will be based solely on project rubrics and time management with strict project deadlines.

- **A.P. Drawing** focuses on all types of wet and dry mediums that make artful marks such as pastel, pen, color pencils, acrylic, watercolor, etc.
- **A.P. 2D Design** focuses on design elements and principles on a 2D surface. 2D Design portfolios may include drawings and designs with traditional studio materials as well as photography, digital illustrations and commercial art/graphic design artwork.
- **A.P. 3D Design** also explores design problems, however all work will be 3D in nature and includes more sculptural pieces.

Course: **Digital Media Design**  
Credit: 1.0  
Pre-Requisite: None

Relative Value: Level II

This course will address art and design as it relates to the dynamic world of screen viewing. This course introduces students to the fundamentals of digital graphics using Adobe Creative Suite, and other web-based design tools. Students will examine the differences between bitmap graphics and vector graphics through various exercises and projects. Topics may include but are not limited to photography, web design, social media content creation, audio and video editing, and animation processes. This course is intended for creative students who want to focus their attention solely on digital technologies for creating and are considering such fields as graphic design, web design, game design, etc. This class may act as a prerequisite for further web development and coding classes. Portfolios will be developed and participation in the Art Department exhibit is required. Assessments will include project rubrics, reflections and electronic message board posts, outside photography and prints.

## MUSIC DEPARTMENT

Course: **Chorus** Relative Value: Pass/Fail  
 Credit: 1.0  
 Pre-Requisite: None

Chorus develops musical skills in the areas of vocal techniques, music reading and performance. All singers participate in school concerts, assemblies, and liturgies. Due to the nature of being both an academic class and a co-curricular activity, attendance at out-of-school events will be factored into the student's grade. Students are encouraged to take advantage of cultural activities (theater, vocal ensembles, private lessons, etc.) in the area. Throughout the year, students in chorus will also have the opportunity to learn simple chords and songs on the ukulele.

Course: **Advanced Chorus** Relative Value: Pass/Fail  
 Credit: 1.0  
 Pre-Requisite: Acceptance by audition only

This class will give students the opportunity to be involved in a higher level of choral music. The content of the course is designed to develop the student's technical, musical, and performance skills. The music studied by this choir is challenging and requires a desire for excellence on the part of the members. Literature covers a variety of historical periods and languages, including 4 – part a cappella polyphony in French, German, Italian, and Latin. Students will be required to sight-sing melodies, and label and perform rhythms of varying difficulties. Students will also be required to learn music theory and develop aural skills. In addition to seasonal concert events, this group will, as course requirements, be involved in various community events throughout the year. This will give students the opportunity to perform in front of diverse audiences and showcase their talents to the greater community. Due to the nature of being both an academic class and a co-curricular activity, attendance at out-of-school events will be factored into the student's grade. Students are encouraged to take advantage of cultural activities (theater, vocal ensembles, private lessons, etc.) in the area. Throughout the year, students in advanced chorus will also have the opportunity to learn simple chords and songs on the ukulele.

Course: **Orchestra** Relative Value: Pass/Fail  
 Credit: 1.0  
 Pre-Requisite: None

Orchestra is offered to students with experience playing any orchestra or band instrument (woodwind, brass, strings, percussion, keyboard, guitar). Students must audition with their instrument in order to be eligible to enroll for the class.

Students will develop skills that lead to intermediate levels of proficiency in technique on their instrument. They will gain an understanding of music theory as it pertains to their instrument and the ensemble, and continue to experience a variety of literature for the modern band/orchestra. Students will continue developing skills in tone production, note reading (rhythmic and melodic), and performing music alone and with others in the ensemble. Students will improve as individual performers and as an ensemble, and share their talents with others through public performances and participation in festival events.

## **FOREIGN/CLASSIC LANGUAGE DEPARTMENT**

Course:           **French 1**   Relative Value: Level II  
Credit:            1.0  
Pre-Requisite:   None

The primary focus of first year French is the development of the language as a means of communication about subjects of everyday interest. The four basic language skills of listening, speaking, reading and writing are introduced. Primary emphasis is placed on the skills of listening and speaking, using appropriate vocabulary and grammar necessary to help the student attain an acceptable level of proficiency. Among the methods used to acquire these skills are repetition and drill, dialogues, and directed dialogues. Students will take the National French Exam during this course.

Course:           **French 2**   Relative Value: Level II  
Credit:            1.0  
Pre-Requisite:   French 1

French 2 continues the four basic skills of listening, speaking, reading and writing begun in French 1. The primary goal of this course is to promote conversation in the French language, with good pronunciation. A large portion of class time is spent in discussing the content of the reading selections used in drilling the vocabulary and grammar structures present in them. Students will take the National French Exam during this course.

Course:           **Honors French 3**   Relative Value: Level III  
Credit:            1.0  
Pre-Requisites:  French 2 and Department Approval

The goal of French 3 is to achieve a reasonable fluency in the French language. Some of the more advanced elements of French grammar, idioms, and composition are introduced to students. In order to perfect the reading and writing skills, a variety of reading materials are used. Appropriate videos and audio recordings are utilized to enhance the skills of listening and speaking. Students will take the National French Exam during this course.

Course:           **Honors French 4**   Relative Value: Level III  
Credit:            1.0  
Pre-Requisites:  French 3 and Department Approval

French 4 proposes to help the students express themselves more fluently, to fortify previously learned grammar; to develop an appreciation of contemporary French art, literature, and music; to increase the student's knowledge and understanding of the French language, culture, and people; and to develop a spirit of achievement in the student. More advanced vocabulary and grammatical points are presented. Comprehension and writing skills are advanced through dictations, journal entries and the reading of short stories. Students will take the National French Exam during this course.

Course: **Latin 1**  
Credit: 1.0  
Pre-Requisite: None

Relative Value: Level II

The first course in Latin involves basic grammar, vocabulary, derivatives, translation, and culture. The declensions, conjugations, and rules of grammar are drilled thoroughly so that students may recognize basic grammatical constructions in Latin, as well as in English and in foreign languages. Vocabulary building is stressed both for reading selections in Latin and for increasing word power in English through derivatives. The story of Aeneas and other miscellaneous selections, written in simple Latin, are translated into English throughout the year. Latin abbreviations and expressions used in English are presented to help students recognize and appreciate interesting and useful proverbs, mottos, and sayings used in the modern world. Elements of day-to-day Roman culture (e.g., parts of the house, gods and goddesses, Roman numerals) are also studied. Students will take the National Latin Exam during this course.

Course: **Honors Latin 2**  
Credit: 1.0  
Pre-Requisites: Latin 1 and Department Approval

Relative Value: Level II

The second year student translates a choice of readings, which are graduated in difficulty. These include selections from the following: The Timeline Labors of Hercules, Julius Caesar's Commentaries and Ovid's *Metamorphoses*. In addition to a systematic review of first year grammar, more involved grammatical constructions are represented and drilled to facilitate the reading of the Latin authors. Drill in vocabulary and English derivatives is continued in order to build word power. Latin expressions used in English are presented to help the modern reader appreciate and cope with interesting and useful maxims, proverbs and terms used in law. In addition, medical and pharmacological abbreviations are included to provide students with advantage in competitive medical studies. Students will take the National Latin Exam during this course.

Course: **Honors Latin 3**  
Credit: 1.0  
Pre-Requisites: Latin 2 Teacher Recommendation and Department Approval.

Relative Value: Level III

Third year Latin is designed to take the student beyond the elementary level of reading and understanding Latin literature. Latin 3 focuses on Cicero's orations and letters with special attention to Cicero's rhetorical devices, the importance of the study of rhetoric in ancient times, and a typical outline of a classical oration. There is complete review of Latin forms, syntax and vocabulary needed for mastery during first, second and third years of high school Latin. Latin 3 also presents a rich variety of further Latin readings. Selections from Pliny, Ovid and post-classical Latin round out the content of third year Latin. Latin expressions used in English are presented to help the modern reader appreciate and cope with interesting and useful maxims, proverbs and terms used in law. In addition, medical and pharmacological abbreviations are included to provide students with advantage in competitive medical studies. Students will take the National Latin Exam during this course.



Course: **Honors Latin 4** Relative Value: Level III  
Credit: 1.0  
Pre-Requisites: Latin 3 Teacher Recommendation and Department Approval.

Fourth year Latin is designed for a course in the reading of Latin poetry. Latin 4 focuses on Vergil's *Aeneid* with special attention to Latin verse, rules of scansion, figures of speech, grammatical constructions common in Latin poetry and vocabulary needed for understanding poetry. Selections from Ovid, Catullus, Horace and Martial illustrate the range in subject, mood, meter and diction to be found in the Late Republic and Early Empire. Latin expressions used in English are presented to help the modern reader appreciate and cope with interesting and useful maxims, proverbs and terms used in law. In addition, medical and pharmacological abbreviations are included to provide students with advantage in competitive medical studies. Students will take the National Latin Exam during this course.

Course: **Spanish 1** Relative Value: Level II  
Credit: 1.0  
Pre-Requisite: None

Students develop the ability to communicate about themselves and their immediate environment using simple sentences containing basic language structures. The students will communicate in all four language skills – listening, speaking, reading and writing. Emphasis will be placed on the ability to communicate orally and in writing.

Students will demonstrate an understanding of traditions, customs, beliefs, and cultural contributions and how these relate to the native language. Students will connect information about the language with concepts studied in other subjects. Through the study of language and culture, students will develop insight into their own language and culture. Students may participate in the National Spanish Exam to compete against their peers from all parts of the country. Students will take the National Spanish Exam during this course.

Course: **Spanish 2** Relative Value: Level II  
Credit: 1.0  
Pre-Requisite: Spanish1

Students will continue to develop proficiency in all language skills – listening, reading, speaking and writing. Emphasis will be placed on the ability to communicate both orally and in writing. More complex sentence and language structures will be utilized. The students will read short stories and produce writing samples.

Students will demonstrate an understanding of traditions, customs, beliefs, and cultural contributions in relation to the native language. Students will connect information about the language with concepts used in other subjects. Through the study of language and culture, students will recognize, compare, and contrast language concepts, and participate in a global community using their language skills to communicate with native speakers. Students may participate in the National Spanish Exam to compete against their peers from all parts of the country. Students will take the National Spanish Exam during this course.

Course: **Honors Spanish 3** Relative Value: Level III  
Credit: 1.0  
Pre-Requisites: Spanish 2, Teacher Recommendation, and Department Approval.

Students continue to develop and refine proficiency in all four language skills in all four areas: listening, speaking, reading and writing with an emphasis on the ability to interact orally and in writing. They communicate using more complex language structures on a variety of topics. At this level, students comprehend the main ideas of the authentic materials that they read and hear and are able to identify many details when the topics are familiar. Students gain a deeper understanding of the world around them while studying rights and responsibilities, future plans, choices, environment, technology and humanities. Students will take the National Spanish Exam during this course.

The course's primary goals are to:

- Communicate in Spanish;
- Demonstrate an understanding of traditions, customs, beliefs and cultural contributions and how these elements relate to language;
- Be able to acquire information and connect with other disciplines;
- Learn to function in a variety of practical settings using listening, speaking, reading and writing skills as well as knowledge of the target culture;
- Develop insight into English and their own culture;
- Be able to participate in national testing to compete against their peers from all parts of the country;
- Be introduced to vocabulary imbedded in authentic reading materials with a constant review of grammar introduced at all levels and integrated into readings.

Course: **Honors Spanish 4** Relative Value: Level III  
Credit: 1.0  
Pre-Requisites: Spanish 3, Teacher Recommendation, and Department Approval.

Students develop more sophisticated communication skills in all four areas: listening, speaking, reading and writing with an emphasis on the ability to interact orally and in writing. Authentic reading selections are emphasized at this level. Students communicate using more complex language structures and begin to express abstract ideas.

Students demonstrate an understanding of traditions, customs, beliefs and cultural contributions and how these elements relate to language. They are able to acquire information and connect with other disciplines and learn to function in a variety of practical settings using listening, speaking, reading and writing skills as well as knowledge of the target culture. Students will develop insight into English and their own culture and they will be able to participate in national testing to compete against their peers from all parts of the country. Students will be introduced to vocabulary imbedded in authentic reading materials. A constant review of grammar is introduced at all levels and integrated into readings. Students will take the National Spanish Exam during this course.

Course: **Spanish Language Culture**  
Credit: 1.0  
Pre-Requisite: None

Relative Value: Level I

This course introduces and cultivates the Spanish language. Basic everyday vocabulary is introduced through the spoken word while responses to questions are given in Spanish. Composition is also a part of this course.

Through the study of language and culture, students will develop insight into their own language and culture. Basic language and grammar is introduced through written and spoken word. Videos, songs, and stories help the students learn of the Hispanic Culture.

**HEALTH AND PHYSICAL EDUCATION DEPARTMENT**

Course:	<b>Health Education</b>	Relative Value: Level II
Credit:	0.5	
Pre-Requisite:	None	

This course presents skills for wellness by providing accurate and thorough information that students need to make positive decisions about their health in the areas of physical health, mental health, social health, drugs, nutrition, violence prevention, and exercise. In this course, students are encouraged to realize the choices that they make in the present affect their health through life.

Course:	<b>Physical Education</b>	Relative Value: Pass/Fail
Credit:	0.25	
Pre-Requisite:	None	

Physical Education is an activity-based program offering both team activities and individual activities. An opportunity for every individual to develop and use physical skills at their ability level is offered. The emphasis in the physical education program is placed on movement, participation, good sportsmanship and developing a basis for lifetime physical fitness.

## MATHEMATICS DEPARTMENT

Course:            **Algebra 1 Concepts**   Relative Value: Level I  
Credit:             1.0  
Pre-Requisite:   None

This course will review basic arithmetic and reinforce previously learned skills. The topics include working with variables; solving equations using positive and negative numbers; application of formulas; working with polynomials; and an introduction to factoring.

Course:            **Algebra 1**   Relative Value: Level II  
Credit:             1.0  
Pre-Requisite:   None

The emphasis of this course is algebraic theory and its major foci: the real number system, linear and polynomial equations and inequalities, factoring and related applications, rational and exponential functions, linear systems, and problem solving techniques.

Course:            **Geometry Concepts**   Relative Value: Level I  
Credit:             1.0  
Pre-Requisite:   None

This course is specifically designed as an informal discussion of basic geometry concepts. Topics include intuitive notions of point, line, plane; special angle relationships; linear relationships; parallel, perpendicular, skew; polygons and their special characteristics; circles; coordinate geometry; area and volume; similarity and congruence; guided proofs.

Course:            **Geometry**   Relative Value: Level II  
Credit:             1.0  
Pre-Requisite:   Algebra 1

The emphasis of this course is a formal presentation of conceptual geometry and the fundamental logic of geometric theory. The focus is the development of analytic skills and the acquisition of facility with deductive proofs. All the basic concepts of geometry dealing with the conceptual notions of dimension, construction, area and perimeter, parallel lines, triangles, quadrilaterals, regular polygons, and circles.

Course: **Honors Geometry** Relative Value: Level III  
Credit: 1.0  
Pre-Requisites: Algebra 1 and Diocesan NWEA Assessment.

This accelerated course is the study of advanced geometric theory and its logical extension to coordinate and transformational geometry. The focus of instruction is development of problem solving strategies and facility in creation of original proofs. All geometric concepts dealing with parallel lines, triangles, quadrilaterals, regular polygons, and circles are studied. Additionally, three-dimensional and coordinate geometry are integrated throughout. An introduction to trigonometry is also included.

Course: **Honors Algebra 2** Relative Value: Level III  
Credit: 1.0  
Pre-Requisites: Algebra 1 and Department Approval

This course is an in-depth study of algebraic theory. Topics include advanced techniques of factoring, polynomial (including linear and quadratic), rational, and radical functions. Additionally, emphasis is placed on analyzing how algebraic computation is related to graph analysis (in particular, how quadratic functions are related to their graphs – parabolas).

Course: **Algebra 2** Relative Value: Level II  
Credit: 1.0  
Pre-Requisite: Algebra 1

This course is a study of algebraic theory. Topics include the complex number system, linear, quadratic, polynomial, radical, rational functions, systems of equations and, continued development of analytical skills through practical applications.

Course: **Algebra 2 Concepts** Relative Value: Level I  
Credit: 1.0  
Pre-Requisite: Algebra 1 or Algebra 1 Concepts

This course provides an opportunity for drill and practice at a pace commensurate with student ability. Skills practiced include solving linear equations, using basic factoring techniques, operating with rational expressions, and simplifying expressions/solving equations.

Course: **Honors Pre-Calculus with Trigonometry** Relative Value: Level III  
Credit: 1.0  
Pre-Requisites: Honors Algebra 2 and Department Approval

Pre-Calculus is an intense, demanding course focused on functions and their graphs. Topics include analytic geometry with emphasis on the theory of equations. Additionally, emphasis is placed upon systems of equations and inequalities, trigonometry and its extensions/applications, and the fundamental notion of a mathematical limit.

Course: **Pre-Calculus with Trigonometry** Relative Value: Level II  
Credit: 1.0  
Pre-Requisite: Algebra 2

This course focuses on functions and their graphs. Topics include analytical geometry, systems of equations/inequalities, vectors, and the polar coordinate system. Additionally, this course introduces the student to the trigonometric/circular functions, their inverses, and graphs. Directed proofs of trigonometric identities and practical applications of trigonometric theory are integral to this course.

Course: **Honors Finite Mathematics with Statistics** Relative Value: Level III  
Credit: 1.0  
Pre-Requisites: Honors Pre-Calculus with Trigonometry and Department Approval.

This course is the traditional post-secondary math requirement for first year college students majoring in business or the social, behavioral, biological sciences. Fundamental themes include linear systems, linear programming, operations with/applications of matrices, mathematics of finance, number theory and counting techniques, probability and statistics, and logic. Practical applications are a primary focus.

Course: **Honors Calculus** Relative Value: Level III  
Credit: 1.0  
Pre-Requisites: Honors Pre-Calculus and Department Approval.

This course includes all theory contained in a one-semester college course for Mathematics/Science majors, and begins with an extensive review of relevant concepts from Trigonometry and Pre-Calculus. The objectives include techniques of differentiation and integration, limits, continuity, and logical extensions to practical applications.

Course: **A.P. Calculus** Relative Value: Level IV  
Credit: 1.0  
Pre-Requisites: Honors Pre-Calculus, Teacher and Department Approval.

Advanced Placement Calculus consists of a full collegiate course in calculus and related topics in accordance with the A.P. Calculus AB Syllabus. This course is intended for students with an in-depth knowledge of college preparatory mathematics, including algebra, axiomatic geometry, trigonometry, analytic geometry, and pre-calculus. Topics include applications to physics/engineering/biological sciences and differential equations. A graphing calculator is required and all students must take the Advanced Placement Examination upon completions of this course.

Course: **Personal Finance with Consumer Applications** Relative Value: Level II  
Credit: 0.5  
Pre-Requisites: Algebra I and Geometry

This course is a **required** math class for all junior students. Topics include cash purchases and smart shopping, loans and mortgages, credit card accounts, insurance costs, automobile buying, and taxes and income.



## **SCIENCE DEPARTMENT**

Course:            **Physical Science Concepts**                                Relative Value:  Level I  
Credit:            1.0  
Pre-Requisite:    None

Concentrating on the needs and abilities of the students, the purpose of Physical Science Concepts is to give a beginning knowledge of chemistry and physics and to offer an insight into the means by which scientific knowledge is acquired. A calculator is required for this course. Laboratory work is an essential component of the curriculum.

Course:            **Physical Science**   Relative Value:  Level II  
Credit:            1.0  
Pre-Requisite:    None

Physical Science introduces the student to the scientific method as it applies to the sciences of chemistry and physics. The basics of these two sciences are examined as pure science and as they relate to everyday life and industry. Laboratory work is an essential component of the curriculum. An understanding of the S.I. system is developed through use and application. This course is designed to serve as a solid foundation for those students taking later courses in Biology, Chemistry and Physics. A calculator is required for this course.

Course:            **Honors Physical Science**                               Relative Value:  Level III  
Credit:            1.0  
Co-Requisite:    Freshman Honors Track

The purpose of this course is to give students a beginning knowledge of chemistry and physics and to offer an insight into the means by which scientific knowledge is acquired. It should serve as a solid foundation for later courses in science. Laboratory work is an essential component of the curriculum. Students are required to work at an accelerated pace, utilize higher level thinking skills, and submit high quality work. A research project will be required. A calculator is required for this course.

Course:            **Biology Concepts**   Relative Value:  Level I  
Credit:            1.0  
Pre-Requisite:    Physical Science or Physical Science Concepts

Biology Concepts involves the study of organisms. Students will be introduced to the fundamental concepts of biology with an emphasis on the way biology affects their daily lives. Characteristics of living things, classification of organisms, and structure and function of organisms are the major topics for this course. Students are introduced to the laboratory skills that are specific to the field of biology. Laboratory work is an essential component of the curriculum. Scientific articles from a variety of sources and special projects are used to enrich the curriculum.

Course: **Biology**  
Credit: 1.0  
Pre-Requisite: Physical Science

Relative Value: Level II

Biology is the study of living things. Its primary purpose is to relate to and develop an appreciation of and respect for all living things. All levels of biological organization are discussed from the molecule through cells, tissues, organs, individuals, populations, species, communities and the world biome. Major topics include: scientific method, cell structure and function, genetics, evolution, classification, and the diversity of life. Laboratory work is an essential component of the curriculum. This Biology course is recommended for college-bound students and is required for a career in science, nursing, medicine and related fields.

Course: **Honors Biology**  
Credit: 1.0  
Pre-Requisites: Recommendation of Physical Science teacher and Department Approval.

Relative Value: Level III

Biology is the study of living things. Included in this course is a study of life systems and the dissection of various representative classes of animals. All levels of biological organization are discussed from the molecule through cells, tissues, organs, individuals, populations, species, communities and the world biome. In addition, a variety of research projects as well as scientific articles are assigned to encourage students to read and to further challenge the more gifted student. Placement in this course is based on teacher recommendation and performance in the freshman year. Laboratory work is an essential component of the curriculum. A research project will be required.

Course: **Honors Biology 2**  
Credit: 1.0  
Pre-Requisites: Honors Biology and/or Honors Chemistry and Department Approval

Relative Value: Level III

Honors Biology 2, an advanced science elective, introduces new topics that are a continuation of Honors Biology. Because this class emphasizes depth of understanding, a limited number of topics are selected for study. Examples of course material include, but are not limited to, biochemistry, animal behavior, evolutionary biology, genetics, and structure and function of organisms. Scientific articles from a variety of sources and special projects are used to enrich the course. Laboratory work is an essential component of the curriculum. This class is recommended for students who are interested in a major in the life sciences or have an interest in specific biological concepts. Students are required to work at an accelerated pace, utilize higher level thinking skills, and submit high quality work.

Course: **Chemistry Concepts** Relative Value: Level I  
Credit: 1.0  
Pre-Requisite: Biology or Biology Concepts

Chemistry Concepts introduces the student to the concepts and laws of chemistry and their application to real life experiences. The fundamentals of matter, its composition, and reactions are explored. Laboratory work is an essential component of the curriculum.

Course: **Chemistry** Relative Value: Level II  
Credit: 1.0  
Pre-Requisites: Algebra 2 or concurrent enrollment in Algebra 2 and Department Approval.

Chemistry is a physical science dealing chiefly with the microstructure of matter and all aspects and implications of the structure. Chemistry introduces the student to the mathematical analysis and the verification of the concepts and laws of chemistry. The principle of atomic structure is used to explain the differences occurring in the various types of matter and the changes in composition that matter can undergo. Some course topics included are: the gas laws, nuclear chemistry, the mole concept, carbon chemistry, the modern theories of acids and bases and different types of chemical reactions. Laboratory work is an essential component of the curriculum. Chemistry is necessary for anyone planning careers in science, medicine, nursing, engineering and related fields. A calculator is required.

Course: **Honors Chemistry** Relative Value: Level III  
Credit: 1.0  
Pre-Requisites: Recommendation of Honors Biology teacher and Department Approval,  
Honors Algebra 2 or concurrent enrollment in Honors Algebra 2

Chemistry is a physical science dealing chiefly with the microstructure of matter and all aspects and implications of the structure. The principle of atomic structure is used to explain the differences occurring in the various types of matter and the changes in composition that matter can undergo. Some course topics included are: the gas laws, nuclear chemistry, the mole concept, carbon chemistry, the modern theories of acids and bases and different types of chemical reactions. Laboratory work is an essential component of the curriculum. A research project will be required. Students are required to work at an accelerated pace, utilize higher level thinking skills, and submit high quality work. A calculator is required.

Course: **Honors Chemistry 2** Relative Value: Level III  
Credit: 1.0  
Pre-Requisites: Honors Chemistry, Concurrent Enrollment in Honors Physics and Department Approval.

This advanced course is a comprehensive study of the laws, theories and principles of chemistry, emphasizing problem-solving techniques. The major topics covered in this course are molecular structure, thermochemistry, reaction spontaneity, equilibrium, chemical kinetics, oxidation-reduction reactions and solubility prediction. This course uses a college level textbook and requires independent student work. Students are required to work at an accelerated pace, utilize higher level thinking skills, and submit high quality work. A calculator is required.

Course: **Physics Concepts** Relative Value: Level I  
Credit: 1.0  
Pre-Requisites: Chemistry or Chemistry Concepts

Physics Concepts is a course that places primary emphasis on the study of matter-energy relationships through words rather than mathematical relationships. This course will help students to appreciate the world around them through the study of fundamental physical laws. The topics covered include linear motion, sound, light, two-dimensional motion, Newton's Laws of Motion, impulse and momentum, energy, wave motion and electricity. Laboratory work is an essential component of the curriculum.

Course: **Physics** Relative Value: Level II  
Credit: 1.0  
Pre-Requisites: Chemistry and Department Approval  
Pre-/Co-Requisite: Pre-Calculus and Trigonometry

Physics is a study of the physical world as seen through matter-energy relationships. This classical approach to the study of physics acquaints students with the fundamental physical laws and enables development of logical thought processes. This course is designed to help students think and analyze problems in the real world. This physics course will cover measurement, linear motion, two-dimensional motion, sound, light, Newton's Laws of Motion, impulse and momentum, energy, wave motion, and electricity. Vectors are used in certain subject areas. Laboratory work is an essential component of the curriculum. A calculator is required.

Course: **Honors Physics** Relative Value: Level III  
Credit: 1.0  
Pre-Requisites: Honors Chemistry and Department Approval.  
Co-Requisites: Pre-Calculus and Trigonometry, Honors Calculus, A.P. Calculus or Honors Finite Mathematics with Statistics

Physics is a study of the physical world as seen through matter-energy relationships. This classical approach to the study of physics acquaints students with the fundamental physical laws and enables development of logical thought processes. This course is designed to help students think and analyze problems in the real world. This physics course will cover measurement, linear motion, two-dimensional motion, sound, light, Newton's Laws of Motion, impulse and momentum, energy, wave motion, and electricity. The use of vectors is extensive. Laboratory work is an essential component of the curriculum. A calculator is required. The Honors students will be required to design projects pertinent to the concepts presented in this class. A research project will be required. Students are required to work at an accelerated pace, utilize higher level thinking skills, and submit high quality work.

Course: **Honors Anatomy and Physiology** Relative Value: Level III  
Credit: 1.0  
Co-Requisites: Concurrent Enrollment in Honors Chemistry, Chemistry, Honors Physics or Physics and Department Approval.

Honors Anatomy and Physiology is designed for students who are interested in a career that involves study of the structure and function of the human body. The focus of this course is on the relationship between structures and their functions as each system is presented. Laboratory work is an essential component of the curriculum. Students will dissect a variety of preserved specimens, conduct physiology experiments, and examine objects under the microscope. Scientific articles are utilized to discuss current research information as well as historical information. Students are required to work at an accelerated pace, utilize higher level thinking skills, and submit high quality work. Special projects may be assigned. This course is highly recommended for college-bound students contemplating a career as a biologist, physician, physical therapist, pharmacist, or a myriad of other professions requiring extensive knowledge of the human body.

Course: **Human Anatomy** Relative Value: Level II  
Credit: 1.0  
Pre-Requisite: Biology

Human Anatomy is designed for students who are interested in a career that involves the structure and function of the human body. In addition, this course is valuable for any student who wants to learn to evaluate current research information related to the health of the human body. The emphasis for this course is the anatomy of the human body. Some attention will be given to human physiology. Laboratory work is an important component of the curriculum. Students will examine a variety of preserved specimens and examine objects under the microscope. Scientific articles are utilized to discuss current research information as well as historical information. Special projects may be assigned. This course is recommended for students contemplating a career in the sciences, especially a medically-related field.

Course: **Environmental Science** Relative Value: Level II  
Credit: 1.0  
Pre-Requisites: Biology and Concurrent enrollment in Chemistry or Physics

This interdisciplinary class is of special interest to the student who is interested in environmental issues. The history of environmental science, major concepts in environmental science, and current topics are the focus of the course. Scientific articles from a variety of sources are used to enrich the curriculum. Laboratory work and special projects enhance the curriculum. This course is recommended for college-bound students who anticipate a career in the sciences as well as those with a specific interest in environmental science. Local environmental issues will be examined.

Course: **Forensic Science** Relative Value: Level II  
Credit: 0.5  
Pre-Requisites: Biology and Concurrent enrollment in Chemistry or Physics

Forensic science is a quickly growing and competitive field. Forensic science will focus on the crime scene, trace evidence (e.g., DNA fingerprinting), document analysis, entomology, forensic anthropology, and portrayal in the media. Laboratory work is an essential component of the curriculum. This course is intended for college bound students who anticipate a career in science as well as those with a special interest in forensic science.

Course: **Introduction to Design and Basic Engineering**

Relative Value: Level II

Credit: 0.5

Pre-Requisite: Concurrent enrollment in Chemistry or Physics

This course will explore principles of engineering and design fields through a project-based learning approach, which incorporates the areas of science, technology, engineering, art, and mathematics (STEAM). Emphasis will be placed on the engineering design process and learning skills such as basic circuitry, 3D modeling, introductory coding, representative drawing, measurement and scale, prototyping, and design principles. Grades will be based on student process and products, assignments, and reflections

## SOCIAL STUDIES DEPARTMENT

Course:             **U.S. History 2**   Relative Value:   Level II  
Credit:             1.0  
Pre-Requisite:   None  
Grade Level      Freshman

U.S. History II is a course that will study the rapid economic, political, and social changes in the United States from the Antebellum period and focus on U.S. developments and accomplishments. This course will emphasize on America's involvement in and the impact of the Mexican, Civil and Spanish wars as well as the nation's development into a world military, political, and economic power. Additionally, the students will be responsible for analyzing major historical events while connecting them to current events in our modern world. The course will also explore various research methods with the goal of completing a research paper and/or project.

Course:             **Honors U.S. History 2**   Relative Value:   Level III  
Credit:             1.0  
Co-Requisites:   Honors Freshman Courses

Honors U.S. History II is a course that will study the rapid economic, political, and social changes in the United States from the Antebellum period and focus on U.S. developments and accomplishments. This course will emphasize on America's involvement in and the impact of the Mexican, Civil and Spanish wars as well as the nation's development into a world military, political, and economic power. Additionally, the students will be responsible for analyzing major historical events while connecting them to current events in our modern world. The course will also explore various research methods with the goal of completing a research paper and/or project.

Course:             **World History 2**   Relative Value:   Level II  
Credit:             1.0  
Grade Level:      Juniors

World History 2 will focus on the rapid economic, political, and social changes in the world. It will cover the period from the Renaissance to the present. This course will emphasize the world's involvement and participation in global conflicts and limited wars. Additionally, the students will be responsible for analyzing current events, evaluating the changes that occurred in the 20<sup>th</sup> century and how they affect our world today, and assessing their impact on current and future societies.

Course:             **Honors World History 2**   Relative Value:   Level III  
Credit:             1.0  
Pre-Requisite:   Department Approval.

Honors World History 2 offers a comprehensive study of World History from the Renaissance to the present. This course will focus on selected topics, such as the cultural contributions of specific groups in history (i.e. religious, social, fundamentalist, etc.). Additionally, the students will be responsible for analyzing current events, evaluating the changes that occurred in the 20<sup>th</sup> century and how they affect our world today, and assessing their impact on current and future societies. Acceptance into this course is based on academic achievement, high level of interest, and teacher recommendation.

Course: **American Government** Relative Value: Level II  
Credit: 1.0  
Pre-Requisite: US History 2

American Government will mainly focus on the workings of our government and the concepts of our democracy as established in the U.S. Constitution from its foundation to its ever-changing present. Students in this course will study about the activities and composition of the three levels of government as well as the branches of government. Other issues, such as voting, non-voting, the formation and roles of political parties and the issues and candidates concerning local, state, and national elections, will also be studied. Additionally, international events and issues as they relate to U.S. policy will be examined and discussed as these events unfold.

Course: **Honors American Government** Relative Value: Level III  
Credit: 1.0  
Pre-Requisites: US History 2 and Department Recommendation

Honors American Government will mainly focus on the workings of our government and the concepts of our democracy as established in the US Constitution from its foundation to its ever-changing present. Students in this course will study about the activities and composition of the three levels of government as well as the branches of government. Students will learn the rights and responsibilities of citizenship. Other issues, such as voting, non-voting, the formation and roles of political parties and the issues and candidates concerning local, state, and national elections, will also be studied. Additionally, international events and issues as they relate to US policy will be examined and discussed as these events unfold. Other skills that will be enhanced, include (but are not limited to) data interpretation and analysis of primary documents.



Course: **A.P. United States History** Relative Value: Level IV  
Credit: 1.0  
Pre-Requisites: Honors World. History 2 and Department Approval.

Advanced Placement U.S. History is offered to select students in the senior Social Studies program. Students will engage in an outlined course of study emphasizing the nineteenth and twentieth centuries through considerable classroom time spent mastering techniques of essay writing and analyzing historical documents. The students will describe the major political, economic, social, literary, and cultural history of the United States by the following frames:

Period 1: 1491 – 1607  
Period 2: 1607 – 1754  
Period 3: 1754 – 1800  
Period 4: 1800 – 1848  
Period 5: 1844 – 1877  
Period 6: 1865 – 1898  
Period 7: 1890 – 1945  
Period 8: 1945 – 1980  
Period 9: 1980 - Present

An examination using the standard test from the Advanced Placement Program will be given in May. Participating students must take the A.P. Examination upon completion of the course. This evaluation score can qualify the student for undergraduate college credit.

Course: **A.P. U.S. Government and Politics** Relative Value: Level IV  
Credit: 1.0  
Pre-Requisites: Department Approval

AP United States Government and Politics is an elective that will give students an analytical perspective on government and politics in the United States. This course includes both the study of general concepts used to interpret U.S. government and politics and the analysis of specific examples. It also requires familiarity with the various institutions, groups, beliefs, and ideas that constitute U.S. government and politics. Students will be expected to become acquainted with the variety of theoretical perspectives and explanations for various behaviors and outcomes.

Course: **Modern American History** Relative Value: Level II  
Credit: 1.0  
Pre-Requisites: US History 2, American Government, and World History  
Senior requirement for non A.P. students.

The purpose of this course is to expand on US History 2. The course will examine 20th and 21st century US History. Great emphasis will be placed on the political, social, and economic trends in the United States. The course will focus on the presidencies of the era, as well as major events and current affairs. Areas of study include: The World Wars; The Cold War; The Korean Conflict; The UN; Vietnam; Civil Rights Movements; and America's role in global affairs.

Course: Honors **Modern American History** Relative Value: Level III  
Credit: 1.0  
Pre-Requisites: US History 2, American Government, Honors World History, and Department Recommendation

The purpose of this course is to expand on US History 2. The course will examine 20th and 21st century US History. Great emphasis will be placed on the political, social, and economic trends in the United States. The course will focus on the presidencies of the era, as well as major events and current affairs. Areas of study include: The World Wars; The Cold War; The Korean Conflict; The UN; Vietnam; Civil Rights Movements; and America's role in global affairs

Course: **World Geography and International Relations** Relative Value: Level II  
Credit: 1.0  
Pre-Requisite: None

Through this course, students gain a greater awareness of the world community in which they live. The content focuses on the physical, cultural and economic geography of various nations in Europe, Asia, South America, North America and Africa, as well as emphasizing map skills and general geographic concepts and themes. This course will also examine political and economic systems throughout the world. This course will examine world relations, focusing on areas of conflict and turmoil.

## **THEOLOGY DEPARTMENT**

### **Overview**

The secondary Religious Education Program seeks to form the whole Christian person in an integrated faith life within the Church community by interweaving the four components of catechesis: word, worship, community, and service. First, young people develop their understanding of the **Catholic tradition** through the study of content of the Church's faith.

Second, the Secondary Religious Education Program acknowledges the tremendous need for the accompanying spiritual development of the teen. Students integrate the knowledge gained about the Church's faith with their own lived religious experience. They are invited to participate in various forms of prayer and worship that are essential to the life of a believer. Young people encounter the Scriptures not simply as a textual object for study but as the living word.

Third, the young person's commitment to God in faith finds expression in a corresponding commitment to the **community of the church**. In the Church's ministry to young people in the Religious Education Program, the students may recognize their own vital place within the community of disciples. They are welcomed, valued, supported, and guided.

Finally, young people are initiated into the gospel mandate of **service to others**. Teachers present love of neighbor not so much as a command, but as a way of life. The communion with God overflows into action in the service of others, particularly those most in need. Secondary students engage in service hours as a necessary component of their progress in the program.

### **Christian Service**

### **Relative Value: Pass/Fail**

To be a student at Holy Cross High School is to make a positive commitment to serve others. This is the gift and responsibility of every Christian. Holy Cross High School recognizes this call to serve as a vital element in the student's growth in faith.

All students are required to participate in the service program sponsored by Holy Cross High School. This program reaches out to 1) the school community; 2) the parish community; 3) the local civic community; and 4) the global community. Underclassmen are required to complete twenty (20) hours of service during each year as part of this structured service program. Seniors are required to complete forty (40) hours of service.

### **REQUIREMENTS:**

A designated Bible will be given to the 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Theology class. The Bible will be used for four (4) years of study.

Course: **Theology 1**  
Credit: 1.0  
Pre-Requisite: None

Relative Value: Level III

Theology 1 is divided into two parts: The Revelation of Jesus Christ in Scripture and Who is Jesus Christ?

### **The Revelation of Jesus Christ in Scripture**

The purpose of this course is to give students a general knowledge and appreciation of the Sacred Scriptures. Through their study they will come to encounter the living Word of God, Jesus Christ. In the course they will learn about the Bible, authored by God through Inspiration, and its value to people throughout the world. They will learn how to read the Bible and will become familiar with the major sections of the Bible and the books included in its section. The student will pay particular attention to the Gospels where they may grow to know and love Jesus Christ more personally.

### **Who is Jesus Christ?**

The purpose of this course is to introduce students to the Mystery of Jesus Christ, the Living Word of God, the second Person of the Blessed Trinity. In the course the student will understand that Jesus Christ is the ultimate revelation to us from God. In learning about who He is, the student will also learn what He calls them to be.

Course: **Theology 2**  
Credit: 1.0  
Pre-Requisite: None

Relative Value: Level III

Theology 2 is divided into two parts: The Mission of Jesus Christ (The Paschal Mystery) and Jesus Christ's Mission Continues in the Church.

### **The Mission of Jesus Christ (The Paschal Mystery)**

The purpose of this course is to help students understand all that God had done for us through His Son, Jesus Christ. Through this course of study, students will learn that for all eternity, God has planned for us to share eternal happiness with Him which is accomplished through the Redemption Christ won for us. Students will learn that they share in this Redemption only in and through Jesus Christ. They will be introduced to what it means to be a disciple of Christ and what life as a disciple entails.

### **Jesus Christ's Mission Continues in the Church**

The purpose of this course is to help the student understand that in and through the Church they encounter the Living Jesus Christ. They will understand the fact that the Church was founded by Christ through the Apostles and is sustained by Him through the Holy Spirit. The students will come to know that the Church is the living Body of Christ today. This Body had both divine and human elements. In this course, students will learn not so much about events in the life of the Church but about the sacred nature of the Church.

Course: **Theology 3**  
Credit: 1.0  
Pre-Requisite: None

Relative Value: Level III

Theology 3 is divided into two parts: Sacraments as Privileged Encounters with Jesus Christ and Life in Jesus Christ.

### **Sacraments as Privileged Encounters with Jesus Christ**

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 examine each of the sacraments in detail so as to learn how they may encounter Christ throughout life.

### **Life in Jesus Christ**

The purpose of this course is to help students understand that it is only through Christ that they can fully live out God's plans for their lives. Students are to learn the moral concepts and precepts that govern the lives of Christ's disciples.

Course: **Theology 4**  
Credit: 1.0  
Pre-Requisite: None

Relative Value: Level III

Theology 4 is divided into two parts: Sacred Scripture and The History of the Church

### **Sacred Scripture**

The purpose of this course is to give an overview of Sacred Scripture with an introduction to the basic principles for understanding and interpreting the Bible. Because of the extent of the scriptural material, this outline will not try to cover the vast content but rather offer comments about Scripture's purpose and religious significance. Given the limits of a semester of study, it will not be possible to introduce all the books of the Bible. But every effort is made to project a sense of the unity of the narrative for the divine plan of salvation, the presence of God's action in this record of his Revelation, and his desire to share his merciful love with us.

### **History of the Church**

This course presents a catechesis of the Church and the Body of Christ in history: its nature and meaning, images, marks, life and ministry, guide to moral life, and the role of prayer. The purpose of the course is to supply the students with a general knowledge of the Church's history from apostolic times to the present. They will be introduced to the fact that the Church was founded by Christ through the Apostles and is sustained by him throughout history through the Holy Spirit. The students will come to know that the Church is the living Body of Christ today and, as such, has both divine and human elements. In this course, the students will learn about the Church's 2,000 years of history and about how the Church is led and governed by the successors of the Apostles.

Course: **Awaken to Prayer** Relative Value: Level II  
Credit: 0.5  
Pre-Requisite: Department Approval

In this elective course, students will “experience” the meaning of prayer. What is prayer? How can I pray? The course will include an overview of the different forms of prayer, prayer of the saints, the use of scripture for prayer, meditation, and contemplation. The elective will explore the Mass, Liturgy of the Hours, *Lectio Divina*, the Rosary, the Divine Mercy Chaplet, and prayer within the different rites of the Church. No text is required other than the students’ copies of The *New American Bible*.

Course: **St. Paul: A Man of Letters/Lives of Saints** Relative Value: Level II  
Credit: 0.5  
Pre-Requisite: None

This elective course will give the students a thorough knowledge of the life and letters of St. Paul. Particular focus will be placed on Romans I and II, Corinthians and Galatians. Students will receive a detailed understanding of issues such as authorship and inspiration. Topics such as salvation, suffering and other major theological issues will also be covered in detail.

# **CAREER-TECHNICAL TRAINING**

## **General Information**

Students participating in the Career Technology program will take classes on a half-day basis at the Career Technology Center of Lackawanna County located at the Henry J. Dende Center on Rockwell Avenue in Scranton.

Participating school districts include: Carbondale, Dunmore, Forest City, Lakeland, Mid-Valley, North Pocono, Scranton, and Valley View.

Course:	<b>Career Technology Elective</b>	Relative Value: Level 1
Credit:	2 in Grades 10 and 11 3 in Grade 12	

Pre-Requisite: Acceptance by the Career Technology Center through application.  
Applications available at [www.ctclc.edu](http://www.ctclc.edu).

Courses offered to replace electives that would have been chosen at the home school include:

Automotive Technology	Building Maintenance Technology
Carpentry	Child Development
Collision Repair Technology	Computer Systems Technology
Cosmetology	Culinary Arts
Electrical Construction and Maintenance	Graphics & Printing Communications
Health Occupations Technology	Plumbing & Heating
Protective Services Occupations	Trowel Trades
Visual Art and Design	Welding Technology