



Program of Studies 2019-2020

Privilege & Responsibility
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MISSION STATEMENT

VISION

St Joseph High School strives to be the premier college preparatory school in Southern Connecticut. The school provides a learning environment that embraces the Gospel values of the Roman Catholic faith and promotes a commitment to family and community. The school prepares our young women and young men to realize their potential, helps them excel in higher education and provides a foundation to guide them throughout their lives.

VALUES

To support our vision, St Joseph High School will provide an environment where the faculty, Administration, support organizations, and students, by example and program, actively promote:

- Roman Catholic teaching and values (faith, morals, ethics, and responsibility)
- Family values
- Community responsibility
- Respect and diversity
- Developing educated and creative thinkers who exhibit superior intellectual and communication skills
- Instilling passion for learning and teaching in a safe and secure environment
- Providing a strong, holistic foundation to enable all students to enter and succeed in competitive higher learning institutions
- Providing a strong program for social and physical development in an atmosphere of healthy competition



Academic Directory

Mrs Nancy DiBuono	Principal	x 301	ndibuono@sjcadets.org
Mr Scott Clough	Assistant Principal for Curriculum and Instruction	x 301	sclough@sjcadets.org
Mr Justin Cirisoli	Registrar	x 302	jcirisoli@sjcadets.org

Department Chairpersons:

Mrs Eileen Broderick	English	x 249	ebroderick@sjcadets.org
Mrs Kathleen Cardillo	Fine Arts	x 222	kcardillo@sjcadets.org
Mr Kevin Butler	Health & Wellness	x 328	kbutler@sjcadets.org
Mrs Robin Berry	Mathematics	x 248	rberry@sjcadets.org
Dr Daniel Walsh	Science	x 231	dwalsh@sjcadets.org
Dr Karl Valois	Social Studies	x 229	kvalois@sjcadets.org
Mrs Angelica Abelson	Technology & Business	x 321	aabelson@sjcadets.org
Ms Meghan Piatak	Theology	x 212	mpiatak@sjcadets.org
Mrs Giulia Terese	World Language	x 224	gterese@sjcadets.org

College Counseling and Guidance:

Mr Timothy Nash	Director	x 317	tnash@sjcadets.org
Mrs Megan Baird	Associate Director	x 316	mbaird@sjcadets.org
Ms Cristin Clark	Counselor	x 318	cclark@sjcadets.org
Mr Jack Nogueira	Counselor	x 315	jnogueira@sjcadets.org
Ms Laura Schiels	Counselor	x 314	lschiels@sjcadets.org

College-Credit Course Coordinators

University of Connecticut/Early College Experience (ECE)

Courses: International Relations (3.0 credits); AP Statistics (4.0 credits)

Coordinator: Ms. Cristin Clark, cclark@sjcadets.org

Sacred Heart University

Courses: Introduction to World Religions (3.0 credits)

Coordinator: Mr Justin Cirisoli, jcirisoli@sjcadets.org

University of Iowa

Courses: Exploring Entrepreneurship (4.0 credits)

Coordinator: Mrs Colleen Piatak, cpiatak@sjcadets.org



Graduation Requirements

ACADEMIC CREDIT REQUIREMENTS

Each student must meet the base requirements for graduation which include:

- English: 4.0 credits, 1 credit per year
- Mathematics: 4.0 credits, 1 credit per year
- Theology: 4.0 credits, 1 credit per year
- Social Studies: 3.5 credits (including Civics)
- Science: 3.0 credits
- World Language: 2.0 credits of same language
 - College recommending: 3.0 credits
- Electives: 3.5
- Two credits earned from the following in grades 9 & 10:
 - Computer 600 or 610: 0.50 credit and P.E./Health: 0.50 credit
 - Art 1, or Theatre 1: 0.50 credit and P.E./Health: 0.50 credit
 - Band or Chorus: 1.0 credit (exempt from P.E./Health requirement)

Total Credits for Graduation: 26

Core Curriculum may be required in each discipline. These credit requirements meet the recommended minimum credit requirements for students applying to most liberal arts college programs. Other academic programs, for example engineering or nursing, may have additional credit requirements. Before selecting courses, students should check college admission requirements for various programs and factor this into their consultation with College Counselors.

Transfer Students

Transfer students are placed accordingly as determined by the St Joseph High School curriculum and requirements for graduation. In some cases, transfer students may be required to take classes with a different grade level. Transfer student credit requirements will be determined on a case-by-case basis during the admission process. To earn their diploma from SJHS, transfer students must meet the following requirements:

- 1.0 credit in British Literature
- 1.0 credit in U.S. History
- 0.5 credit in Civics
- 1.0 credit or equivalent in Algebra II
- 3.0 credits in Science including 1.0 in biological science (Biology or Anatomy) and 1.0 in a physical science (Chemistry or Physics)
- 2.0 credits in the same World Language

Minimum Credit Enrollment

Students must maintain a minimum credit enrollment per academic year to ensure successful completion of requirements. Students in Grade 9 and 10 must maintain 7.0 credits. Students in Grades 11 and 12 must maintain 6.0 credits. Any variation to this credit requirement must be approved by the Assistant Principal for Curriculum and Instruction.

Overage Credit Enrollment

Junior and seniors may elect to take a credit overage of 0.50 – 1.0 credit in place of their study hall. The Registrar will announce which classes are eligible for overage each year. Students must demonstrate high academic achievement in conjunction with their parent/guardian permission and counselor recommendation for consideration. All overages are approved by the Assistant Principal for Curriculum and Instruction.

Please note: taking an overage of credits, though attractive to college admissions, does not allow for early graduation from St Joseph High School.



Academic Levels

St Joseph High School offers a selection of challenging academic levels to meet the needs and goals of all students. Academic placement is determined by the Assistant Principal of Curriculum and Instruction in conjunction with Department Chairs, and test scores/middle school grades. Placement takes into consideration the demonstrated academic ability that meets all course prerequisites. Placement is individualized to highlight student interest as well as academic achievement.

Advanced Placement (AP):

AP courses are college-level course taught according to the College Board Advanced Placement program curriculum. AP courses requires an exceptional quality of work and requires the approval of the Department Chair and/or College Counselor. All students enrolled in an AP course may elect to take the AP exam in May; all fees are covered by St Joseph High School.

College Level (CL):

CL courses are college-level courses which give students the opportunity to earn college credits. CL courses are offered through UCONN/ECE, Sacred Heart University, and the University of Iowa. CL courses require an exceptional quality of work and requires the approval of the Department Chair and/or College Counselor.

Honors (H1/H):

Honors placement requires superior quality work, successful completion of a challenging workload and academic achievement.

Honors 2 (H2):

Honors 2 placement requires above average quality work, successful completion of an advanced workload and academic achievement. This level is offered in Science only.

College Prep/College Prep 2 (CP/CP2):

CP placement (the majority of students) requires quality work, successful completion of assigned work and academic achievement.

Academic Level Requirements

Students in an Advanced Placement-level course of study are expected to maintain a high level of academic achievement consistent with the rigor of a college-level course. Students must maintain an average of 80 to remain in an advanced placement course of study.

Students who are placed in an honors-level course are expected to maintain a high level of academic achievement consistent with the rigor of an honors placement. Students must maintain an average of 80 to remain in an honors course of study.

Students who are placed in college-prep courses and earn an average of 90 or higher and/or the approval of the department chair may elect to advance to an honors course of study.

All placements are coordinated and finalized by the Assistant Principal for Curriculum and Instruction.

COURSE WEIGHTING

Student grades are reported as raw scores on all transcripts and report cards. Students who are enrolled in Advanced Placement, College-level, or honors courses receive a multiplier towards their adjusted (weighted) grade point average. The Registrar's Office updates each student's grade point average annually to reflect the multiplier.

The multipliers are as follows:

- Advanced Placement/College-Level 1.10
- Honors 1 1.07
- Honors 2 1.05
- College Prep 1.00

HONOR ROLL

The following honor roll designations are awarded at the end of each academic quarter. Students who earn President's Honor Roll two or more times in the first three quarters will be recognized annually at the Academic Awards Banquet in May.

- **President's Honor Roll:** a weighted quarter average of 95 with no grade less than a 90
- **Principal's Honor Roll:** a weighted quarter average of 88 with no grade less than 80

SJHS FRANCIS XAVIER INTERNATIONAL SCHOLARS PROGRAM

St Joseph High School has initiated the SJHS Francis Xavier International Scholars Program, with the goal of broadening student awareness of the global mission of the Church while also helping them traverse, with confidence, the distances between culture, economics, religion, and geography. In our increasingly interconnected, co-dependent world, students with global perspective and experience will be better able to become successful and responsible leaders in the emerging global economy.

Students pursuing this certificate program will be involved in intensive world language study, take a minimum of three courses directly related to cross-cultural understanding and global perspectives, and participate in two (2) or more SJHS domestic or international immersion trips.

Students who fulfill these requirements will graduate with distinction as “SJHS Francis Xavier International Scholars.” They will also be acknowledged at Graduation and special documentation will accompany their high school transcript.

Requirements:

- Four years of World Language study
- Participation in two or more SJHS International or Domestic Immersion Trips
- 3 Courses from those listed below:
 - o World Religions (0.50 credit)
 - o Catholic Social Teaching (0.50 credit)
 - o Multicultural Literature/Women in Literature (1.00 credit)
 - o Economics (0.50 credit)
 - o AP Economics (1.00 credit)
 - o Introduction to International Relations (0.50 credit)
 - o Contemporary Political Philosophy (0.50 credit)
 - o Peer Ministry (1.00 credit)

SJHS Francis Xavier Program Coordinator:

Mrs Maureen Anderson, MARS

Director of Co-Curricular Activities

manderson@sjcadets.org

(203) 378-9378 x 354

FUTURES INTERNSHIP PROGRAM

The Futures Internship Program is an opportunity for students to enhance their learning by exploring their career interests outside of the traditional classroom. The goal of the program is for students to gain experience in their desired fields and obtain a favorable referral or recommendation from their site that will assist in procuring future internships.

Program Details:

- Students will participate in a three week, unpaid internship taking place during the last few weeks of the academic year.
 - Tentative dates for 2019-2020 are May 4th- May 22nd
- Internships will consist of 20-25 hours per week according to the schedule determined by the site supervisor and the student. Schedules must be approved by faculty mentors.
- Students will be matched with available internships in their skill and interest areas.
 - Sites may request to interview students during the selection process.
 - Students may also self-design their own internship and apply for approval.
- Students will work with a faculty mentor in addition to their site supervisor during the internship to track progress. Students must submit a one page reflection paper and an activity log to their assigned faculty mentor each week.
- Students will receive 0.25 credit on their final transcript upon completion of the internship.
- Students will complete a final reflection project to present during the Internship Fair at the end of May.

Futures Internship Program Coordinator:

Ms Cristin Clark
School Counselor
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(203) 378-9378 x 318



Curriculum Sequence

This is the typical curriculum sequence for a four-year program of study. As course placement is highly individualized, not all students will adhere this sequence and may see a variation in course planning as a result.

Subject	Grade 09	Grade 10	Grade 11	Grade 12
THEOLOGY 4.0 required credits	Old Testament/ Introduction to Catholicism	New Testament/ Christology	Catholic Social Teaching Morality	Bioethics Faith & Reason Catholic Social Teaching World Religions Prayer/Spirituality Christian Lifestyles Catholicism in Culture Peer Ministry
ENGLISH 4.0 required credits (5.0 if CP2)	World Literature & Composition Academic Writing & Skills (CP2 only)	American Literature	British Literature AP English Language & Composition	Senior English AP English Literature & Composition Electives: Creative Writing
MATHEMATICS 4.0 required credits	Algebra I Geometry	Geometry Algebra 2	Algebra 2 Precalculus	Precalculus Calculus AP Calculus AB AP Calculus BC AP Statistics Statistics College Mathematics
SOCIAL STUDIES 3.5 required credits	Global Studies	U.S. History AP U.S. History	Western Traditions AP European History	Civics AP American Government & Politics Electives: Psychology, AP Economics, AP Psychology, Economics, Contemporary Political Philosophy, International Relations



Curriculum Sequence

Subject	Grade 09	Grade 10	Grade 11	Grade 12
SCIENCE 3.0 required credits	Natural Sciences Biology	Biology Chemistry Anatomy	Chemistry Physics AP Biology AP Chemistry	Physics AP Physics AP Biology AP Chemistry AP Environmental Science
				Electives: AP Environmental Science, Environmental Science, Microbiology, Genetics, Anatomy, Principles of Engineering
WORLD LANGUAGE 2.0 required credits (3.0 college recommending)	Mandarin 1, 2	Mandarin 2, 3	Mandarin 3, 4	Mandarin 4, 5
	French 1, 2	French 2, 3	French 3, 4, 5	French 4, 5, AP
	Spanish 1, 2	Spanish, 2, 3	Spanish 3, 4, 5	Spanish 3, 4, 5, AP
	Italian 1	Italian 2	Italian 3	Italian 4
TECHNOLOGY & BUSINESS*	Technology Concepts		Electives: Computer Coding & App Development, Accounting, Financial Literacy, Robotics, Entrepreneurship, Marketing, Graphic Design, Broadcast Journalism	
FINE ARTS*	Band Choir	Band Choir Advanced Band Advanced Choir Art 1 Theater	Electives: Band, Choir, Advanced Band, Advanced Choir, Art 2, Art 3, Pottery 1, Pottery 2, Art of Acting	
HEALTH/ WELLNESS*	Intro. to Health & Wellness	Fitness for Life		

*Required credits for Business/Technology, Fine Arts, and Health & Wellness vary based on student selection in their freshmen year



English Department

The St Joseph High School English Department presents students with a challenging curriculum that focuses on reading, writing, and critical thinking skills. The goals of the English curriculum are to provide a four-year literature-based program to assist in the development of excellence in writing and speaking skills, learning to critically analyze challenging literature and original source texts, as well as building vocabulary and grammar skills. We employ 21st century technology to promote media literacy and to develop students who are prepared to meet their future academic and career goals in an ever-changing technological world.

World Literature & Composition (CP, CP2, H)

English 104; 105; 106 (Grade 9)

1.0 Credit

This literature-based course introduces students to the rich complexity of World Literature and varied literary genres such as poetry, novels, drama, the epic and the short story, focusing on the basics in reading, oral, and written communication. Students study grammar and vocabulary and apply this knowledge in expository, creative, and research writing as well as oral presentations.

Academic Writing and Language Skills (CP2)

English 117 (Grade 9)

1.0 Credit

This course offers fundamentals in grammar and writing that complements English 106 CP2 World Literature & Composition. Designed for students who need strengthening in grammar, vocabulary and study skills, the class also focuses on in-class reading assignments and writing prompts. Students enrolled in this course do not take a world language in their freshmen year.

American Literature (CP, CP2, H)

English 120; 121; 122 (Grade 10)

1.0 Credit

American Literature is an exploration of the development of the unique heritage of our American literary voice. This course takes the student on a journey through the literary genres and stylistic movements from the 1600's to present day that make up the rich and varied American literary canon. Through an examination of major American writers students continue to develop reading comprehension, vocabulary, grammar, literary interpretation and critical thinking skills. Students are expected to apply this knowledge in analytical, expository, creative and research writing as well as in oral presentations.

British Literature (CP, CP2, H)

English 130; 131; 136 (Grade 11, 12)

1.0 Credit

This course offers an introduction to the major literary movements and writers of Great Britain beginning in the Anglo-Saxon Period followed by Medieval, Renaissance, Elizabethan, Restoration Victorian and Modern 20th Century eras. Through an examination of major British writers students continue to develop reading comprehension, vocabulary, grammar, literary interpretation and critical thinking skills. Students are expected to apply this knowledge in analytical, expository, creative and research writing as well as in oral presentations.

English Department (cont'd)

AP English Language and Composition

English 103 (Grade 11)

1.0 credit

AP English Language and Composition mirrors a college-level rhetoric and writing curriculum. The focus is on evidence-based analytic and argumentative essays. Students will be required to evaluate, synthesize, and cite research to support their arguments. Students also read and analyze rhetorical elements in non-fiction texts from a cross section of time periods. This course has an additional focus on British Literature and incorporates literary analysis. Students will have the option to take the AP exam which will be administered in May.

AP English Literature and Composition

English 101 (Grade 12)

1.0 Credit

AP English Literature and Composition mirrors an introductory college-level literary analysis course. Students focus on close reading and critical analysis of works of literary merit from the 17th century to modern day to analyze how writers utilize language to convey meaning. Students learn to dissect a work's structure, style, and themes, as well as its use of figurative language, imagery, symbolism, and tone. Students will have the option to take the AP exam which will be administered in May.

Senior English: Controversial Literature/Literature and War (H)

English 170 (Grade 12)

1.0 Credit

The first half of this course investigates the issue of literature censorship in schools from multiple perspectives and requires historical, social, and psychological understanding on the part of the student so that they can better understand the psyche of literary censorship. The second half of this course examines the intricate and powerful effect war has on citizens. Students analyze both fiction and nonfiction prose and poetry that provide insight to the psyche and emotions of war-torn people. The course explores psychological, emotional, and historical effects of tragedy and subjects such as beauty amid violence, loss, fear and horror, patriotism, dehumanization, and identity through a compilation of short stories, poems, and novels.

Senior English: Controversial Literature/Shakespeare's Comedies and Tragedies (H)

English 172 (Grade 12)

1.0 Credit

The first half of this course investigates the issue of literature censorship in schools from multiple perspectives and requires historical, social, and psychological understanding on the part of the student so that they can better understand the psyche of literary censorship. The second half of this course students read and analyze the sonnets, histories, comedies and tragedies written by William Shakespeare in an interactive classroom environment. Students learn to read text accurately and imaginatively, and learn to appreciate Shakespeare's dramatic dimensions.

English Department (cont'd)

Senior English: Women in Literature/Multicultural Literature (CP)

English 175 (Grade 12)

1.0 Credit

Historically, women have been marginalized in terms of human and political rights. This course begins with a consideration of the historical events for this marginalization and the literature and art of women in response to it. This course introduces students to female authors of fiction, non-fiction, poetry and critical theory from around the world. The second half of this course provides an introduction to the academic study of the multicultural genre through poetry, fiction, non-fiction, plays and music to gain an understanding of the historical and social development of writers of different ethnic, cultural, and racial backgrounds.

Senior English: Literature and War/Short Story (CP)

English 176 (Grade 12)

1.0 Credit

The first half of this course studies the development of the short story, including history, plot, character, setting, point-of-view, narration, tone, style and theme. The class includes literary analysis as well as writing an original short story and oral presentations. The second half of this course examines the intricate and powerful effect war has on citizens. Students analyze both fiction and nonfiction prose and poetry that provides insight into the psyche and emotions of war-torn people. The course explores psychological, emotional, and historical effects of tragedy and explores subjects such as beauty amid violence, loss, fear and horror, patriotism, dehumanization, and identity through a compilation of short stories, poems, and novels.

Senior English: Sports Literature and Writing/Science Fiction Literature (CP)

English 179 (Grade 12)

1.0 Credit

The first half of the courses examines the unique relationship between sports and society through literature by contemporary authors, columnists and other media. The course affords students the opportunity to examine the historical influence sports has on society and the impact it plays on developing character through universal themes of struggle, conflict, victory and defeat. The second half of this course includes a selection of genres within Science Fiction literature including apocalyptic and post-apocalyptic, dying earth, military, time travel, space colonization and social science fiction. Students explore differences between science fiction and other fantastical works, identify and analyze techniques used to convey imaginary places, beings and ideas, and discuss/compare the evolution of science fiction from its original models to more modern works.

Elective Course Offerings

Creative Writing (CP)

English 137 (Grades 11, 12)

0.50 Credit

This course teaches students the elements of creative writing including short story, poetry, expository essay and character study through weekly writing assignments, peer editing and story conferencing. This course is only offered in the spring semester.



Fine Arts Department

St Joseph High School believes that every student is entitled to a well-rounded education that includes exposure to the arts, including courses in art, music, theatre and interdisciplinary courses. A foundation in the arts develops cognitive, analytical, problem solving and task completion skills. The arts allow students to develop self-expression through visual, aural and performance mediums. Upon completion of the program, students should possess a basic understanding and appreciation of the arts in their world and how the arts relate to history, society and cultural awareness.

VISUAL AND STUDIO ART

Art 1 (CP)

Visual Art 717 (Grade 10)

0.50 Credit

Art I provides a general overview of the visual arts with an emphasis on design, historical significance and artistic intent. Students work with two and three-dimensional mediums creating realistic and abstract works including: pencil, pastel, marker, clay, paint and sculptural mediums. The hands on work combines with text, multimedia presentations, and class discussion to help students gain an understanding of the societal importance of art.

Art 2 (CP)

Visual Art 701 (Grades 10,11,12)

0.50 Credit

Art II is a studio class that explores two-dimensional mediums. Students work on design concepts, perspective, color mixing and the use of different mediums including pencil, colored pencil, pastel, charcoal, acrylic, watercolor and oil paints. Prerequisite: Visual Art 717 or approval of the Art Teacher

Art 3 (H)

Visual Art 722 (Grades 11,12)

0.50 Credit

An advanced course involving the creation of realistic and abstract pieces. Students explore advanced design concepts and shading using pencil, colored pencil, pastel, charcoal, acrylic, watercolor and oil paints. Prerequisite: Visual Art 701 or approval of the Art Teacher

Ceramics/Pottery 1 (CP)

Visual Art 778 (Grades 11, 12)

0.50 Credit

Students explore the various processes in clay, learning to use the pottery wheel to create open and closed form vessels, lids and handles. Advanced skills involve throwing off the hump and hand building techniques such as slab, pinch and coil methods. Students also create large freestanding sculptures using realistic and abstract themes.

Fine Arts (cont'd)

Ceramics/Pottery 2 (CP)

Visual Art 779 (Grades 11, 12)

0.50 Credit

This course focuses on advanced techniques using the pottery wheel and sculptural methods and includes mosaics and advanced hand building techniques. Students also work with glazes and decorative methods and learn the firing process. Prerequisite: Visual Art 778

MUSICAL ARTS

Concert Band (CP)

Music 732 (Grades 9, 10, 11, 12)

1.0 Credit

Concert Band provides students the opportunity to develop their musical and spiritual potential with an emphasis on fulfilling musical objectives. Students engage in activities designed to give them a thorough grounding in instrumental playing and musical literacy, instrumental technique, performance practice and sight-reading. The band performs at St. Joseph High School events. Concert Band requires attendance at all after school rehearsals and performances. Pre-requisite: Students must have prior instrumental experience and an understanding of sheet music.

Steel Drum Ensemble (CP)

Music 725 (Grades 11, 12)

0.50 Credit

Steel Drum Ensemble allows students to learn and perform world music on authentic steel pan percussion instruments. Music selections draw on cultures from Latin America, the Caribbean, and the United States. Steel Drum Ensemble requires attendance at all after school rehearsals and performances. Prerequisite: Prior music experience preferred.

Concert Choir (CP)

Music 733; 734 (Grades 9, 10, 11, 12)

1.0 Credit

The Concert Choir ensemble is for the student with a love of singing, no previous vocal training required. Students work on sacred and secular choral literature while studying music notation, sight singing, music vocabulary and vocal technique. In addition to ensemble rehearsal, students receive bi-weekly small group lessons for instruction designed to address individual student needs. Concert Choir requires attendance at all after school rehearsals and performances.

Advanced Band (H)

Music 738 (Grades 10, 11, 12)

1.0 Credit

Advanced Band builds on the concepts of Concert Band while challenging students to further their musicianship skills through intensive technique building. Advanced Band's goal is to prepare students for outside auditions (Regional, All State Ensembles and College), and to develop an advanced repertoire. The band performs at St. Joseph High School events. Advanced Band requires attendance at all after school rehearsals and performances. Prerequisite: Audition in spring semester; admittance based on audition scores and ensemble needs.

Fine Arts (cont'd)

Advanced Chamber Choir (H)

Music 739 (Grades 10, 11, 12)

1.0 Credit

The Chamber Choir builds on the concepts of Concert Choir while challenging students to further their musicianship skills through intensive technique building. Chamber Choir's goal is to prepare students for outside auditions (Regional, All State Ensembles and College), and to develop an advanced repertoire. Advanced Chamber Choir requires attendance at all after school rehearsals and performances. Prerequisite: Audition in spring semester; admittance based on audition scores and ensemble needs. This course is offered before-school at 7:00 a.m.

Advanced Band 2 (H)

Music 740 (Grades 10, 11, 12)

1.0 Credit

This course is a continuation of techniques and skills learned in Advanced Band. Prerequisite: Successful completion of 738; Audition in the spring semester and/or approval of the Music teacher

Advanced Chamber Choir 2 (H)

Music 741 (Grades 11, 12)

1.0 Credit

This course is a continuation of techniques and skills learned in Advanced Band. Prerequisite: Successful completion of 739; Audition in the spring semester and/or approval of the Music teacher. This course is offered before-school at 7:00 a.m.

Advanced Band 3 (H)

Music 743 (Grades 11, 12)

1.0 Credit

This course is a continuation of techniques and skills learned in Advanced Band. Prerequisite: Successful completion of 741; Audition in the spring semester and/or approval of the Music teacher

THEATER AND PERFORMING ARTS

Theater (CP)

Theater 719 (Grade 10)

0.50 Credit

Theater introduces students to a basic understanding of the skills and art of theater. The course focuses on public speaking, scene studies, improvisation, script construction and performance techniques, as well as exploring how theater has shaped societies since ancient times. Students will learn basic stage combat, backstage skills, as well as directing and acting.

The Art of Acting (CP)

Theater 773 (Grades 11, 12)

0.50 Credit

This course provides an in-depth study of the various skills an actor needs in order to be successful, including an awareness and appreciation of acting both as a participant and an observer. Emphasis is placed upon ensemble and scene work, as well as improvisation. Students study texts for clues to character behavior and motivation and are assigned classic and contemporary theater works. Students perform monologues, two-person scenes, improvised scenarios, as well as learning how to audition.



Mathematics Department

The philosophy of the Mathematics Department is to comprehensively build on the mathematical knowledge students have gained throughout their education. The Mathematics Department strives to offer a learning environment that fosters analytical thinking, logical reasoning, problem-solving skills, and an appreciation for the beauty and precision of mathematics.

Mathematics placement for freshmen is determined by the Assistant Principal for Curriculum and Instruction in conjunction with the Mathematics Department Chair. Placement is based on test scores, transcripts, and recommendations. Incoming freshmen that have taken an Honors-level Algebra I course will take the SJHS Math Placement Exam in the spring of 8th grade. The highest scoring students will be placed in Honors Geometry. Incoming students who are Honors-ready, but have not mastered an Honors level Algebra I course are placed in Honors Algebra I.

Students enrolled in all Mathematics classes need access to a graphing calculator daily.

Algebra 1 (H, CP, CP2)

Mathematics 208; 210; 213 (Grade 9)

1.0 Credit

This course is an introduction to the basic concepts and operations of Algebra. Topics covered include language, axioms, equations, inequalities, graphing, problem solving, and laws of exponents, multiplication, division, factoring and square roots.

Geometry (H, CP, CP2)

Mathematics 215; 220; 223 (Grades 9, 10)

1.0 Credit

Two and three-dimensional geometric figures are explored through the use of definitions, postulates and theorems. Inductive and deductive reasoning are developed in the formulation of proofs and through group activities.

Prerequisites: Algebra 1 or placement by examination

Algebra 2 (H, CP, CP2)

Mathematics 225; 230; 233 (Grades 9, 10, 11)

1.0 Credit

An extension of Algebra 1, students are introduced to the transcendental functions (exponential, trigonometric and logarithmic). Matrices, algebraic fractions, functions, introduction to sequences and series, and probability.

Prerequisites: Geometry or placement by examination

Pre-Calculus (H, CP)

Mathematics 231; 253 (Grades 10, 11, 12)

1.0 Credit

This course covers circular, algebraic, exponential, and logarithmic functions as well as Trigonometry and its applications, analytic Geometry, sequences and series and vectors. Prerequisites: Algebra 2

Mathematics (cont'd)

AP Statistics

Mathematics 202/ UCONN ECE STAT 1100Q (Grade 12)

1 Credit

AP Statistics is a class for any students who wants to learn how to make sense of the world around him/her through the use of authentic data. A standard approach to statistical analysis primarily for students of business and economics; elementary probability, sampling distributions, normal theory estimation and hypothesis testing, regression and correlation, exploratory data analysis. Learning to do statistical analysis on a personal computer is an integral part of the course. This is a college level course and follows the standard syllabus prescribed by the College Board. Students will have the option to take the AP exam which will be administered in May. This course is also a dual-enrollment course with the UCONN.

AP Calculus, AB

Mathematics 201 (Grades 11, 12)

1.0 Credit

The first semester emphasizes a thorough study of derivatives. Students become proficient both explicit and implicit derivatives of polynomial, rational trigonometric, logarithmic and exponential functions. Derivative applications are studied through motion, curve fitting, extrema and related rates. The second semester stresses the study of the integral. Applications are stressed through the investigation of volumes, length of curves, volumes of solids of revolution and surface area. This is a college level course and follows the standard syllabus prescribed by the College Board. Students will have the option to take the AP exam which will be administered in May. Prerequisites: Precalculus

AP Calculus, BC

Mathematics 203 (Grades 11, 12)

1.0 Credit

This covers all of the topics from Calculus AB as well as Taylor and Maclaurin series, advanced methods of integration, polar coordinates and equations as well as parametric equations. This is a college level course and follows the standard syllabus prescribed by the College Board. Students will have the option to take the AP exam which will be administered in May. Prerequisites: Precalculus

Calculus (H)

Mathematics 241 (Grades 11, 12)

1.0 Credit

Calculus topics begin with study of limits. The derivative is introduced through the study of the tangent line problem and the limit definition of the derivative is developed. Students' become proficient at both explicit and implicit derivatives of polynomial, rational, trigonometric, exponential and logarithmic functions. Derivative applications are studied through motion, curve fitting, extrema, and related rates. The course continues with anti-differentiation and its applications.

Prerequisites: Precalculus

Statistics (H)

Mathematics 256 (Grade 12)

1.0 Credit

Statistics is the science of collecting and analyzing data. This course covers descriptive statistics, axiomatic probability, probability distributions (including the normal binomial), inferential statistics (confidence intervals and hypothesis tests), and curve fitting.

Mathematics (cont'd)

College Mathematics (CP2)

Mathematics 255 (Grade 12)

1.0 Credit

This course is designed as preparation for a first-year college non-calculus mathematics course. Students study mathematical concepts that are related to future careers, vocational or professional. Topics include mathematics of networks, finance, scheduling, symmetry, descriptive statistics, and chances and odds.



Health & Wellness Department

St Joseph High School believes in educating the whole student, spiritually, academically and physically. Health & Wellness offers physical activities that emphasize cardiovascular endurance, muscular strength, flexibility and agility and that students can participate in for a lifetime of health and wellness. Teamwork, positive attitude, good sportsmanship and interactions with classmates are emphasized.

The Health and Wellness curriculum encompasses topics such as cardio and weight training, basic human anatomy and musculature, nutrition and healthy eating habits, weight management, and program design and development. All classes will have practical applications through sporting and exercise activities including volleyball, basketball, soccer, track and field, yoga, cycling, etc. with full access to the St Joe's gymnasium, athletic fields and the new Health and Wellness Center.

Health & Wellness classes are required for freshmen and sophomores enrolled in the computer and fine arts electives. Students enrolled in music courses are exempt from the Health & Wellness requirement.

Introduction to Health and Wellness (CP)

Health & Wellness 823 (Grade 9)

0.5 Credit

The overall goal of the Health and Wellness curriculum is to introduce St Joseph's incoming freshman into the basics of health, fitness, nutrition and creating healthy lifestyles using the SJHS gymnasium, fields, and the Health and Wellness Center. At the conclusion of this course students will be able to navigate the Wellness Center, understand the basics of nutrition, weight management, proper hygiene essentials and how to develop a personalized plan to create "fitness for life." This course will introduce students to the Plt4m digital application which will track student progress as they are introduced to weightlifting and basic athletic development. This is a pass/fail course.

Fitness for Life (CP)

Health & Wellness 824 (Grade 10)

0.5 Credit

The overall goal of Fitness to Life is to continue building upon the foundations established in Introduction to Health and Wellness. At the conclusion of this course, students will be able to understand basic exercise physiology and be able to properly demonstrate proficiency with basic weightlifting exercises. Students will also be exposed to various fitness classes including yoga, cycling, boot camp and TRX. This course will continue use of the Plt4m application to track student's physical development through various fitness markers through the semester. This course will have both a classroom and experiential component.



Science Department

The Science Department at St Joseph High School strives to prepare students for life in a technologically advancing society. Students are taught the importance of science in everyday life as well as an understanding and appreciation of the laws of nature and the universe. Science is a process of inquiry rather than a collection of facts. Through laboratory work, students are taught how to ask the right questions about nature and learn how the sciences interconnect. The department goal is to prepare students to understand the mysteries of the planet, the ecosystems, and the various species populating Earth, and themselves as human beings.

Science placement for freshmen is determined by the Assistant Principal of Curriculum and Instruction in conjunction with the Science Department Chair. Placement is based on test scores, transcripts, and recommendations.

The Natural Sciences (CP, CP2)

Science 412; 409 (Grade 9)

1.0 Credit

This course introduces students to the natural sciences (biology, chemistry, physics and Earth science) and stresses their common skills: scientific inquiry, experimental design, recording, tabulating, graphing and interpreting data, applying mathematical skills, the correct use of laboratory equipment and how to prepare lab reports.

Biology (H, H2, CP, CP2)

Science 411; 422; 420; 415 (Grade 9, 10)

1.0 Credit

The study of Biology encompasses biochemistry, cellular structure and function, genetics, evolution, and ecology. Lecture is complemented by a complete program of laboratory experiments.

Elements of Chemistry (CP)

Science 450 (Grades 10, 11, 12)

1.0 Credit

This course deals with chemistry as it relates to modern life. The organization of elements based on the Atomic Theory is studied through class lectures and laboratory work. The descriptive aspects of chemistry are emphasized. Prerequisites: Science 420 and Mathematics 210 or 213.

Principles of Chemistry (H2)

Science 455 (Grades 10, 11, 12)

1.0 Credit

This course deals with chemistry as it relates to modern life. The organization of elements based on the Atomic Theory is studied through class lectures and laboratory work. Prerequisites: Science 420 and Mathematics 210.

Science Department (cont'd)

Modern Chemistry (H1)

Science 453 (Grades 10, 11, 12)

1.0 Credit

This course treats the science of Chemistry in a modern theoretical manner. Students study chemical theory and descriptive chemistry with an emphasis on the electronic structure and periodicity of the elements and apply them in laboratory work. Prerequisites: Science 411 or 420 and Mathematics 210.

Conceptual Physics (CP)

Science 440 (Grade 11, 12)

1.0 Credit

This course introduces students to the fundamental principles of physics and shows how physics is applied to practical solutions. The course encourages comprehension of physics and scientific communication skills without the use of complex mathematics. The basic rules of the universe: force, motion, energy, light, sound, heat and the interior of the atom are covered through discussion and activity. Prerequisites: Science 450 and Mathematics 210 or 213.

Physics (H1)

Science 441 (Grade 11, 12)

1.0 Credit

This course, for students with strong math and science aptitude, provides a comprehensive study of motion and force, energy, sound, light, and electromagnetics; laboratory work provides inquiry. Prerequisites: Science 453 or 455 and Mathematics 221 or 231.

Physics (H2)

Science 443 (Grade 11, 12)

1.0 Credit

This course emphasizes the physical concepts of motion and force, energy, sound, light, and electromagnetics; laboratory work examines their practical applications. Prerequisites: Science 455: and Mathematics 231 or 230.

AP Environmental Science

Science 400 (Grades 11, 12)

1.0 Credit

This course investigates how humankind can become a better steward of the Earth and its resources. The course covers biodiversity, agriculture, water and air pollution, climate change, and fossil fuels versus renewable energy sources. Laboratory experiments and fieldwork are required. Students will have the option to take the AP exam which will be administered in May. Prerequisites: Science 411/422 or 453/455.

AP Biology and Lab

Science 401 & 402 (Grades 11, 12)

1.0 Credit (Grades 11, 12)

This course emphasizes biological principles from the AP Biology curriculum, including biochemistry, cell metabolism, molecular genetics and genetic engineering, evolution, population biology, plant and animal physiology, and ecology. Extensive laboratory work is required. Students will have the option to take the AP exam which will be administered in May. Prerequisites: Science 411: or 451.

Science Department (cont'd)

AP Chemistry and Lab

Science 403 & 404 (Grades 11, 12)

1.0 Credit

This course expands on topics from Science 453, Modern Chemistry, and covers nuclear chemistry, electrochemistry, and rates of reactions, thermodynamics and the involvement of chemistry in environmental and societal issues. Extensive laboratory work is required, involved calculating and interpreting results based on quantitative data. Students will have the option to take the AP exam which will be administered in May. Prerequisites: Science 453.

AP Physics C

Science 405 (Grades, 11, 12)

1.0 Credit

This course covers kinematics, Newton's laws of motion: work, energy, power; systems of particles and linear momentum, circular motion and rotation, and oscillation and gravitation. Students will have the option to take the AP exam which will be administered in May. Prerequisites: Science 441 or 443 and concurrent enrollment in Mathematics 241

Sports Medicine (CP)

Science 454 (Grades 11, 12)

0.50 Credit

This course is designed for students interested in the medical/health fields. Students learn medical terminology, prevention, treatment, rehabilitation of sports injuries, emergency procedures, and basic first-aid. Practical skills include wrapping, basic, first-aid and emergency procedures. Students have the opportunity to assist with the development and application of rehabilitation of St Joseph High School athletes.

Human and Comparative Anatomy and Physiology (H1)

Science 451 (Grades 11, 12)

1.0 Credit

This course, designed for students interested in medicine/health, provides detailed coverage of the structure and functions of the human body, including the injuries and diseases that affect each organ system. Emphasis is placed on the human body, but comparisons are made to other vertebrates. Major dissections are an essential part of the course. Prerequisites: Science 411, 420, 453, or 455.

Human Anatomy and Physiology (CP)

Science 452 (Grade 11, 12)

1.0 Credit

This course is designed for students interested in medicine/health but who do not meet the prerequisite for Science 451. The course focuses on detailed coverage of the structure and functions of the human body and the injuries and diseases that affect each organ system. Major dissections are an essential part of the course. Prerequisite: Science 420.

Environmental Science (CP)

Science 448 (Grades 12)

0.5 Credit

This course is a study of the fundamental principles of land and marine ecology. Students study various ecosystems, habitats and environmental problems. Discussion includes current topics and issues.

Science Department (cont'd)

Genetics (CP, H1, H2)

Science 444; 445; 446 (Grade 12)

0.50 Credit

This course examines how physical traits are coded for and expressed in organisms, how traits are inherited from one generation to the next, and how changes in the genetic material, past and present, have led to biological diversity. The course focuses on DNA and how it regulates all processes of the body. Prerequisites: Successful completion of biology and chemistry.

Microbiology (H2)

Science 447 (Grade 12)

0.50 Credit

Focus is on the cellular and biological aspects of various species of microorganisms. Emphasis is placed on the characteristics, both beneficial and pathogenic, that each type manifests, and the industrial and medicinal effects that the organisms have on everyday life. Prerequisites: Successful completion of biology and chemistry.

Principles of Engineering (CP)

Science 458 (Grade 12)

1.0 Credit

This survey course exposes students to major concepts that will be covered in a college-level engineering course. Topics include mechanisms, energy, statics, materials and kinematics. Students develop problem-solving skills and apply their knowledge of research and design to create solutions to various challenges that they document and communicate.



Social Studies

The Social Studies Department promotes liberal arts instruction that leads to informed citizenship and an inculcation of Christian principles and moral values. Historical knowledge can serve as a bridge to the present, explaining and illuminating how we have developed as a civilization. Students are introduced to a thought-provoking process of investigation and analysis centered on social issues: racism, poverty, gender, minorities, war, tolerance, equality and social justice, to develop critical thinking skills, diversity of opinion and moral sensibility.

Social Studies placement for freshmen is determined by the Assistant Principal of Curriculum and Instruction in conjunction with the Social Studies Department Chair. Placement is based on test scores, transcripts, and recommendations.

Global Studies (H, CP, CP2)

Social Studies 318; 319; 329 (Grade 9)

1.0 Credit

A comprehensive survey course designed to provide students with a global perspective on multicultural issues. All major areas of the world are explored with emphasis on human geography. Topics include physical geography and climate, economic systems, language, religion, and culture to provide students with a better understanding of people and how they live in an interconnected global society.

AP United States History

Social Studies 301 (Grade 10)

1.0 Credit

This college-level course follows the standard syllabus approved by the College Board from pre-Columbian origins to the present day. Emphasis is on critical reading skills and the ability to work independently. Students will have the option to take the AP exam which will be administered in May. Pre-course summer reading is required.

American History Since 1860 (CP, CP2, H)

Social Studies 320; 322; 321 (Grade 10)

1.0 Credit

This course analyzes the development of American society from the Civil War to the present. Emphasis is placed on American politics, economic life, social and cultural events, and the role of America in world affairs.

AP Modern European History

Social Studies 303 (Grade 11)

1.0 Credit

This college-level course follows the standard syllabus approved by the College Board and focuses on the study of European History from the Renaissance to modern times. Emphasis is on critical reading skills and the ability to work independently. Students will have the option to take the AP exam which will be administered in May. Pre-course summer assignment is required.

Social Studies Department (cont'd)

The Western Tradition (CP, CP2, H)

Social Studies 330; 339; 331 (Grade 11)

1.0 Credit

This survey course focuses on the development of European civilization from the ancient Greeks through the Second World War. Emphasis is placed on the social, economic, and political trends that affected European history and contributed to the political evolution of western European nations. Note: Social Studies 331 (H) requires significant reading and independent study.

AP United States Government and Politics

Social Studies 302 (Grade 12)

1.0 Credit

This college-level course follows the standard syllabus approved by the College Board and is designed to provide students with an analytical perspective on government and politics in the United States. Students develop a critical understanding of the strengths and weaknesses of the American political system, as well their rights and responsibilities as citizens. Students will have the option to take the AP exam which will be administered in May. This course fulfills the Civics requirement. Pre-course summer reading required.

Civics (CP; H)

Social Studies 312; 313 (Grade 12)

0.50 Credit

This course is an intensive study of the constitutional framework, institutions, and political processes of the United States government. Students focus on the duties, rights, and responsibilities of citizenship and develop a critical understanding of the political, economic, and social challenges in governing a pluralistic society. Case studies of historical and current issues are utilized to provide students an analytical perspective on the evolution of the United States government. Social Studies 312/313 is a required senior course.

AP Psychology

Social Studies 305 (Grades 11, 12)

1.0 Credit

This is a college-level course providing students an overview of the diverse social and biological science of psychology through multiple perspectives and interpretations. This course emphasizes critical thinking skills in application to the social sciences by immersing students in modern psychological research, techniques, and methodologies. Some topics of study include: research methods, learning and cognition, developmental psychology, abnormal behavior and social psychology. This course follows a syllabus approved by College Board and students can elect to take the AP exam in May.

AP Economics

Social Studies 307 (Grades 11, 12)

1.0 Credit

This full-year course provides a thorough understanding of the principles of economics, with particular attention focused on the American economic system. It covers both microeconomics and macroeconomics. Students will have the option to take the AP exam which will be administered in May.

Social Studies (cont'd)

Introduction to Psychology (CP)

Social Studies 343 (Grades 11, 12)

0.50 Credit

A survey course that introduces students to human development, the brain, the nervous system, statistics, testing, learning, emotions, and communication through supervised experiments and written reports. Emphasis is placed on current theories that apply to major social problems in the modern world.

Economics (CP)

Social Studies 350 (Grades 11, 12)

0.50 Credit

This is a survey course designed to provide students with a fundamental understanding of the workings of the global economic system and the important role played by economics in the modern world.

Introduction to International Relations (CL)

Social Studies 358/UCONN POLS 1402-801D (Grades 11, 12)

0.50 Credit

Students in this course prepare for involvement in the Model United Nations (MUN) conferences through country delegate positions, bloc positions and prior United Nations policies. Students are required to become delegates for the selected conference.

Contemporary Political Philosophy (H)

Social Studies 359 (Grades 11, 12)

0.50 Credit

This second semester course will cover the major philosophies that affect the global community. Traditional topics such as Marxism, Fascism and Democracy will be examined. The course will also address major religious and economic theories and the application of liberal and conservative points of view on the solution of global issues.



Technology and Business Department

The philosophy of the Technology & Business Department at SJHS is to equip students with the skills necessary to succeed and excel in the 21st century. SJHS students use the iPad as an educational tool to utilize school Apps and Portals for daily workflow of assignments and communication. We strive to prepare our students for a world that is integrated with technology by offering learning experiences that focus on fundamental concepts in an environment that fosters analytical thinking, logical reasoning and financial life skills while always reflecting on digital citizenship.

Technology Concepts

Computer 601, 611 (Grade 9)

0.50 Credit

This course introduces freshmen students to technology-centered, hands-on, inquiry-based learning. Through assorted projects, students will gain the software and technical skills necessary for success in high school, college and beyond. Students will have repeated opportunities to learn collaboratively, practice task-management, and cultivate teamwork, communication, and critical-thinking skills.

Broadcast Journalism

Technology 636 (Grade 9, 10, 11, 12)

1.0 Credit

Broadcast Journalism is a unique course offering at SJHS that is open to all grades. Students learn all aspects of broadcasting through hands-on operation of a real television studio. Subject areas include research, writing, producing, recording, and airing news, features, public service, and entertainment. Students become proficient in performance and the operation of all studio equipment in the planning, production, and delivery of a daily program for the entire SJ community. This course meets before school at 7:00 a.m.

Accounting (CP)

Business 654 (Grades 11, 12)

0.50 Credit

An entry-level course focusing on the accounting cycle as it applies to a sole proprietorship by teaching the basic principles of accounting and the financial operations of a business. Students record, classify, summarize, analyze and communicate financial information.

Financial Literacy (CP)

Business 657 (Grades 11, 12)

0.50 Credit

This course emphasizes the knowledge and skills required to handle personal finances including banking, the stock market, insurance, employee benefits, consumer buying, financing, taxes and legal issues. Students work with the H & R Block online budget challenge simulation that incorporates real-world money management skills including paying bills, managing expenses, saving money, and investing in retirement.

Technology and Business Department (cont'd)

Introduction to Marketing (CP)

Business 659 (Grades 11, 12)

0.50 Credit

This entry-level business course integrates language arts, mathematics, social studies and social sciences while covering four core areas: Business Administration, Marketing, Marketing Pathways and Marketing Job Specialties. Topics covered include distribution, marketing-information management, pricing, product/service management, promotion and selling.

Introduction to Graphic Design (CP)

Technology 662 (Grades 11, 12)

0.50 Credit

This course familiarizes students with computer design and its applications by working on individual and group-based design projects geared to various target markets that students select from emphasizing teamwork, presentation, and evaluation and communication skills. Software applications include the Adobe suite: Photoshop, Dreamweaver and InDesign and Apple Pages, iPhoto, and iMovie.

Exploring Entrepreneurship (CL)

Business 664 (Grade 12)

0.50 Credit

Learn the “entrepreneurial mindset” by encouraging creativity, innovation, critical thinking, and problem-solving by bridging connections between STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) and economic development. Through a research-driven approach, as well as strategic collaborations, students explore an entrepreneurial culture which enhances economic development. This course will include business planning, market research, marketing, business operations and opportunity recognition while equipping students with the skills necessary to succeed and excel in the 21st century. Students can register to earn 3 college credits from the University of Iowa. This course is offered in the fall semester only.

Introduction to Robotics (CP)

Technology 670 (Grades 11, 12)

0.50 Credit

Students will establish a baseline understanding of how electronics, mechanics, and software come together in the 21st century, leading to articulated and automated systems design. In addition to the hands-on, project-based modules of the course, students will be introduced to the basics electronics, mechanical systems, articulation and mechanics, motors and servos, system integration, sensors, and graphical interface-based programming.

Principles of Computer Coding & App Development (CP)

Technology 671 (Grades 11, 12)

0.50 Credit

Students learn the basics of algorithmic thinking, and design programs to solve simple problems. A number of different programming environments are used including highly structured programming environments such as Switch and CS First. Students gain familiarity with robust programming languages and learn the basics of variables, loops, conditional statements and standard data structures such as arrays and dictionaries. This course will focus on skills needed for success in this highly digitalized world.



Theology Department

The mission of the Theology Department is to proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ through the magisterial teachings of the Roman Catholic Church. It is the department goal that students be able to articulate the Faith, develop a closer relationship with the Triune God, and manifest the Gospel values in their lives.

Grades 9, 10 and 11 courses are College Prep only. Placement in Grade 12 Honors and College Level courses is determined by the Assistant Principal for Curriculum and Instruction in conjunction with the Theology Department Chair. Students are required to take a full credit of Theology each year. In the senior year, students will choose two half-credit courses during advising to meet the requirement; or enroll in the year-long Peer Ministry course.

Introduction to Catholicism/Old Testament (CP)

Theology 012 (Grade 9)

1.0 Credit

Through an exploration of the Apostles' and Nicene Creeds, students learn the basic doctrines of the Catholic Church. An overview of the Old Testament provides the students with a solid foundation in the Biblical roots of the Christian tradition. Students learn to integrate Scripture into prayer life and moral decision-making.

New Testament/Christology (CP)

Theology 026 (Grade 10)

1.0 Credit

In this course, students learn of God's revelation through an examination of the writings of the New Testament, and by studying the person, role, nature and message of Jesus Christ. Emphasis on the development of Christology from the first century to the modern age, and an exploration of the Acts of the Apostles and the epistles illustrate the role of the early Christian community in the formation of the Church. Students learn to integrate Scripture into prayer life and moral decision-making.

Morality: Our Response to God's Love (CP)

Theology 032 (Grade 11)

0.50 Credit

This course focuses on the Church's moral teachings as they apply to contemporary life, a study of decision-making, formation of conscience, and current moral topics.

Catholic Social Teaching (CP)

Theology 033 (Grade 11)

0.50 Credit

This course examines the history of Roman Catholic social teaching with an emphasis on Church Documents promulgated by Popes and Bishops. With an emphasis on the principles of Catholic social teaching using reflection, judgment, and action, topics include justice and society, the right to life, prejudice, racism, peace, work, and the environment.

Theology Department (cont'd)

Christian Lifestyles (CP)

Theology 040 (Grade 12)

0.50 Credit

This course examines Christian relationships and the development of a person's ability to form relationships, including analysis of marriage and the Holy Orders as sacraments, the study of vocations, and the Catholic perspective on family and its importance in society.

Introduction to World Religions (CL)

Theology 041 (Grade 12)

0.50 Credit

This college-level course examines the origin and expression of the religious impulse from pre-history to modern times. Emphasis is placed on defining religion in general and a study of the world's major religions, including Hinduism, Buddhism, Confucianism, Taoism, Zoroastrianism, Judaism, Islam and Christianity. Each religion is examined from the viewpoints of Theology, Cosmology, History, Anthropology, and Sociology. Students are eligible to receive credit from Sacred Heart University. Prerequisites: Approval of the Department Chair

Faith and Reason (H)

Theology 045 (Grade 12)

0.50 Credit

This course examines profound philosophical and theological questions through ancient and contemporary primary sources spanning the Catholic intellectual tradition, with an emphasis on the interrelation of faith and reason. Prerequisites: Approval of the Department Chair

Prayer and Spirituality (CP)

Theology 046 (Grade 12)

0.50 Credit

This course explores the various spiritual expressions throughout the history of the Church from meditation to contemplation, with an emphasis on the experience of prayer to allow students to encounter the Sacred in their lives.

Catholic Social Teaching (CP)

Theology 048 (Grade 12)

0.50 Credit

This course examines the history of Roman Catholic social teaching with an emphasis on Church Documents promulgated by Popes and Bishops. With an emphasis on the principles of Catholic social teaching using reflection, judgment, and action, topics include justice and society, the right to life, prejudice, racism, peace, work, and the environment.

Theology Department (cont'd)

Catholicism in Culture (CP)

Theology 049 (Grade 12)

0.50 Credit

Taking inspiration from the Jesuit motto of “Finding God in All Things” and Bishop Barron’s argument that “seeds of the Word” exist in the culture around us, this course uses film, music, art and pop-culture as ways of reflecting on the Christian faith. Class materials will be supplemented by selections from both the Old and New Testament and St. Augustine. Students will be required to participate in discussion, give oral presentations, and write frequently on these pieces of culture and, in doing so, develop the capacity to identify their faith in the culture around them and exercise their “Catholic imagination.” This serves two purposes – they will be reinforcing their knowledge of the faith and they will be developing evangelical tools for engagement with the culture that will serve them for a lifetime.

Peer Ministry (CP)

Theology 055 (Grade 12)

1.0 Credit

This course trains its participants to embrace servant leadership and its application outside of the classroom. The course begins with a required summer workshop called the St Joe’s Leadership Institute. The course instructs students in effective leadership skills, counseling techniques and scenarios, group dynamics, public speaking, and emphasizes Roman Catholic Social Teaching as a foundation. All lessons are in response to the Gospel, the teaching of the Church, and the larger mission of Saint Joseph High School. Topics range from diversity and stereotypes to perception and behaviors of concern. These skills are used in leading small groups, retreats, workshops, and directed service to their peers. Students will also help coordinate and lead school retreats for students in grades 9, 10, and 11. Prerequisite: Approval of the Director of Campus Ministry.

Bioethics: From Basics to the Future (H)

Theology 056 (Grade 12)

0.50 Credit

The course focuses on the key Catholic approaches to health care ethics health care issues. Topics include the history of the Church’s medical ethics, ethical methodologies, the development of virtues and key medical ethics issues including: reproductive technologies, abortion, genetic engineering, cloning, death and dying, euthanasia, the role of physician as healer, and organ donation. Prerequisites: Approval of the Department Chair



World Languages Department

The mission of the World Languages Department is to educate the whole student through the teaching of language, grammar, and culture. ACTFL National Standards of Communication, Connections, Comparisons, Cultures, and Communities are integrated within all World Language pedagogical initiatives. Interpretive, Presentational, and Interpersonal Modes of Communication are also incorporated in all language curriculums as to guide learners in reaching higher communication achievements in speaking, writing, reading, and listening. Additional emphasis is placed on cultural themes, topics, and issues of target language countries. The department of World Languages encourages students to look beyond their own community and embrace respect, empathy, and diversity in a multicultural society.



World Language placement is determined by the Assistant Principal of Curriculum and Instruction in conjunction with the World Languages Department Chair. This placement is also based on past performance in language courses. Incoming freshmen who wish to enter at a level higher than level 1 must take the SJ World Language Placement Exam in the spring of 8th grade. Transfer students are placed in the appropriate level of language as determined by their transcript. Transfer students may also elect to take a placement exam.

St Joseph High School offers the following world languages: French, Italian, Mandarin and Spanish. Latin is available through the Virtual High School Program (only Latin levels 1 & 2).

World Languages Department (cont'd)

French 1 (CP)

Course Level: Novice

French 510 (Grades 9, 10, 11, 12)

1.0 Credit

This course introduces students to the sound systems and intonations of the French language with emphasis on the development of audio-lingual skills. Students are introduced to basic structures within a defined vocabulary selection in order to engage in simple conversation and develop a reasonable ability to read and write French. Students are also introduced to French culture through geography, history, and art.

French 2 (CP)

Course Level: Intermediate Low

French 520 (Grades 9, 10, 11, 12)

1.0 Credit

This course strengthens a student's speaking, reading, writing, and listening skills. New grammatical structures and verb formations are introduced while also improving listening comprehension. Further study is developed regarding French history, civilization, and society.

French 3 (H)

Course Level: Intermediate Mid

French 536 (Grades 10, 11, 12)

1.0 Credit

This course continues introducing more advanced structures of the French language while furthering language acquirement/comprehension through listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills. Basic structures are reviewed as necessary. This is a continued study of French culture.

French 4 (H)

Course Level: Intermediate High

French 541 (Grades 10, 11, 12)

1.0 Credit

This course is for the advanced student who would like to strengthen and further develop language skills. Oral, written, and grammar study are conducted in French. This intermediate-high level course is designed as an interactive communicative approach focusing on meaningful contexts that develop and consolidate a student's speaking, listening, reading, writing, and cultural competencies.

French 5 (H)

Course Level: Advanced

French 551 (Grades 11, 12)

1.0 Credit

This semi-independent study course is for the advanced student and is designed to develop listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills using literary and conversational materials. This course also strengthens and develops student language skills in order to achieve interpersonal, interpretive and presentational modes of communication. All class work and discussion is in French.

World Languages Department (cont'd)

AP French Language

Course Level: Superior

French 501 (Grade 12)

1.0 Credit

This online college-level course follows the standard syllabus approved by College Board and is designed to develop listening, speaking, reading and writing skills using literary and conversational materials. The class is currently taken online. Students will have the option to take the Advanced Placement Exam which is administered in May.

Prerequisites: Approval of the Assistant Principal for Curriculum and Instruction.

Italian 1 (CP)

Course Level: Novice

Italian 512 (Grades 9, 10, 11, 12)

1.0 Credit

This course introduces the student to the sound systems and intonations of the Italian language with emphasis on the development of audio-lingual skills. Students are introduced to basic structures within a defined vocabulary selection in order to engage in simple conversation and to develop a reasonable ability to read and write Italian. Students are also introduced to Italian culture through geography, history, and art.

Italian 2 (CP)

Course Level: Intermediate Low

Italian 522 (Grades 9, 10, 11, 12)

1.0 Credit

This course strengthens a student's speaking, reading, writing, and listening skills. New grammatical structures and verb formations are introduced while also improving listening comprehension. Further study is developed regarding Italian history, civilization, and society.

Italian 3 (H)

Course Level: Intermediate Mid

Italian 532 (Grades 10, 11, 12)

1.0 Credit

This course continues introducing more advanced structures of Italian grammar while furthering language acquisition/comprehension through listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills. Basic structures are reviewed as necessary. There is also a continued study of Italian culture.

Italian 4 (H)

Course Level: Intermediate High

Italian 543 (Grades 11, 12)

1.0 Credit

This course is for the advanced student who would like to strengthen and further develop language skills. Oral, written, and grammar study are conducted in Italian. This intermediate-high level course is designed as an interactive communicative approach focusing on meaningful contexts that develop and consolidate a student's speaking, listening, reading, writing, and cultural competencies.

World Languages (cont'd)

Mandarin 1 (CP)

Course Level: Novice

Mandarin 516 (Grades 9, 10, 11, 12)

1.0 Credit

This course introduces the student to the correct pronunciations and use of conversational patterns of Mandarin. Emphasis is placed on oral comprehension, speaking, writing, and reading skills. Students learn the creation and use of Mandarin characters and pinyin. Students are also introduced to Chinese culture through geography, history, and art.

Mandarin 2 (CP)

Course Level: Intermediate Low

Mandarin 517 (Grades 9, 10, 11, 12)

1.0 Credit

This course strengthens oral comprehension, speaking, writing, and reading skills. Focus is placed on the creation and use of Mandarin characters as well as pinyin. Students make comparisons and connections with other cultures and communities within China while examining cultural themes, topics, and issues.

Mandarin 3 (H)

Course Level: Intermediate Mid

Mandarin 538 (Grades 9, 10, 11, 12)

1.0 Credit

This course continues in introducing more advanced structures of Mandarin grammar while furthering language acquirement/comprehension through listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills. This course also requires the application of language fundamentals through paired and group activities. Exposure to adapted texts complements interpretive skills of written and spoken Chinese language.

Mandarin 4 (H)

Course Level: Intermediate High

Mandarin 540 (Grades 9, 10, 11, 12)

1.0 Credit

This course is for the advanced student who would like to strengthen and further develop his or her language skills. Oral, written, and grammar study are conducted in Mandarin. This intermediate-high level course is designed as an interactive communicative approach focusing on meaningful contexts that develop and consolidate a student's speaking, listening, reading, writing, and cultural competencies.

Mandari (H)

Course Level: Advanced

Mandarin 542

1.0 Credit (Grade 11, 12)

This course is designed to strengthen and develop student language skills and is conducted primarily in Mandarin. Students interact and negotiate meaning in conversations to share information, reactions, emotions, and opinions. Students also view, research, and discuss the importance of various Chinese cultural figures through short films, texts, and current publications.

World Languages Department (cont'd)

Spanish 1 (CP, CP2)

Course Level: Novice

Spanish 514, 560 (Grades 9, 10, 11, 12)

1.0 Credit

This course introduces students to the sound systems and intonations of the Spanish language with emphasis on the development of audio-lingual skills. Students are introduced to basic structures within a defined vocabulary selection in order to engage in simple conversation and develop a reasonable ability to read and write Spanish. Students are also introduced to Spanish culture through geography, history, and art.

Spanish 2 (CP, CP2)

Course Level: Intermediate Low

Spanish 524, 561 (Grades 9, 10, 11, 12)

1.0 Credit

This course strengthens a student's speaking, reading, writing, and listening skills. New grammatical structures and verb formations are introduced while also improving listening comprehension. This is a further study of Spanish history, civilization, and society.

Spanish 3 (H, CP, CP2)

Course Level: Intermediate Mid

Spanish 544, 537, 562 (Grades 10, 11, 12)

1.0 Credit

This course introduces more advanced structures of Spanish grammar while furthering language acquisition/comprehension through listening, speaking, reading and writing skills. This course also incorporates Hispanic literature, culture, and current publications. The course is conducted primarily in Spanish.

Spanish 4 (H, CP, CP2)

Course Level: Intermediate High

Spanish 545, 549, 563 (Grades 11, 12)

1.0 Credit

This course is for the advanced student who would like to strengthen and further develop his or her language skills. Oral, written, and grammar study are conducted in Spanish. This intermediate-high level course focuses on meaningful contexts that develop and consolidate a student's speaking, listening, reading, writing, and cultural competencies. Students also view, research, and discuss the importance of cultural figures through short Hispanic films, Spanish texts, and current publications. This course is conducted almost entirely in Spanish.

Spanish 5 (H)

Course Level: Advanced

Spanish 550 (Grades 11, 12)

1.0 Credit

This course is designed to strengthen and develop student language skills. Students interact and negotiate meaning in conversations to share information, reactions, emotions and opinions. The course is conducted entirely in Spanish. Emphasis is placed on: oral and listening comprehension skills, higher-level grammatical concepts and vocabulary, and Spanish-speaking cultural understandings. Hispanic literature and publications are also researched and discussed throughout this course.

World Languages (cont'd)

AP Spanish Language and Culture

Course Level: Superior

Spanish 503 (Grades 11,12)

1.0 Credit

This college level course follows the standard syllabus approved by College Board. Conducted entirely in Spanish, students use two programs specifically directed toward the AP Spanish Language and Culture Curriculum guidelines as published by College Board. The majority of homework, quizzes, tests, and projects are completed online at the vhcentral.com website. This is an interactive communicative approach that focuses on real communication in meaningful contexts. The course continues to develop a student's speaking, listening, reading, writing, and viewing skills as well as their cultural competencies. Students will have the option to take the AP exam which is administered in May.



Virtual High School (VHS)

St Joseph High School offers Advanced Placement courses in collaboration with The Virtual High School, a non-profit organization based in Maynard, Massachusetts, which serves as a portal through which schools and teachers throughout the world offer online courses. Our partnership with VHS allows us to expand our AP course offerings to provide students with the most challenging and extensive academic curriculum possible taught by certified teachers in accredited schools

VHS online AP courses present a rigorous curriculum and are best suited for independent, self-motivated students. Students who are successful at taking online courses must be organized, independent learners, who can advocate for themselves when a problem arises.

Students may consider VHS AP courses that are not currently offered at St Joseph High School and are relevant to the student's intended major or career path.

Eligibility

Students must apply to take a VHS course by submitting:

1. An application for enrollment
2. An interview with the Assistant Principal for Curriculum and Instruction

Student selection is determined by Mrs. DiBuono, Assistant Principal for Curriculum and Instruction.

Grading

VHS course grades are posted on student report cards, transcripts and factor into honor roll status and cumulative GPA. Please note, the passing grade for VHS courses is 60, however, St Joseph High School students must earn a 65 to earn a passing grade and credit. See the VHS information on Plus Portals for further requirements.

The Virtual High School Course Catalog

The Virtual High School offers over 200 unique courses including 23 AP® options, core courses, engaging electives, credit recovery. Courses subject to change. For a complete list and course descriptions visit VHSLearning.org/Catalog.

Advanced Placement®

AP® Art History ▲
 AP® Biology ▲
 AP® Calculus AB ▲
 AP® Calculus BC ▲
 AP® Chemistry ▲
 AP® Computer Science A ▲
 AP® Computer Science Principles ▲
 AP® Economics ▲
 AP® English Language and Composition ▲
 AP® English Literature and Composition ▲

AP® Environmental Science ▲
 AP® European History ▲
 AP® French Language and Culture ▲
 AP® Human Geography ▲
 AP® Music Theory ▲
 AP® Physics 1 ▲
 AP® Physics C ▲
 AP® Psychology ▲
 AP® Spanish Language and Culture ▲
 AP® Statistics ▲
 AP® United States Government and Politics ▲
 AP® U.S. History ▲
 AP® World History ▲

Arts

American Popular Music
 AP® Art History ▲
 AP® Music Theory ▲
 Art History
 Art History: Art of the Caribbean Islands
 Creating Art History
 History of Photography
 Music Listening and Critique
 Music: Fundamentals of Composition

Business

Business and Personal Law
 Business Math
 Entrepreneurship
 International Business
 Investing in the Stock Market
 Marketing and the Internet
 Personal Finance

Computer Science and Technology

AP® Computer Science A ▲
 AP® Computer Science Principles ▲
 CAD

Creative Programming with Scratch
 Introduction to Computer Science Principles
 Java Fundamentals for Science and Engineering
 Java Programming
 Programming in Visual Basic
 Video Game Design
 Web Design

Engineering

CAD
 Engineering Principles for Science and Engineering
 Java Fundamentals for Science and Engineering
 Sustainable Engineering

English as a Second Language (ESL)

American Studies ▲
 English Foundations
 Introduction to Natural Science for ESL Students ▲

Language Arts

101 Ways to Write a Short Story
 Academic Writing

AP® English Language and Composition ▲
 AP® English Literature and Composition ▲

Creative Writing
 English 9 ▲
 English 10 ▲
 English 11 ▲
 English 12 ▲
 Essay Writing
 Fantasy and Science Fiction Short Stories
 Film and Literature
 Folklore and Literature of Myth, Magic and Ritual
 Ghoules, Ghosties, and Long-Legged Beastsies
 Horror Writers
 Journalism in the Digital Age
 Literature of the World
 Mythology
 Poetry Writing
 Screenwriting Fundamentals
 Shakespeare in Film
 Twentieth Century Women Authors
 Young Adult Literature

Statistics Honors

Science, Life

Anatomy and Physiology
 Animal Behavior and Zoology
 AP® Biology ▲
 AP® Environmental Science ▲
 Biochemistry
 Bioethics
 Biology ▲
 Biotechnology
 Epidemics
 Evolution and the Nature of Science
 Introduction to Natural Science for ESL Students
 Genes and Disease
 Prevetinary Medicine
 Science from Space
 The Human Body

Science, Earth & Space

AP® Environmental Science ▲
 Astronomy Principles
 Climate Science
 Earth and Space System Science ▲
 Environmental Science
 Environmental Science Honors
 Meteorology
 Oceanography

Mathematics

Algebra 1 ▲
 Algebra 2 ▲
 AP® Calculus AB ▲

