

# Xavier High School



2020-2021

Freshman Course Descriptions

Dear Students and Families-

The faculty and staff of St. Francis Xavier High School takes great pride in the academic program that we offer to our students. Generations of successful alumni offer living proof that the courses described in this education guide provide outstanding preparation for college and career. Each year, new courses are added and courses are updated to keep our education innovative and relevant. Xavier's reputation as the most rigorous college-preparatory education in the area is earned by the quality of each and every course described in the pages ahead.

Take some time as you peruse this book to consider your plans for the four years of high school and beyond. The foundations for a successful future are laid according to the selection of courses you make each year. What will you bring to college with you? Will you be fluent in a second or third language? Will you have developed a passion for performing or creating? Will you be the most accomplished writer or speaker in your classes? All of these questions have their roots in the course offerings at Xavier High School.

There is a lot to consider when reviewing the Xavier curriculum. Start with your talents and interests. In what departments will you be most frequently learning? And how do you like to learn? Perhaps the project-based curriculum of our Project Lead the Way courses meets your learning style. Maybe you are dedicated to a career in computer science and want to experience every math, technology and engineering course we offer. Or are you the well-rounded student who wants to participate in the band, learn another language, take some college credit classes and still find time to explore journalism and writing classes? There are so many paths...

It is our hope that your Xavier career is filled with the discovery of new passions, the development of new skills, the stimulation of transformative ideas, and the experiences that will propel you to a life of servant leadership in your chosen vocation. We look forward to watching you make the most of the Xavier education.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mike Mauthe". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Mike Mauthe  
Principal

# Graduation Requirements

## Credits for Graduation

To graduate from Xavier High School, a student must fulfill the following requirements:

Theology	4.0 credits
English	4.0 credits
Math	3.0 credits
Science	3.0 credits
Fine Arts	1.0 credit
Social Studies	3.0 credits
Physical Education	1.5 credits
Health	0.5 credit
Business & Technology	0.5 credit
Electives	8.5 credits
<b>Total</b>	<b>29.0 credits</b>

Students must complete and document 80 hours of Christian Service as well as pass a civics test (required by state law) in order to graduate.

## Curriculum Plan

### Enrollment Guidelines

Freshmen, sophomores and juniors must carry a minimum of eight credits. Seniors must carry a minimum of six credits (three classes per term). Additional fees may be required for students who register for more than 8.5 credits per year.

### **Freshman Year - 8 Credits**

- Health - 0.5 credit
- Theology 9 - 1 credit
- English 9 or Honors English 9 - 1 credit
- Mathematics - 1 credit
- Science - 1 credit
- Introduction to Western Studies - 0.5 credit
- Electives - 3.5 credits

# Business & Information Technology

## **Microsoft Office**

Grades 9, 10, 11, 12

½ credit

This course provides students an opportunity to gain technical skills employers are seeking, by using the features in Outlook, Word, Excel, and PowerPoint. . This course is offered in partnership with FVTC.

## **Introduction to Business**

Grades 9, 10, 11, 12

½ credit

Welcome to the world of Business! The Introduction to Business course is designed to introduce business concepts of finance, marketing, economics, entrepreneurship and management.

# Computer Science

## **Introduction to Computer Science Programming**

Grades 9, 10, 11, 12

½ credit

Introduction to Computer Science Programming gives students who are new to programming an opportunity to work in teams to create apps for mobile devices using MIT APP Inventor. They will explore the impact of computing in society and build skills in digital citizenship and cybersecurity. Beyond learning the fundamentals of programming, students build computational-thinking skills by applying computer science to collaboration tools, modeling and simulation, and data analysis.

## **Introduction to C# Programming**

Grades 9, 10, 11, 12

½ credit

Introduces students with little or no programming background to programming and logic principles that apply to traditional and Windows systems. Students will use C# to apply the principles by developing simple Windows applications. Learning C# can position students for a future in programming opportunities, provide a solid foundation in object-oriented programming knowledge, and pave the way for learning other programming languages. This course is offered in partnership with FVTC.

# Engineering

## **Engineering Essentials (EE)**

Grades 9, 10, 11, 12

1 credit

Engineering Essentials will offer a multidisciplinary approach to teaching and learning foundational concepts of engineering practice, providing students opportunities to explore the breadth of engineering career opportunities and experiences, and solve engaging and challenging real-world problems through engineering essentials. By inspiring and empowering students with an understanding of engineering and career opportunities, Engineering Essentials will broaden participation in engineering education and the engineering profession.

# English

## **Composition 1**

Grades 9, 10, 11, 12

½ credit

This is a comprehensive literacy course. The object of this course is to ensure students' reading, writing, listening and speaking skills are primed for a full participation in the Xavier curriculum. Units focus on the practice and application of the sentence, paragraph, and essay structures that provide a strong foundation for Xavier's writing-heavy core courses. Students will demonstrate their ability to use all the steps in the writing process, read academic articles, avoid plagiarism and create a cohesive writing products through narrative essays, short stories, poems, informational presentations, research essays, and five-paragraph essays. Editing strategies for common grammar and punctuation errors will also be intensively taught. This course is also a good supplement to English 9-10 courses as some common vocabulary and concepts will be explored through class readings and discussion.

## **English 9**

Grade 9

1 credit

In this course types of literature will be studied, including poetry, short stories, plays, essays, and a novel. The emphasis in writing is on basic sentence and paragraph structure, and using exact and appropriate words. Grammar --parts of speech, phrases and clauses, and sentence structure-- is introduced, practiced and reviewed in conjunction with writing. Students will prepare and deliver an informative speech, and will work toward writing strong paragraphs with well supported and explained ideas. Units in independent reading, vocabulary, and spelling are included in this course.

## **Honors English 9**

Grade 9

1 credit

This course focuses on the study of literature, the introduction and reinforcement of grammar concepts, and the development of composition skills. In literature, students are introduced to and encouraged to enjoy short stories, poetry, drama, novels, and non-fiction selections to which they can relate. Challenging reading from mythology is included. The study of the writing process continues with review lessons in parts of speech and parts of the sentence and mini lessons in phrases and clauses.

In composition, students master the skill of writing a structured 5-paragraph essay through the use of thesis statement and topic sentences and deliver an informative speech. English usage, punctuation, sentence fluency, logical sequencing, and vocabulary are included in the writing curriculum.

## **Speech**

Grades 9, 10, 11, 12

½ credit

*May be taken as a fine arts elective*

This elective aims to develop the students' skills for effective communication through speech. Students will gain a better understanding of their speaking strengths and weaknesses through writing and presenting speeches. Besides learning to be more effective speakers and listeners, students will develop skills needed for audiences ranging from one-to-one to large group communication. Students will prepare and deliver a variety of speeches which are designed to develop skills in vocal control, gestures, facial expression and eye contact for live and online audiences. Managing stage fright will also be addressed.

## **Structured Reading**

Grades 9, 10, 11, 12

½ credit

Structured Reading develops the literacy skills of reading, writing, speaking, listening, viewing, and creating through structured study of specific skills and techniques. Emphasis is placed on reading comprehension and speed through instruction in vocabulary, word relationships and analogies, pre-reading technique, skimming, scanning, note taking, patterns of text organization, main idea, inference, and drawing conclusions. Speed reading and practice are included to prepare students for timed, standardized reading tests, such as the PSAT, ACT and SAT.. Background literacy is developed through the study of selected Greek mythology / classics and informational readings. Reading skills will be practiced on reading selections that match the current level of student ability as determined by a pre-test the first day of class. The course goal is at least a two-year improvement in reading and vocabulary and a 50-100% improvement in reading speed. A reader's journal will be kept of personal reading and there will be a final project on an approved book of the student's choice. Print, electronic, video, and audio resources will be utilized, covering all aspects of literacy.

## **Creative Writing**

Grades 9, 10, 11, 12

½ credit

*May be taken as a fine arts elective*

This course is designed for students who are interested in writing poetry and short fiction and want to gain personal satisfaction from developing their writing skills. The instruction in the course will be based on the writing process, but with many interesting additions as well. For example, while spending time revising and polishing their work and participating in peer group activities, students will also run "experiments" on their drafts to see how the addition of new literary devices affects the piece. Students are expected to practice writing every day, and writing models and practical advice from established writers stimulates, instructs, and reinforces this learning process. By the end of the term, most students will have drafted, revised and polished over 20 pages of original poetry and fiction.

## **Journalism**

Grades 9, 10, 11, 12

½ credit

*May be taken as a fine arts elective*

Students enrolled in this course will produce the school newspaper, *The Prospector*. They will plan issues, write and edit stories, take photographs and layout the newspaper. Students will write news, feature, sports, editorial, and in-depth stories. They will study ethics and standards, copy editing, headline writing, and interview techniques. The course will be limited or expanded to meet the needs of the students and the requirements for a good school newspaper.

**Yearbook**

Grades 9, 10, 11, 12

½ or 1 credit

*May be taken as a fine arts elective*

Students will use Josten's YearTech Online program to create and produce the *Xavue*, Xavier's yearbook. Students will be responsible for developing the theme, taking pictures, completing book and page layout and presenting the high school year in a fun and creative manner. Students are responsible for designing and completing assigned pages by a designated due date. The graphic design program is an online program allowing for schedule flexibility. Class meets once a week, Mondays from 7:30-8:15 am. In addition, students are expected to work on their page assignments outside of class time, including gathering information, taking pictures and designing their pages.

## Fine Arts - Visual Art

**Introduction to Art**

Grades 9, 10, 11, 12

1 credit

This course is designed to present fundamental art principles and theory. Areas to be covered are art history, composition and design, perspective, basic drawing and shading techniques, color mixing and application, ceramics, printing, and sculpture. This course is a requirement for students wishing to take any upper level art classes.

**Arts and Crafts**

Grades 9, 10, 11, 12

½ credit

This semester course is designed for students without any previous art background. Basic art principles and techniques are taught with a multicultural emphasis. Arts from North and South America, Africa, Europe and Asia are combined with geographical and historical cultural information.



## Fine Arts - Music

### **Chorale**

Grades 9, 10, 11, 12

1 credit

Chorale is a non-auditioned choral ensemble and has a primary focus on the development of important musical skills. The only prerequisite for membership in the Chorale is the ability to "match pitch." The course explores solfege-based sight reading, ear training, music theory concepts, proper vocal technique/tone production, music vocabulary, quality choral literature, and professional performance practices. Students also attend individual or group voice lessons with the director during the school day approximately three times each term. Chorale performances include:

- Fall Choral Concert (October)
- Christmas Choral Concert (December)
- District Solo & Ensemble Festival (March)
- Spring Choral Concert (May)
- Performance trips and vocal festivals at the discretion of the director

### **Music Theory**

Grades 9, 10, 11, 12

½ credit

This course is designed to teach music literacy and to increase students' knowledge of music beyond performance. Students will develop the ability to recognize, understand, describe, and/or notate the basic concepts and processes of music that are heard or presented in a music score. In order to allow students to achieve a well-rounded understanding of musical structure, this course will address the basic elements of music (melody, harmony, rhythm, form, etc.), as well as compositional, analytical, and aural skills. Course concepts will be primarily based in Western music. However, attempts will be made to cross-relate certain musical ideas in order to increase appreciation of all musical traditions. This class is suggested for any student interested in learning more about music and is the prerequisite for Advanced Music Theory. This course will be especially useful for students who plan to pursue music in a post-secondary environment.

## **Concert Band**

Grades 9, 10, 11, 12

1 credit

This class is open to any student with prior instrumental training. This group works on developing each student's musical ability through performance and analysis. Students enrolled in Concert Band will receive small group lessons in approximately six cycles throughout each semester. In each lesson we work on a combination of the following: music, assigned scales, rhythms, and etudes. As part of the grade for class, students are required to attend the following events (all of which are posted on the band calendar which is accessible via the band webpage):

- Homecoming, Christmas and Memorial Day Parades
- Homecoming Halftime and Band Night Shows
- All public concert performances
- District Solo and Ensemble Festival
- Pep Band performances at football and basketball games

## **Jazz Ensemble II**

Grades 9, 10, 11, 12

No Credit

Jazz II is a jazz ensemble offered to any band student who would like to learn more about jazz and/or start to learn a jazz instrument. Students do not need any prior experience playing jazz. Jazz II meets for an hour once a week after the musical ends. Jazz II may perform at the UW-Stevens Point Jazz Festival, KABOOM and in the Jazz Solo/Ensemble Festival. Any student interested in joining may do so by speaking with the band director.

## **Orchestra**

Grades 9, 10, 11, 12

1 credit

The group's main focus will be to build ensemble techniques through performance. The repertoire used in the course is drawn from Baroque through 20th Century music. Students meet for approximately six private lessons per term to work on basic technique through scales, etudes and concert music. Students have the opportunity to perform solos and small ensembles at WSMA Festivals as well as a required class performance at this event. As part of the student's grade for orchestra, students are required to participate in the following events:

- Fall Concert (October)
- Marquette University String Festival (November)
- Winter concert (February)
- WSMA State Solo & Ensemble Festival
- Spring Concert (May)
- Performance trips and festivals at the discretion of the director

### **Chamber Music Ensemble**

Grades 9,10,11,12

½ credit

Prerequisite: Enrollment in orchestra

Chamber Music Ensemble meets two mornings a week before school. The class will focus on small ensemble playing with each person playing an important role. Performances include but are not limited to various festivals and Solo and Ensemble Festival.

## **Fine Arts - Theatre & Communication**

### **Acting**

Grades 9, 10, 11, 12

½ credit

Study acting for the stage and gain tools for everyday communication. Topics include improvisation, pantomime, vocal inflection, body language. Students will also learn the history, vocabulary, and styles of theatre that may be valuable in other language arts courses. Performance based study will include monologues and scene work with small groups and pairs. No experience necessary - this is a place to learn and grow in your expressive skills.

### **Theatre Production & Performance 1**

Grades 9, 10, 11, 12

½ credit

Prerequisite: Acting I or Technical Theatre Production (2 years of Xavier Theater Academy or instructor approval)

Become a part of an exciting tradition and apply what you know! Students in this class will produce a show for a young audience (PreK - 5th grades) with performances held at the end of the term. Technicians (lights, sound, crew) and actors may participate. Each show is followed by a "talk back" in which our students become the teachers and talk to the audience about the show. All students will work on production tasks including set building, lighting, sound, costume construction, and publicity. Spend the block rehearsing and performing. Some production hours and rehearsals/performances outside of class are required. All experience and ability levels accepted. May be taken multiple times for a student to build a repertoire of characters and theatre experience (see Theatre Production & Performance 2).

### **Technical Theatre Production**

Grades 9, 10, 11, 12

½ credit

Students who like hands-on learning will enjoy this class! We cover information on light, sound, make-up, costumes and scenery construction. Learn about and work with a variety of tools and paint implements. The focus of the class will be creative problem solving, critical thinking and teamwork with theatre as the main medium. The final project will be in the area of scenic design. The class works on the fall musical, Christmas Stars, and at least one other production. Students who excel and demonstrate good judgement, respect and responsibility may be asked to work on a particular show crew or as part of a team handling events and rentals in the theatre. *Work hours after school are required for this class.* Schedules will be provided at the start of the term.

### **Introduction to Media & Communication**

Grades 9, 10, 11, 12

½ credit

Students will study mass communications with an emphasis on concepts and ethics of producing electronic media in the forms of video and audio projects. Skills will be developed in the areas of pre-production planning using storyboards and scripts; production techniques such as interviewing, on-air presence, camera angles etc.; and post-production techniques using both online and computer-based editing software.

### **Improv Troupe**

Grades 9, 10, 11, 12

½ Credit

Prerequisite: Acting I or audition

Students will learn basic, intermediate, and advanced improvisational skills through use of respected improvisation education techniques such as Viola Spolin's Theatre Games, sketch writing practice, and continued practice of presentation and acting skills using voice and body language. Skills learned will be put into practice by delivering "social action" content to elementary and middle school students. This troupe will also be "on call" for events in which a group of actions is requested and will seek other creative ways to be of service using the art of theatre. This class meets before first block on Wednesdays and Fridays throughout the school year.

**Creative Writing**

Grades 9, 10, 11, 12

½ credit

*May be taken as an English elective*

This course is designed for students who are interested in writing poetry and short fiction and want to gain personal satisfaction from developing their writing skills. The instruction in the course will be based on the writing process. Students are expected to practice writing every day, and writing models and practical advice from established writers stimulates, instructs, and reinforces the learning process. By the end of the term, most students will have drafted, revised and polished over 20 pages of original poetry and fiction.

**Speech**

Grades 9, 10, 11, 12

½ credit

*May be taken as an English elective*

This elective aims to develop the students' skills for effective communication through speech. Students will gain a better understanding of their speaking strengths and weaknesses through writing and presenting speeches. Besides learning to be more effective speakers and listeners, students will develop skills needed for audiences ranging from one to large group. Students will prepare and deliver a variety of speeches which are designed to develop skills in vocal control, gestures, facial expression and eye contact for live and online audiences.

**Journalism**

Grades 9, 10, 11, 12

½ credit

*May be taken as a fine arts elective*

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## **Yearbook**

Grades 9, 10, 11, 12

½ or 1 credit

*May be taken as a fine arts elective*

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Students are responsible for designing and completing assigned pages by a designated due date. The graphic design program is an online program allowing for schedule flexibility. Class meets once a week, Mondays from 7:30-8:15 am. In addition, students are expected to work on their page assignments outside of class time, including gathering information, taking pictures and designing their pages.

## **Health/Physical Education**

### **Physical Education**

Grades 9, 10, 11, 12

½ credit

Physical Education provides students with the knowledge base and skill set to live longer, happier, and more productive lives. During each term, specific but diverse units will be covered.

*Considering the conditioning, weight-lifting and time spent in athletic practices, a student may earn a half-credit of Physical Education by participating in at least six seasons of WIAA-sanctioned sports, Dance & Drill Team, Cheerleading, or Powerlifting and the athlete must participate in at least two seasons in each of at least three different years (it can be any combination of sports). At least three of the six seasons must be in WIAA-sanctioned sports. The student must be a full participant and finish the season in each sport and submit a form, signed by the athletic director verifying this information upon completion of this participation, to the Guidance Department. A student may only earn one half credit for Physical Education by this alternative method. The grade given will be a "P" for Pass on the transcript.*

## **Health Education**

Grade 9

½ credit

Health Education focuses on whole-person wellness and provides students with a knowledge base and skill set to make choices and connections that enhance and encourage lifelong personal wellness. In-depth understanding of emotional, mental, social, physical, and spiritual wellness prepares and enables students to positively manage their lives.

## **Interdisciplinary Offerings**

### **Project Based Learning - Contemporary Issues**

Grades 9, 10, 11, 12

½ credit

This course is designed to help students develop life-long learning skills in a project-based, community-focused workshop. Students will conduct community-specific research, identify and propose solutions to real-world problems, and plan and produce professional communications in multiple genres. In addition, students will plan an experience in which they will turn a personal passion into an academic course of study.

### **Study Skills**

Grades 9, 10, 11, 12

½ credit

This course teaches students how to study and learn more effectively and efficiently, emphasizing organizational skills and the development of a successful mindset. Techniques taught to students include goal-setting, time management, learning styles, listening skills, note-taking, studying and test-taking skills for both objective and essay tests, memory skills, reading strategies, term paper time-savers, public speaking, interpersonal communication, and stress management.

## **Introduction to Foods**

Grades 9, 10, 11, 12

½ credit

This course is a basic introduction to different types of food and learning how to cook, measure, read a recipe, understand cooking terms, and use the proper utensils for food preparation. The students will enrich their eating experiences by sharing and trying new recipes, preparing the food, evaluating the product, looking at the seasoning for foods, and budgeting. Students will also work with small appliances using a variety of cooking techniques. The relationship between food, nutrition, time, and planning are worked on the labs.

## **Mathematics**

### **Pre-Algebra**

Grade 9

½ credit

Prerequisite: Recommendation of middle school math instructor

This course serves as a transition from middle school math to Algebra 1. Emphasis will be on pre-algebra concepts to build a foundation for success in Algebra 1. This course will be taught as a block class during 1st term, so that students who successfully complete this course are expected to move to Algebra 1 during 2nd term.

### **Algebra 1**

Grades 9, 10

1 credit

This course contains the standard topics of Algebra 1 such as the structure of real numbers; solving, graphing and analyzing linear equalities and inequalities; and solving, graphing and exploring polynomial equations. The course also integrates introductory geometry and statistics/probability.

### **Honors Algebra 1**

Grade 9

1 credit

Prerequisite: Recommendation of previous instructor

This course contains the algebra and math topics as described for Algebra 1. These topics will be covered in greater depth, with more challenging problems, and a greater emphasis on problem solving than in Algebra 1.



### **Honors Geometry**

Grades 9, 10

1 credit

Prerequisite: "AB" or better in Algebra I or "B" or better in Honors Algebra 1, recommendation of previous instructor.

This course covers the essential topics in geometry as listed in the course description for Geometry. These topics will be covered in greater depth with more challenging problems and a greater emphasis on problem solving.

### **Honors Algebra 2**

Grades 9, 10, 11, 12

1 credit

Prerequisite: "B" or better in Honors Geometry or "AB" or better in Geometry, and instructor approval

This course covers all of the topics listed in the description for Algebra 2. As an honors course, the topics will be covered in greater depth and with a greater emphasis on problem-solving in order to prepare students for more advanced mathematics.

## **Science**

### **Applied Life Science**

Grades 9, 10, 11, 12

1 credit

Applied Lab Science is one of three courses in the "Applied Science" series. It is only open to students by counselor placement and students in Applied Science typically will not engage with the Lab Science curriculum during their high school career. This course focuses on the practical application of biological concepts to everyday life. The core curriculum will emphasize laboratory investigation with limited math integration.

## **Laboratory Science Foundations**

Grades 9, 10

1 credit

The objective of this course is to prepare students for the type of abstract, higher-order, critical thinking skills that are necessary for the rigor of lab courses. This course is activity-centered, stressing laboratory skills and problem solving techniques. Course material will include designing science experiments, proper use of a wide range of science equipment, measurement, data collection, data analysis (computational skills), graphing, and writing scientific reports. Core concepts from biology, chemistry and physics will be taught through laboratory work to prepare students to be successful in laboratory exercises in future science courses. Proper format for lab reports will be taught and used throughout the course. The course will close with a competency exam. *The exam, course grade, and teacher recommendation will be required for a placement in an honors course for sophomore year.*

## **Accelerated Laboratory Science Foundations**

Grade 9

½ credit

This course is also designed to prepare students for the type of abstract, higher-order, critical thinking skills that are necessary for the rigor of lab courses, but the pace and rigor of this course are for the students that have the desire to advance in higher level science courses offered at Xavier. Students taking this course will need to process and apply the information taught within a shorter period of time. This course is for internally motivated students who have had high success in 8th grade science and have strong math skills. *Students that choose this course should register for S13 - Introduction to Physics to complete their credit of science for grade 9.*

## **Introduction to Chemistry**

Grades 9, 10, 11, 12

½ credit

Prerequisite: "C" or better in a Laboratory Science Foundations course

Students considering AP Biology and/or Honors Chemistry are required to take this class as a prerequisite. This course will be laboratory intensive, focusing on the fundamentals of chemistry. Topics covered will include the periodic table, radioactivity, physical and chemical changes, atoms and bonding, chemical reactions, and thermal energy.

## **Introduction to Physics**

Grades 9, 10, 11, 12

½ credit

Prerequisite: Laboratory Science Foundations

This course is designed to discover the theories behind the physics of nature by experimentation, research and student-directed discussion. Topics to be discussed in detail are one dimensional motion, fluids, and Newton's laws of motion. The focus of this course is to discover how things work.

## **Social Studies**

### **Introduction to Western Studies**

Grade 9

½ credit

This course focuses on the ancient civilizations of Greece, Rome, Byzantium, the Middle Ages and the Renaissance. The second focus of the course is to improve the writing, research, reading and critical thinking skills of the students.

### **Human Geography**

Grades 9, 10, 11, 12

½ credit

This course is designed for the students to explore various regions of the world. Students will gain a global perspective of the world by not only studying the geographic makeup of the earth, but also learning about the cultural, economic, and historical interdependence of regions and nations.

### **AP Human Geography**

Grades 9, 10, 11, 12

1 credit

The AP Human Geography course is equivalent to an introductory college-level course in human geography. The course introduces students to the systematic study of patterns and processes that have shaped human understanding, use, and alteration of Earth's surface. Students employ spatial concepts and landscape analysis to examine socio-economic organization and its environmental consequences. They also learn about the methods and tools geographers use in their research and applications.

**Cultural Diversity**

Grades 9, 10, 11, 12

½ credit

This course involves the study of cultural diversity in our community and abroad including prejudice, misperception, stereotypes, and cultural patterns leading toward increased tolerance and multicultural understanding rooted in Catholic Social Teaching. Learn about historical and social perspectives and policy on race, ethnicity, gender roles and the ever-changing relationship between marginalized, minority and diverse populations and the overall population in the United States and other countries. Units of study will include but not be limited to the study of Native American, African American, Asian-American, and Latino experiences and culture. What is learned in this class is useful for understanding how to communicate in an ever-changing global village.

**Mock Trial**

Grades 9, 10, 11, 12

½ credit

Prerequisite: Freshmen must be enrolled in Honors English 9 (or have instructor approval)

Mock Trial is an applied look at the American legal system. It is designed to stimulate and to encourage a deeper understanding of legal decisions and practices. Students will be provided the opportunity to participate actively in the judicial process. Simulations and legal debate will be applied to the mechanics of court procedures and mock trials. Taking the roles of prosecution, defense, judge and jury will provide a "hands on" approach to the legal system. The purpose of the course is to provide students the opportunity to develop effective communication skills, knowledge of court procedures, and understanding of case law and landmark Supreme Court decisions.

Auditions for the competitive Mock Trial Teams are held in November. These are independent of this class.

# Theology

## **Freshman Theology**

Grade 9

1 credit

The purpose of this course is to give students a general knowledge and appreciation of Sacred Scriptures. Through the study of the Bible, students will encounter the living Word of God, Jesus Christ. They will learn about the Bible, authored by God through inspiration, and the various ways of interpreting the text. The course will explore God's redemptive work in history through the establishment of a covenant with the Chosen People of Israel. Students will examine how God acts through history to repair the damage done by sin and how this work is fulfilled in the person of Jesus Christ. The course will explore the mysteries of the faith such as the Trinity and the Incarnation to come to know Jesus Christ better. In learning about who He is, the students will also learn who He calls them to be. Therefore, the students will have an opportunity to explore their own relationship with God and God's plan for humanity.

# World Languages

## **Chinese 1**

Grades 9, 10, 11, 12

1 credit

This first level of Chinese provides students with materials that encourage and require spontaneous language use in the classroom. Pinyin, basic dialogue, exercise, and grammar explanations in each unit all contribute to a systematic presentation of the structure of the language. The contents of each lesson are taken from everyday life that represents the mainstream of contemporary Chinese culture and civilization. The course emphasizes basic skills of listening comprehension, reading, speaking and writing.

## **Chinese 2**

Grades 9, 10, 11, 12

1 credit

Prerequisite: Minimum of "C" average in Chinese 1 or instructor approval

Chinese 2 aims to develop listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills beyond the beginning level. Students will review the Pinyin system, grammatical structures, and increase their ability to communicate. The course consists of repetition through partner drills and oral drills so that students attain a feeling for the various sentence and grammatical structures of the language. Students will be exposed to the cultural differences between the United States and China.

**French 1**

Grades 9, 10, 11, 12

1 credit

French 1 is a beginning French course that uses a communicative approach to develop listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills. Students will learn the vocabulary and language needed to communicate in French on everyday topics including home and family, daily activities, school, shopping, sports, and favorite leisure-time activities. Students will also expand their understanding of culture by studying various aspects of French-speaking countries and regions.

**French 2**

Grades 9, 10, 11, 12

1 credit

Prerequisite: Minimum of a "C" average in French 1

This second level of French reviews and reinforces the basic skills and builds new vocabulary through dialogues and exercises in reading, speaking, and writing. French phonetic elements are stressed for clear and correct pronunciation. Grammar continues the coverage of nouns, pronouns, adjectives, adverbs, articles, and verbs. The past tense, "passé composé," will be introduced.

**German 1**

Grades 9, 10, 11

1 credit

This course is designed for students with no previous knowledge of the German language. At this level, the students learn the basics of language learning, how to pronounce the language, recognize and use common phrases and understand beginning level vocabulary in its written and spoken form. The course will also increase student awareness of the culture, traditions, history, and geography of German speaking countries.

**German 2**

Grades 9, 10, 11, 12

1 credit

Prerequisite: Minimum of a "C" average in German 1

This course will expand upon and reinforce the vocabulary and grammar learned in German 1. Students will read a supplementary reader during the course of the year. Students are exposed to more listening and reading skills than in the first level. Role playing, where the students write skits based on the unit vocabulary, is used to encourage the students to use the spoken word in real-life situations.

**Spanish 1**

Grades 9, 10, 11, 12

1 credit

Spanish 1 is a course for students with little or no knowledge of Spanish. It aims to develop the four basic language skills of listening, speaking, reading, and writing. Students will be able to understand and discuss topics related to school, home, family life, daily activities, sports, and other teenage forms of entertainment. Students will learn to communicate using the present and present progressive tenses, nouns, adjectives, and pronouns. This course is also an introduction to the culture of Spanish-speaking countries, emphasizing geography and contributions of Hispanics in the United States.

**Spanish 2**

Grades 9, 10, 11, 12

1 credit

Prerequisite: Minimum of a "C" average in Spanish 1

Spanish 2 begins with a brief review of the grammar and vocabulary of Spanish 1 and continues with further development of listening, speaking, reading and writing skills. Topics included in Spanish 2 are feelings, likes and dislikes, hobbies and pastimes, daily routines and household chores, shopping and telling stories. The past tenses—the preterite and imperfect—will be used in writing and in conversation. This class is conducted in Spanish and English.