

St. Mary's Academy

2021-2022

Course Catalog



We believe in climbing, in thriving, in setting the pace.

St. Mary's Academy

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St. Mary's Academy Mission Statement

St. Mary's Academy, sponsored by the Sisters of the Holy Names of Jesus and Mary since 1859, is a Catholic high school for young women, providing a challenging, college-preparatory education in a vibrant learning environment. Guided by the values and charism of the Sisters, St. Mary's fosters a diverse community and educates the whole person by nurturing spirituality, encouraging creativity, promoting justice, and inspiring a sense of global interdependence to prepare students for service and leadership.

School-wide Learner Expectations

In the quest to create self-directed, life-long learners, St. Mary's Academy expects all graduating seniors to:

1. Read and listen critically.
2. Communicate effectively, both verbally and in writing.
3. Utilize and analyze a variety of resource types.
4. Employ effective and creative strategies in reasoning and problem solving.
5. Grow in content knowledge and skill mastery through an array of methods.
6. Develop a deeper understanding of and respect for diverse cultures and traditions.
7. Demonstrate integrity, ethical decision-making skills, and respect for self and others.
8. Engage in an active exploration of faith and spirituality.

Graduation Requirements

St. Mary's Academy provides a comprehensive academic experience through course offerings and graduation requirements that incorporate the school-wide learner expectations, the values of the mission statement, and the expectations of colleges and universities. Below is an outline of the credits required for graduation.

St. Mary's Academy Graduation Requirements	
Theology	4 years, 8 semester credits
English	4 years, 4 credits
Social Science	3.5 years, 3.5 credits
Mathematics	3 years, 3 credits (must include Algebra 2)
Science	3 years, 3 credits (Physics, Chemistry, Biology)
World Language	2 years, 2 credits (must be consecutive years in the same language)
Fine Arts	1 year, 2 semester credits
Health	1 year, 2 semester credits
Physical Education	1 year, 2 semester credits
Speech	0.5 years, 1 semester credit
Information Science	0.5 years, 1 semester credits
Electives	1.5 years, 3 semester credits
Minimum Total Required for Graduation	25 credits

While the minimum total number of credits required for graduation is 25, most students will graduate with approximately 28 credits since students must be enrolled in 7 classes each semester. The only exceptions to that are Senior Study Privilege and an approved Study or Study Block. For more information on Senior Study Privilege and Study or Study Blocks, please consult page 7.

St. Mary's Academy Grade Scale

LETTER GRADE AND PERCENTAGE SCALE *

Letter	% Range	Letter	% Range	Letter	% Range	Letter	% Range
A+	100	B+	87.5-89.4	C+	77.5-79.4	D+	67.5-69.4
A	91.5-99.9	B	81.5-87.4	C	71.5-77.4	D	61.5-67.4
A-	89.5-91.4	B-	79.5-81.4	C-	69.5-71.4	D-	59.5-61.4
						F	59.4 and below

GPA POINT SCALE

Standard Scale		Notes	Honors Scale	
Symbol	Points		Symbol	Points
A+	4.333		A+	5.333
A	4.000	Excellent	A	5.000
A-	3.667		A-	4.667
B+	3.333		B+	4.333
B	3.000	Above Average	B	4.000
B-	2.667		B-	3.667
C+	2.333		C+	3.333
C	2.000	Average	C	3.000
C-	1.667		C-	2.667
D+	1.333		D+	2.333
D	1.000	Below Average	D	2.000
D-	0.667		D-	1.667
F	0.000	No Pass, No Credit	F	0.000

Forecasting for Classes

During second semester each year, St. Mary's Academy students forecast for the next school year's courses. Students have designated time during the school day over a two-week timeframe to work through this process.

With assistance from their Teacher Advisor (TA), parents, and current teachers, students identify their interests and goals, review the available courses, monitor their graduation progress, and create a **balanced** academic course load for the following year. Department Chairs, Counselors, the Registrar, and Administrators are also available to assist students with this process.

The forecasting selections students make during this time are used to create the master schedule for the following school year, so students should think carefully about the selections they make, particularly regarding elective year-long classes, and should keep in mind that changes to their forecasting may not be possible.

All forecasting forms and registration materials, including parent signatures and a registration fee, must be submitted by the designated due date. Students who turn in forecasting materials late may limit their course choices.

Once the forecasting period is complete, the Registrar and the Assistant Principal of Curriculum and Instruction use this information to create the master schedule for the following school year, including scheduling students into classes. Any requests to change forecasting or scheduling should be directed to the Registrar's Office.

Schedule Changes

Once the school year begins, students who wish to make a change to their schedule must complete a schedule change form, provided by the Registrar. Completion of this form includes obtaining signatures from current and new teachers, parents, counselors, and the Assistant Principal of Curriculum and Instruction before the schedule change will be made.

Students must attend their original courses until the form is completed and the student receives confirmation from the Registrar that their schedule has been changed in PowerSchool.

If a student withdraws from a course, the student's permanent record may reflect one of the following marks:

Semester-Long Courses

- If the withdrawal occurs within the first two weeks of the semester, no mark is recorded on the transcript
- If the withdrawal occurs after the first two weeks of the semester, a mark of **W** (withdrawal) is recorded on the transcript

Year-Long Courses

- If the withdrawal occurs within the first two weeks of the **year**, no mark is recorded on the transcript
- If the withdrawal occurs after the first two weeks of the **year**, a mark of **W** (withdrawal) is recorded on the transcript
- Students who drop a year-long course at the semester will receive a mark of **W** (withdrawal) for second semester and may only replace the course with an elective in that same block
- Students who drop a year-long course at the semester must meet with their college counselors to understand the impact this may have to the college application process
- Seniors who drop a year-long course at the semester will be required to take **ALL** of their finals in second semester

Senior Study Privilege

With written parental permission, seniors may replace one semester course with a Senior Study Privilege. Senior Study Privilege blocks MUST be forecast for during the designated forecasting period. If a senior does not forecast for a Senior Study Privilege block, then they waive their opportunity to do so. Senior Study Privilege blocks will not be added after the forecasting period, no exceptions. If a senior chooses to remain in the building during her Senior Study Privilege block, she must study in the library, cafeteria, or student commons. The privilege may be forfeit if a student is in a non-designated area of the building, or if she has attendance, academic, or conduct infractions.

Study and Study Blocks

Students who need specific academic supports may be eligible for a Study or Study Block. These courses are offered in the Academic Support Center (ASC), which is staffed by teachers who provide assistance with study skills or support in a study hall.

A Core team comprised of the Dean of Students, the Assistant Principal of Curriculum and Instruction, the Director of Academic Support, and the Counselors meet to assess specific student accommodations, including those students who may be eligible for a Study or Study Block. Students may only enroll in these courses with the approval of the Core Team.

Students enrolled in a Study will earn .5 credits for one semester only. Any subsequent Study Blocks will not earn any credit.

Honors, Advanced Placement, and PSU Challenge Courses

In English, Fine Arts, Information Science, Math, Science, Social Science, and World Language, St. Mary's Academy offers some courses at the Honors, Advanced Placement (AP®), or PSU Challenge level. Most of these courses are alternatives to the required level core course (example: Honors English 10 versus English 10), but some are elective options beyond the core courses (example: AP® Biology). Enrollment in Honors, AP®, and PSU Challenge courses does require the approval of the department during the forecasting period. Parental approval is also required when students enroll in more than two Honors, AP®, or PSU Challenge courses due to the scope and requirements of these courses.

Honors courses study content in greater depth and at a quicker pace than regular St. Mary's college-prep courses. Enrichment topics are added to the curriculum. Standards in reading, writing, calculation, and critical thinking are higher. Learning is more independent.

AP[®] courses follow this more rigorous curriculum as well, but also culminate in a national exam given by the College Board. Scores on these exams may qualify students for college credit or advanced standing as determined by the particular college they attend.

PSU Challenge courses also follow this more rigorous curriculum. Students who complete PSU Challenge courses are eligible for college credit through Portland State University in addition to the high school credit earned through St. Mary's. An additional registration fee payable to PSU is required to earn college credit.

Even with departmental approval to forecast for an Honors, AP[®], or PSU Challenge course, students should consider the following before choosing to forecast for the course:

- Do I have a passion for this subject matter?
- Do I want to explore this content in more depth?
- Am I willing to spend more time on this subject, do more work in this course (even if not assigned), and strive to meet higher standards in my work?
- Do I have the time to commit to this course and still fully participate in my other activities? (family, friends, church, sports, SMA co-curricular activities, clubs, work, etc.)
- Will I be able to balance the stress this course may add or cause?
- Will I be satisfied even if I do not earn an A in this course?
- What other Honors, AP[®], or PSU Challenge courses am I planning to take?

Students should also consider the following qualities and skills that will help them be successful in an Honors, AP[®], or PSU Challenge course:

- Persistence and resourcefulness
- Positive attitude
- Ability to self-start and self-direct
- Effective and efficient time management
- Curiosity and desire to investigate at length
- Capacity to see and explore multiple perspectives
- Knowledge that failures are feedback
- Attention to detail
- Ability to work well independently or with others to achieve a goal
- Creative thinking
- Responsibility and accountability for their own actions

Course Offerings and Descriptions

Courses offered at St. Mary's Academy are listed in the following pages, organized alphabetically by department (English, Fine Arts, Health and PE, Information Science, Mathematics, Science, Social Science, Theology, World Language). In reviewing the available courses, students should carefully note the differences between required, elective, selective, and co-curricular courses.

Required: Students must successfully complete these courses in order to graduate. (The only exceptions are in the Health and PE Department where some requirements may be met by multiple different courses.)

Elective: These are optional courses that fulfill elective credits and contribute to a student's overall credit total for graduation. Students must complete a minimum of 1.5 elective credits in order to graduate.

Selective: Students must obtain departmental approval in order to forecast for these courses. These are mostly Honors, AP®, and PSU Challenge level courses.

Co-Curricular: These are optional courses that are offered outside of regular school day hours. Credit is awarded based on the number of instructional hours involved in participating in the course.

English Department

Vision Statement: Through reading and analyzing a variety of literary works, the English Department develops critical readers and thinkers, and encourages a love of learning, a passion for literature, and pride in self-expression.

Course Offerings

English 9

Grade Level: 9

Prerequisite: None

Credit: Required (1.0)

Length: 1 Year

In English 9, students build a solid foundation in reading critically and in writing literary analysis. Students write both creative and analytical compositions, focusing on how to enhance the following aspects of composition: ideas and content, organization, sentence structure, word choice, voice, and writing conventions. Contextual vocabulary words are studied as part of a yearlong focus on using sophisticated language in academic writing. In literature, students study the distinguishing features of short stories, poetry, novels, and a Shakespearean drama, analyzing how those elements contribute to the overall meaning and beauty of literary works.

English 10

Grade Level: 10

Prerequisite: English 9

Credit: Required (1.0)

Length: 1 Year

In English 10, students further develop their critical reading and literary analysis skills, with special emphasis on drama and novels. Although students write in multiple formats, the concentration in this course is on analytical writing about literature. As in English 9, particular focus is placed on continuing to enhance the following aspects of composition: ideas and content, organization, sentence structure, word choice, voice, and writing conventions. Students also continue to build vocabulary and enhance their fluency in reading and writing.

Honors English 10

Grade Level: 10

Prerequisite: English 9

Credit: Selective (1.0)

Length: 1 Year

In Honors English 10, students focus on the same skills as students in English 10, but with additional, more challenging literary selections, more complex compositions, and higher-level vocabulary. Standards in reading, writing, and critical thinking are also more advanced. Students must have departmental approval in order to forecast for this course. For Honors/AP® English course enrollment criteria, please consult page 15.

English 11

Grade Level: 11

Prerequisite: English 10 or Honors English 10

Credit: Required (1.0)

Length: 1 Year

In English 11, students concentrate on a survey of American Literature from the 16th century to the present. This survey includes the works of major American authors and poets, as well as the historical and philosophical contexts that gave rise to movements in American literature. Writing instruction continues to focus on ideas and content, organization, voice, word choice, sentence structure, and writing conventions. A special emphasis is placed on literary criticism and research, including the completion of a literary research paper using in-text documentation.

AP® English Language and Composition

Grade Level: 11

Prerequisite: English 10 or Honors English 10

Credit: Selective (1.0)

Length: 1 Year

In AP® English Language and Composition, students concentrate on critically reading and analyzing prose styles in both fiction and non-fiction, as well as graphic and visual images, with special attention to craft and rhetorical purpose. In their writing, students will focus particularly on synthesizing and evaluating sources through essays of varied lengths, including a literary research paper. The course builds on skills developed in previous English courses, including the development of nuanced vocabulary and syntax structures. The level of reading, discussion, and writing will be equivalent to the rigor of a college English or Humanities course. The course prepares students to take the AP® English Language and Composition Exam in May. Students must have departmental approval in order to forecast for this course. For Honors/AP® English course enrollment criteria, please consult page 15.

English 12

Grade Level: 12

Prerequisite: English 11 or AP English Language and Composition

Credit: Requirement (1.0)

Length: 1 Year

In English 12, students focus on a particular literary idea or thematic topic in each semester. Each course examines the specific cultural influences and philosophical movements that gave rise to the literature covered in the semester, including a brief study of relevant historical background for each unit. Students hone their literary analysis skills by examining themes, symbols, diction, syntax, and styles of works from different time-periods. In addition to writing analytical compositions, in each first semester course students write and receive feedback on their personal statements for college applications. Students forecast for one English 12A course (first semester) and one English 12B course (second semester).

English 12A Courses:

Literature of Protest and Revolution: Personal or Political

This course focuses on the myriad ways in which citizens have rebelled against injustice throughout history. Texts look at the instigation and effectiveness of subtle and overt protest through analyzing both art and action in literature. Feminists have long held that “the personal is the political”. Students will use this statement as the basis for examining how personal actions play a role in global decisions, what motivates change, and what constitutes rebellion.

Surviving Identity Crisis: A Literary Guide

This course provides students with the opportunity to consider humankind’s complex search for self. The following questions will be the core focus of the course: How does literature inform our understanding and expression of identity? What are the socio-historical, cultural, and political influences on identity? How are stories from other times, places, and people about us? This course uses a combination of teacher-directed mini-lessons and student-centered inquiry based work to ensure that each student’s voice and point of view is an integral part of the course.

English 12B Courses:

A Woman’s Place: Changing Expectations in Home, Work, and Love

Who is objectifying whom? For what are we fighting? Can we have it all and what does that mean? This course invites students to wrestle with these questions through examining the founders, focal issues, and effectiveness of the waves of feminism. Students will also study the shifting ways in which women have occupied the different spheres of their lives during various time-periods. Through these discussions, students will attempt to identify modern feminist icons, goals, and values, and explore their impact on our present and future worlds.

Encountering “The Other”

In this course, students examine works of literature focused on the dichotomy of identity and alienation, community and individuality, success and failure. Through reading modern and contemporary works, including essays, poetry, short stories, creative non-fiction, and novels, students will consider how language and literature provide opportunities for imagining and interpreting the experience of “the other”. Central questions include: Who, or what, is “the other”? How do encounters with “the other” frame our understanding of human interaction? This course culminates with a final project in which students synthesize and articulate a personal response to stories and storytelling.

AP® English Literature and Composition

Grade Level: 12

Prerequisite: English 11 or AP® English Language and Composition

Credit: Selective (1.0)

Length: 1 Year

In AP® English Literature and Composition, students will explore British literature from the Anglo-Saxon to the colonial era, with some work in American and world literature. Students will also refine their skills in close textual analysis, timed writing, and argumentation. This seminar-style course is designed to stimulate students’ growth as reflective, analytical writers and to give the same engaging, rigorous experience that they would find in a college or university classroom. Although the course focuses on strategies for composing shorter analytical essays, students will also write a personal college essay and a longer research paper. This course prepares students to take the AP® English Literature and Composition exam in May. Students must have departmental approval in order to forecast for this course. For Honors/AP® English course enrollment criteria, please consult page 15.

Contemporary Fiction

Grade Level: 11, 12

Prerequisite: English 10

Credit: Elective (.5)

Length: 1 Semester

In this course, students will study five or six modern novels – three selected by the teacher, and two or three selected by the class under the teacher’s direction. The course will focus on student discussion and leadership, including each student researching, planning, and presenting activities for one of the novels as a part of a group. Students will also study the theories of literary criticism, and both oral and written responses to literature. Throughout the course, students will develop analytical, research, and seminar-style discussion skills, as well as an appreciation for contemporary literature.

Creative Writing

Grade Level: 10, 11, 12

Prerequisite: English 9

Credit: Elective (.5)

Length: 1 Semester

Creative Writing concentrates on the craft of writing in the following genres: poetry, short story, memoir, and creative non-fiction. Students will sharpen their current writing skills while developing their own styles and voices. Students will journal regularly in class and engage in skill building exercises while working toward the completion of polished pieces of writing. Analyzing published writers' work, participating in self-evaluation and peer response groups, and revising their own compositions are also integral parts of the process.

Creative Writing 2

Grade Level: 10, 11, 12

Prerequisite: Creative Writing

Credit: Elective (.5)

Length: 1 Semester

Creative Writing 2 concentrates on the craft of writing fiction, creative non-fiction, and poetry. Students will build on and deepen the skills they gained in Creative Writing, as well as continue to participate in self-evaluation and peer response groups, writing exercises, and revision of their own compositions. Students may also explore more complex issues of their craft, including the pursuit of one genre in greater depth. A particular focus of this course is the development of the writer's own unique vision and style.

Speech

Grade Level: 10, 11, 12

Prerequisite: English 9

Credit: Required (.5)

Length: 1 Semester

Speech emphasizes the preparation, presentation, organization, and analysis of oral communication. This course also covers the communication process, nonverbal messages, and listening skills. Students will compose individual informative, impromptu, and persuasive speeches, as well as collaborate on group projects regarding civil discourse, debate, and/or performance skills.

Yearbook

Grade Level: 10, 11, 12

Prerequisite: English 9

Credit: Elective (.5 or 1.0)

Length: 1 Semester or 1 Year

In this course, students will participate in all phases of yearbook production, including graphic design, copy writing, photography, layout design, theme development, and business procedures. This course provides an excellent opportunity to build teamwork and cooperative skills, as well as hone computer, art, and writing skills. No experience is necessary, but strong writing and technological skills, as well as a flair for creativity, are encouraged. Top editorial positions will be decided based on experience and leadership skills. This course may be taken more than once.

Criteria for Enrollment in an Honors or AP® English Course

Students must have departmental approval to enroll in Honors English 10, AP® English Language and Composition, or AP® English Literature and Composition. All students applying for an Honors or AP® English course should consistently exhibit the qualities and skills necessary for success in an Honors level course (please see page 8).

Honors English 10

- Earn an A in first semester English 9
- Complete and turn in a high-quality application for Honors English 10
- Meet criteria on Profile of an Honors English Student (please consult your current English teacher's Schoology page)

AP® English Language and Composition

- Earn an A in first semester English 10 or a B in first semester Honors English 10
- Complete and turn in a high-quality application for AP® English Language and Composition
- Meet criteria on Profile of an Honors English Student (please consult your current English teacher's Schoology page)

AP® English Literature and Composition

- Earn an A in first semester English 11 or a B in first semester AP® English Language and Composition
- Complete and turn in a high-quality application for AP® English Literature and Composition
- Meet criteria on Profile of an Honors English Student (please consult your current English teacher's Schoology page)

Fine Arts Department

Vision Statement: Through appreciation, creation, and performance, the Fine Arts Department encourages students to discover and develop their artistic skills, produce and interpret expressive forms of communication, and recognize the importance of the arts in enriching their lives, as well as the world around them.

Course Offerings

Freshman Fine Arts Rotation

Grade: 9

Prerequisite: None

Credit: Required (1.0)

Length: 1 Year

In this 1-year course rotation, students are introduced to the rich tradition of visual and performing arts at St. Mary's Academy. Students explore and study the foundations of dance, music, theatre, and visual arts through the courses listed below:

- Dance/Visual Arts Appreciation
- Music/Theatre Appreciation

Dance Courses

Beginning Dance Technique

Grade Level: 9, 10, 11, 12

Prerequisite: None

Credit: Elective (.5) or Required (.5 – if taken to fulfill a PE credit)

Length: 1 Semester

In this course, students of all levels develop their skills in technique and performance. Students will focus on classical technique in Western Cultural Dances, while also learning the histories of each form. Students study four different forms of dance and perform original choreography in each style. Required activities include participation in daily technique lessons, peer and self-critique, journal reflections, and performance preparation and presentation. This course may fulfill a PE credit or a Fine Arts credit.

Intermediate Dance Technique

Grade Level: 10, 11, 12

Prerequisite: Beginning Dance Technique (or instructor approval)

Credit: Elective (.5) or Required (.5 – if taken to fulfill a PE credit)

Length: 1 Semester

This course builds on the skills of Beginning Dance Technique to further develop students as both technical dancers and movement artists. Students will focus on refining personal movement goals and study anatomy to grow a more thorough understanding of body mechanics. Students will also learn more about creating choreography and finding their own artistic voice. Required activities include participation in daily technique lessons, journal reflections, dance research, the study of current prominent movers, choreographing dances, peer and self-critique, and performance preparation and presentation. This course may fulfill a PE credit or a Fine Arts credit.

Advanced Dance Technique

Grade Level: 10, 11, 12

Prerequisite: Intermediate Dance Technique (or instructor approval)

Credit: Elective (.5) or Required (.5 – if taken to fulfill a PE credit)

Length: 1 Semester

This course is oriented toward proficient dancers, specifically those interested in choreography and performance. Students will participate in rigorous technique lessons to help them formulate complex thoughts and themes into meaningful pieces of art. They will create group and individual choreography that applies their matured skills and expresses their unique, artistic voices. Required activities include participation in daily technique lessons, journal reflections, choreographing dances, peer and self-critique, dance research, and performance preparation and presentation. This course may fulfill a PE credit or a Fine Arts credit.

Music Courses

Class Piano

Grade Level: 9, 10, 11, 12

Prerequisite: None

Credit: Elective (.5)

Length: 1 Semester

Students in this course study and practice piano technique and music literacy using Frances Clark's intervallic approach to playing piano. While learning to read and perform music at the keyboard, students study penta-scales, tetra-scales, major scales, arpeggios, accompanying and transposition, repertoire, and sight-reading exercises. This course is recommended for any student interested in playing the piano (even those students with prior piano experience), as well

as those who are interested in studying music theory and composition, or continuing with music studies after high school.

Advanced Class Piano

Grade Level: 9, 10, 11, 12

Prerequisite: Class Piano (or instructor approval)

Credit: Elective (.5)

Length: 1 Semester

In this course, students will build on the skills they developed in Class Piano (or skills developed outside of school for those enrolling in this course with instructor approval). Students will study authentic cadences (with the chord root in the left hand), sight reading, rhythm reading, ear training, musical vocabulary major scales, minor scales (natural, harmonic, and melodic), arpeggios, inversions of major and minor triads, accompanying and transposing, and various musical repertoire. This course is recommended for any student interested in further developing their piano skills, as well as those who are interested in studying music theory and composition, or continuing with music studies after high school.

Concert Choir

Grade Level: 9

Prerequisite: None

Credit: Elective (1.0)

Length: 1 Year

Concert Choir is a non-auditioned vocal performance ensemble open to all 9th grade students who enjoy singing. Students study proper breathing techniques, vocal health, choral blend and intonation skills, sight singing, ear training, music literacy skills, and choral repertoire representing a variety of musical genres, cultures, and languages. Students prepare and rehearse music for performances at the Christmas and spring concerts. Students also have the opportunity to participate in the Oregon Music Educators Association solo and ensemble competition.

Concert Choir meets 2-3 times per week (before school on Tuesdays, Thursdays, and alternating Fridays). Attendance at all rehearsals and performances is mandatory.

Marian Instruments: Orchestra

Grade Level: 9, 10, 11, 12

Prerequisite: Audition (or instructor approval)

Credit: Selective (1.0)

Length: 1 Year

Orchestra is an auditioned performance ensemble. Students perform at the Christmas and spring concerts, as well as other special community and school events. Rehearsals focus on developing good ensemble skills, sight-reading, ear training, and performance techniques in a variety of

musical styles and genres. Orchestra students are eligible to participate in the Oregon Music Educators Association solo and ensemble competition in the spring. Orchestra meets two days per week for 1.5 hours after school. Attendance at all rehearsals and performances is mandatory.

Marian Instruments: Advanced String Ensemble

Grade Level: 9, 10, 11, 12

Prerequisite: Audition (or instructor approval)

Credit: Selective (1.0)

Length: 1 Year

Advanced String Ensemble is an auditioned performance ensemble like Orchestra, but students study and perform more challenging music and have opportunities for solos within the ensemble. Students in this group also act as mentors and section leaders in Orchestra. Instrumentalists taking private lessons are eligible to audition for Advanced String Ensemble. Students perform in the Christmas and spring concerts, as well as other special community and school events. Advanced String Ensemble students are eligible to participate in the Oregon Music Educators Association solo and ensemble competition in the spring. Advanced String Ensemble meets once per week for 2.5 hours after school. Attendance at all rehearsals and performances is mandatory.

Marian Instruments: Piano Ensemble

Grade Level: 9, 10, 11, 12

Prerequisite: Audition (or instructor approval)

Credit: Selective (.5)

Length: 1 Year

Piano Ensemble is an auditioned performance ensemble. Students in the ensemble perform as a group, in duets and trios, and occasionally with instrumentalists in chamber music settings. This course focuses on the role of the pianist as an accompanist and on further developing keyboard skills. Piano Ensemble meets once per week for 1.5 hours after school and performs at the Christmas and spring concerts, as well as other special community and school events. Students also have the opportunity to participate in the Oregon Music Teacher Association (OMTA) festivals and competitions, as well as events with the Music Teachers National Association (MTNA). Attendance at all rehearsals and performances is mandatory.

Marian Singers

Grade Level: 10, 11, 12

Prerequisite: Audition (or instructor approval)

Credit: Selective (1.0)

Length: 1 Year

Marian Singers is an auditioned vocal performance ensemble. Students study proper breathing techniques, vocal health, choral blend and intonation skills, sight singing, ear training, music literacy skills, and choral repertoire representing a variety of musical genres, cultures, and

languages. Students perform at school liturgies, the Christmas and spring concerts, music festivals, and other special community and school events. Marian Singers compete annually in the OSAA district choir competition. Students also have the opportunity to participate in the Oregon Music Educators Association solo and ensemble competition, as well as the option to audition for the Oregon All-State Choir. Marian Singers meets two days per week for 1.5 hours after school (Tuesdays and Thursdays) and occasionally have extended (2 hours) rehearsals. Attendance at all rehearsals and performances is mandatory.

Music Theory and Composition

Grade Level: 10, 11, 12

Prerequisite: Music Appreciation (Class Piano recommended)

Credit: Elective (.5)

Length: 1 Semester

In this course, students study the structure of music through the analysis of music and original compositions. This course is very important for students planning to study music in college. Students explore all elements of music in depth, including the elements of sound, music notation, tonality, modality, style/genre, timbre, expression, melody, harmony, rhythm, texture, form, and ear training. Units of study include major and minor key signatures, harmonic structures and functions, harmonic analysis, keyboard skills, and musical terminology. **Prerequisite skills:** ability to identify pitch in both treble and bass clefs, ability to read basic rhythmic patterns, beginning level keyboard skills.

Music Theory and Composition 2

Grade Level: 11, 12

Prerequisite: Music Theory and Composition (or instructor approval)

Credit: Elective (.5)

Length: 1 Semester

In this course, students continue their study of the structure of music through the analysis of music and original compositions. Students will continue to study in depth all elements of music studied in Music Theory and Composition. Additional topics covered in this course include scales, modes, transposition, cadences and non-harmonic tones, melodic organization, binary and ternary form, and modulations.

Rose Choir

Grade Level: 10, 11, 12

Prerequisite: Music Appreciation

Credit: Elective (1.0)

Length: 1 Year

Rose Choir is a non-auditioned vocal ensemble group open to all students in grades 10-12 who enjoy singing. Students study proper breathing techniques, vocal health, choral blend and

intonation skills, sight singing, ear training, music literacy skills, and choral repertoire representing a variety of musical genres, cultures, and languages. Students prepare and rehearse music for performances at the Treble Festival, League Festival, and Christmas and spring concerts. Students also have the opportunity to participate in the Oregon Music Educators Association solo and ensemble competition. Rose Choir meets 2-3 times per week before school (Mondays, Wednesdays, and alternating Fridays). Attendance at all rehearsals and performances is mandatory.

Show Choir and A Cappella

Grade Level: 10, 11, 12

Prerequisite: Music Appreciation

Credit: Elective (.5)

Length: 1 Semester

This course is offered in alternate years. It will be offered for the 2021-2022 school year, but will not be offered in the 2022-2023 school year.

In this course, students focus on performing jazz and pop a cappella arrangements and show choir literature. Students will work on programming a well-balanced set of music (opener, comedic, medley, ballad, closer), using appropriate vocal styling and choral choreography (including basic movement and dance), and staging. Students study proper breathing techniques, vocal health, choral blend and intonation skills, sight singing, ear training, music literacy skills, and choral repertoire in the pop a cappella, Broadway, jazz, and show choir genres. Students will choose and rehearse contemporary choral literature and develop a fully choreographed set for performance at the spring concert.

Ukulele

Grade Level: 9, 10, 11, 12

Prerequisite: None

Credit: Elective (.5)

Length: 1 Semester

In this course, students will learn basic ukulele techniques (strumming and picking) and develop their musical literacy. Students will study and perform varied repertoire in both small and large ensembles, improvise and write their own compositions, and create a final group performance. This course is recommended for any student interested in learning to play the ukulele, studying musicianship, or continuing to study music throughout and after high school.

Theatre Courses

Theatre 1: Beginning Acting and Technical Skills

Grade Level: 9, 10

Prerequisite: None

Credit: Elective (.5)

Length: 1 Semester

In this course, students will focus on skills in either acting or technical theatre. Each student will choose an area of emphasis, and students from both groups will collaborate to produce a one-act play using the skills learned throughout the course. This course will feature guest directors and artists, field trips, and live theatre viewing. All students will pay a “play viewing” fee in lieu of buying a textbook for the course and will see at least two live theatre performances outside of SMA.

Acting Emphasis: Students will study practical and theoretical models of acting and participate in various exercises to develop their acting skills. Students will study and perform scenes and monologues from contemporary and classical plays.

Technical Theatre Emphasis: Students will study costuming, set, lighting, and sound design, as well as how to use these mediums to illuminate story and character. Students will construct scenery and costumes, and use basic lighting and sound techniques in the one-act play.

Theater 2: Theatre in Action

Grade Level: 10, 11, 12

Prerequisite: Theatre 1 (or instructor approval)

Credit: Elective (.5)

Length: 1 Semester

In this course, students will build on the acting or technical theatre skills they developed in Theatre Appreciation, Theatre 1, or extra-curricular theatre activities. Each student will choose an area of emphasis, and students from both groups will collaborate to produce a one-act play using the skills learned throughout the course. This course will feature guest artists and live theatre viewing. All students will pay a “play viewing” fee in lieu of buying a textbook for the course and will see at least two live theatre performances outside of SMA.

Acting Emphasis: Students continue to develop their characterization skills through acting exercises, scene work, and a variety of performances. Performances might include a one-act play produced with the technical theatre students and participation in the Thespian Acting Competition and/or Thespian State One-Act.

Technical Theatre Emphasis: Students continue to develop their theatrical design skills, as well as learn technical implementation skills. Students produce a one-act play with the acting students, lead projects to support the current mainstage production, and become “Core Tech” (technical support for school assemblies, Mass, concerts, etc.). Students may also have the opportunity to work with outside theatre groups, as well as submit designs to the State Thespian Competition.

Theatre 3: Advanced Skills and Focus

Grade Level: 11, 12

Prerequisite: Theatre 2 (or instructor approval)

Credit: Elective (.5)

Length: 1 Semester

In this course, students will further hone their skills in their chosen area of emphasis (acting or technical theatre), while working on advanced projects preparing them for future work and participation in theatre. Students will produce a culminating project/performance to be showcased at the end of the semester. This course will feature guest artists and live theatre viewing. All students will pay a “play viewing” fee in lieu of buying a textbook for the course and will see at least two live theatre performances outside of SMA. Students are encouraged to take this course if they are interested in playwriting, directing, designing for a mainstage show, or auditioning for theatre in college.

Musical Theatre

Grade Level: 9, 10, 11, 12

Prerequisite: None

Credit: Elective (.5)

Length: 1 Semester

This course is offered in alternate years. It will not be offered in the 2021-2022 school year, but will be offered in the 2022-2023 school year.

In this course, students will develop the basic skills of musical theatre performance: acting, singing, and dance/movement. Students will integrate these skills through rehearsal, critique, and performance. Students will also study important topics in the history of musical theatre.

Theatre for Social Change

Grade Level: 11, 12

Prerequisite: None

Credit: Elective (.5)

Length: 1 Semester

In this course, students will explore social justice through theatre from an academic and practical perspective. Students will learn about storytelling, a variety of techniques and perspectives from

Augusto Boal's Theatre of the Oppressed, and create a final applied theatre project. Additional topics covered in this course include critical theory and analysis, devised/ensemble generated theatre, and intersectionality.

Visual Art Courses

AP® Studio Art: 2D Design, Drawing

Grade Level: 11, 12

Prerequisite: Application, Instructor Approval, Completion of Summer Work

Credit: Selective (1.0)

Length: 1 Year

AP® Studio Art is an academically rigorous course that allows experienced and serious artists to investigate specific areas of art in depth. Over the course of the year, students prepare a portfolio of artwork in one of two categories: 2D Design or Drawing. This portfolio is submitted to the AP® College Board for grading in May. During first quarter, students will experiment with a variety of media and start investigating individual concepts and ideas. For the remainder of the year, students work on their individual Sustained Investigation, consisting of at least 15 pieces around a topic of their choice. Readings, process writing, and sketchbook activities are assigned with each project, and students are required to work consistently and independently. Students who elect to take this course should be self-motivated and self-directed, as well as cooperative, responsible art students.

Ceramics 1

Grade Level: 9, 10, 11, 12

Prerequisite: None

Credit: Elective (.5)

Length: 1 Semester

In this course, students study ceramic hand-building techniques and construction, wheel throwing, and glazing. Students practice building functional and sculptural ceramic works. Emphasis in this course is placed on craftsmanship and sensitivity to aesthetics.

Ceramics 2

Grade Level: 10, 11, 12

Prerequisite: Ceramics 1

Credit: Elective (.5)

Length: 1 Semester

In this course, students build on the techniques developed in Ceramics 1 and refine their skills with both hand-built and wheel thrown forms. Emphasis is placed on design and glazing.

Ceramics 3

Grade Level: 10, 11, 12

Prerequisite: Ceramics 2

Credit: Elective (.5)

Length: 1 Semester

In this course, students will complete projects that expand their conceptual and functional ceramic building practice. They will create proposals and timelines while researching contemporary and historical ceramics practices for inspiration and skill building. Students will also explore what it looks like to create ceramics work in the art market from a product design perspective, including creating multiples and budgeting time and materials.

Drawing 1

Grade Level: 9, 10, 11, 12

Prerequisite: None

Credit: Elective (.5)

Length: 1 Semester

In this course, students will develop fundamental drawing skills using a variety of media. Contour and value will be emphasized as students learn to draw from observation. Students will develop strategies for drawing realistically with confidence while working with graphite, charcoal, pastel, and colored pencils. Students will keep a sketchbook and complete weekly assignments in class.

Drawing 2

Grade Level: 10, 11, 12

Prerequisite: Drawing 1 (or instructor approval)

Credit: Elective (.5)

Length: 1 Semester

Drawing 2 is an intermediate course that focuses on more complex compositions and subjects of the students' choice. Using a variety of drawing media, students will develop their technical skills in contour, gesture, cross contour, foreshortening, and tonal value drawing projects. Students will study the medium of drawing in both historical and contemporary contexts. Students will also keep a sketchbook and complete weekly assignments in class. This course is recommended for students interested in taking AP® Studio Art.

Painting 1

Grade Level: 9, 10, 11, 12

Prerequisite: None

Credit: Elective (.5)

Length: 1 Semester

In this introductory level course, students will learn basic color theory and painting techniques. Using both watercolor and acrylics, students will complete a variety of daily activities and large projects to build confidence and competence in the medium. The history of painting, from the Renaissance through contemporary art, will inform the study of technique and subject matter.

Painting 2

Grade Level: 10, 11, 12

Prerequisite: Painting 1 (or instructor approval)

Credit: Elective (.5)

Length: 1 Semester

This intermediate level course builds on the skills learned in Painting 1 and emphasizes experimentation in the medium. Inspired by artists working in both historical and contemporary contexts, projects will vary from realistic to abstract. This course is recommended for students interested in taking AP® Studio Art.

Printmaking

Grade Level: 10, 11, 12

Prerequisite: Drawing 1 or Painting 1 (or instructor approval)

Credit: Elective (.5)

Length: 1 Semester

This intermediate course provides a foundation in the fundamentals of two-dimensional design. Through in-class projects, students explore the elements and principles of art using a wide variety of traditional and non-traditional media and methods. Projects include, but are not limited to, printmaking, mixed media, book making, and collage. Students will also explore the rich crafting traditions of different cultures to build an understanding of the arts in a global context. This course is designed to open a window to self-expression and awareness that will support further study and portfolio development for the student. This course is recommended for students interested in taking AP® Studio Art.

Health and Physical Education Department

Vision Statement: The Health and Physical Education Department challenges and encourages students to find their passion for living a healthy life-style and provides the skills and knowledge necessary to achieve it.

Course Offerings

Anatomy

Grade Level: 10, 11, 12

Prerequisite: None

Credit: Elective (.5) or Required (.5 – if taken to fulfill Health 2 requirement)

Length: 1 Semester

In this course, students will study the structures and systems of the human body, including the integumentary (skin, hair, nails), skeletal (bones), and muscular systems. Students will learn from guest speakers, class discussions, creating artwork, building muscles out of clay, and completing group projects. Hands-only CPR training will also be covered. This course is recommended for any student interested in medical or health related fields such as athletic training, physical therapy, or kinesiology. It may be taken as an elective or to fulfill the Health 2 requirement. Students must complete Anatomy prior to enrollment in Physiology. The two courses cannot be taken concurrently.

Health 1: Wellness

Grade Level: 9, 10

Prerequisite: None

Credit: Required (.5)

Length: 1 Semester

This course considers what it means to have a balanced life as a whole and healthy person in mind, body, and spirit. Units of study include character education, social media and bullying, decision-making skills, building relationships, consent, nutrition, positive body image, peer pressure, mental health, stress management, and sexual health. All students are required to take this course in order to graduate. This course must be completed in either freshman or sophomore year.

Health 2: First Aid, CPR, and Safety

Grade Level: 10, 11, 12

Prerequisite: None

Credit: Required (.5)

Length: 1 Semester

This course provides an in-depth study of CPR, first aid training, and emergency care procedures through hands-on instruction using manikins and personal protective equipment. Students will learn how to respond to life-threatening situations, including receiving specific training in rescue breathing, relieving choking, performing CPR, and controlling bleeding. At the end of the course, students will have the opportunity to receive certification through the American Red Cross in adult, child, and infant CPR/AED training. Students will also have the opportunity to learn from a panel of local, medical professionals (OB/GYN, RN, midwife, acupuncturist) and guest speakers from community partners (American Red Cross, The Reality Project, Donate Life NW) throughout the course. The semester will end with a culminating research project on a particular women's reproductive health issue. All students must complete this course (or Anatomy as an alternative) in order to graduate.

Physical Education

Grade Level: 9, 10, 11, 12

Prerequisite: None

Credit: Required (.5)

Length: 1 Semester

In this course, students will participate in a variety of physical activities, team sports, and games, with an emphasis on communication, collaboration, cooperation, and community building through play. Activities include stretching, power walks, badminton, basketball, flag football, volleyball, bowling, pickle ball, soccer, mat ball, sprout ball, mindfulness, self-defense, and more in order to help maintain a life of health and fitness. Students will take an active role in creating and leading dynamic warm ups and static cool-downs for each unit of study. All students must take two semesters of PE (or equivalent credit courses such as Dance, Strength and Conditioning, or Yoga) in order to graduate. This course may be taken more than once.

Physiology

Grade Level: 10, 11, 12

Prerequisite: Anatomy

Credit: Elective (.5)

Length: 1 Semester

This course examines how the body works and what happens when body systems are not working properly. Major body systems covered in this course include the nervous system (brain and spinal cord), cardiovascular system (heart and blood vessels), digestive system, and reproductive system. Students will also study particular diseases and their potential impact on

these systems. Students will learn from guest speakers, class discussions, completing group projects, building structures out of clay, and performing dissections. Students must complete Anatomy prior to enrollment in this course. The two courses cannot be taken concurrently.

Strength and Conditioning

Grade Level: 10, 11, 12

Prerequisite: None

Credit: Elective (.5) or Required (.5 – if taken to fulfill PE requirement)

Length: 1 Semester

This course is designed to teach students the lifelong skill of personal fitness. Students will develop the fundamentals of athleticism – strength and agility – while focusing on weight training and SAQ (speed, agility, quickness). Core strength, upper and lower body strength, and functional training will also be emphasized, as well as training for all sports. Everyone is an athlete in one way or another. To live functionally in day-to-day life is to be athletic. This course helps develop that inner athlete in all of us. This course may be taken more than once.

Yoga and Mindfulness

Grade Level: 10, 11, 12

Prerequisite: None

Credit: Elective (.5) or Required (.5 – if taken to fulfill PE requirement)

Length: 1 Semester

In this course, students will learn the basic movement patterns and postures of flow-based Vinyasa yoga, as well as how to practice mindfulness. Movements will increase students' core strength and flexibility, but may be modified to meet each student's specific fitness level or to accommodate injuries. Students will learn to link their breath (prana) to their movements (asana), and will explore how to use breathing to decrease physical and emotional stress. Through their mindfulness practice, students will learn to stay more present in their daily lives and be more in-tune with their inner dialogue and thoughts. The language, philosophy, and history of Yoga will also be covered. This course may be taken more than once.

Information Science Department

Vision Statement: We believe in the essential nature of technology literacy and responsibility in our 21st century world. We believe in empowering young women to be builders, creators, dreamers, thinkers, researchers, collaborators, and doers. Above all, we believe that empowered women not only identify problems, they seek solutions.

Course Offerings

AP® Computer Science

Grade Level: 10, 11, 12

*Prerequisite: Geometry AND one of Intro to Computer Science, App Design, or Web Design
(or instructor approval)*

Credit: Elective (1.0)

Length: 1 Year

This AP® Computer Science A course is an in-depth study of the object-oriented programming language called Java. Areas of study include problem solving, design strategies and methodologies, data organization (structures), approaches to data processing (algorithms), and the ethical and social implications of computing. Students explore these concepts through projects, application-related labs, presentations, and field trips (as applicable). This course also emphasizes developing the skills needed to pursue employment in software engineering and other computer programming fields – both current and predicted. Students have the option to take the AP® Computer Science A exam in May. This course may be taken as either an information science credit or a math credit.

App Design

Grade Level: 9, 10, 11, 12

Prerequisite: None

Credit: Elective (.5)

Length: 1 Semester

This course specifically focuses on the design and coding of applications for mobile devices, with an emphasis on the iOS (Apple) platform. Students learn to first design, then wireframe, prototypes using the InVision platform. Students then create and style their apps using Swift (a programming language of iOS applications). By the end of the course, students will have real-world app design experience and the coding skills necessary to further explore coding and design in all areas of computer science.

App Design 2

Grade Level: 10, 11, 12

Prerequisite: App Design (or instructor approval)

Credit: Elective (.5)

Length: 1 Semester

This course builds on previous programming experience using Swift as the programming language and X-Code as the development environment to further expand students' app development skills. Students work through practical exercises, create apps from scratch, and design with the mindset of an app developer. This course also includes opportunities to explore user experience (UX) and user interface (UI) guidelines to create workable app prototypes.

Intro to Computer Science

Grade Level: 9, 10, 11, 12

Prerequisite: None

Credit: Required (.5)

Length: 1 Semester

This survey course introduces and explores a variety of computer science topics including problem solving, app design, web design, and programming. Students learn the fundamentals of coding in the Python programming language, design and wireframe apps, and create websites using HTML and CSS. By the end of the course, students will have a solid foundation in the basics of computer science that will allow them to confidently move into other courses within the department, or further explore more advanced ideas in computer science.

Principles of Design

Grade Level: 10, 11, 12

Prerequisite: Intro to Computer Science (or instructor approval)

Credit: Elective (.5)

Length: 1 Semester

This dynamic design externship experience focuses on the foundational principles of design thinking developed at Stanford's D School. Students will learn to think like user-centered designers, while exploring the design process for products and spaces through activities and projects. Students will identify 21st century problems and learn to address them through improved collaboration skills, new ways of problem solving, and building creative confidence. Students will participate in externship opportunities with local design companies that will mentor students in the design process. Design thinking plays a critical role in many fields, including engineering, research methodology, performing arts, visual arts, sociology, psychology, business foundations, and communication, thereby providing students with diverse practical application possibilities for the skills developed in this course.

Advanced Principles of Design

Grade Level: 10, 11, 12

Prerequisite: Principles of Design (or instructor approval)

Credit: Elective (.5)

Length: 1 Semester

In this course, students will further their knowledge and experience of how to think like a user-centered designer, with a focus on reimagining experiences and systems. Students will refine their skills utilizing the design process through activities and projects, continue to identify 21st century problems, and address them through improved collaboration skills, new ways of problem solving, and building creative confidence. Students will continue to participate in externship opportunities with local design companies that will mentor students in the design process.

Tech Internship

Grade Level: 10, 11, 12

Prerequisite: Intro to Computer Science and application

Credit: Elective (.5)

Length: 1 Semester

This course is both a hands-on internal IT internship and an independent study. The IT staff will mentor students as they practice their skills in technology, troubleshooting, systems administration, client service, and professionalism. With assistance from the IT staff, students will respond to Tier I and II Tech Help requests. When not performing IT support duties, students will complete self-paced learning modules to deepen their knowledge of computer systems such as Windows, MacOS, and iOS, as well as systems management. Outside of class, students will serve at least 10 hours per quarter at the SMA Student Help Desk during activity blocks or before school, and attend at least one SMA event (e.g. Open House) as IT support. At the end of this course, in addition to credit on their transcripts, students will have resume-ready skills that will support their pursuit of IT internships and paid staff positions.

Web Design

Grade Level: 9, 10, 11, 12

Prerequisite: None

Credit: Elective

Length: 1 Semester

This course combines the use of art and technology as students focus on both the design and coding of websites. Students will develop their visual design sensibilities and their HTML, CSS, and JavaScript coding skills while working to create fully operational websites. Students will also work collaboratively to design and build a website for a non-profit organization in need of a new or updated website. By the end of the course, students will be able to analyze user needs and design cutting-edge user experiences.

Leadership Program

Vision Statement: The Leadership Program fosters the development of student leaders who speak in their authentic voices, pilot new ideas with confidence, and cultivate leadership skills in others. The program welcomes all students to an open and inquisitive community of exploration by centering equity and inclusion, lifting up wellness and balance, and embodying the values of the Sisters of the Holy Names of Jesus and Mary.

Course Offerings

Leadership

Grade Level: 11-12

Prerequisite: Application and approval of the Dean of Student Leadership and Activities

Credit: Elective (.5)

Length: 1 Semester

This course challenges students to explore various leadership styles and methods while encouraging them to find and grow in their own unique leadership style. Students develop and practice these skills through trial and error in a low stakes, safe environment. Through the use of project-based and experiential learning, as well as time spent with experts in the field, students will employ their critical thinking, communication, and problem solving skills to deepen their understanding of leadership in and out of the classroom. This course also helps students identify their personal values and understand their role in impacting their peers and community. Course grading is primarily competency based and is tailored to meet each student's individual needs. This course is only offered in second semester each year.

Honors Leadership

Grade Level: 12

Prerequisite: Application and election by the student body

Credit: Elective (1.0)

Length: 1 Year

This course challenges students to explore various leadership styles and methods in depth while refining their own unique leadership style and skills. Students in this course serve as Associated

Student Body Officers throughout the year and work with the administration to uphold a positive school culture. Many leaders fall into leadership and acquire their skills through trial and error in high stakes work environments. This course gives students the opportunity to have those experiences and develop the skills necessary to effectively navigate them within a low stakes learning environment that prepares them to use those tools in their future careers. Students also learn to identify their own personal blind spots and understand their role in impacting their constituents and community. Course grading is primarily competency based and is tailored to meet each student's individual needs.

Mathematics Department

Vision Statement: The Mathematics Department facilitates the development of effective problem-solvers and flexible, critical thinkers. We work to construct a foundation of skills and understanding that will result in mathematically confident young women who have broader options for the future.

Course Offerings

Algebra 1

Grade Level: 9

Prerequisite: Pre-Algebra (or equivalent)

Credit: Required (1.0)

Length: 1 Year

All freshman students enroll in this course except those who test out of it by taking the math challenge exam. Topics studied in this course include properties of the real number system, functions, linear equations, and systems of linear equations. This course also covers exponents, quadratics, factoring, simplifying polynomials, and graphing, including the use of graphing technology. Mathematical theory is combined with solving practical problems.

Accelerated Algebra 1

Grade Level: 9

Prerequisite: Some Algebra Content

Credit: Selective (1.0)

Length: 1 Year

This course is for freshman students who have studied some algebra content in middle school, but who have not covered enough content in enough depth to be prepared to move into Geometry. Students must take the math challenge exam and have departmental consent to enroll in this course. Concepts such as solving linear equations and graphing lines are covered minimally in this course. The primary topics covered are quadratics, exponentials, domain and range, simplifying rational expressions, and systems of equations and inequalities. This course also focuses on encouraging students to go beyond mastering the process of solving an equation to gain a deeper understanding of the concepts behind the problem-solving method. Graphing technology is used extensively.

Geometry

Grade Level: 9, 10

Prerequisite: Algebra 1 or Accelerated Algebra 1

Credit: Required (1.0)

Length: 1 Year

Geometry is open to all sophomore students, as well as freshmen who take the math challenge exam and have departmental consent to enroll in the course. This course emphasizes logical thinking and helps students understand the properties of basic geometric figures. Topics include transformations, angle relationships, polygons, similarity, congruence, proofs, basic trigonometry, perimeter, area, circles, surface area, and volume.

Honors Geometry

Grade Level: 9, 10

Prerequisite: Algebra 1 or Accelerated Algebra 1

Credit: Selective (1.0)

Length: 1 Year

Honors Geometry is open to freshman and sophomore students who have departmental consent to enroll in the course based on challenge exam results and/or current math course performance. This course emphasizes logical thinking and helps students understand the properties of basic geometric figures. Topics include transformations, angle relationships, polygons, similarity, congruence, proofs, basic trigonometry, perimeter, area, circles, surface area, and volume. These topics, particularly the concept of proofs, will be explored in more depth than in Geometry, and will be supplemented with enrichment topics. Students will be asked to demonstrate advanced understanding of the material throughout this course. Please consult the math forecasting guide on pages 41-42 for details regarding enrollment criteria.

Algebra 2

Grade Level: 11, 12

Prerequisite: Geometry

Credit: Required (1.0)

Length: 1 Year

All students must complete 3 years of math, culminating at minimum in Algebra 2, or an equivalent course (see Algebra 2/Trig and Honors Algebra 2/Trig below) in order to graduate. In Algebra 2, students will review and build on the topics learned in Algebra 1 and Geometry, and will grow as critical thinkers. Major topics of study in this course include functions, systems of equations, transformations, rational expressions, exponential and logarithmic functions, quadratics, and an introduction to trigonometric functions. This course moves at a slower pace in order to help students gain a deeper understanding of topics that may have been challenging in Algebra 1 and Geometry. Graphing technology will be used extensively. Please consult the math forecasting guide on pages 41-42 for details regarding enrollment criteria.

Algebra 2/Trig

Grade Level: 9, 10, 11, 12

Prerequisite: Geometry or Honors Geometry

Credit: Selective (1.0)

Length: 1 Year

Algebra 2/Trig covers more material at a faster pace than Algebra 2. Major topics of study in this course include functions, radicals, 3D graphing, systems of equations (both linear and non-linear), rational expressions, exponential and logarithmic functions, and polynomials. Circular trigonometry and extensive coverage of transformations and trigonometric functions are also covered. Graphing technology will be used extensively. Students must have solid algebra and geometry skills and departmental consent to enroll in this course. Please consult the math forecasting guide on pages 41-42 for details regarding enrollment criteria.

Honors Algebra 2/Trig

Grade Level: 9, 10, 11

Prerequisite: Geometry or Honors Geometry

Credit: Selective (1.0)

Length: 1 Year

Honors Algebra 2/Trig covers concepts in greater depth than Algebra 2/Trig and adds enrichment materials to the topics of study. Major topics of study in this course include functions, radicals, 3D graphing, systems of equations (both linear and non-linear), rational expressions, exponential and logarithmic functions, and polynomials. Circular trigonometry and extensive coverage of transformations and trigonometric functions are also covered. Particular emphasis is placed on developing higher critical thinking and problem solving skills, as well as demonstrating advanced understanding of the covered materials. Graphing technology will be used extensively. Students must have solid algebra and geometry skills and departmental consent to enroll in this course. Please consult the math forecasting guide on pages 41-42 for details regarding enrollment criteria.

Advanced Functions and Statistics

Grade Level: 10, 11, 12

Prerequisite: Algebra 2 or Algebra 2/Trig

Credit: Selective (1.0)

Length: 1 Year

In this course, students will further develop the skills they need in order to be successful in advanced mathematics courses in the future. A particular emphasis is placed on preparation for future enrollment in Pre-Calculus. Students will study introductory statistics, survey design, experimental design, and advanced function analysis. The content covered in this course has a wide variety of applications, so it may be of particular interest to students considering further

study in the arts, humanities, or social sciences. Please consult the math forecasting guide on pages 41-42 for details regarding enrollment criteria.

Pre-Calculus

Grade Level: 10, 11, 12

Prerequisite: Algebra 2/Trig or Advanced Functions and Statistics

Credit: Selective (1.0)

Length: 1 Year

In this course, students will build on the skills they developed in Algebra 2/Trig as well as their knowledge of functions and trigonometry. Students will study functions (including linear, quadratic, logarithmic, exponential, and trigonometric) with the specific intent to prepare for calculus and further course work in engineering and physical sciences. Students will revisit logarithms, limits, and complex numbers and study these topics in further depth. Students will be introduced to finding the area under a curve, as well as the relationship between distance and velocity. Graphing technology will be used extensively. Students must have departmental consent to enroll in this course. Please consult the math forecasting guide on pages 41-42 for details regarding enrollment criteria.

Honors Pre-Calculus

Grade Level: 9, 10, 11, 12

Prerequisite: Algebra 2/Trig or Honors Algebra 2/Trig

Credit: Selective (1.0)

Length: 1 Year

Honors Pre-Calculus covers concepts in greater depth than Pre-Calculus and includes additional topics of study and enrichment materials. Students will study properties and transformations of elementary functions, periodic and circular functions, trigonometric properties and identities, triangle trigonometry, nonlinear modeling from data, probability, two-dimensional vectors, polar coordinates and complex numbers, sequences and series, and polynomial and rational functions. Graphing technology will be used extensively and is integral to the core curriculum of this course. Students must have departmental consent to enroll in this course. Please consult the math forecasting guide on pages 41-42 for details regarding enrollment criteria.

Calculus

Grade Level: 11, 12

Prerequisite: Pre-Calculus or Honors Pre-Calculus

Credit: Selective (1.0)

Length: 1 Year

In this course, students will study limits, derivatives, optimization, related rates, the relationship between distance and velocity, curve analysis, and basic integrals. Students will frequently apply the concepts they learn to practice problems from a variety of fields. Graphing technology will

be used extensively. Students must have departmental consent to enroll in this course. Please consult the math forecasting guide on pages 41-42 for details regarding enrollment criteria.

AP® Calculus

Grade Level: 10, 11, 12

Prerequisite: Pre-Calculus, Honors Pre-Calculus, or Calculus

Credit: Selective (1.0)

Length: 1 Year

In this course, students will study all elementary functions, limits, differential calculus, and integral calculus. This course prepares students to take the AP® Calculus AB exam in May. Success in this course requires advanced critical thinking skills and the ability to both master concepts and apply them to other scenarios. Students must have departmental consent to enroll in this course. Please consult the math forecasting guide on pages 41-42 for details regarding enrollment criteria.

PSU Challenge Calculus 2 & 3

Grade Level: 11, 12

Prerequisite: AP Calculus and a minimum GPA of 3.0

Credit: Selective (1.0)

Length: 1 Year

The content covered in this course corresponds to that covered in PSU math courses MTH 252 and 253. Students will study differential and integral calculus of functions of a single variable, analytic geometry, infinite series, and applications. As a dual credit course through the Portland State University Challenge program, students who complete this course will earn both high school and college credit (4 PSU credits per semester). An additional registration fee payable to PSU is required to earn college credit. Students must have departmental consent to enroll in this course. Please consult the math forecasting guide on pages 41-42 for details regarding enrollment criteria.

AP® Computer Science

Grade Level: 10, 11, 12

*Prerequisite: Geometry AND one of Intro to Computer Science, App Design, or Web Design
(or instructor approval)*

Credit: Elective (1.0)

Length: 1 Year

This AP® Computer Science A course is an in-depth study of the object-oriented programming language called Java. Areas of study include problem solving, design strategies and methodologies, data organization (structures), approaches to data processing (algorithms), and the ethical and social implications of computing. Students explore these concepts through projects, application-related labs, presentations, and field trips (as applicable). This course also

emphasizes developing the skills needed to pursue employment in software engineering and other computer programming fields – both current and predicted. Students have the option to take the AP[®] Computer Science A exam in May. This course may be taken as either an information science credit or a math credit.

Criteria for Enrollment in an Honors, AP[®], or PSU Challenge Math Course

All students enrolling in an Honors, AP[®], or PSU Challenge Math course should consistently exhibit the qualities and skills necessary for success in an honors level course (please see page 8). Students must have departmental approval to enroll in these courses. Below are some general guidelines regarding criteria to forecast for an Honors, AP[®], or PSU Challenge Math course. For more detailed information regarding specific course enrollment criteria, please consult the forecasting guide on pages 41-42.

Currently Enrolled in an Honors Math Course:

- Maintain an 80% test average or better in current course (group tests/quizzes are not included in this average)

Currently Enrolled in a regular Math course:

- Maintain a 95%* test average or better in current course (group tests/quizzes are not included in this average)
 - *97% test average or better to move from Algebra 1 to Honors Geometry
- Complete all summer work assigned by current math teacher

Mathematics Forecasting Guide

Current Course	Forecasted Course	Conditions for Acceptance
<i>Algebra 1</i>	Geometry	None
	Honors Geometry	97% test average
<i>Accelerated Algebra 1</i>	Geometry	None
	Honors Geometry	95% test average
<i>Geometry</i>	Algebra 2	None
	Algebra 2 + Trig	80% test average
	Honors Algebra 2 + Trig	95% test average
<i>Honors Geometry</i>	Algebra 2 + Trig	None
	Honors Algebra 2 + Trig	80% test average
<i>Algebra 2</i>	AFS	None
	Algebra 2 + Trig	None
	None (if Graduation Requirements Satisfied*)	
<i>Algebra 2 + Trig</i>	AFS	None
	Pre-calculus	85% test average
	Honors Pre-calculus	95% test average
	None (if Graduation Requirements Satisfied*)	
<i>Honors Algebra 2 + Trig</i>	Pre-calculus	None
	Honors Pre-calculus	80% test average
	None (if Graduation Requirements Satisfied*)	
<i>AFS (Advanced Functions & Statistics)</i>	Pre-calculus	None
	None (if Graduation Requirements Satisfied*)	
<i>Pre-calculus</i>	Calculus	None
	AP Calculus	95% test average
	None (if Graduation Requirements Satisfied*)	

<i>Honors Pre-calculus</i>	Calculus	None
	AP Calculus	80% test average
	None (if Graduation Requirements Satisfied*)	
<i>Calculus</i>	AP Calculus	None
	None (if Graduation Requirements Satisfied*)	
<i>AP Calculus</i>	PSU Calculus	70% or above (PSU Requirement)
	None (if Graduation Requirements Satisfied*)	

**The state of Oregon requires all students complete 3 years of math and reach Algebra 2 or its equivalent.*

Science Department

Vision Statement: Through developing an understanding of and ability to apply basic scientific principles, the Science Department seeks to provide students with the skills and proficiencies necessary for success in future, modern, scientific studies, and an appreciation of the role of science in their own lives.

Course Offerings

Physics

Grade Level: 9, 10

Prerequisite: Algebra 1

Credit: Required (1.0)

Length: 1 Year

In Physics, students will increase their understanding of the world through a challenging investigation of the fundamental laws of physics. Topics studied include inquiry and patterns, motion, energy, electricity and magnetism, forces, waves, light, and sound. Students engage in algebraic problem solving and analysis, actively participate in lab experiments, construct engineering projects, and mathematically analyze data. Science practices, crosscutting patterns, and core concepts are explored through inquiry-based lab investigations and engineering projects. Students must be enrolled in Geometry or higher in math in order to enroll in this course.

Chemistry

Grade Level: 10, 11

Prerequisite: Physics and Geometry

Credit: Required (1.0)

Length: 1 Year

In Chemistry, students will be introduced to the world of matter, its composition, and interactions. Topics of study include physical and chemical properties, atomic structure, chemical bonding, chemical reactions, stoichiometry, and gas laws. Students will further develop their laboratory techniques, perform experiments, and practice mathematical applications and evidence-based reasoning through data analysis. Students must be enrolled in Algebra 2 or higher in math in order to enroll in this course.

Honors Chemistry

Grade Level: 10, 11

Prerequisite: Physics and Geometry

Credit: Selective (1.0)

Length: 1 Year

Honors Chemistry covers the same content as Chemistry but in more depth and with more extensive lab experience. This course prepares students to take AP® Chemistry. Students must earn 95% in first semester Physics, or earn 92% in first semester Physics AND earn 95% or above in the second semester energy unit to enroll in this course. Students must also be enrolled in Algebra 2 or higher in math, maintain strong work throughout second semester, and have departmental approval to enroll in this course.

Biology

Grade Level: 11, 12

Prerequisite: Chemistry or Honors Chemistry

Credit: Required (1.0)

Length: 1 Year

Biology is the study of all living things. This course challenges students to understand life and life processes by mastering the principles and concepts that are applicable to all living things. This course emphasizes both cellular and molecular biology and covers an array of topics, including organic chemistry, structure and function of cells, genetic continuity, evolution, and organisms and their environments. Students will be directly involved in the inquiry process throughout this course and will further develop their higher-level thinking skills.

Honors Biology

Grade Level: 11, 12

Prerequisite: Chemistry or Honors Chemistry

Credit: Selective (1.0)

Length: 1 Year

Honors Biology covers the same content as Biology but in greater depth and with more extensive lab experience. This course prepares students to take AP® Biology. Students must earn 95% in first semester Chemistry or 85% in first semester Honors Chemistry, and have departmental approval to enroll in this course.

Environmental Science

Grade Level: 9, 10, 11, 12

Prerequisite: None

Credit: Elective (.5)

Length: 1 Semester

Environmental Science explores the relationships among science fields and the way they address human interaction with the environment. This course gives students experience in data collection, cost-benefit analysis of environmental issues, and evidence-based support for environmental policies and decisions. By focusing on water health of the Pacific Northwest, this course also supports the school's mission to educate students about the corporate commitment of the Sisters of the Holy Names of Jesus and Mary.

AP® Biology

Grade Level: 12

Prerequisite: Biology or Honors Biology

Credit: Selective (1.0)

Length: 1 Year

This is a second-year biology course that challenges students to deepen their understanding of biology through inquiry-based investigations. Major topics of study include evolution, cellular processes, energy and communication, genetics, information transfer, biotechnology, and bioethics. Students will lead and focus on experimental design, team-based research, and independent problem solving throughout the course. Students are expected to work at an accelerated pace equal to that required for a college-level course and will have a summer homework packet due on day 1 of the course. This course prepares students to take the AP® Biology exam in May. Students must earn 92% in first semester Biology or 85% in first semester Honors Biology, and have departmental approval to enroll in this course.

AP® Chemistry

Grade Level: 11, 12

Prerequisite: Chemistry or Honors Chemistry

Credit: Selective (1.0)

Length: 1 Year

This is a second-year chemistry course that covers content comparable to that in a college-level general chemistry course. Students will build on material learned in both Physics and Chemistry to broaden their understanding of the major scientific ideas in the field of chemistry through inquiry-based lab experiments. Major topics of study include solutions, equilibrium, acids and bases, thermodynamics, kinetics, thermochemistry, and electrochemistry. Students are expected to work at an accelerated pace equal to that required for a college-level course and will have a

summer homework packet due on day 1 of the course. This course prepares students to take the AP® Chemistry exam in May. Students must earn 92% in first semester Chemistry or 85% in first semester Honors Chemistry, and have departmental approval to enroll in this course.

AP® Physics 1

Grade Level: 11, 12

Prerequisite: Chemistry or Honors Chemistry, and Algebra 2/Trig or Honors Algebra 2/Trig

Credit: Selective (1.0)

Length: 1 Year

This is a second-year physics course that covers content comparable to that in a first semester college-level physics course. Major topics of study include linear and rotational kinematics, Newtonian mechanics, electricity and circuits, energy, and waves. Students will lead investigations into and use real-life applications of physics concepts to further their understanding of these topics. Students will also develop their independent problem solving skills and focus on experimental design throughout the course. Students are expected to work at an accelerated pace equal to that required for a college-level course, will have a summer homework packet due on day 1 of the course, and should expect to have homework daily. This course prepares students to take the AP® Physics 1 exam in May. Students must earn 92% in first semester Algebra 2/Trig or 85% in first semester Honors Algebra 2/Trig, and have departmental approval to enroll in this course.

Scientific Research Methods (SRM)

Grade Level: 12

Prerequisite: Biology or Honors Biology

Credit: Selective (1.0)

Length: 1 Year

This highly interdisciplinary course requires students to use their strongly developed background knowledge from physics, chemistry, and biology throughout the course. Students will read and discuss current research literature and scholarly publications spanning a broad range of topics. Students will also attend lectures, presentations by guest speakers, and tours of research labs. In the spring semester, students will work with a mentor on a research project and write a scientific paper, create a digital research poster, and deliver a formal oral presentation of their investigation to the St. Mary's community. Student must earn 92% in first semester Biology or 85% in first semester Honors Biology, and have departmental approval to enroll in this course.

Social Science Department

Vision Statement: The Social Science Department endeavors to nurture students' curiosity about the past and present so they may make informed and creative decisions in a diverse and changing world. Through questioning, research, analysis, and the communication of ideas, the department helps students understand and engage in a lifelong exploration of the human condition.

Course Offerings

World Geography

Grade Level: 9

Prerequisite: None

Credit: Required (.5)

Length: 1 Semester

This course introduces students to the five main topics of physical and human geography (location, place, region, movement, and human-environment interaction). Students will also explore the basics of traditional and modern cartography and demography throughout the course. Using the major realms and regions of the world, as noted by world geographers, students will analyze the physical and human conditions of different areas of the world. Within each realm, students will examine a case study of human geography issues closely tied to regions in that realm. Students will also develop foundational social science skills, such as map-making and analysis, Cornell note taking, data interpretation, and basic research and writing. This course is required for all freshmen enrolled in Algebra 1. Freshmen enrolled in Geometry or higher in math are not required to take this course.

Global Studies A and B

Grade Level: 10

Prerequisite: None

Credit: Required (1.0 or .5)

Length: 1 Year or 1 Semester

This course covers global history in two separate, semester long courses (A and B). Students who completed World Geography as freshmen only take one semester of this course. All other students take both semesters of this course. The historical content covered ranges from early settlements to the rise of empire and globalized, hemispheric interactions. Particular emphasis is placed on regional civilizations that arose along prominent trade routes, including those in China, India, the Middle East, the Mediterranean, and Northern Africa. Historiography, geography, economics, politics, culture, urbanization, and global interdependence will be covered. Special

attention will be given to current global issues, with particular focus on corroboration of claims and the judicious use of modern media outlets. Students will learn primary and secondary source analysis, and historical reasoning, debate, research, and writing.

Honors World History

Grade Level: 10

Prerequisite: None

Credit: Selective (1.0)

Length: 1 Year

This course covers global history beginning with prehistoric developments and early river valley civilizations, then progresses to a comparative study of various ancient and classical civilizations throughout the world. Students will examine the historical and geographical perspectives on these civilizations, focusing on the relationship between politics and culture, including the arts, economics, and religion/philosophy. Students will analyze primary and secondary documents as a critical part of their historical investigations. Throughout the course, emphasis is placed on social science reasoning, research, and writing. The course culminates in an independently researched term project. Students must have departmental approval to enroll in this course. Please consult page 51 for enrollment criteria.

US History

Grade Level: 11

Prerequisite: Global Studies and/or World Geography

Credit: Required (1.0)

Length: 1 Year

In this course, students conduct a chronological investigation of the past 150 years of the American story, beginning with Reconstruction following the Civil War and ending with the major changes of the late 20th and early 21st centuries. Students will examine the emergence of the US as a world power, the major conflicts of the 20th century, and the trends of modern-era technology, culture, economics, and politics. Specific focus is given to integrating varied cultural perspectives, including the role of women and minorities in American history. Assignments include writing, research, discussion, and projects.

PSU Challenge US History

Grade Level: 11

Prerequisite: Global Studies or Honors World History

Credit: Selective (1.0)

Length: 1 Year

In this course, students study American history from the Reconstruction Era through the early 21st century. Students will examine and analyze how social, economic, and political forces interacted in each period to shape history. Critical thinking and communication skills are

emphasized and developed through seminar style discussions, some of which are led by a member of the PSU History Department. Students will develop their skills in historical writing through questioning, researching, outlining, creating annotated bibliographies, and crafting essays and a short research paper. Particular emphasis is placed on the critical examination of primary and secondary sources. As a dual credit course through the Portland State University Challenge program, students who complete this course will earn both high school and college credit (4 PSU credits for HST 203). An additional registration fee payable to PSU is required to earn college credit. Students must have departmental approval to enroll in this course. Please consult page 51 for enrollment criteria.

Revolutions in Religion and Reason

Grade Level: 12

Prerequisite: US History or PSU Challenge US History

Credit: Required (.5)

Length: 1 Semester

This course covers the significant turning points in the formation of the intellectual and religious identities of the West. Beginning with the changing mindsets resulting from the breakdown of the medieval period, students will examine the role that themes of individualism, secularism, capitalism, and rationalism played throughout this period of history. While the formation and influence of the Western identity is a focal point, a variety of cultural experiences and perspectives (past and present) are integrated into this course. Assignments include writing, research, discussion, and projects, with an emphasis on analysis of the themes listed above.

Revolutions and Modernity

Grade Level: 12

Prerequisite: US History or PSU Challenge US History

Credit: Required (.5)

Length: 1 Semester

This course begins with an exploration of the Western concept of “modernity” before tracing its historical roots through an examination of romanticism, industrialization, imperialism, and political revolution. While Europe is a focal point, a variety of cultural experiences and perspectives (past and present) are integrated into this course. Unit themes include industrial and political revolution, imperialism, conformity and rebellion, and the challenges of the modern world. Assignments include writing, research, discussion, and projects, with an emphasis on analysis of the themes listed above.

PSU Challenge History of Modern Europe

Grade Level: 12

Prerequisite: US History or PSU Challenge US History

Credit: Selective (1.0)

Length: 1 Year

This course begins with a critical examination of what constitutes “Western Civilization”, continuing with an exploration of the social and intellectual foundations of Western society from the 5th to the 20th century. Emphasis is placed on the emergence of new perspectives and their impact on Western thought from the Middle Ages to the Modern Era. This course studies history through a thematic approach, with a decided emphasis on critical thinking and primary source analysis, as well as communication skills through seminar style discussions. Students will read from the selected works of Mary Shelley, Jean-Jacques Rousseau, Karl Marx, and Charles Darwin. Writing assignments are required in this course, including several short essays and one long research paper. As a dual credit course through the Portland State University Challenge program, students who complete this course will earn both high school and college credit (4 PSU credits for HST 102). An additional registration fee payable to PSU is required to earn college credit. Students must have departmental approval to enroll in this course. Please consult pages 51-52 for enrollment criteria.

American Government

Grade Level: 11, 12

Prerequisite: Global Studies and/or World Geography

Credit: Required (.5)

Length: 1 Semester

This course introduces students to the formal institutions and processes of American Government. Students will explore political philosophy, analyze the Constitution, and examine the three branches of government (executive, legislative, and judicial). Students will also consider why the government initiates policies or responds to political situations in particular ways. Skills such as note taking, analyzing, and interpreting source documents will be further developed and utilized throughout this course.

AP® US Government and Politics

Grade Level: 11, 12

Prerequisite: Global Studies and/or World Geography

Credit: Selective (.5)

Length: 1 Semester

This course provides students with an analytical perspective on government and politics in the United States. Key political ideas, institutions, policies, and behaviors that characterize the political culture of the US will be examined critically to facilitate the evaluation of general propositions about government and political relationships. Units covered include foundations of

American democracy, interactions between branches of government, civil liberties and civil rights, American political ideologies and beliefs, and political participation. This course prepares students to take the AP® US Government and Politics exam in May. Students must have departmental approval to enroll in this course. Please consult page 51 for enrollment criteria.

Economics

Grade Level: 11, 12

Prerequisite: Global Studies and/or World Geography

Credit: Elective (.5)

Length: 1 Semester

This course explores the fundamentals of micro and macroeconomics. Microeconomics topics include scarcity, choice, opportunity cost, and the business cycle. Macroeconomics topics will focus on governmental fiscal and monetary policy, including issues of inflation and employment. Students in this course will address the basic economic problems faced by consumers in American society, how businesses make economic decisions, the ways people invest money for the future, and how economic policies impact the individual, the state, the nation, and the world.

Criteria for Enrollment in an Honors, AP®, or PSU Challenge Social Science Course

All students applying for an Honors, AP®, or PSU Challenge Social Science course should consistently exhibit the qualities and skills necessary for success in an honors level course (please see page 8).

Honors World History:

- Earn and maintain a minimum 3.75 GPA
- Have at least a B+ in World Geography (if taken) and English
- Understand that recommendations will be solicited from World Geography (if taken) and freshman teachers
- Successfully complete a Social Science Honors/AP®/PSU Challenge course application

PSU Challenge US History or AP® Government

- Earn and maintain a minimum 3.0 GPA
- Earn and maintain a minimum B average in current Social Science course
- Have a recommendation from current Social Science teacher
- Successfully complete a Social Science Honors/AP®/PSU Challenge course application

PSU Challenge History of Modern Europe

- Earn and maintain a minimum 3.0 GPA
- Earn and maintain a minimum B average in current Social Science course
- Have a recommendation from current Social Science teacher
- Successfully complete a Social Science Honors/ AP®/PSU Challenge course application

Theology Department

Vision Statement: Guided by the mission and ministry of Jesus Christ, Catholic Social Teaching, and the charism of the Sisters of the Holy Names of Jesus and Mary, the Theology Department instills in students a desire to examine deeper questions of life, especially our human relationship with God and one another. We are committed to a curriculum that nurtures each student's spiritual growth and promotes equity, inclusion, care of God's creation, and a culture of peace.

Course Offerings

Theology 9A and 9B

Introduction to Faith and Religion (9A) & The Revelation of Jesus Christ in Scripture (9B)

Grade Level: 9

Prerequisite: None

Credit: Required (1.0)

Length: 1 Year

Theology 9A introduces students to basic theological language and shared experiences that will be essential for success in future Theology courses. Students will learn about the core values of SNJM schools, as well as the importance of stories of faith. Particular emphasis is placed on the stories of women in the Hebrew Scriptures. This course also provides students with an opportunity to build community and further develop the necessary foundational skills for a successful transition to the high school environment.

Theology 9B is the first course in the United States Bishops' Curriculum Framework. A major portion of this course focuses on Jesus as the living Word of God, with particular attention given to the Gospels. Students will study the Bible and develop an appreciation of Sacred Scriptures.

Theology 10A and 10B

Comparative Religions (10A) & Who is Jesus Christ? (10B)

Grade Level: 10

Prerequisite: Theology 9A and 9B

Credit: Required (1.0)

Length: 1 Year

Theology 10A examines the human search for God and seeks to answer the question "What is religion?" by exploring the major religions of the Eastern and Western worlds. Parallels are drawn between Christianity and Hinduism, Buddhism, Judaism, and Islam and their respective

attempts to explain the purpose of life and the nature of the Creator. Throughout the course, students are encouraged to explore their own faith journeys as well.

Theology 10B is the second course in the United States Bishops' Curriculum Framework. A major focus of this course is to "introduce students to the mystery of Jesus Christ, the living Word of God, and the Second Person of the Blessed Trinity". Particular attention in this study of Jesus will be given to the Hebrew Scriptures.

Theology 11A and 11B

Life in Jesus Christ (11A) & The Mission of Jesus Christ (11B)

Grade Level: 11

Prerequisite: Theology 10A and 10B

Credit: Required (1.0)

Length: 1 Year

Theology 11A examines ethics from a faith perspective. Major topics include the development of Christian values, conscience, human behavior, and critical thinking. Students investigate current moral questions and are introduced to various philosophical and ethical frameworks. This is the sixth course in the United States Bishops' Curriculum Framework, and focuses on teaching students the moral concepts and precepts that govern the lives of Christ's disciples.

Theology 11B is the third course in the United States Bishops' Curriculum Framework. This course focuses on what it means to be a disciple of Christ and what that life entails. Major topics include human dignity, Catholic Social Teaching, environmental justice, power, violence, racism, war and peace, globalization, poverty, and hunger. This course promotes a compassionate outlook while examining underlying causes of inequality and lack of sustainability, as well as a desire to find possible solutions to these problems. Students will engage in praxis – acting upon reflection and reflecting on action. Opportunities for leadership training will be available throughout the course. Together with Theology 11A, this course helps students develop the necessary skills for ethical inquiry, moral decision-making, and social analysis.

Theology 12A and 12B

Jesus Christ's Mission Continues in the Church (12A) & Sacraments as Privileged Encounters With Jesus Christ (12B)

Grade Level: 12

Prerequisite: Theology 11A and 11B

Credit: Required (1.0)

Length: 1 Year

Theology 12A provides students with an in-depth theological study of Jesus Christ, while examining emerging theologies and engaging in various methods of theological reflection. It is the fourth course in the United States Bishops' Curriculum Framework, and focuses on

developing an understanding that in and through the Church, students encounter the living Christ. Students will learn about the sacred nature of the Church, as well as examine James Fowler's stages of faith development.

Theology 12B is the fifth course in the United States Bishops' Curriculum Framework. It focuses on helping students understand that the sacraments, especially the Eucharist, are a full and real way to experience Christ. Special emphasis is placed on the Sacrament of Marriage, including units on relationships, human sexuality, child development, and parenting.

World Language Department

Vision Statement: Through the study, understanding, and use of world languages, students in the World Language Department cultivate appreciation of and respect for diverse world cultures and develop a global perspective.

Course Offerings

First-Year Languages

Grade Level: 9, 10, 11, 12

Prerequisite: None

Credit: Required (1.0)

Length: 1 Year

Students in French and Spanish 1 build skills and demonstrate knowledge in interactive learning environments created primarily with Organic World Language (OWL) methodology. Students and instructors use the language of study at least 80 percent of the time in class. Together, teachers and learners build a strong community that celebrates risk-taking, active participation, and careful listening, all of which lead to authentic interactions in the language of study. An emphasis on growth and effective communication are essential to students' success in these courses. A particular focus is placed on students communicating about their lives, both in and out of the school building, in the language of study, as well as learning the geography and cultures of countries in which the language is spoken.

Students in Latin 1 develop foundational skills for the study of Latin, with a particular emphasis on translation. Students learn and apply grammar principles, consider audience, and manipulate tone in the translation process. In addition, students examine the foundations of Western society, and explore Roman identity and mythology.

Second-Year Languages

Grade Level: 9, 10, 11, 12

Prerequisite: First-year language course (or instructor approval)

Credit: Required (1.0)

Length: 1 Year

Students in French and Spanish 2 apply the skills they developed in their first-year course to real world situations. Classwork encourages them to navigate world cultures competently and interact readily in second language settings. Foundational grammar structures and increasingly precise vocabulary support the communication of ideas that are comprehensible to a growing range of audiences. In French, themes include fashion, hair, and authentic fairy tales. Students also study a variety of French-speaking regions, including Quebec, and the nuances of French-Canadian

language. In Spanish, topics include fashion, food, and celebrations. Students also explore the Caribbean and survey key literary and historical moments in Spain. Students and instructors use the language of study more than 80 percent of the time, and continue to prioritize individual progress and effective communication.

Students in Latin examine the influence of Latin on the scientific and professional fields of law, biology, and medicine. This course introduces and emphasizes conversational Latin.

Third-Year Languages

Grade Level: 9, 10, 11, 12

Prerequisite: Second-year language course (or instructor approval)

Credit: Elective or Required (1.0)

Length: 1 Year

Students in French and Spanish 3 incorporate language structures and vocabulary precisely and creatively into their skillsets and conversations. These courses dedicate significant time to the learning and application of advanced grammar, particularly tense and mood. In French, topics include cooking, health and fitness, and illness. Students also study Médecins sans Frontières (Doctors without Borders) and the poetry of Guillaume Apollinaire and Robert Desnos. In Spanish, topics include hair, illness, and interior design. A variety of movies and TV programs serve as the courses' central texts. Students and instructors use the language of study more than 90 percent of the time, and continue to prioritize individual progress and effective communication.

Students in Latin 3 study cultural artifacts of Roman society, including art, painting, sculpture, and architecture. The course contextualizes these artifacts and the literary texts of the time (such as the Aeneid) within the history of the Roman Empire. Students also examine the foundations of the Roman state and evaluate the characteristics that defined a good Roman.

Fourth-Year Languages

Grade Level: 9, 10, 11, 12

Prerequisite: Third-year language course (or instructor approval)

Credit: Elective or Required (1.0)

Length: 1 Year

Students in French and Spanish 4 shift their focus from the foundations of language to cultural content. In French, students complete a concentrated study of Impressionism and direct their attention to French-speaking Africa. Throughout the year, students monitor current events topics of personal interest in the French and French-speaking African press and examine the coverage of these topics with a critical eye. In Spanish, students examine nation building and national identity in a semester-long study of immigration. This study supports the fall Border Immersion trip to the US/Mexico border, to which students in Spanish 4 and above may apply. The themes

covered in the immigration unit reappear in the study of El Quijote, the Spanish Civil War, and the myths and legends of Central and South America. Students and instructors in both courses exclusively use the language of study.

Latin is not offered at the 4th year level.

AP® French or Spanish

Grade Level: 10, 11, 12

Prerequisite: Fourth-year language course (or instructor approval)

Credit: Elective or Required (1.0)

Length: 1 Year

AP® French and Spanish introduce students to the college-level study of language. Students continue to develop their proficiency through reading authentic texts from various genres and exploring concepts regarding the AP® themes of family and communities, personal and public identities, beauty and aesthetics, science and technology, contemporary life, and global challenges. French students study climate change and the Paris Agreement, the role of France in World War II, the challenges of multiculturalism in contemporary France, and the French literary movement, La Négritude, inspired by the Harlem renaissance. In Spanish, students explore the Dirty War and the Disappeared, comparative education systems, and the culture of Spain. These courses prepare students to take the AP® exam in May.

Honors Advanced French or Spanish

Grade Level: 11, 12

Prerequisite: AP French or Spanish

Credit: Elective

Length: 1 Year

In Honors Advanced French and Spanish, students speak in a variety of formal and informal situations, review grammar, read and analyze authentic literature, write papers in the language of study, and continue their study of the cultures of countries where the language is spoken. In French, students cover literature and art from the Caribbean and Africa. Students also write their own poetry and a short story in French. In Spanish, students compare various artistic movements and discuss the influence of the art and music of Spanish-speaking artists in and outside of the United States. These courses also prepare students to take the AP® exam in May.

Co-Curricular Courses

Co-curricular courses meet outside of the academic school schedule, but students do earn credit for these courses. Students enroll in these courses after the start of the school year, not during the forecasting period.

Course Offerings

Beta Blues Robotics

The St. Mary's Academy robotics team is a *FIRST Robotics Competition (FRC)* team. All team members are introduced to principles of engineering, design, and programming while they work collaboratively to design, build, and program a robot within the framework of the FRC challenge. This consists of three periods throughout the school year: pre-season starting in September, a build season starting in January, and a competition season extending into March and April. The competition season includes two multi-day district qualifying events and the potential for championship competitions. Different course levels are offered, as outlined below. Students must have instructor approval to enroll in any level of Beta Blues Robotics. Please see Alexis Lund for more information.

Foundations of Robotics and Engineering

Grade Level: 9, 10, 11, 12

Credit: Elective (.5)

Length: January through second semester

Robotics team members work primarily with one division on a specific aspect of the Robot – software, mechanical, electrical – but will have exposure to all the divisions. All members work collaboratively to design, build, and program a robot in accordance with the FRC challenge. Credit is strictly proficiency based.

Intermediate Robotics and Engineering

Grade Level: 10, 11, 12

Credit: Elective (.5)

Length: January through second semester

Team members at the intermediate level will build on the skills they developed in Foundations of Robotics, and may have the opportunity to be promoted to an advanced position. To earn credit for this course, team members will complete an individual project that integrates the skills and concepts learned in Foundations of Robotics. Students must have completed one year at the Foundations level to enroll in the intermediate level.

Robotics: Applications of Business

Grade: 9, 10, 11, 12

Credit: Elective (.5)

Length: January through second semester

Team members in the business department are responsible for tasks related to the management of the team's brand, outreach, and media. To earn credit for this course, team members will complete an individual project. Projects may include creating and/or maintaining a team webpage, maintaining the team's social media, creating a documentary of the season, developing a brand identity, or other student designed business projects.

Advanced Robotics (Engineering or Business)

Grade: 11, 12

Credit: Elective (1.0)

Length: 1 Year

Advanced team members serve as the primary mentors for the team. They work collaboratively to design pre-season training and coordinate the team during the build and competition seasons. To earn credit this course, students will complete an individual project integrating the skills they have developed over their years of participation. Advanced team members must also demonstrate mentorship of individual students and leadership at their assigned level within the team. Students must have completed two-three years of robotics and have experience as a team leader in order to enroll in the advanced level.

Girls Leadership Coalition of Portland

Grade Level: 9, 10, 11, 12

Credit: Elective (.5 or .25 – or 0 if using for activity hours)

Length: 1 Year or 1 Semester

In this course, students will serve as mentors, leaders, and trainers for 7th and 8th grade girls from across the metro area who are interested in learning and developing leadership skills. SMA students will coordinate activities and help develop curriculum for the program with SMA counselor, Robin Eisenbach. The coalition meets every Wednesday for two months from 3:30-6pm, and during 1 Study per week. Please see Michele Taylor for more information.

Ministry Leadership Team

Grade Level: 9, 10, 11, 12

Prerequisite: Theology 9A

Credit: Elective (.5 or .25)

Length: 1 Year or 1 Semester

This course in applied theology is offered as an elective in the art and practice of Campus Ministry and service. It focuses on the art of pastoral ministry and its application in prayer, worship, and faith sharing. Blending theory and practice, students explore an in-depth understanding of liturgy and community prayer, while building a community of faith with one another. Credit is awarded on a Pass/No Pass basis.

Mock Trial

Grade Level: 9, 10, 11, 12

Credit: Elective (.5 or .25)

Length: 1 Year or 1 Semester

Mock Trial is a statewide program that allows students to take on the many roles that are a part of our legal system. Students research and conduct trials using real-life cases. Participation in the fall training class results in earning .25 credits and the opportunity to try out for the spring competition teams. Participation in the spring competition teams results in an additional .25 credits earned. Please see Donald Housley for more information.

Model United Nations (MUN)

Grade Level: 10, 11, 12

Credit: Elective (.5 – earned in second semester)

Length: November through April

Model United Nations is a statewide organization that simulates the United Nations during a three-day conference in Eugene. Students represent a different country each year and present resolutions, discuss global issues, and participate in assigned committees. In addition to participating in the conference, students will also complete research and writing assignments, including papers and resolutions to be presented at the conference. St. Mary's MUN delegates are chosen by application and instructor consent. Please see Patty Gorman for more information.

Outdoor School

Grade Level: 9 (2nd semester only), 10, 11, 12

Credit: Elective (.25 – or 0 if using for service hours)

Length: 1 week per session

Sophomores, juniors, and seniors who apply and are accepted to participate will act as counselors for 6th grade students in the Multnomah County Outdoor School program during either the fall or

spring sessions. Freshmen may only apply for the spring session of the Multnomah County Oregon Trails program. Freshmen who are accepted will serve as counselors for 4th grade students in this spring program. All students participating in either program must meet St. Mary's academic, attendance, and behavioral standards. Students are evaluated by the Outdoor School staff and may either receive .25 elective credit for each session, or use this participation for service hours. Please see Patty Gorman for more information.

Science Olympiad

Grade Level: 9, 10, 11, 12

Credit: Elective (.5)

Length: 1 Year

Science Olympiad is a competitive team science and engineering class. Students meet weekly on Friday afternoons from 3:25-4:50 to prepare for a variety of engineering, laboratory, and written events. The team attends two invitational tournaments in preparation for the state tournament in the spring. Students who wish to participate must submit an application in the fall. A participation fee of \$125 per student is assessed at the start of the course. Please see Cindi Hounton for more information.

Teaching, Integrating, and Exploring Science (TIES)

Grade Level: 10, 11, 12

Credit: Elective (.5)

Length: 1 Year

Students in TIES serve as mentors for 5th grade girls, offering a positive exposure to the excitement and challenge of “doing” science. Mentors meet with their 5th grade students twice per month on Wednesdays after school, and on Saturday mornings all year to do science. Mentors meet weekly after school on Wednesdays from 3:30-4:30 and work in small groups led by a mentor captain to plan activities. Please see Moe Daschel for more information.

4-Year Plan

Student Name: _____

TA: _____

Graduation Requirements

<u>Department</u>	<u>Credits</u>
Theology	4
English	4
Mathematics	3
Science	3
Social Science	3.5
Physical Education	1
Health	1
World Language, Fine Arts, and Information Science	2 Language, 1 Fine Arts, 0.5 Information Science
Other Subjects and Electives	2
Total Credits	25

Required Core Course Sequences:

Math: Alg. 1 → Geometry → Alg2 → PreCalc → Calc

Science: Physics → Chemistry → Biology

Social Science: World Geo/Global Studies → US History → Senior History Course → American Gov (Government in either junior or senior year)

Fine Arts: All incoming freshmen take a full-year rotation of courses in the visual and performing arts.

<i>Year</i>	<i>Freshman</i>	<i>Sophomore</i>	<i>Junior</i>	<i>Senior</i>
<i>Theology</i>				
<i>English</i>				
<i>Social Science</i>				
<i>Mathematics</i>				
<i>Science</i>				
<i>World Language</i>				
<i>Fine Arts</i>				
<i>Health/PE</i>				
<i>Speech</i>				
<i>Information Science</i>				
<i>Electives</i>				
<i>Total Earned</i>	(7)	(7)	(7)	(7)
<i>Cumulative</i>	(7)	(14)	(21)	(28)

