



High School Course Catalog 2022-2023

Updated 2/24/22

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Graduation Requirements	3
College Counseling	4
Grading and Promotion Requirements	4
Dual Department Courses	4
Course Scheduling Process	5
Course Scheduling Conferences	5
Schedule Change Policies	5
Course Appeal Request	6
Auditing a Class	6
High School Credit for Eighth Grade Courses	6
Course Placement for 9th Grade Students	7
Course Placement for HS Transfer Students	7
Courses Offered Outside St. Joseph's	7
Incompletes	7
Summer School for Failed Courses	8
Advanced Placement (AP) Courses and Exams	8
Minimester	8
Theology Department	9
Mathematics Department	11
Science Department	15
History Department	19
English Department	23
World Language Department	26
Fine Arts Department	28
Physical Education Department	34
Computer Science	36
Student Support Services	38

Graduation Requirements

St. Joseph's Catholic School (SJCS) is fully accredited by Cognia/AdvancEd (formerly the Southern Association of Schools and Colleges) and is a member of the South Carolina Independent School Association (SCISA).

To receive an SJCS diploma, students must take and complete twenty-five and one-half (25.5) credits which include:

Theology	4.0
English	4.0
Mathematics	4.0
Science	3.0
History	4.0
World Language	3.0
Physical Education	1.0
Computer	0.5
Fine Arts	1.0
Additional Credit	1.0
TOTAL:	25.5

Students will **not** be allowed to schedule more than one study hall per semester. St. Joseph's recommends that students take a full slate of academic classes every year to take full advantage of our college preparatory curriculum. **Colleges and universities often consider the strength of schedule as an important indicator of student success and motivation.**

All students must take either the SAT or the ACT (by the start of the spring semester of their senior year) and apply to at least one college or university as part of their graduation requirements.

1. Most colleges and universities require students to take an English and Math course every year.
2. Math credits must come from the list of courses that satisfy the requirements identified in this catalog. Most colleges require students to take a Math course every year in high school.
3. Students are required to take 4 credits in History, including a full credit in U.S. History and half-credit each in Government and Economics. The History Department's curriculum reflects this course of study.
4. Many colleges and universities now require 3 years of the same World Language.
5. PE credit may be earned by taking an SJCS class or participating in an SJCS team sport. Each season played at either the JV or Varsity level while **in grades 9-12** earns .5 credits. If the requirement is not fulfilled by the end of 1st semester senior year, students will be placed in a PE class.
6. Credits earned beyond the minimum requirements listed in each subject area will fulfill the Additional Credit requirement.
7. Some colleges require 4 years of Lab Science. SJCS requires 3 Lab Science credits that include Biology, Chemistry, and 1 other full year Lab Science class.

College Counseling

College Board School Code: 410902

SJCS offers a full-service College Counseling Office that is available to help students with course scheduling, college selection, college applications, standardized testing, and transcripts. Students and parents are introduced to the services provided by the College Counseling Office as freshmen, with formal and individualized services beginning in the second semester of the junior year. Upperclassmen should see their counselors regularly as they begin to make their college selections.

Grading and Promotion Requirements

SJCS uses a numerical grading scale ranging from 0-100 that is reflective of our college preparatory curriculum. Each course is graded on the 100-point scale, with the grades from all courses averaged together at the end of each academic year to calculate the Cumulative Weighted GPA. Advanced courses are weighted with an additional 3 points for courses at the Honors level and 7 points for Advanced Placement courses. The weighted scores are **ONLY** used in calculating the GPA and are not reflected in individual course grades. SJCS employs the Uniform Grading Policy required by South Carolina UGP GPA for all in-state scholarships, including Palmetto Fellows, Life Scholarships, and Hope Scholarships.

St. Joseph's Catholic School is a college preparatory school. As such, one of our primary academic goals is to ensure students are prepared for college-level work. Our students demonstrate that readiness by achieving a mastery score of 70 or better in all classes **required for graduation**. Any student with a score between 60 and 69 in a class required for graduation is required to complete a St. Joseph's program of subject-specific remediation as determined by individual departments. The original average earned in the class will still be recorded on the transcript. For freshmen, sophomores and juniors, remediation must be completed by the end of summer in order for students to progress to the subsequent grade level. For seniors, remediation must be completed in order for students to receive a diploma from St. Joseph's Catholic School. Students who earn 59 or below in a course required for graduation must retake the course either through an approved summer school program or at St. Joseph's Catholic School the following year. Courses retaken through an approved summer program will show on the transcript but are not calculated into the GPA.

A semester average of 90 or above in each class is required for placement on the High Honor Roll, and an 85 or above is required for the Honor Roll.

Pass/Fail grades and grades earned in high school courses during the middle school years are not included in the Cumulative Weighted GPA.

Dual Department Courses

For some courses, credit can be earned in different departments, e.g. Modern Dance can be counted for **either** PE or Fine Arts credit. It is the student's responsibility to inform the Registrar which school requirement one of these courses is intended to satisfy.

Course Scheduling Process

- Grade Level Meetings will be held in February to distribute information and detailed instructions regarding the course scheduling process.
- Students will make their course requests for classes through Family Portal in FACTS in mid-February.
- Students should determine their eligibility for courses based upon prerequisites in the Course Catalog.
- Sophomores and Juniors will meet with a College Counselor to review their selections after they have been made. A Student Support Counselor will meet with 8th and 9th graders in group meetings during the school day. Individual meetings with parents of 8th and 9th graders are also available.
- All appeals must be submitted no later than the meeting between the student and their counselor
- All Honors and AP course requests will be reviewed by department chairs and/or teachers for final approval.

Course Scheduling Conferences

Current Sophomores and Juniors should schedule a meeting with a College Counselor to review their course requests and make any necessary changes. Completed Course Appeal Request Forms must be submitted at this meeting. A Student Support Counselor will review the course request process with current 8th graders and Freshmen in one of their classrooms. Students are free to schedule an appointment with a counselor if they choose. However, 8th graders and Freshmen with Course Appeal Request forms must meet with a Student Support Counselor and bring their completed forms with them.

Schedule Change Policies

When a student chooses his/her courses, the student is making a commitment to that proposed schedule. The master schedule of courses takes requests into account, so every student request impacts the available options for other students. Therefore, once students have completed their course requests, schedule changes are not generally made. Class schedule changes for legitimate reasons can be made in accordance with the following:

- Each semester there is a designated **Add/Drop** window for courses beginning that semester. Students seeking to make a change should consult with the College Counseling Office and the instructor. Full-year courses cannot be modified at the second semester and switching between sections of the same course at the semester change is not permitted. Students seeking to take advantage of the Add/Drop should begin with the College Counseling office. After Add/Drop, course changes are possible only after the completion of a **Placement Review**. **Placement Reviews** can occur in one of the two following ways:
 - Teachers who believe a student is misplaced may request a **Placement Review** by the department chairperson or the Academic Dean. This includes a review of the student's performance in the course as well as a meeting with the student and their parents. With parental and department approval, the student may enroll in a lower level of the same course (for example, from the Honors Algebra II to CP Algebra II). Students may not enroll in an entirely different course after Add/Drop. A "W" will be recorded on the student transcript. **Placement Reviews** can extend until three school days past the release of the first quarter progress reports.
 - Students and/or their parents who wish to enroll in a lower level course (see above) may request a **Placement Review** by the specific teacher. If approved, a "W" will be recorded on the student transcript. **Placement Reviews** can extend until three school days past the release of the first quarter progress reports. Other scheduling requirements noted in the Handbook remain in effect.
 - If the request for Placement Review is initiated by the students and/or their parents, changes will not take effect until the beginning of the following quarter.
 - **Students who have appealed into a course are not eligible to request a Placement Review.**

Course Appeal Request

Course placement will be determined by successful completion of a prerequisite course and achieving a minimum grade average in a previous class. The prerequisites for each course can be found in the Course Catalog. Students may petition to appeal course placement, in which case they must bring their Appeal Form to their meeting with a College Counselor or a Student Support Counselor, depending on the grade level, to discuss enrollment in a higher-level course. Students' online course requests will be reviewed by faculty in each department, who will determine if the request is appropriate, and placement will be made accordingly. Department chairpersons or their designees may request a meeting with the student and their parents before approving an Appeal. Students seeking placement into Honors or AP courses must perform exceptionally well in the subject (or prerequisite subjects); they must demonstrate a strong work ethic and show a passion for the subject. Be aware that the class will move at a brisk pace and that significant additional work on your part may be necessary to ensure your success. **Course Appeal Requests are not a guarantee for admittance into a course.** All courses are subject to class size and scheduling conflicts. The High School Director will make the final decision as to whether or not a student's appeal is approved.

The Appeal Process follows:

- Obtain a Course Appeal Request Form available from the Registrar.
- Appeal forms must be submitted at the time of the course scheduling meeting with your College Counselor (current sophomores and juniors) or your Student Support Counselor (current eighth graders and freshmen.) Appeal forms received after this meeting will not be considered.
- **Students are limited to 2 Course Appeal Requests per school year.**
- The High School Director will make a final decision.
- **Taking two core classes in the same subject area at the Honors or AP Level automatically requires a Course Appeal Request.**

Auditing a Class

St. Joseph's does not permit students to audit classes.

High School Credit for Eighth Grade Courses

Credits for high school courses taken during middle school are **only** awarded in the subject areas of Math and World Language. In regards to these courses, students must meet the following requirements to be placed in the next level and **receive credit** in the related discipline. While credit will be awarded for these classes and appear on the high school transcript, the grade will not factor into the student's high school GPA.

All students seeking credit for a high school course taken before matriculation into ninth grade must take St. Joseph's subject specific placement tests. St. Joseph's Middle School students will take the tests as part of their regular Algebra and/or World Language curriculum.

Course Placement for 9th Grade Students

All other incoming students will take placement tests on one of the specified testing days in the late spring before the start of their ninth-grade year. For all students, St. Joseph's will consider the following in determining placement:

- Final report card grades as part of their application packet. (In most cases, a minimum score of 77 is required for a student to move on in the course of study.)
- Subject-specific teacher recommendations addressing the student's readiness to advance to the next level course in the department.
- Placement test results.

SJCS students in Algebra I A will have the option of taking a placement test at the end of the year. If they pass the test they will receive high school credit and a "P" on their transcript for Algebra I. SJCS students in Algebra I B who pass the course will receive a grade and high school credit on their transcript for Algebra I. In either case, the grade will not be calculated into the student's GPA.

Course Placement for High School Transfer Students

Rising sophomores, juniors, and seniors must take placement exams in World Language and Math classes to ensure accurate placement. The results of the SJCS placement exam cannot be overturned.

If a student takes the World Language placement test and places in a level beyond the first year and they have not actually taken the class, they can either begin at the higher level with no credit issued for earlier levels or they can opt to start at the lower level.

Courses Offered Outside St. Joseph's

For students enrolled at SJCS, no credit will be issued for courses taken outside of SJCS, with the exception of courses that are retaken through an approved summer program as a result of a failed grade (59 or below). As such, they do not appear on the transcript and should be considered the equivalent of an outside-the-school extracurricular activity. All courses necessary for graduation from SJCS must be taken at the high school.

Students are not permitted to alter their course requirements within St. Joseph's in order to take coursework outside the school. Students wishing to enroll in the Fine Arts Center during their senior year may be granted a schedule modification at the discretion of the High School Director in conjunction with the College Counseling Office, but all graduation requirements remain in place. Other policies regarding coursework and graduation requirements also remain in effect. Enrolling in the FAC must be worked out with SJCS teachers to ensure student schedules are not negatively impacted. Students must be enrolled in at least 4 credit hours during the school day at SJCS.

Incompletes

Students who have to take an Incomplete have 2 weeks from the date report cards are issued to contact the teacher and begin working to resolve the Incomplete. It is the student's responsibility to contact the teacher and to work with him/her to set up a workable 2 week schedule for the remaining assignments. It is in the student's best interests to finish the Incomplete within 2 weeks, so contacting the teacher should be done at the earliest possible opportunity. When the Incomplete is not resolved, the student will take a 0 for the assignment. In the case of ongoing illness, injury, or extenuating circumstances, contact the Dean of Student Support to create a work plan for resolving Incomplete work in a timely manner.

Summer School for Failed Courses

Students who have received a 59 or below in an academic course may repeat this class in a pre-approved summer school program or may repeat the class at SJCS the following school year. The Dean of Student Support must approve a summer school program in advance. Credit for approved summer school courses will be accepted by St. Joseph's and the grade will appear on the transcript, but **the grade will not be factored into the high school student's GPA**. The original grade earned in the St. Joseph's course will remain on the transcript and be factored into the GPA. If the course is repeated at SJCS the higher grade will be factored into the GPA. Any theology course in which a student receives a 59 or below must be made up at St. Joseph's Catholic School. Information on summer school is available from the Dean of Student Support. All summer coursework must be completed prior to the start of the fall semester or the student will be required to retake the course that school year.

Advanced Placement (AP) Courses and Exams

Any SJCS student enrolled in an AP course is required to take the AP exam given in May. Depending upon space and availability, students who did not enroll in an AP course may be permitted to take the AP exam depending on teacher recommendation as well as the reason the student was not in the AP class. Non-AP enrolled students, if they are permitted to take the exam, will do so under the homeschool code. The cost of this exam will be billed to the student's account and must be paid by March 31st.

Summer coursework in an AP class is necessary to ensure that students progress through the curriculum at a pace that ensures they are thoroughly prepared to succeed on the AP exam. Students who fail to complete summer assignments prior to the fall semester due date will automatically be moved to a lower level class based on availability. Alternative arrangements may be made with students who have enrolled at St. Joseph's after July 15.

Minimester

All students are expected to participate in minimester by signing up for and participating in a faculty-led minimester offering. While not graded, high school students do receive .25 academic credits for minimester, and these are counted in each student's earned Additional credits.

Notes

- **Though a course may be listed in the catalog, student interest and instructor availability are the determining factors in whether or not a course will be scheduled in a given academic year.**
- **It is recommended that SJCS families look at the High School portion of the 7-year course of study (available on the Academics tab on the school website) to see possible course sequences and elective options.**

THEOLOGY DEPARTMENT

- All students take Theology 101, 102, and 103/105 during their freshman, sophomore, and junior years respectively.
- For their senior year, students may take Theology 104, 114, or 115 (all of which are 1-credit classes), OR the combination of 108 and 110 (.5 credit classes) as offered by the school.
- Students who take the .5 credit classes MUST take two their senior year to complete the Theology graduation requirement of 4 full credits.

REQUIRED COURSES

101 - Fundamentals of Christianity: Who is Jesus?

Grade 9

1 Credit

Prerequisite: None

The freshman theology course offers students a fundamental knowledge of Christianity. Set in the context of the Old Testament revelation of God, this course seeks to bring out the purpose of the coming of Christ so the students will recognize that He is the authentic answer to the fundamental questions and needs which are inside every human being.

102 - Theology of the Church

Grade 10

1 Credit

Prerequisite: None

The sophomore theology course begins where the 9th-grade course ends, with an examination of the Church as an outgrowth of Christ's mission and work. The aim of this course is to answer the questions: What is the church? Why does it matter to me? This is a course in ecclesiology rather than a history of the Church, although students will become familiar with the significant persons, issues, and events of Church history.

103 - Morality

Grade 11

.5 Credit

Prerequisite: None

God's norms for our moral conduct and religious practice are presented within the context of the Ten Commandments and sacraments. The *Catechism* – emphasizing the purpose of the magisterium – augments the student text. Real-life struggles to live Christian morality are discussed and practical help is offered. The place and structure of marriage and the family are vigorously defended as central to a society's morals. Current news items provide additional fodder for class discussion.

105 - Catholic Social Teaching

Grade 11

.5 Credit

Prerequisite: None

This course is primarily concerned with the social vocation of man. Students will be introduced to the basic principles of Catholic social teaching to address certain questions such as how should society be structured to protect the dignity and rights of the human person, to foster justice and to limit or eliminate injustice, and to encourage and promote the common good? The answers involve not only my individual moral choices; it also involves everyone else in our society at the civil, economic, and political level. The purpose of this course is to introduce the reasonableness of Catholic social principles as a way to begin to address societal issues.

ADDITIONAL COURSES THAT MEET REQUIREMENTS

104 - Apologetics

Grade 12

1 Credit

Prerequisite: None

A “defense of the faith,” apologetics leads students through a critical review of Christian doctrine. Because faith is belief, apologetics often seeks not so much to prove belief but to refute objections to belief. This is done through the context of creed (what we believe), code (how we live), and cult (how we worship). The course includes a comparison with other religions, a detailed exploration of the Apostles’ Creed, and an examination of the “sad divisions in Christianity” and what can be done together in Christ.

114 - Honors Apologetics

Grade 12

1 Credit

Prerequisites: 90 average in previous Theology course and departmental approval

The goal of this course is to give students the necessary tools to *defend* their Faith in a world that is often hostile to it. The first semester we will focus on the “larger” religious questions such as; “What proof is there for the existence of God?” and “Isn’t it intolerant to believe that Christ is the only way to Heaven?” In the second semester, we will focus on issues more specific to Christianity, like; “Why do Catholics pray to saints?” and “How can the Church believe that the pope is infallible”? Periodically, we will engage in in-class debates, where students will be asked to “think on their toes” and to give a “reason for the hope that is in them” (1 Peter 3:15). Throughout the year, we will be looking at current events, for apologetics is nothing if it is not “current.” The goal of this course is not only to enable the students to argue their faith more effectively but also for them to realize that their faith is *worth* the argument. Along with reading the assigned texts, students will be asked to complete written as well as oral assignments to demonstrate they can cogently express their faith to fair-minded skeptics.

115 - Honors Faith and Reason

Grade 12

1 Credit

Prerequisites: 90 average in previous Theology course and departmental approval

This course will focus heavily on Papal writings, particularly from Popes Benedict XVI and John Paul II. There will also be an extensive investigation of the natural law, with special emphasis on the thought of St. Thomas Aquinas. Summer reading is required, with a 3-page paper due during the first week of the course.

108 - Theology of the Body

Grades 12

.5 Credit

Prerequisite: None

Is there a connection between sexuality and the search for meaning in our lives? Following Pope John Paul II’s theology of the body, the study of God as revealed through our bodies, this course is designed to help the students understand the meaning of their bodies, the significance of their sexuality, the purpose of their lives, and how they were uniquely created for greatness. The course will end with students planning and implementing a retreat day for the sophomores on the theme of “Dating and Relating.”

110 - Biblical Studies

Grade 12

.5 Credit

Prerequisite: None

This one-semester course examines the origins, development, and interpretation of Biblical texts. Students will examine several interpretive and hermeneutical approaches to Scripture. Special emphasis will be given to the historical significance of the first five books of the Bible, Wisdom literature, the Gospels, and the life and works of Paul.

MATHEMATICS DEPARTMENT

- Since math is foundational and progressive, it is especially important that students enroll in the courses for which they qualify.

REQUIRED COURSES

201 - Algebra I

Grades 9

1 Credit

Prerequisite: Pre-Algebra

Algebra I is the first course in the systematic study of college-preparatory mathematics. Students begin the study of number sets, equations and inequalities, and patterns using their prior knowledge of arithmetic. Setting up and solving word problems is a vital part of this class, and students will examine sample problems with each new type of algebraic sentence introduced. Students will graph simple functions on the Cartesian coordinate plane and discover the relationship between an equation and its graph. Students will correctly use mathematical terms and symbols when speaking and/or writing. Accuracy, neatness, and organization are stressed in this class. The development of higher-order thinking skills is a primary objective, including estimation.

202 - Geometry

Grade 9/10

1 Credit

Prerequisite: Algebra I

Geometry is the second course in the systematic study of college-preparatory mathematics. Students will build a mathematical system from the ground up based on three undefined terms and a system of postulates and theorems. Students will use reasoning to construct the theorems of Geometry, first by understanding informal proofs written by others and, eventually, by writing concise, logical proofs of their own. Students will develop their powers of spatial visualization in two and three dimensions. Students of Geometry will discover the relationships among and between properties of various geometric figures. Students will correctly use mathematical terms and symbols when speaking and/or writing. Accuracy, neatness, and organization are stressed in this class. The development of higher-order thinking skills is a primary objective, including the necessity of precise language.

212 - Honors Geometry

Grade 9/10

1 Credit

Prerequisites: Eligible score on Algebra I Placement Test for freshmen or Algebra I with 93 average and departmental approval

This course is a faster-paced, more in-depth study of Geometry than college-prep Geometry. Students enrolled in this class have demonstrated an aptitude for mathematics and the willingness to commit extra time and effort in studying for the quality points they earn. Those expecting to take Calculus in high school should be eligible to enroll in this course. Geometry is the second course in the systematic study of college-preparatory mathematics. Students will build a mathematical system from the ground up based on three undefined terms and a system of postulates and theorems. Students will use reasoning to construct the theorems of Geometry, first by understanding informal proofs written by others and eventually, by writing concise, logical proofs of their own. Students will develop their powers of spatial visualization in two and three dimensions. Students of Geometry will discover the relationships among and between properties of various geometric figures. Students will correctly use mathematical terms and symbols when speaking and/or writing. Accuracy, neatness, and organization are stressed in this class. The development of higher-order thinking skills is a primary objective, including the necessity of precise language.

203 - Algebra II**Grade 10/11****1 Credit***Prerequisite: Geometry*

Algebra II is the third course in the systematic study of college-preparatory mathematics. Algebra II is the study of functions. Students will investigate polynomial, rational, quadratics, and other second-degree functions and perform the basic operations on each type. Students will compare and contrast sets of numbers, e.g., irrational, imaginary, and complex. In Algebra II, students will solve a variety of algebraic equations, inequalities, and word problems using the appropriate algorithm(s) for each, including solving with the aid of a graphing calculator where appropriate. Students will correctly use mathematical terms and symbols when speaking and/or writing. Accuracy, neatness, and organization are stressed in this class. The development of higher-order thinking skills is a primary objective, including multi-step problem-solving.

213 - Honors Algebra II**Grade 10/11****1 Credit***Prerequisites: Honors Geometry with 85 average or Geometry with 90 average and departmental approval*

This course is a faster-paced, more in-depth study of Algebra II than college-prep Algebra II. Students enrolled in this class have demonstrated an aptitude for mathematics and the willingness to commit extra time and effort in studying for the quality point they earn. Those expecting to take Calculus in high school should be eligible to enroll in this course. Algebra II is the third course in the systematic study of college-preparatory mathematics. Algebra II is the study of functions. Students will investigate polynomial, rational, quadratics, and other second-degree functions and perform the basic operations on each type. Students will compare and contrast sets of numbers, e.g., irrational, imaginary, and complex. In Algebra II, students will solve a variety of algebraic equations, inequalities, and word problems using the appropriate algorithm(s) for each, including solving with the aid of a graphing calculator where appropriate. Students will correctly use mathematical terms and symbols when speaking and/or writing. Accuracy, neatness, and organization are stressed in this class. The development of higher-order thinking skills is a primary objective, including multi-step problem-solving.

ADDITIONAL COURSES THAT MEET REQUIREMENTS**205 - Algebra III****Grade 12****1 Credit***Prerequisite: Algebra II*

Algebra III is the fourth course in the systematic study of college preparatory mathematics. Students will continue to examine the different types of algebraic equations and discover methods for solving each. Recognizing and graphing many types of equations and inequalities is an essential part of this course. The second semester of Algebra III is a study of trigonometry. Students will use the graphing and conversion capabilities of their calculators when appropriate. Students will correctly use mathematical terms and symbols when speaking and/or writing. Accuracy, neatness, and organization are stressed in this class. The development of higher-order thinking skills is a primary objective, including recognizing patterns.

204 - Pre-Calculus**Grade 11/12****1 Credit***Prerequisites: Algebra II*

Pre-Calculus is the fourth course in the systematic study of college-preparatory mathematics. Students in Pre-Calculus will continue investigating the similarities and differences of various functions. Students will examine the relationship between a function and its graph. The second semester of the Pre-Calculus course is an in-depth study of trigonometry. Students will correctly use mathematical terms and symbols when speaking and/or writing. Accuracy, neatness, and organization are stressed in this class. The development of higher-order thinking skills is a primary objective, including recognizing mathematical patterns and making inferences.

214 - Honors Pre-Calculus**Grade 11/12****1 Credit**

Prerequisites: Honors Algebra II with 85 average or Algebra II with 90 average and departmental approval

This course is a faster-paced, more in-depth study of Pre-Calculus. Students enrolled in this class have demonstrated an aptitude for mathematics and the willingness to commit extra time and effort in studying for the quality point they earn. Those expecting to take Calculus in high school should be eligible to enroll in this course. Pre-Calculus is the fourth course in the systematic study of college-preparatory mathematics. Students in Pre-Calculus will continue investigating the similarities and differences of various functions. Students will examine the relationship between a function and its graph. The second semester of the Pre-Calculus course is an in-depth study of trigonometry. Students will correctly use mathematical terms and symbols when speaking and/or writing. Accuracy, neatness, and organization are stressed in this class. The development of higher-order thinking skills is a primary objective, including recognizing mathematical patterns and making inferences.

250 - AP Calculus AB**Grade 12****1 Credit**

Prerequisites: Honors Pre-Calculus with 85 average or Pre-Calculus with 90 average and departmental approval

Recommended: PSAT math section score of 600 or better.

This is a college-level course offered for students who have a high degree of interest and skill in mathematics. AP Calculus introduces the idea of a limit to Pre-Calculus topics to investigate new concepts using derivatives and integrals.

252 - AP Calculus BC**Grade 12****1 Credit**

Prerequisites: AP Calculus AB with 85 average and scoring a 4 or higher on the AP Calculus AB Exam

This is a college-level course offered for students who have a high degree of interest and skill in mathematics. AP Calculus BC further develops the study of Calculus, with more integration techniques, infinite series, conics, parametric equations, and polar coordinates.

251 - AP Statistics**Grade 12****1 Credit**

Prerequisite: Algebra III with 93 average or Pre-Calculus with 90 average or Honors Pre-Calculus with 85 average and departmental approval

Recommended: PSAT combined score of 1100 or better

This college-level course will examine a variety of problems dealing with gathering, organizing, and analyzing data. Students will investigate averages and variances, regression and correlation, elementary probability, normal distributions, scientific sampling, and making inferences. Students will use the statistical and graphing capabilities of their calculator. Students will correctly use mathematical terms and symbols when speaking and/or writing. Accuracy, neatness, and organization are stressed in this college-level class.

208 - Fundamentals of Statistics**Grade 11/12****.5 Credit**

Prerequisite: Algebra II or Honors Algebra II

This introductory course will examine a variety of topics dealing with gathering, organizing, and analyzing data. Students will investigate averages and variances, regression and correlation, elementary probability, normal distributions, scientific sampling, and making inferences with both confidence intervals and hypothesis-testing. Students will use the statistical and graphing capabilities of their calculator, as well as computer software. The goal for the course is to provide students with an introduction to a course that is fast becoming the prevalent required math for most college majors.

209 - Statistics**Grade 12****1 Credit***Prerequisite: Pre-Calculus, Honors Pre-Calculus or Algebra III*

This introductory-level course will examine a variety of topics dealing with gathering, organizing, and analyzing data. Students will investigate averages and variances, regression and correlation, various probability models, normal distributions, scientific sampling, and making inferences with both confidence intervals and hypothesis testing. Students will use the statistical and graphing capabilities of their calculator, as well as computer software. The goal for the course is to provide students with an introduction to a course that is fast becoming the prevalent required math for almost all college majors.

210 - Honors Fundamentals of Calculus**Grade 12****.5 Credit***Prerequisites: Pre-Calculus with 90 average or Honors Pre-Calculus with 85 average or Algebra III with 93 average*

This is an intro-level course offered for students who have an interest in taking Calculus at the college level, but may not be able to enroll in AP Calculus. Limits and derivatives will be introduced to familiarize the students with the concepts, vocabulary, and problem-solving techniques of a college-level Calculus course.

ELECTIVES**207 - Personal Finance****Grade 11/12****.5 Credit***Prerequisite: None*

This one-semester course is designed to educate the student on the importance of personal financial responsibility. It will cover topics such as finance, credit, college planning, avoiding debt, and understanding insurance and home mortgages. This course does not satisfy a math requirement.

SCIENCE DEPARTMENT

- SJCS requires 3 Lab Science credits that include Biology, Chemistry, and 1 other full-year Lab Science class.

REQUIRED COURSES

301 - Biology

Grade 9

1 Credit

Prerequisite: None

The purpose of this course is to provide a challenging survey of biological topics for college-bound students. The course will include units of study on the nature of life, basic taxonomic organization, organisms in the Monera, Protista, and Fungi Kingdoms, plant structure and function, biochemistry, cell structure and function, ecological interrelationships, evolutionary theory, and an introduction to energy transformations and genetics. Several body systems will be explored, stressing comparisons between simple and complex organisms, while concentrating on human systems. The course will focus on ecological interrelationships throughout the year.

302 - Chemistry

Grade 10

1 Credit

Prerequisite: Algebra I

Chemistry is the study of matter, its properties, and how those properties result from the atomic structure. The course is designed to be useful to students having widely differing backgrounds and career plans. Laboratory work is an essential part of this course. Topics covered include scientific measurement; chemical periodicity; atomic structure; chemical names and formulas; bonding; behavior of gases; chemical reactions; stoichiometry; properties of solutions; acids and bases; oxidation-reduction reactions; and thermochemistry. The development of critical thinking and problem-solving skills is stressed throughout the course.

312 - Honors Chemistry

Grade 10

1 Credit

Prerequisites: 9th-Grade Algebra I with 90 average or 9th-Grade Geometry with 85 average and departmental approval

This course is an introduction to the study of atoms and chemical reactions that will prepare students for AP Chemistry. Topics covered include scientific measurement; the structure of the atom and molecular bonding; chemical periodicity; states of matter; nomenclature; stoichiometry; thermodynamics; equilibrium; properties of gases; properties of solutions; acids and bases; and electrochemistry.

ADDITIONAL COURSES THAT MEET REQUIREMENTS

303 - Physics

Grade 11/12

1 Credit

Prerequisites: Geometry and Algebra II or concurrent enrollment in Algebra II

This course is an introduction to classical and modern physics. Topics covered include mechanics; vectors; forces and the laws of motion; work and energy; momentum and collisions; gravity and satellite motion; vibrations and waves; sound and light; and electricity and magnetism. This course focuses on a conceptual understanding of physics. Laboratory experiences are an integral part of the class.

313 - Honors Physics**Grade 11/12****1 Credit**

Prerequisites: Pre-Calculus with 90 average or concurrent enrollment in Pre-Calculus with Honors Algebra II with 85 average and departmental approval

Honors Physics is a more mathematically rigorous introduction to classical and modern physics. This course is aimed at the student interested in math, sciences, and engineering. Topics covered include mechanics; energy; properties of matter; sound and light; electricity and magnetism; and a brief introduction to atomic and nuclear physics. Laboratory experiences are an integral part of the class.

353 - AP Physics 1**Grade 11/12****1 Credit**

Prerequisites: Honors Geometry, Honors Algebra II with 90 average, Pre-Calculus or concurrent enrollment in Pre-Calculus, and departmental approval.

Recommended: PSAT section score 620 or higher

This course is the equivalent of a first-semester college course in algebra-based physics. Topics covered include Newtonian mechanics (including rotational dynamics and angular momentum); work, energy, and power; and mechanical waves and sound. It includes the basic use of trigonometric functions and will also introduce electric circuits.

354 - AP Physics 2**Grade 11/12****1 Credit**

Prerequisites: AP Physics 1 and departmental approval

This course is equivalent to a second-semester college course in algebra-based physics, and it covers fluid mechanics; thermodynamics; electricity and magnetism; optics; and atomic and nuclear physics. The course is offered as a supported online independent study course. Students have the primary responsibility for building understanding, with the instructor as a resource and guide. Students will spend instructional time engaging with the textbook, online lecture videos, simulations, online discussions, hands-on labs, problem-solving screencasts, online homework problems, and tests/exams. Hands-on labs will be done at school with the support of an SJCS teacher. There is a substantial extra fee associated with this course. Please inquire if you are interested.

350 - AP Biology**Grade 11/12****1 Credit**

Prerequisites: Biology with 90 average, Chemistry with 90 average, or Honors Chemistry with 85 average and departmental approval

This course is a college-level survey of biological topics. Students should be aware of the demanding nature of this course in terms of the difficulty of the material presented, the amount of preparation required, and the difficulty of unit examinations. Topics covered include chemistry of life; cell structure and function; cellular energetics; cell communication and cell cycle; heredity; gene expression and regulation; natural selection; and ecology. Critical thinking and analytical skills are emphasized and inquiry-based laboratory investigations are required. Prior to the first day of school, students are required to complete a summer assignment

351 - AP Chemistry**Grade 11/12****1 Credit**

Prerequisites: Honors Chemistry with 90 average, Honors Algebra II with 90 average, Pre-Calculus or concurrent enrollment in Pre-Calculus and departmental approval

This course is designed to be the equivalent of the general Chemistry course taken by science and engineering majors in their first year of college. The framework of this course is quantitatively different from Honors Chemistry, going into greater depth in some concepts and introducing new ones. The emphasis of the course relies on chemical calculations and mathematical formulations of chemical principles as well as laboratory techniques. The development of these themes introduces students to the study of chemistry on a level that prepares them for subsequent courses in chemistry taken at the college level. Prior to the first day of school, students are required to complete summer reading.

304 - Environmental Science**Grade 10/11/12****1 Credit**

Prerequisites: Biology and Chemistry or concurrent enrollment in Chemistry

Environmental Science is a year-long, elective that incorporates laboratory activities, virtual activities, projects, and classroom experiences to introduce students to the applications of environmental science. Students will explore real-world issues and understand the impact humans have on the environment. There are several unifying, interdisciplinary themes that cut across the topics within Environmental Science. Nine major topics are covered: ecosystems; biodiversity; populations, earth systems, and resources; land and water use; energy resources and consumption; atmospheric pollution; aquatic and terrestrial pollution; and global change.

317 - Honors Human Anatomy & Physiology**Grade 11/12****1 Credit**

Prerequisites: Biology and Chemistry, most recent science average of 80 in an Honors class or 85 in a CP class, and departmental approval

This rigorous, year-long science elective provides students with a detailed study of the human body systems. Homeostatic balance, the relationship between structure and function, and the interrelationships between body systems are a focus throughout the course. Laboratory work requires the efficient use of microscopes and participation in dissections. This course is recommended for students interested in pursuing education in health-care related fields in college.

323 - Honors Aerospace Science I**Grade 11/12****.5 Credit**

Prerequisites: Algebra II, Geometry, and departmental approval

Aerospace Science I introduces students to critical themes in the field of aviation and space science. Topics covered include meteorology, aerodynamics, ballistics, telemetry, propulsion, and aerial navigation. Laboratory work will focus on the application of concepts learned in class, to real-world experiences including weather observation and forecasting, flight-vehicle design, and navigation. This course is a prerequisite for Aerospace Science II. *Must take Honors Aerospace I & II in the same year to meet science requirement or the class will be counted as an elective.*

324 - Honors Aerospace Science II**Grade 11/12****.5 Credit**

Prerequisites: Aerospace Science I and departmental approval

Aerospace Science II builds on the concepts learned in Aerospace Science I and seeks to prepare the student to pass the FAA Part 107 written examination leading to their certification as a commercial drone pilot. Topics will include aerodynamics, robotics, aerospace human factors, flight operations, and U.S. aerospace law and regulations pertaining to the safe and legal operation of unmanned aerial vehicles. Laboratory experiences will focus on integrating the concepts learned in class into the student's practical knowledge of drone flight operations. Although the course is geared towards successful certification, students will not be required to take the FAA written exam. *Must take Honors Aerospace I & II in the same year to meet science requirement or the class will be counted as an elective.*

ELECTIVES - These courses do not meet science requirement for a 3rd full year class

305 - Forensic Science

Grade 10/11/12

.5 Credit

Prerequisites: Biology and Chemistry or concurrent enrollment in Chemistry

This is a one-semester course that involves the application of biological, chemical, and physical principles to the investigation of physical evidence in criminal cases. The course focuses on leading-edge technologies police and crime labs rely on to apprehend criminals. The course includes case studies and videos of actual criminal cases. Topics covered include fingerprints; hair and fabric analysis; glass; serology; and firearms. Critical thinking and analytical skills are emphasized. Laboratory is included.

309 - Human Anatomy & Physiology

Grade 11/12

.5 Credit

Prerequisites: Biology and Chemistry

This introductory-level, semester course provides a survey of the human body systems. Through lectures and labs, students will gain in-depth knowledge of the integumentary, skeletal, muscular, nervous, cardiovascular, respiratory, digestive, and reproductive systems. Laboratory work requires students to be efficient with microscopes and to participate in dissections. This course is recommended for students interested in pursuing education in health-care related fields in college.

316 - Honors Astronomy

Grade 11/12

.5 Credit

Prerequisite: Biology and Chemistry, most recent science average of 80 in an Honors class or 85 in a CP class, and departmental approval

This course will provide the student with an introduction to the concepts of modern astronomy, the origin and history of the Universe, the formation of the Earth and the solar system, and a history of humanity's exploration of space. This class does not meet the 3rd year lab science requirement.

HISTORY DEPARTMENT

REQUIRED COURSES

405 - World History

Grade 9

1 Credit

Prerequisite: None

This freshman-level course is a survey of the major cultures that developed in Africa, Asia, Europe, and the Americas from the beginnings of human civilization up to the present day. Political, social, cultural, economic, and intellectual history are covered, particularly as they shape contemporary world events.

415 - Honors World History

Grade 9

1 Credit

Prerequisite: 8th-grade History with 93 average and an acceptable score on a written essay to be given at a set time prior to scheduling

This writing-intensive, freshman-level course is an in-depth study of the major cultures which developed in Africa, Asia, Europe, and the Americas from the beginnings of human civilization up to the present day. Political, social, cultural, economic, and intellectual history are covered, particularly as they shape contemporary world events. The depth of analysis is greater in the course, as is the examination of primary documents. Students will receive direct training in the writing of research papers and be responsible for the production of two research papers during the school year.

402 - Modern European History

Grade 10

1 Credit

Prerequisite: World History

This sophomore-level course is a survey examination that begins with the advent of the Modern Age in Europe and traces political, economic, and cultural influences that affected the global populations over a 500-year period. Particular attention is given to the influence of intellectual movements such as the Renaissance and the Enlightenment, as well as major social changes that flowed from both the French and Industrial Revolutions. The course examines major events that occurred during the 20th century and culminates with more contemporary developments in the 21st century. Students will receive direct training in the writing of research papers.

412- Honors Modern European History

Grade 10

1 Credit

Prerequisite: World History with 90 average and departmental approval

Recommended: PSAT 8/9 Reading score of 28 or better

This **writing-intensive** sophomore-level course is an in-depth examination of the Modern Age. The depth of analysis is greater in this course, as is the examination of primary documents. Students will receive direct training in the writing of research papers and be responsible for producing **two research papers** during the school year.

452 - AP European History**Grade 10****1 Credit**

Prerequisites: World History with 93 average and departmental approval.

Recommended: PSAT 8/9 Reading score of 29 or better

AP Modern European History is a college-level survey course that explores the major themes of European history from 1450 to the present era. The curriculum follows the latest requirements of the College Board and will include extensive training to advance academic skills as a critical reader and analytical writer. The use of primary documents and extensive assessments are an important focus of this class, which will prepare students to pass the College Board AP test at the end of the spring semester.

404 - Economics**Grade 10/11/12****.5 Credit**

Prerequisite: None

This one-semester course covers the basic principles and theories of economics. It also examines the practical application of these theories in contemporary society and government. Tax forms, personal budgeting, and a stock market simulation are all part of the course.

403 - U.S. History**Grade 11****1 Credit**

Prerequisites: Modern European or AP European

This class builds upon note-taking and essay writing skills in presenting a survey course in American history. The first semester will be spent covering American history up to the Reconstruction era that followed the Civil War. The second semester will focus on post-Reconstruction developments and cover American historical events into the modern era. Students will be expected to read historical essays, biographies, and primary source materials. Research papers will also be assigned. In addition, students will be trained to master map skills for the periods studied. Summer reading is required.

413 - Honors U.S. History**Grade 11****1 Credit**

Prerequisites: Modern European History with 90 average or Honors Modern European History with 85 average and departmental approval

Recommended: PSAT Verbal score of 28 or better

At the Honors level, students should be adept at writing essays and taking notes. This class builds upon these skills and presents a survey course in American history. It is more detailed and accelerated than the college preparatory U.S. History. The first semester will cover American history up to the Reconstruction era that followed the Civil War. The spring semester will focus on post-Reconstruction developments and cover major historical events into the modern era. Students will be expected to read historical essays, biographies, and primary source materials. Research projects and papers will also be required. In addition, students will be expected to master map skills for the periods studied. All students will construct a major research paper in the second semester. Summer reading is required.

450 - AP U.S. History**Grade 11****1 Credit**

Prerequisites: 90 average in previous Honors level History and English courses and departmental approval. Students seeking admittance into this course against departmental recommendations will be required to submit a writing sample from a previous history course.

Recommended: PSAT Reading score of 31 or better.

This course is for advanced history students who have achieved high performance in previous history classes. Students will study a college curriculum with collegiate-level expectations and workload. The primary focus is to prepare the students for the national AP exam; thus, the class is conducted in a more teacher-directed manner than non-AP classes. American history from pre-colonial times through the 1970s is covered in depth. Students will become well-versed in essay writing and higher-level thinking skills of evaluation, analysis, and synthesis. The interpretation of primary sources and differing methods of data presentation are incorporated at every level, as are map skills. Summer reading is required.

408 - Government**Grade 11/12****.5 Credit**

United States Government is a one-semester history course that will examine the basic principles of our government: the workings of the legislative; the executive and judicial branches; and the sharing of power between the state and federal governments. A portion of the class is dedicated to a discussion of current events and debates, as well as a further examination of constitutional principles as applied to today's issues. Students must remain current on national events.

451 - AP U.S. Government & Politics**Grade 12****1 Credit**

Prerequisites: AP U.S. History with 90 average or Honors U.S. History with 90 average and departmental approval

Recommended: PSAT Reading score of 31 or better

This is a college-level course for those students who have achieved high performance in previous history classes and are avid learners of history. It is a college curriculum with collegiate-level expectations and workload. The primary focus is to prepare the student for the national AP exam; thus, the class is conducted in a more teacher-directed manner than non-AP classes. The philosophy and structure of government along with economic issues and principles are thoroughly studied. Primary source materials and current event resources are heavily utilized. Summer reading is required.

ELECTIVES**407 - Principles of Psychology****Grade 11/12****.5 Credit**

Prerequisite: None

This one-semester course is an introductory-level examination of the systematic study of individual human behavior and experience. The purpose of this course is to introduce the student to the content, terminology, methodology, and application of the discipline. This survey course contains an introduction followed by four units based on the physiological, cognitive, behavioral, and affective domains of psychology.

409 - Introduction to Sociology**Grade 11/12****.5 Credit**

Prerequisite: None

This one-semester course is an introductory course that emphasizes fundamental concepts in sociology and their application to contemporary society to enhance the student's understanding of the world in which they live. The class will include significant discussions of themes like socialization, stratification, population demographics, family life, and technology.

453 - AP Art History**Grade 11/12****1 Credit**

Prerequisites: AP U.S. History with 90 average or Honors U.S. History with 90 average and departmental approval

Recommended: PSAT Reading score of 31 or better

This is a college-level class that examines the role of art within history and the effect of that history upon art. The study of Art History involves critical thinking and will develop an understanding and knowledge of diverse historical and cultural contexts of architecture, sculpture, painting, and other media. It also will create opportunities for students to strengthen an area neglected in most curricula. In this course, students will examine major forms of artistic expression from the past and present from a variety of cultures. While visual analysis is a fundamental tool of the art historian, art history emphasizes understanding how and why works of art function in context, considering such issues as patronage, gender, and the functions and effects of art.

This class can fulfill .5 credit in Fine Arts instead of 1.0 History credit.

420 - Honors Holocaust History**Grade 11/12****.5 Credit**

Prerequisite: Departmental approval

This course will explore those events that led to the systematic murders of six million Jews during World War II and created countless other victims during that period. Students will encounter the stories of survivors, witnesses, and rescuers that continue to raise essential questions about the nature of human behavior. The course will explore the consequences of how destructive policies are constructed and implemented and how individuals and communities are affected by malevolent decisions and actions. The curriculum requires extensive reading of primary and secondary sources and will emphasize class discussions. By studying the historical development of the Holocaust and similar examples of genocide, students will be invited to make the essential connection between history and the moral choices they confront in their personal lives. By utilizing sources that illuminate victim experiences, perpetrator perspectives, and bystander responses, the class will investigate the Nazi racial state that systematized mass killings and demanded collaboration and complicity. Finally, the course will examine the memory of the Holocaust in western culture.

ENGLISH DEPARTMENT

REQUIRED COURSES

501 - Composition & Literature

Grade 9

1 Credit

Prerequisite: None

The focus of this class is two-fold: to strengthen research and composition skills and to develop analytical thinking skills through the examination of the different genres of literature, with an emphasis on ancient and medieval literature, and classical themes. Much time will be devoted, as well, to vocabulary building. Students will master the expository, persuasive, and critical analysis forms of writing, as well as the research paper. The literature study will encompass a survey of epic and lyric poetry, the short story, drama, allegory, and the novel. Students are required to complete summer reading and accompanying assignment(s) prior to the first day of school.

511 - Honors Composition & Literature

Grade 9

1 Credit

Prerequisites: 8th-grade English with 93 average and departmental approval

The honors course begins with the assumption of a greater fluidity with writing and a greater aptitude for reading comprehension and textual analysis. From there, the class focuses on consistently building vocabulary to enhance the more challenging reading and analytical writing that will spring from the study of many different literary genres. The literary emphasis will be on ancient literature, yet will include works from the Renaissance, the Victorian era, and the 20th century as well. Students are required to complete summer reading and an accompanying assignment prior to the start of school.

502 - European Literature

Grade 10

1 Credit

Prerequisite: None

This course surveys seminal works of European literature, including lyric poetry, folk tales (old and new), drama, and the epic. Special attention will be paid to developing vocabulary and writing about literature. Students are required to complete summer reading and an accompanying assignment prior to the start of school.

512 - Honors European Literature

Grade 10

1 Credit

Prerequisite: Composition & Literature with 90 average or Honors Composition & Literature with 85 average and departmental approval

This course surveys seminal works of European literature, including lyric poetry, tragedy, the epic, the romance, and the estates satire. Authors studied include Shakespeare, Dante, and Chaucer. Students will write at least one analytical essay per quarter, as well as structured creative works in imitation of the literature they are studying. Students are required to complete summer reading and an accompanying assignment prior to the start of school.

503 - American Literature

Grade 11

1 Credit

Prerequisite: None

This course will survey the development of literature in the United States. Students will read several classic American novels and plays, in addition to a variety of prose and poetry selections from the anthology. In addition to completing a research project, students will produce narrative and literary analysis papers. Prior to the first day of school, students are required to complete a summer reading assignment.

513 - Honors American Literature**Grade 11****1 Credit**

Prerequisite: European Literature with 90 average or Honors European Literature with 85 average and departmental approval

The Honors course begins with the assumption of a greater fluidity with writing and a greater aptitude for reading comprehension and textual analysis. This course will survey the development of literature in the United States. Students will read several classic American novels and plays, in addition to a variety of prose and poetry selections from the anthology. Poetry will receive special emphasis. In addition to completing a longer, in-depth research project, students will produce narrative, literary analysis, and literary argument papers. Prior to the first day of school, students are required to complete a summer reading assignment.

550 - AP English Literature and Composition**Grade 11****1 Credit**

Prerequisites: Honors European Literature with 85 average and departmental approval

Note: The recent average PSAT Reading score for AP students has been 32.

AP English Literature and Composition is a college-level course designed to engage students in the critical analysis of literature. It requires students to interact analytically through intensive study of representative texts from various genres and periods, concentrating on works of recognized literary merit. Through the close reading of selected texts, students should deepen their understanding of the ways writers use language to provide both meaning and pleasure for their readers through a work's structure, style, and themes, as well as the use of figurative language, imagery, symbolism, tone, etc. In the spring, students will complete the AP English Literature and Composition exam. Summer reading and written work (due the first week of class) are required to maintain enrollment.

504 - Modern Literature**Grade 12****1 Credit**

Prerequisite: None

This course will survey the development of literature beginning with the Renaissance, emphasizing European and American literature. Papers will include literary analysis, an expository essay, and a narrative reflection. Prior to the first day of school, students are required to complete summer reading.

514 - Honors Modern Literature**Grade 12****1 Credit**

Prerequisite: American Literature with 90 average or Honors American Literature with 85 average and departmental approval

This course will survey the development of literature beginning with the Renaissance, emphasizing European and American literature. Papers will include literary analysis, an expository essay, and narrative reflection. Prior to the first day of school, students are required to complete summer reading.

551 - AP Language and Composition**Grade 12****1 Credit**

Prerequisites: Honors American Literature with 85 average or AP English Literature and Composition and departmental approval

*Note: The recent average PSAT Reading **and** Writing and Language scores for AP students have been 32.*

This course focuses on writing and analysis of non-fiction prose. Students will explore how others write effectively through a study of rhetorical analysis and various modes of writing, such as journalistic, evaluative, persuasive, satirical, narrative, descriptive, argumentative, analytical, compare and contrast, and synthesis. In addition, students will focus on critical reading skills so that they will be able to not only understand what the text is communicating but also how writers use the English language and artists use images to manipulate those effects convincingly. In the spring, students will complete the AP English Language and Composition exam. Summer reading and written work (due the first week of class) are required to maintain enrollment.

ELECTIVES**507 - Creative Writing****Grade 9/10/11/12****.5 Credit**

Prerequisite: None

Students will explore the art of creative writing by investigating various genres of literature and writing; reading closely with an eye on technique, style, and voice; writing creatively in a variety of genres and with various foci; and presenting their own work through peer editing, author's chair readings, and publishing. Students will keep a writing journal and will submit a portfolio of original compositions at the course's end.

518 - Literature and Music of the American Civil Rights Movement**Grade 11/12****.5 Credit**

Prerequisite: None

This one-semester elective will cover the literature and music of the American Civil Rights era from its beginnings in American spirituals and blues, through Reconstruction and after (1865-1919), the Harlem Renaissance (1919-1940), and Modernism to the present. Students will read and listen to a variety of speeches, songs, sermons, poems, short stories, and plays in the context of major events of the American Civil Rights movement. Authors include, but are not limited to, Frederick Douglass, the Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr., Malcolm X, Sojourner Truth, Booker T. Washington, WEB DuBois, Zora Neale Hurston, Langston Hughes, Gwendolyn Brooks, James Baldwin, Lorraine Hansberry, Daniel Berrigan, Nikki Giovanni, and Maya Angelou. Along with the texts, students will gain an understanding of the role of music in the Civil Rights movement, including the blues, spirituals, rhythm & blues, gospel, jazz, and hip hop. The class will integrate the Catholic social teaching themes of solidarity, the dignity of every human person, and care for the poor and vulnerable, especially in relation to the civil rights ideal of the Beloved Community.

521 - Children's Literature**Grade 9/10/11/12****.5 Credit**

Prerequisite: None

This one-semester elective course will explore the art of storytelling and the pleasure of children's literature, surveying various authors and illustrators. Genres surveyed will include folk and fairy tales, picture books, early readers, fantasy, fiction, poetry, and historical fiction. Students will keep a writing journal, lead a class discussion on the thematic patterns found in classical and contemporary literature, and present authors and illustrators as book reviews.

WORLD LANGUAGE DEPARTMENT

- Please refer to pg 6 for an explanation of 8th grade and transfer World Language credits and placement.
- The department strongly recommends that students take three years of the same World Language.
- Current SJCS students **must have an 80 average or better** to advance to the next level of a World Language. If a student has an average of 70-79, the student must make arrangements to meet with the Department Chairperson to discuss how to move forward. In most cases, summer improvement work and/or a placement test will be necessary to ensure the student is prepared for the next level. The World Language Chair must approve all summer programs.

601 - Spanish I

Grade 9/10/11/12

1 Credit

Prerequisite: None

This is a beginning Spanish course emphasizing the development of the four language skills: listening, speaking, reading, and writing, with stress on aural/oral comprehension and cultural awareness. Vocabulary acquisition is emphasized, and basic grammar will be studied, including verb tenses.

602 - Spanish II

Grade 9/10/11/12

1 Credit

Prerequisite: Spanish I with 80 average or acceptable score on Spanish placement test for incoming students

This course involves a review and extension of Spanish I, with continued emphasis on the development of the four language skills: listening, speaking, reading, and writing, with stress on aural/oral comprehension. It includes detailed verb study and grammar applications, as well as new vocabulary. Conversational Spanish and writing are further developed. Continued emphasis is placed on communicative competence and cultural awareness.

603 - Spanish III

Grade 10/11/12

1 Credit

Prerequisite: Spanish II with 80 average or acceptable score on Spanish placement test

This course is a review of and a more advanced study of the Spanish language, with an emphasis on speaking and writing skills. An in-depth study of Spanish/Spanish-American civilization, culture, and literature are included. Selections from Spanish and Latin American authors will be read. There is less emphasis on grammar and more emphasis on conversation and composition. Much of the class is conducted in Spanish.

613 - Honors Spanish III

Grade 10/11/12

1 Credit

Prerequisites: Spanish II with an 90 average, or acceptable score on a Spanish placement test, and departmental approval

This course covers an accelerated and more in-depth study than Spanish III. In addition to the Spanish III course work, Honors Spanish III will give special emphasis on more advanced literary selections and compositions. Additional emphasis is placed on the use of Spanish for active communication. Most of the class is conducted in Spanish.

614 - Honors Spanish IV

Grade 11/12

1 Credit

Prerequisites: Honors Spanish III with an 85 average, or Spanish III with a 90 average, or acceptable score on a Spanish placement test, and departmental approval

Emphasis will be placed on conversation and comprehension as well as composition. Students will read excerpts of literary works and material drawn from the Spanish media and other authentic selections to develop their reading skills and provide experiences in the areas of everyday needs, language careers, and contemporary culture. A review of grammar will be included. The Honors Spanish IV class will be conducted mostly in Spanish.

650 - AP Spanish Language**Grade 11/12****1 Credit**

Prerequisites: Honors Spanish IV with 90 average, a student writing sample, and departmental approval

This class is conducted entirely in Spanish. It is assumed that students have already learned the grammar and syntax of the language and have acquired strong skills in speaking, writing, reading, and understanding Spanish. Therefore, the curriculum for this course is designed to reinforce and sharpen these skills, with the goal of achieving mastery as defined by the AP Spanish Language course description.

605 - French I**Grade 9/10/11/12****1 Credit**

Prerequisite: None

This course will introduce students to the French language and francophone culture. The emphasis is on the four language skills: listening, speaking, reading, and writing. Basic grammar and vocabulary will be studied, including verb tenses.

606 - French II**Grade 9/10/11/12****1 Credit**

Prerequisite: French I with 80 average or acceptable score on French placement test for incoming students

This course expands the knowledge of the French language and culture and includes a thorough review of concepts learned. It broadens the exposure to the four skills of listening, speaking, reading, and writing. It includes detailed verb study and grammar applications, as well as new vocabulary. Conversational French and writing are further developed.

617 - Honors French III**Grade 10/11/12****1 Credit**

Prerequisite: French II with 90 average or an acceptable score on French placement test for incoming students, and departmental approval

This course is a review of and a more advanced study of the French language. Students will begin reading excerpts of literary works and material drawn from the French media. This class will be conducted mostly in French. **French III is only offered as an Honors course, so an advanced level of study should begin in French I.**

618 - Honors French IV/V**Grade 10/11/12****1 Credit**

Prerequisite: Honors French III with 85 average or Honors French IV with 85 average, an acceptable score on French placement test for incoming students, and departmental approval

Honors French IV/V is an opportunity for students to familiarize themselves with the history, literature, and culture of France and the Francophone world while expanding and fine-tuning their language and grammar skills. Work from the textbook is constantly supplemented with authentic historical, cultural, and literary materials. The class is conducted in French and students are expected to speak French in class.

640 - AP French Language**Grade 11/12****1 Credit**

Prerequisites: Honors French IV with 90 average, a student writing sample, and departmental approval

This course is holistically designed to offer students a proficiency-based, rigorous, college-level experience to maximize their potential in interpretive, interpersonal, and presentational skills in French. It is assumed that students have already learned the grammar and syntax of the language and have acquired strong skills in listening, speaking, reading, and writing. Therefore, the curriculum for this course is designed to reinforce and sharpen these skills, with the goal of achieving mastery as defined by the AP French Language and Culture course description.

FINE ARTS DEPARTMENT

701 - Exploring Art Techniques I

Grade 9/10/11/12

.5 Credit

Prerequisite: None

This is a one-semester course for students who desire to learn about the foundations of visual art, explored through the use of various media. Students will study: Elements of Art and Principles of Design; graphite drawing, including still life and people, focusing on form, value, and color theory; and acrylic painting. Students will learn how to “speak without using words,” various techniques of art production, and creative problem-solving skills.

702 - Exploring Art Techniques II

Grade 9/10/11/12

.5 Credit

Prerequisite: Exploring Art Techniques I

This is a one-semester course for students who show a desire to further their exploration in visual art. The elements of visual art are explored in a more in-depth manner through the use of various media. Projects may include watercolor, oil, and non-traditional painting; oil pastels; printmaking; 3D design; collage techniques; clay work; and portfolio preparation. Students will explore various techniques of art production and improve their creative problem-solving skills.

703 - Drawing

Grade 9/10/11/12

.5 Credit

Prerequisite: None

This is a one-semester course. This class is for students who show an aptitude for drawing and is a two-dimensional art course. Drawing is explored through the use of a variety of media, including charcoal, pen, pen and ink, chalk pastel, professional-grade markers, and Prismacolor pencils. The student is responsible for choosing most subject matter and always for composition choices. Form and value are at the core of every project. Extra studio time may be needed for project completion.

704 - Mixed Media Art

Grade 9/10/11/12

.5 Credit

Prerequisite: None

This is a one-semester course for students who are more interested in design than traditional art. All projects will be based on the Elements of Art and Principles of Design and color theory. Students will be responsible for choosing subject matter and composition. Subject matter may include canvas collage; abstract landscape; woodburning; fabric painting and design; and paper cutting. Students will also complete an independent art project inspired by their artist of choice. Students will learn the value of following the process to a rewarding outcome.

754 - Mixed Media II - 3D Art

Grade 9/10/11/12

.5 Credit

Prerequisite: Mixed Media

This is a one-semester course for students who show a desire to further pursue mixing media types and working with their hands. Students will continue to focus on the Elements of Art and Principles of Design while producing 3D forms and will be responsible for choosing subject matter and composition. Projects may include 3D letter design, watercolor resist, block-printing, figure sculptures, clay work, and further study in fabric design and printing.

705 - Portfolio Development	Grade 11/12	.5 Credit
<i>Prerequisites: Drawing, completion of two Visual Art courses offered, and departmental approval</i>		
<i>For transfer students: application, interview, and departmental approval</i>		
This is an independent study course , focusing on the production of each student's Art portfolio. Artwork created will also be included in a school-wide art exhibit. This course is designed to prepare students for their pursuit of the Visual Arts at the collegiate level.		
706/904 - Digital Photography	Grades 9/10/11/12	.5 Credit
<i>Prerequisite: Computer Applications</i>		
In this one-semester course, students will learn the FUNdamentals of photography: composition, lighting, shutter speed, and aperture. Students will also process their images in the digital darkroom: Photoshop! An emphasis will be on camera techniques, as well as self-expression. Students must bring their own camera to class, point-and-shoot or DSLR, but no phone cameras. <i>This course can count as a Computer Science credit instead of Fine Arts.</i>		
709/909 - Digital Photography II	Grade 10/11/12	.5 Credit
<i>Prerequisite: Digital Photography</i>		
This is a one-semester class. Students will learn in-depth lighting, portraiture, and still life techniques. Using Photoshop for post-production, students will learn in-depth techniques for retouching and blending images. A portfolio of 10-15 images will be presented for the final project. <i>This course can count as a Computer Science credit instead of Fine Arts.</i>		
718/902 - Graphic Applications	Grade 10/11/12	.5 Credit
<i>Prerequisite: Computer Applications</i>		
<i>Recommended: Students take Exploring Art Techniques I before taking this course or in conjunction with this course.</i>		
This is a one-semester course. The techniques of Adobe's Illustrator vector graphics program will be learned. These skills will allow a student to create graphics containing text and images that can be used for varied purposes. The skills and techniques will then be used in an end-of-semester project, where the students will create an illustration and then modify it to meet the stated criteria. <i>This course can count as a Computer Science credit instead of Fine Arts.</i>		
719/919 - Graphic Applications II	Grade 10/11/12	.5 Credit
<i>Prerequisite: Graphic Applications</i>		
This one-semester course builds on the skills learned in Graphic Applications. Students will learn more tools in Adobe Illustrator. In addition to Illustrator, students will learn how to add texture, cutouts, and more using Adobe Photoshop. Using both applications, students will create a portfolio of 5-7 designs by the end of the semester. <i>This course can count as a Computer Science credit instead of Fine Arts.</i>		
707/905 - Yearbook Staff	Grade 11/12	1 Credit
<i>Prerequisite: Computer Applications and departmental approval</i>		
This class allows students to pursue their creative talents beyond the regular classroom. The course is organized as a class, with students working on individual and group assignments for the yearbook. The student will learn to use software to pull together all of the elements of a yearbook, including photography, layout design, and copywriting. Class is limited to 12. <i>This course can count as a Computer Science credit instead of Fine Arts.</i>		

710 – Intro to Theatre Arts**Grade 9/10/11/12****.5 Credit***Prerequisite: None*

This is a one-semester course, arranged primarily as a theatre history and play survey class. Students will explore various scripts, discovering the evolution of theatre from Ancient Greece to the contemporary stage. Students will also study theatre history, building their comprehension of the production's connection to the time period. Emphasis will be on theatre history, script reading, discussion, and performance critique. Basic acting and opportunities for playwriting will also be included in the class projects; however, this is explored in greater detail in Advanced Theatre Arts.

711 - Advanced Theatre Arts**Grade 10/11/12****.5 Credit***Prerequisite: Intro to Theatre Arts or departmental approval and performance in at least two high school productions*

This one-semester course presents detailed instruction in acting techniques, as well as an overview of other technical elements involved in a theatrical production: set design, costume design, and directing. Students will gain a stronger understanding of using the actor's tools - mind, body, and voice - in bringing characters to life through genuine and truthful storytelling. Students in this class are also encouraged to be directly involved in the state theatre competitions. Emphasis will be on student participation, performance, evaluation, and critique.

712 - Prop Construction**Grade 9/10/11/12****.5 Credit***Prerequisite: Departmental approval**Recommended: Intro to Theatre Arts or Stage Crew*

This is a **fall-semester course** in which students will learn the basic skills for making theatrical properties. In using color theory and basic shop tools, students will learn a variety of texture painting skills, build prop candles, rock formations, and fake food. Students will also learn the skills of mold-making by building and designing a hinged box and walking baubled cane. Through these projects, students will acquire foundational knowledge in theatrical construction used in prop, scenic, and costuming work. Emphasis will be on class projects and student evaluation of work. (Class limit 10)

713 - Stage Crew Practicum**Grade 9/10/11/12****.5 Credit***Prerequisite: Safety contract on file*

This is a one-semester course designed for students who want to learn about or be involved with the theatrical production process. This course will use the current main stage production as a lab, with practical application covering the elements of technical theatre, including scenic construction, costuming, scenic painting, sound, and lighting operation. To be eligible for this ½ credit, students must acquire at least 60 crew hours and fulfill a role as a part of the production crew, as assigned by the Director. (Pass/Fail) ***This course is held after school.***

714 – Directing**Grade 12****.5 Credit***Prerequisite: Application, interview, and departmental approval*

This is a **one-semester independent study course**. Interested students will select a one-act play and complete the proposal and interview process. The student assigned to direct will prepare, cast, and direct this one-act play to compete in one of the two state theatre festivals (one in the fall and one in the spring.) Under the direction of the instructor, the student will prepare a script and character analysis, plan and execute auditions and casting, rehearse the cast, and hold design meetings. These student directors are responsible for the preparation of the production and will attend the festivals to lead the tech rehearsals and oversee the performances. Emphasis will be on project deadlines, communication, leadership, and collaboration. ***This course is held after school.***

715 - Theatre Production**Grade 11/12****1 Credit***Prerequisites: Application, interview, and departmental approval*

This is a **full-year independent study course**. Students are selected for this course based on a submitted application and a personal interview. The basis for this independent study course is the production and independent design work. Students work directly with the teacher on all Fine Arts productions and events throughout the current season, in the roles of stage managers, scenic designers, costume designers, property designers, and sound and lighting technicians. The students will also begin building a personal resume for college admissions and work toward evolving and improving the efficiency of the design team. ***This course is held after school.***

716 - Speech and Improvisation**Grade 9/10/11/12****.5 Credit***Prerequisite: None*

This one-semester course will train students in the art of improvisation and public speaking. While improvisational theatre will be addressed, the focus of the class will be on intuitive responses that build the skills of thinking quickly and creatively; dealing with the unexpected; communicating clearly; focusing attention; and teamwork through exercises, scene-building, and class presentation. Basic vocal work and the use of speech and the voice will also be addressed to aid individual students in understanding how to use their voices more effectively. (Class limit 10)

717 - Film and Media**Grade 11/12****.5 Credit***Prerequisite: None*

This one-semester, seminar-style, inquiry-based course will analyze selected films, emphasizing the relevance of these films to American culture. Issues of personal and cultural identity, assimilation, segregation, and political struggle are particularly explored. Films are examined both as cultural products and as a vehicle for personal and group expression.

721 - High School Chorus**Grade 9/10/11/12****.5 Credit***Prerequisite: Departmental Approval*

Students will focus on the development of vocal skills and learn basic musicianship through ear training, music history, and music theory. Students will have the opportunity to further improve and refine their vocal technique while exploring a variety of musical styles, both sacred and secular. Students will perform in the Christmas and Spring concerts and sing for weekly school Mass. ***Students may enroll for one or two semesters each year.***

725 - Music Appreciation**Grade 9/10/11/12****.5 Credit***Prerequisite: None*

This course introduces students to the discipline of music, tracing the historical development of music with an emphasis on various musical styles, particularly Western Art music. Students will learn about the discipline of music by listening to and studying musical scores, passages, and performances. Students also will engage in class discussions and lectures; attend two live or virtual performances; read textbook excerpts, and form a writing analysis of the musical pieces or composers studied.

731/804 - Intro to Modern Dance**Grade 9/10/11/12****.5 Credit***Prerequisite: None*

This one-semester class is an introduction to all forms of modern dance. It explores the movement of the body in relationship to space, form, and rhythm. The class will consist of a warm-up, stretching, exercises to develop coordination of movements, and choreography to a variety of routines. Students will be expected to dress in comfortable, yoga-type clothing for the class. No performance will be required. The class will be limited to 18. ***Students can only take this course once. This course can count as a PE credit instead of Fine Arts.***

732/805 - Intro to Social Dance**Grade 9/10/11/12****.5 Credit***Prerequisite: None*

This one-semester, beginning dance class teaches many of the social dances of our culture and others. It covers basic ballroom dancing, like swing, the waltz, and the tango. The students will also participate in contra dancing, square dancing, and other folk dances. Many newer line dances will also be taught, like country, disco, and pop. The class will be limited to 18. (Pass/Fail) ***Students can only take this course once. This course can count as a PE credit instead of Fine Arts.***

733/806 - Intermediate Social Dance**Grade 9/10/11/12****.5 Credit***Prerequisite: Intro to Social Dance or departmental approval*

This one-semester dance class builds upon the dances learned in Intro to Social Dance. Time will be spent learning additional steps and more advanced moves. The class will be limited to 16 students, with an equal number of males and females. ***Students can take this class multiple years. This course can count as a PE credit instead of Fine Arts.***

734/811 - Advanced Dance**Grade 9/10/11/12****.5 Credit***Prerequisite: 5 years dance training and departmental approval*

This class will help the dancer improve his or her dance movement through practice, study, and cooperative critique. The class will focus mainly on modern, ballet, jazz, and lyrical dance. Choreography will also be studied and will become a major component of the class. A performance is required. (Pass/Fail) ***This course can count as a PE credit instead of Fine Arts.***

742 - Strings Ensemble**Grade 9/10/11/12****.5 Credit***Prerequisites: Ability to perform Grade 2.0 literature and departmental approval.*

This class is for students who have completed two years of strings class at St. Joseph's or another school. Students enrolled in this class have auditioned for the director and have shown that they are advanced enough to join the high school ensemble. Students will be learning a wide range of repertoire consisting of original, classical, pop, and sacred music, written for chamber size ensembles. Students will be expected to participate in their semester concert(s). ***Students may enroll for one or two semesters each year.***

746 - High School Band**Grade 9/10/11/12****.5 Credit***Prerequisites: Two years of instruction and departmental approval*

This class is for students who have completed two years of band class at St. Joseph's or another school. Students enrolled in this class should have completed Standard of Excellence Book I or have auditioned for the director and have shown that they are advanced enough to join the High School band class. These students will be working on a music repertoire appropriate for the High School Concert Band. Students will be expected to participate in their semester concert(s). ***Students may enroll for one or two semesters each year.***

747 - Pep Band**Grade 9/10/11/12****.5 Credit***Prerequisite: One year of instruction*

This **fall semester class** meets after school once a week to prepare for performances at select home Varsity Football games and Fall Pep Rally. Credit is dependent on student presence at all rehearsals and designated games (unless alternative arrangements are made with the Band Director). Attendance at summer band camp in August is required. ***This course is held after school.***

748 - Advanced Band**Grade 11/12****1 Credit***Prerequisites: Two years of High School band and departmental approval*

This course is for students who have completed two years of High School band at St. Joseph's or another school. This class will run concurrently with Band 746 and Advanced Band students will join them in preparing a music repertoire appropriate for High School Concert Band. In addition to participating in two school concerts, Advanced students will also be required to complete a semester project. ***Students may enroll for one or two semesters each year.***

PHYSICAL EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

- Students can earn PE credit by participating in SJCS sports. One-half credit can be earned for each season played at the JV or Varsity level during the high school years.

803 - Athletic Training

Grade 10/11/12

.5 Credit

Prerequisite: CPR/AED certification and attendance of the Athletic Training Workshop

This course will introduce students to taping and bracing; bandaging cuts and abrasions; using universal precautions; assisting with treatments and rehab; equipment safety; and assisting with the hydration level of athletes. The student will be required to attend all home events for the designated sport and put in a minimum of 6 hours a week for the duration of the sports season. This class time will occur after school hours during sports practices. Students must participate for one full season of an athletic sport.

804/731 - Intro to Modern Dance

Grade 9/10/11/12

.5 Credit

Prerequisite: None

This one-semester class is an introduction to all forms of modern dance. It explores the movement of the body in relationship to space, form, and rhythm. The class will consist of a warm-up, stretching, exercises to develop coordination of movements, and choreography to a variety of routines. Students will be expected to dress in comfortable, yoga-type clothing for the class. No performance will be required. The class will be limited to 18. ***Students may only take this course once. This course can count as a Fine Arts credit instead of PE.***

805/732 - Intro to Social Dance

Grade 9/10/11/12

.5 Credit

Prerequisite: None

This one-semester, beginning dance class teaches many of the social dances of our culture and others. It covers basic ballroom dancing, like swing, the waltz, and the tango. The students will also participate in contra dancing, square dancing, and other folk dances. Many newer line dances will also be taught, like country, disco, and pop. The class will be limited to 18. (Pass/Fail) ***Students may only take this course once. This course can count as a Fine Arts credit instead of PE.***

806/733 - Intermediate Social Dance

Grade 10/11/12

.5 Credit

Prerequisite: Intro to Social Dance or instructor approval

This one-semester dance class builds upon the dances learned in the Intro to Social Dance. Time will be spent learning additional steps and more advanced moves. The class will be limited to 16 students with an equal number of males and females. (Pass/Fail) ***Students may take this class multiple years. This course can count as a Fine Arts credit instead of PE.***

811/734 - Advanced Dance

Grade 9/10/11/12

.5 Credit

Prerequisite: 5 years dance training and instructor's approval

This class will help the dancer improve his or her dance movement through practice, study, and cooperative critique. The class will focus mainly on modern, ballet, jazz, and lyrical dance. Choreography will also be studied and will become a major component of the class. A performance is required. (Pass/Fail) ***This course can count as a Fine Arts credit instead of PE.***

808 - Strength Training**Grade 9/10/11/12****.5 Credit***Prerequisite: None*

This one-semester course is available to all high school students. The course will provide familiarization with the weight room, including safety, exercise terminology, and technique. The students will be strength tested to determine a baseline as they begin their strength program. The program culminates in a strength test assessing growth.

809 - Health and Exercise Science**Grade 11/12****.5 Credit***Prerequisite: Biology and Chemistry*

This one-semester class focuses on understanding the physiological responses and adaptations to exercise by examining basic principles of physical fitness and exploring the human body systems, including the cardiovascular, muscular, respiratory, digestive, and nervous systems. Students are introduced to health issues such as cancer, diabetes, cardiovascular disease, and nutrition.

COMPUTER SCIENCE

REQUIRED COURSE

901 - Computer Applications

Grade 9/10/11/12

.5 Credit

Prerequisite: None

This is a one-semester, required course that will focus on file management and different methods of data storage, both local and cloud-based. Software packages include Microsoft Word and Excel, as well as Google Docs and Sheets. In addition, the class will be introduced to basic HTML and CSS, Adobe Photoshop, and Adobe Illustrator.

ELECTIVES

902/718 - Graphic Applications

Grade 10/11/12

.5 Credit

Prerequisite: Computer Applications

Recommended: Students take Exploring Art Techniques I before taking this course or in conjunction with this course.

This is a one-semester course. The techniques of Adobe's Illustrator vector graphics program will be learned. These skills will allow a student to create graphics containing text and images that can be used for varied purposes. The skills and techniques will then be used in an end-of-semester project, where the students will create an illustration and then modify it to meet the stated criteria. ***This course can count as a Fine Arts credit instead of Computer Science***

919/719 - Graphic Applications II

Grade 10/11/12

.5 Credit

Prerequisite: Graphic Applications

This one-semester course builds on the skills learned in Graphic Applications. Students will learn more tools in Adobe Illustrator. In addition to Illustrator, students will learn how to add texture, cutouts, and more using Adobe Photoshop. Using both applications, students will create a portfolio of 5-7 designs by the end of the semester. ***This course can count as a Fine Arts credit instead of Computer Science.***

904/706 – Digital Photography

Grades 9/10/11/12

.5 Credit

Prerequisite: Computer Applications

In this one-semester course, students will learn the FUNdamentals of photography: composition, lighting, shutter speed, and aperture. Students will also process their images in the digital darkroom: Photoshop! An emphasis will be on camera techniques as well as self-expression. Students must bring their own camera to class, point-and-shoot or DSLR, but no phone cameras. ***This course can count as a Fine Arts credit instead of Computer Science.***

909/709 - Digital Photography II

Grade 10/11/12

.5 Credit

Prerequisite: Digital Photography

This is a one-semester class. Students will learn in-depth lighting, portraiture, and still life techniques. Using Photoshop for post-production, students will learn in-depth techniques for retouching and blending images. A portfolio of 10-15 images will be presented for the final project. ***This course can count as a Fine Arts credit instead of Computer Science.***

905/707 - Yearbook Staff**Grade 11/12****1 Credit***Prerequisite: Computer Applications and departmental approval*

This class allows students to pursue their creative talents beyond the regular classroom. The course is organized as a class, with students working on individual and group assignments for the yearbook. The student will learn to use software to pull together all of the elements of a yearbook, including photography, layout design, and copywriting. Class is limited to 12. ***This course can count as a Fine Arts credit instead of Computer Science.***

910 - Introduction to Web Design**Grade 9/10/11/12****.5 Credit***Prerequisite: Computer Applications or departmental approval*

This is a practicum-based course, in which students will not only learn the principle of web page design but also get the hands-on experience and skill of writing web pages. Students will have the opportunity to learn the terminology and basic principles of creating web pages through practical assignments and a final project. They will learn and gain experience in HTML and CSS for designing web pages and gain the skill and confidence in creating web pages using the Adobe Creative Suite, with applications such as Dreamweaver and Photoshop.

912 - Introduction to Python Programming**Grade 11/12****1 Credit***Prerequisite: Computer Applications or departmental approval*

Python is one of the most popular computer programming languages. It is widely used in almost every area, such as science, engineering, finance, data analysis, and web development. Students will not only learn the principles of programming with Python and gain the skill of writing programs through exercises and a mini-project, but also develop their systematic, logical thinking, and problem-solving skills.

STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES

St. Thomas Aquinas Prgram

Grade 9/10/11/12

1 Credit

Prerequisite: Approval of Dean of Student Support

This course is designed to serve qualified students who need additional academic support due to the diagnosis of a learning difference. Classes meet one period daily and are designed to address each student's individual needs, including, but not limited to, organizational skills, study strategies, test-taking skills, and content support.

Freshman Focus (First Semester Only)

Grade 9

.5 Credit

Prerequisite: Approval of Dean of Student Support

Freshman Focus is a program that aims to support at-risk 9th graders with the transition to High School. The course meets daily during the first semester only and is available to those students referred by their teachers and/or administration.

Academic Success (Twice Weekly, Full Year)

Grade 9/10/11/12

.5 Credit

Prerequisite: Approval of Dean of Student Support

Academic Success serves students who desire additional academic support in their core classes. Class time is designed to facilitate students' continued development of academic and organizational skills and to guide each student individually as he/she becomes a more independent learner. This section meets two days per week instead of four. Students participating in the twice-weekly Academic Success class are concurrently enrolled in study hall.

Academic Success (Full Year)

Grade 9/10/11/12

.5 Credit

Prerequisite: Approval of Dean of Student Support

Academic Success serves students who desire additional academic support in their core classes. Class time is designed to facilitate students' continued development of academic and organizational skills and to guide each student individually as he/she becomes a more independent learner. This section meets four days per week.