

## College in the Schools

*College in the Schools (CIS) allows motivated juniors and seniors to earn college credits by taking University of Minnesota, Twin Cities courses, at BSM. Students interested in these courses. Courses listed are subject to University of Minnesota approval.*

*BSM offers Combined Courses that allow students to learn about topics from multiple perspectives. For courses found below, they are being taught with an engineering teacher, as well as a teacher from another department. You will also see these course listings shown on that department's program of studies page.*

### **Climate Crisis: Implementing Solutions (S1 or S2)**

*Prerequisite: B or better in Biology or Chemistry AND a B or better in Algebra II or Precalculus.*

One semester, one credit, open to juniors and seniors. Four college credits from the U of MN

The Earth's changing climate due to human-generated greenhouse gas emissions poses major challenges to our society in the years ahead. This course is designed to provide students with a fundamental understanding of the threat posed by climate change and the technologies available to combat this threat. Topics to be covered include: Energy from renewables such as solar and wind to combat potentially catastrophic climate change resulting from our use of fossil fuels; electrifying our transportation; ways to increase energy efficiency and energy conservation; need for energy storage to increase the penetration of renewables; role of technology, societal benefits and the ethics.

### **Creative Problem Solving (S1 or S2)**

One semester, one credit, open to juniors and seniors.

Three college credits from the University of Minnesota.

*The pilot phase has allowed 11th and 12th grade students who have either a 3.0 or better GPA or instructor approval to register for the course.*

Are you a creative person? Creativity is essential for success across disciplines and highly valued by employers. A creative mindset gives meaning and value to how you approach your life, solve problems, and pretty much everything you do. Having a mindset for creativity opens you up to opportunities and possibilities because you can appreciate the creative process and embrace innovative thinking. Throughout this course, you will be challenged to move outside your existing comfort zones and recognize the value of exploration. This course presents creativity-enhancing techniques known in the design fields through activities, research, papers, projects, and exams. At the center of the course is personal creative work, accomplished both alone and with others. The course curriculum is provided by the College of Design at the University of Minnesota and awards 3 college credit hours upon completion. It will be necessary for students to put in additional time outside of class to fully complete required projects, readings, and assignments

# College Credit Options

## **Introduction to Literature: Poetry, Drama, Narrative (LITR, WI)**

One semester, one credit, open to juniors and seniors. Four college credits from the University of Minnesota.

*Prerequisite: A cumulative GPA in previous English courses that exceeds 3.25*

This is a writing-intensive course that also meets the Literature Core requirement. From epic battles against monsters in legendary kingdoms to stories about characters in worlds like our own, literature engages us with the diverse perspectives and experiences that make up our communities and world. This course introduces students to ways of understanding and appreciating literature in English across cultures and historical periods. Through this course, we will develop skills to help us understand literature, especially the ability to read language closely (a skill valuable in many disciplines beyond literature).

We will explore how writers use language and literary aspects, such as genre, voice, tone, symbol, motif, theme, imagery, narrative, and form. We also will learn how to write about literature, sharing our interpretations of how and why literary works have meaning for ourselves and others, while viewing them through critical cultural lenses, including ways to understand how gender, race, ethnicity, religion, and class can function in literary texts.

# College Credit Options

## St. Mary's University Program of Advance College Credit

*Benilde-St. Margaret's School is partnering with Saint Mary's University Program of Advanced College Credit (PACC) to bring undergraduate-level courses into our classrooms. Students choosing to attend Saint Mary's University will earn college credit. Colleges and universities may recognize coursework completed at other institutions. Check with your college of choice regarding their individual transfer credit policy.*

### *PACC*

#### **Accounting II (S2)**

Three credit college level option.

*One semester, one BSM credit, open to juniors and seniors.*

*Prerequisite: Accounting I*

This course may be taken for college credit. Accounting II builds on concepts from Accounting I to provide a more complex understanding of financial accounting with sections on inventory, specialized journals, and corporate accounting. The class also introduces students to managerial accounting concepts including margin analysis, capital budgeting, forecasting, and product costing.

#### **AP Biology (YR)**

Three credit college level option.

*Two semesters, two credits, open to juniors and seniors.*

*Prerequisite: Completion of Biology or Honors Biology and completion of Chemistry or Honors Chemistry.*

This course is a second-year biology course, designed to be equivalent to an introductory biology course intended for biology majors during the first year of college. This course prepares students for the Advanced Placement exam in Biology. Students will explore major concepts in Biology, including cell structure and function, the cell cycle, DNA structure and function, principles of genetic inheritance, physiology and anatomy of animals and plants, biodiversity, ecology, and evolution.

Students should have a strong understanding of basic biology and chemistry concepts. Given the amount of material covered on the AP exam, the course will move at a quick pace.

#### **TH111 Thinking Theologically (S1)**

Three credit college level option.

*One semester, one BSM credit, open to seniors.*

This course introduces students to the methods and practices of thinking theologically through an examination of some of the major questions people have asked and found answers to within religious contexts, especially the Judeo-Christian narrative. This course pays particular attention to the human experience of suffering, and how those different experiences shape our theological questions, both past and present. The course also embeds how theology is examined at a university defined by multidisciplinary approaches to truth and knowledge