



DE SMET JESUIT

ACADEMIC CURRICULUM GUIDE

2024–2025

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GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

In order to fulfill De Smet Jesuit High School's graduation requirements, a student must earn 27 academic credits plus complete service projects and an Insignis project equaling 1 credit. The requirement will be 27.5 academic credits beginning with the class of 2028.

4 CREDITS OF ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS

required	1 credit	English 1 or Honors English 1 (Fr)
required	1 credit	English 2 or Honors English 2 (So)
required	1 credit	English 3 or AP/ACC Honors English 3: Language & Composition (Jr)
required	1 credit	AP/ACC Honors English 4: Literature (Sr) or English 4: Greek and British Literature plus one other English 4 option
meets requirement	½ credit	English 4:ACC Irish Literature (Sr)
meets requirement	½ credit	English 4:ACP Best Novels (Sr)
meets requirement	½ credit	English 4:American Family Dynamics (Sr)
meets requirement	½ credit	English 4: Literature and Sport (Sr)
meets requirement	½ credit	English 4: Reading and Writing Fiction (Sr)
meets requirement	½ credit	English 4: New American Myth and Archetype (Sr)*
meets requirement	½ credit	English 4: Literature of Initiation (Sr)
meets requirement	½ credit	English 4:ACC The Art of Storytelling (Sr)
meets requirement	½ credit	English 4: Greek and British Literature (Sr)
meets requirement	½ credit	English 4:Voices of Color (Sr)
elective	½ credit	Introduction to Media (Fr)
elective	1 credit	Digital Media/Digital Storytelling (So, Jr, Sr)#
elective	1 credit	Yearbook (So, Jr, Sr)#
elective	½ credit	Introductory News Writing (So, Jr)
elective	1 credit	News Writing (Jr, Sr)#

A full year of publications class awards 1/2 credit of Fine Arts

1 CREDIT OF FINE ARTS

meets requirement	½ credit	Exploring Studio Art I (Fr)
meets requirement	½ credit	Introduction to Sculpture (So, Jr, Sr)
meets requirement	½ credit	Experimental Mixed Media (So, Jr, Sr)
meets requirement	½ credit	Advanced 3D Design (Jr, Sr)
meets requirement	½ credit	Advanced Studio Arts (Jr, Sr)
meets requirement	½ credit	Digital Graphic Design (Jr, Sr)
meets requirement	1 credit	Beginning Instrumental Music (Fr, So)
meets requirement	1 credit	Instrumental Ensemble (Fr, So, Jr, Sr)
meets requirement	1 credit	Honors Jazz Combo (Jr, Sr)
meets requirement	1 credit	De Smet Chorus (Fr)
meets requirement	1 credit	De Smet Chorus (So)
meets requirement	1 credit	Advanced Chorus (So, Jr, Sr)
meets requirement	½ credit	Music Appreciation (Jr, Sr)
meets requirement	½ credit	Intro to Music Production (Jr, Sr)
meets requirement	1 credit	Music Production (Jr, Sr)
meets requirement	½ credit	Acting & Improvisational Theater I (Fr)
meets requirement	½ credit	Advanced Acting/Directing (So, Jr, Sr)
meets requirement	½ credit	Theatre Tech and Design (So, Jr, Sr)

4 CREDITS OF MATHEMATICS

required	1 credit	Algebra 1, Honors Algebra 1, or Honors Algebra 2/Trigonometry (Fr)
required	1 credit	Geometry or Honors Geometry (So)
required	1 credit	Algebra 2/Trigonometry, Honors Algebra 2/Trigonometry, or AP Honors Pre-Calculus (Jr)
required	1 credit	Pre-Calculus, Calculus, AP/ACC Honors Calculus, College Algebra & Statistics, Statistics, or AP Honors Statistics (Sr)
elective	½ credit	Honors Computational Thinking and Programming (Fr)
elective	½ credit	Web Page Design (Jr, Sr)
elective	½ credit	ACP Computer Applications (Sr)
elective	1 credit	AP Introduction to Computer Science (Jr, Sr)

1 CREDIT OF PHYSICAL EDUCATION & HEALTH

meets requirement	½ credit	Physical Education & Health I (Fr) or
meets requirement	½ credit	Beginning Weight Training & Health I (Fr)
meets requirement	½ credit	Physical Education 2 (So)
meets requirement	½ credit	Intermediate Weight Training (So, Jr, Sr)
meets requirement	½ credit	Lifetime Activities (Jr, Sr)
meets requirement	½ credit	Advanced Weight Training (Jr, Sr)
elective	½ credit	Sports Management (Jr, Sr)

3 CREDITS OF SCIENCE

required	1 credit	Biology* or Honors Biology* (Fr)
required	1 credit	Chemistry* or Honors Chemistry* (So)
meets requirement	1 credit	Conceptual Physics*, Physics*, or AP Honors Physics I* (Jr, Sr)
meets requirement	1 credit	ACC Honors Forensic Science (Jr, Sr)
meets requirement	1 credit	AP/ACC Honors Biology* (Jr, Sr)
meets requirement	1 credit	AP Honors Chemistry* (Sr)
meets requirement	1 credit	Environmental Science* (Jr, Sr)
meets requirement	1 credit	AP Environmental Science* (Jr, Sr)
meets requirement	1 credit	AP Honors Physics C Mechanics* (Sr)
meets requirement	1 credit	Anatomy & Physiology* (Jr, Sr)
meets requirement	½ credit	Digital Electronics (Jr, Sr)
meets requirement	½ credit	Introduction to Competition Robotics (Fr, So, Jr)
meets requirement	½ credit	Advanced Competition Robotics (So, Jr, Sr)
elective	½ credit	3D Design and 3D Printing (Jr, Sr)

*Lab science: 3 years of lab science recommended

3 CREDITS OF SOCIAL STUDIES

required	½ credit	Human & Cultural Geography (Fr)
required	1 credit	World Studies or AP Honors World Studies (So)
required	1 credit	AP/ACC Honors United States History(Jr) or United States History(Jr)
required	½ credit	Modern American Society(Sr) or American Government (SR) or AP Honors American Government
elective	½ credit	ACC Honors Modern European History (Sr)
elective	½ credit	AP Honors Comparative Government (Sr)
elective	½ credit	Psychology (Jr, Sr)
elective	1 credit	AP/ACP Honors Psychology (Sr)
elective	½ credit	Economics (Jr, Sr)
elective	½ credit	Foundations in Law & Justice (Jr, Sr)
elective	½ credit	African American Studies (Sr)
elective	½ credit	ACP Introduction to Business (Jr, Sr)
elective	½ credit	Business 2: Ignatian Business Leaders (Sr)
elective	½ credit	Personal Finance (Jr, Sr)
elective	½ credit	AVLI Accounting (Jr, Sr)

5.5 CREDITS OF THEOLOGY & SERVICE PROJECTS

required	½ credit	Catholicism & The Jesuits (Fr)
required	½ credit	Sacraments & Scripture (Fr)
required	½ credit	Scripture (So)
required	½ credit	Morality (So)
required	½ credit	Ecclesiology (Jr)
required	½ credit	Catholic Social Teaching (Jr)
required	½ credit	Contemporary Discipleship (Sr)
required	½ credit	Christ & Faith (Sr)
meets requirement	½ credit	Ignatian Vision (Sr) (may replace Christ & Faith)
meets requirement	½ credit	World Religions (Sr) (may replace Christ & Faith)
meets requirement	½ credit	ACC Questions in Theology (Sr) (may replace Christ & Faith)
required	¼ credit	Freshman Service Project (Fr)
required	¼ credit	Sophomore Service Project (So)
required	¼ credit	Junior Service Project (Jr)
required	¼ credit	Senior Service Project (Sr)
required	½ credit	The Insignis Capstone Reflection (Sr)

2 CREDITS OF WORLD LANGUAGES

required	1 credit	Chinese 1, Latin 1, or Spanish 1
required	1 credit	ACP Chinese 2, Latin 2, or Spanish 2
elective	1 credit	Spanish 3, Spanish 4
elective	1 credit	ACP Honors Chinese 3, ACC Honors Latin 3, ACC Honors Spanish 3
elective	1 credit	ACP Honors Chinese 4, ACC Honors Latin 4, ACC Honors Spanish 4
elective	1 credit	AP Honors Spanish 5
elective	1/2 credit	The Ignatian Global Citizen

CURRICULUM AND STUDY HALL GUIDELINES

In our modified block schedule, students typically take seven classes and one study hall each semester. Students cannot take less than one study hall and cannot take more than two study halls in a semester.

De Smet Jesuit High School requires a total of 27 academic credits for graduation. If a student takes seven classes each semester they would have a total of 28 credits, so students have the option of taking two additional study halls at any time during their 8 semesters of high school. Students that take summer courses can earn academic credits and choose to have additional study halls during the school year. Students cannot exceed two study halls in any semester. Beginning with the class of 2028 students will be required to earn 27.5 academic credits for graduation.

OPTIONS FOR COLLEGE CREDIT COURSES

College credit courses offered to De Smet Jesuit High School students are designed to challenge students to accelerate their learning and to complement their solid, academic repertoire. Such courses can have value for students who will be attending colleges or universities where they are accepted. Students can earn college credit at De Smet Jesuit High School in three ways: (a) through Saint Louis University-sponsored classes at De Smet Jesuit (known as the 1818 Advanced College Credit Program), (b) through UMSL's Advanced Credit Program (ACP) courses at De Smet Jesuit, or (c) through Advanced Placement courses and exams approved by the College Board and administered at De Smet Jesuit.

Saint Louis University 1818 Advanced College Credit (ACC) Program

De Smet Jesuit High School offers students the opportunity to earn college credit through Saint Louis University's 1818 Advanced College Credit Program. Students at De Smet Jesuit earn college credits by taking courses at De Smet Jesuit that are approved for college credit by Saint Louis University. As a result, credits earned by De Smet Jesuit students who take such classes are accepted at many colleges and universities. Saint Louis University provides more information about these colleges and universities at the following link: <https://www.slu.edu/1818/transfer-credits.php>.

De Smet Jesuit offers students the following courses, which are part of Saint Louis University's 1818 Advanced College Credit Program: American History, Biology, Calculus, English 3 and 4, Irish Literature, Film Appreciation, Latin 3 and 4, Spanish 3 and 4, Forensic Science, Questions in Theology, and Modern European History. Students register for the 1818 Advanced College Credit Program in August and in January. Registration takes place at De Smet Jesuit with guidance from our faculty and administration. Because colleges and universities have semester courses that students register with SLU for each semester, our students who take year-long courses in a given subject must register each semester as if they were taking two separate courses. All 1818 ACC classes are taught at De Smet Jesuit by De Smet Jesuit faculty members who serve as university adjunct instructors. Students who register for 1818 ACC classes are entitled to access and use of the libraries of Saint Louis University.

Through this program, a student may take a maximum of three 1818 classes per semester, and he must have an unweighted GPA of 2.5 for seniors or 3.0 for sophomores and juniors to register. There is a fee of \$75 per credit hour (most courses are 3 credit hours) for a total of \$225 per course each semester. Billing is done through Saint Louis University directly to the student. Finally, Saint Louis University allows up to 30 credit hours of 1818, essentially the equivalent of five year-long high school courses, and

the equivalent of a full year of college. Saint Louis University provides more information about their 1818 Advanced College Credit Program at this link: <https://www.slu.edu/1818/index.php>.

University of Missouri-St. Louis (UMSL) Advanced Credit Program (ACP)

De Smet Jesuit High School also offers students the opportunity to earn college credit through UMSL's Advanced Credit Program (ACP). Students at De Smet Jesuit earn college credits by taking courses at De Smet Jesuit that are approved for college credit through UMSL. Credits earned by De Smet Jesuit students who take such classes are accepted at many colleges and universities.

De Smet Jesuit offers students the following courses, which are part of UMSL's Advanced Credit Program: ACP Chinese 2, ACP Honors Chinese 3, ACP Honors Chinese 4, AP/ACP Honors Psychology, ACP Best Novels, ACP Introduction to Business, and ACP Computer Applications. Students register for the ACP in August and in January. Registration takes place at De Smet Jesuit with guidance from our faculty and administration. All ACP classes are taught at De Smet Jesuit by De Smet Jesuit faculty members who serve as university adjunct instructors. Students who register for ACP classes are entitled to access and use of the libraries of UMSL.

Through this program, a student may take a maximum of three classes per semester, and he must have an unweighted GPA of 2.5 for seniors or 3.0 for sophomores and juniors to register. There is a fee of \$70 per credit hour (most courses are 3 credit hours) for a total of \$210 per course. Billing is done through UMSL directly to the student. UMSL provides more information about their Advanced Credit Program at this link: <http://www.umsl.edu/continuinged/acp/>.

Advanced Placement (AP) Program

De Smet Jesuit High School offers students the opportunity to earn college credit through Advanced Placement, offered through the College Board. Advanced Placement college credit is obtained after students take a De Smet Jesuit AP course and pass a national AP exam, given in May of each year. Scores of 3, 4, or 5 are recognized at most colleges and universities, which means students who score a 3, 4, or 5 can earn college credit; however, the values of scoring on the AP tests vary from university to university. De Smet Jesuit High School offers AP courses in English Language and Literature, Statistics, Biology, Chemistry, Physics I, Physics C Mechanics, World History, American Government, Psychology, Computer Science, Calculus AB, Spanish 5: Language and Culture, Comparative Government, PreCalculus and US History. Primarily, juniors and seniors take AP courses and exams, but sophomores may take our AP World History course and the national AP exam in World History. There is an \$98 fee for each exam. The College Board provides more information about the Advanced Placement program at this link: <https://apcentral.collegeboard.org/>.

SLU 1818 ACC, UMSL ACP, & AP COLLEGE CREDIT COURSES

Class	SLU 1818 ACC	UMSL ACP	AP	Comments
English				
ACC Irish Literature	I Semester			
ACP Best Novels		I semester		
AP/ACC Honors English 3: Language	X		X	AP exam required
AP/ACC Honors English 4: Literature	X		X	AP exam optional
ACC The Art of Storytelling	I Semester			
World Languages				
ACP Chinese 2		X		
ACP Honors Chinese 3		X		
ACP Honors Chinese 4		X		
ACC Honors Latin 3	2 nd Semester			
ACC Honors Latin 4	X			AP exam optional
ACC Honors Spanish 3	2 nd Semester			
ACC Honors Spanish 4	X			
AP Honors Spanish 5			X	AP exam optional
Mathematics				
ACP Computer Applications		X		
AP/ACC Honors Calculus	X		X	AP exam optional
AP Introduction to Computer Science			X	AP exam optional
AP Statistics			X	AP exam optional
AP PreCalculus			X	AP exam optional
Science				
ACC Honors Forensics	X			
AP/ACC Honors Biology	X		X	AP exam optional
AP Honors Chemistry			X	AP exam optional
AP Environmental Science			X	AP exam optional
AP Honors Physics I			X	AP exam optional
AP Honors Physics C Mechanics			X	AP exam optional
Social Studies				
ACC Honors Modern European History	I semester			AP exam optional
AP Honors American Government			X	AP exam optional
AP/ACP Honors Psychology		X	X	AP exam optional
AP/ACC Honors American (US) History	X		X	AP exam required
AP Honors World History			X	AP exam required
AP Honors Compartvie Government			X	AP exam optional
Theology				
ACC Questions in Theology	I Semester			

COURSE OFFERINGS BY GRADE LEVEL

FRESHMAN REQUIRED COURSES

(#) Indicates number of semesters,
1 semester = ½ credit, 2 semesters = 1 credit

English I (2) or
Honors English I (2)
Algebra I (2) or
Honors Algebra I (2) or
Honors Algebra 2 & Trigonometry (2)
Physical Education & Health I (1) or
Beginning Weight Training & Health I (1)
Biology (2) or
Honors Biology (2)
Human & Cultural Geography (1)
Catholicism & The Jesuits (1)
Sacraments & Scripture (1)
Freshman Service Project
World Language I (2) or
World Language 2 (2)
Study Hall (2)

FRESHMAN ELECTIVE COURSES

(Freshmen must choose one of the following courses.)

English

Introduction to Media (1)
Introductory News Writing (1)

Fine Arts

Exploring Studio Art (1)
Beginning Instrumental Music (2)
Instrumental Ensemble (2)
De Smet Chorus (2)

Acting & Improvisational Theater I (1)

Math

Honors Computational Thinking & Programming (1)

Science

Introduction to Competition Robotics (1)

SOPHOMORE REQUIRED COURSES

(#) Indicates number of semesters,
1 semester = ½ credit, 2 semesters = 1 credit

English 2 (2) or
Honors English 2 (2)
Geometry (2) or
Honors Geometry (2) or
Physical Education 2 (1) or
Intermediate Weight Training (1)
Chemistry (2) or
Honors Chemistry (2)
World Studies (2) or
AP Honors World Studies (2)*
Scripture (1)
Morality (1)
Sophomore Service Project
World Language 2 (2) or
World Language 3 (2) or
ACC/ACP Honors Foreign Language 3 (2)*
Study Hall (2)

SOPHOMORE ELECTIVE COURSES

English

Digital Media/Digital Storytelling (2)
Introductory News Writing (1)
Yearbook (2)

Fine Arts

Experimental Mixed Media (1)
Introduction to Sculpture (1)
Beginning Instrumental Music (2)
Instrumental Ensemble (2)

De Smet Chorus (2)
Advanced Chorus (2)
Advanced Acting/Directing (1)
Theatre Tech & Design (1)

Science

Introduction to Competition Robotics (2)
Advanced Competition Robotics (1)

World Languages

The Ignatian Global Citizen(1)

JUNIOR REQUIRED COURSES

(#) Indicates number of semesters,
1 semester = ½ credit, 2 semesters = 1 credit

English 3 (2) or
AP/ACC Honors English 3: Language & Composition (2)*

Algebra 2/Trigonometry (2) or
Honors Algebra 2/Trigonometry (2) or
AP Honors Pre-Calculus (2)

United States History (2) or
AP/ACC Honors American History (2)*

Ecclesiology (1)
Catholic Social Teaching (1)
Junior Service Project (2)

Study Hall (2)

JUNIOR ELECTIVE COURSES

English
Digital Media/Digital Storytelling (2)
Introductory News Writing (1)
News Writing (2)
Yearbook (2)

Fine Arts
Introduction to Sculpture (1)
Experimental Mixed Media (1)
Advanced 3D Design (1)
Advanced Studio Arts (1)
Digital Graphic Design (1)

Instrumental Ensemble (2)
Honors Jazz Band (2)
Advanced Chorus (2)
Music Appreciation (1)
Intro to Music Production (1)
Music Production (2)

Advanced Acting/Directing (1)
Theatre Tech & Design (1)

Math
AP Honors Introduction to Computer Science (2)*
Web Page Design (1)

Physical Education
Intermediate Weight Training (1)
Lifetime Activities (1)
Sports Management (1)
Advanced Weight Training (1)

Science
Conceptual Physics (2)
Physics (2)
AP Honors Physics I (2)*
ACC Honors Forensic Science (2)*
AP/ACC Honors Biology (2)*
Environmental Science (2)
AP Honors Environmental Science (AVLI) (2)*
Anatomy & Physiology (2)
Digital Electronics (1)
Advanced Competition Robotics (1)
3D Design and 3D Printing (1)

Social Studies
Introduction to Business (1)
Economics (1)
Foundations of Law & Justice (1)
Personal Finance (1)
Psychology (1)

World Languages
ACP Honors Chinese 3 (2)*
ACC Honors Latin 3 (2)*
ACC Honors Latin 4 (2)*
Spanish 3 (2)
Spanish 4 (2)
ACC Honors Spanish 3 (2)*
ACC Honors Spanish 4 (2)*
The Ignatian Global Citizen(1)

Additional
Study Hall (1)
Magis Institute Mentored Study Path Option (1 or 2)
Magis Institute Online Course Option (1 or 2)
Inclusion Program Peer Mentor (1)

*Indicates courses that are offered for college credit as either AP, 1818 ACC, or ACP.

SENIOR REQUIRED COURSES

(#) Indicates number of semesters,
1 semester = ½ credit, 2 semesters = 1 credit

AP/ACC Honors English 4: Literature (2)* or English 4: Greek and British Literature plus one of the following:

English 4:ACC Irish Literature* (1)
English 4:ACP Best Novels* (1)
English 4:American Family Dynamics (1)
English 4:ACC The Art of Storytelling(1)*
English 4: Literature and Sport (1)
English 4: Literature of Initiation (1)
English 4: Reading and Writing Fiction (1)
English 4: New American Myth & Archetype (1)
English 4:Voices of Color (1)

Pre-Calculus (2) or
Calculus (2) or
AP/ACC Honors Calculus (2)* or
College Algebra & Statistics (2) or
Statistics (2) or
AP Honors Statistics (2)*

Modern American Society (1) or
American Government (1) or
AP Honors American Government* (1)

Contemporary Discipleship (1) and
Christ & Faith (1) or
Ignatian Vision (1) or
World Religions(1) or
ACC Questions in Theology (1)*

Senior Service Project
The Insignis Capstone Reflection
Study Hall (2)

SENIOR ELECTIVE COURSES

English

English 4:ACC Irish Literature (1)*
English 4:ACP Best Novels (1)*
English 4:American Family Dynamics (1)
English 4:ACC The Art of Storytelling (1)*
English 4: Literature and Sport (1)
English 4: Reading and Writing Fiction (1)
English 4: New American Myth & Archetype (1)
English 4: Literature of Initiation (1)
English 4:Voices of Color (1)
Digital Media/Digital Storytelling (2)
News Writing (2)
Yearbook (2)

Fine Arts

Experimental Mixed Media (1)
Introduction to Sculpture (1)
Digital Graphic Design (1)
Advanced 3D Design (1)
Advanced Studio Arts (1)
Instrumental Ensemble (2)
Honors Jazz Combo (2)
Advanced Chorus (2)
Music Appreciation (1)
Intro to Music Production (1)
Music Production (2)
Advanced Acting/Directing (1)
Theatre Tech & Design (1)

Math

ACP Computer Applications (1)*
AP Introduction to Computer Science (2)*
Web Page Design (1)

Physical Education

Intermediate Weight Training (1)
Lifetime Activities (1)
Sports Management (1)
Advanced Weight Training (1)

Science

ACC Honors Forensic Science (2)*

AP/ACC Honors Biology (2)*

AP Honors Chemistry (2)*

Environmental Science (2)

AP Honors Environmental Science (AVLI) (2)*

AP Honors Physics I (2)*

AP Honors Physics C Mechanics (2)*

Anatomy & Physiology (2)

Digital Electronics (1)

Advanced Competition Robotics (1)

3D Design and 3D Printing (1)

Social Studies

ACC Honors Modern European History (1)*

AP Honors American Government (1)*

AP Honors Comparative Government (1)*

African American Studies (1)

Psychology (1)

AP/ACP Honors Psychology (2)*

Economics (1)

Foundations of Law & Justice (1)

Introduction to Business (1)*

Business 2: Ignatian Business Leaders (1)

Personal Finance (1)

World Languages

ACP Honors Chinese 4 (2)*

ACC Honors Latin 4 (2)*

Spanish 4 (2)

ACC Honors Spanish 4 (2)*

AP Honors Spanish 5 (2)*

Additional

Study Hall (1)

Magis Institute Mentored Study Path Option (1 or 2)

Magis Institute Online Course Option (1 or 2)

Inclusion Program Peer Mentor (1)

**Indicates courses that are offered for college credit as either AP, 1818 ACC, or ACP.*

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

English Department

ENGLISH I (20311)

Meets requirement | freshman | one credit | full year

This course focuses on an introduction to various genres of literature including novels, drama, poetry, short stories, and essays. Students study the three interwoven areas of grammar, composition, and literature. Students use numerous, varied texts to provide the literary genres that become springboards for their compositions as well as provide vocabulary words, which they can incorporate into their own writing. The first semester is more heavily weighted toward mastery of basic English grammar, while the second semester is geared more toward literature and composition. The English department now uses the online resource NoRedInk to reinforce grammar skills as the department remains dedicated to teaching students to use proper punctuation and to develop strong syntax at both the sentence and paragraph level. The composition curriculum prepares students by year's end to write a logical, analytical, and well organized five-paragraph essay.

HONORS ENGLISH I (20331)

Meets requirement, by invitation | freshman | one credit | full year

This freshman English course aims at growth in three areas: grammar, composition, and literature. The students study grammar for a better understanding of basic syntax and sentence structure. Students develop their composition skills by writing unified, coherent paragraphs and longer essays by practicing various methods of sentence and paragraph development. In addition, students read various works of fiction that explore basic literary elements such as plot, character development, point of view, and theme. They also work at building active vocabulary using numerous words selected from the context of the readings.

ENGLISH 2 (20512)

Meets requirement | sophomore | one credit | full year

Prerequisite: English I

Sophomore English requires students to master the grammatical principles introduced during their freshman year and to practice and refine the fundamentals of prose writing through a logically structured, multi-paragraph essay. Clarity and accuracy of written expression are emphasized, as is vocabulary development. The students also deal with literature on a deeper and more sophisticated level: they learn to define literary types, identify figures of speech, and understand characterization and theme. Students are expected to respond intelligently—in both verbal and written form—in works ranging from Shakespeare to twenty-first century novelists. Students write to develop their individual voices and techniques. A strong emphasis is placed on logical, structured writing within the multi-paragraph essay.

HONORS ENGLISH 2 (20532)

Meets requirement, by invitation | sophomore | one credit | full year

Prerequisite: students must earn a B or higher in Honors English I

Sophomore Honors English provides students with an introduction to four major literary forms—short stories, the novel, drama, and poetry—and uses these works to assist students in their reflection on the existential question, “What is the meaning of life?” Students will explore the way authors from a variety of historical periods and nations have responded to this question, considering notions of money, power, family, friendship, love, honor, justice, and faith. The course emphasizes literary analysis and critical thinking through close reading, class discussion, and frequent writing assignments. Grammar is addressed as areas of concern arise in student writing, and vocabulary acquisition is based on words selected from the course readings.

ENGLISH 3 (20813)

Meets requirement | junior | one credit | full year

A chronological study of American literature and an emphasis on writing the argumentative, expository essay provide the two-fold focus for junior English. Students read selections from American fiction and non-fiction and view American film in order to better understand their culture and appreciate their historical background. The writing assignments provide practice in critical and logical thinking and in applying techniques of literary analysis. Research methods leading to the finished research paper as well as work on vocabulary improvement are part of the junior English curriculum.

AP/ACC HONORS ENGLISH 3: LANGUAGE & COMPOSITION (20943)

Meets requirement, by invitation | junior | one credit | full year

Prerequisite: students must earn a B or higher in Honors English 2

The primary texts in this AP course, both fiction and non-fiction, will lead students through an investigation of American literature and its themes, authors, and culture. Students write in both informal and formal contexts to gain authority with varied rhetorical stances, while continuing to develop their vocabulary and address problems in grammar and style as weaknesses appear in their own writings.

An AP course in English Language and Composition prepares students for the AP exam in May, engages students in becoming skilled readers of prose written in a variety of rhetorical contexts, and helps them become skilled writers who compose for a variety of purposes. Consequently, students become aware of the interactions among a writer’s purposes, audience expectations, and subjects. Students will study the rhetorical patterns of organization and various devices used for analysis. This course emphasizes the expository, analytical, and argumentative writing that forms the basis of academic and professional communication, as well as the personal and reflective writing that fosters the development of writing facility in any context.

AP/ACC HONORS ENGLISH 4: LITERATURE (21034)

Meets requirement, by invitation | senior | one credit | full year

Prerequisite: students must earn a B or higher in AP/ACC Honors English 3: Language

Students in this class study important works from ancient Greece and from the literature of England. Students study these works in chronological order within the philosophical context of the times in which they were composed, but also with attention to their timelessness and relevance to today's world. Students read and/or view films of important literary works, discuss them, and write primarily analytical essays on them. Students develop vocabulary in the context of the readings and address problems in grammar and style as they appear in their own writing. Students in the class will prepare for the AP English Literature and Composition exam.

ENGLISH 4: GREEK AND BRITISH LITERATURE (21374)

Meets requirement | senior | one-half credit | one semester

In this course students will read, think, and write about the literature of Ancient Greece and the literature of England. In a chronological approach to this literature, students read many full-length works and excerpts of prose and poetry of the great epic writers. Themes of study include classical heroism, tragedy, and comedy. The study of English literature begins with the Anglo-Saxon period and ends with the Modern Period. After reading the literature, students write formal essays, creative papers, and creative projects based on the literature. Class discussion helps students articulate ideas, evaluate their response to literature, and comprehend the literary works assigned. Through the use of texts, film supplements, other media and technology, the course sets literature in its social and cultural context.

ENGLISH 4:ACC IRISH LITERATURE (21274)

Meets requirement | senior | one-half credit | one semester

Irish Literature is a semester-long, senior elective course that will look closely at works by Irish authors about life in Ireland (rural and urban, pagan and Christian, ancient and modern). This is a beautiful language and history strewn with strife and sectarian violence mostly thanks to the actions of their bullying neighbor England. The course will explore the myths and stereotypes as well as celebrate the great gift for storytelling and humor that helped Irish authors “invent” the uniquely Irish character often in politically charged writing.

ENGLISH 4:ACP BEST NOVELS (21214)

Meets requirement | senior | one-half credit | one semester

This course is aimed at exploring and enjoying recent books that are not covered in other courses and at studying themes and styles that are current today. The class focuses primarily on five novels focusing on various literary critiques. The students choose the final novel for an independent in-depth exploration of the work. Student response to the reading is encouraged through frequent class discussion, informal essays, and interpretive or informative projects on subjects suggested by details in the books. This course is available for college credit through UMSL's Advanced Credit Program (ACP).

ENGLISH 4: AMERICAN FAMILY DYNAMICS (21334)

Meets requirement | senior | one-half credit | one semester

A search for “American Family” returns images such as the Kennedys, Bushes, Waltons, Vanderbilts, etc. Each of these families is white and has mothers and fathers. This is not an accurate reflection of the American family. American families are diverse in their ethnicity, religion, race, and makeup. This course will investigate the diversity and dynamics of the American family through the readings of the course. Students will discuss how the families in the readings reflect or differ from their own reality with the goal that we may better come to understand the diversity within our own community and America. Additionally, by examining these diverse family dynamics, students will better understand how they can craft and lead the type of family dynamic they desire as future fathers and husbands.

ENGLISH 4: ACC THE ART OF STORYTELLING (21364)

Meets requirement | senior | one-half credit | one semester

This course will focus on literary analysis of American films through two main approaches: genres and directors. The impact of media and mass communication will also be explored. A historical context will be given for films that range from the 1910s to the present. Directors such as Chaplin, Keaton, Ford, Hitchcock, Welles, Demme, Coppola, Kubrick, Spielberg, Kazan, Peckinpah, Nichols, Tarantino, Redford, Cohen, Stone, Eastwood, Lee, Rosenberg, Robbins, Nolan, Fincher, and Scorsese will be studied, along with western, suspense, satire, war, gangster, comedy, drama, noir and horror genres. The films seen in class will be critiqued in several ways that draw upon various film theories and techniques. Films will be “read”—much the same way a book is read—concentrating on both style and themes. Students will prepare and give reports to the class on specific films and topics. Students will learn a historical overview, key terms and concepts, how a film is made, and how to give presentations on film. Each student will be responsible for an independent project, PowerPoint presentations, quizzes, tests, written reports, reflections, content/detail quizzes, and a media log.

ENGLISH 4: LITERATURE AND SPORT (21294)

Meets requirement | senior | one-half credit | one semester

As an elective for seniors, this course offers the opportunity to take ownership of one’s education and to debunk the stereotype of literature as irrelevant to our daily lives. The course will incorporate literature, history, and social and personal psychology to better understand the social phenomenon of sports, the psychological drive of athletes or sportsmen, and the moral challenges that attend athletic or physical challenges and competitions. Throughout the semester, students will consider the following questions: What constitutes sport? Aside from the common understanding of “sports,” what is it about sport that attracts our attention, engenders curiosity, and riles our emotions? What motivates those engaged in such activities? Why are writers like Norman Mailer, Joyce Carol Oates, David Remnick, Ernest Hemingway and others drawn to observe, analyze, and even at times participate in such sporting events? Why is there often a moral tension between the personal ambitions of the athlete/sportsman and the spirit of sportsmanship and fair play? How is the writer like an athlete in terms of power, elegance, intellect, cleverness, and precision?

ENGLISH 4: LITERATURE OF INITIATION (21344)

Meets requirement | senior | one-half credit | one semester

The texts of this course explore events central to the human psyche: first encounters with significant and often traumatic events. Often these events mark the passage from childhood to adulthood. Some societies mark the coming of age with rituals of initiation. More often in modern literature, the initiation is not planned but forced upon the protagonist by hard circumstances or some hidden and often terrifying knowledge. This course will investigate the values placed on the initiate, the character traits he must demonstrate to become an adult, the rituals involved in this process and how they vary by history or gender. Looking at these various initiations and requirements of initiates, we will better understand ourselves as men and how we can engage life more fully at De Smet Jesuit and beyond.

ENGLISH 4: READING AND WRITING FICTION (21324)

Meets requirement | senior | one-half credit | one semester

As the title indicates, students in this course will spend part of their time reading short stories by traditional and contemporary authors and the other part writing stories. Although the initial activities will direct the students' attention to their experiences of the stories, this will evolve into a directive to understand the crafts and techniques used by these authors, so that students can utilize these skills in their own writing. When writing their own stories, students may draw upon personal experiences as they alter (or completely fabricate) these experiences to create a fictional narrative. Their stories will develop through the process of drafting, revising, and editing, some of which will happen in class and the rest will happen on their own time. There will be days set aside for small- and large-group peer-editing sessions. At the end of each quarter, students will submit approximately 15 pages of revised, polished fiction, not including science fiction, fantasy, or horror stories.

ENGLISH 4: NEW AMERICAN MYTH AND ARCHETYPE (21254)

Meets requirement | senior | one-half credit | one semester

Superheroes began a world-wide phenomenon from their early inception as funny pages to the more modern graphic novel. They have been vilified, suppressed, banned, and raised to an art form. The class will attempt to define the nature of superheroes and why they receive such positivity in today's world as opposed to the history of their banishment and how they have been adapted into some of the top grossing films of all time. An analysis of the types of superheroes will begin the class that will culminate in the discussion of the cultural impact of the genre. Literary analysis will be applied in all facets of discussing these American cultural inventions that reflect their time of creation as well as the modern era.

ENGLISH 4: VOICES OF COLOR (21354)

Meets requirement | senior | one-half credit | one semester

As an elective for seniors, this course will primarily focus on amplifying and exploring fiction and non-fiction literature created by minority authors of color. By challenging students to wrestle with themes such as culture, forming one's identity, discrimination, injustice, race, and perseverance, this course aims to not only foster an appreciation of non-canonical literature and its authors' expression of the human experience, but also develop an environment in which real world issues can take practical shape and form through the means of the written and spoken word. While the themes will remain mostly universal and the assessment grounded in the ACT English Language Arts Skills standards, students will be tasked with becoming co-creators of literary content based on their interest and experience.

INTRODUCTION TO MEDIA (21411)

Elective | freshman | one-half credit | one semester

This class provides an introduction to the digital world of communications, including words, pictures, video, and social media. It exposes the students to the world of desmetpress, establishing a clear pathway for yearbook, newspaper or digital media, by setting the framework for the development of 21st century skills such as collaboration, communication, critical thinking, and creativity. Students will have the opportunity to learn basic photography and videography skills. They will learn basic publication design and rules of composition. They will also gain a basic understanding of journalistic writing style such as the lead-quote-transition formula.

DIGITAL MEDIA/DIGITAL STORYTELLING (21412)

Elective | sophomore, junior, senior | one-half credit Fine Art, one -half credit elective | full year

This course teaches the fundamentals of digital photography and videography and how they relate to 21st century media consumption. Topics covered include operation of 35 mm and video cameras, the exposure triangle, visual composition, storytelling with photos and video, computer editing programs (Adobe Photoshop and Premiere), and media law and ethics. Assignments will be geared toward use in one of the school publications: *The Mirror* (newspaper), desmetmirror.com (website), *Spartan Olympiad* (yearbook), and De Smet Student Network-DSN (broadcast). This course will serve as an alternate prerequisite for News Writing and Yearbook.

YEARBOOK (21414)

Elective | sophomore, junior, senior | one-half credit Fine Art, one -half credit elective full year

Prerequisite: teacher approval

This course aims mainly at producing the *Spartan Olympiad*, De Smet Jesuit's student yearbook. Students work to strengthen their writing skills for articles, headlines, photo captions, and other feature material. Students also gain valuable experience in page and graphic design and computer layout. A high level of personal initiative and reliability is a must. Each class member is responsible for producing his own allotment of pages, plus helping with other efforts, which contribute to the yearbook's completion.

The class meets during a normal class period, and a great deal of the production work must be done on the student's own time after school. Note: At the senior level, it is only open to students with prior yearbook experience. Freshmen are invited to join the staff on a non-credit, extracurricular basis after the first quarter of the school year.

INTRODUCTORY NEWS WRITING (21123)

Elective | freshman, sophomore, junior | one-half credit | one semester

Prerequisite: freshmen by invitation; sophomores and juniors by teacher approval

This class provides an introduction to newspaper writing and production and is available to freshmen, sophomores and juniors. Through frequent efforts on several articles and long-range projects of their own, students sharpen their overall skills as writers and practice the main forms of newspaper writing (news, features, editorials, sports, etc.). At the same time, they will be working in other areas that are part of the production of a newspaper such as interviewing, proofreading and editing, writing headlines and photo captions, designing layouts and learning desktop publishing with Adobe InDesign. Course work includes other issues such as history of journalism, free speech and freedom of the press, honesty, and newspaper ethics. As the writers gain skill, they will publish their work in the school newspaper and try their hand at helping to produce the paper.

NEWS WRITING (21114)

Elective | junior, senior | one-half credit Fine Art, one -half credit elective | full year

Prerequisite: Introductory News Writing and teacher approval

This course is open only to juniors and seniors who have completed the Introductory News Writing class. At this level, News Writing focuses on the actual production of *The Mirror*, De Smet Jesuit's official student newspaper. While working to improve their skills as writers and journalists, News Writing students will publish *The Mirror*. In addition to filling editorial roles with various leadership duties, each member of the class will be required to write for every issue of the paper. Longer range projects will also aim to broaden their knowledge of the world of professional journalism beyond De Smet Jesuit.

Fine Arts Department

EXPLORING STUDIO ART (30110)

Meets requirement | freshman | one-half credit | one semester

This entry-level visual arts course provides freshman students with the opportunity to communicate their ideas effectively through a visual language known as the elements and principles of art and exposes them to the idea of the creative process. In a studio art setting, students will be assigned hands on projects that explore a wide variety of two dimensional mediums (pencil, printmaking, paint, etc.) A brief introduction to three dimensional concepts will be covered as well. In this course, an emphasis will be placed on the building of observation skills, the exploration of new artistic mediums and the understanding that visual problems can be solved through multiple solutions. Students will also respond, analyze, and interpret their works and the works of others through constructive collaborative critiques. All Students will be expected to display artwork in the De Smet Jesuit Annual Student Art Show.

INTRODUCTION TO SCULPTURE (30122)

Meets requirement | sophomore, junior, senior | one-half credit | one semester

This is a fast paced one-semester introductory course which will expose you to the fundamental principles of 3-D design. Acquiring the necessary skills in 3-D thinking, creative problem solving in a variety of materials such as clay, wood, and wire exposes the student to the exciting world of sculpting. A significant component of this class is to intentionally transform the casual observer or object consumer into a maker and appreciator of the dynamic beauty of 3-D design. The class will consist of 3 major projects along with smaller projects interspersed throughout. All Students will be expected to display artwork in the De Smet Jesuit Annual Student Art Show.

EXPERIMENTAL MIXED MEDIA (30132)

Meets requirement | sophomore, junior, senior, | one-half credit | one semester

This one-semester studio art course for sophomores, juniors and seniors will provide space for students to experiment and create with a variety of art media, tools, applications and subject matter. Students will use combinations of two dimensional techniques, such as painting, printmaking, collage, drawing and design to compose visual artworks that display individuality. Students will learn to work through the creative process as an individual, as well as a team, analyzing and reflecting upon contemporary visual artworks and presenting their work in the De Smet Jesuit Annual Student Art Show.

ADVANCED 3D DESIGN (30133)

Meets requirement | junior, senior | one-half credit | one semester

Prerequisite: Introduction to Sculpture

This course is for students interested in taking 3-D problem-solving and creating to the next level. Students will utilize design skills and a sound physical structure to initiate with multiple solutions to foster individual creativity. Students will be exposed to additional materials and sculpting methods to build upon technical skills, 3-D confidence, and personal preference. If desired, this course is designed to further exploration in Advanced Studio Arts. All Students will be expected to display artwork in the De Smet Jesuit Annual Student Art Show.

ADVANCED STUDIO ARTS (30134)

Meets requirement | junior, senior | one-half credit | one semester

Prerequisite: Any Studio Arts Course Beyond Exploring Studio Art

The purpose of this advanced studio arts class is for Juniors and Seniors to become more adept at creative thinking centered around their own artistic interests. This course will provide the support and time necessary to produce a series of original art works proposed by the student. Advanced Studio Arts is for individuals who want to further their skills in any traditional or non-traditional 2-D, 3-D and digital studio areas. Students need an interest, some skills in the proposed area, self-motivation, and a willingness to collaborate. All Students will be expected to display artwork in the Annual De Smet Jesuit Student Art Show.

DIGITAL GRAPHIC DESIGN (30123)

Meets requirement | junior, senior | one-half credit | one semester

This digital graphic course is project-based and designed to give students an understanding of visual communication through the principles of basic digital design. Students will learn the theories of graphic design while producing several real-world graphics; such as logos, info-graphs, and package designs. Students will learn how to identify clients' needs and research brand strategies. Digital painting techniques, typography, and simple animation with Adobe Photoshop and Adobe Animate 2023 will be applied. Research, critical thinking, discussion, and formal critiques will help provide students with a solid foundation from which to proceed as they explore technical and problem solving skills reinforced by design principles. All Students will be expected to display artwork in the Annual De Smet Jesuit Student Art Show.

BEGINNING INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC (30619)

Meets requirement | freshman, sophomore | one credit | full year

This class is open only to freshmen and sophomores, and no prior musical training is required. Students will learn to play a musical instrument of their choice. The instruments include all woodwinds, brass and percussion instruments, electric bass, and acoustic bass. Along with an in-depth study of their chosen instrument, students will have the opportunity to learn the fundamentals of all the instruments and experience playing each instrument. Music theory will also be taught so an overall understanding and appreciation of music will be developed.

INSTRUMENTAL ENSEMBLE (30634)

Meets requirement | freshman, sophomore, junior, senior | one credit | full year

Prerequisite: audition or teacher approval

This year-long course is an intermediate level study of ensemble music open to all grade levels by audition. The group studies various styles of Jazz, pop, blues, and rock. In addition to learning music through playing it, students will also spend time listening to recordings, working on improvisational skills, and studying music theory. Because it is a performing ensemble, participate at school concerts, and other school and community events is required.

HONORS JAZZ BAND (30624)

Meets requirement | junior, senior | one credit | full year

Prerequisite: Jazz Combo, Concert Band, or Instrumental Ensemble

This advanced group is selected by an audition process and is open to students who have music theory knowledge and a high level of proficiency on their instruments. Special emphasis will be placed on honing improvisation and sight-reading skills. A continued study of advanced music theory topics will supplement students' ensemble playing. Because this is a performance-based course, students are required to participate in many school functions, community events, and various workshops and festivals sponsored by local high schools and universities.

DE SMET CHORUS (30725 for freshmen, 30721 for sophomores)

Meets requirement | freshman, sophomore | one credit | full year

De Smet Chorus is for freshmen and sophomores who have little or no singing experience. Students will further develop their vocal technique and musicianship. It can be preparatory for those who wish to audition for Black Robe, De Smet's select choir. Emphasis will be placed on learning to read music and improving voice range and quality. Students will also have the opportunity to do some drumming and create their own music. A few performances will be planned, including our annual Christmas "tour". No audition is required. The class is graded on attendance, effort, and formative and summative assessments and performances.

ADVANCED CHORUS (30724)

Meets requirement, by audition | sophomore, junior, senior | one credit | full year

The performance of traditional and contemporary three- and four-part music is the goal of this group. The class concentrates on improving the ability to sight-sing, sing with a full and flexible technique, and to be an independent part-singer. Continued improvement of the individual's voice and performance are also stressed. Students who have taken De Smet Choir and wish to advance to this group will need Mr. Sherrock's approval. Any student who has not taken choir at De Smet is required to audition. This group performs frequently. All members are expected to strive as individuals for the excellence of the ensemble. The class is graded on attendance, effort, and individual skill testing. Members of Black Robe Choir can earn extra credit through their participation and performance opportunities. Please contact Mr. Sherrock for more details.

MUSIC APPRECIATION (30313)

Meets requirement | junior, senior | one-half credit | one semester

"The more you love music, the more music you'll love." This quote from Tom Moon, legendary music reviewer, sums up the basic premise of this class. In addition to listening to and learning more about a wide variety of music, students will learn from their classmates as we share some of our favorite music. We'll evaluate music as a human artifact, one of the pieces of media that informs and reflects who we are. We'll also how music functions in our daily lives, our larger celebrations and rituals, and how it binds and defines us collectively and individually. While we'll cover many genres, we will spend extra time listening to and evaluating America's "family tree" of popular music, including the roots of everything we hear today.

INTRODUCTION TO MUSIC PRODUCTION (30323)

Meets requirement | junior, senior | one-half credit | one semester

Prerequisite: teacher approval

This class is open to juniors and seniors who have an interest in studying music production and composing, MIDI sequencing, and music theory. This is an introductory class in which students will learn more about all the following: listening to, analyzing, evaluating, and describing music; reading and notating music; composing and arranging music, and; sequencing music using digital audio workstations (DAW). Students will become familiar with and utilize various programs including Finale (for notation), Ear Master (for ear training), and Soundtrap. Students are provided a free subscription to Soundtrap as part of this class.

MUSIC PRODUCTION (30323)

Meets requirement | junior, senior | one credit | full year

Prerequisite: teacher approval

This class is open to juniors and seniors who have an interest in studying music theory, composition, MIDI sequencing, and music production. Students will learn more about all the following: reading and notating music; listening to, analyzing, evaluating, and describing music; composing and arranging music; sequencing music using digital audio workstations (DAW) and other programs; and mixing, arranging, and producing music using studio software. Students will become familiar with and utilize various programs including Finale (for notation), Ear Master (for ear training), PreSonus One (for recording, mixing and mastering), Soundtrap, and Reason (for studio and audio production). Students are provided a free subscription to Soundtrap as part of this class.

ACTING & IMPROVISATIONAL THEATRE I (30215)

Meets requirement | freshman | one-half credit | one semester

This course provides students with an exposure to the various forms of acting, improv, and drama, thereby helping the student develop a more creative and flexible approach to solving performance problems and critical thinking. This is a very active class that challenges the imagination of the actor and gives him a chance to explore a variety of experiences on stage. The ensemble will play improv and theater games, and perform scenes in order to communicate better with one another and the community at large. Through a series of exercises, the student will obtain a basic understanding of one of the fundamentals of acting—improvisation.

The course is also designed to provide students with an introduction to the theatre and acting in theory and performance. Emphasis will be on the use of imagination, the senses, an introduction to stage movement, and script analysis. Students will perform a monologue and/or scene from a comedic or dramatic script, and attend one live theatre performance at De Smet Jesuit.

ADVANCED ACTING/DIRECTING (30515)

Meets requirement | sophomore, junior, senior | one-half credit | one semester

This course develops and expands upon the skills developed in Acting and Improvisational Theatre I by introducing the student to character techniques, blocking, and an awareness of the actor's and director's point of view. This course is focused on the continued development of acting techniques and introduces students to the art of directing. Students will focus upon the study of acting and will perform three or four scenes and monologues, continue reading plays, and explore theatre history. They will perform detailed analyses of characters and scenes and will then take turns directing one another in the small scenes and monologues with supervision and feedback from the instructor.

Attending live theatre performances and writing play reviews will also be required. Emphasis will be placed on fine-tuning technique with specific attention paid to staging. The use of improvisation as an audition technique will also be used as an in-depth study of the audition process from the perspective of both the actor and the director. There is no prerequisite to enroll in this course.

THEATRE TECH & DESIGN (30535)

Meets requirement | sophomore, junior, senior | one-half credit | one semester

Through a combination of hands-on experiences, projects, and demonstrations, students will work directly on practical theatre projects. This includes building scenery, hanging and focusing lighting, setting up sound equipment, as well as practical applications of properties and costumes. In addition to learning how to function in the technical side of performing arts production, students will gain a knowledge of materials and safety awareness; but, moreover, will develop a respect for the areas of theatre which support the performer on stage. Participation as crew members on De Smet theatre productions will be required.

Mathematics Department

ALGEBRA I (50211) (B)

Meets requirement, by invitation only | freshman | one credit | full year

This course begins with a review of Pre-Algebra. Students will then study the basic properties of numbers and solving of equations. The study of proportional reasoning as well as relations and functions are explored further. Graphing and the analysis of linear relations, functions, and systems will also be studied.

ALGEBRA I (50311) (A)

Meets requirement | freshman | one credit | full year

This course covers the standard topics of Algebra 1. Expressions are evaluated and equations are solved. Linear functions are represented in multiple ways: as equations, tables, and graphs. Systems of two linear equations are introduced. Operations on polynomials, including factoring and solving for real zeroes, will be studied in depth. Graphing calculator techniques are introduced early and applied throughout the course. Concepts in geometry are integrated throughout the course, including the Pythagorean Theorem, angles, and triangles. The quadratic function is studied along with rational and radical expressions and equations.

HONORS ALGEBRA I (50331)

Meets requirement, by invitation only | freshman | one credit | full year

This course covers the standard topics of Algebra 1 in more depth. Expressions are evaluated and equations are solved. Linear functions are represented in multiple ways: as equations, tables, and graphs. Systems of two linear equations are introduced. Exponential functions are studied, including applications of growth and decay. Operations on polynomials, including factoring and solving for real zeroes, will be studied in depth. Graphing calculator techniques are introduced early and applied throughout the course. Concepts in geometry are integrated throughout the course, including the Pythagorean Theorem, angles, and triangles. The quadratic function is studied along with rational and radical expressions and equations.

HONORS ALGEBRA 2/TRIGONOMETRY (50431)

Meets requirement, by invitation only for freshman | one credit | full year

This course concentrates on extending and enhancing the algebra initiated during the student's previous year of Algebra 1, including concepts involving real numbers, linear and quadratic equations, and operations involving polynomials and irrational numbers. New material introduced in this algebra course are complex numbers; conic sections; exponential, logarithmic, and trigonometric functions; identities; circular functions and their inverses; matrices; and sequences and series.

GEOMETRY (50522) (B)

Meets requirement | sophomore | one credit | full year

Prerequisite: Algebra I (50211) (B)

This course is designed to emphasize the study of the properties and applications of common geometric figures in two and three dimensions. This course includes the study of transformations and right triangle trigonometry. Students will use inductive and deductive thinking skills to solve problems and apply those skills to real world applications. The course introduces the writing of proofs to illustrate the properties of geometric figures and other theorems in geometry.

GEOMETRY (51822) (A)

Meets requirement | sophomore | one credit | full year

Prerequisite: Algebra I (50311)

This course is designed to emphasize the study of the properties and applications of common geometric figures in two and three dimensions. This course includes the study of transformations and right triangle trigonometry. Students will use inductive and deductive thinking skills to solve problems and apply those skills to real world applications. The course introduces the writing of proofs to illustrate the properties of geometric figures and other theorems in geometry.

HONORS GEOMETRY (51832)

Meets requirement | sophomore | one credit | full year

Prerequisite: by invitation based on a test at the end of the freshman math course

This course is designed to emphasize the study of the properties and applications of common geometric figures in two and three dimensions. This course includes the study of transformations and right triangle trigonometry. Students will use inductive and deductive thinking skills to solve problems and apply those skills to real world applications. The course introduces the writing of proofs to illustrate the properties of geometric figures and other theorems in geometry.

ALGEBRA 2/TRIGONOMETRY (50113) (B)

Meets requirement | junior | one credit | full year

Prerequisite: Geometry (B) 50522

This course extends the concepts of Algebra 1. Systems of equations are explored as well as an exploration of polynomials and their functions. The quadratic and exponential functions are studied along with rational and radical expressions and equations. Graphing calculators and geometry are integrated throughout the program. New material introduced in this course includes numbers; conic sections; exponential, logarithmic functions, and trigonometric functions; circular functions and their inverses; and matrices.

ALGEBRA 2/TRIGONOMETRY (50223) (A)

Meets requirement | junior | one credit | full year

Prerequisite: Geometry (51822)

This course continues the students' study of algebra, geometry, trigonometry, and analytic geometry from an advanced point of view. Topics covered include, among others, the following: coordinate geometry, polynomials, inequalities, algebraic functions, logarithmic functions, exponential functions and trigonometric functions, Cartesian coordinates, complex numbers, vectors and determinants, sequences, and series.

HONORS ALGEBRA 2/TRIGONOMETRY (50333)

Meets requirement | junior | one credit | full year

Prerequisite: by invitation based on a test at the end of geometry course

This course continues the students' study of algebra, geometry, trigonometry, and analytic geometry from an advanced point of view. Topics covered include, among others, the following: coordinate geometry, polynomials, inequalities, algebraic functions, logarithmic functions, exponential functions, and trigonometric functions, Cartesian coordinates, complex numbers, vectors and determinants, sequences and series.

AP HONORS PRE-CALCULUS (51543)

Meets requirement | junior | one credit | full year

Prerequisite: enrolled in Honors Algebra 2 (50431) as a freshman

This course is for seniors who plan to take the AP/ACC Honors Calculus course. It covers algebra, geometry, trigonometry, and analytic geometry from an advanced point of view. Topics covered include, among others, the following: coordinate geometry, polynomials, inequalities, algebraic functions, logarithmic functions, exponential functions and trigonometric functions, polar and Cartesian coordinates, complex numbers, vectors and determinants, sequences and series, and an introduction to calculus. Students will be able to choose to take the AP PreCalculus exam at the end of the course.

PRE-CALCULUS (51824)

Meets requirement | senior | one credit | full year

Prerequisite: enrollment in Algebra 2/Trig (50223)

The course continues the students' study of algebra, geometry, trigonometry, and analytic geometry from an advanced point of view. Topics covered include, among others, the following: coordinate geometry, polynomials, inequalities, algebraic functions, logarithmic functions, exponential functions and trigonometric functions, Cartesian coordinates, complex numbers, vectors and determinants, sequences and series.

CALCULUS (51924)

Meets requirement | senior | one credit | full year

Prerequisite: B in Honors Algebra 2/Trigonometry (50333) or A in Algebra 2/Trigonometry (50223)

College calculus is the quantitative study of continuous change in preparation for advanced work in mathematics, science, or specialized business fields. Topics studied include analytic geometry, limits, continuity, the derivatives, and integrals of various functions with applications. Calculus is then applied to the trigonometric, logarithmic, and exponential functions. The conic sections are also treated in detail. This course covers approximately the first semester of college calculus.

AP/ACC HONORS CALCULUS (52034)

Meets requirement | senior | one credit | full year

Prerequisite: B in Honors Pre-Calculus (51533) or A in Honors Algebra 2/Trigonometry (50333)

This course is taught at the college level. Functions, limits, continuity, and techniques of differentiation will be studied with applications including maxima and minima of functions, curve sketching, related rates, and rectilinear motion. The course also covers the concept of the integral, techniques of integration, application of the integral, including areas, volume of solids, and work. The differentiation and integration of elementary transcendental functions is explored. The course concludes with improper integrals, L'Hopitals' Rule, infinite sequences, divergent and convergent series, and power series.

COLLEGE ALGEBRA & STATISTICS (51325)

Meets requirement | senior | one credit | full year

Prerequisite: enrollment in Algebra 2/Trigonometry (B) (50113)

In the first semester of this course the students will study functions and their applications. Included in this study will be polynomial, rational, exponential, and logarithmic and radical functions. The second semester of the course will introduce the student to the field of statistics, with a focus on the normal distribution and its applications. Students will then generate and test hypotheses based upon statistics gathered and their distribution.

STATISTICS (51614)

Meets requirement | senior | one credit | full year

Prerequisite: enrollment in Algebra 2/Trig (50223) or Algebra 2(B) (50113)

Students enrolled in this course will be introduced to the major concepts and tools for collecting, analyzing, and drawing conclusions from data. Students will be exposed to four broad conceptual themes: exploring data, sampling and experimentation, anticipating patterns, and statistical inference.

AP HONORS STATISTICS (51634)

(Taught through Arrupe Virtual Learning Institute or in person depending on interest)

Meets requirement | senior | one credit | full year

Prerequisite: C in Honors Pre-calculus (51533), C in Honors Algebra 2/Trigonometry (50333), or B in Algebra 2/Trigonometry (50223)

This course prepares students to take the Advanced Placement national examination in elementary statistics. It develops an intuitive, non-calculus based understanding with an emphasis on doing statistics. Statistics makes sense of data. It consists of a set of tools that allow us to make inferences in the face of uncertainty. Statistical methods draw from the Gaussian (normal, bell shaped) distribution as well as the binomial and chi-square distributions. We learn about data description concepts, hypothesis testing, probability, discrete and random variables, several inferential techniques, regression, and how to plan and carry out a properly designed statistical analysis.

HONORS COMPUTATIONAL THINKING AND PROGRAMMING (10531)

Elective | freshman, sophomore | one-half credit | one semester

This course centers around algorithmic thinking, design, and computer programming. Beginning with the students' current understanding of a computer as a machine, students will deconstruct the computer using a series of abstractions, explore the inner workings, and learn the computer's native language: binary. Students will extend this knowledge to the architecture of the internet. From there, students will learn to think as a computer does by creating algorithms to solve problems. They will apply this skill to varied computer applications and problems of varying degrees of complexity. Finally, students will apply their algorithmic knowledge to a programming language in order to put their skills into a visual medium and see the results of their work in real time. Emphasis is placed on study habits relating to computing best practices, critical thinking, and organization.

WEB PAGE DESIGN (10623)

Elective | junior, senior | one-half credit | one semester

Web Page Design is a one-semester elective course offered to juniors and seniors. The goal of the course is for students to learn to create meaningful, organized, and aesthetic websites. Students will use the most cutting-edge versions of HTML and CSS to create modern web pages using industry standard techniques and designs. Students will practice organizational skills and file management as they expand their websites. Finally, students will create a website for an outside organization to learn client relationship skills, copyright practices, and fair use of information.

ACP COMPUTER APPLICATIONS (10514)

Elective | junior, senior | one-half credit | one semester

Computer Applications is a one-semester class offered to seniors. The course centers on the computerized transition from raw data to usable information. Students will focus on Microsoft Excel and Access in addition to other Microsoft products to facilitate this transition. They will use their skills in these programs to build to a final capstone in the class: assembling, maintaining, and utilizing a complete business infrastructure including a functional database, website, and order forms. This course is taught to the standards of the Advanced Credit Program from the University of Missouri – St. Louis.

AP INTRODUCTION TO COMPUTER SCIENCE (10734)

Elective | junior, senior | one credit | full year

Prerequisite: teacher approval

AP Introduction to Computer Science is a one-year elective class for honors credit and a college prep class for those interested in pursuing a career in computer science or another related field in business technology, information technology, or engineering. This course is offered for college credit as the class is written to College Board standards as an Advanced Placement preparation class. Students will read, write, and debug programs in the Java programming language, learn the basics of algorithm design (both practical and heuristic), and learn to write code within the framework of object-oriented programming

Physical Education and Health Department

PHYSICAL EDUCATION & HEALTH I (60111)

Meets requirement | freshman | one-half credit | one semester

Approximately nine weeks (one academic quarter) of this course is designed to introduce students to the theory and practices of cardiovascular efficiency, muscular strength, muscular endurance, flexibility, and muscular power through plyometric training. The students will be pre- and post-tested in each of these areas. The other nine weeks (one academic quarter) of health education will be provided in the following areas: taking responsibility for one's health, stress, stress management, nutrition, alcohol, tobacco and other drugs, sexually transmitted diseases, HIV infection, prevention of injuries from physical activity, and fitness planning.

BEGINNING WEIGHT TRAINING & HEALTH I (60121)

Meets requirement | freshman | one-half credit | one semester

Approximately nine weeks (one academic quarter) of this course are designed to introduce students to the theory and practices of weight training to develop athleticism. The course will focus on introduction to weight training exercises and spotting techniques with program implementation for a solid foundation for future classes. The other nine weeks (one academic quarter) of this course will be focused on the following areas: taking responsibility for one's health, stress, stress management, nutrition, alcohol, tobacco and other drugs, sexually transmitted diseases, HIV infection, prevention of related injuries from physical activity, and fitness planning.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION 2 (60112)

Meets requirement | sophomore | one-half credit | one semester

This course is designed to introduce students to the theory and practice of team sports. This course is organized to provide competition in bocce, floor hockey, touch football, softball, indoor soccer, frisbee, basketball and volleyball. Team play within a tournament, knowledge of the particular rules of the sport, sportsmanship and discipline are emphasized.

INTERMEDIATE WEIGHT TRAINING (60222)

Meets requirement | sophomore, junior, senior | one-half credit | one semester

Students in this class will be taught basic lifts in four-week cycles. They will be given individual instruction on exercise form and technique. The level-one workouts they complete are characterized by a higher number of repetitions per set and by basic strength foundation building exercises. Exercises will be alternated daily using a push/pull sequence. Students who are able will progress to a level-two program. This will be an eight-week cycle with greater emphasis on the Olympic-style lifts and slightly fewer repetitions per set. The push/pull sequence is maintained.

ADVANCED WEIGHT TRAINING (60223)

Meets requirement | junior, senior | one-half credit | one semester

Prerequisite: Intermediate Weight Training (60222)

This course will build on previous classes and focus on advanced techniques that emphasize the neuro-muscular strength/force and hypertrophy techniques that will aid in development of individual athletes' sport-specific goals. Students will move away from a one-size-fits-all program. Strength training, theories, hypertrophy, balance, and body composition will be topics for discussion as well as nutrition and supplement use. Cardiovascular, cross, and interval training will be integrated into the strength/endurance/power lifting phases. Students will obtain background information and experience supporting careers in the areas of personal training, fitness instruction, corporate fitness, as well as opportunities for personal growth and enrichment.

LIFETIME ACTIVITIES (60234)

Meets requirement | junior, senior | one-half credit | one semester

This course is designed to offer a higher level of proficiency and in-depth instruction in activities students may encounter and enjoy throughout their lifetimes. The curriculum will emphasize individual or dual activities. The only team sports that will be explored in this course are those that have carry-over values as lifetime activities. The curriculum will provide diverse offerings to meet the individual needs of all students and develop competency in these activities.

Examples of activities include, but are not limited to, golf, weight training, conditioning, jogging, walking, aerobics, yoga, disc golf, disc freestyle, skating, cycling, martial arts, cross-fit, badminton, horse shoes, two- and four-man volleyball. Physical fitness and proper nutrition are emphasized as necessary to maintain good health throughout life, and physical activity will be taught as a way of reducing stress and broadening students' education experience.

SPORTS MANAGEMENT (60413)

Elective | junior, senior | one-half credit | one semester

Prerequisite: teacher approval

This course will allow students to enhance their knowledge about career opportunities within the Sports Industry while getting hands-on experience. This course will cover athletic administration, sports marketing, graphic design, social media, sponsorships, fundraising, analytics, officiating and more. Students will get live field experiences while implementing these projects for and during our De Smet Athletic Teams.

Science Department

Students are required to take three science credits. Biology and chemistry are both required. Three years of a lab science* are recommended.

*Indicates a lab science class.

BIOLOGY (80211)*

Meets requirement | freshman | one credit | full year

This course gives a broad overview of the science of biology. It introduces the student to the scientific method, biochemistry, cell structure and function, genetics, classification, and characteristics of various plant and animal phyla, including many body systems of animals. Inquiry-based laboratory work, including dissection, is an integral part of the course.

HONORS BIOLOGY (80231)*

Meets requirement, by invitation | freshman | one credit | full year

This course gives a systemic approach to the science of biology. Topics covered will be the scientific method, biochemistry, cell structure and function, genetics, molecular biology, evolution, classification, conservation, and ecology. Specific emphases within units will be directed by the interest of the students in the course. A “systemic approach” is based on making connections between concepts and understanding how cellular and molecular mechanisms function in the whole organism, how organisms function together in a community or ecosystem. Application beyond recall and conceptual understanding of the material is emphasized. Laboratory work, which emphasizes investigations of biological principles and application to real-world issues and value-based, informed decision making on bioethical concepts is an integral part of the course.

CHEMISTRY (80722)*

Meets requirement | sophomore | one credit | full year

Prerequisite: Biology (80211)

This course is an introductory chemistry program combining chemical concepts and theories with quantitative problems. The class utilizes problem solving and critical thinking skills while relating chemistry use in other fields and everyday situations. The course introduces students to chemical formulas, the mole, atomic structure, the periodic table, gas laws, acid-base theory, and other general chemistry principles taught in a college course. Inquiry-based laboratory investigations are emphasized.

.HONORS CHEMISTRY (80632)*

Meets requirement, by invitation | sophomore | one credit | full year

Prerequisite: Honors Biology with a grade of B or above or Biology with a grade of A and approval of biology teacher

This course is an introductory chemistry program combining chemical concepts and theories with quantitative problems requiring a mastery of the subject matter. The class utilizes problem-solving and critical thinking skills while relating chemistry use in other fields and everyday situations. Topics include chemical formulas, the mole, atomic structure, the periodic table, the gas laws, acid-base theory, and other general chemistry principles that would be taught in a college course. The student is also introduced to laboratory techniques and procedures that reinforce the principles taught. This course is recommended for students who have achieved a high level of success in their previous science and math courses.

CONCEPTUAL PHYSICS (80913)*

Meets requirement | junior, senior | one credit | full year

Prerequisite: Chemistry

Conceptual physics is an algebra-based course designed to provide students with the fundamentals of physics. The course includes the study of one-dimensional motion, Newton's Laws, energy, momentum, and electric circuits. Hands-on learning labs will be utilized throughout the course. Emphasis will be placed on developing problem-solving skills as applied to principles and concepts covered in physics. While mathematical skills are necessary, there will be greater focus placed on the conceptual knowledge of physics.

PHYSICS (80923)*

Meets requirement | junior, senior | one credit | full year

Prerequisite: Chemistry, Geometry (51822) with a grade of C or above

Physics will utilize mathematics and investigative science laboratory activities to explore topics such as one/two-dimensional motion, forces and Newton's Laws, work, energy, momentum, and electric circuits. With emphasis on problem-solving techniques, students must have a solid background in algebra and basic trigonometry. This course places emphasis on understanding concepts through hands-on learning activities and labs. This course will serve as a good background for college courses in physics and physical science.

AP HONORS PHYSICS I (80935)*

Meets requirement | junior, senior | one credit | full year

Prerequisite: Honors Chemistry with a grade of B or above and Honors Geometry (51832) with a grade of B or above

AP Physics 1 is an algebra-based, college-level physics course that explores topics such as Newtonian mechanics, work, energy, power, mechanical waves and sound, and basic circuits. Through inquiry-based learning and lab activities, students will develop scientific critical thinking and reasoning skills. The pace of this class will be much quicker and the depth of analysis will be deeper than the other junior-level physics classes. Strong proficiency in trigonometry and Algebra 2 is required.

ACC HONORS FORENSIC SCIENCE (81734)

Meets requirement | junior, senior | one credit | full year

Prerequisite: students must have an A average or higher in their previous science classes, and teacher approval.

Forensic science is the application of science to the law and involves various scientific disciplines. This course introduces the various methodologies and applications used in forensics. The objectives of the course are to understand the roles of various disciplines in crime investigation and to demonstrate the use of forensic science in actual cases. Problem solving and critical thinking skills will be utilized through the application of science concepts and illustrated through student research, projects, activities and class writings. Laboratory work that demonstrates the use of forensic science is an integral part of the course. Students may register for three hours of ACC credit.

AP/ACC HONORS BIOLOGY (81324)*

Meets requirement | junior, senior | one credit | full year

Prerequisite: AP Honors Physics or Physics with a grade of A or above and teacher approval

This AP/ACC Biology course is a part of a two-semester Principles of Biology sequence at St. Louis University, and is primarily focused on the core concepts of information flow and storage as well as evolution. Students will learn about the chemical and molecular basis of life, cell structure and function, gene structure, expression and heredity, reproduction, development, and evolution. As they learn concepts in biology, students will practice reasoning scientifically about real-world problems and applications. This course is supported by laboratory activities and formal studies that include experimental approaches used in molecular and cellular biology, genetics, and animal physiology. Students will learn to use scientific instruments and techniques implemented in these fields. Students will propose and test hypotheses, collect and analyze data, represent data visually, and practice written and oral scientific communication skills. Students may take the AP test after taking this course or they may register for four hours of ACC credit.

AP HONORS CHEMISTRY (81124)*

Meets requirement | senior | one credit | full year

Prerequisite: AP Honors Physics I or Physics with a grade of A or above and teacher approval

The AP Honors Chemistry course is designed to be the equivalent of the general chemistry course usually taken during the first college year. Students will attain a depth of understanding of fundamentals and competence in dealing with chemical problems. The course is designed to contribute to the development of the student's abilities to think clearly and to express their ideas, orally and in writing with clarity and logic. Students who complete this course will be prepared to take the National Advanced Placement Chemistry test in May.

ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE (81834)*

Meets requirement | junior, senior | one credit | full year

Environmental Science explores issues involving living organisms and the flow of energy and matter in the biosphere. After completing this course, students will comprehend and appreciate the interrelationships of the natural world, be able to identify and analyze environmental problems, and discuss the possible solutions for conserving the Earth's resources and preventing problems in the future. Areas of study include the Earth and its resources, balance in ecosystems, problems in the biosphere (including water, land, air, atmosphere and climate), and the role of human population growth in the causes and solutions to these problems. Environmental Science uses an interactive approach to learning, providing many opportunities for hands-on, active learning. Students identify facts, evaluate information, think critically, and defend decisions regarding current real-world concerns.

AP HONORS ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE*

(Taught through Arrupe Virtual Learning Institute)

Elective | senior | one credit | full year

Prerequisite: AP Honors Physics I with a grade of B or above, or Physics with A or above, and teacher approval

The goal of the AP Environmental Science course is to provide students with the scientific principles, concepts, and methodologies required to understand the interrelationships of the natural world, to identify and analyze environmental problems both natural and human-made, to evaluate the relative risks associated with these problems, and to examine alternative solutions for resolving and/or preventing them. Labs will be coordinated at De Smet Jesuit. In the spring, students will be eligible to take the AP Environmental Science exam.

AP HONORS PHYSICS C MECHANICS (81225)*

Elective | senior | one credit | full year

Prerequisite: AP Honors Physics I with a grade of B or above, and taking Calculus or AP/ACC Calculus concurrently

Topics covered include motion, forces, energy, momentum, rotation, gravitation, and oscillation. Students entering this class need to be highly proficient in mathematics. Students who complete this course will be prepared to take the National Advanced Placement Physics test in May.

ANATOMY & PHYSIOLOGY (81024)*

Meets requirement | junior, senior | one credit | full year

Anatomy & Physiology, designed for students interested in the life sciences, provides a more in-depth study of the various systems of the body and how they function. Study begins at the cellular level and continues through all the body's organ systems. There will be a number of microscope labs and dissections for comparison, and visits to a cadaver lab in the course. Students interested in a basic knowledge of the human body and students pursuing college degrees in science will benefit from the class. The course is highly recommended for students interested in working in the medical field.

DIGITAL ELECTRONICS (80534)

Meets requirement | junior, senior | one-half credit | one semester

Prerequisite: teacher approval

Digital electronics surround us. Gaming systems, DVRs, and smart phones are just a few items that students use every day that contain digital circuits. This course provides a foundation for students who are interested in electronics. Students learn about topics such as combinational and sequential logic, logic gates, integrated circuits, and programmable logic devices by designing and building digital electronic devices.

INTRODUCTION TO COMPETITION ROBOTICS (81235)

Meets requirement | freshman, sophomore | one-half credit | one semester

Introduction to Competition Robotics will introduce students to all aspects of competitive robotics systems such as electronics, drive train mechanics, motors/gears, wiring, safety, and programming. Content will include introductions to basic concepts of robotic motion, power, and object manipulation as well as a study of how the components and subsystems interrelate to create a working system.

ADVANCED COMPETITION ROBOTICS (80236)

Meets requirement | sophomore, junior, senior | one-half credit | fall semester

Prerequisite: teacher approval

Advanced Competition Robotics is a semester-long class that meets during the regular school schedule in the fall. Students will work in groups to master all the necessary disciplines that are utilized such as electronics, drive train mechanics, motors/gears, wiring, safety, and programming. Students will design and build a robot that will compete against other teams in the FIRST robotics competition at the FTC level.

3D DESIGN AND 3D PRINTING (80253)

Elective | junior, senior | one-half credit | one semester

Prerequisite: teacher approval

In this course students will study how to use CAD/CAM software to develop 2D and 3D files, as well as different techniques to prepare these design files for printing or machining on a 3D printer or CNC machine. Students will also learn about several different styles of 3D printing technology and other additive manufacturing techniques. This course will also serve as an introduction to engineering, architecture, or product design. Students will use the knowledge and design ability to aid in the completion of engineering design projects during the semester.

Social Studies Department

Three units (six semesters) of credit in social studies are required for graduation. Beginning with the Class of 2026 all American History courses will be taught as a 2-semester class and all students will be required to take a 1-semester American Government Class. Students in the class of 2025 that were not in the AP or ACC level of American History have the option to take Modern American Society, American Government, or AP American Government for their third semester of American History.

Geography

Freshman Year: Human & Cultural Geography (1 semester)

World Studies

Sophomore Year: World Studies or AP Honors World Studies: Modern (2 semesters)

American History

Junior Year: United States History (2 semesters) OR AP/ACC Honors American History (2 semesters)

American Government

Senior Year: Class of 2025 Modern American Society (1 semester), OR American Government (1 semester), OR AP Honors American Government required for students who took the Foundations of American Society and America Comes of Age courses.

Students in the Class of 2026 and later will be required to take American Government (1 semester) or AP American Government during their senior year.

HUMAN & CULTURAL GEOGRAPHY (91301)

Meets requirement | freshman | one-half credit | one semester

Human geography refers to “the study of interrelationships between people, place, and environment, and how these vary spatially and temporally across and between locations” (Castree, Kitchin, & Rodgers, 2013). Central course topics include: population and health, migration, folk and popular culture, languages, religions, ethnicities, political geography, food and agriculture, development, industry, services and settlements, urban patterns, and resource issues. A systematic exploration of human geography develops the learner’s skills of cultural competency, research, analysis, global citizenship, and digital literacy. As a Jesuit school, students are challenged to view course topics through the Universal Apostolic Preferences of walking with the excluded and caring for our common home. Inquiry-based and problem-based learning are the primary instructional strategies utilized in this course.

WORLD STUDIES (91212)

Meets requirement | sophomore | one credit | full year

World Studies focuses on the development of civilizations and peoples in the following areas of the world: Eurasia, Africa, East Asia, South and Southwest Asia, and the Americas. The course will present and familiarize the student with a basic knowledge of significant and recurring historical themes: power, authority and revolution; religious, philosophical, and ethical systems; culture and cultural interaction; social structures; economics; science and technology; and interaction with the environment.

AP HONORS WORLD HISTORY: MODERN (91232)

Meets requirement | sophomore | one credit | full year

Prerequisite: A in Human & Cultural Geography and A in English (or B in Honors English)

AP World History: Modern is designed to be the equivalent of an introductory college or university survey of modern world history, with students investigating significant events, individuals, developments, and processes from 1200 CE to the present. Students develop and use the same skills, practices, and methods employed by historians: analyzing primary and secondary sources; developing historical arguments; making historical connections; and utilizing reasoning about comparison, causation, and continuity and change over time. The course provides six themes that students explore throughout the course in order to make connections among historical developments in different times and places: humans and the environment, cultural developments and interactions, governance, economic systems, social interactions and organization, and technology and innovation. This course is designed to prepare each student for the AP World History: Modern Exam. Each student is expected to take the AP World History: Modern Exam as a requirement for this class.

UNITED STATES HISTORY (90523)

Meets requirement | junior | one-half credit | fall semester

This course begins with the origins of American society beginning with the arrival of European colonists in the new world, the founding of the 13 English colonies, and the American Revolution. The historical narrative continues through the Age of Jackson. The course also examines the foundations of American government, the origins of the American political system, the Constitution, and the foundations of separation of powers. The course then moves to important topics from the nineteenth century with Manifest Destiny, the Industrial Revolution, the growth of the Federal Judiciary, the evolving presidency, the Civil War, Reconstruction, and the Gilded Age. In the early twentieth century, the course explores the Progressive Era and World War I. The focus of this class then moves to a more modern America. Among the many topics covered are the Roaring Twenties, the Great Depression, World War II, the Cold War, as well as the corresponding presidencies. The course also examines the workings of the American government in the twentieth century exploring the evolving nature of politics.

MODERN AMERICAN SOCIETY: 1920 TO PRESENT (90724)

Meets requirement for students who have taken Foundations of American Society (90513) and America Comes of Age (90613) | senior | one-half credit | one semester

The focus of this class is modern America with a strong emphasis on the American political system. Among the many topics covered are the Roaring Twenties, the Great Depression, World War II, the Cold War, as well as the corresponding presidencies. The course also closely examines the workings of the American government in the twentieth century, with a strong emphasis on the evolving nature of politics.

AP/ACC HONORS AMERICAN HISTORY (90543)

Meets requirement | junior | one credit | full year

Prerequisite: cumulative GPA of 3.25 and teacher approval

Honors American History is designed to give students a thorough understanding of United States history, requiring students to master historical and analytic skills, including chronological and spatial thinking, historical research, and historical interpretation. The class strives to prepare students to assess historical materials, evaluate relevance and reliability, and deal critically with problems and materials in United States history. The course is equivalent to a full-year introductory college class, thus preparing students for intermediate and advanced college courses. Students have an opportunity to demonstrate content mastery by taking the AP exam in May or participating in the 1818 program through Saint Louis University.

AP HONORS AMERICAN GOVERNMENT (90845)

Meets requirement | senior | one-half credit | one semester

Prerequisite: cumulative GPA of 3.25, received a B+ or higher in previous history courses and teacher approval

The AP American Government course provides a college-level, nonpartisan introduction to key political concepts, ideas, institutions, policies, interactions, roles, and behaviors that characterize the constitutional system and political culture of the United States. Students will study U.S. foundational documents, Supreme Court decisions, and other texts and visuals to gain an understanding of the relationships and interactions among political institutions, processes, and behaviors.

AMERICAN GOVERNMENT (90855)

Meets requirement | senior | one-half credit | one semester

This one semester course will look at modern ways in which the U.S. Constitution helps us make decisions. It begins by tracing the historical roots of the Constitution from the founding of the nation to the modern-day versions of the three branches of government. Next, we investigate participatory democracy and how we make decisions as voters. Finally, we will investigate the ways in which individuals can influence others in their political decisions.

AP HONORS COMPARITIVE GOVERNMENT (90855)

Elective | senior | one-half credit | one semester

Prerequisite: cumulative GPA of 3.25, received a B+ or higher in previous history courses and teacher approval

The AP Comparative Government course is designed to introduce students to a variety of political institutions through examining issues such as citizen participation, governmental organization, the idea of sovereignty and the root of power, public policy, and the ways in which political and economic institutions change. Students will become more familiar with these institutions through examining case studies of Great Britain, Nigeria, Mexico, Iran, China, and Russia.

ACC HONORS MODERN EUROPEAN HISTORY (90835)

Elective | senior | one-half credit | one semester

Prerequisite: cumulative GPA of 3.25, received a B+ or higher in previous history courses and teacher approval

ACC Honors Modern European History focuses on the increasing importance of European affairs and their interactions with the rest of the world. The course will cover the transatlantic encounters, the Protestant and Catholic Reformations, the Scientific Revolution, absolutism, the Enlightenment, the French Revolution, the Industrial Revolution, imperialism, the world wars, totalitarian systems and the new global age.

PSYCHOLOGY (90523 & 90514)

Elective | junior, senior | one-half credit | one semester

Prerequisite: teacher approval

The primary goal of this course is to introduce the student to the many foundational topics within the discipline of psychology. Topics include adolescence, sex roles, drug-altered states, sleep, sensation, hypnosis, learning, the psychology of the brain, psychological disorders, and intelligence. Along with learning these basic principles and theories of psychology, students will develop the ability to think critically about the relationship between the subject material and their own lives. In doing so, students will be expected to play the role of instructors once throughout the semester, teaching a psychology topic to their peers.

AP/ACP HONORS PSYCHOLOGY (90534)

Elective | senior | one credit | full year

Prerequisite: cumulative GPA of 3.9 or received an A or higher in the previous Psychology course and teacher approval

This course is designed to introduce students to the systematic and scientific study of the behavior and mental processes of human beings and other animals. Students are exposed to the psychological facts, principles, and phenomena associated with each of the major subfields within psychology. The course also examines the ethics and methods psychologists use in their science and practice. Students will be encouraged to take the AP exam.

ECONOMICS (10313)

Elective | junior, senior | one-half credit | one semester

This one-semester survey course will expose students to the fundamental principles of macro and micro economics. Supply and demand, the role of government, production, and the behavior of firms in different market settings are major topics that will be covered in the course. The course goal is to give students enough information to recognize the significant impact economics has on their world and provide a lens through which to understand that influence.

INTRODUCTION TO BUSINESS (10414)

Elective | junior, senior | one-half credit | one semester

This course is an introduction to the business world. Students will learn about most of the major fields of study within business including entrepreneurship, management, human resources, finance, marketing, and operations. The goal is to get students interested in the business world by exposing them to the various fields they could choose to focus on in college.

BUSINESS 2: IGNATIAN BUSINESS LEADERS (10424)

Elective | senior | one-half credit | one semester

Prerequisite: minimum cumulative GPA of 3.5 or received an A in previous business course and teacher approval

This course expands on basic lessons from Introduction to Business as students work to generate actual monetary profits by working in business. Students will spend time developing a physical product to sell, offering a service for the school, and reselling a variety of items for a profit. Students must have already demonstrated the ability to understand dynamic markets, profitability, supply and demand, as well as creative thinking and strong effort.

PERSONAL FINANCE (10114)

Elective | junior, senior | one-half credit | one semester

This course is designed to give juniors and seniors a basic understanding of personal financial issues. Topics covered include: budgeting and money management, home and car loans, credit cards, investing, insurance, IRAs, 401(k)s, and other retirement planning tools.

ACCOUNTING (Taught through Arrupe Virtual Learning Institute)

Elective | senior | one-half credit | one semester

Prerequisite: Introduction to Business with a grade of B or better and teacher approval

Students will learn the basic concepts and practices used by accountants to evaluate and manage businesses. This course will cover the concepts of the accounting cycle for business operations including merchandising, inventory, payroll, and the tracking and management of business assets. Student will also be introduced to financial management of departments and manufacturing accounts. Students will also learn the accounting practices for the structuring of partnerships and corporations and how to create and evaluate financial statements.

FOUNDATIONS IN LAW AND JUSTICE (90543)

Elective | junior, senior | one-half credit | one semester

Prerequisite: teacher approval

A critical and analytical introduction to foundational concepts in Law, both Civil and Criminal, and Justice. The reading, research and writing assignments provide exposure to and practice in: 1). analytical, critical and logical thinking and 2). applying techniques of legal interpretation, analysis and application leading to debate, persuasive oral and written communication. The focus of this course is an examination of 1). The history of the U.S. legal system, 2). civil and criminal law and procedure, and 3). applications of civil and criminal laws and statutes to concepts of Justice, particularly through a Jesuit lens. The course enables students to develop a foundational knowledge of the U.S. legal system through several perspectives and lenses.

Theology Department

The Theology Department of De Smet Jesuit High School offers a four-year required curriculum. Specifically, the curriculum consists of the following:

- A seven-semester program of required courses in which the general scope and sequence, overall goals and objectives, student work load, and student evaluation are basically consistent among teachers at each level.
- A one-semester program of electives in the second semester of the senior year in which specific topics are pursued relative to the Catholic and Jesuit tradition of the school, but with expectations and evaluation tailored to the subjects pursued therein.

This curriculum is designed to:

- inform students about the major elements of the Catholic Faith,
- encourage them to interiorize this faith,
- incorporate their faith into their daily lives, and
- encourage the practical habits of personal prayer and reflection.

Teachers strive to present students with reading material, lectures, classroom activities, and student assignments that are:

- faithful to Church teaching as found in the Catechism of the Catholic Church and other key sources of magisterial teaching,
- appropriate to the developmental stages of adolescent faith,
- consistent with the expectations we have of students in a college preparatory academic program, and
- reflective of Jesuit pedagogical philosophy and traditions.

CATHOLICISM & THE JESUITS (70113)

Required | freshman | one-half credit each | one semester

Catholicism & the Jesuits introduces the basic framework for a religious education within the Catholic tradition of De Smet Jesuit High School and to the mystery of Jesus Christ, the living Word of God, the Second Person of the Blessed Trinity. The course focuses on Catholic doctrine, the mystery of the Trinity, the person of Jesus Christ, and then St. Ignatius and the Jesuits. Students begin to develop the skills of reflection, prayer, and Catholic literacy.

SACRAMENTS & SCRIPTURE (70014)

Required | freshman | one-half credit each | one semester

Sacraments & Scripture builds on Catholicism & The Jesuits to engage students in the study of the sacramental nature of religion, the sacramental nature of a community, and provides an introduction to Scripture. Students continue to develop the skills of reflection, prayer, and Catholic literacy, especially through study of the Sacrament of the Eucharist.

SCRIPTURE (71222)

Required | sophomore | one-half credit | one semester

The Scripture course engages students with scriptural lessons of faith while also examining the authorship, history, themes, and literary forms of the Old and New Testaments. Students learn to engage the scriptural texts critically and reflectively—with an emphasis on Jesus Christ as the ultimate revelation to us from God. Course discussion emphasizes the original context of scripture as well as modern day applications.

MORALITY (71232)

Required | sophomore | one-half credit | one semester

The Morality course seeks to answer the question, “How ought a Christian live the good news of Christ?” Throughout this course, students are challenged to develop critical thinking skills as they examine the foundational principles of moral decision making, human nature, the virtues, and the nature of Christian love, recognizing that only through Christ can they fully live out God’s plans for their lives. Students are to learn the moral concepts and precepts that govern the lives of Christ’s disciples.

ECCLESIOLOGY (71523)

Required | junior | one-half credit | one semester

The Ecclesiology course aims to explore the development of the people of Christ, beginning with the disciples at Pentecost and tracking through the major events and changes which led to the Church as the living Body of Christ today in the 21st Century. Through an engagement with the councils, schisms, and global dynamics which impacted the direction and make-up of the Church and its sacred nature, students will seek to understand the stance of today’s Church and explore her relationship with the denominations, traditions, and other religions of the world.

CATHOLIC SOCIAL TEACHING (71513)

Required | junior | one-half credit | one semester

The Catholic Social Teaching course extends the skills and principles developed in the Morality course to examine issues surrounding human rights and the responsibilities of the Christian in the public square. The course explores principles of Catholic social teaching and gospel values to help students respond to critical issues of structural injustice such as poverty, marginalization, conflict resolution, destruction of the environment, race and sexism. It encourages students to integrate the experience of the junior service projects with a lived Christian faith, and challenges juniors to articulate how they have encountered Christ in the poor and marginalized of our society.

CONTEMPORARY DISCIPLESHIP (71714)

Required | senior | one-half credit | one semester

Contemporary Discipleship not only provides relevant information on the states of life but also addresses the key developmental tasks of adulthood. The key issues—identity, autonomy, love, and relationships—are approached from the Christian perspective and are foundational to any examination of how to understand the vocations of life: how Christ calls us to live the single life, marriage, religious life, and the ordained ministry—to live life for the benefit of others and the value in considering a vocation in service to the Christian community.

CHRIST & FAITH (70714)

Meets requirement | senior | one-half credit | one semester

Christ & Faith assists students in both developing and taking ownership of their faith and value system. During this course of study, students will focus on belief and faith, virtue and personhood, Ignatian world view, and developing and articulating a personal philosophy.

IGNATIAN VISION (70814)

Meets requirement | senior | one-half credit | one semester

This course uses Jesuit history and spirituality as a springboard for discussion and reflection on issues facing students as they finish four years of Jesuit education and prepare for their future. During this course, students focus on the life of St. Ignatius, Ignatian prayer and spirituality, the Society of Jesus and Ignatian solidarity, conversion, discernment, indifference, simplicity, and personhood.

WORLD RELIGIONS (71934)

Meets requirement | senior | one-half credit | one semester

World Religions is an introduction to the history, belief-systems, practices, and divisions of the world's major religions. This class would expand students' view and understanding of the human pursuit of God/the divine and continue to ask them to deal with the existential nature of belief and religious practice. It offers a look at the human search for meaning beyond the secular and attempts to establish religious belief at the heart of human fulfillment.

ACC QUESTIONS IN THEOLOGY (71944)

Meets requirement | senior | one-half credit | one semester

Prerequisite: teacher approval

This course examines historical and autobiographical narrative as a way of getting at the ultimate questions at the heart of theology and religion. In dialogue with Jewish and Christian scripture, as well as classic and contemporary spiritual autobiographies written from within the Christian tradition and beyond, students will wrestle with the nature of faith; existence, and personhood of God; the nature and ends of creation and human life; evil and salvation, and other matters of ultimate concern. Through the medium of narrative, this course aims to stimulate engagement with and reflection on the kinds of questions that matter most to the arc of a human life. Students may earn college credit through SLU.

FRESHMAN SERVICE PROJECT

Required | freshman | one-quarter credit, 10 hours outside of class | noted on transcript

The Freshman Service Project is a 10-hour requirement that the student completes on and/or off campus. Freshmen begin to learn what it is to be men for others in giving of their time and energy to serve either their local community or the De Smet community. Our service requirements are intended to begin the formation of men who will view service as a lifelong commitment. Students will record the hours using the approved online volunteer app provided to them. Students will also reflect on the purpose of their service and how volunteering has helped the programs with which they worked.

SOPHOMORE SERVICE PROJECT

Required | sophomore | one-quarter credit, 25 hours outside of class | noted on transcript

The Sophomore Service Project is a 25-hour requirement that the student completes on and/or off campus. It is a continuation of the formation of lifelong service that our students began as freshmen. Sophomores continue to use their gifts and talents to help with events/programs around the De Smet Jesuit campus or in the greater St. Louis community. Students will continue to record the hours using the approved online volunteer app provided to them when they began their career as a Spartan or by the Sophomore Service Director. They will also reflect on the purpose of their service and how volunteering has helped the programs with which they worked. In addition to the 25 hours of service, the sophomores will also perform service by coordinating and working the Special Olympics event at De Smet Jesuit.

JUNIOR SERVICE PROJECT (70313)

Required | junior | one-quarter credit | full year

As a Jesuit apostolic work, De Smet Jesuit High School shares in the mission of the Society of Jesus: “the service of faith and the promotion of justice.” To this end, the Junior Service Project program is a required experiential community service project outside of De Smet Jesuit, serving the disadvantaged, the elderly, the economically challenged, the sick, and children and adults with special needs. The program takes place every Monday afternoon from September through May. Afternoon classes are dismissed to provide time for this program. Students participate in required weekly peer reflections sessions including journaling as well as complete a major capstone reflection project on the experience.

SENIOR SERVICE PROJECT

Required | senior | one-quarter credit, 50 hours outside of class, noted on transcript

The Senior Service Project is a 50-hour requirement that the student completes at a location off campus to build upon the experience of the Junior Service Project. The focus of the project is rooted in Catholic Social Teaching, specifically, the preferential option for the poor. Students are to find an organization that works directly with a marginalized community in order to fulfill this requirement. To seek the meaning and purpose of the service work, the senior is to keep a journal in which he logs and reflects upon his experiences and how they have helped others, changed him, and helped to bring about the Kingdom of God. The experience is culminated by a four-page written reflection of the student’s four years of service—what he has contributed and where, how he has been affected, and what service means to him going forward.

THE INSIGNIS CAPSTONE REFLECTION (7000)

Required | senior | one-half credit | spring semester

To complete the final stage of his journey at De Smet Jesuit, each senior will make an Insignis presentation. This graded presentation is a formal reflection and assessment of his De Smet Jesuit experience. The framework for this personal, individual, unique reflection will be the six elements of the Graduate at Graduation Profile. Before a panel of three, composed of two teachers and a staff member or possibly a member of the Board of Trustees, the senior will articulate his experience at De Smet Jesuit through the lens of the “Grad-at-Grad”—what have his experiences been in relation to each of these characteristics and how has he grown as a result of these experiences. For a school that believes so highly in the value of reflection, the Insignis presentation is a fitting culmination to a student’s education at De Smet Jesuit High School.

INCLUSION PROGRAM PEER MENTOR (74443)

Elective | junior, senior | one-half credit | one semester

Prerequisite: teacher approval

The Peer Mentor course is designed for students to serve as a mentor, tutor, and role model both academically and socially for our inclusion students. In the spirit of the De Smet Jesuit High School motto of being men for others, peer mentors will be extending themselves to help our fellow brother who learns differently. Such support fosters growth for each mentee spiritually, academically, and socially in alignment with Ignatian principles. Peer mentors will attend all trainings and meetings with the Director of Inclusive Education prior to and during the semester. Mentor tasks will include communicating with the Director of Inclusive Education regularly via Microsoft Teams and email. Peer mentors will be responsible for communicating with the classroom teacher regarding participation for the day and upcoming assignments. Peer mentors will assist their mentee with logging in and navigating OnCampus, Microsoft Teams, and online resources for class. Peer mentors will help with note taking, providing examples, checking for understanding, redirecting, as well as proctoring modified quizzes and tests. At the culmination of this course, mentors will be expected to prepare and share their experiences in a sequential, reflective essay.

World Languages Department

CHINESE I (40711)

Meets requirement | freshman | one credit | full year

This course is an introduction to Mandarin Chinese and Chinese culture. Study will include basic language patterns using typical settings such as greetings, family, dates and time, hobbies, visiting friends, lifestyles, and various topics highlighting Chinese culture. Students will learn elementary skills in listening, speaking, reading, and writing by using both the Pinyin phonetic system and simplified Chinese characters. Students will be introduced to a baseline of characters that will provide the basis to engage in simple conversations using these characters. Students will also have acquired knowledge of elements of Chinese culture and traditions.

ACP CHINESE 2 (40722)

Meets requirement | sophomore | one credit | full year

This course builds upon the skills and knowledge developed in Chinese I, expanding students' ability to comprehend and express themselves in Chinese and building their vocabulary. Students' communicative competence will be expanded through a variety of interactive activities. Students will learn to respond and interact appropriately in real-life situations. Students will refine their speaking and listening skills as well as increase their vocabulary. Students have the option to enroll for a year (5 credits) of advanced college credit through University of Missouri – St. Louis (UMSL).

ACP HONORS CHINESE 3 (40733)

Elective | senior | one credit | full year

Prerequisite: students must earn a B+ or higher in Chinese 2 or teacher approval

Chinese 3 continues to build upon the skills developed in Chinese II. Students will work on learning more complex Chinese syntax and grammatical concepts. The level of communicative competence will be further enhanced, and students will be able to engage in longer and more in-depth dialogues typical in everyday scenarios. Students will progressively transition into more intricate sentence structures while continuing to expand and build on vocabulary and knowledge of grammar. Students have the option to enroll for a year (5 credits) of advanced college credit through University of Missouri – St. Louis (UMSL).

ACP HONORS CHINESE 4 (40734)

Elective | senior | one credit | full year

Prerequisite: students must earn a B+ or higher in Chinese 3 or teacher approval

Chinese 4 continues to build upon Chinese III. Students will work on mastering more advanced Chinese syntax and grammatical concepts. Students will advance to a higher level of communicative competence. They will be able to engage in unplanned dialogues at normal conversation speeds. Students will also be able to read certain passages of authentic material. Students will perform a variety of practical writing tasks such as writing short messages. Chinese 4 will provide further insight into Chinese culture, customs and ideology. Students have the option to enroll for a year (5 credits) of advanced college credit through University of Missouri – St. Louis (UMSL).

LATIN I (40521)

Meets requirement | freshman | one credit | full year

First year Latin emphasizes basic vocabulary and the grammatical form of nouns and adjectives, the uses of the cases, verbs, and pronouns. There are internet practice activities for additional drills in grammar and vocabulary. Students will translate Latin stories, which tell tales of Roman life, culture and mythology. English words derived from Latin are studied to expand the student's English vocabulary.

LATIN 2 (40522)

Meets requirement | sophomore | one credit | full year

Second year Latin continues focusing on vocabulary and grammar. By the end of the second year, all grammatical constructions usually presented in a beginning two-year program will have been covered, including all verb tenses in the active and passive voice, participles, usage of noun cases, pronouns and special adjectives. Students will progress to translating more difficult stories based on Roman history and daily life. Mythology study continues with students researching and reporting on additional Greek and Roman myths.

ACC HONORS LATIN 3 (40533)

Elective | junior | one credit | full year

Prerequisite: students must earn a B+ or higher in Latin 2 or teacher approval

Third year Latin begins with a review of all nouns, verbs, and verbals covered during the first two years. Students will expand their knowledge of Latin grammar by studying the subjunctive mood and complex intricacies of the Latin language. By the end of the third year, students will have learned the majority of Latin grammar needed to begin study of the Roman authors. Students are now translating Latin authors in slightly edited form. They will read selections from Horace. Students have the option to enroll for one semester (three credits) of college credit through St. Louis University.

ACC HONORS LATIN 4 (40534)

Elective | senior | one credit | full year

Prerequisite: students must earn a B+ or higher in Latin 3 or teacher approval

The traditional fourth year Latin content is prose and poetry of the Golden Age. Students will read selections from Caesar's "De Bello Gallico" and various selections from Cicero's writings. Students will pay special attention to the politics of the late Republic. Students will also read excerpts from Virgil's "Aeneid," and they will investigate and discuss Virgil's portrayal of Dido and Aeneas. Finally, students will read selections from Catullus and Ovid. They will compare lyric poetry to epic poetry and learn to scan poetry in a number of meters. By the end of the year students will have studied a wide range of Latin literature, history, and culture, and they will have learned how to apply Latin roots to new English words. Students have the option to enroll for two semesters (six credits) of college credit through St. Louis University.

SPANISH I (40621)

Meets requirement | freshman | one credit | full year

Spanish 1 provides an introduction to the language and culture of the contemporary Spanish-speaking world. Lessons are organized to reflect the goals set by the national standards for learning foreign languages. Proficiency is gained in the areas of listening, speaking, reading, and writing, with an overall emphasis on communication skills.

The textbook and ancillary materials use an integrated approach to language learning. The introduction and reinforcement of new material takes place in class and through the textbook publisher's website and Conjuguemos. Evaluation, review, exercises, and activities in the course are designed to span all four language skills (listening, speaking, reading, and writing). Cultural awareness is integrated through textbook readings and chapter DVDs about people and places in Latin America and Spain. By means of oral practice in pairs or groups, the students discuss relevant themes and learn to express themselves in Spanish. The mechanics of reading and writing are acquired through daily written assignments. Proper habits of studying and learning foreign language are acquired through carefully prepared homework and error correction.

SPANISH 2 (40822)

Meets requirement | sophomore | one credit | full year

Spanish 2 reinforces the language skills taught during Spanish 1 (listening, speaking, reading, writing and culture) while introducing new vocabulary, grammar, and cultural materials. Lessons are organized to reflect the goals set by the national standards for the learning of foreign languages. Practice activities include reading and discussing textbook passages, guided viewing of videos, and enactments of typical situations. Writing assignments allow students to use increasingly complex grammar and new vocabulary while building on previously learned material. Listening comprehension and listening skills are developed through taped exercises, music, and media presentation of native speakers. Cultural awareness is increased through readings, discussions, and comparisons of Spanish language and customs with those

of other cultures. The amount of Spanish used to conduct the class is increased as the year progresses. Students are prepared for travel and interaction with native speakers. Practice is provided through online assignments in eStudio and through the Glencoe.com website.

SPANISH 3 (41013)

Elective | junior | one credit | full year

Prerequisite: students must earn a C+ or higher in Spanish 2 or teacher approval.

This course is designed for students who have completed the second-year Spanish course with a C+ average and who want to continue the study of Spanish. This course will continue the study of verb tenses and grammar, but will place most emphasis on producing speech, conversations, and interactions in practical, everyday situations. Students will also enhance their reading skills in the target language by way of short stories and news articles. Exposure to various cultural traditions and perspectives of Spanish-speaking countries continues from Spanish 2, but students will now learn to compare and contrast these traditions with their own, as well as talk about them in Spanish. Supplementary materials consist of songs, articles, interactive websites, and films. Students completing this course will not be eligible to take ACC Honors Spanish 4.

ACC HONORS SPANISH 3 (41033)

Elective | junior | one credit | full year

Prerequisite: students must earn an A in Spanish 2 or teacher approval

Spanish 3 lessons are designed to reflect the national standards set forth by the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages (ACTFL). The course consists of the study of advanced grammar and composition. There is more emphasis on reading and discussing topics of interest in the target language. Grammar and verb tenses continue to be taught and reviewed throughout the year. Emphasis will be placed on communicative skills: interpersonal, interpretive and presentational. The students will utilize interactive online activities to reinforce previous knowledge learned. In the fall semester, the students can be dually enrolled to obtain advanced college credit through SLU-Beginning Spanish I (SPAN-1010).

SPANISH 4 (41014)

Elective | senior | one credit | full year

Prerequisite: students must earn a C+ in Spanish 3 or teacher approval

In this course students will continue the study of grammar involving more complex verb tenses. Emphasis is placed on utilizing these grammar structures in everyday situations. Students will be introduced to more literary works in the Spanish language in addition to learning and discovering the history of the authors and countries from which they were produced. Students will discuss cultural traditions of the Spanish-speaking world and compare and contrast them to their own, as well as learn to develop, present and defend their opinions in Spanish. Students will be assessed using a variety of presentations, projects, role-playing, and written work. Supplementary materials consist of songs, articles, interactive websites, and films.

ACC HONORS SPANISH 4 (41034)

Elective | senior | one credit | full year

Prerequisite: students must earn a B+ in Honors Spanish 3 and teacher approval

In this course, students will study the culture and civilization of Spain and Latin America through literary works. The students will expand their communication skills following the guidelines set forth by the national standards of the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages. During the first semester, students continue a review of advanced grammar through exercises in oral skills and reading selections. Films, internet articles, and readings serve as supplementary materials. Students are expected to discuss the content in Spanish. Short compositions in which the students apply advanced structures are frequently assigned. The students also will use the interactive activities in the online textbook. The students may dually enroll to obtain college credit through SLU-Exploring the Hispanic World: Beginning Spanish (SPAN-1020) and Connecting with the Hispanic World: Intermediate Spanish (SPAN-2010).

AP HONORS SPANISH 5

(Taught through APEX Learning Virtual School)

Elective | senior | one credit | full year

Prerequisite: students must earn a B+ in Honors Spanish 4 or teacher approval

For the 2023-2024 school year, AP Spanish Language and Culture will be taught online through the APEX Learning Virtual School. A faculty mentor will be provided for students in the online course. Following the College Board curriculum, this course is “designed to provide students with a learning experience equivalent to that of an introductory college course in literature written in Spanish. The course introduces students to the formal study of a representative body of texts from Peninsular Spanish, Latin American, and U.S. Hispanic literature. The course provides opportunities for students to demonstrate their proficiency in Spanish across the three modes of communication (interpersonal, interpretive, and presentational) and the five goal areas (communication, cultures, connections, comparisons, and communities) outlined in the Standards for Foreign Language Learning in the 21st Century. The overarching aims of the course are to provide students with ongoing and varied opportunities to further develop their proficiencies across the full range of language skills — with special attention to critical reading and analytical writing — and to encourage them to reflect on the many voices and cultures included in a rich and diverse body of literature written in Spanish.”

THE IGNATIAN GLOBAL CITIZEN Elective | sophomore, junior | one semester

Prerequisite: teacher approval

The world in which we live is shrinking, and to be successful one must have an understanding of the world and its many cultures. Who is a global citizen? How do diversity, inclusivity, and cultural norms complement a global citizen? This course will study how other cultures and affinity groups are depicted in society, how we understand one another, and how we can look for techniques to come to a common understanding, even though we may start at different places or hold different perspectives. The course is the anchor for the Ignatian Global Scholars Certificate and serves to find rapport with other global immersion courses, events, intercultural experiences, service and self-reflection.

Magis Institute for Inquiry and Innovation

The Magis Institute for Inquiry and Innovation is a program at De Smet Jesuit to focus the school's educational efforts on our strategic goals to empower, innovate with, and embrace our students. The strategic plan recognizes the reality that we are experiencing a paradigm shift in Jesuit secondary education. Technology is allowing students to learn through hands-on, real-world situations on an unprecedented scale. Collaboration and creativity are driving innovation that is changing the face of the workplace. While traditional college preparatory curriculum forms a strong core to build content and skills, we also recognize a need for a peripheral space where ideas can germinate about our future. The Institute is a way of looking at school where student passion and rigor collide.

The Magis Institute provides the overarching structure, offering diverse individual centers that reflect student passions and promote the mission of the Society of Jesus. The Institute provides courses of study and programs, always voluntary, for deep learning in a particular area. As the Institute evolves, certificates—such as the Ignatian Global Scholars Certificate detailed at the end of this section—will be awarded to students who complete a particular path in their learning.

Mission and Objectives

The mission of the Magis Institute for Inquiry and Innovation is to inspire and prepare men to transform the world through collaborative, hands-on, real-world, globalized and personalized experiences that embrace empathy, innovation, imagination, and ideation.

The objective of the Institute is to enable students to experience one or more of the following:

- Use technological resources to facilitate creative solutions to solve complex problems.
- Communicate effectively in a variety of media.
- Collaborate effectively with other students and outside experts both locally and globally.
- Develop confidence and resilience through failure.
- Empathize with others and celebrate difference in a multicultural context.
- Integrate the Jesuit mission of the “service of faith and the promotion of justice” into work on innovation and imagination.
- Set individual work in a global context.

MENTORED STUDY PATH OPTION (70006)

Elective | junior, senior | one-half credit | one semester

Students have the opportunity to explore a passion in a number of different modes with a teacher as a mentor or guide. Students may accomplish one of the following possible outcomes:

- Produce a real-world product (e.g., video, graphic design, social media campaign, publication, new business, device, etc.).
- Construct an independent study to delve deep into an interest.
- Present a challenging problem and offer possible solutions.

- Design an individual course for school credit.
- Complete a capstone project.
- Take an online course.
- Complete a project in the community with a collaborative group of students.
- Prototype, tinker, and otherwise develop personal projects outside the classroom setting.

Requirements for Credit Proposals

While any student can participate in the Institute for enrichment, the following requirements must be fulfilled in order to receive course credit.

- Plan for working at least 66 hours of work and journal documenting work completed.
- Achieve at least 5-7 major learning outcomes based on a particular department's course objectives or based on the Graduate at Graduation profile.
- Complete final summative project with scoring rubric based on learning outcomes.
- Receive approval by Assistant Principal for Academics.

Process and Timeline

- Late February - Early March: Students submit project proposals to the Assistant Principal during the time students are selecting courses. The Assistant Principal will give tentative approval by signing the course selection sheet.
- Mid-March: Selection group meets to vet, combine, or refine student project proposals.
- Late March: The Assistant Principal identifies mentors.
- Summer: The Assistant Principal gathers initial resources: academic, human, and technological.
- Fall/spring semester – Students conduct weekly meetings with their mentor and report progress on a regular basis, such as via a bi-weekly blog post.

ONLINE COURSE OPTION (70006)

Elective, can meet requirement with approval | junior, senior | one-half, one credit | one semester, full year

Online courses are available through the Arrupe Virtual Learning Institute to allow students to take courses not offered at De Smet Jesuit High School. This year three courses are listed in the De Smet Jesuit Academic Curriculum Guide, but other courses can be approved. Typically courses beyond the level of our curriculum can be taken to fulfill graduation requirements (for example, AP BC Calculus as a fourth unit of math). Other courses offered through the AVLI can be as an elective course in a student's schedule.

AVLI course requests require approval from the Assistant Principal for Academics. AVLI courses will be shown on transcripts and used in GPA calculations. There may also be additional AP testing fees.

Please view the online copy of AVLI guidelines and the current AVLI Course Catalog at <https://www.arrupevirtual.org/student-coursework>. Students should research the content and requirements of these courses before committing to enrollment. Please reference the College Board Advance Placement website for details.

Course Prerequisites

Students must demonstrate strong academic skills in the content area of course requested. PLAN and PSAT scores along with grade point average are factors in determining approval for a AVLI online course. Students should consider how many other honors and AP classes they are enrolling in as well as time commitments for current course load and student activities such as clubs and sports to determine if an online course is manageable.

Caution: managing an online course is different than a traditional classroom course. It does not meet regularly, it has threaded virtual communication, and it is paced to deadlines. Consequently, students taking courses through the AVLI will be required to check in with the online course coordinator once a week to receive course credit.

Ignatian Global Scholars Certificate Program

De Smet Jesuit High School is partnering with and participating in the JSN Ignatian Global Scholars Certificate Pilot Program. This program promotes interconnected learning experiences in the classroom and beyond to help the student become a global citizen.

Global Citizenship: An Ignatian Definition

Global citizens are those who continuously seek to deepen their awareness of their place and responsibility in an increasingly interconnected world, both locally and globally; and those who stand in solidarity with others in the pursuit of a sustainable earth and a more humane world as true companions in the mission of reconciliation and justice.

Student Criteria

Students may enter into this program during their sophomore or junior year. Students earning this distinction and resulting certificate will review program requirements (also available online at www.desmet.org/academics/globaled/scholar) with their counselor and the Director of Global Education Certificate Program and submit an application for approval. Upon acceptance, students will work with their counselors and the director to track and meet the program requirements by graduation.

Requirements

To earn an Ignatian Global Scholars Certificate from the Jesuit Schools Network, students at De Smet Jesuit High School will complete requirements from the Ignatian Pedagogical Paradigm categories of context, experience, reflection, action, and review.

1. Context (all required):
 - Complete the Ignatian Global Citizen Anchor course.
 - Complete three years of language study or pass approved exams (e.g., AP or Seal of Biliteracy).
 - Participate in different approved global events each year.
2. Experience (choose one):
 - Take part in a sustained lived intercultural experience either via immersion, cultural engagement, or service trip or approved experience such as Model UN or virtual exchanges.
 - Have a yearly sustained commitment and involvement with an extracurricular group that focuses on either the pursuit of a sustainable earth, more humane world, or increasing interconnectedness and understanding of other perspectives such as Asia Club, Black Student Union, or Social Justice Club.
3. Reflection: Complete semester self-reflections and a final reflection project.
4. Action (choose one):
 - Complete a yearly local relationship-building service project that correlates to global citizenship (can be done in conjunction with junior and senior service requirements).
 - Complete a final project with a global focus, which should be shared with other community members (can be integrated into senior Insignis project).
5. Review: Participate in the school's annual program review.