

# Curriculum Guide

2025  
2026

MOTHER MCAULEY LIBERAL ARTS HIGH SCHOOL





## Mission Statement

Mother McAuley Liberal Arts High School is a Catholic educational community committed to providing a quality secondary education for young women. In the tradition of the Sisters of Mercy and their foundress, Catherine McAuley, we prepare students to live in a complex, dynamic society by teaching them to think critically, communicate effectively, respond compassionately to the needs of their community and assume roles of Christian leadership. In partnership with parents, we empower young women to acknowledge their giftedness and to make decisions with a well-developed moral conscience. We foster an appreciation of the diversity of the global community and a quest for knowledge and excellence as life long goals.



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# Academic Planning Guidelines

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## Graduation Requirements

CREDITS	COURSE
4	English
3	Math
1	Physical Education
4	Science
3	Social Science
4	Theology
2	Language
.5	Personal Finance
.5	Art History
.5	Performing Art Elective
1	Fine Art Elective (i.e., Performing Arts OR Visual Arts and Technology)
4.5	Electives
<b>28</b>	<b>TOTAL CREDITS</b>

*Graduation requirements can be altered, added or dropped at the discretion of the school.*

- Students are responsible for reviewing their class schedules to be certain they are scheduled for required courses. The worksheet on page 5 is meant to guide that process.
- Each student must carry a minimum of seven classes each semester, excluding after school classes. Lunch must be included as a period in a student's schedule and cannot be substituted for a class.
- Students in Illinois must pass an examination on the Federal Constitution and the Constitution of the State of Illinois as part of the graduation requirement.
- Due to the complexity of scheduling courses, conflicts may prohibit students from being enrolled into all the courses they select. Should a conflict arise, students will receive communication from their counselor, the registrar, or the Assistant Principal of Academics if they are not able to be placed in a chosen course.
- The specific period of any course, including study, cannot be selected ahead of time.
- **Students cannot drop full year classes after the first three days of school. Students cannot drop semester classes after the first three days of the semester.** Schedule change requests will be approved on an individual basis and require a \$100 course change fee.

# Four Year Plan

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Student's First Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Student's Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_

FRESHMAN YEAR		SOPHOMORE YEAR	
1 Theology		1 Theology	
2 English		2 English	
3 Language		3 Language	
4 Math		4 Math	
5 Biology		5 Chemistry	
6 Lunch		6 World History	
Electives: Semester 1	Semester 2	7 Lunch	
7		Electives: Semester 1	Semester 2
8		8	
9		9	
JUNIOR YEAR		SENIOR YEAR	
1 Theology		1 Theology	
2 English		2 English	
3 U.S. History		3 Social Science	
4 Math		4 Science	
5 Science		5 Lunch	
6 Lunch		Electives: Semester 1	Semester 2
Electives: Semester 1	Semester 2	6	
7		7	
8		8	
9		9	

Please note: Final schedule is not in the same order as listed above.

# Course Offerings for Class of 2026, 2027, 2028 and 2029

	Freshman	Sophomore	Junior	Senior
THEOLOGY	Theology I	Theology II	Theology III	Theology IV / Living Faith Theology IV / Global Studies Theology IV / Peer Ministry
ENGLISH	English I Honors English I Advanced English I	English II Honors English II Advanced English II Journalism I Broadcast Journalism Advanced Creative Writing	AP Language & Composition English III Honors English III Advanced Creative Writing Journalism II Honors - Yearbook & Newspaper Journalism I Broadcast Journalism Advanced	AP Literature & Composition English IV Honors English IV Advanced Journalism II Honors - Yearbook & Newspaper Journalism I Broadcast Journalism Advanced Creative Writing
MATHEMATICS	Geometry Honors Algebra Honors Algebra Advanced Algebra	Pre-Calculus Honors Geometry Honors Geometry Advanced Geometry	AP Calculus AB Calculus Honors Pre-Calculus Honors Algebra II Honors Algebra II Advanced Algebra II	AP Statistics AP Calculus AB Calculus Honors Pre-Calculus Honors Pre-Calculus Trigonometry and Statistics College Algebra with Trigonometry
PHYSICAL EDUCATION	Healthy Foundations I Healthy Foundations II Driver Education	Healthy Foundations I Healthy Foundations II Standard First Aid and CPR Healthy You Team Sports Driver Education	Healthy Foundations I Healthy Foundations II Standard First Aid and CPR Healthy You Team Sports Driver Education	Healthy Foundations I Healthy Foundations II Standard First Aid and CPR Healthy You Team Sports Intro to Athletic Training Driver Education
THEATRE	Public Speaking Drama Acting Technical Theatre Intro to Theatre	Public Speaking Drama Acting Technical Theatre Intro to Theatre Theatre Workshop I	Public Speaking Drama Acting Technical Theatre Intro to Theatre Theatre Workshop I Theatre Workshop II Honors	Public Speaking Drama Acting Technical Theatre Intro to Theatre Theatre Workshop I Theatre Workshop II Honors
MUSIC	Intro to Chorus Chorus I Beginning Strings - Violin & Viola Beginning Strings - Cello & Bass Intermediate Strings Symphony Strings Honors String Ensemble Honors Beginning Band Concert Band Symphonic Band Honors Wind Ensemble Honors Music: From Bach to Rock	Intro to Chorus Chorus I Chorus II A Cappella Honors Mac Melody Music Theory Workshop Vocal Techniques Beginning Strings - Violin & Viola Beginning Strings - Cello & Bass Intermediate Strings Symphony Strings Honors String Ensemble Honors Beginning Band Concert Band Symphonic Band Honors Wind Ensemble Honors Music: From Bach to Rock	Intro to Chorus Chorus I Chorus II Advanced Chorus Honors A Cappella Honors Mac Melody Music Theory Workshop AP Music Theory Vocal Techniques Beginning Strings - Violin & Viola Beginning Strings - Cello & Bass Intermediate Strings Symphony Strings Honors String Ensemble Honors Beginning Band Concert Band Symphonic Band Honors Wind Ensemble Honors Music: From Bach to Rock	Intro to Chorus Chorus I Chorus II Advanced Chorus Honors A Cappella Honors Mac Melody Music Theory Workshop AP Music Theory Vocal Techniques Beginning Strings - Violin & Viola Beginning Strings - Cello & Bass Intermediate Strings Symphony Strings Honors String Ensemble Honors Beginning Band Concert Band Symphonic Band Honors Wind Ensemble Honors Music: From Bach to Rock
<b>ELECTIVES</b> Students must choose a minimum of three course offerings to fulfill the electives credit.				

	Freshman	Sophomore	Junior	Senior
SCIENCE	Biology Honors Biology Advanced Biology	Chemistry Honors Chemistry Advanced Chemistry AP Computer Science Principles	AP Biology AP Chemistry AP Physics I Physics Advanced Physics Engineering Principles AP Computer Science Principles	AP Biology AP Chemistry AP Physics I Physics Advanced Physics AP Physics C - Mechanics Anatomy & Physiology Anatomy & Physiology Honors Engineering Principles Environmental Science AP Computer Science Principles
SOCIAL SCIENCE	AP Human Geography AP World History World History Advanced	AP Human Geography AP World History World History Advanced World History AP US History US History Advanced Personal Finance	AP US History US History Honors US History Advanced Advanced Economics Psychology Advanced Sociology Advanced American Criminal Justice Advanced Personal Finance	AP US Government & Politics Advanced Economics Psychology Advanced Sociology Advanced American Criminal Justice Advanced Developmental Psychology Honors AP Psychology Personal Finance
VISUAL ARTS & TECHNOLOGY	Intro to Drawing Intro to Painting Ceramics Sculpture Art and Emerging Tech	Intro to Drawing Intro to Painting Ceramics Sculpture Clay Sculpture and Wheel Throwing Art and Emerging Tech Graphic Design Digital Animation Advanced Drawing Advanced Painting Illustration/Digital Illustration on the iPad Architectural Drawing, Design, and CAD (Computer Aided Design) Journalism I	Art History AP Art History Intro to Drawing Intro to Painting Advanced Drawing Advanced Painting Photography I Photography II Studio Art Honors AP Art and Design Ceramics Sculpture Clay Sculpture and Wheel Throwing Art and Emerging Technology Graphic Design Digital Animation Architectural Drawing, Design and CAD (Computer Aided Design) Illustration/Digital Illustration on the iPad Journalism I Journalism II Honors - Yearbook & Newspaper	Art History AP Art History Intro to Drawing Intro to Painting Advanced Drawing Advanced Painting Photography I Photography II Studio Art Honors AP Art and Design Ceramics Sculpture Clay Sculpture & Wheel Throwing Art and Emerging Tech Graphic Design Digital Animation Illustration/Digital Illustration on the iPad Architectural Drawing, Design, and CAD (Computer Aided Design) Journalism I Journalism II Honors - Yearbook and Design
WORLD LANGUAGES	French I Advanced French I Honors Spanish I Spanish I Advanced Spanish I Honors	French II Advanced French II Honors Spanish II Spanish II Advanced Spanish II Honors	French III Advanced French III Honors Spanish III Spanish III Advanced Spanish III Honors	French IV Advanced AP French Spanish IV Advanced Spanish IV Honors AP Spanish



## Course Placement and Tracking *Information*

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- To accommodate a variety of student learners in terms of skills, abilities, and interest, Mother McAuley uses a vertical tracking system. This system allows for a variety of courses at a variety of levels.
- Incoming freshmen are placed based on the results of their High School Placement Test (HSPT) as well as many pieces of information received from the student's junior high school, including but not limited to grade reports, standardized test scores, and teacher recommendations..
- Once placed, students can move up and down a track depending on performances within specific disciplines.

### Explanation of Tracks

**Academic:** Academic level classes incorporate a review of basic skills with increasing focus on the higher level skill of application. These classes have a slightly smaller class setting and more teacher-facilitated instruction.

**Advanced:** Advanced level classes focus more on higher level skills of application and analysis. The goal is to facilitate student learning so that they become more self-motivated. Advanced classes expect students to be active participants in the learning process.

**Honors:** Honors classes integrate higher level thinking skills of application, analysis, and synthesis of content with an expectation of more independent learning. These classes require students to take initiative, think critically, problem solve, and apply learned concepts.

**Advanced Placement:** AP courses are structured to align with the College Board curriculum focused on depth of content. Students in these courses are independent learners, self-motivated and able to complete assignments with minimal guidance. There is a significant amount of work outside of class. Students who enroll are required to sit for the AP test in May.

# Advanced Placement Program

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Mother McAuley Liberal Arts High School offers an extensive Advanced Placement Program with a total of 19 classes in English, Mathematics, Music, Science, Social Science, Visual Arts & Technology and World Languages. The Advanced Placement Program courses provide students with the opportunity to experience the challenge of college-level courses while still in the supportive high school environment. Students who participate in Advanced Placement courses are challenged to reason, analyze and understand independently. By setting high standards for each student, the Advanced Placement Program instills a quest for knowledge and the ability to be a self-directed learner. Students are required to take the College Board Advanced Placement Exam at the end of the course. Exam fee required. (2024-2025 \$99.00 fee)

## AP Courses offered at Mother McAuley

AP Language and Composition	AP Human Geography
AP Literature and Composition	AP World History
AP Calculus AB	AP U.S. History
AP Statistics	AP U.S. Government and Politics
AP Music Theory	AP Psychology
AP Computer Science Principles	AP Art History
AP Biology	AP Art and Design
AP Chemistry	AP French Language
AP Physics I	AP Spanish Language
AP Physics C - Mechanics	

## Courses held in conjunction with Brother Rice

AP Biology	Concert Band
AP Chemistry	Symphonic Band Honors
AP Physics C - Mechanics	Wind Ensemble Honors
AP Art History	Theatre Workshop I
AP Music Theory	Theatre Workshop II Honors
Beginning Band	

# Dual Credit Courses

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Successful completion of certain courses earns college credit hours through the dual credit program with Saint Xavier University, Chicago, IL, or Lewis University, Romeoville, IL. The purpose of the college credit program is to provide transferable college credit for knowledge and skills students have mastered in high school courses.

Dual Credit courses are reviewed at the university level each year to ensure the course and faculty fall within the university requirements. As a result, course listings are annually subject to change. At the start of a course that is offering Dual Credit, students will be made aware and given the information necessary to determine whether or not they would like to take part in the program. There is a course fee for each credit hour that students are enrolled (\$60/credit hour - SXU 2024-2025; \$35/credit hour - Lewis University 2024-2025).

If you have any questions regarding the Dual Credit Program, please contact our Assistant Principal of Academics, Ms. Sandra Smycz at [ssmycz@mothermcauley.org](mailto:ssmycz@mothermcauley.org)

# Summer Sessions

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**NEW**

## **Algebra II Acceleration Course** - 339 - ½ Credit

June 30 - July 18 (*No school July 4*)

8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

At Mother McAuley Liberal Arts High School

Open to students who have completed Math 327 with an A- or better or Morning Math 333 with a B or better.

**Teacher recommendation is required.**

Cost - \$500

This summer course is designed to provide an opportunity for acceleration for students who want to take Honors Calculus 335, AP Calculus 300, and/or AP Statistics 326 during high school. In this course, students will study linear, quadratic, and polynomial relations, including systems of equations and inequalities. It also covers exponents, matrices, rational expressions, radicals, and complex numbers. Completion of this program with a minimum grade of an 80% places students in Honors Geometry. Course grades and credit (0.5) will appear on student transcripts and will be calculated in the student's GPA. Students will be required to pay a fee for this class. A TI-84 graphing calculator is required.

## **Driver Education** - 604

June 16 - June 26 (*No school June 19*)

9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

At Mother McAuley Liberal Arts High School

Open to rising 10th, 11th, and 12th graders

Cost - \$275

Mother McAuley Liberal Arts High School will be offering the Classroom portion of Driver Education over the summer.

- Students must be 15 years of age by the start of the class (June 16).
- Students will receive their permit **at the conclusion of the course**, upon successful completion of the course and their Illinois permit test.
- There is an additional \$20 fee required via check or money order to the Secretary of State.
- Students will need to complete the Driver portion of the course through Bogan High School or another organization. Additional fees to those organizations may apply.

## **Personal Finance (Financial Literacy)** - 604 - ½ Credit

Session 1: June 9 - June 27 (*No school June 19*)

OR

Session 2: June 30 - July 18 (*No school July 4*)

8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

At Mother McAuley Liberal Arts High School

Open to rising 10th, 11th, and 12th graders

Cost - \$500

This course provides students with the foundations and financial skills in money management. Students will explore real-life financial scenarios such as buying a car, filling out a FAFSA form, understanding pay stubs, filing taxes, credit scores, types of insurance, consumer protection, interest rates and investing. **This class is a graduation requirement.**

This summer session offering is ideal for those students who are concerned about taking electives of their choosing while fulfilling their graduation requirements.

**Visit Mother McAuley's website and click "Quicklinks" to register and pay for any of the summer courses listed on this page.**

# Curriculum Guide Key

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Course name	→ <b>Introduction to Drawing</b>	9, 10, 11, 12	← <i>Who may take this course</i>
Course number	→ 703	1 semester	← <i>How long the course runs</i>
Amount of credit	→ ½ credit		← <i>Course description</i>
	This course provides an introduction to basic drawing techniques, materials, composition skills and elements of design. Still life and portraiture are among the subject matters covered. <b>This is a required course for those interested in pursuing Introduction to Painting, Advanced Drawing / Painting, Illustration, Digital Illustration on the iPad, Studio Art Honors and Advanced Placement Art and Design.</b>		



# Registration *Timeline*

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## **Class of 2026, 2027, and 2028**

Students will begin the registration process January 7. There will be numerous layers to the registration process:

- A lunch and learn to gather information and hear about electives
- Teacher recommendation information in their classes
- Counselor invitations for meetings to discuss class selection

Students should check their emails and “Class of” Blackbaud pages for more specific information.

## **Class of 2029 (Incoming Freshmen)**

Incoming freshmen will attend one of two registration nights where they will select their classes for next year. Registration nights are scheduled for February 18 and February 20, 2025. The Admissions Department will follow up with more information once a student is officially registered.



# English

Students are required to take English all 4 years. The objective of the English curriculum is to expose students to and gain an appreciation for the various genres in literature, continue to strengthen comprehension and writing skills, develop strong critical thinking skills, and foster effective communication skills. The overall goal of the English Department is for each student to continue to deepen her abilities to think critically, write fluently, communicate effectively, and appreciate literature through the power and impact of words. **If you have any questions about the English curriculum, please contact Interim Division Lead Mr. John Kyler at [jkyler@mothermcauley.org](mailto:jkyler@mothermcauley.org).**

## English I Honors

9

140

1 credit

2 semesters

This course is devoted to developing composition skills and introducing the students to all major literary genres of short story, drama, poetry, novel, essay and mythology. The writing process is developed in connection with grammar and vocabulary throughout the year. Writing requirements include literary analysis and a research paper in MLA style developed through the full research process. **Summer reading required.**

## English I Advanced

9

141

1 credit

2 semesters

This course focuses on composition skills and introduces students to the major literary genres of short story, drama, poetry, novel, essay and mythology. Independent reading assignments are given regularly. Students develop composition skills through various modes of writing, including a literary analysis paper, both with teacher guidance and via independent practice. Grammar and vocabulary are studied throughout the year. **Summer reading required.**

## English I

9

144

1 credit

2 semesters

This course focuses on the basics of composition and introduces students to the major literary genres of short story, drama, poetry, novel, essay and mythology. Reading assignments are completed both with teacher support and independently. Students develop composition skills through various modes of writing, including a literary analysis paper, both with extensive teacher guidance and via independent practice. Students will review basic principles of grammar as a means to develop their writing skills. Grammar and vocabulary are studied throughout the year. **Summer reading required.**

## English II Honors

10

130

1 credit

2 semesters

This course continues to develop and expand upon the composition and analysis skills learned during freshman year. Nonfiction, poetry, short story, drama and novels in World Literature are explored and analyzed. Close reading skills are reinforced and critical thinking skills are cultivated. Writing requirements include various forms of personal, persuasive and literary analysis essays in MLA style. Research skills are reinforced and developed. Several forms of graded discussion are implemented throughout the year, and students are given the opportunity to practice their public speaking skills. **Successful completion of English I Honors (140) and/or teacher recommendation required. Summer reading required.**

## English II Advanced

10

131

1 credit

2 semesters

This course continues to develop and expand upon the writing, grammar, and vocabulary skills learned in freshman year. Nonfiction, poetry, short story, drama and novels in World Literature are explored and analyzed. Close reading skills are introduced and critical thinking skills are cultivated. Writing requirements include various forms of personal and literary analysis essays in MLA style. Research skills are introduced and practiced. Writing assignments are completed both independently and with teacher guidance. Several forms of graded discussion are implemented throughout the year, and students are given the opportunity to practice their public speaking skills. **Summer reading required.**

## English II

10

134

1 credit

2 semesters

This course continues to develop and expand upon the writing, grammar, and vocabulary skills learned in freshman year. Nonfiction, poetry, short story, drama and novels in World Literature are explored and analyzed. Close reading skills are introduced and critical thinking skills are cultivated with teacher support. Writing requirements include various forms of personal and literary analysis essays in MLA style. Research skills are introduced and practiced. Writing assignments are completed both independently and with continual teacher guidance. Graded discussion is implemented throughout the year, and students are given the opportunity to practice their public speaking skills. **Summer reading required.**

## AP Language and Composition

11

125

1 credit

2 semesters

AP Exam Fee Required

This course provides a study of classical and contemporary American Literature with an emphasis on non-fiction selections. Students write in various forms of discourse on a wide range of subjects. Reading and critical analysis skills are developed through discussion and writing. The focus is on understanding through analysis of style and syntax. Students are required to take the Advanced Placement Exam in Language and Composition at the end of the course.

**Successful completion of English II Honors (130) with a B or better and/or teacher recommendation required.**

**Summer reading is required for this course.**

## English III Honors

11

120

1 credit

2 semesters

This course is an extensive study of American Literature and is closely aligned with Advanced Placement U.S. History and U.S. History Honors. Students strive to evaluate and appreciate the literary genres as they broaden their knowledge of their American heritage. Close reading and critical analysis of various literary genres prove centrally important throughout this course. Writing requirements include personal and literary essays and a research paper in MLA style. Extensive use of electronic databases accompanies the research unit. Composition, vocabulary and grammar skills are reinforced within the added context of standardized test prep throughout the year. **Successful completion of English II Honors (130) and/or teacher recommendation required. Summer reading required.**

## English III Advanced

11

121

1 credit

2 semesters

This course is a year-long chronological survey of American Literature, stressing the interrelatedness of literature and history. Close reading skills are developed and critical thinking skills are cultivated. Writing requirements include personal and literary essays and a research paper in MLA style. Extensive use of electronic databases accompanies the research unit. Composition, vocabulary and grammar skills are reinforced within the added context of standardized test prep throughout the year. **Summer reading required.**

## AP Literature and Composition

12

102

1 credit

2 semesters

AP Exam Fee Required

This course provides an extensive study of classical and contemporary literature in a variety of genres, including non-fiction, novel, short story, drama and poetry. The college-level student writes in various forms of discourse, in addition to mastering the techniques of research and MLA documentation. Students are required to take the Advanced Placement Exam in Literature and Composition at the end of the course. **Successful completion of English III Honors (120) with a B or better, successful completion of AP Language and Composition (125) with a C or better, or teacher recommendation required. Summer reading is required for this course.**

## English IV Honors

12

110

1 credit

2 semesters

This course provides an intensive study of British Literature, including genres of poetry, epic novel, short story and drama during semester one. Semester two focuses on works of fiction and non-fiction that reflect social, political and ethical issues of the 20th and 21st centuries. The scope of the reading selections are more contemporary and will not be limited exclusively to British Literature. Writing includes formal literary essays and one research paper in MLA style. Grammar and vocabulary skills are reinforced throughout the year. **Successful completion of English III Honors (120) and/or teacher recommendation required. Summer reading required.**



## English IV Advanced

12

111

1 credit

2 semesters

This course provides an in-depth study of British Literature during the first semester, including genres of poetry, epic novel, short story and drama during semester one. Semester two focuses on works of fiction and non-fiction that reflect social, political and ethical issues of the 20th and 21st centuries. The scope of the reading selections is more contemporary and will not be limited exclusively to British Literature. Writing includes formal literary essays and one research paper, both written in MLA style. Grammar and vocabulary skills are reinforced throughout the year. **Summer reading required.**

## Journalism I - Yearbook and Newspaper

10, 11, 12

115

1 credit: ½ English, ½ Art

2 semesters

Journalism is an interdisciplinary, Art/English elective course in which students spend one semester learning the basics of journalism and one semester learning photo journalism, design and layout. Students will learn how to research information, and write and edit stories in AP style. In addition, students will learn InDesign, Photoshop and eDesign software. The specific content of the class can be found in the description for class Journalism II 117. Honors or Advanced level English must be taken concurrently. **This is a required course for those students interested in writing and designing both the school newspaper and yearbook in Journalism II Honors.**

## Journalism II Honors - Yearbook and Newspaper

11, 12

117

1 credit: ½ English, ½ Art

2 semesters

This is a team-taught, interdisciplinary, project-based course in which students will collaborate, write news, editorials and features. They will also learn and adapt creative approaches to advertise, edit, design and lay out the school newspaper and yearbook. Journalism Honors students will:

- select and develop appropriate themes for “In-School” publications through peer collaboration
- recognize and demonstrate the elements of a newspaper/yearbook layout
- apply photo journalistic techniques
- create interesting compositional layout designs
- operate ‘Photoshop’, ‘In Design’ and eDesign software
- produce layouts and copy to meet publication deadlines
- develop and plan a public relations event to support overall sales of the yearbook

As an honors level class, students are expected to adhere to a rigorous schedule that has specific deadlines determined by publishers. Expectations for these deadlines require strong organizational skills, the ability to communicate well with others and responsible decision making. AP, Honors and Advanced level English must be taken concurrently.

**Journalism I is a prerequisite. This class may be taken more than once.**

## Broadcast Journalism

10, 11, 12

145

1 credit

2 semesters

This is a full year course intended for students interested in broadcast journalism and production. Students will learn all aspects of a news production and that it is a team effort - all positions are equally dependent on each other for the success of the production. This course will include how to report, write, and edit for broadcast news, speech and communication skills for reporting and interviewing, and media literacy and ethical standards of journalism. At the production level, this course will include how to use the technical equipment involved as well as learning how to produce and direct. Students will showcase their work on camera and behind the scenes. Student work will be broadcast to the McAuley community.

## Creative Writing

10, 11, 12

107

½ credit

1 semester

This course focuses on the development of creative potential through the techniques of writing fictional genres -- primarily poetry, short story and drama. Students are also introduced to the process of submitting their work for publication and contests. Assessment includes the creation of a portfolio. This course does not fulfill an English requirement.



# Mathematics

*The mission of the Mother McAuley Math department is to provide a rigorous, thought-provoking curriculum to deepen student engagement and interest in mathematics. This is accomplished through teachers' commitments to incorporate student-centered learning activities where students develop and communicate deeper understandings of concepts by exploring real-life reasoning tasks and engaging in mathematical discourse. The overall goal is to empower young women to achieve their greatest potential and prepare them to problem solve and think critically in college courses and professional situations. **If you have any questions about the math curriculum, please contact Division Lead Mrs. Meghan Brazel at [mbrazel@mothermcauley.org](mailto:mbrazel@mothermcauley.org).***

## Algebra Honors

9

325

1 credit

2 semesters

Students who demonstrate exceptional mathematical ability on their entrance test are placed in this course. Algebra Honors is a comprehensive study of the principles and concepts traditionally taught in both Algebra 1 and Algebra 2, as well as the critical thinking skills needed for higher-level problem solving. The course covers topics such as equations and inequalities, functions and their graphs, polynomials, rational and radical expressions, and quadratic equations. Students will also be introduced to and will use the TI-84 Plus graphing calculator to support their work. This course moves at a fast pace and is designed to challenge students, providing them with a strong foundation in algebra to continue in the Honors program and potentially take AP Calculus during their senior year.

## Algebra I Advanced

9

327

1 credit

2 semesters

This course is a comprehensive study of the principles and concepts of Algebra and the critical thinking skills used in problem solving. This course covers the Algebra skills necessary for further study of Geometry and Algebra 2. Topics include operations on the real number system, solving equations and inequalities, linear equations and their graphs, polynomials, and algebraic functions. The students are introduced to and use the required TI-84 Plus graphing calculator to support their algebraic work.

## Algebra I

9

328

1 credit

2 semesters

This course introduces students to the fundamentals of Algebra. Topics include operations on the real number system, solving equations and inequalities, linear equations and their graphs, polynomials, and algebraic functions. The students are introduced to and use the required TI-84 Plus graphing calculator to support their algebraic work.

## Geometry Honors

9, 10

315

1 credit

2 semesters

This course offers a comprehensive and thorough exploration of geometric concepts and formal proofs. It covers fundamental ideas in geometry, as well as properties of triangles, quadrilaterals, polygons, circles, and three-dimensional shapes. Students will be expected to show independent inquiry and demonstrate resourceful, critical, and creative thinking skills when solving problems. The focus is on developing deductive reasoning abilities and applying them to mathematical proofs and computational problems. A TI-84 Plus graphing calculator is necessary for this course.

**Completion of Math 325 or Morning Math 333 with a C or better and teacher recommendation is required.**

**Summer work is required.**

## Geometry Advanced

10

317

1 credit

2 semesters

This course encourages the students to delve into two and three dimensional geometric relations of points, lines and figures in a plane by developing their critical thinking skills, while applying concepts algebraically and deductively. A TI-84 Plus graphing calculator is required. **Completion of Math 327 with a C or better and teacher recommendation is required.**

## Geometry

10

318

1 credit

2 semesters

This course is an introductory geometry course that introduces the students to the geometry concepts of points, lines, angles, and figures in a plane with emphasis on developing logical and critical thinking skills. A TI-84 Plus graphing calculator is required. **Completion of Math 328 and teacher recommendation is required.**

## Pre-Calculus Honors

10, 11, 12

302

1 credit

2 semesters

This course prepares students to study Calculus as it expands on and combines advanced Algebra and Geometry skills. There is a comprehensive treatment of Trigonometry and functions with emphasis on problem solving and applications of math. Extensive work is done with the required TI-84 Plus graphing calculator. **Completion of Math 315 with a C or better and teacher recommendation is required. Summer work is required.**

NEW

## Algebra II Honors

11

341

1 credit

2 semesters

This accelerated course is designed for students who have an excellent knowledge of algebra. This course briefly reviews concepts presented in Algebra 1 and then rigorously expands and applies them to other areas of mathematics. This course covers topics similar to those in Algebra 2, but with greater rigor and depth of coverage. A TI-84 Plus graphing calculator is required. **Completion of Algebra 327 and Geometry 317 with an A, along with teacher recommendation is required.**



## Algebra II Advanced

11

309

1 credit

2 semesters

This course is a second course in algebra, reinforcing and expanding on such algebra topics as: real and complex numbers, relations and functions, equations and inequalities, conic sections and operations with radicals and their applications to problem solving situations. It also covers solving polynomial functions and an introduction to Trigonometry. A TI-84 Plus graphing calculator is required. **Completion of Math 317 with a C or better and teacher recommendation is required.**

## Algebra II

11

314

1 credit

2 semesters

This course is a second course in algebra, reinforcing and expanding on such algebra topics as real and complex numbers, relations and functions, equations and inequalities, conic sections and operations with radicals and their applications to problem solving situations. A TI-84 Plus graphing calculator is required. **Completion of Math 318 and teacher recommendation is required.**

## AP Calculus AB

11, 12

300

1 credit

2 semesters

AP Exam Fee Required

This course is equivalent to the first semester of calculus included in a standard college curriculum. It covers the concepts, techniques and applications of Differential Calculus and Integral Calculus. Students are required to take the Advanced Placement Exam in Calculus AB at the end of the course. A TI-84 Plus graphing calculator is required. **A "B" average in Math 302 and teacher recommendation is required. Summer work is required.**

## Calculus Honors

11, 12

335

1 credit

2 semesters

This course is a continuation of Pre-Calculus Honors 302 and will prepare the student for advanced college mathematics. The concepts and techniques of Limit, Differential Calculus, and Integral Calculus are covered. There is an emphasis on applications that use series of calculations to draw proper conclusions and use advanced properties. A TI-84 graphing calculator is required. **Completion of Math 302 or 303 and teacher recommendation is required. Summer work is required.**

## AP Statistics

12

326

1 credit

2 semesters

AP Exam Fee Required

This course is equivalent to the first semester of statistics in a standard college curriculum. It covers four main areas: exploratory analysis, planning a study, probability and statistical inference. Extensive independent reading and analytical thinking is required. Students are required to take the Advanced Placement Exam in Statistics at the end of the course. A TI-84 Plus graphing calculator is required. **Completion of 300, 335 or 302 and teacher recommendation is required. This course can be taken concurrently with 335 or 300. Summer work is required.**

## Pre-Calculus

12

303

1 credit

2 semesters

This course is designed for students who want to be better prepared for college calculus or Advanced Placement courses while still in high school so that they may start in higher level courses when entering college. The course covers the concepts of pre-calculus mathematics including a comprehensive treatment of trigonometry and functions with emphasis on problem solving and applications of math. Extensive work is done with the required TI-84 Plus graphing calculator. A strong algebra and geometry background is required for this course. **Completion of Math 309 with a "C" or better is required.**

## Trigonometry and Statistics

12

340

1 credit

2 semesters

This year-long course is for students who have completed Advanced Algebra. In this course, the student will study triangle trigonometry, trigonometric functions, trigonometric identities and equations, and applications of trigonometry. In this course, the student will study the description of sample data, numerical methods for analyzing data, normal distribution, sampling and estimation, goodness of fit, linear correlation, regression, and rules of probability. A TI-84 Plus graphing calculator is required. **Completion of Math 309 with a "C" or better is required.**

## College Algebra with Trigonometry

12

338

1 credit

2 semesters

Prior to taking this course, students have covered polynomials, rational expressions, and function rules. This course covers exponential, logarithmic, and conic equations. The trigonometric skills include the unit circle, law of sines and cosines, using Trigonometric identities to simplify and solve expressions and equations, and graphing trigonometric functions. After learning the definitions and principles of probability, the statistics units cover the binomial theorem, measures of central tendencies and variation, and displaying distributions of data. **Completion of Math 314 and teacher recommendation is required.**



# Performing Arts

## Music

Students at Mother McAuley are required to take 1 year of any fine art class (performing or visual art). Part of that requirement includes a .5 credit in music or theatre. Every music course may be used to fulfill the music/theatre, fine arts, and/or elective graduation requirement. Music program goals include; encouraging and developing each student's giftedness, providing opportunities for students to share their talents with the community through multiple performances, enabling students to think critically about musical pieces, analyze performances, communicate effectively, and grow intellectually and aesthetically. Courses range from beginner to advanced and all levels of talent, in vocal and/or instrumental, are welcomed. **If you have question about the Music curriculum, please contact Division Lead Mrs. Rebecca Finn at [rfinn@mothermcauley.org](mailto:rfinn@mothermcauley.org).**

### Introduction to Chorus

9, 10, 11, 12

893

½ credit

1 semester

If you have ever wanted to try and sing in a choir, this is the class for you. This one semester performing arts course will give students of any age or experience level the chance to see what it is like to creatively collaborate in a group singing experience. Students will learn how to use their voices and grow their self confidence in front of an audience with a supportive group of students who also love singing standing by their sides. Students in this class will perform at the Christmas concert in the fall semester or the spring concert in the spring semester.

### Chorus I

9, 10, 11, 12

808

1 credit

2 semesters

If you enjoy singing, this full-year performing arts course starts students on the road of our much acclaimed choir program, which has been featured on ABC and WGN and has sung throughout the United States and in Europe. There are no prerequisites for this class, and it provides students with an opportunity to creatively collaborate with a large group of people who enjoy singing. No prior singing experience is necessary to be a part of this choir. Chorus I will perform in concerts at Christmastime and in the spring. **Chorus I is a prerequisite for Chorus II, Mac Melody and A Cappella Choir.**



**Chorus II** 10, 11, 12  
809  
1 credit 2 semesters

Chorus II continues to build and strengthen vocal techniques for the full year. Students are provided with large and small group experience. More advanced levels in theory and sight-singing are covered. Several public performances and concerts are included in the course. **Prerequisite of Chorus I or Intro to Chorus is required.**

**Advanced Chorus Honors** 11, 12  
793  
1 credit 2 semesters

Advanced Chorus Honors will provide junior and senior students an intensive study in all facets of music; including vocal performance, theory, and history. Students will perform a wide variety of challenging repertoire. This course will require additional rehearsals and performances as well as opportunities for outside performances. **Prerequisite of Chorus II is required.**

**A Cappella Honors** 10, 11, 12  
794  
½ credit Audition  
*Time: Monday & Wednesday – 3:00 to 4:00 p.m.* 2 semesters

This is a specialized group concentrating on A Cappella choral literature that demands members who are highly motivated. Students will increase musical proficiency in areas of theory, history, performance and musicianship. Considerable outside performances are required. **Membership in Chorus I is a prerequisite. Concurrent membership in a McAuley chorus (Advanced Chorus or Chorus II) is strongly recommended for each year of enrollment in this class.**

**Mac Melody** 10, 11, 12  
782  
½ credit Audition  
*Time: Monday & Wednesday – 3:00 to 4:00 p.m.* 2 semesters

Mac Melody is a specialized group concentrating on the “show choir” aspect of music. This class will incorporate dancing into choral performances. **Membership in Chorus I is a prerequisite. Concurrent membership in a McAuley chorus is strongly recommended for each year of enrollment in Mac Melody.**

**Vocal Techniques** 10, 11, 12  
812  
¼ credit 2 semesters  
*Time: Tuesday – 3:00 to 4:00 p.m.*

This course is for students who want to develop vocal technique and vocal repertoire. Participation in recitals is required. Membership in a McAuley chorus is a prerequisite. **This course alternates yearly with Music Theory Workshop (813) and will be offered in the 2026-2027 school year.**

**Music Theory Workshop** 10, 11, 12  
813  
¼ credit 2 semesters  
*Time: Tuesday – 3:00 to 4:00 p.m.*

Music Theory Workshop is a course intended to prepare students for college-level music theory course work or the AP Music Theory class. Aural skills exercises related to these topics will be included. Students will have weekly workbook assignments and aural skills assignments. Students must be members of a music department performance ensemble. **This course alternates yearly with Vocal Techniques (812) and will be offered during the 2025-2026 school year.**

## AP Music Theory - Mother McAuley & Brother Rice

11, 12

781

1 credit

2 semesters

AP Exam Fee Required

This course covers complex musical composition. Beginning with the foundations of music, students quickly work to analyze music on a theoretical level. Breaking down notes from within compositions, students will work to understand the rationale behind how music is composed. Students will also work on aural skills as they are associated with analysis of music. This is a very challenging and fast paced course. Students are required to take the Advanced Placement Exam in Music Theory at the end of the course. **Students who wish to enroll in AP Music Theory must have taken a minimum of two years of a music ensemble or have instructor approval.**

## Beginning Strings – Violin and Viola

9, 10, 11, 12

801

1 credit

2 semesters

Have you ever wanted to play the Violin or Viola but don't have any musical experience? Beginning Strings is for students who would like to learn how to play the Violin or Viola without having studied music before, AND Mother McAuley will provide you with your violin or viola at no charge. Joining Beginning Strings will help you learn to play the violin and viola and allow you to join the McAuley Orchestra. See Course 814 for Cello and Bass.

## Beginning Strings – Cello and Bass

9, 10, 11, 12

814

1 credit

2 semesters

Have you ever wanted to play the Cello or Bass but don't have any musical experience? Beginning Strings is for students who would like to learn how to play the Cello or Bass without having studied music before, AND Mother McAuley will provide you with your Cello or Bass at no charge. Joining Beginning Strings will help you learn to play the cello and bass and allow you to join the McAuley Orchestra. See Course 801 for Violin and Viola

## Intermediate Strings

9, 10, 11, 12

818

1 credit

Audition  
2 semesters

Intermediate Strings is the second year String Orchestra at Mother McAuley and is the course that students who have completed Beginning Strings 801 or 814 should join. The Intermediate String Orchestra is also open to students who have not completed Beginning Strings 801 or 814 but already play an instrument. These students may audition for the Intermediate String Orchestra. Incoming students may also audition for Intermediate Strings and should contact the instructor for placement.

## Symphony Strings Honors

9, 10, 11, 12

796

1 credit

Audition  
2 semesters

Symphony Strings Honors is the third year String Orchestra at Mother McAuley and is the course that students who have completed Intermediate Strings 818 should join. The Symphony Orchestra is also open to advanced students, both current and incoming, who have not completed Intermediate Strings 818 but already play an instrument. The Symphony String Honors Orchestra is an advanced ensemble for students with prior musical experience on a stringed instrument that performs several times throughout the school year on a variety of fun and challenging music.

## String Ensemble Honors

10, 11, 12

798

½ credit

*Time: Monday and Wednesday – 3:00 to 4:00 p.m.*

Audition  
2 semesters

String Ensemble is a performing group of violinists, violists, cellists, and bassists who have proficiency on their instruments. This group performs for school and community events. The musical repertoire performed consists of professional, classical pieces as well as pop string arrangements. Students will increase their musical proficiency in area of theory, history, performance and musicianship. **Prerequisite in a String class is required and concurrent enrollment in Symphony String Orchestra is highly recommended.**

## Beginning Band – Mother McAuley & Brother Rice

9, 10, 11, 12

785

1 credit

2 semesters

In this course, members learn to play a wind, brass, or percussion instrument. The course will be paced at a speed for students who have never played an instrument, students who wish to transition to a new instrument or students who have had little to no experience with a wind, brass, or percussion instrument. Upon successful completion of this course, students are expected to continue their musical journey in a performance group. Instrument choice is determined by student preference and balance of the ensemble. **No musical experience on any instrument is necessary.**

## Concert Band – Mother McAuley & Brother Rice

9, 10, 11, 12

786

1 credit

Audition  
2 semesters

This course is for students in grades 9 - 12 who have mastered the fundamentals of music (i.e. note reading, physical form, basic playing techniques). Students will continue to develop their technical and reading skills by playing woodwind, brass, or percussion instruments. A variety of method materials and ensemble repertoire will challenge students to prepare for public performance. To enroll, students must have at least one year of musical training. The class will be taught in conjunction with Brother Rice. It is an expectation that all students in the class would march in the Brother Rice/Mother McAuley Marching band during the first quarter including football game performances. Students in Concert Band will be assessed a \$100.00 activity fee to cover the costs associated with participation in the Brother Rice/Mother McAuley Marching Band; the fee will be included in the tuition bill.



### **Symphonic Band Honors – Mother McAuley & Brother Rice**

789

1 credit

9, 10, 11, 12

Audition  
2 semesters

This course is for students in grades 9-12 who have mastered the fundamentals of music and intermediate music theory/performance concepts. Students in this course will work on the “Core” of wind ensemble literature. Admission into this class is by audition only. The class will be taught in conjunction with Brother Rice. It is an expectation that all students in the class would march in the Brother Rice/Mother McAuley Marching band during the first quarter including football game performances. Students in Symphonic Band will be assessed a \$100.00 activity fee to cover the costs associated with participation in the Brother Rice/Mother McAuley Marching Band; the fee will be included in the tuition bill.

### **Wind Ensemble Honors – Mother McAuley & Brother Rice**

780

1 credit

9, 10, 11, 12

Audition  
2 semesters

This honors class is the most select performance ensemble for students who play wind, brass, and percussion instruments. The ensemble will perform music at a collegiate level, compete at music festivals in the Chicagoland area, and have the opportunity to represent Mother McAuley and Brother Rice at a variety of local and national events. The class will be taught in conjunction with Brother Rice. It is an expectation that all students in the class would march in the Brother Rice/Mother McAuley Marching band during the first quarter including football game performances. Students in Wind Ensemble will be assessed a \$100.00 activity fee to cover the costs associated with participation in the Brother Rice/Mother McAuley Marching Band; the fee will be included in the tuition bill.

### **Music: From Bach to Rock**

790

½ credit

9, 10, 11, 12

1 semester

This performing arts class celebrates how music is a part of every important aspect of a person's life. Students will learn the building blocks needed to play any of their favorite pieces on piano, guitar, and other instruments! This interactive class enriches students' appreciation for all different styles of music, seeing live performances and understanding how music mirrors our society today. No previous musical experience is necessary.



# Theatre

Students at Mother McAuley are required to take 1 year of any fine art class (performing or visual art). Part of that requirement includes a .5 credit in music or theatre. Every theatre course may be used to fulfill the music/theatre, fine arts, and/or elective graduation requirement. The theatre program creates opportunities for the student to develop her communication as interpretive skills and an actor, speaker or technician and to demonstrate her artistic and personal growth through performance and creation. Program goals include developing self-confidence and poise, creating an environment where students feel supported by peers, applying critical thinking skills through analysis of theatre works and performances, and enhancing awareness of the student's world and her relationship to it through in-depth character study and design projects. **If you have question about the Theatre curriculum, please contact Division Lead Mrs. Rebecca Finn at [rfinn@mothermcauley.org](mailto:rfinn@mothermcauley.org).**

## Public Speaking

9, 10, 11, 12

732

½ credit

1 semester

This course is designed to prepare young women to meet any and all speaking and communication experiences with confidence. Using a variety of speaking styles and techniques modeled on the TED-Talk presentation format, students will write creative, personal speeches on topics about which they feel passionate. Students will workshop a variety of vocal and physical traits, such as meaningful eye contact, rate, pitch and inflection and appropriate nonverbal expression. Each mode of speaking is practiced and performed. The course will also offer a special emphasis on interpersonal communication skills.

## Introduction to Theatre

9, 10, 11, 12

731

½ credit

1 semester

This course introduces students to amateur and professional theatre, giving them a backstage pass to see how theatre is created. Students will compete on a team to 'produce' the most lucrative play, see and review a musical or play at Mother McAuley, explore the creation of a Broadway play, explore the magic of the technical elements on stage, cast a play with your favorite actors and more. Students do not need ANY theatre or acting experience - just a willingness to have fun.

**This is NOT a performance class.**

## Drama

9, 10, 11, 12

721

½ credit

1 semester

This course introduces any student to elements of both acting and technical theatre. Students of any experience level may take this course. This highly interactive, creative, and collaborative class gives students the opportunity to discover strengths and interests in both acting and technical theatre. In the acting unit, students will create relaxing warm-up routines, participate in pantomime scenes with a group, play improv games and develop skits. In the technical theatre unit, students will explore costuming, props, sound, and makeup for actors. This class is designed to help beginners build confidence and find their voice. **This is a performance based class; no experience necessary.** Already know you like Acting or Technical Theatre? Choose course 722 or 723 instead.

## Acting

9, 10, 11, 12

722

½ credit

1 semester

This course is for any student who has a serious interest in acting. Students will practice skills in a collaborative and creative atmosphere. Skilled developed focus on training as an actor, including character development, ensemble work, a dramatic partner scene, and a comic monologue. This supportive environment will prepare students to continue in their theatrical studies. **This course (or 723) serves as a prerequisite for Theatre Workshop I.**

## Technical Theatre

723

½ credit

9, 10, 11, 12

1 semester

This course is for any student who has an interest in technical theatre. Students will practice skills in both traditional classroom and workshop environments. Skills developed focus on more advanced technical theatre training including constructing and painting set pieces, designing and operating stage lights, learning the functions of sound equipment, applying stage makeup, and basic costuming. **This course (or 722) serves as a prerequisite for Theatre Workshop I.**

## Theatre Workshop I – Mother McAuley & Brother Rice

728

1 credit

10, 11, 12

2 semesters

Theatre Workshop I is a full year course for serious actors and theatre technicians. A group of common skills will be taught to all students, while other creative performance projects will be differentiated according to student focus. Those students who declare an acting concentration will focus on the body and voice, and how they are used to build and portray character. Those who declare a technical concentration will focus on the elements of design, and play production. Students will participate in a variety of performance opportunities in and out of the classroom. Collaborative scene projects will give students the opportunity to bring elements of acting and design together on stage. All students will have a role on or off stage in the Spring Play and One Act Festival. Outside rehearsal and performances are required. **Prerequisite of Drama II-Acting/Acting (722) Drama II -Tech/Technical Theatre (723) is required.**

## Theatre Workshop II Honors – Mother McAuley & Brother Rice

739

1 credit

11, 12

2 semesters

Theatre Workshop II is an honors level course for serious actors and technicians. Students will create a dramatization for an all-school performance, analyze scripts for subtext, objective, and relationship, and learn the basic elements of blocking. All students will play a role on or off the stage in the Spring Play. Outside rehearsals and performances are required. Students will continue to read and analyze major works. Students will direct a One Act play, bringing a work from concept through planning, rehearsal, to production. **Prerequisite of Theatre Workshop I is required.**



# Physical Education

Mother McAuley students are required to take 1 year of Physical Education. In accordance with the state and national standards, our curriculum exposes students to a wide range of sports and activities and seeks to develop physical literacy and movement skills. Students will engage in cooperative games with their peers, choose goals and self-reflect, and use technology to enhance physical fitness. The goal of the physical education program is to develop students who can have a lifelong appreciation for, and interest in, physical and leisure activities to promote fun and well-being throughout the lifespan. Our electives provide an opportunity for students to learn specialized skills in various areas including CPR, Health, and Athletic Training. **If you have any questions about the PE curriculum, please contact Division Lead Mrs. Rebecca Finn at [rfinn@mothermcauley.org](mailto:rfinn@mothermcauley.org).**

## Driver Education - Classroom

9, 10, 11, 12

609

No Credit

This course is designed to develop good driving skills, knowledge and attitudes with an emphasis on safety. The goal is to develop a more conscientious, efficient traffic citizen, who understands and demonstrates the essential components of the safe operation of a motor vehicle. All students must pass tests on the rules of the road, signs, and vision to be eligible for behind the wheel instruction and to receive their driving permit. Students have to meet the minimum requirement for completion of 30 class hours in order to “pass” the class, thus attendance is imperative. Students must be 15 years of age by December 1 or May 1, depending on the semester in which they are enrolled. Students must also be in good academic standing and tuition must be paid in full. Driver Education is a 1 semester course that meets in conjunction with a study hall. Students will either attend class on M, W, Th or Tu, Th, F, with non class days being a study hall. **There is a \$105 fee to take Driver Education which must be paid at the time of registration. Students will receive their driver’s permit at the end of the semester, upon successful completion of the course and their Illinois permit test. Additionally, Bogan High School charges a \$50 driving fee (if you choose to drive at Bogan), and there is a \$20 fee required to the Secretary of State. \$20 check or money order made payable to the Secretary of State is required. Students will need to take the driving portion of the class through Bogan High School or a private company. Additional fees to those organizations may apply.**

## Healthy Foundations I

9, 10, 11, 12

638

½ credit

1 semester

This course is the foundation of the physical education curriculum. Aspects of fitness and wellness are explored such as goal setting, target heart rate and fitness assessment. A variety of team and individual sports will be taught such as volleyball, ultimate Frisbee, bowling, etc. Students will also participate in fitness activities such as yoga, strength training and step aerobics. Upon completion of this course students will be more knowledgeable in rules, skills and strategies of various sports and activities as well as components to a healthy lifestyle. P.E. uniform (shirt and shorts) and heart monitor strap are included in the \$45.00 class fee mentioned on the booklist. **This course is a prerequisite for Healthy Foundations II. This course, in conjunction with Healthy Foundations II, fulfills the physical education requirement.**

## Healthy Foundations II

9, 10, 11, 12

639

½ credit

1 semester

This course is a continuation of the physical education curriculum. Aspects of fitness and wellness are explored such as goal setting, target heart rate and personal fitness planning. A variety of team and individual sports will be taught such as badminton, flag football, pickle ball, golf, etc. Students will also participate in fitness activities such as yoga, strength training, and step aerobics. Upon completion of this course students will create a personal exercise plan and will be more knowledgeable in rules, skills and strategies of various sports and activities as well as the components to a healthy lifestyle. **A prerequisite of Healthy Foundations I is required. This course, in conjunction with Healthy Foundations I fulfills the physical education requirement. The PE uniform and heart rate monitor strap from Healthy Foundations I is all required in this class.**

## Team Sports

10, 11, 12

632

½ credit

1 semester

Aspects of physical fitness and wellness are explored through a variety of team sports. Upon completion of this course, students will be familiar with the rules, skills, sportsmanship, team play and strategies of team sports. Sports can include basketball, soccer, volleyball, 16-inch softball, tchoukball, etc. **This is an elective course and does not fulfill the PE requirement.**

## Standard First Aid and CPR

10, 11, 12

643

½ credit

1 semester

Safety techniques and the immediate care of the injured or suddenly ill are taught in this course. Students take practical and written tests for bandaging, wound care, choking, unconscious choking, and adult, child, and infant CPR. Students may receive Red Cross Certification for CPR upon successful completion of this course. **This course will alternate yearly with Healthy You and be offered during the 2025-2026 school year. This is an elective course and does not fulfill the PE requirement.**

## Healthy You

10, 11, 12

651

½ credit

1 semester

This course is for students who desire to gain additional knowledge in nutrition, reduce health risks (alcohol, tobacco, drugs), mental and emotional health, stress, personal care and life learning skills. **This course will alternate yearly with Standard First Aid and CPR and be offered during the 2026-2027 school year. This is an elective course and does not fulfill the PE requirement.**

## Introduction to Athletic Training

12

641

½ credit

1 semester

This course is designed for students interested in entering the Athletic Training or another medical profession (i.e. physical therapy, occupational therapy, physician assistant, nurse, etc.) Concurrent enrollment in Anatomy and Physiology is strongly recommended. This course will cover basic principles of Kinesiology as well as the prevention, recognition, evaluation and treatment of athletic injuries. **This is an elective course and does not fulfill the PE requirement.**



# Science

Science is a four-year requirement at Mother McAuley. The goal of the Science department is to help students understand the practical applications that science has in our world. Science classes stress the importance of critical thinking and logical reasoning and use a variety of methods for investigation, including but not limited to observation, comparison, experimentation, and mathematical manipulation. **If you have any questions about the Science curriculum, please contact Division Lead Mrs. Rebecca Finn at [rfinn@mothermcauley.org](mailto:rfinn@mothermcauley.org).**

## Biology Honors

9

480

1 credit

2 semesters

This laboratory course covers in-depth fundamental biological concepts. Topics covered include cellular structure and function, biochemistry, theories of evolution, genetics, ecology and the structure and function of singular and multicellular organisms (including humans). Skills in analytical and critical thinking are emphasized through inquiry based activities. Students are expected to be more independent learners.

## Biology Advanced

9

485

1 credit

2 semesters

The biology curriculum is designed around phenomena-driven learning and teaching. It involves three dimensional learning using the engineering principles of disciplinary core ideas, cross cutting concepts, and science practice. The expectations are performance driven across the four Illinois State science standards. Skills in analytical and critical thinking are emphasized through inquiry-based activities.

## Biology

9

490

1 credit

2 semesters

The biology curriculum is designed around phenomena-driven learning and teaching. It involves three dimensional learning using the engineering principles of disciplinary core ideas, cross cutting concepts, and science practice. The expectations are performance driven across the four Illinois State science standards. Emphasis is placed on developing study and analytical skills.

## Chemistry Honors

10

413

1 credit

2 semesters

The content for this laboratory course emphasizes the structure and interactions of matter. Topics covered include atomic structure, periodic table, chemical nomenclature, chemical reactions, stoichiometry, states of matter, gas laws, acids and bases and thermo-chemistry. Emphasis is placed on problem-solving, recognizing patterns and mathematical relationships, cause and effect as well as the development of laboratory skills through inquiry based activities. Students are expected to be more independent learners. **A grade of "C" or better in Biology Honors and Algebra Honors is recommended for this course.**

## Chemistry Advanced

10

404

1 credit

2 semesters

The content for this laboratory course emphasizes the structure and interactions of matter. Topics covered include atomic structure, periodic table, chemical nomenclature, chemical reactions, stoichiometry, states of matter, gas laws, and acids and bases. Skills in analytical and critical thinking are emphasized through inquiry based activities.

**A grade of “C” or better in Biology 485 or a teacher recommendation is recommended for this course.**

## Chemistry

10

414

1 credit

2 semesters

This laboratory course teaches the concepts of chemistry and how it relates to the world around us through an integrated thematic approach. The content for this laboratory course emphasizes the structure and interactions of matter. Topics covered include atomic structure, periodic table, chemical nomenclature, chemical reactions, stoichiometry, states of matter, gas laws. Emphasis is on connecting chemical concepts to real world applications through projects and inquiry.

**This course is for students who are in Biology 490.**

## AP Physics I

11, 12

417

1 credit

2 semesters

AP Exam Fee Required

This course is designed to be an accelerated first-year course, appropriate for students in the Honors track. It covers material that is equivalent to a first semester introductory physics course in college. Content will include motion, forces, energy, momentum, rotational mechanics, gravitation, and simple harmonic motion. Laboratory experiments, problem solving, and written explanations of physics concepts are emphasized in all units studied. Students are required to take the Advanced Placement Exam in Physics I at the end of this course. **Successful completion of Honors Chemistry or teacher recommendation required. Physics is a graduation requirement to be fulfilled either junior or senior year**



## Physics Advanced

11, 12

405

1 credit

2 semesters

This laboratory course surveys the fundamental concepts of physics such as motion, forces, energy, light, electricity and waves. Emphasis is placed on development of problem-solving skills and the application of physics principles to everyday life. Completion of or concurrent enrollment in advance level of Advanced Algebra (309) is required. **A grade of “C” or better in Chemistry 404 or a teacher recommendation is recommended for this course. Physics is a graduation requirement to be fulfilled either junior or senior year.**

## Physics

11, 12

408

1 credit

2 semesters

This is an introductory, conceptual physics course. This laboratory course is a survey of fundamental topics in physics, using strong emphasis on concepts and reasoning, and the mathematical tool of algebra. This course covers the topics of motion, forces, energy, light, electricity and waves. Real world application of physics concepts is stressed. **This course is for students who are in Chemistry 414. Physics is a graduation requirement to be fulfilled either junior or senior year.**

## Anatomy and Physiology Honors

12

407

1 credit

2 semesters

This laboratory course focuses on the dependent relationship between the structure and function of the human body. Emphasis is placed on the etiology of diseases in relation to the body and its systems. This class covers anatomical and physiological terminology, cells, tissues, membranes, and the eleven organ systems that make up the human body. Full participation in all labs is required and may include live viewing of medical procedures as well as simulated and/or live dissections. Recommended for students who wish to pursue a health science career.

## Anatomy and Physiology

12

401

1 credit

2 semesters

This laboratory course is designed to introduce students to the inner workings of the human body. Students will learn to properly use anatomical and physiological terminology while describing and exploring the eleven organ systems of the human body. Full participation in all labs is required and may include live viewing of medical procedures as well as simulated and/or live dissections. Recommended for students who wish to pursue a career in health science. **Completion of or concurrent enrollment in Physics required.**

## Environmental Science

12

432

1 credit

2 semesters

This introductory course focuses on the interrelationship between humans and the environment. Topics covered include Earth's spheres, climate change, ecosystem and population dynamics, and the role humans play in managing natural resources.

## Engineering Principles (Project Lead the Way)

11, 12

433

1 credit

2 semesters

This exploratory, project-based class exposes students concepts used in various engineering fields including mechanical, electrical, aerospace, civil, and sustainable engineering. Students do not need any background knowledge in engineering, as this class is designed to introduce students to the engineering process and apply it to a project, either in simulations or actual builds of prototypes.

Subjects studied prepare students for post-secondary engineering courses. Speakers and field trips provide additional authentic experiences. **Completion of or concurrent enrollment in Math 302, 303, or 309 required, and completion of Chemistry 404 or 413 with a “C” or better.**

## AP Computer Science Principles (Amazon Future Engineer Course)

10, 11, 12

431

1 credit

2 semesters

AP Exam Fee Required

This year-long course is designed to be the equivalent to the first semester of Introductory Computer Science in college and follows the College Board AP curriculum. The focus of the course is using technology and programming as a means to solve problems. Student discovery and creativity are central to the course. Independent and collaborative work is stressed as students work to create digital artifacts similar to the process invoked by artists, writers, computer scientists and engineers. Several computer languages will be used during the course including Python, HTML and Scratch. Students are required to take the Advanced Placement Exam in Computer Science Principles at the end of the course. “This class is open to all junior and senior students or sophomore students with a teacher recommendation.

## AP Biology - Mother McAuley & Brother Rice

11, 12

406

1 credit

2 semesters

AP Exam Fee Required

The Advanced Placement Biology course is designed to be the equivalent of a college level introductory biology course. Extensive laboratory work is an integral part of this course. Students are required to take the Advanced Placement Exam in Biology at the end of the course. **Successful completion of Honors Biology is required or teacher recommendation. This is a period and a half course with a 7:30 start time into first period.**

## AP Chemistry - Mother McAuley & Brother Rice

11, 12

402

1 credit

2 semesters

AP Exam Fee Required

The Advanced Placement Chemistry course is designed to be the equivalent of a general chemistry course usually taken during the first college year. Extensive laboratory work is an integral part of this course. Students are required to take the Advanced Placement Chemistry Exam at the end of the course. **Successful completion of Honors Chemistry is required or teacher recommendation. This is a period and a half course with a 7:30 start time into first period.**

## AP Physics C - Mechanics - Mother McAuley & Brother Rice

12

412

1 credit

2 semesters

AP Exam Fee Required

This Advanced Placement Physics C course is designed to be the equivalent of a calculus-based physics course in mechanics usually taken during the first college year. Extensive laboratory work is an integral part of this course. Topics include motion, forces, energy, momentum, rotational mechanics, gravitation and simple harmonic motion. Students are required to take the Advanced Placement Physics C - Mechanics exam at the end of the course. **Concurrent enrollment Calculus (AP or Honors) is strongly recommended.**

# Social Science

The Social Science department works with various disciplines, including World and United States History, as well as several sophomore, junior, and senior Social Science electives. Course content engages students to think critically, communicate effectively, and make personal and civil decisions on information from multiple perspectives. The Social Science department encourages all levels of students to learn about our global community. Mother McAuley students have a 3 year requirement in the Social Sciences. All students must take World History and US History and must pass the US Constitution test in order to graduate. **If you have any questions about the Social Science curriculum, please contact Division Lead Mrs. Rita Fox at [rfox@mothermcauley.org](mailto:rfox@mothermcauley.org).**

## AP Human Geography

9, 10

245

1 credit

2 semesters

AP Exam Fee Required

AP Human Geography exposes students to college-level introductory human and cultural geography concepts. In this yearlong freshman/sophomore course the content is presented thematically rather than regionally and is organized around these main subtopics: economic geography, cultural geography, political geography, and urban geography. The goal of this course is for students to become more engaged in contemporary global issues and more informed about multicultural viewpoints. This course is designed to develop the skills of analysis and critical thinking in order to prepare the students for success in other AP courses, college and the 21st century. Students are required to take the Advanced Placement Exam in Human Geography at the end of the course. **Freshman students enrolled in all honors classes are required to enroll in AP Human Geography.**

## AP World History

9, 10

228

1 credit

2 semesters

AP Exam Fee Required

AP World History is a challenging year-long course that is structured around the investigation of five course themes and nineteen key concepts in six different chronological periods. Using primary and secondary sources, AP World History students track historical change and continuity over the six time periods, paying attention to unifying course themes and accompanying learning objectives. This course is designed to develop the skills of analysis and critical thinking in order to prepare the students for success in other AP courses, college and the twenty-first century. Students are required to take the Advanced Placement Exam in World History at the end of the course.

## World History Advanced

9, 10

214

1 credit

2 semesters

World History examines the history and cultural achievements of people from ancient times to the 20th century. Students will understand political, social, economic, artistic, and scientific developments that highlight both western and non-western civilization. The development of the key skills of critical reading, writing and map analysis will be emphasized.

## World History

10

215

1 credit

2 semesters

This course is designed to provide students with an understanding of World History as they study geography, politics, economics, and the development of societies. Students will understand and explore the formation of World cultures from Ancient Greece through the 20th century. Students will comprehend the key skills of critical reading, writing and map analysis will be emphasized.

## AP U.S. History

10, 11

208

1 credit

2 semesters

AP Exam Fee Required

The AP US History course is designed to provide students with the analytic skills and factual knowledge necessary to deal critically with the problems and materials in U.S. history. Students learn to assess historical materials – their relevance to given interpretive problem, reliability and importance – and to weigh the evidence and interpretations presented in historical scholarship. AP U.S. History develops the skills necessary to arrive at conclusions on the basis of an informed judgment and to present reasons and evidence clearly in an essay format. Students in AP U.S. History are also required to study the United States and Illinois Constitutions. Students are required to take the Advanced Placement Exam in United States History at the end of the course. **Prerequisite is a B or better in AP Human Geography or AP World History (or teacher recommendation).**

## U.S. History Honors

11

209

1 credit

2 semesters

US History Honors is a fast-paced in-depth study of United States history. Students investigate political, economic, social and cultural developments relevant to United States history. This course follows a traditional survey approach to the study of history. Students enrolled in this course are required to take and pass the United States and Illinois Constitution tests as a graduation requirement. **Prerequisite is a B or better in AP World History or World History Honors (or teacher recommendation).**

## U.S. History Advanced

10, 11

212

1 credit

2 semesters

This course provides students with the opportunity to investigate the political, social, economic and cultural development of America from the age of discovery to the present. Students enrolled in this course are required to take and pass the United States and Illinois Constitution Tests as a graduation requirement.



## AP U.S. Government and Politics

12

226

1 credit

2 semesters

AP Exam Fee Required

This course provides students with an analytical perspective on government and politics in America. This course includes both the study of general concepts used to interpret U.S. Government and politics and analysis of specific examples. In preparation for the AP exam, students will examine these topics: Constitutional Underpinnings of U.S. Government; Political Beliefs and Behaviors; Political Parties, Interest Groups, Mass Media; Institutions of National Government; Public Policy, and Civil Rights and Liberties. Students are required to take the Advanced Placement Exam in U.S. Government and Politics at the end of the course. **Prerequisite is a B or better in AP Human Geography, AP World History, or World History Honors (or teacher recommendation).**

## Advanced Economics

11, 12

250

½ credit

1 semester

This one-semester course is designed to develop an objective, rational way of thinking about economic problems. The principle aim of this course is to develop the students "economic way of thinking". Emphasis is placed on the economy of the United States, both domestic and international economic issues are studied. Understanding supply and demand, as well as the concept of economic scarcity are the first tools towards understanding what these changes are and how they affect economic choices and decisions of individuals, businesses, and government. Additional topics include the principles of investing, the budget deficit, capitalism, and the economics of current social problems, unemployment, fiscal and monetary policy and how the economy relates to the student in today's world.

## Developmental Psychology Honors (McAuley Little School)

12

253

2 credits

2 semesters

Personal Interview

This course focuses on the study of theories of development that include the physical, psychosocial, cognitive and moral development of the individual from infancy through childhood. Application of these theories as they relate to the child's formal and informal school experiences is examined. Instructional methods include activity/ learning centers, individualization, and media and their utilization in extending the child's understanding of art, music, literature and reading instruction. Prerequisites are a minimum of a 3.0 cumulative GPA, completion of the application, interview, dean signature and review of attendance and disciplinary records. Students in this class will instruct grammar school students from Kindergarten through third grade. This is an experiential learning opportunity, with students traveling to area grammar schools. **At the successful completion of this course, students will receive ONE credit in Social Science and ONE general elective credit. All students wishing to enroll in Developmental Psych must complete an interview and teacher recommendation.**

## Psychology

11, 12

251

½ credit

1 semester

This course is designed to stimulate interest in and expand knowledge of the field of psychology. The work "psychology" is derived from two terms -ology meaning "study" and psyche meaning "mind." In the "study of the mind," students examine various psychological phenomena from bio-behavioral and socio-behavioral perspectives. Current issues in psychology such as intelligence, development, perception, learning, abnormal behavior, language, and social behavior will be explored. This course requires both independent and interactive participation through group discussion, project-based activities, and individual assessments.

## Sociology

11, 12

252

½ credit

1 semester

In order to prepare students to be global citizens, it is important to emphasize the ways in which the social world has been constructed. Why are people categorized into races, genders, and classes? How are these classifications created and maintained? What are the consequences of these labels for society and individuals? At the core of this course is the analysis of the causes and consequences of social change through a sociological framework. The course will challenge students to critically examine the world around them. Topics include the evolution and social construction of race, the economic and political structures that support class divisions in American society, and the evolution of gender roles in our society.

## American Criminal Justice

11, 12

248

½ credit

1 semester

In this one semester course, students will be introduced to the historical and philosophical foundations of the American legal system. Students will study the Constitutional basis of our justice system and examine both criminal and civil law. They will study how laws reflect the values of society at different periods in time and examine how justice is administered (i.e. the prison system). Students will analyze important court decisions and make use of case studies as they learn these fundamental concepts of the justice system. As a result of taking this course, students will develop a deeper understanding of and appreciation for this complex and vital part of our nation's government.

## AP Psychology

12

206

1 credit

2 semesters

AP Exam Fee Required

The AP Psychology 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. They also learn about the ethics and methods psychologists use in their science and practice. Students are required to take the Advanced Placement Exam in Psychology at the end of the course. **Prerequisite is a B or better in any AP or Honors level Social Science course (or teacher recommendation).**

## Personal Finance (Financial Literacy)

10, 11, 12

604

½ credit

1 semester

This course provides students with the foundations and financial skills in money management. Students will explore real life financial scenarios such as buying a car, filling out the FAFSA form, understanding pay stubs, filing taxes, credit scores, types of insurance, consumer protection, budgeting, interest rates and investing. **This is a graduate requirement in addition to the 3 credits of Social Science courses needed to graduate. This course will be offered during the summer of 2025 as well.**

# Theology

Students are required to take four years of Theology at Mother McAuley. The objective of the Theology curriculum is to help nurture the faith life of each student, while enhancing their knowledge of basic tenets of their faith and raising awareness of religions and cultures outside of their own. The Theology Department's goal is that the students leave McAuley having grown in their knowledge of their faith, have personally strengthened their own faith, and that they walk away from McAuley equipped with tools to practice moral decision making and be positive and contributing members of society.

**If you have any questions about the Theology curriculum, please contact Division Lead Mr. John Kyler at [jk Tyler@mothermcauley.org](mailto:jk Tyler@mothermcauley.org).**

## Theology I

9

010

1 credit

2 semesters

Theology I invites students to grow in their relationship with God through a deeper understanding of the central beliefs and practices of the Catholic faith. The foundation of the course is the study of Jesus the Messiah, the Paschal Mystery, sacraments and the liturgical life of the Church. Additionally, students explore the impact of cultural influences on personal development and moral decision-making. Other areas of study include: the dignity and worth of all human life, the sacredness of human sexuality, the value of chastity and abstinence, and the importance of healthy self-esteem and strong personal values. Theology I is rooted in the Mercy tradition and incorporates doctrinal elements from the High School Curriculum Framework of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops.

Retreat: Required one-day reflection on a theme determined by the Peer Ministers.

Service: Minimum of 15 hours required.

Prayer: Participation in classroom and school liturgies.



## Theology II

10

020

1 credit

2 semesters

Theology II invites students to grow in their relationship with God through an in-depth exploration of the Hebrew and Christian Scriptures. The focus of the first semester is the Hebrew Scriptures with an emphasis on creation, covenant, freedom, suffering, kingdom, prophecy and hope. Jesus in the Gospels is the primary focus of the second semester. The course surveys the social and cultural backgrounds of the Scriptures, as well as significant persons, events and major teachings. Students reflect on and integrate the universal truths and relevant teachings that emerge from the Scriptures and work to apply those to their own spiritual and personal lives. Theology II is rooted in the Mercy tradition and incorporates doctrinal elements from the High School Curriculum Framework of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops.

Retreat: Required one-day of reflection on a theme determined by the Peer Ministers.

Service: Minimum of 15 hours required.

Prayer: Participation in classroom and school liturgies.

## Theology III

11

030

1 credit

2 semesters

Theology III invites students to grow in their relationship with God through a study of the historical development and Social Teaching of the Catholic Church. Students become familiar with pivotal moments, key teachings and exemplars of faith throughout the course of Church history. Furthermore, students examine a variety of social concerns, as well as the universal call to peaceful / non-violent living in the 21st century. Through a deeper understanding of Church History and Catholic Social Teaching, students gain a greater awareness of the call to transformation and holiness and acquire the knowledge and skills to demonstrate peaceful responses to these issues. Theology III is rooted in the Mercy tradition and incorporates doctrinal elements from the High School Curriculum Framework of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops. Retreat: Required one-day of service and reflection.

Service: Minimum of 15 hours required.

Prayer: Participation in classroom and school liturgies.

## Theology IV / Living Faith

12

040

1 credit

2 semesters

Theology IV / Living Faith serves as a culmination of Catholic religious education at Mother McAuley Liberal Arts High School. Students are invited to grow in their relationship with God through a synthesis of theological inquiry, lived experience and practical application. In Living Faith, students will specifically reflect on the way God is revealed in both the ordinary and extraordinary experiences of life. Students are invited to explore ultimate questions and challenges of our time through the lens of faith and the unique expression of being a woman in the world today. Senior students will study the religions of the world in order to note how the ultimate questions are explored in different cultures. They are invited to deepen their understanding of their interconnectedness to the global community, ultimately realizing their potential to bring hope and healing to the world. Theology IV / Living Faith is rooted in the Mercy tradition and incorporates doctrinal elements from the High School Curriculum Framework of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops.

Retreat: Kairos (recommended)

Service: Minimum of 15 hours required.

Prayer: Participation in classroom and school liturgies.

## Theology IV / Global Studies

12

041

1 credit

2 semesters

Theology IV / Global Studies serves as a culmination of Catholic religious education at Mother McAuley Liberal Arts High School. Students are invited to grow in their relationship with God through a synthesis of theological inquiry, lived experience and practical application. In Global Studies, students will specifically study the interrelatedness of global cultures, religions and the Christian faith. Steeped in the foundational elements of Catholic Theology students reflect upon the human quest to understand God, individual identity and morality. The formational and project-based experiences of the course enable students to develop a stronger sense of identity and spirituality that is reverent and globally informed. Theology IV / Global Studies is rooted in the Mercy tradition and incorporates doctrinal elements from the High School Curriculum Framework of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops.

Retreat: Kairos (recommended)

Service: Minimum of 15 hours required.

Prayer: Participation in classroom and school liturgies.

## Theology IV / Peer Ministry

12

043

1 credit

2 semesters

Theology IV / Peer Ministry serves as a culmination of Catholic religious education at Mother McAuley Liberal Arts High School. Students are invited to grow in their relationship with God through a synthesis of theological inquiry, lived experience and practical application. In Peer Ministry, students will specifically be given opportunities to grow in leadership and ministerial skills to serve the McAuley community, the Church and the world. Students will explore the idea of vocation as a universal call to holiness and discern how to use their unique gifts for the service of others. Hands-on experiences, including liturgical, retreat and service opportunities, are an integral part of the course. Theology IV / Peer Ministry is rooted in the Mercy tradition and incorporates doctrinal elements from the High School Curriculum Framework of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops. **Completed application and teacher recommendation required to be considered for this course. This course includes time commitments outside of school hours.**

Retreat: Kairos (recommended)

Service: Minimum of 15 hours required.

Prayer: Participation in classroom and school liturgies.



# Visual Arts & Technology

Mother McAuley students have a 1 year Fine Arts requirement which can include classes in the Visual and Performing Arts. Additionally, students are required to take a semester of Art History prior to graduation. Preparation in the visual arts provides our young women with creative and critical problem-solving skills in addition to developing their own appreciation of art as a unique visual record of the diverse cultures of the world. The Visual Arts take a holistic orientation to education. Our curriculum is designed to challenge McAuley's young women to engage in the imagination, foster flexible ways of thinking creatively and critically, develop disciplined effort, build self-confidence, achieve technical skills for personal expression, and build portfolios for future study and career opportunities. **If you have any questions about the Visual Arts and Technology curriculum, please contact Division Lead Mrs. Meghan Brazel at mbrazel@mothermcauley.org.**

2D Courses Offered	3D Courses Offered	Digital Courses
Intro to Drawing	Ceramics	Art & Emerging Tech
Intro to Painting	Sculpture	Graphic Design
Advanced Drawing	Clay Sculpture & Wheel Throwing	Digital Animation
Advanced Painting		Illustration/Digital Illust. on iPad
Photography I		Architectural Design & CAD
Photography II		
Studio Art Honors		
AP Art & Design		

\*Art History is a semester course and a graduation requirement. Students have the option to take AP Art History (full-year course) instead.

\* Journalism and Journalism II Honors earn 1 full credit (½ credit for each Visual Arts and English).

## Art History

11, 12

742

½ credit

1 semester

This course introduces students to the fundamental skills, concepts, materials and processes of the visual arts. Students will engage with and explore a comprehensive range of art from diverse cultures, artistic traditions and styles. Throughout the course students will be introduced to 21st Century elements and principles of design, art careers as well as creative studio activities. The course includes opportunities for students to create, present, respond, and connect with and through art. The course is designed to promote visual literacy and teach students the many ways the arts are an integral part of human development. Learning historical and cultural context in which artworks were produced will enable students to develop a broad base for understanding cultural diversity and a variety of global points of view. Work on art production activities gives students the opportunity to create works of art using a variety of media.

**This course is a graduation requirement.**

## AP Art History - Mother McAuley & Brother Rice

11, 12

701

1 credit

2 semesters

AP Exam Fee Required

This course provides students with an opportunity to examine and critically analyze major historical periods of art. Students examine major forms of artistic expression from the past and present from a variety of cultures. AP Art History emphasizes understanding how and why works of art function in context, considering such issues as patronage, gender, and the functions and effects of art. **Fulfills the Art History requirement.** Students are required to take the Advanced Placement Exam in Art History at the end of our course.

## 2D Courses

### Introduction to Drawing

9, 10, 11, 12

703

½ credit

1 semester

This course provides an introduction to basic drawing techniques, materials, composition skills and elements of design. Still life and portraiture are among the subject matters covered. **This is a required course for those interested in pursuing Introduction to Painting, Advanced Drawing and Advanced Painting, Illustration/Digital Illustration on the iPad, Studio Art Honors and Advanced Placement Art and Design.**

### Introduction to Painting

9, 10, 11, 12

705

½ credit

1 semester

This course provides an introduction to basic painting media, techniques, color theory, composition skills and elements of design. Still life, landscape, portraiture and non-representational ideas are among the subject matter covered.

**This is a required course for those interested in pursuing Advanced Painting, Studio Art Honors or Advanced Placement Art and Design. Introduction to Drawing 703 is a prerequisite.**

### Advanced Drawing

10, 11, 12

762

½ credit

1 semester

This course will provide students with the technical skills and time to create original finished drawings incorporating a broad range of subject matter and artistic media. Students will build onto technical skills learned at the introduction level, and focus on: experimentation, light and shade / rendering of form, mark making, exploring the illusion of depth well-designed visual compositions, and creative problem solving. **This class is required for those interested in moving to Studio Art Honors.**

### Advanced Painting

10, 11, 12

761

½ credit

1 semester

This course will provide students with the technical skills and time to create original finished paintings incorporating a broad range of subject matter and paint media. Students will build onto technical skills learned at the introduction level, and focus on: experimentation, light and shade / rendering of form, mark making, exploring the illusion of depth well-designed visual compositions, and creative problem solving. **This class is required for those interested in moving to Studio Art Honors.**

## Photography I

11, 12

710

½ credit

1 semester

This course provides students with a technical foundation in black and white film photography. Black and white skills include: how to operate a 35 mm film camera, and the processing of film and prints in a well-equipped darkroom. It is helpful if you have access to a 35mm SLR camera.

## Photography II

11, 12

711

½ credit

1 semester

This course builds on the concepts and techniques introduced in Photography I. The focus of this course is to experience photography as an expressive medium learning alternative techniques and creative processes with film and digital manipulation. Students will be introduced to the creative functions of a digital 35mm, SLR camera as well as the functions of an iPhone and iPad. Additionally students will experiment with Adobe Creative Cloud programs such as Lightroom and Photoshop. **Photography I is a prerequisite.**

## Studio Art Honors

11, 12

743

1 credit

2 semesters

This course explores critical thinking / creative problem-solving through various fine art media and techniques, including drawing, painting, printmaking, and collage. This course requires independent work in sketchbook/journal and long-term assignments. Introduction to Drawing, Introduction to Painting, Advanced Drawing and Advanced Painting are prerequisites. This course is targeted for students who are serious about pursuing art in college and/or as a career choice. **Students must take and earn a “C” or better in Advanced Drawing in order to enroll in this course. Studio Art Honors is strongly recommended as a course taken before AP Art and Design.**

## AP Art & Design

11, 12

758

1 credit

2 semesters

AP Exam Fee Required

Portfolio Submission

This course is for highly motivated junior or senior art students who intend to pursue art on the post-secondary level and beyond. The AP Art and Design student will develop and apply skills of inquiry and investigation, practice, experimentation, revision, communication, and reflection. Art and Design is not based on a written examination; instead the student submits a portfolio for evaluation at the end of the school year. The AP portfolio contains two sections. 1) Sustained Investigation made up of art creation through practice, experimentation, and revision and the 2) Selected Works section demonstrating skillful synthesis of art materials, processes, and ideas. **Introduction to Drawing, 703, Introduction to Painting 705, and Advanced Drawing and Advanced Painting are prerequisites. Studio Art Honors 743 is strongly recommended.** Students are required to submit an Advanced Placement portfolio at the end of the course.

## 3D Courses

### Ceramics

9, 10, 11, 12

706

½ credit

1 semester

This course explores the nature of clay. It involves the discussion of ceramic terms, the preparation of clay, demonstration of various hand building techniques, sculptural composition, and glazing techniques. Special requirements include outside research and additional time for assignments and preparation of clay. One extra period a week is required outside of regular class time. **This is a required course for those interested in pursuing sculpture, clay sculpture and wheel throwing.**

### Sculpture

9, 10, 11, 12

707

½ credit

1 semester

This course builds upon previously learned skills and techniques. It is designed to allow the student to explore the methods of creating 3-dimensional art. It includes working with paper / paper maché, plaster, wire and other sculpting media to create non-representational, as well as representational works of art. **Ceramics 706 is a prerequisite.**

### Clay Sculpture and Wheel Throwing

10, 11, 12

745

½ credit

1 semester

The clay sculpture and wheel throwing course will review and strengthen student use of the elements and principles of 3-D design. Students will create unique finished clay sculpture using slab and other hand-building techniques as well as learning the fundamentals of creating cylinders, cups, plates, bowls and other serving vessels on the potter's wheels. **Ceramics 706 is a prerequisite.**



# Digital Courses

## Art and Emerging Technology

9, 10, 11, 12

709

½ credit

1 semester

Art and Emerging Technology will provide students with a variety of creative applications of contemporary technologies including web design, graphic imaging, and animation - utilizing Adobe Photoshop. Students will be able to transfer and apply these skills for further exploration in high school, college preparation, and/or work-related career paths. Final Assessment will include a digital portfolio. **This course is a prerequisite for Graphic Design and Digital Animation.**

## Graphic Design

10, 11, 12

760

½ credit

1 semester

Graphic Design is art that combines images, words, and ideas to communicate messages to an audience. It is used in advertising products. This course begins with an introduction to the basic concepts of 2-D design. Students will explore visual communication concepts and design principles through creative problem solving and development of technical skills. Students will use Adobe InDesign and Photoshop. **Art and Emerging Technology 709 is a prerequisite.**

## Digital Animation

10, 11, 12

766

½ credit

1 semester

Digital Animation will provide students with creative problem solving and professional discipline in the world of visual communication, gaming and technology. It will introduce students to the creative field of digital animation. Through the use of cutting edge software (Adobe Animate and Adobe After Effects), students will learn how to produce their own unique multimedia animation productions to be used in Web applications, digital portfolio artifacts or to stand on their own as works of art. Students will incorporate music and sound effects in their animation productions along with hand drawings, scanned images and text. The fundamentals of animation, such as storyboarding, timing, exaggeration and staging will be emphasized. **Art and Emerging Technology 709 is a prerequisite.**

## Illustration/Digital Illustration on the iPad

10, 11, 12

763

½ credit

1 semester

This course is designed for students interested in visual communications and marketing careers. Students will build visual/creative problem-solving skills and get an overview of the illustration industry with a focus on fundamental elements and principles of visual art and design. Students will become proficient in the use of a variety of illustration media including: marker rendering, colored pencil, pen and ink and watercolor. Students will also have the option to create illustrations digitally utilizing an apple pencil on their iPad. Students can use various iPad apps. Illustration is strongly recommended for students interested in pursuing Advanced Placement Art and Design 2-D Portfolio. **Introduction to Drawing 703 is a prerequisite.**

## Architectural Drawing, Design, and CAD (Computer Aided Design)

10, 11, 12

755

1 credit

2 semesters

This course will provide students an introduction to concepts, tools and language in the areas of architectural drawing and computer-aided design, in order to understand how engineers, architects, and product-designers problem solve and develop creative ideas from inception to production. **There are no prerequisites to take this course.**

## Journalism I - Yearbook and Newspaper

10, 11, 12

115

1 credit: ½ English, ½ Art

2 semesters

Journalism is an interdisciplinary, Art/English elective course in which students spend one semester learning the basics of journalism and one semester learning photo journalism, design and layout. Students will learn how to research information, and write and edit stories in AP style. In addition, students will learn InDesign, Photoshop and eDesign software. The specific content of the class can be found in the description for class Journalism II 117. Honors level English must be taken concurrently. **This is a required course for those students interested in writing and designing both the school newspaper and yearbook in Journalism II Honors.**

## Journalism II Honors - Yearbook and Newspaper

11, 12

117

1 credit: ½ English, ½ Art

2 semesters

This is a team-taught, interdisciplinary, project-based course in which students will collaborate, write news, editorials and feature. They will also learn and adapt creative approaches to advertise, edit, design and lay out the school newspaper and yearbook. Journalism Honors students will:

- select and develop appropriate themes for “In-School” publications through peer collaboration
- recognize and demonstrate the elements of a newspaper/yearbook layout
- apply photo journalistic techniques
- create interesting compositional layout designs
- operate ‘Photoshop’, ‘In Design’ and eDesign software
- produce layouts and copy to meet publication deadlines
- develop and plan a public relations event to support overall sales of the yearbook

As an honors level class, students are expected to adhere to a rigorous schedule that has specific deadlines determined by publishers. Expectations for these deadlines require strong organizational skills, the ability to communicate well with others and responsible decision making. AP, Honors and Advanced level English must be taken concurrently. **Journalism I is a prerequisite. This class may be taken more than once.**



# World Languages

Mother McAuley students have a 2 year requirement in World Languages. In keeping with the mission of Mother McAuley High School to communicate effectively and to appreciate the diversity of the global community, the World Languages Department strives to develop linguistic and cultural competence in our students so that they are able to participate in our increasingly interconnected world. **If you have any questions about the World Languages curriculum, please contact Division Lead Mrs. Roz Sunquist at [rsunquist@mothermcauley.org](mailto:rsunquist@mothermcauley.org).**

## French I Honors

9, 11

515

1 credit

2 semesters

The first year language program introduces students to a new language and culture through a digital learning platform. Emphasis is placed on developing communication skills rapidly with grammar, reading, and writing activities designed to build proficiency. **Juniors will not receive Honors credit for this course.**

## French I Advanced

9, 11

516

1 credit

2 semesters

The first year language program introduces students to a new language and culture through a digital learning platform. Emphasis is placed on communication with grammar exercises designed to build proficiency, as well as reading and writing activities appropriate to the level.

## French II Honors

10, 12

510

1 credit

2 semesters

The second year honors course continues to build proficiency skills more rapidly through a digital learning platform. The student continues to rapidly develop skills in communicative competence with listening, speaking, reading, and writing exercises appropriate to the Honors level. **Seniors will not receive Honors credit for this course.**

## French II Advanced

10, 12

511

1 credit

2 semesters

The second year course continues to build proficiency in the language through a digital learning platform. The student continues to develop communicative competence with speaking, listening, reading, and writing exercises appropriate to the level.

## French III Honors

11

505

1 credit

2 semesters

The third year Honors course emphasizes the three modes of communication: interpersonal, presentational, and interpretive with a digital learning platform designed for pre-Advanced Placement study. The student is introduced to the six core themes proposed by the College Board. **Prerequisite: Enrollment is limited to those students who have completed two years of study in the Honors program.**

### French III Advanced

11

506

1 credit

2 semesters

The third year program emphasizes the three modes of communication: interpersonal, presentational, and interpretive with a digital learning platform. The student reinforces and expands her skills in vocabulary and grammar.

### AP French

12

500

1 credit

2 semesters

AP Exam Fee Required

This course offers the highly motivated student the opportunity to develop all skills for communication using authentic materials in preparation for the AP Exam in May. The course content reflects a variety of academic and cultural topics that align with the AP French themes identified by the College Board. Authentic resources include audio, DVD, films, newspapers, magazine articles, and French television. Enrollment is limited to those students who have completed three years of study in the Honors French program. Students are required to take the Advanced Placement Exam in French at the end of the course. **Placement is based on recommendation by the Language III Honors teacher.**

### French IV Advanced

12

501

1 credit

2 semesters

This course has a dual focus. It introduces the student to French literary expression and advances the student's use of the language by providing a variety of culturally relevant materials to stimulate oral and written discussion. Skills are reinforced by a review of grammar.

### Spanish I Honors

9, 11

535

1 credit

2 semesters

This course is designed to introduce students to the language with emphasis on listening, speaking, writing and reading. The study of grammar is also initiated at this level. These students will progress rapidly and develop competence in the skills and structure of the language through a communicative approach. **Juniors will not receive Honors credit for this course.**



**Spanish I Advanced** 9, 11  
536  
1 credit 2 semesters

This first year program is designed to introduce students to the culture and the language through a communicative approach. Emphasis is placed on listening, speaking, writing, reading and grammar.

**Spanish I** 9, 11  
538  
1 credit 2 semesters

In this course, a specialized approach is used to introduce the students to the Spanish language and culture. Students will begin developing confidence in the skills of listening, speaking, writing, reading and grammar.

**Spanish II Honors** 10, 12  
530  
1 credit 2 semesters

The second year honors program emphasizes competence in the use of the language. Stress is placed on the development of oral skills, progress in reading, writing and listening. **Seniors will not receive Honors credit for this course.**

**Spanish II Advanced** 10, 12  
531  
1 credit 2 semesters

The second year program is designed to develop competence in the language. Grammar is emphasized so that students can begin to master the skills and structure of the language.

**Spanish II** 10, 12  
533  
1 credit 2 semesters

This course is a continuation of the specialized approach to second language learning. Students will continue to develop the skills of listening, speaking, reading, writing, and grammar in their study of the Spanish language and culture.

**Spanish III Honors** 11  
525  
1 credit 2 semesters

This course begins with a review of the grammar structures taught at the introductory levels. Conducted almost entirely in Spanish, the course gives students an intensive study of grammar structures that are necessary for successful development of essential skills. Writing assignments reinforce students' command of more complex grammar structures. The literary component of this course is an introduction to the reading comprehension process and provides topics for oral discussion and exposure to the culture of Spain. Varied listening comprehension activities also provide opportunity for cultural exposure. **Prerequisite: Enrollment is limited to those students who have completed two years of study in the Honors program.**

**Spanish III Advanced** 11  
526  
1 credit 2 semesters

This course offers students the opportunity to master basic grammatical skills and to improve oral expression directly through conversation and composition exercises. Selected readings and short stories, not only provide insights into the history, culture and lifestyle of the Spanish people with an emphasis on Latin America, but also develop the skills of reading and writing.

### Spanish III

527

1 credit

11

2 semesters

This course focuses on a beginning approach to literature in Spain and Latin America. Grammar, composition and conversation skills are strengthened and reinforced throughout the year.

### AP Spanish

519

1 credit

AP Exam Fee Required

12

The AP Spanish course is intended for students who wish to develop proficiency and integrate their language skills using authentic materials and sources. Students who enroll should have knowledge of the Spanish language and culture and should have attained a reasonable level of proficiency in using the language. Course content reflects a variety of academic and cultural topics that align with the AP Spanish Language Themes as identified by the College Board. Materials included authentic resources in the form of recordings, films, newspapers, and magazines. Students are required to take the Advanced Placement Exam in Spanish at the end of the course. **Placement is based on recommendation by the Language III Honors teacher.**

### Spanish IV Honors

520

1 credit

12

2 semesters

This course provides an in-depth study of Spanish grammar and structures using authentic materials and sources. Emphasis is also placed on the continued development of composition and listening skills.

### Spanish IV Advanced

521

1 credit

12

2 semesters

This course is of special interest to students who wish to attain proficiency at the advanced level. Included in the course are a comprehensive review of grammar, expansion of conversational skills, development of reading skills, acquisition of new vocabulary and insights into the customs of Spanish-speaking countries. Course content reflects a variety of cultural topics through the arts, history, literature, and film.





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