



Fairfield College Preparatory School

# **Course Catalog and Course Selection Information**

**2025 – 2026 Academic Year**

# Table of Contents

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Graduation Requirements and Course of Studies	3
Course Selection Timetable	4
English Department	5
Innovation Department	10
Math Department	14
School and College Counseling Department	19
Science Department	21
Social Studies Department	27
Theology Department	34
Visual and Performing Arts Department	36
World Language Department	41

# Graduation Requirements and Course of Studies

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Students at Fairfield Prep must fulfill the following graduation requirements:

4 years of English  
4 years of Mathematics  
4 years of Theology  
3 years of Science

3 years of Social Studies  
3 years of World Language  
1 year of Visual and Performing Arts  
½ year of Innovation

The Course of Studies for students in the **Class of 2028** for the 2025 – 2026 academic year should include:

- English (English II or Honors English II)
- Mathematics (Geometry or higher depending on current course)
- Theology II
- Science (Biology, Honors Biology, Physics, Honors Physics, or AP Physics I, depending on current enrollment)
- Social Studies (Western Civilization, Honors Western Civilization or AP European History)
- World Language

The Course of Studies for students in the **Class of 2027** for the 2025 – 2026 academic year should include:

- English (American Literature or AP English Literature & Composition)
- Mathematics (Algebra II or higher depending on current course)
- Theology III
- Science (Physics, Honors Physics, or AP Physics I, Chemistry or Honors Chemistry depending on current enrollment)
- Social Studies (United States History or AP United States History)
- World Language

The Course of Studies for students in the **Class of 2026** for the 2025 – 2026 academic year should include:

- English (English IV (select one course) or AP English Language & Composition. Creative Writing is an elective that cannot be taken to fulfill the four-year English requirement)
- Mathematics (Pre-Calculus or higher depending on current course)
- Theology (Select one of three Social Ethics courses)
- Science OR Elective (Students must take Chemistry if they have not already done so.)
- Social Studies OR Elective (Students who did not take Global Studies in their freshman year must enroll in a Social Studies course.)
- World Language OR Elective (Students must complete three years and through the third level in one World Language to fulfill the graduation requirement.)

# Course Selection Timetable

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## Class of 2026, 2027 and 2028

Wednesday, February 5 <sup>th</sup>	Course Selection Assemblies
Thursday, February 6 <sup>th</sup> and Friday, February 7 <sup>th</sup> Tuesday, February 25 <sup>th</sup> and Wednesday, February 26 <sup>th</sup> Wednesday, March 5 <sup>th</sup> and Thursday, March 6 <sup>th</sup>	Counseling Sessions
Thursday, February 6 <sup>th</sup>	Parent Information Session (Zoom)
Wednesday, February 5 <sup>th</sup> – Friday, March 7 <sup>th</sup>	Course Request Access Period
Monday, March 10 <sup>th</sup> – Friday, March 21 <sup>st</sup>	Department Chair Approval Period
Wednesday, March 26 <sup>th</sup>	Course Approvals Published
Wednesday, March 26 <sup>th</sup> – Wednesday, April 9 <sup>th</sup>	Course Appeal and Add / Drop Period
Tuesday, April 29 <sup>th</sup>	Final Course Approvals Posted

## AP English Literature & Composition and AP English Language & Composition Exams

All rising juniors and seniors interested in enrolling in AP English Literature & Composition or AP English Language & Composition must take an essay exam at one of the times listed below. Please see Mr. Denby for more details and testing locations:

Monday, February 3<sup>rd</sup> at 2:35PM  
Tuesday, February 4<sup>th</sup> at 7:45AM  
Friday, February 6<sup>th</sup> at 7:45AM and 2:35PM  
Saturday, February 7<sup>th</sup> at 9:00AM

## English Department

*Mr. Paul Denby (Department Chair)*

*Mrs. Megan Callahan*

*Mrs. Elaine Clark P'15*

*Fr. Brendan Coffey, S.J.*

*Mr. Brian Hoover*

*Mrs. Megan Hoover*

*Mrs. Jessica Lombardi*

*Mrs. Torrey MacGregor*

*Mr. Vincent O'Hara '01*

*Ms. Jayne Penn*

*Mr. Matthew Sather '93*

ENGLISH DEPARTMENT COURSE OFFERINGS			
9 <sup>th</sup> Grade	10 <sup>th</sup> Grade	11 <sup>th</sup> Grade	12 <sup>th</sup> Grade
English I	Honors English II	AP Literature & Composition	AP Language & Composition
	English II	English III: American Literature	Honors English IV: International Short Fiction
		English III: American Literature – American Studies	English IV: African American Literature / Grad at Grad in Popular Media
			English IV: American Drama & Film
			English IV: British Writers
			English IV: Literature of Political Thought
			Creative Writing
Enrichment Courses Offered Online Through AVLI (10 <sup>th</sup> , 11 <sup>th</sup> and 12 <sup>th</sup> Grade)			
Catholic Authors*	Multimedia Authorship*	Comic Book Fiction*	

\* Course is offered online through the Arrupe Virtual Learning Institute. Additional fees apply.

### ENGLISH I: THE STUDY OF THE TRADITIONAL HERO AND FOUNDATIONS OF COMPOSITION

Understanding and appreciating literary genre and technique are objectives of the freshman literature curriculum. Students read and write about a wide variety of novels, short stories, plays, and poems throughout the year. Frequent creative and expository responses are required and student skills in correct usage, punctuation, and grammatical concepts are refined during this year. Vocabulary skills, analogies, and word building skills are integrated throughout the program. In addition, the use of the web as it relates to producing papers with MLA format is examined. Students will be assigned on-line research projects to examine the quality and reliability of web sources.

## **HONORS ENGLISH II: THE STUDY OF THE MODERN HERO IN MORAL CONFLICT AND INTERMEDIATE COMPOSITION**

**Requirements:** *Approval of English Department Chairperson*

Honors English II aims at refining a broad range of skills in students. In addition to continuing the study of grammatical principles covering sentence structure, variety, and paragraph unity begun in freshman year, students further develop vocabulary skills from PSAT-SAT lists and words gleaned from the literature studies. A focus on writing includes experiences in expository, fiction, and poetry, as well as free-response writing. Students are required to respond, edit, rewrite, and refine their work. Students must also keep a writing notebook and a portfolio of finished work for review. Students will be asked to read challenging texts and maintain a greater level of individual responsibility. Students are also required to use technology for research and investigation culminating in a research term paper. The sophomore literature component includes analysis of selections from the classic Greek tragedies to 20th century contemporary novelists and poets. Its focus is on the development of skills that will enable the student to read and think critically.

## **ENGLISH II: THE STUDY OF THE MODERN HERO IN MORAL CONFLICT AND INTERMEDIATE COMPOSITION**

English II aims at refining a broad range of skills in students. In addition to continuing the study of grammatical principles covering sentence structure, variety, and paragraph unity begun in freshman year, students further develop vocabulary skills from PSAT-SAT lists and words gleaned from the literature studies. A focus on writing includes experiences in expository, fiction, and poetry, as well as free-response writing. Students are required to respond, edit, rewrite, and refine their work. Students must also keep a writing notebook and a portfolio of finished work for review. Students are also required to use technology for research and investigation culminating in a research term paper. During the course of the year, students will read classic literature spanning from Shakespearian drama to modern contemporary novels, plays, and poems. As students read and discuss the novels, the focus will be on the continued development of critical reading and thinking skills as well as the ongoing instruction in literary analysis. Along with this, students will contrast the view of the traditional hero, studied in English I, with that of the more modern hero who faces moral dilemmas and must choose which path they will take. Students explore both the positive and negative outcomes of those decisions.

## **AP ENGLISH LITERATURE AND COMPOSITION**

**Requirements:** *Approval of English Department Chairperson.*

This college-level course is organized chronologically around the theme of the American identity, highlighting major American authors from the eighteenth through twentieth centuries. It trains students to become skilled readers of prose and poetry written in a variety of periods and rhetorical contexts, and sophisticated writers of expository, analytical and argumentative essays. All students are required to take the AP Literature Exam in May.

## **ENGLISH III: SURVEY OF AMERICAN LITERATURE AND COLLEGE COMPOSITION**

Prep's third year course is a study of the distinctive character of American literature. Students read and analyze selections from colonial America to the present and become familiar with the ideas, themes and characters who define the American Literary tradition. Portfolio assessment continues this year with expository, fiction, and poetry, often modeled on the literature. While vocabulary and SAT work continue on this level, extensive instruction in literary criticism begins.

### **ENGLISH III: AMERICAN LITERATURE – AMERICAN STUDIES**

**Requirements:** *Approval of English and Social Studies Department Chairperson*

American Studies is an interdisciplinary program consisting of paired American History and American Literature classes. In this course, students examine the nation's history and culture through literature, primary and secondary historical documents, art, music, and politics. Starting with the pre-Columbian era and ending in the 20<sup>th</sup> century, students work chronologically and thematically through American fiction and non-fiction texts in an effort to understand the evolution of the United States as a nation, as well as the evolution of the American character and literary tradition. The course prepares students to read and write about a wide range of texts over the span of several centuries -- texts like Puritan sermons and poetry, captivity narratives, the Declaration of Independence, the essays of Thoreau and Emerson, *Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*, *The Great Gatsby*, famous speeches, and 20th century plays. In addition to their work for each class, students complete at least one interdisciplinary project each quarter that synthesizes the ideas of literary and historical texts, important historical events, and the music and/or art of a given era.

The course places great emphasis on the development of critical thinking skills, especially the ability for students to recognize and grapple with enduring values, conflicts, and tensions in American life, and to develop their own essential questions about them. Student-generated essential questions serve as the starting point for their formal and informal writing, including their quarterly interdisciplinary projects. Another central component of the course is its commitment to guiding students through the writing process, which includes the creation of questions and topics, drafting, conferencing and revision.

### **AP ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND COMPOSITION**

**Requirements:** *Approval of English Department Chairperson*

This course is a college-level seminar that introduces students to the literary history of the English language and provides students with a variety of critical modes with which to analyze literature. Strong emphasis is placed on the student's ability to do close reading and to communicate their ideas in writing. The first semester focuses on the epic and the picaresque novel. The second semester focuses on shorter poetry, drama, and the modern novel. Students will read authors ranging from Sophocles to Shakespeare and modern writers as well.

### **HONORS ENGLISH IV: INTERNATIONAL SHORT FICTION**

**Requirements:** *Approval of English Department Chairperson.*

**Special Note:** *Dual Credit Course with Fairfield University*

Honors International Short Fiction is an academically rigorous course that presents college-level material to advanced Fairfield Prep seniors. Completion of this dual credit course will automatically confer students with three Fairfield University Credits.

This course examines works of fiction from around the world, written primarily between the nineteenth and twenty-first centuries. The degree to which and the specific manners in which these works contribute to a characteristically modern sense of human existence forms the basis for this course's reading selections. Through textual analysis, students compare and contrast various versions of the modern experience as produced by authors such as Shakespeare, Mary Shelley, Dostoevsky, Chekhov, Kafka, Borges, Conrad, Flaubert, Woolf, Dillard, Wallace, & Atwood.

#### **ENGLISH IV: AFRICAN AMERICAN LITERATURE / GRAD AT GRAD IN POPULAR MEDIA**

In the first semester, the lens of African American literature and art will be used to more deeply examine the evolution of American art and culture. This course will focus on how Black voices fit into, and help define, the full American experience. The primary readings in the course will surround 20<sup>th</sup> century literature during, and after, the Civil Rights Era. The course will focus on analysis of poetry, prose, music, film and visual art. Further, students will be instructed in analytical and expository essay strategies to prepare seniors for writing success in college. In the second semester, using film, music, television and popular writing, students will reflect on the “Graduate at Graduation” in everyday life. Students will be challenged to examine how our culture supports and rejects “graduate at graduation” values. Evaluations will be short essays and cumulative multi-media project.

#### **ENGLISH IV: AMERICAN DRAMA AND FILM**

Plays were never meant to be read by someone sitting alone in a chair; they were meant to be watched. American playwrights like Arthur Miller, August Wilson, and Tennessee Williams show us a great deal about human nature and the American experience. This class will be a great chance to put together an interest in history, literature, art, and film as it will take a look at how directors bring these iconic works to life. Along with traditional essay writing, assessments will include film making, design projects and criticisms.

#### **ENGLISH IV: BRITISH WRITERS**

Beginning with the ancient epic *Beowulf* and ending with Huxley's *A Brave New World*, the British Writers course explores major literary movements and the creation and development of modern literature as we know it. The course concentrates on a core of literary classics and non-fiction models to explore great themes in literature and how that literature exposes the struggles of a modern people. Over the course of the year, students will be exposed to foundational pieces of literature, but also the contemporary with a focus on the monster stories of Jekyll and Hyde and Frankenstein. Classwork will include the traditional literary analysis and writing assignments, but also oral presentations and debates. Students will also have an opportunity to view and analyze clips of various film adaptations looking for differences between the author and the screenwriters' vision.

#### **ENGLISH IV: LITERATURE OF POLITICAL THOUGHT**

Through the reading of the Hebrew Bible, Shakespeare, Machiavelli, Greek philosophers, and Lincoln's speeches, this class will explore what it takes to maintain political dominance. Students will consider what we must do in order to govern well. Even more important, students will consider what they must know in order to do so. In other words, what knowledge must be acquired and what societal concerns must be addressed to govern well? Moreover, does great political leadership in democratic times differ in any important way from that seen in the great nations of the past? In addition to introducing students to such political themes, this course also seeks to demonstrate that through the careful reading of diverse genres selected among the great works of the Western canon – a political treatise, a play, a dialogue, a political speech, an historical novel, and portions of the Hebrew Bible – students will come to understand that such foundational texts matter, that seriously thinking through the ideas found in them and considering how they relate to us, aid us in our understanding of the human condition and, therefore, also ourselves.

#### **CREATIVE WRITING**

This course will guide students toward the development of a creative voice. Formal course work will center on writing short-stories, but students can expect to delve into poetry, screenplays, drama, film and creative non-fiction. Students will also gain valuable informal experience editing, in the publishing process, in portfolio development and peer constructive criticism.

### **CATHOLIC AUTHORS (AVLI)**

The Roman Catholic Church is richly blessed with many wonderful authors who write passionately and compellingly about our faith. How many do you know? Augustine, Aquinas, Belloc, Chesterton, Dante, Day, Endo, Finnis, Greene, L'engle, Merton, O'Connor, Percy, Tolkien, and so many more. This course explores several diverse Catholic authors and their works and ideas, hones students' critical reading and interpretative skills, and brings students together from Catholic schools around North America to explore our Catholic faith through our rich literary heritage. This course requires weekly engagement but is primarily asynchronous which allows students to work around their school schedule. A required synchronous meeting takes place one evening per week. Meeting times will be determined at the start of each term. This course is a second semester course that is offered online through the Arrupe Virtual Learning Institute.

### **MULTIMEDIA AUTHORSHIP (AVLI)**

This course aims to develop communication skills through expressing ideas using multimedia technology. Students will study models of multimedia composition used by professional and student writers and then create their own multimedia content, pushing students to master the concepts and technical skills the composition requires. To fully participate in the class, students must have a computer (Mac or Windows) on which they can install new programs and access to a digital camera. The semester will culminate with each student producing an original, substantive multimedia project on a topic of their choice. This course requires weekly engagement but is primarily asynchronous which allows students to work around their school schedule. One-on-one synchronous teacher drop-in support time is offered each week for students. This course is a first semester course that is offered online through the Arrupe Virtual Learning Institute.

### **COMIC BOOK FICTION (AVLI)**

Literature is paradoxical by nature: attempting to hold a critical mirror up to the very society that produced it and of which it is part. It requires skill to uncover what authors want to say, what they do say, and, critically, what they don't say. Comic books are no different. Despite being marginalized by traditional literary circles, comic books feature the same literary techniques and devices as canonized literature and therefore offer an accessible entryway into literary analysis. In this course, you will learn and/or sharpen reading, writing, and analytical skills while reading some of the most lauded comic book titles like X-Men, Spiderman, and Batman among others on an epic literary journey. This course requires weekly engagement but is primarily asynchronous which allows students to work around their school schedule. One-on-one synchronous teacher drop-in support time is offered each week, as well as on demand, by appointment. This course is a second semester course that is offered online through the Arrupe Virtual Learning Institute.

# Innovation Department

Mrs. Rinat Levy-Cohen (Department Chair)

Mr. John Pellegrino

Mrs. Cassandra Kinskey-Lebeda

INNOVATION DEPARTMENT COURSE OFFERINGS			
9 <sup>th</sup> Grade	10 <sup>th</sup> Grade	11 <sup>th</sup> Grade	12 <sup>th</sup> Grade
Introduction to Innovation	Computer Programming	Introduction to Engineering and Digital Fabrication	Introduction to Engineering and Digital Fabrication
		Computer Programming	Computer Programming
		Introduction to Film and Video Production	Introduction to Film and Video Production
		Esports and Gaming Concepts	Esports and Gaming Concepts
Enrichment Courses Offered Online Through AVLI (10 <sup>th</sup> , 11 <sup>th</sup> and 12 <sup>th</sup> Grade)			
AP Computer Science A*	C++ Programming*	Computer Game Development*	Computer Science Principles*
JavaScript Programming*	Understanding Artificial Intelligence: The Science and the Morality*		

\* Course is offered online through the Arrupe Virtual Learning Institute. Additional fees apply.

## INTRODUCTION TO INNOVATION

Introduction to Innovation is a required first-year course designed to immerse students in the dynamic resources of the McLeod Innovation Center. Through hands-on exploration, students will gain foundational skills in digital fabrication, including 3D printing and laser cutting, as well as film and video editing using iMovie. The course introduces the basics of robotics, coding, and artificial intelligence, empowering students to understand and apply machine learning concepts. Students will be equipped to bring their creative ideas to life and embrace a spirit of innovation by engaging with cutting-edge tools and technologies.

## COMPUTER PROGRAMMING

Computer Programming is an elective course for that will incorporate the Python language. This project-based course will include, but will not be limited to, object-oriented program design, loops and decision making, functions, and algorithms.

## INTRODUCTION TO ENGINEERING & DIGITAL FABRICATION

This year-long course aligns with the Jesuit mission of fostering intellectual growth, critical thinking, and service to others. Students will engage in the engineering design process, emphasizing research, analysis, teamwork, communication, and technical documentation through project and problem-based learning. Students will learn to design and prepare files for 3D printing and laser cutting, as well as build and design devices using Arduino that interact meaningfully with the world. By addressing real-world challenges with a commitment to innovation and service, students will develop skills to contribute thoughtfully and responsibly to their communities.

## **INTRODUCTION TO FILM AND VIDEO PRODUCTION**

This course introduces and familiarizes students with the theoretical background and technical skills needed to produce film, video, and new media content. Structured around classroom discussions, screenings, and hands-on equipment workshops, this course encourages students to experiment with the moving image and find their unique creative voice, all within a supportive environment. Students will learn the proper use of a professional camera and sound and lighting equipment to complete a series of audio and video exercises, culminating in the production of group short films. Students will also apply the lessons learned to produce film and video for various departments at Fairfield Prep.

## **ESPORTS & GAMING CONCEPTS**

Esports and Gaming Concepts is a year-long elective that immerses students in the exciting and evolving world of competitive gaming while embracing the Jesuit mission of fostering intellectual growth, ethical leadership, and holistic development. Students will delve into the history of gaming and esports, explore various game genres, and gain hands-on experience with eSports technology and troubleshooting. The course emphasizes purposeful play, allowing students to apply their knowledge in meaningful and engaging ways while developing skills that extend beyond the gaming world. Additionally, students will prepare for college and career opportunities with a strong focus on technology. A key feature of the course is an introduction to eSports broadcasting, where students will learn to produce and stream live gaming events, integrating technical expertise with effective communication. This comprehensive approach equips students with the knowledge and skills to thrive in the growing eSports industry while promoting collaboration, reflection, and ethical decision-making.

## **AP COMPUTER SCIENCE A (AVLI)**

**Prerequisites:** *Students should have successfully completed one course in a programming language such as C, C++, Visual Basic .Net, or Java and have a computer with administrator rights Access. Moreover, students should know how to edit, compile, and run a program.*

**Special Note:** *Dual Credit Course with Creighton University*

This course is an AP level introduction to object-oriented programming in Java. Students will focus on a problem-solving approach designed to focus attention on programming algorithms and data structures. Students will be fluent in the syntax and logic structures of the Java programming language and familiarity with the Java API. Students will attempt difficult programming challenges, reflect on these exercises, and share their discoveries with peers. In the spring, students will be eligible to take the AP exam offered by the College Board at their school. This course requires weekly engagement but is primarily asynchronous which allows students to work independently and around their school schedule. One-on-one synchronous teacher support is offered as needed, by appointment. This course is a yearlong course that is offered online through the Arrupe Virtual Learning Institute.

### **C++ PROGRAMMING (AVLI)**

This course will introduce students to computer programming using C++ programming language. C++ is a programming language used in many applications, across different industries. Through this course, students will learn the basic syntax necessary to write a computer program and how to attack a problem using the proper planning techniques. Students will learn about control structures, loops, procedures, arrays and much more. Another important aspect of this course is learning how to collaborate with other students. Each student will be put in groups and work together to meet the objectives of the module. Collaborating with other students is essential to the success of students in this course, as well as a much-needed life skill. There is a required synchronous meeting that will take place during one evening or weekend day per week. Meeting times will be determined at the start of each term. This course is a second semester course that is offered online through the Arrupe Virtual Learning Institute.

### **COMPUTER GAME DEVELOPMENT (AVLI)**

In this course, students will explore the variety of technologies and art forms that go into game design and development. Video games are the biggest entertainment industry in the world. They are also multimedia experiences that incorporate storytelling, music, art, and technology. This course examines the impact that games have on our society and exposes students to a wide variety of video games and genres, while teaching students to create their own video games and think critically about the games that they play. Students will learn to use a basic game engine to bring their video game ideas to life. Some previous experience in computer science is helpful but not required. This course requires weekly engagement but is primarily asynchronous which allows students to work around their school schedule. One-on-one synchronous teacher drop-in support time is offered each week for students, as well as on demand, by appointment. This course is a second semester course that is offered online through the Arrupe Virtual Learning Institute.

### **COMPUTER SCIENCE PRINCIPLES (AVLI)**

This course introduces students to a wide array of important computer science topics. Students will learn the ideas and practices of computational thinking and how computers impact the world around us. Topics covered include basic computer vocabulary, bits and bytes, programming, abstraction, internet and networking. Another important aspect of the course is learning how to collaborate with other students. Each student will be put in groups and work together to meet the objectives of the module. Collaborating with other students is essential to success in this course, as well as a much-needed life skill. This course requires weekly engagement but is primarily asynchronous which allows students to work around their school schedule. There is a required synchronous meeting that will take place during one evening or weekend day per week. Meeting times will be determined at the start of each term. This course is a first semester course that is offered online through the Arrupe Virtual Learning Institute.

### **JAVASCRIPT PROGRAMMING (AVLI)**

This course introduces students to computer programming using the JavaScript programming language. JavaScript is an object-oriented programming language similar to Java, Swift, C# or Python. It is the language behind the internet and crucial for any aspiring programmer to learn. In this course, students will learn basic programming concepts including variables, control-flow, loops, functions, and data structures. Through a variety of projects, students will practice these skills and learn how to write high quality code. Previous computer science experience is not required for this course. This course requires weekly engagement but is primarily asynchronous which allows students to work around their school schedule. One-on-one synchronous teacher drop-in support time is offered each week for students, as well as on demand, by appointment. This course is a first semester course that is offered online through the Arrupe Virtual Learning Institute.

### **UNDERSTANDING ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE: THE SCIENCE AND THE MORALITY (AVLI)**

In this course, students will explore the emerging fields of machine learning and Artificial Intelligence (AI). AI systems are all around us, from predictive text in our emails and customer service chatbots, to the curation of the media that we consume. Understanding how AI works will help students understand its promise and its limitations. Students will learn how AI systems ‘think’, how to train an AI, and explore the various applications of AI in our world today through hands-on labs. Students will also spend time discussing the morality of AI systems and take a critical look at the way that these systems are shaping our world. Previous Computer Science experience is helpful but not required. This course requires weekly engagement but is primarily asynchronous which allows students to work around their school schedule. One-on-one synchronous teacher drop-in support time is offered each week for students, as well as on demand, by appointment. This course is a first semester course that is offered online through the Arrupe Virtual Learning Institute.

# Mathematics Department

Mrs. Tracey Owens (Department Chair)

Mrs. Emily Bennett

Mr. Brian Chap

Mr. Bryan Cross

Mr. Timothy Dee

Mr. John Meyers '13

Mrs. Molly Millott

Mrs. Maura O'Connor P'14, '19

Mr. Andy Via

Mr. Jamie Whiteman P'15, '18

MATH DEPARTMENT COURSE OFFERINGS			
9 <sup>th</sup> Grade	10 <sup>th</sup> Grade	11 <sup>th</sup> Grade	12 <sup>th</sup> Grade
Honors Algebra II	Honors Pre-Calculus with Introductory Calculus	AP Calculus BC	Multivariable Calculus*
Algebra II	Honors Pre-Calculus	AP Calculus AB	Linear Algebra and Differential Equations*
Honors Geometry	Pre-Calculus	Calculus	AP Calculus BC
Geometry	Honors Algebra II	Honors Pre-Calculus	AP Calculus AB
Algebra I	Algebra II	Pre-Calculus	Calculus
	Honors Geometry	Honors Algebra II	Honors Pre-Calculus
	Geometry	Algebra II	Pre-Calculus
			Introductory Pre-Calculus with Trigonometry
			AP Statistics
			Statistics
Enrichment Courses Offered Online Through AVLI (10 <sup>th</sup> , 11 <sup>th</sup> and 12 <sup>th</sup> Grade)			
Accounting I*	Statistics & Probability Foundations*		

\* Course is offered online through the Arrupe Virtual Learning Institute. Additional fees apply.

## ALGEBRA I

Students learn how to solve problems using variables, work with exponents, factor polynomials and simplify rational and irrational expressions. Students solve linear equations and inequalities as well as radical and quadratic equations. Students learn to graph various types of functions and how to solve word problems using algebra.

## HONORS GEOMETRY

**Requirements:** Approval of Mathematics Department Chairperson

Students study spatial relationships in two and three dimensions and inductive and deductive reasoning. They study theorems involving parallel lines, congruent triangles, similar triangles, and circles. Students learn right triangle trigonometry and area and volume formulas. The Honors level course will challenge students with an accelerated pace, in depth study of important concepts, and application to real world situations.

## **GEOMETRY LEVEL 2**

Students study spatial relationships in two and three dimensions and inductive and deductive reasoning. They study theorems involving parallel lines, congruent triangles, similar triangles, and circles. Students learn right triangle trigonometry and area and volume formulas.

## **GEOMETRY LEVEL 3**

Students study spatial relationships in two and three dimensions and inductive and deductive reasoning. They study theorems involving parallel lines, congruent triangles, similar triangles, and circles. Students learn right triangle trigonometry and area and volume formulas. The Level 3 course provides students with the opportunity to spend more time studying fundamental concepts to ensure success in future math courses.

## **HONORS ALGEBRA II**

*Requirements: Approval of Mathematics Department Chairperson*

Students develop the skills to work in the real and complex number systems. Students study rational and irrational numbers and problem solving with them. Students review linear functions and begin a study of quadratic, exponential and logarithmic functions. Students also study sequences and series and are introduced to basic probability and statistics. The Honors level course will challenge students with an accelerated pace, in depth study of important concepts, and application to real world situations.

## **ALGEBRA II LEVEL 2**

Students develop the skills to work in the real and complex number systems. Students study rational and irrational numbers and problem solving with them. Students review linear functions and begin a study of quadratic, exponential and logarithmic functions. Students also study sequences and series and are introduced to basic probability and statistics.

## **ALGEBRA II LEVEL 3**

Students develop the skills to work in the real and complex number systems. Students study rational and irrational numbers and problem solving with them. Students review linear functions and begin a study of quadratic, exponential and logarithmic functions. Students also study permutations and combinations. The Level 3 course provides students with the opportunity to spend more time studying fundamental concepts to ensure success in future math courses.

## **HONORS PRE-CALCULUS**

*Requirements: Approval of Mathematics Department Chairperson*

Students will cover all topics covered in the Pre-Calculus curriculum, including polynomial, rational, exponential and logarithmic functions, conics, and an extensive study of trigonometry. In addition, students will study limits, rates of change, and derivative rules. Students who successfully complete this course can enroll in Calculus, AP Calculus AB, or AP Calculus BC in their senior year. Students will be expected to complete independent assignments throughout the year.

## **PRE-CALCULUS**

Pre-Calculus is designed to prepare students for a course in Calculus. One third of the course is spent studying trigonometry. In addition, students continue their study of polynomial, rational, exponential, and logarithmic functions. Students also study basic sequences and series, conics and introductory topics in calculus.

## **INTRODUCTORY PRE-CALCULUS WITH TRIGONOMETRY**

This course includes the study of many topics found in Pre-Calculus and also addresses topics commonly found in required college courses for non-math majors. The pace will allow for review of key algebra and geometry concepts that are needed for success in this course and beyond. Topics will include linear, polynomial, exponential and logarithmic functions as well as major areas of trigonometry including the Unit Circle, Law of Sines, Law of Cosines and basic identities. Applications to these topics will also be included.

## **AP CALCULUS AB**

**Prerequisites:** *Pre-Calculus or Honors Pre-Calculus*

**Requirements:** *Approval of Mathematics Department Chairperson*

AP Calculus AB covers all topics outlined in the syllabus written by the College Board. Students study limits, rate of change, derivatives and their applications, and integrals and their applications. These topics are investigated numerically, algebraically and graphically. Students will be prepared to take the AP Calculus AB exam in May.

## **CALCULUS**

Calculus is open to students who have completed Pre-Calculus. This course begins with a brief review of trigonometric functions, natural logarithms and exponential functions. This course includes a study of limits, rates of change, derivatives and an introduction to integrals and selected applications. All topics will be investigated numerically, algebraically and graphically.

## **AP CALCULUS BC**

**Prerequisites:** *AP Calculus AB or Honors Pre-Calculus*

**Requirements:** *Approval of Mathematics Department Chairperson*

AP Calculus BC covers all topics outlined in the syllabus written by the College Board. Students will study all topics from AP Calculus AB. Additionally, students will study parametric, polar and vector function; L'Hopital's Rule; Euler's method; applications of integrals; antiderivatives by substitution and parts; improper integrals; Polynomial approximations and series. These topics are investigated numerically, algebraically and graphically. Students will be prepared to take the AP Calculus BC exam in May.

## **MULTIVARIABLE CALCULUS (AVLI)**

**Prerequisites:** *AP Calculus BC*

**Requirements:** *Approval of Mathematics Department Chairperson*

**Special Note:** *Dual Credit Course with Creighton University*

Focusing on the study of fundamental theorems and applications of multivariable calculus, this course extends to the calculus of one-dimension studied in AP Calculus BC to Euclidean spaces of arbitrary dimension. The course begins with vectors and moves to the theory of partial derivatives and vector fields. Multiple Riemann integrals and their applications are covered in term 2, as well as important theorems of vector calculus including the theorems of Green, Gauss, and Stokes. A nontrivial amount of real analysis and point-set topology will be studied to facilitate the development of certain multivariable calculus concepts. This increased sophistication allows students to see more clearly how multivariable calculus is a beautiful generalization of single-variable calculus. This course requires weekly engagement but is primarily asynchronous, allowing students to work around their school schedule. An optional synchronous meeting takes place one evening per week. One-on-one support is also available by appointment. This course is a yearlong course that is offered online through the Arrupe Virtual Learning Institute.

## **LINEAR ALGEBRA & DIFFERENTIAL EQUATIONS (AVLI)**

**Prerequisites:** *AP Calculus BC*

**Requirements:** *Approval of Mathematics Department Chairperson*

This course will cover the essentials of Linear Algebra and Differential Equations. While proofs will be discussed and explained, students will be required to apply concepts within various contexts such as engineering, biology, economics, physics, statistics, computer science and more. The course is split into two halves. The first half topics include linear equations in the context of linear algebra, matrix algebra, determinants, eigenvalues and eigenvectors, and orthogonality (culminating in Least-Squares problems). The second half of the course includes the topics of first-order differential equations and their modeling (including separable equations, linear equations, and exact equations), higher-order differential equations and their modeling (including homogeneous linear equations with constant coefficients, approaches to undetermined coefficients, variation of parameters, Cauchy-Euler equation and Green's Function), numerical solutions of ordinary differential equations. This course requires weekly engagement but is primarily asynchronous, allowing students to work around their school schedule. There is a required student-instructor check-in each week, which most students accomplish through attending the synchronous meeting over Zoom. Meeting times will be determined at the start of each term. This course is a yearlong course that is offered online through the Arrupe Virtual Learning Institute.

## **AP STATISTICS**

**Prerequisites:** *Completion of or concurrent enrollment in Calculus or AP Calculus AB*

**Requirements:** *Approval of Mathematics Department Chairperson*

AP Statistics covers all topics outlined in the syllabus written by the College Board. Students will study the major concepts and tools relating to collecting, analyzing, and drawing conclusions from data. Students will be exposed to themes including exploring data, sampling, and experimentation, anticipating patterns and statistical inference. The use of a TI-83/84 calculator is integral for this course. Students will be prepared to take the AP Statistics exam in May.

## **STATISTICS**

In this elective course, students will study the major concepts and tools relating to collecting, analyzing, and drawing conclusions from data. Students will be exposed to themes including exploring data, sampling and experimentation, anticipating patterns and statistical inference. The use of a TI-83/84 calculator is integral for this course.

## **ACCOUNTING I (AVLI)**

Accounting is an essential aspect of every business. In this course, students will learn accounting for a sole proprietorship business organization. Students will analyze financial statements and learn the accounting cycle by working through application problems and applying accounting concepts to real-world situations. This course is primarily asynchronous, allowing students to work at their own pace for weekly assignments. There is a required synchronous meeting that will take place. Meeting times will be determined at the start of each term. This course is a first semester course that is offered online through the Arrupe Virtual Learning Institute.

### **STATISTICS & PROBABILITY FOUNDATIONS (AVLI)**

The purpose of this course is to learn the foundational concepts and tools of descriptive and inferential statistical reasoning in a fun way. This is an introductory, non-AP course, that covers most of the concepts in an introductory statistics course by working with data from all over across many fields of study. In our data-saturated world, people must be able to ask thoughtful questions, properly analyze data, and, most importantly, use critical thinking skills to draw appropriate conclusions and recognize inappropriate conclusions made by others. This course requires weekly engagement but is primarily asynchronous which allows students to work around their school schedule. A required synchronous meeting takes place one evening per week. Meeting times will be determined at the start of each term. This course is a second semester course that is offered online through the Arrupe Virtual Learning Institute.

# School and College Counseling Department

*Mr. John Hanrahan P'98 (Department Chair)*

*Mrs. Lynne Chesbro P'25*

*Mr. H. Dean Davis P'25, '26*

*Mr. Peter Francini '00*

*Mr. Richard Hutchinson '87, P'22*

*Mrs. Amy Stern*

*Mrs. Laura Silence*

<b>SCHOOL AND COLLEGE COUNSELING DEPARTMENT COURSE OFFERINGS</b>			
<b>9<sup>th</sup> Grade</b>	<b>10<sup>th</sup> Grade</b>	<b>11<sup>th</sup> Grade</b>	<b>12<sup>th</sup> Grade</b>
Freshman Counseling Seminar	Sophomore Counseling Seminar	Junior Counseling Seminar	Senior Counseling Seminar

## **FRESHMAN COUNSELING SEMINAR**

Topics presented include an introduction to the Counseling Department, review of counseling procedures, keys to successful transition to Fairfield Prep. In group seminars, counselors review academic success skills, time management, transcript review, goal setting, pillars of character, accepting responsibility, preparing for mid-term & final exams, course registration, substance abuse, stress management, peer interactions, and establishing and maintaining healthy relationships. Freshmen will then be introduced and guided through the course request process at the beginning of the second semester. The year concludes with an end of the year reflection and evaluation and a look ahead to sophomore year. School Counselors monitor academic progress and personal growth throughout the year.

## **SOPHOMORE COUNSELING SEMINAR**

Topics presented include goal setting, preparation for PSAT, PSAT score report review, practice ACT exercise, first quarter self-evaluation, substance abuse, semester exam preparation, personality inventory, career/ major exploration, preliminary college search resume building through Naviance. Sophomores also discuss course registration, establishing and maintaining healthy relationships, substance abuse, sexual responsibility and final exam preparation. At the start of the second semester, sophomores are reintroduced to the course selection process as they consider, based on their progress and academic strengths, to request assignment to higher levels of study in the core academic disciplines. Sophomores are introduced to their College Counselor who will guide them in the college process through graduation. School Counselors monitor academic progress and personal growth throughout the year.

## **JUNIOR COUNSELING SEMINAR**

Topics presented include PSAT preparation, review of PSAT, developing SAT/ACT strategy, review of factors essential in college admissions, exploring college majors and careers, college search through Naviance, preparation for the college application process, the campus visit, the admissions interview, the college essay, senior course selection, the junior interview and developing a college list, finalizing an activities resume and review of junior/senior summer activities, including a required Summer College Application Bootcamp in August, to prepare for application procedures of the Fall. School Counselors monitor academic progress and personal growth throughout the year and collaborate with student's College Counselors on matters of personal development and in requesting senior year courses based on strengths and interests. Beginning in Junior year, Juniors meet more frequently with their College Counselor as they continue to engage in the college process on a deeper level.

## **SENIOR COUNSELING SEMINAR**

Topics presented in group setting and discussed in detail in individual meetings include all college application steps, finalizing college lists, determining application strategy in regard to Early Action, Early Decision, rolling and regular admissions options, the college application essay(s), teacher evaluations, counselor recommendations, managing the Self Reported Academic Record (SRAR) process, managing decisions regarding whether to submit standardized test scores and application filing procedures. Orientation to the personal, academic and social challenges of college is also discussed as the year progresses. Seniors will have the opportunity to continue demonstrating their interest in colleges which they apply to by participating in small group discussions with college representatives from over 150 colleges which visit Fairfield Prep each fall. Seniors meet in counseling groups to begin the year and then proceed in the application process through individual meetings with their College Counselor. Financial aid and scholarship opportunities are also discussed in group setting and in individual meetings. The year concludes with a transition to college program. School Counselors monitor academic progress and personal growth through the year as College Counselors guide seniors through their application procedures and support them in making final college choices.

## Science Department

Mr. Brian Chap (Department Chair)

Mrs. Brenna Capriotti

Ms. Jessica Cuntrera

Mr. Anthony Dotolo

Mr. Robert Ford P'03, '05

Mr. Caleb Jackson

Mrs. Deborah Kiel P'15

Mr. Stephen Soto

Mrs. Carrie Veigas

SCIENCE DEPARTMENT COURSE OFFERINGS			
9 <sup>th</sup> Grade	10 <sup>th</sup> Grade	11 <sup>th</sup> Grade	12 <sup>th</sup> Grade
Honors Biology	AP Physics I	AP Physics I	AP Biology
Biology	Honors Physics	Honors Chemistry	AP Chemistry
	Physics	Chemistry	AP Physics I
	Honors Biology	Honors Physics	AP Physics II
	Biology	Physics	Environmental Science
			Ecology / Field Biology
			Intro. To Forensics
Enrichment Courses Offered Online Through AVLI (10 <sup>th</sup> , 11 <sup>th</sup> and 12 <sup>th</sup> Grade)			
AP Environmental Science*	Astronomy: An Introduction*	Engineering Principles*	Introduction to Anatomy and Physiology*
Introduction to Biochemistry*	Introduction to Veterinary Careers*	Medical Terminology & Career Exploration*	

\* Course is offered online through the Arrupe Virtual Learning Institute. Additional fees apply.

### BIOLOGY

Biology is the "study of life." This course will introduce students to major topics that a biologist studies and the major theories used and applied in their work. Students will be introduced to molecular and cellular biology where students will understand and appreciate common biological topics in the study of the smallest units within biology: molecules and cells. Other topics will be illustrated through the following themes that will recur throughout the course: scientific method, classification of organisms, evolution; structure and function of cells; reproduction and inheritance. The laboratory component of the course includes investigations intended to provide hands-on experiences and reinforce the concepts discussed in class. These include, but are not limited to, computer integrated microscopy, biochemical testing, molecular modeling and some dissection.

### HONORS BIOLOGY

**Requirements:** Approval of Science Department Chairperson

Honors Biology will explore the same topics included in Biology at a faster pace and in more depth and detail. Independent work will be required of the students.

## **PHYSICS**

This course is designed to provide students with the basic concepts and principles of Physics. This conceptual Physics course is designed to take the focus off the Math skills and emphasize the Physics topics. Students will understand the role of physics in explaining natural phenomena and in seeking solutions to scientific and technological problems that citizens of the 21st century will face. Topics include fundamentals of motion, forces, energy, momentum, sound, light, electricity and magnetism. Students will investigate these topics through a variety of classroom activities which include: pre-written and open-ended laboratory experiments; small group discussions; lectures and note taking; viewing videos; learning and applying problem-solving techniques; and relating physics principles to daily experience. Quarterly STEM projects will be assigned to all students.

## **HONORS PHYSICS**

**Requirements:** *Approval of Science Department Chairperson*

Honors Physics will explore the same topics included in Physics at a faster pace and in more mathematical depth and detail. Students will understand the role of Physics in explaining natural phenomena and in seeking solutions to scientific and technological problems that citizens of the 21st century will face. Independent work will be required of the students.

## **CHEMISTRY**

Like physicists, chemists study the fundamental properties of matter and explore the interactions between matter and energy. Chemistry is a science, but it is also used in human communication and interaction, cooking, medicine, engineering, and a host of other disciplines. This course is designed to help students understand basic chemical principles and master problem-solving skills. Students will develop an understanding of how those concepts and skills are relevant to other courses and their daily lives. Chemical topics covered in the course include basic science concepts, measurements, atomic theory, bonding, stoichiometry, states of matter, energy changes, solutions, acids & bases, and nuclear chemistry.

## **HONORS CHEMISTRY**

**Requirements:** *Approval of Science Department Chairperson*

This advanced sequence course will provide students with a more detailed and intricate knowledge of chemistry and will prepare students for the SAT II subject test in Chemistry and entry into the advanced placement program. Major topics of study include: gas laws, atomic and molecular structure, chemical reactions, the periodic table, the separation of substances, nuclear chemistry, organic chemistry, electrochemistry energy in chemical change, and solutions.

## **AP BIOLOGY**

**Prerequisites:** *Biology, Physics and Chemistry*

**Requirements:** *Approval of Science Department Chairperson*

The AP Biology course is equivalent to a two-semester college introductory Biology course. AP Biology is designed to enable students to develop advanced inquiry and reasoning skills, such as designing a plan for collecting data, analyzing data, applying mathematical routines, and connecting concepts in and across domains. The result will be readiness for the study of advanced topics in subsequent college courses — a goal of every AP course. Content, inquiry, and reasoning are equally important in AP Biology; therefore, each learning objective combines content with inquiry and reasoning skills described in the science practices.

## **AP CHEMISTRY**

**Prerequisites:** *Biology, Physics and Chemistry*

**Requirements:** *Approval of Science Department Chairperson*

AP Chemistry is an introductory college-level chemistry course. Students cultivate their understanding of chemistry through inquiry-based lab investigations as they explore the four Big Ideas: scale, proportion, and quantity; structure and properties of substances; transformations; and energy. The AP Chemistry framework is organized into nine units of study: Atomic Structure, Molecular and Ionic Compound Structure, Intermolecular Forces, Chemical Reactions, Kinetics, Thermodynamics + Applications, Equilibrium, Acids and Bases.

## **AP PHYSICS I**

**Prerequisites:** *Completion of Geometry Honors or Level 2*

**Requirements:** *Approval of Science Department Chairperson*

AP Physics I is an algebra-based, introductory college-level Physics course. Students cultivate their understanding of physics through inquiry-based investigations as they explore these topics: kinematics; dynamics; circular motion and gravitation; energy; momentum; simple harmonic motion; torque and rotational motion; electric charge and electric force; DC circuits; and mechanical waves and sound.

## **AP PHYSICS II**

**Prerequisites:** *AP Physics I or high grade in Honors Physics*

**Requirements:** *Approval of Science Department Chairperson*

AP Physics II is an algebra-based, introductory college-level physics course. Students cultivate their understanding of physics through inquiry-based investigations as they explore these topics: fluids; thermodynamics; electrical force, field, and potential; electric circuits; magnetism and electromagnetic induction; geometric and physical optics; and quantum, atomic, and nuclear physics.

## **ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE**

**Prerequisites:** *Biology, Physics and Chemistry*

Environmental Science is an interdisciplinary academic field that integrates physical, biological and information sciences (including ecology, biology, physics, chemistry, plant science, zoology, mineralogy, oceanography, limnology, soil science, geology and physical geography (geodesy), and atmospheric science) to the study of the environment, and the solution of environmental problems. Environmental Science is a laboratory based science course often out in the field, designed to provide students with the content and skills needed to understand the interrelationships found in the natural world. Students will develop skills to identify and analyze environmental problems and to propose and examine solutions. Due to the interdisciplinary nature of Environmental Science, this course will draw on many different disciplines of science including Biology, Chemistry, and Earth Sciences. Topics included in this course are: Earth Systems and Resources, Biotic Systems, Population Dynamics, Land and Water Use, Energy Resources, Pollution, and Global Change. This course will involve many labs, on-site field studies, and off-site field trips.

## **ECOLOGY / FIELD BIOLOGY**

*Prerequisites: Biology, Physics and Chemistry*

Ecology/Field Biology is a first semester elective course. It consists of the study of the interrelationships between organisms and their environment and includes regular outdoor field experiences. Students will study organisms in their natural setting, learn about field research methods, analyze data to better understand relationships between the community of organisms and their environs. Field trips will be a part of every eight-day cycle and use locations on our campus or within a 15-minute drive of the campus. Students will do several projects to learn about course topics and demonstrate their understanding.

## **INTRODUCTION TO FORENSICS**

*Prerequisites: Biology, Physics and Chemistry*

This course is a second semester elective course. Forensic Science introduces students to the science of crime scene investigation. They will apply their prior knowledge of biology, chemistry, physics and mathematics to the scientific approach of the investigation of crime scenes. Students will learn terminology and investigate procedures related to crime scene analysis and the scientific procedures used on the evidence gathered. Using scientific methods, students will collect and analyze evidence through case studies and simulated crime scenes such as fingerprint analysis, trace evidence, and blood splatter analysis. Laboratory activities will give students the opportunity to demonstrate the forensic science techniques presented in lecture.

## **AP ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE (AVLI)**

The goal of the AP Environmental Science course is to provide students with the scientific principles, concepts, and methodologies required to understand the interrelationships of the natural world, to identify and analyze environmental problems both natural and human-made, to evaluate the relative risks associated with these problems, and to examine alternative solutions for resolving and/or preventing them. Students will be expected to view daily videos on the AP Classroom website and answer topic questions to check their comprehension. Unit progress checks and tests will be accessed on the AP Classroom site at the conclusion of each topic with a variety of virtual activities to be completed in each unit. Following this protocol, students should be well prepared for the AP exam offered by the College Board at their school in the spring. This course requires weekly engagement but is primarily asynchronous allowing students to work around their school schedule. One-on-one synchronous teacher drop-in support time is offered each week for students, as well as on demand, by appointment. This course is a yearlong course that is offered online through the Arrupe Virtual Learning Institute.

## **ASTRONOMY: AN INTRODUCTION (AVLI)**

Most of us are familiar with spectacular images from space missions and telescopes, and we've heard terms like "galaxies" and "black holes" tossed about in popular films. What we can sometimes forget is how those abstract terms and images are actually connected to the sky we can see overhead every night (at least when it's not cloudy!) This course aims to make those connections. It provides an introduction to the solar system, stars, the interstellar medium, the galaxy, and the universe. But it also teaches us how to look at the sky itself, to become familiar with the Moon, planets, and stars we can see for ourselves; where they are and how they move from hour to hour, season to season. It is also designed to force students to think like scientists – separating fact from theory, studying relationships between objects in search of patterns, and more. This course requires weekly engagement, including required weekly naked-eye observations of the sky; but is primarily asynchronous, which allows students to work around their school schedule. One-on-one synchronous teacher support is offered on demand by appointment. This course is a second semester course that is offered online through the Arrupe Virtual Learning Institute.

### **ENGINEERING PRINCIPLES (AVLI)**

This course takes students on a “doing” tour of the discipline of engineering and several of its sub-disciplines including mechanical engineering, electrical engineering, and computer engineering. Students will learn the engineering design process and computer aided design and apply it to “hands-on” projects. This course requires weekly engagement but is primarily asynchronous which allows students to work around their school schedule. This course also explores the engineering approach for problem solving. A required synchronous meeting takes place one evening per week. Meeting times will be determined at the start of each term. This course is a first semester course that is offered online through the Arrupe Virtual Learning Institute.

### **INTRODUCTION TO ANATOMY AND PHYSIOLOGY (AVLI)**

Introduction to Anatomy & Physiology provides an overview of the basic systems in the human body and will focus on the structure and function of these systems and discuss how they work both independently and collectively with each other. This course requires weekly engagement but is primarily asynchronous which allows students to work around their school schedule. A required synchronous meeting takes place one evening per week. Meeting times will be determined at the start of each term. This course is a second semester course that is offered online through the Arrupe Virtual Learning Institute.

### **INTRODUCTION TO BIOCHEMISTRY (AVLI)**

This course provides an overview of the main aspects of biochemistry, especially as related to human biology. Topics will include a thorough study into the four major biochemical families including proteins, carbohydrates, lipids, and nucleic acids. Select biochemical functions will be discussed in the context of chemical structures and of specific chemical principles for each of the families of molecules (for example: enzymes and enzyme regulation, carbohydrate needs in the body, lipid functions, and nucleic acid structures). Finally, the course provides an overview of metabolism and metabolic pathways which are fundamental to understanding molecular biology. This course requires weekly engagement but is primarily asynchronous which allows students to work around their school schedule. A required synchronous meeting takes place one evening per week. Meeting times will be determined at the start of each term. This course is a first semester course that is offered online through the Arrupe Virtual Learning Institute.

### **INTRODUCTION TO VETERINARY CAREERS (AVLI)**

In this course students will investigate the vast field of veterinary medicine, from entering the field to living and growing within it. They will explore educational and licensing requirements, the varied jobs within the profession, and the reality of everyday life in the veterinary field. The class will emphasize personal discovery of an individual’s options for education and careers as well as considering their own strengths, weaknesses, and interests as they relate to veterinary careers. Finally, students will consider social and ethical challenges they may encounter to help them discern if veterinary medicine is right for them. This course requires weekly engagement but is primarily asynchronous which allows students to work around their school schedule. An optional synchronous meeting takes place one evening per week. Meeting times will be determined at the start of each term. This course is a second semester course that is offered online through the Arrupe Virtual Learning Institute.

**MEDICAL TERMINOLOGY & CAREER EXPLORATION (AVLI)**

Medical terminology is a specialized language used by healthcare practitioners and, just like a foreign language, it has its own vocabulary and ways of stringing together words. This course combines an introduction to fundamentals of medical terminology and terms associated with the various bodily systems with the opportunity for students to learn more about professions throughout the medical field. This course is a second semester course that is offered online through the Arrupe Virtual Learning Institute.

## Social Studies Department

Mr. Rudolph Mauritz '94 (Department Chair)

Dr. Christopher Altieri '95

Mr. Keith Hellstern

Mr. Sean MacKenzie

Mr. Corey Milazzo

Mr. Vincent O'Hara '01

Mr. Griffin Reidy '90, P'22, '24

Mr. Matthew Sather '93

Mr. William Shea '72, P '08, '11

Mr. Zachary Thomas

Mr. Anthony Vallance

SOCIAL STUDIES DEPARTMENT COURSE OFFERINGS			
9 <sup>th</sup> Grade	10 <sup>th</sup> Grade	11 <sup>th</sup> Grade	12 <sup>th</sup> Grade
Global Studies	AP European History	AP United States History	AP European History
	Honors Western Civilization	United States History – American Studies	AP United States Government & Politics
	Western Civilization	United States History	AP Psychology
			Principles of Business and Entrepreneurship
			Economics
			Introduction to American Government
			Contemporary Issues in American History
			US History Since 1945
			Modern Middle East
Enrichment Courses Offered Online Through AVLI (10 <sup>th</sup> , 11 <sup>th</sup> and 12 <sup>th</sup> Grade)			
AP African American Studies*	AP Comparative Government & Politics*	AP Macroeconomics*	AP Microeconomics*
AP World History*	Genocide and the Holocaust*	Introduction to Sociology*	Law & Society*
Model UN and International Relations*	Psychology Fundamentals*		

\* Course is offered online through the Arrupe Virtual Learning Institute. Additional fees apply.

### GLOBAL STUDIES

Students will gain a general understanding of the histories and cultures of the world and how these histories relate to and affect our own world. Students will study the civilizations of Africa, Asia, Europe, South America and the Middle East. The course will focus on the cultural, social, religious and political developments in each of these areas. The course will address how these developments created the world in which we live today.

## **WESTERN CIVILIZATION**

In this course, students will explore the heritage of Western Civilization through an examination of the cultural and political contributions of the Ancient World, the Middle Ages and the Renaissance and Modern Era in Europe and the Americas. Emphasis will be placed on methods of historical inquiry and objectivity in order to reach a true understanding and appreciation of the many contributions of these past eras to our present.

## **HONORS WESTERN CIVILIZATION**

**Requirements:** *Approval of Social Studies Department Chairperson*

In this course, students will explore the heritage of Western Civilization through an examination of the cultural and political contributions of the Ancient World, the Middle Ages and the Renaissance and Modern Era in Europe and the Americas. Emphasis will be placed on methods of historical inquiry and objectivity in order to reach a true understanding and appreciation of the many contributions of these past eras to our present. The Honors aspect of the course will be attended to by regular projects relating to original or primary documents as well as serious secondary source journal articles by specialists. Students will learn how to work with and interpret those primary and secondary sources in order to draw conclusions in a manner consistent with a college level approach to the subject matter.

## **UNITED STATES HISTORY**

This course is a survey of the political, economic, and social development of the United States from the pre-Columbian Era through the 20th Century. Students will work chronologically, engaging in the numerous themes which weave through United States history. Students will read a wide variety of excerpted primary and secondary source materials during the school year. The course emphasizes both critical thinking and historical thinking skills as they answer the essential questions of United States history. Methods of evaluation include quizzes, exams, essays as well as class discussions, in-class debates, and summer reading assignments.

## **UNITED STATES HISTORY – AMERICAN STUDIES**

American Studies is an interdisciplinary program consisting of paired American History and American Literature classes. In this course, students examine the nation's history and culture through literature, primary and secondary historical documents, art, music, and politics. Starting with the pre-Columbian era and ending in the 20<sup>th</sup> century, students work chronologically and thematically through American fiction and non-fiction texts in an effort to understand the evolution of the United States as a nation, as well as the evolution of the American character and literary tradition. The course prepares students to read and write about a wide range of texts over the span of several centuries -- texts like Puritan sermons and poetry, captivity narratives, the Declaration of Independence, the essays of Thoreau and Emerson, Adventures of Huckleberry Finn, The Great Gatsby, famous speeches, and 20th century plays. In addition to their work for each class, students complete at least one interdisciplinary project each quarter that synthesizes the ideas of literary and historical texts, important historical events, and the music and/or art of a given era. The course places great emphasis on the development of critical thinking skills, especially the ability for students to recognize and grapple with enduring values, conflicts, and tensions in American life, and to develop their own essential questions about them. Student-generated essential questions serve as the starting point for their formal and informal writing, including their quarterly interdisciplinary projects. Another central component of the course is its commitment to guiding students through the writing process, which includes the creation of questions and topics, drafting, conferencing and revision.

## **AP UNITED STATES HISTORY**

**Requirements:** *Approval of Social Studies Department Chairperson*

AP United States History is a college level course and is designed for students with a serious interest in Social Studies. The course syllabus will be in accordance with College Board guidelines for AP United States History and will prepare the student for the AP exam at the end of the year.

## **AP EUROPEAN HISTORY**

**Requirements:** *Approval of Social Studies Department Chairperson*

AP European History is a survey of European History from “The Late Middle Ages to the Dawn of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century.” This course will explore not only the political aspects of Europe’s history, but also the important intellectual, cultural, and economic developments over the last 700 years. Special attention will be devoted to the important conflicts, borrowing of culture and economic interaction between Europe and Asia from the Renaissance to the present. Through lectures, student projects, primary documents, class discussion and exposure to artistic works, students will be provided with the background necessary to understand the important social, cultural and intellectual movements during this period.

## **AP UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS**

**Requirements:** *Approval of Social Studies Department Chairperson*

This AP course is designed to give students a critical perspective on government and politics in the United States. To accomplish this end, the course studies the development of our system of constitutional government, political beliefs and behaviors in the United States, the organization of the National government, civil rights and civil liberties.

## **AP PSYCHOLOGY**

**Requirements:** *Approval of Social Studies Department Chairperson*

AP Psychology is an introductory college-level psychology course. Students cultivate their understanding of the systematic and scientific study of human behavior and mental processes through inquiry-based investigations as they explore concepts like the biological bases of behavior, sensation and perception, learning and cognition, motivation, developmental psychology, testing and individual differences, treatment of abnormal behavior, and social psychology.

## **PRINCIPLES OF BUSINESS AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP**

This course will provide authentic and meaningful experiences for students to learn the process of how to bring their original business ideas to fruition. During this course, students will review principles of business (accounting and marketing; learn how to identify an opportunity, evaluate an idea and assess the market, appreciate the risks and rewards of entrepreneurship, develop experiments to validate your idea and refine your business strategy, discover the key financial decisions any entrepreneur must make in the early stages of a new venture, understand the process of raising capital and how to speak to investors, and learn from successful entrepreneurs and leading venture capitalists, as well as peers. Students will be encouraged to generate their own, original business ideas to develop in this class. Authentic experiences will include real-time presentations to experienced investors drawn from the ranks of successful Prep alumni, and open, shark-tank like competitions such as the Start-up program sponsored by Fairfield University, where students can compete for funding grants ranging into the tens of thousands of dollars.

## **ECONOMICS**

This course introduces students to the concepts of microeconomics, macroeconomics, and personal finance. Through this course, students will better understand how economic principles shape the decisions and interactions of individuals and countries. The personal finance portion of the course will focus on the everyday decisions individuals make regarding managing their income and expenses. To illustrate this, students will be introduced to budgeting, borrowing, the value of credit, banking and investing.

## **INTRODUCTION TO AMERICAN GOVERNMENT**

Introduction to American Government is a first semester course for students who will then continue to Contemporary Issues in American History. The course introduces the students to the essential ideas in American Government starting with the Founding Principles, especially those found in the Declaration of Independence and the United States Constitution. Students will learn the roles and responsibilities of the three branches of the Federal Government, the balance between the States and Federal Government, the ways in which the branches and levels of government interact with each other and the American people. Students will also engage in a study of the linkage institutions (media, elections, campaigns & political parties) coming away with an understanding of what these institutions hope to achieve and how they serve as connections between the American people and their government.

## **CONTEMPORARY ISSUES IN AMERICAN HISTORY**

Contemporary Issues in American History is a second semester course for students who complete Introduction to American Government in the first semester. Using a case study approach students will learn about key events in American History from 1945-Present. Students will study issues from key movements (Civil Rights Movement), Diplomacy and Conflict (Cold War, Vietnam, Wars in Iraq & Afghanistan), Elections, and Domestic Policy concerns (Immigration, Healthcare). The students will learn to apply disciplinary reasoning to assess the cause and consequences of these events and interpret the information to develop evidence-based arguments.

## **MODERN MIDDLE EAST**

This first semester course is a study of the Middle East and North Africa from the late 19<sup>th</sup> Century to the present. The region is defined to include the entire Arab world from Morocco in the west to Iraq in the east as well as Iran, Turkey and Israel. The topics of the course will focus on regional conflicts, the Arab-Israeli conflict, and the Palestinian question. Special attention will be placed on U.S. involvement in the Arab-Israeli conflict, dependence on foreign oil, the Iran-Iraq War, The Persian Gulf War, and the War on Terror. The goal of the course is for students to come away with an understanding of the political, cultural, social and economic forces that have shaped the Middle East in the modern world.

## **US HISTORY SINCE 1945**

This second semester course examines the recent events and trends which have shaped the world in which we live. The course will focus on the Cold War, the Civil Rights Movement, the rise of the consumer society, the Vietnam War, and the Reagan Presidency. We will use a variety of sources including textbooks, contemporary readings, music, and films. The goal of the course is for students to acquire a basic understanding of the forces which inform American society and politics today.

### **AP AFRICAN AMERICAN STUDIES (AVLI)**

AP African American Studies is an interdisciplinary course that examines the diversity of African American experiences through direct encounters with rich and varied sources. Students explore key topics that extend from early African kingdoms to the ongoing challenges and achievements of the contemporary moment. Coursework is rigorous and will prepare students to sit for the AP College Board exam in the spring. The course requires weekly engagement but is primarily asynchronous, allowing students to work around their school schedule. A required synchronous meeting takes place one evening per week. Meeting times will be determined at the start of each term. This course is a yearlong course that is offered online through the Arrupe Virtual Learning Institute.

### **AP COMPARATIVE GOVERNMENT & POLITICS (AVLI)**

**Special Note:** *Dual Credit Course with Creighton University*

AP Comparative Government and Politics introduces students to fundamental concepts used by political scientists to study the processes and outcomes of politics in a variety of country settings. The course aims to illustrate the rich diversity of political life, show available institutional alternatives, explain differences in processes and policy outcomes, and communicate to students the importance of global political and economic changes. Comparison assists both in identifying problems and in analyzing policymaking. This course requires weekly engagement but is primarily asynchronous which allows students to work around their school schedule. One-on-one synchronous teacher drop-in support time is offered each week for students, as well as on demand, by appointment. This course is a yearlong course that is offered online through the Arrupe Virtual Learning Institute.

### **AP MACROECONOMICS (AVLI)**

**Special Note:** *Dual Credit Course with Creighton University*

This course integrates selected themes from the Neo Scholastic School of economics with the content of the AP Economics syllabus in macroeconomics. The course prepares students to do well on the AP exam and offers a way to view our redeemed creation through the prism of social science. The economic way is based on insights from Aristotle, St. Augustine, St. Aquinas, the Jesuit and Franciscan theologians at Spain's University of Salamanca during the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries, and on the Popes' social encyclicals. We develop our understanding of basic economic concepts and analytic tools by anchoring them to our faith's moral traditions and foundations. This course requires weekly engagement but is primarily asynchronous, allowing students to work around their school schedule. An optional synchronous meeting takes place one evening per week. Meeting times will be determined at the start of each term. This course is a second semester course that is offered online through the Arrupe Virtual Learning Institute.

## **AP MICROECONOMICS (AVLI)**

**Special Note:** *Dual Credit Course with Creighton University*

How should faithful Catholics think about economics? This course integrates selected themes from the Neo Scholastic School of Economics with the content of the AP Economics syllabus in microeconomics. The course prepares students for the AP exam and offers a way to view our redeemed creation through the prism of social science. The economic way of thinking does not begin with Adam Smith, but based on insights from Aristotle, St. Augustine, St. Aquinas, the Jesuit and Franciscan theologians at Spain's University of Salamanca during the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries, and on the Popes' social encyclicals. We develop our understanding of basic economic concepts and analytic tools by anchoring them to our faith's moral traditions and foundations. This course requires weekly engagement but is primarily asynchronous, allowing students to work around their school schedule. An optional synchronous meeting takes place one evening per week. Meeting times will be determined at the start of each term. This course is a first semester course that is offered online through the Arrupe Virtual Learning Institute.

## **AP WORLD HISTORY (AVLI)**

**Special Note:** *Dual Credit Course with Creighton University*

AP World History is structured around the investigation of key course themes and concepts in six different chronological periods, from approximately 1200 C.E. to the present. These themes, examined across cultures and time periods, include interaction between humans and the environment, development and interaction of cultures, statebuilding, expansion and conflict, creation, expansion and interaction of economic systems, and the development and transformation of social structures. This course requires weekly engagement but is primarily asynchronous, allowing students to work around their school schedule. There is a required synchronous meeting that will take place one evening every three weeks, as well as a weekly office hour that is optional. Meeting times will be determined at the start of each term. This course is a yearlong course that is offered online through the Arrupe Virtual Learning Institute.

## **GENOCIDE AND THE HOLOCAUST (AVLI)**

This course looks at both the academic and social constructions of genocide. We will view the Holocaust as the paradigmatic example of, but not only, genocide in modern history. Students will study the causes and processes of genocide as well as other contemporary crimes against humanity. Students and parents should be advised that this course utilizes intense and disturbing materials. This course requires weekly engagement but is primarily asynchronous which allows students to work around their school schedule. An optional synchronous meeting takes place one evening per week. Meeting times will be determined at the start of each term. This course is a second semester course that is offered online through the Arrupe Virtual Learning Institute.

## **INTRODUCTION TO SOCIOLOGY (AVLI)**

Sociology touches on the essential concepts of sociology with an emphasis on contemporary American social themes. The main units of study are cultural analysis, family dynamics, gender studies, racial and ethnic inequality, socioeconomic stratification, and crime and deviance. The course requires students to perform scholarly research, prepare and perform numerous presentations, engage in class dialogues, and process information through various writing exercises. The sociology classroom demands academic determination and a desire to engage in discussions. This course requires weekly engagement but is primarily asynchronous, allowing students to work around their school schedule. An optional synchronous meeting takes place one evening per week. Meeting times will be determined at the start of each term. This course is a first semester course that is offered online through the Arrupe Virtual Learning Institute.

### **LAW & SOCIETY (AVLI)**

Law & Society features the study of the political nature of state and federal level courts, while paying particular attention to contemporary issues related to the judiciary. The course will provide a foundation for legal study through surveying the historical development of the courts, controversial issues surrounding the essence of court authority, state and federal court structures and operations, and case study areas related to civil rights and liberties. Students will have the unique opportunity to become acquainted with fundamental aspects of the American legal system and be afforded educational exposure to issues applicable as both citizens and students in the historical field of law. Class methods will include discussion, lecture, case-summary writing, historical research, and other related techniques. Note: this course is not designed to be the basis of professional legal training. It is a general survey course designed to provide students with historical and contemporary practical learning material. This course requires weekly engagement but is primarily asynchronous which allows students to work around their school schedule. One-on-one synchronous teacher drop-in support time is offered weekly for students, as well as on demand, by appointment. This course is a first semester course that is offered online through the Arrupe Virtual Learning Institute.

### **MODEL UN AND INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS (AVLI)**

Model United Nations is an educational simulation and academic competition in which students learn about diplomacy, international relations, and the United Nations. International Relations is an academic course designed to examine the behavior of nations and states both individually and collectively. When you combine using the Model UN platform to examine the state of International Relations today, you have an interesting and fun way to enhance both your perception of global issues and your position as a citizen of your country and the global community. This is not a course that will drown itself in theory. Rather, it is designed to offer opportunities for students to study modern global issues, and the positions and interactions of nations and states, through research, simulations, discussion, and written assignments. Students are assigned a country at the beginning of the semester and represent that country during simulations, constructing position papers, resolutions, and amendments. Seminars encourage students to participate in online discussion to resolve, or perhaps merely to understand better, an issue. As committee work is such a vital part of the course, significant online interaction via email, video conferencing, or texting is a must for success. This course requires weekly engagement but is primarily asynchronous which allows students to work around their school schedule. A required synchronous meeting takes place one evening per week. Meeting times will be determined at the start of each term. This course is a second semester long course that is offered online through the Arrupe Virtual Learning Institute.

### **PSYCHOLOGY FUNDAMENTALS (AVLI)**

This non-AP level introductory course offers the same general introduction to psychology concepts as seen in AP Psychology but with a slightly more relaxed pace and depth. It is an excellent choice for students who are keen to explore an interest in the subject matter. Major topics of psychology include: Psychology's early history to the present, neuroscience & behavioral genetics, sensation & perception, cognition, motivation & emotion, states of consciousness, learning, development, personality, research methods, social dynamics, psychological disorders, and therapeutic methods. This course requires weekly engagement but is primarily asynchronous, allowing students to work around their school schedule. An optional synchronous meeting takes place one evening per week. Meeting times will be determined at the start of each term. This course is a yearlong course that is offered online through the Arrupe Virtual Learning Institute.

# Theology Department

Mr. Kevin Kery '00 (Department Chair)  
 Dr. Chris Altieri '95  
 Fr. Brendan Coffey, S.J.  
 Mr. Vijay DaCosta  
 Mr. Nick DeBarbrie

Ms. Kathleen Jackson P'25  
 Mr. Sean MacKenzie  
 Mr. Corey Milazzo  
 Dr. Michelle Smith P'19  
 Mr. Thomas Tulp

THEOLOGY DEPARTMENT COURSE OFFERINGS			
9 <sup>th</sup> Grade	10 <sup>th</sup> Grade	11 <sup>th</sup> Grade	12 <sup>th</sup> Grade
Theology I: Jesuits, Religions and Covenants	Theology II: The Living Word: Old and New Testaments	Theology III: The Church: Tradition, Mission & History	Theology IV: Social Ethics and Global & Environmental Justice
			Theology IV: Social Ethics and Economy & Society
			Theology IV: Social Ethics and Justice, Resistance & Peace

## THEOLOGY I: JESUITS, RELIGIONS AND COVENANTS

This course begins with a study of the history of the Society of Jesus and Ignatian Spirituality. Students will learn that they are now part of a global network of Jesuit educational institutions. The course also examines what it means to be spiritual and religious in the past and present through a study of the major world religions. Finally, an exploration of the Pentateuch serves as a scriptural foundation for future study.

## THEOLOGY II: THE LIVING WORD: OLD AND NEW TESTAMENTS

This course continues the story of the People of God as students explore the post-Exodus Old Testament. Students will learn about the major judges, prophets, and kings of Israel, invasions and exiles, the Temple of Jerusalem, and the promise of the coming Messiah. The second half of the course will begin with an introduction to the New Testament via an exploration of the Gospels. Students will come to see God's "breaking into human history" through the Incarnation and the Holy Spirit's presence amongst the early Christian communities as the fulfillment of the covenants of the Old Testament.

## THEOLOGY III: THE CHURCH: TRADITION, MISSION AND HISTORY

Beginning with an investigation of the Acts of the Apostles and the Apostolic Letters, this course completes the progression of Scripture study which began during the freshman course. The junior course continues past the Book of Revelation with an exploration of the Tradition of the Catholic Church as instituted by Jesus Christ throughout Church history. Throughout the second semester, students will explore the history of The Church and major Ecumenical Councils. The major role of the Holy Spirit as maintainer of Tradition and catalyst for the changes which have built up the People of God throughout the centuries serves as the overall theme for the course.

#### **THEOLOGY IV: SOCIAL ETHICS AND GLOBAL & ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE**

The first semester of this course will focus on social ethics. The examination of contemporary problems in society is grounded in a study of Christian ethical principles in comparison to other philosophical and religious ethical traditions. The second semester of this course will investigate controversial topics concerning the wellbeing of the population and the environment with a focus on global awareness and understanding. Throughout the year, the academic components are accompanied by hands-on experience in ongoing community-service projects, which are integrated into the course through regularly scheduled small-group discussions centered upon the lessons, challenges and rewards associated with service to others.

#### **THEOLOGY IV: SOCIAL ETHICS AND ECONOMY & SOCIETY**

The first semester of this course will focus on social ethics. The examination of contemporary problems in society is grounded in a study of Christian ethical principles in comparison to other philosophical and religious ethical traditions. The second semester of this course will explore moral and ethical issues in connection with the economy, law, business, and public policy. Throughout the year, the academic components are accompanied by hands-on experience in ongoing community-service projects, which are integrated into the course through regularly scheduled small-group discussions centered upon the lessons, challenges and rewards associated with service to others.

#### **THEOLOGY IV: SOCIAL ETHICS AND JUSTICE, RESISTANCE & PEACE**

The first semester of this course will focus on social ethics. The examination of contemporary problems in society is grounded in a study of Christian ethical principles in comparison to other philosophical and religious ethical traditions. The second semester will focus on Justice, Resistance and Peace interpreting the lens of ethical theory by attempting to understand the experience of those who are marginalized throughout society. By creating greater understanding and awareness of our human community we will help to mold global citizens who may better interact with a broader community.

# Visual and Performing Arts Department

Mr. Daniel Horstmann (Department Chair)

Mr. Robert Fosse-Previs '86

Mrs. Megan Hoover

Mr. Michael Verselli

VISUAL AND PERFORMAING ARTS DEPARTMENT COURSE OFFERINGS	
9 <sup>th</sup> Grade	10 <sup>th</sup> , 11 <sup>th</sup> and 12 <sup>th</sup> Grade (Electives)
Visual Art	Studio Art II, III and IV
Performance and Production	
Freshman Choir	Select Choir I, II and III
Guitar Ensemble	Guitar Ensemble II, III and IV
Introduction to Music Technology	
Percussion Ensemble	Percussion Ensemble II, III and IV
Piano Performance and Collaborative Accompaniment	Piano Performance and Collaborative Accompaniment II, III and IV
String Orchestra	String Orchestra II, III and IV
Symphonic Band	Symphonic Band II, III and IV

## VISUAL ART

Visual Art is an introductory art course that provides for the study of the history and appreciation of art combined with studio exercises. This one credit course presents a core of visual and aesthetic activities essential to understanding the visual arts discipline. Students in this course will study the elements and principles of art and design, composition and various drawing and painting techniques. Assessments will include written critiques, reports, presentations, tests and quizzes as well as art projects. A midterm and final exam are given in class. Participation in Fairfield Prep's art exhibitions is required.

## STUDIO ART I

**Requirements:** Approval of Visual and Performing Arts Department Chair

Studio Art will provide students with the opportunity to continue developing their skills in the methods and techniques of drawing and painting in a studio environment, and to develop their original and creative expression in visual, plastic and graphic arts. The class structure will be student oriented including a process of "contract" assignments. Grades are based on timely completion of all assignments and are judged on an individual basis with consideration given to the variety of style and artistic ability.

## **STUDIO ART II**

**Prerequisites:** *Studio Art I*

**Requirements:** *Approval of Visual and Performing Arts Department Chair*

Studio Art II is an extension of Studio Art I with students working independently on projects of their design. The primary focus is the further development of the student artist in their chosen area(s) of interest. Students envision and create their own projects based on mediums and styles they've been exposed to through Visual Art and Studio Art I.

## **STUDIO ART III**

**Prerequisites:** *Studio Art II*

**Requirements:** *Approval of Visual and Performing Arts Department Chair*

The first semester of Studio Art III is focused on developing an art portfolio for the college admissions process. Students develop both digital and traditional art portfolios for presentation. Throughout the second semester, students continue to create and develop new works of art based on their inspirations and interests.

## **PERFORMANCE AND PRODUCTION**

This course explores the way in which people communicate, collaborate, and create through a study of the various elements of theatre. In this course students build skills in public speaking, working in groups, and written and oral communication, using theatre as a vehicle to learn these essentials for the classroom and beyond. Students will start with a focus on how they present themselves. As they work on posture, tone, movement, and eye contact their confidence in front of an audience will improve, as will their general self-awareness. As the year progresses, students will turn their attention to the other creative elements of theatre: script writing, design, and directing. Through participation in workshops, students put their knowledge into action, designing sets, creating costumes, and writing short plays. With this background, students will analyze dramatic texts and create a final scene study project.

## **INTRODUCTION TO MUSIC TECHNOLOGY**

This freshman-level course wholeheartedly embraces the notion anyone can create interesting, meaningful music regardless of prior knowledge. Students enrolled in this course will explore music history and theory while diving into the latest technology and techniques used to create contemporary music. Learn to compose, produce, and mix your own tracks using industry-standard software and equipment. In addition to their creative exploration, students will be responsible for both mid-year and final exams to assess their mastery of these innovative musical concepts. They will also participate in nonperformance aspects of the concerts and are expected to be in attendance.

## **FRESHMAN CHOIR**

This is a non-auditioned freshman level performance chorus. Students will learn, demonstrate, and practice skills associated with singing. Students will develop these skills in a positive, supportive environment while also developing good musicianship skills and behaviors associated with practice and rehearsal technique. This course focuses on the fundamentals of music theory, vocal technique, and expressive artistry through music performance. Students are expected to perform at the Autumn Music Showcase, two annual concerts at the Quick Center and other Music Department events during the school year. Students are encouraged to participate in Western Regional and All-State competitions. This ensemble performs easy-to advanced level difficulty music and is open to students entering 9<sup>th</sup> grade.

## **SELECT CHOIR**

**Requirements:** *Approval of Visual and Performing Arts Department Chair*

This is an advanced level performance chorus. Students are encouraged to participate in Western Regional and All-State competitions and are expected to perform at the two annual concerts and other Music Department events during the school year. They are also encouraged to take private lessons. This ensemble performs easy-to-advanced level difficulty music.

## **SYMPHONIC BAND**

**Requirements:** *Approval of Visual and Performing Arts Department Chair*

Symphonic Band is multi-level (Freshman – Senior) performance group that includes all brass, woodwind, and band instruments (piano *not* included). Students are encouraged to participate in Western Regional and All-State competitions and are expected to perform at the two annual concerts and all Pep Band events during the school year. They are also encouraged to take private lessons. This ensemble performs medium to advanced-level music.

## **PERCUSSION ENSEMBLE**

**Requirements:** *Approval of Visual and Performing Arts Department Chair*

This introductory to intermediate-level course is designed as an extension of the regular band program, providing percussionists with both individualized and group instruction on a variety of percussion instruments. Students will focus on developing essential skills for core percussion instruments, including snare drum, timpani, and mallet percussion, using trusted methods and literature to refine technique, improve notation reading, and build interpretive musical skills. Students are encouraged to participate in Western Regional and All-State competitions and are expected to combine with the Symphonic band to perform at the two annual concerts and all Pep Band events during the school year. This ensemble performs medium to advanced-level music.

## **STRING ORCHESTRA**

**Requirements:** *Approval of Visual and Performing Arts Department Chair*

String Orchestra is a medium to advanced level performance group that includes all classical string instruments (violin, viola, cello, upright bass). Students are encouraged to participate in Western Regional and All-State competitions and are expected to perform at the two annual concerts during the school year. They are also highly encouraged to take private lessons. This ensemble performs medium to advanced level music.

## **PIANO PERFORMANCE AND COLLABORATIVE ACCOMPANIMENT**

**Requirements:** *Approval of Visual and Performing Arts Department Chair*

Explore the world of piano mastery in this comprehensive class focused on improving piano technique, repertoire, and musicianship. This dynamic program offers a unique blend of group and individual lessons, providing students with a well-rounded musical experience as both a soloist and accompanist. Students will delve into the rich history of piano literature, uncovering the stories and styles behind the compositions, composers, and performers that have shaped the world of music. As a part of this class, students also have the exciting opportunity to collaborate with the String Orchestra and participate in each of the four major Prep Music Concerts. This is a multi-level performance class. All students are required to audition; prior experience is expected and necessary

## **GUITAR ENSEMBLE**

**Requirements:** *Approval of Visual and Performing Arts Department Chair*

Students will learn, demonstrate, and practice skills associated with playing the guitar. Students will develop these skills in a positive, supportive environment while also developing good musicianship skills and behaviors associated with good practice and rehearsal technique. This course focuses on the fundamentals of music theory, history, instrumental technique and expressive artistry through guitar music performance. This course is open to students with varying levels of experience entering ninth grade.

**Acceptance into this ensemble is by audition only.**

## **AP ART HISTORY (AVLI)**

**Special Note:** *Dual Credit Course with Creighton University*

The AP Art History course explores topics such as the nature of art, its uses, its meanings, art making, and responses to art. Through investigation of diverse artistic traditions of cultures from prehistory to the present, the course fosters in-depth and holistic understanding of the history of art from a global perspective. Students learn and apply skills of visual, contextual, and comparative analysis to engage with a variety of art forms, constructing understanding of individual works and interconnections of art-making processes and products throughout history. Coursework is rigorous and will prepare students to sit for the AP Art History College Board exam in the spring. The course requires weekly engagement but is primarily asynchronous, allowing students to work around their school schedule. A required synchronous meeting takes place one evening per week. Meeting times will be determined at the start of each term. This course is a yearlong course that is offered online through the Arrupe Virtual Learning Institute.

## **AP MUSIC THEORY (AVLI)**

**Special Note:** *Dual Credit Course with Creighton University*

The AP Music Theory course corresponds to two semesters of typical introductory college music theory class. Topics include musicianship, theory, musical materials and procedures, dictation and listening skills, sight-singing, and harmony. The goal is to develop the ability to recognize, understand and describe basic materials and processes of tonal music that are heard or presented in a musical score. Notational skills, speed, and fluency with basic materials are emphasized. Students who complete this course are encouraged and eligible to take the AP exam in the spring. This course requires weekly engagement but is primarily asynchronous, allowing students to work around their school schedule. There is no weekly scheduled class meeting but one-on-one synchronous teacher support is offered as needed, by appointment. This course is a yearlong course that is offered online through the Arrupe Virtual Learning Institute.

## **DIGITAL PHOTOGRAPHY (AVLI)**

Digital Photography is a semester course designed for beginning photographers. Students will learn the basics of photography and fine-tune their camera skills. The course will also cover composition and the principles of design that work to create an aesthetically pleasing photo. This course requires weekly engagement but is primarily asynchronous which allows students to work around their school schedule. A required synchronous meeting takes place one evening per week. Meeting times will be determined at the start of each term. Synchronous Individual Support meetings are available upon request, by appointment. This course is a first semester course that is offered online through the Arrupe Virtual Learning Institute.

**ADVANCED DIGITAL PHOTOGRAPHY (AVLI)**

This course is an extension to the 1st semester Digital Photography course with students deepening their mastery of key camera functionality, composition, and design principles as applied to developing personal expression and creativity. This course requires weekly engagement but is primarily asynchronous, allowing students to work around their school schedule. A required synchronous meeting takes place one evening per week. Meeting times will be determined at the start of each term. This course is a second semester course that is offered online through the Arrupe Virtual Learning Institute.

# World Language Department

Mrs. Jennifer Mauritz (Department Chair)

Mr. Robert Bernier P'15

Ms. Massiel Rosales Montenegro

Ms. Blancamari Somoza

Mr. Jozef Tremblay

Mr. Sean Whalen

WORLD LANGUAGE DEPARTMENT COURSE OFFERINGS		
French Courses	Latin Courses	Spanish Courses
AP French Language & Culture	AP Latin	AP Spanish Literature & Culture
Honors French V	Honors Latin III	AP Spanish Language & Culture
Honors French IV	Latin III	Honors Spanish IV
Honors French III	Honors Latin II	Honors Spanish III
French III	Latin II	Spanish III
French II	Latin I	Honors Spanish II
French I		Spanish II
		Honors Spanish I
		Spanish I
		Conversational Spanish I & II

## FRENCH I

The key objective in French I is to form a base for acquisition and proficiency, the attainment of which requires a focus on communication with accuracy in a cultural context. The four language skills - speaking, listening, reading and writing - are developed throughout the course. The class is conducted primarily in French with frequent opportunities for students to communicate in French.

## FRENCH II

This course continues to emphasize proficiency acquisition. The course works to improve the student's ability to speak, read, listen and write in French. Students are expected to communicate in French and can expect that the class is taught in French as well. There is a stronger emphasis on grammar within a cultural context

## FRENCH III

In this course, the students will refine their knowledge of grammar with more developed, longer creative writing assignments. Oral and listening proficiency will continue to be developed. Literature will be introduced, i.e. short stories and contemporary poetry from the Francophone World. Students will develop an understanding and appreciation of the Francophone world through a variety of cultural activities. The class is taught in French and students are expected to communicate in French.

## HONORS FRENCH III: ADVANCED FRENCH GRAMMAR AND INTRODUCTION TO FRENCH LITERATURE

**Requirements:** Approval of World Language Department Chairperson

Honors French III is an advanced language course. Students will develop a deeper understanding of advanced grammar. This course works to enrich a student's vocabulary and increase their ability to comprehend both spoken and written French. Students in the honors section will begin to evaluate writing in response to classical as well as contemporary literature. In addition to the study of advanced grammar and composition, students read literature and write papers in response. In most cases, students in this course are preparing for the AP French Language and Culture course.

## **HONORS FRENCH IV: FRENCH CULTURE AND CIVILIZATION / HONORS FRENCH V: ADVANCED CULTURE AND FRANCOPHONE LITERATURE**

**Requirements:** *Approval of World Language Department Chairperson*

This is an elective course for those students who have completed either French III/Honors French III or AP French. It is designed for advanced language students who wish to continue their study of French. The course will work to build proficiency through the exploration of culture, current events, and Francophone literature. Students are expected to be motivated, independent learners as the course will include some project– based learning. Students are expected to communicate in French.

## **AP FRENCH LANGUAGE AND CULTURE**

**Requirements:** *Approval of World Language Department Chairperson*

The AP French Language course is an advanced course designed to prepare students for the College Board AP Exam by expanding the student’s reading, listening, speaking, and writing proficiency. Students build proficiency in various modes of communication including two-way interactions in writing and speaking, interpretation of audio, audiovisual, and print materials and an oral and written presentation of information and ideas. Proficiency in French language will be developed through the exploration of a variety of interdisciplinary themes relating to French culture. These themes outlined by the College Board will be explored using authentic texts, poems, plays, music, and video and will prepare students for the AP exam while building their ability to speak and comprehend both written and spoken French. The class is conducted entirely in French, and it is expected that students will communicate in French. All juniors enrolled in this course are required to take the AP exam.

## **LATIN I**

This course is an introduction to the language, history, and civilization of Ancient Rome. Students explore the basics of the Latin language and vocabulary and its impact on the English language and vocabulary. Emphasis is placed on reading and writing basic Latin sentences and passages.

## **LATIN II**

In this course, students continue their acquisition of Latin grammar and vocabulary, with special emphasis placed on more complex grammatical structures, such as participles, infinitives, and the subjunctive mood. Students continue to compose in Latin, using the more complex grammatical structures. Students begin to read legends in Latin and adaptations of authentic Latin authors such as Livy.

## **HONORS LATIN II**

**Requirements:** *Approval of World Language Department Chairperson*

In this course, students complete their acquisition of Latin grammar and vocabulary, with special emphasis placed on complex grammatical structures, such as participles, infinitives, and the subjunctive mood. Students compose to a greater degree in Latin, using the more complex grammatical structures. Students begin to read authentic Latin from authors such as Livy and Pliny the Younger.

## **LATIN III: PROSE, HEROES AND LEGENDS**

This course includes an extensive review of all Latin grammar and syntax, followed by exploration of Roman myths and legends, read in the original Latin language. In addition, students read authentic works from authors such as Ovid and Pliny the Younger.

### **HONORS LATIN III: LITERATURE OF THE LATE REPUBLIC AND THE AGE OF AUGUSTUS**

**Requirements:** *Approval of World Language Department Chairperson*

Following a brief review of Latin grammar and syntax, students pursue a survey of Latin prose and poetry in the unadopted works of several Roman authors, such as Caesar, Cicero, Ovid, and Vergil. Late in the year, students begin the AP Latin curriculum in preparation for the AP Latin course.

### **AP LATIN**

**Requirements:** *Approval of World Language Department Chairperson*

The AP Latin course promotes reading of Latin poetry and prose with historical and literary sensitivity by reading Caesar's Gallic War and Vergil's Aeneid. Students are encouraged to develop linguistic skills by engaging in multiple activities: translating poetry and prose from the required-reading list, precisely and literally, reading passages of poetry and prose with comprehension and analyzing literary texts in clear, coherent written arguments supported by textual examples.

### **SPANISH I**

The key objective of Spanish I is to form a base for acquisition and proficiency, the attainment of which requires a focus on communication with accuracy in a cultural context. The four language skills- reading, writing, speaking, and listening- are developed throughout the course. Students are introduced to the fundamentals of the language. The class is conducted primarily in Spanish allowing students to develop their comprehension skills. In addition, there are frequent opportunities for students to communicate in Spanish. A variety of resources are integrated into the curriculum.

### **HONORS SPANISH I**

**Requirements:** *Approval of World Language Department Chairperson*

This course is designed for students who come to Fairfield Prep with a proven background in learning the Spanish language. The course will be conducted in Spanish whenever possible and taught at an accelerated pace. The class will reintroduce students to the fundamental practices of Spanish, while going into greater depth to fully understand these practices. Each day, students will engage in active communication of the language that mirrors authentic situations. Students will be given daily opportunities to read, write, listen, and speak in Spanish to acquire important vocabulary and grammar. In addition, students will explore different cultural practices throughout the Spanish-speaking world.

### **SPANISH II**

This course continues to emphasize proficiency acquisition. The course continues to work on developing the student's ability to speak, read, listen, and write in Spanish. There is a stronger emphasis on grammar within a cultural context. In addition, an emphasis is placed on developing vocabulary. The class is taught in Spanish to develop comprehension skills. Students are expected to communicate in Spanish implementing their expanding vocabulary and demonstrating their understanding of grammar. A variety of methods are integrated into the curriculum to build upon the skills previously learned, but also to encourage a love of the language.

## **HONORS SPANISH II**

**Requirements:** *Approval of World Language Department Chairperson*

This course continues to emphasize proficiency acquisition. The course continues to work on developing the student's ability to speak, read, listen, and write in Spanish. There is a stronger emphasis on grammar within a cultural context. In addition, an emphasis is placed on developing vocabulary. The class is taught in Spanish to develop comprehension skills. This course moves at an accelerated pace and provides a more in-depth understanding of the grammar. Students are expected to communicate in Spanish implementing their expanding vocabulary and demonstrating their understanding of grammar. A variety of methods are integrated into the curriculum to build upon the skills previously learned, but also to encourage a love of the language.

## **SPANISH III**

This course will review essential vocabulary and knowledge of grammar to continue developing the four major language skills: reading, writing, listening, and speaking. Students will be introduced to different types of literature within the Hispanic culture that develop skills learned throughout the course. Readings will be used to introduce Spanish speaking countries. A variety of assignments will be given based on the readings further developing the four essential skills. The class is taught in Spanish and students are expected to communicate in the target language. Projects are assigned for each unit and encourage a creative, interactive application of language and may include iMovie's, cartoon creations, and in class skits. Students will learn to work together and collaborate in the target language as the class emphasizes group work and collaboration.

## **HONORS SPANISH III: ADVANCED GRAMMAR AND INTRODUCTION TO LITERATURE**

**Requirements:** *Approval of World Language Department Chairperson*

Honors Spanish III is an advanced language course. Students will develop a deeper understanding of advanced grammar. This course works to enrich a student's vocabulary and increase their ability to comprehend both written and spoken Spanish. Literature within the Hispanic culture is introduced to continue developing the four major language skills: reading, writing, listening, and speaking. This course will help inspire a love for the Spanish language through a variety of methods. Many techniques will be used frequently to cater to the different learning styles and abilities that exist, including debates, oral presentations, and formal/informal written reports. Students will also begin to develop essential skills required for the AP Spanish Language & Culture course.

## **HONORS SPANISH IV: MODERN HISPANIC LITERATURE**

**Requirements:** *Approval of World Language Department Chairperson*

This is an elective course for those students who have completed either Spanish III or Honors Spanish III. It is designed for advanced language students who wish to continue their study of Spanish. The course will continue to build proficiency through the exploration of culture and literature from a variety of Spanish speaking countries. Students are expected to be motivated, independent learners as the course will include project-based learning. Students are expected to communicate in Spanish.

## **AP SPANISH LANGUAGE AND CULTURE**

**Requirements:** *Approval of World Language Department Chairperson*

The AP Spanish Language and Culture course emphasizes communication (understanding and being understood by others) by applying interpersonal, interpretive, and presentational skills in real-life situations. This includes vocabulary usage, language control, communication strategies, and cultural awareness. The AP Spanish Language and Culture course strives not to overemphasize grammatical accuracy at the expense of communication. To best facilitate the study of language and culture, the course is taught almost exclusively in Spanish. The AP Spanish Language and Culture course engages students in an exploration of culture in both contemporary and historical contexts. The course develops students' awareness and appreciation of cultural products (e.g., tools, books, music, laws, conventions, institutions); practices (patterns of social interactions within a culture); and perspectives (values, attitudes, and assumptions).

## **AP SPANISH LITERATURE AND CULTURE**

**Requirements:** *Approval of World Language Department Chairperson*

**Prerequisites:** *AP Spanish Language and Culture*

The AP Spanish Literature and Culture course uses a thematic approach to introduce students to representative texts (short stories, novels, poetry, and essays) from Peninsular Spanish, Latin American, and United States Hispanic literature. Students develop proficiencies across the full range of communication modes (interpersonal, presentational, and interpretive), thereby honing their critical reading and analytical writing skills. Literature is examined within the context of its time and place, as students reflect on the many voices and cultures present in the required readings. The course also includes a strong focus on cultural connections and comparisons, including exploration of various media (e.g., art, film, articles, literary criticism).

## **CONVERSATIONAL SPANISH I & II**

**Requirements:** *Approval of World Language Department Chairperson, Director of Academic Support, and Academic Dean*

This introductory course will explore various aspects of the Spanish-Speaking world including culture, history, current events, art, music, and sports. A variety of resources will be used to present the material ensuring that it is accessible to all students. In addition, this conversational language course will emphasize the language learning skills, listening and speaking. Students will be introduced to the vocabulary necessary to communicate and participate in conversations using the target language. Proficiency will be developed in listening and speaking using a variety of techniques and methods developed to account for differences in learning styles. The class will include interactive, project-based learning. Students will collaborate with their peers on a regular basis to practice the language skills presented by the teacher. A variety of assessments including presentations, projects, conversations, creative expression will enable students to demonstrate their progress throughout the course.