



Class of 2029 – Freshman Forecasting FAQ

Do all freshman students have the same schedule?

No. All freshman students take Theology 9A and 9B, English 9, Intro to Computer Science, two semesters of Fine Arts, and Physics. All freshman students also take a world language course and a math course, but these courses vary depending on the student's placement level. All freshman students also choose one additional semester-long course, which may be a PE credit, Health 1, or an elective.

What does a typical freshman schedule look like?

1. Theology 9A + 9B
2. English 9
3. Fine Arts Credits
4. Intro to Computer Science + PE credit, Health 1, or an elective
5. World Language
6. Math
7. Physics

When do we receive placements from the math and world language exams?

Families will receive placements from the math and world language exams sometime in mid-May.

What is the freshman Fine Arts credit requirement?

Students will take two semester-long Fine Arts courses in freshman year to fulfill this requirement. The two courses that students select must be from two different Fine Arts disciplines. The Fine Arts disciplines are Dance, Music, Theatre, and Visual Art. So, students may select a Dance course and a Theatre course, or a Visual Art course and a Music course for example, but students may not take two courses from the same discipline (two Visual Art courses, for example) to fulfill this requirement.

Which courses are offered in each of the Fine Arts disciplines?

The following are the courses offered in each of the four Fine Arts disciplines that fulfill the requirement:

Dance: Beginning Dance, Intermediate Dance

Music: Class Piano, Musicianship 1

Theatre: Acting 1, Technical Theatre

Visual Art: Ceramics 1, Drawing 1, Painting

How many electives do I choose when forecasting?

While we recommend that all students complete either Health 1 or a PE credit course in freshman year, students may instead choose one semester-long elective.

What semester-long courses are open to freshman students?

Freshman students may choose from Health 1, an additional Fine Arts elective, or a course that fulfills a PE credit when selecting their semester-long course. If choosing a Fine Arts elective, students must select a different course than any selected to fulfill their Fine Arts requirement.

Fine Arts Electives that are open to freshman students are Acting 1, Ceramics 1, Class Piano, Digital Media Production, Drawing 1, Musicianship 1, Painting 1, and Technical Theatre.

Courses that fulfill PE credits are Beginning Dance, Intermediate Dance, Fitness, Strength and Conditioning, or Yoga.

Some of these courses are listed as fulfilling either a requirement or an elective credit. Are students able to take the same course for two different credit requirements?

No. Students may not take a course to fulfill more than one credit. For example, if a student takes Beginning Dance as their Fine Arts credit, that course will not count toward a PE credit as well. It will count as one or the other.

Are there descriptions of the courses freshman students take?

Yes. Please consult the 2025-2026 year course catalog on our website here:

<https://www.stmaryspdx.org/academics/forecasting>. Courses are organized in the catalog by department.

If I have questions about which courses to sign up for, or about freshman schedules in general, who should I contact?

Please contact the Registrar, Liz Olsen, at liz.olsen@smapdx.org, or the Vice Principal of Academics, Ellie Gilbert, at ellie.gilbert@smapdx.org.

How do I sign up for a course that is in the after school block (ex. Mock Trial, Orchestra, etc.)?

Those courses are not part of the forecasting process. You will register for those courses after the start of the new school year. More information about signing up for those courses will be available at the beginning of the new school year.

When will I find out my schedule for next year?

You will find out your schedule for next year sometime in August.

How do I know what books or supplies I will need for my courses?

Over the summer, you will receive information on purchasing books and supplies for next year. You can purchase most books online through our bookstore portal at that time. Teachers will notify their students about necessary supplies in the first week of school. You will receive information about summer reading sometime after the 24-25 school year ends.

I have questions about academic support – who should I contact?

Please contact Ashley Sheridan, Vice Principal of Student Life, at ashley.sheridan@smapdx.org.