



**2025-26**

# CURRICULUM GUIDE

# YOUR FUTURE

## OUR HISTORY

Located on historic Nicollet Island, in the middle of the Mississippi River, and alongside downtown Minneapolis, DeLaSalle High School was founded in 1900 as the first Catholic high school for boys in Minneapolis.

Established by the Archdiocese, and forged in the mission of Lasallian schools, DeLaSalle initially served a small student body from local neighborhoods. The school became co-ed in 1971 and has evolved to become a vibrant, multi-cultural community of 700 students from Minneapolis, St. Paul and over 35 suburbs, representing over 130 grade schools across the Twin Cities and surrounding suburbs.



### Our Mission

We, a diverse community of teachers, learners, alumni, parents, and supporters, comprise DeLaSalle High School. Our mission is to serve students and families who seek high-quality, values-based academic preparation for life. We at DeLaSalle fulfill this mission, in part, by respecting and affirming our heritage as a Catholic high school in the Lasallian tradition.

On the island, more than 50 activities — sports teams, theater and fine arts programs, student council, campus ministry, robotics, speech, math league, mock trial, and many more — provide numerous opportunities for students to grow, lead, and excel.

DeLaSalle students are committed to excellence. In the past decade, more than 90 students have been recognized as National Merit Scholars, and approximately one-third of the most recent graduating class earned an ACT composite score in the top 10% of the nation. From National History Day medalists to National Quiz Bowl finalists to National Art Honor Society winners, students shine across many disciplines.

The faculty and staff have an unwavering dedication to the school's mission, delivering with great skill challenging and innovative coursework. Through mentoring programs and guidance services, faculty and staff cultivate strong relationships with students, creating an engaging environment for students to pursue their academic and co-curricular interests.

DeLaSalle's student body — a vibrant mosaic of life experiences, economic levels, cultural perspectives, family circumstances, and political views — brings a multicultural lens to all learning and the school culture. In addition to undertaking rigorous coursework, students deepen their learning and broaden their perspectives through a variety of programming. This is reflected in friendship, teamwork, inquiry, leadership, service, adaptability, and respect in which DeLaSalle students are prepared for adult lives of learning, faith, and service within a global society.

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

4 Registration Procedures

5 Global Pathways Scholar Program

6 Opportunity for College Credits  
College Entrance Requirements  
NCAA Eligibility

## CURRICULUM

8 Business, Finance, & Marketing

9 Engineering & Computer Science

10 English

12 Fine Arts

15 Mathematics

18 Modern Languages

20 Physical Education & Health

22 Science

26 Social Studies

28 Theology

30 Athletics & Activities

31 Admission to DeLaSalle  
Graduation Requirements

# LETTER FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Families and Students,

It is my great pleasure to welcome you to DeLaSalle High School for what promises to be an exciting and memorable school year. As your principal, I am thrilled to extend a warm welcome to both new and returning students and their families. We are proud to be part of a community that values faith, education, and service, and we look forward to sharing these values with you.

This year holds special significance as we celebrate DeLaSalle's 125th anniversary. Since our founding in 1900, DeLaSalle has provided a transformative educational experience grounded in the Catholic, Lasallian tradition. Inspired by the vision of our founder, Saint John Baptist de La Salle, we view education as a community activity that involves teachers, students, and families working together to achieve a common goal. Our school has grown and evolved over the years, but our commitment to academic excellence and faith-based education remains steadfast.

Located on the beautiful Nicollet Island, along the Mississippi River in downtown Minneapolis, DeLaSalle offers a unique learning environment that combines the natural beauty of our surroundings with the vibrancy of city life. Our college preparatory curriculum is designed to challenge students academically while also nurturing their personal and spiritual

growth. We offer a wide range of courses and programs that cater to diverse interests and prepare our students for success in college and beyond.

As you explore our curriculum guide, you will discover the many academic and extracurricular opportunities available at DeLaSalle. From rigorous coursework in the sciences, arts, and humanities to a wide array of clubs, sports, and service organizations, there are countless ways for students to engage, explore their interests, and develop their talents.

I encourage you to take full advantage of all that DeLaSalle has to offer. Get involved, ask questions, and make the most of your time here. Together, we will continue to build on the proud legacy of DeLaSalle and empower each student to reach their full potential.

Thank you for choosing to be a part of the DeLaSalle community. I look forward to a successful and rewarding school year ahead!

Warm regards,  
Brian Edel  
Principal, DeLaSalle High School



## 3-DAY BELL SCHEDULE ROTATION

|             |   |   |   |
|-------------|---|---|---|
| 8:15-9:20   | 1 Honors English 9<br><i>(example course 1)</i> | 4 World History/Geo/PE<br><i>(example course 4)</i> | 2 Algebra 1<br><i>(example course 2)</i>            |
| 9:20-9:40   | Morning Break                                   | Morning Break                                       | Morning Break                                       |
| 9:40-10:45  | 2 Algebra 1<br><i>(example course 2)</i>        | Assembly/Advisory                                   | 3 Chinese<br><i>(example course 3)</i>              |
| 10:50-12:30 | 3 Chinese<br><i>(example course 3)</i>          | 1 Honors English 9<br><i>(example course 1)</i>     | 4 World History/Geo/PE<br><i>(example course 4)</i> |
|             | Lunch   | Lunch   | Lunch   |
| 12:35-1:40  | 6 Biology<br><i>(example course 6)</i>          | 7 Scripture<br><i>(example course 6)</i>            | 5 Band<br><i>(example course 5)</i>                 |
| 1:45-2:50   | 7 Scripture<br><i>(example course 6)</i>        | 5 Band<br><i>(example course 5)</i>                 | 6 Biology<br><i>(example course 6)</i>              |
| 2:50-3:15   | Tutoring  | Tutoring  | Tutoring  |

# REGISTRATION PROCEDURES

1. All students must register for at least six credits each semester. Seven courses can be taken, or six courses and one non-credit study hall.
2. A \$350.00 non-refundable registration deposit must be paid to confirm enrollment for the 2024-25 school year. For new students, the registration deposit is paid at the time of registration. Under the Continuous Enrollment model, returning students will have the registration deposit added to the current year's tuition agreement for the March statement.
3. Courses may be canceled due to insufficient number of students registered or change in personnel. A student's alternative course selections will be used in the case of course cancellation. NOTE: Preference for alternate course selections will be granted to upperclass students who registered in advance of all deadlines.
4. Course Drop/Add Policies: Students are advised to choose courses wisely: The master schedule and instructional personnel are set to accommodate those courses chosen in the spring of the year. If a parent or a student requests a schedule change, it will be governed by the following policies. Students who do not adhere to the policies will not receive credit for classes.
  - a. Once a semester has begun, both the parents and teachers involved must give written approval for a schedule change on a Drop/Add Form, which is available in the Guidance Office or the Registrar.
  - b. If a class is already filled, a request to add that class will not be honored. DeLaSalle is committed to keeping class sizes small and balanced and will not accommodate a change if it means overloading a class. (Note: This may also involve other classes affected by the change).
  - c. Students must follow their current schedule until they receive a new schedule.
  - d. Schedule changes will not be made to accommodate requests for specific teachers or for lunch wave.
  - e. A senior who wishes to be a Teacher Aide and receive credit for the course must complete the Teacher Aide form - with all appropriate signatures - and return it to Registrar during the first week of the semester. Students may not be a Teacher Aide and also have a study hall during the same semester.
  - f. Courses dropped during the first two weeks of a semester will not appear on a student's transcript. Any course dropped in week 3 or later in the semester will appear as a W (withdrawn) on their transcript.



# GLOBAL PATHWAYS



## Where Education Meets the World

DeLaSalle High School is proud to introduce the Global Pathways Scholars (GPS) program, an innovative initiative designed to equip students with essential global competencies. This program will provide students in grades 10 through 12 the opportunity to earn a certificate in global competency, a credential that will be officially endorsed on their final transcripts.

## Preparing Students for a Globalized World

The Global Pathways program reflects DeLaSalle's commitment to educational innovation and global engagement. By participating, students will develop skills to navigate and contribute to an interconnected world. At DeLaSalle, we believe that education should transcend borders, empowering every student to become a global citizen.

## What Are Global Competency Skills?

Recognized by institutions worldwide, global competency skills are crucial for students who aspire to engage with different cultures and make a meaningful impact on the world. These skills include cultural awareness, effective communication across diverse groups, critical thinking on global issues, and the ability to collaborate internationally.

## The Application Process

Applications for the Class of 2028 will open in Fall 2025. Interested students will need to submit:

- **Academic Record:** Grade reports verifying GPA and course history.
- **Resume:** A summary of activities, events, or skills demonstrating intercultural engagement.

- **Essay:** A 500–750 word response to the prompt: What is the value of global competencies in our current global climate?
- **Event Proposal:** A list of 10 local events or activities promoting intercultural engagement.
- **Recommendations:** One from a DeLaSalle teacher and one from a trusted adult outside of school (e.g., coach, employer, minister).
- **Interview:** A discussion with the GPS Application Panel to assess readiness and commitment.

## Commitment and Curriculum

Accepted students will embark on a three-year journey beginning in their sophomore year, engaging in a comprehensive curriculum that includes:

- **Diverse Coursework:** Academics focused on global perspectives.
- **Intercultural Service Learning:** Hands-on projects that promote cultural exchange.
- **Immersive Experiences & International Travel:** Real-world exposure to different cultures.
- **Capstone Project:** A culminating senior-year project that synthesizes learning into a meaningful, real-world application.

## The Value of Certification

The GPS program aims to cultivate graduates who are academically proficient, culturally competent, and globally aware. By completing the program, students will demonstrate their readiness to contribute to the global community, equipped with the skills necessary for success in an increasingly interconnected world.

Colleges and universities are increasingly recognizing the value of global competencies. As Harvard Project Zero's Manzilla and the Asia Society's Jackson state:

*To succeed in this new global age, students need capacities that go beyond traditional academics—they must be knowledgeable and curious about world regions and global issues, attuned to diverse perspectives, able to communicate across cultures and in other languages, and committed to the common good.*

Having an endorsement of global competency skills on their transcript will strengthen students' academic resumes and, most importantly, signify their preparedness to lead in an ever-changing world.



# OPPORTUNITY FOR COLLEGE CREDITS

**Advanced Placement (AP) courses** are as follows:

- African American Studies
- Biology
- Calculus AB
- Calculus BC
- Chemistry
- Chinese Language and Culture
- Computer Science A
- Computer Science Principles
- English Language and Composition
- English Literature and Composition
- Environmental Science
- Government
- Macroeconomics
- Microeconomics
- Physics
- Physics 1
- Physics 2
- Pre-Calculus
- Seminar
- Spanish Language and Culture
- Statistics
- Studio Art
- United States History

Any student who wishes to prepare for the AP Test in an area not listed here should see a teacher and counselor early in the year for advice on how to accomplish this goal.

**Students who take AP classes are required to take the AP test in May. An exam fee is required for students who don't qualify for Educational Benefits.**

**PACC credits** (College Credit through St. Mary's University of Minnesota) in AP Calculus BC; Anatomy and Physiology; and AP Spanish are available for a modest tuition fee to St. Mary's University of Minnesota. A list of colleges and universities accepting PACC credits is available on the St. Mary's University of Minnesota website.

**GLOBAL PATHWAYS PROGRAM** (.5 credit) Global Pathways college credits may be available through partnering colleges upon completion of a class/travel summer session at DeLaSalle and payment of a fee.

Global Pathways Program academic courses combine academic components with short term travel to international destinations chosen to complement the areas of study. Courses are typically designed through collaboration between DeLaSalle faculty and university professors allowing students to earn college credits for some of the courses. Academics will often combine subject matters - e.g. Art and Science, History and Literature - with preparation of students under the motto "preparation and participation, curiosity and civility." Additionally, students may earn .5 credit for longer term exchange opportunities in various partnering Lasallian school locations. These experiences are four to eight weeks in length allowing students to attend school and live with a host family.

# COLLEGE ENTRANCE REQUIREMENTS

---

College admission requirements vary greatly by institution. It is advisable that students check with all colleges of interest for specific requirements. DeLaSalle High School provides a course curriculum to meet college preparatory standards. In general, for a four-year college, a student will need 4 years of English, 3–4 years of Mathematics, 3–4 years of Science (3 years of a Lab Science), 3 years of Social Studies and a minimum of 2 years in the same Modern Language.

Students interested in highly selective colleges should take advanced courses; the level of “academic rigor” is important to selective colleges. Students should work closely with admissions counselors at the college or university to which they are applying.

## NCAA ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

To be eligible to practice and compete in collegiate athletics at an NCAA Division 1 or Division 2 institution, students must have satisfy NCAA high school GPA and core course requirements. Students and parents view specific requirements on the NCAA website at [ncaa.org](http://ncaa.org).



# BUSINESS, FINANCE, & MARKETING

The Business, Finance, Marketing Department equips students with the knowledge, skills, and mindset to navigate the complex world of commerce and entrepreneurship. Through a hands-on, real-world approach, students explore financial literacy, economic principles, marketing strategies, and business management. Courses emphasize problem-solving, ethical decision-making, and data-driven analysis, preparing students for leadership roles in an evolving global economy. Collaborative projects, simulations, and partnerships with industry professionals provide practical experience and insight into career pathways. Students develop critical thinking and communication skills through case studies, business competitions, and entrepreneurial ventures. With a strong foundation in financial responsibility, strategic planning, and market analysis, graduates are prepared to excel in college, careers, and their own business endeavors. Whether launching a startup, managing investments, or crafting marketing campaigns, students leave with the confidence and expertise to succeed in the business world.

## INTRODUCTION TO BUSINESS

### 1 SEMESTER

In this course, students will be given an opportunity to learn about real businesses and their operation and processes, including the creation and implementation of goal-oriented plans designed to maximize opportunities and address potential issues. This class will include working with real owners and professionals from local businesses to form solutions to business challenges, some of which may be implemented in real life.

» *Open to 10th, 11th, and 12th grade students.*

## ECONOMICS

### 1 SEMESTER

Covering introductory micro and macroeconomic concepts, students will learn about how people organize for the production, distribution, and consumption of goods and services. The goal is to increase the students' awareness about how economic issues significantly affect the quality of their lives. Students will participate in a variety of learning experiences that will determine how local, state, national, and global economies can be independent. Specific lessons will focus on personal finance, oil cartels, running a business, the Federal Reserve Bank, and contemporary topics in local economics.

» *Open to 11th and 12th grade students.*

## AP MICROECONOMICS

### 1 SEMESTER

AP Microeconomics is an introductory college-level microeconomics course. Students cultivate their understanding of the principles that apply to the functions of individual economic decision-makers by using principles and models to describe economic situations and predict and explain outcomes with graphs, charts, and data as they explore concepts like scarcity and markets; costs, benefits, and marginal analysis; production choices and behavior; and market inefficiency and public policy.

» *This course fulfills the graduation requirement for Economics/Personal Finance and is open to students in 11th and 12th grade.*

## AP MACROECONOMICS

### 1 SEMESTER

AP Macroeconomics is an introductory college-level macroeconomics course. Students cultivate their understanding of the principles that apply to an economic system as a whole by using principles and models to describe economic situations and predict and explain outcomes with graphs, charts, and data as they explore concepts like economic measurements, markets, macroeconomic models, and macroeconomic policies.

» *This course fulfills the graduation requirement for Economics/Personal Finance.*

» *Open to 11th and 12th grade students.*

## PERSONAL FINANCE

### 1 SEMESTER

This course is designed to help students become responsible stewards of their resources while developing and maintaining sound financial habits. Some of the topics to be addressed in the course include: making and keeping a budget, managing loans, paying taxes and filing an income tax return, investing for retirement (IRA, 401k, or 403b), purchasing insurance products. Students will be engaged in a variety of projects to develop the critical knowledge to discern what to do before and after payday to be a financially responsible citizen.

» *This course fulfills the graduation requirement for Economics/Personal Finance and is open to students in 11th and 12th grade.*

## PRODUCT DESIGN AND MARKETING

### 1 SEMESTER

Students in Product Design and Marketing will learn how to carry out advanced work in Google Applications, Microsoft Office 365, Adobe Creative Cloud, Apple iWork, Autodesk, and other supplemental design and marketing tools. Students will use their new skills to complete practical projects that may be useful in future classes or careers. Students will apply their understanding of various applications

in a Project Based Learning unit to create a company and advertise, budget, and market a prototype product.

» *Open to 10th, 11th, and 12th grade students.*

## YEARBOOK

### 2 SEMESTERS

If you enjoy graphic design, photography, and writing, put your skills to use and help create the next DeLaSalle yearbook! Students will be responsible for the production, design, sales, and publication of the school yearbook. Exercise your creativity while representing the students and documenting the history of DeLaSalle! Skills learned will include:

- Intro to software
- Working with photos: Albums
- Applying templates and master pages
- Sales and marketing
- Page editing: Design tools and menus, designing pallets
- Portraits: Uploading, editing, tagging, portrait flow
- Proofing and submitting: Creating pdf proofs, approving, submitting personal and blank spreads
- Indexing and process flow

» *Open to 11th and 12th grade students.*

» *Prerequisite: Graphic Design I or Photography I*

# ENGINEERING & COMPUTER SCIENCE

The Engineering & Computer Science Department provides a dynamic, hands-on learning environment where students develop problem-solving skills, technical expertise, and innovative thinking. Through courses in engineering design, programming, robotics, and emerging technologies, students engage in real-world applications that bridge theory and practice. Collaborative projects encourage teamwork, creativity, and critical thinking, while industry partnerships and extracurricular opportunities, such as robotics competitions and engineering challenges, enrich their learning experience. Our curriculum emphasizes ethical responsibility, sustainability, and the impact of technology on society, preparing students to be conscientious leaders in STEM fields. With access to state-of-the-art tools and software, students gain practical experience that equips them for college, careers, and the ever-evolving technological landscape. Whether designing solutions to real-world problems or developing software applications, students graduate with the skills and confidence to shape the future.

## PRINCIPLES OF ENGINEERING

### 1 SEMESTER

Principles of Engineering discovers the different types of engineering fields and helps students develop skills they might use in a post-secondary engineering course of study. The semester is divided into two modules, each approximately 8 weeks long. Students choose a topic they want to do for a module. Each topic has 3 levels of difficulty, so students can do that topic for a total of 3 modules. The topics include:

- **Structural Engineering:** Understand the fundamental forces of structures, such as buildings and bridges. Use your knowledge to build structures.
- **Computer Aided Design (CAD):** Design mechanical parts and create them on a 3D printer.
- **Coding:** Learn how to code in Java using an Arduino Uno.
- **Robotics:** Program robots, automated devices, and Computer Integrated Manufacturing (CIM) cells.
  - » *Open to 10th, 11th, and 12th grade students.*
  - » *Students may take the course up to 3 times (6 modules).*
  - » *Prerequisites: Successful completion of, or current enrollment in Geometry.*

## ROBOTICS

### 1 SEMESTER

Students will learn how to code programs, design potential robot designs, and use the varying tools in the maker space (3D printer and laser cutter). Emphasis will be placed on building a robot that will be used in competition in the Spring FIRST robotics tournament.

- » *Open to 10th, 11th, and 12th grade students.*

## AP COMPUTER SCIENCE PRINCIPLES (CSP)

### 2 SEMESTERS

The curriculum for this course is a full-year, rigorous, entry-level course that covers a broad range of foundational topics such as programming, algorithms, the Internet, big data, digital privacy and security, and the societal impacts of computing. The students will develop computational thinking vital for success across all disciplines, such as using computational tools to analyze and study data and working with large data sets to analyze, visualize, and draw conclusions from trends. Students are encouraged

to apply creative processes when developing computational artifacts and to think creatively while using computer software and other technology to explore questions that interest them. The students will also develop effective communication and collaboration skills, working individually and collaboratively to solve problems, and discussing and writing about the importance of these problems and the impacts to their community, society, and the world.

- » *Open to 10th, 11th and 12th grade students.*  
*Prerequisite: An average of a B or better in Algebra I.*

## AP COMPUTER SCIENCE A

### 2 SEMESTERS

This course is equivalent to a first-semester, college level course in computer science. The course introduces students to computer science with fundamental topics that include problem solving, design strategies and methodologies, organization of data (data structures), approaches to processing data (algorithms), analysis of potential solutions, and the ethical and social implications of computing. The course emphasizes both object-oriented and imperative problem solving and design using Java language. These techniques represent proven approaches for developing solutions that can scale up from small, simple problems to large, complex problems.

- » *Open to 10th, 11th and 12th grade students.*  
*Prerequisite: An average of C or better in Algebra II or higher.*

## EXPLORATION IN COMPUTER SCIENCE

### 1 SEMESTER

In this course, students will explore a topic for a semester in the computer science fields of cybersecurity, video game design, web design, mobile apps, artificial intelligence, or virtual/augmented reality. Students will select one field to study in-depth and in which to create a project.

- » *Open to 11th and 12th grade students. Students may take the course up to 4 times in different topics.*
- » *Prerequisite: An average of B or better in AP Computer Science A or AP Computer Science Principles, and demonstrated proficiency in programming skills.*

# ENGLISH

Students will understand that literature in all its forms reflects and explains the complexities of the world and our places in it. Moreover, students will learn that literature is a conduit to diverse human perspectives, experiences, and institutions. This will be accomplished through the introduction and development of rhetorical and literary techniques and vocabulary in English courses. The goals of the English department are to form critical thinkers, close readers, eloquent speakers, strong and effective writers.

## COLLEGE PREP ENGLISH 9

2 SEMESTERS

English 9 introduces students to foundational skills in speaking, writing, and reading. This is accomplished through reading and analyzing stories from a variety of genres and also through written exercises and assignments. Instruction will focus on grammar, mechanics, effective use of technology, and critical reading and writing.

## ENGLISH STUDIES 9

2 SEMESTERS

This section of English 9 introduces students to foundational skills in reading, writing and speaking, emphasizing individual improvement in these areas. Incoming 9th graders will be placed in this class based on test scores, recommendations and past performance. The teacher will work individually with students to hone their skills in reading comprehension and writing and to help develop specific strategies that can be applied across disciplines. This course will cover the reading and writing skills required in College Prep English 9, and will allow for more individualized, in-depth instruction in these areas. Students will read the same texts as College Prep English 9 as well as other choice texts during Silent Sustained Reading, which will take place both within and outside of class every day.

## COLLEGE PREP ENGLISH 10

2 SEMESTERS

The focus of English 10 is language and communication. Students are introduced to formal speaking and communication techniques and are provided a more developed understanding of how the English language works and creates meaning. Students will read and analyze a variety of genres that will prepare them for reading canonical literature in English 11 and English 12.

## COLLEGE PREP ENGLISH 11

2 SEMESTERS

This American literature course emphasizes the diversity and complexity of the American experience. Students will examine how authorial choices impact the audience and outcomes. These understandings will be applied to their own expository and narrative writing. Students will improve their skills in grammar and mechanics through direct instruction and class essays.

## COLLEGE PREP ENGLISH 12

1 SEMESTER

This course explores the intersection of writing, public speaking, and communication, empowering students to express themselves with clarity, confidence, and critical insight. Students will engage in thoughtful discussions, craft persuasive and analytical

writing, and develop effective oral communication skills. Emphasizing rhetoric, argumentation, and storytelling, this course prepares students to articulate ideas with precision—both on the page and in public discourse—while fostering a deeper appreciation for the power of language in shaping thought and society.

» *This course is required of 12th grade students in Semester 1.*

## ENGLISH HONORS AND AP PROGRAM

### HONORS ENGLISH 9

2 SEMESTERS

Honors English 9 focuses on improving students' skills in reading, writing, and speaking. This will be accomplished through reading and analyzing stories from a variety of genres and through written exercises and assignments. Instruction will focus on grammar, mechanics, effective use of technology, and critical reading and writing. Honors English 9 is faster-paced and more rigorous than College Prep English 9. To continue into Honors English 10, a student must maintain a semester grade of B or better.

» *Prerequisite: Although this course is self-selected, it is highly recommended that students score 75 percent or higher on the Verbal Ability, Reading, and Language*

*sections of the DeLaSalle Entrance Exam (or show high achievement on comparable national exams). Students who enroll in this course should be intellectually curious and prepared for its rigor. Summer reading is required.*

### AP SEMINAR: ENGLISH 10

2 SEMESTERS

AP Seminar is a foundational course that engages students in cross-curricular conversations that explore the complexities of academic and real-world topics and issues by analyzing divergent perspectives. Using an inquiry framework, students practice reading and analyzing articles, research studies, and foundational, literary, and philosophical texts; listening to and viewing speeches, broadcasts, and personal accounts; and experiencing artistic works and performances. Students learn to synthesize information from multiple sources, develop their own perspectives in research-based written essays, and design and deliver oral and visual presentations, both individually and as part of a team. Ultimately, the course aims to equip students with the power to analyze and evaluate information with accuracy and precision in order to craft and communicate evidence-based arguments.

» *Prerequisite: B or better in English 9.*

## LANGUAGE AND COMPOSITION: AP ENGLISH 11

2 SEMESTERS

Qualified students will develop higher-level thinking and writing skills through rhetorical analysis, reading response journals and narrative, expository, analytical, and argumentative essays. They will analyze and evaluate all forms of text and articulate criticism through mature discussion and effective writing. Students are encouraged to develop a personal style. Students will practice public speaking and larger discussion skills through presentations, debates, and seminars. College credit may be available through the Program for Advanced College Credit (PACC) at Saint Mary's University of Minnesota and the College Board's Advanced Placement (AP) Examination. Students in AP classes are required to take the AP exam in May.

» *Prerequisites: A grade of A in English 10 or a grade of B or above in Honors English 10 and teacher approval. The teacher's approval will take into consideration test scores, work ethic, consistency of performance, and intellectual curiosity. Summer reading will be assigned prior to the start of 11th grade and assessed the first week of school.*

## LITERATURE AND COMPOSITION: AP ENGLISH 12

2 SEMESTERS

A continuation of AP Language and Composition, this course concentrates on developing skills of literary interpretation and sophisticated writing, using a variety of types and styles of literature (poetry, essays, fiction, drama), and concentrating the writing assignments on themes explored in the readings. College credit is available through the PACC program and AP Exam. Students in AP classes are

required to take the AP exam in May.

» *Prerequisites: A grade of A in English 11 or a grade of B or above in AP English 11 and teacher approval, which will take into consideration test scores, work ethic, consistency of performance and intellectual curiosity. Summer reading will be assigned.*

## ENGLISH ELECTIVES

### CREATIVE WRITING

1 SEMESTER

Student writers will deepen their understanding of the art and craft of literary genres such as poetry, short stories, creative nonfiction, and drama. Using mentor texts and a Writer's Workshop model of instruction, students will create their own literary works. Additionally, students will receive instruction in writing techniques and grammar.

» *Open to 10th, 11th and 12th grade students.*

### DYSTOPIAN LITERATURE

1 SEMESTER

In a world filled with uncertainty, what can dystopian fiction teach us about society, power, and human nature? This course explores classic and contemporary dystopian literature, analyzing how authors depict oppressive governments, environmental collapse, technology's role in society, and the resilience of the human spirit.

Students will read and critically examine novels, short stories, and films that present imagined futures shaped by political, social, and ethical dilemmas. Through discussions,

analytical essays, creative projects, and debates, students will evaluate the relevance of dystopian themes in today's world and consider how these cautionary tales challenge our perceptions of freedom, justice, and identity.

» *This course fulfills the 12th grade English elective requirement.*

### TRUE CRIME LITERATURE

1 SEMESTER

Why are we so fascinated by true crime? This course explores the genre of true crime literature, examining how real-life cases are investigated, reported, and transformed into compelling narratives. Students will analyze the ethical and

societal implications of crime storytelling, studying how authors balance fact and storytelling while exploring themes of justice, morality, media influence, and human psychology.

Through nonfiction books, investigative journalism, podcasts, and documentaries, students will critically engage with cases that have shaped public perception and legal history. Discussions, analytical essays, and creative projects will challenge students to consider the power of narrative in shaping truth and how society responds to crime and punishment.

» *This course fulfills the 12th grade English elective requirement.*



# FINE ARTS

The Fine Arts Department includes courses in Visual Arts, Music and Theatre. Honors Art and AP Studio Art are offered to students who plan on advancing their artistic skills and creative abilities. Music is seen as a means of expressing oneself either through vocal or instrumental means. The goal is to develop both skills and appreciation, working with others and performing. The performance component includes concerts and, often, a music tour.

## STUDIO ARTS

### INTRODUCTION TO VISUAL ARTS 1 SEMESTER

This course will introduce the Elements of Art (line, shape, color, value, form, texture, and space) and the Principles of Design (balance, contrast, emphasis, movement, pattern, rhythm, and unity) to help students analyze artworks and to give students the opportunity to become acquainted with different techniques and mediums. Art history from the past to present will be presented by learning about different artists and the skills used to create their work. Students will learn about studio art techniques in drawing, painting, printmaking, and collage as well as digital artmaking techniques in photography, graphic design, and digital art. Students will participate in critiquing and providing feedback to their peers. This course provides a strong foundation for the other art courses offered, as well as an appreciation for art.

» *Open to 9th and 10th grade students.*

### THE ART EXPERIENCE 1 SEMESTER

The Art Experience is an introductory visual arts course designed for 11th and 12th grade students. This class provides a general overview of two-dimensional techniques in visual art and will highlight a variety of artistic

techniques, styles, media, artists, and contexts. During this course, students will explore drawing, painting, design, and photography techniques. They will become comfortable discussing and analyzing historical, contemporary, and personal artwork.

» *Open to 11th and 12th grade students who have not previously taken a studio art class.*

### DRAWING AND PAINTING 1 SEMESTER

The first portion of this course offers experiences to help students build on their drawing skills and techniques. Students will use a variety of drawing media including pencil, charcoal, pastels, ink and colored pencils. Assignments will include drawing objects from nature, faces, photos, still life and the imagination. The second half of the semester is designed for students to express themselves with paint on paper, canvas and other supports. We will work primarily with acrylic and some watercolor. Students will learn about color theory, mixing color and explore different techniques while learning about the fine art of painting. Materials are provided.

» *Open to 9th grade (semester 2) through 12th grade.*  
» *Prerequisites: Introduction to Visual Arts*

### HONORS ART I 2 SEMESTERS

Honors Art I is a course for students who have a passion for art and want to continue on with art as an elective. Students will work on improving their skills in the fine arts through painting, drawing and creating with a variety of different mediums.

» *Open to 11th and 12th grade students.*  
» *Prerequisites: Introduction to Visual Arts and Drawing/Painting*

### HONORS ART II 2 SEMESTERS

This course is for the student who would like to focus on their art skills and techniques at a higher level. Assigned and Independent projects created with teacher guidance will give the students the freedom and opportunity to work on creating a portfolio in preparation for college-level courses. A culmination of work throughout the year will be displayed at a fine arts festival at DeLaSalle.

» *Open to 12th grade students.*  
» *Prerequisites: Introduction to Visual Arts, Drawing/Painting, and Honors Art I*

### AP STUDIO ART 2 SEMESTERS

This advanced-level course offers students the opportunity to work on

a portfolio in preparation for post-graduate work. Each student will have the opportunity to submit this portfolio to the College Board for AP Studio Art and possibly earn college credit. Students will focus on a variety of independent projects giving them the freedom to pursue, with guidance, contexts, themes, subjects and techniques that will help them advance to a higher level of artistic expression. The course will culminate with a senior exhibit.

» *Open to 12th grade students.*  
» *Prerequisites: Introduction to Visual Arts, Drawing/Painting, Honors Art and departmental approval*

## DIGITAL ARTS

### GRAPHIC DESIGN I 1 SEMESTER

In Graphic Design, you will explore the broader constructs of successful brand strategy through digital art, including reaching a target audience through the elements of design. In graphic design, you will learn:

- Beginner to intermediate skills in Adobe Illustrator on both desktop and mobile platforms
- Learn how to create and present your logo design and brand
- The entire design process to develop a unique brand design, including logo creation, pattern design, typography,

- package design, and photography.
  - Layout/design all types of designs including full page ads and digital graphics
  - Learn to adapt a brand's look across all design mediums
  - Design and layout stationary including business cards, letterhead and envelopes
  - Additional projects, such as clothing design, magazine/print media layout, or additional product design will be included as well.
- » *Open to 9th, 10th, 11th, and 12th grade students.*
- » *Prerequisites: Introduction to Visual Arts or the Art Experience*

## GRAPHIC DESIGN II

### 1 SEMESTER

Using Adobe Photoshop, Illustrator and InDesign, students who have demonstrated talent in Graphic Design I will develop their skills with attention to design elements, professional layout and artistic expression. Course projects will require creativity, imagination, effort and attention to detail. Projects may include, but are not limited to: themed series, branding, web page design, marketing campaign, and artistic drawing.

- » *Open to 10th, 11th, and 12th grade students.*
- » *Prerequisites: Graphic Design I and department approval*

## MEDIA PRODUCTION AND BROADCAST JOURNALISM

### 1 SEMESTER

This course is designed for the study and practice of the basic elements of broadcast journalism and media production. Students will learn technical and specialized skills including script



writing, directing, and camera skills such as lighting, sound and editing. The journalism emphasis will cover the study of the basic principles of print and online journalism as they examine the role of visual and audio news media in our society. Students learn investigative skills, responsible reporting, and journalistic writing techniques as they read, respond to, write and produce their own videos, podcasts, audio news and media productions.

- » *Open to 10th, 11th, and 12th grade students.*

## PHOTOGRAPHY I

### 1 SEMESTER

In Photography I, you will be introduced to digital photography. You'll learn how to use exposure, F/stops, shutter speeds, lighting techniques, white balance, and depth of field to create powerful and compelling images in and out of the studio. It is designed for students who have never used a DSLR camera, but the coursework is also a great refresher for those who want to perfect their technical skills. Projects will also include lessons on basic photo editing and management in Adobe Photoshop/Lightroom, studio lighting, and a focus on working with

portrait subjects.

- » *Open to 9th, 10th, 11th and 12th grade students.*

## PHOTOGRAPHY II

### 1 SEMESTER

In Photography II we will have a short review of DSLR camera techniques from Photo I before moving on to more advanced projects. You will learn more advanced camera techniques and photo editing, including photo manipulation beyond basic color correction. Projects will include studio lighting, product photography, and the class will complete a full portrait portfolio project.

- » *Open to 10th, 11th, and 12th grade students*
- » *Prerequisite: Photography I and department approval*

## HONORS PHOTOGRAPHY

### 1 SEMESTER

In Honors Photography, you will continue learning more advanced camera techniques and photo editing, including photo manipulation beyond basic color correction. There will be an emphasis on Photojournalism which will include more work outside of

class compared to Photo II. Honors Photography students will also have access to our more advanced photography equipment normally reserved for sports and yearbook photography.

- » *Open to 10th, 11th, and 12th grade students.*
- » *Prerequisites: Photography II and departmental approval*

## PERFORMING ARTS

## INTRODUCTION TO THEATRE

### 1 SEMESTER

This course is an introduction and overview of the major creative elements in theatre arts. Students will gain an appreciation of theatre by exploring the various elements that create theatre; examining the portrayal of human experience on stage across history, analyzing play scripts and exploring the theatrical creative process.

- » *Open to 11th and 12th grade students.*

## BEGINNING BAND

### 2 SEMESTERS

The Beginning Band, also known as first year band is the introductory performing instrumental ensemble in the music department. Emphasis is given on developing breathing techniques, learning notation, theory, and musicianship within an ensemble. The ensemble will practice and perform music that is developmentally appropriate in the keys of Concert Bb, Eb, and Ab major. Students can provide their own instruments or rent them through the school for a small fee. All

instrumentalists are expected to practice daily.

- » *Prerequisites: 1 full year of piano lessons are required for percussion students.*

## CONCERT BAND

2 SEMESTERS

Students with little or no instrumental experience develop essential instrumental technique, foundational music literacy, and aesthetic musical awareness through rehearsal, performance, and the study of band literature. Musicians work on the fundamentals of music notation, sound production, instrument maintenance, and rehearsal strategies. Public performances may serve as a culmination of specific instructional goals. Students may be required to attend and/or participate in rehearsals and performances outside the school day to support, extend, and assess learning in the classroom. This course requires students to obtain a musical instrument (e.g., borrow, rent, purchase) from an outside source.

- » *Concert Band accepts beginners and students with little or no instrumental experience.*

## SYMPHONIC BAND

2 SEMESTERS

Students are provided with a balanced, comprehensive study of music through the marching, pep, jazz, pop and concert band program. This course requires both ensemble and solo activities, which are designed to develop elements of musicianship including tone production, technical skills, intonation, music reading skills, listening skills, analyzing music, studying historically significant styles of literature, and integration of other applicable disciplines.

Experiences include improvising, playing by ear, sight-reading, and researching music. Students develop the ability to understand and convey composers' intent in the performance of music.

- » *Open to 10th, 11th, and 12th grade students.*
- » *Two years experience with the instrument, an audition, and department approval.*

## CHAMBER ORCHESTRA

2 SEMESTERS

The Orchestra with a core of 18 instrumentalists, dedicates its efforts to performing a broad spectrum of classical and popular music. Each season's repertoire includes music by DeLaSalle students and faculty, guest artists, and other composers from around the World. Students are provided with a balanced and comprehensive study of music. This course requires both ensemble and solo activities, which are designed to develop elements of musicianship including tone production, technical skills, intonation, music reading skills, listening skills, analyzing music, studying historically significant styles of literature, and integration of other applicable disciplines.

Experiences include music composition, improvising, playing by ear, sight-reading, and researching music. Students develop the ability to understand and convey composers' intent in the performance of music. Students perform each semester at world-class colleges and venues. Membership requires an informal audition.

## CONCERT CHOIR

2 SEMESTERS

The Choir program is designed to enhance the musical, creative and expressive qualities of all students. Musical opportunities are provided for every student musician to learn the basic skills of singing, playing and reading music, developing song repertoire, broadening listening skills and experiencing the interrelated nature of music with other cultures and content areas. Our choir class is designed for students to apply musical skills as they continue to create and experience music as an ensemble.

Students will develop mastery of singing in major and minor scales, 4 part harmonies, musical interpretation, the use of dynamics with phrasing, incorporating facial expression and movement for refined presentation. Students will understand how a musical composition is structured through listening and analysis. And develop a deeper understanding and appreciation of the differences in music from other cultures and the connections music brings to people, places and time.



# MATHEMATICS

Students at DeLaSalle are encouraged to take four years of mathematics, although three years are required for graduation. Most colleges and universities require the successful completion of Algebra II for admission. Students entering Grade 9 are placed in Algebra I, Advanced Algebra I or into the Honors Program. Placement in mathematics is based on scores from the Math Mastery Exams as well as a departmental review of standardized test scores and middle school records. For Grades 10, 11, and 12, placement is based upon completion of prerequisite courses as well as teacher recommendations and student and parent input.

Students are required to have a scientific calculator for Algebra I, Advanced Algebra I, and all Geometry courses. Beginning with Algebra II, students are required to have a Texas Instrument graphing calculator. Graphing calculators are available for rent from the Mathematics department.

Here are typical and suggested sequences of courses:

|                                       |  |   |
|---------------------------------------|--|---|
| Algebra I or<br>Advanced<br>Algebra I | For students who<br>have tested out of<br>Algebra I: | For students who<br>have tested out of<br>both Algebra I and<br>Geometry: |
| ▼                                     | Honors Algebra II                                    | Honors Algebra II   |
| Geometry                              | ▼  | ▼   |
| ▼                                     | Honors Geometry<br>or Geometry                       | AP Precalculus<br>or Precalculus  |
| Algebra II                            | ▼  | ▼   |
| ▼                                     | AP Precalculus<br>or Precalculus                     | AP Calculus AB<br>or Calculus   |
| Precalculus                           | ▼  | ▼   |
|                                       | AP Calculus AB<br>or Calculus                        | AP Calculus BC  |

## MATHEMATICS PROGRAM

### ALGEBRA I

2 SEMESTERS

Students will study solving and graphing linear equations, inequalities, and systems. Students will then progress to topics that include: exponents and exponential functions, polynomials and factoring, quadratic equations and functions, radicals and geometry connections, rational equations and functions, and probability and data analysis. Algebra will be used to model real-life problems and involve the use of classroom graphing calculators or student iPads.

### ADVANCED ALGEBRA I

2 SEMESTERS

Students will review solving and graphing linear equations, inequalities, and systems. Students will then study topics that include: exponents and exponential functions, polynomials and factoring, quadratic equations and functions, radicals and geometry connections, rational equations and functions, and probability and data analysis. Additional topics as time allows may include: matrices and linear programming, discrete mathematics, and logic and proofs. Algebra will be used to model real-life problems and involve the use of classroom graphing calculators.

» *Prerequisite: Students must demonstrate proficiency in the Algebra of linear functions on the Algebra Mastery Exam given by DeLaSalle High School.*

### GEOMETRY

2 SEMESTERS

The students will learn to write two-column geometric proofs using definitions, postulates, and theorems. They will study geometric figures including triangles, quadrilaterals, other polygons, and circles. The students will also study parallel and perpendicular lines, transformations in a coordinate plane, the Pythagorean Theorem, and the formulas for area and volume.

» *Prerequisites: Algebra I and department approval.*

### INTERMEDIATE ALGEBRA

2 SEMESTERS

Intermediate Algebra will strengthen and expand student understanding of fundamental concepts from Algebra, serving as a bridge between Algebra I and Algebra II. Students will study a variety of basic mathematical functions from the three perspectives of equations, tables of values and graphs. This course will also enhance the student's experience and familiarity with variable and multivariable expressions and equations. The development of proficiency in Algebra I topics and an introduction to Algebra II topics, as well as problem solving skills will be emphasized. Students will work on practice questions to help prepare for the ACT and SAT tests.

» *Prerequisites: Algebra I and Geometry and department approval.*

### ALGEBRA II

2 SEMESTERS

Algebra II is recommended for any student planning to enter college or technical school. Students will study these different functions: linear, exponential, logarithmic, quadratic, radical, and trigonometric. Students will also study systems of equations, polynomials, matrices, probability, and right-triangle trigonometry.

» *Prerequisites: An average of C or better in both Algebra I and Geometry or a B in Intermediate Algebra and department approval. A TI-83 or TI-84 graphing calculator is required.*

### FUNCTIONS, STATISTICS, AND TRIGONOMETRY

2 SEMESTERS

This course is an alternative to Precalculus and is recommended for students who would benefit from a stronger understanding of the principles and functions of algebra, as well an introduction to statistics, before moving on to a rigorous course in Precalculus. Students will extend their knowledge of linear, quadratic, exponential, logarithm, polynomial, and trigonometric equations and functions, with a new focus on statistical modeling with these functions. Statistics are introduced in the ways they used in a variety of different disciplines. Trigonometric functions are used to model periodic phenomena and include strong connections with the geometry and algebra that students have

encountered in previous courses.

- » *Prerequisites: Algebra II and department approval. A TI-83 or TI-84 graphing calculator is required.*

## PRECALCULUS

2 SEMESTERS

This elective course is necessary for any student planning to enter a college program in mathematics, science, or computer science. It is recommended, however, as part of any college preparatory program and serves as a prerequisite to Calculus. Students will develop a deeper understanding of the fundamental concepts of algebra, trigonometry, and analytic geometry. Algebra and trigonometry will be used to model real-life problems and the course material will foreshadow important ideas of Calculus. Students study the following major groups of functions and graphs: polynomial, power, rational, exponential, logarithmic, and trigonometric.

- » *Prerequisites: A C or better in both semesters of Algebra II and department approval. A TI-83 or TI-84 graphing calculator is required.*
- » *11th graders encouraged to take AP Precalculus.*

# HONORS AND AP MATHEMATICS PROGRAM

## HONORS ALGEBRA II

2 SEMESTERS

The Honors Algebra II student will study the topics of Algebra II and trigonometry in addition to more modern strands of mathematics. Such topics include sequences and series, data analysis, functions, exponentials and logarithms, discrete math topics, systems of

equations, polynomials, probability and statistics, relations, and trigonometric functions. The content of the course is anchored in real-world contexts and the use of the graphing calculator is integral to the course. More material will be covered and in greater depth than in the regular Algebra II course.

- » *Prerequisites: Current DeLaSalle students must have an A average in Advanced Algebra I or Algebra I, and Geometry and department approval. Entering 9th graders must demonstrate proficiency on the Algebra Mastery Exam given by DeLaSalle High School. A TI-83 or TI-84 graphing calculator is required.*

## HONORS GEOMETRY

2 SEMESTERS

The Honors Geometry student will study, in greater depth, the topics of the regular Geometry course. There will be greater emphasis on deductive reasoning and on proofs in developing theorems. Students will be introduced to at least one non-Euclidean geometry in this class.

- » *Prerequisites: A B+ or higher in Honors Algebra II or an A in both semesters of Algebra I or Advanced Algebra I and department approval.*

## AP PRECALCULUS

2 SEMESTERS

AP Precalculus prepares students for college-level mathematics and science courses. Through regular practice, students build deep mastery of modeling and functions, and they examine scenarios through multiple representations. The course framework delineates content and skills common to college precalculus courses that are foundational for careers in mathematics, physics, biology, health science, social science, and data science.

- » *An average of B or better in all*

*semesters of Geometry and Algebra II (and/or Honors equivalent).*

## AP CALCULUS AB

2 SEMESTERS

The Advanced Placement Calculus student will study in depth the usual topics of first semester college calculus: limits, continuity, differentiation and its applications, integration and its applications including elementary functions, trigonometric functions, exponential functions, and logarithmic functions. Students will prepare for, and are required to take the AP Exam in May.

- » *Prerequisites: A B+ or higher in both semesters of Honors Precalculus or an A in both semesters of Precalculus and department approval. Summer work is required. A TI-83 or TI-84 graphing calculator is required.*

## AP CALCULUS BC

2 SEMESTERS

This course continues the study of calculus. Students will review the topics of AP Calculus AB and study in depth the usual topics of second semester college calculus: parametric, polar and vector functions, graphs, limits, computation and application of derivatives, definite integration and its applications, antidifferentiation, polynomial functions and Taylor Series, and Maclaurin Series. Students will prepare for, and are required to take the AP Exam in May.

- » *Prerequisites: A B or higher in both semesters of AP Calculus AB or an A in both semesters of Calculus and department approval. Summer work is required. A TI-83 or TI-84 graphing calculator is required.*

# MATHEMATICS ELECTIVES

Electives do not fulfill any portion of the three year requirement for graduation.

## INTRODUCTORY STATISTICS

2 SEMESTERS

Students will learn about the methods used for collecting, analyzing, and presenting data. This junior/senior-level class will focus heavily on statistical inference, probability, and the relationship between data. Students in Statistics will be expected to complete routine assignments using Microsoft Excel and real-world data in order to further their knowledge of the subject.

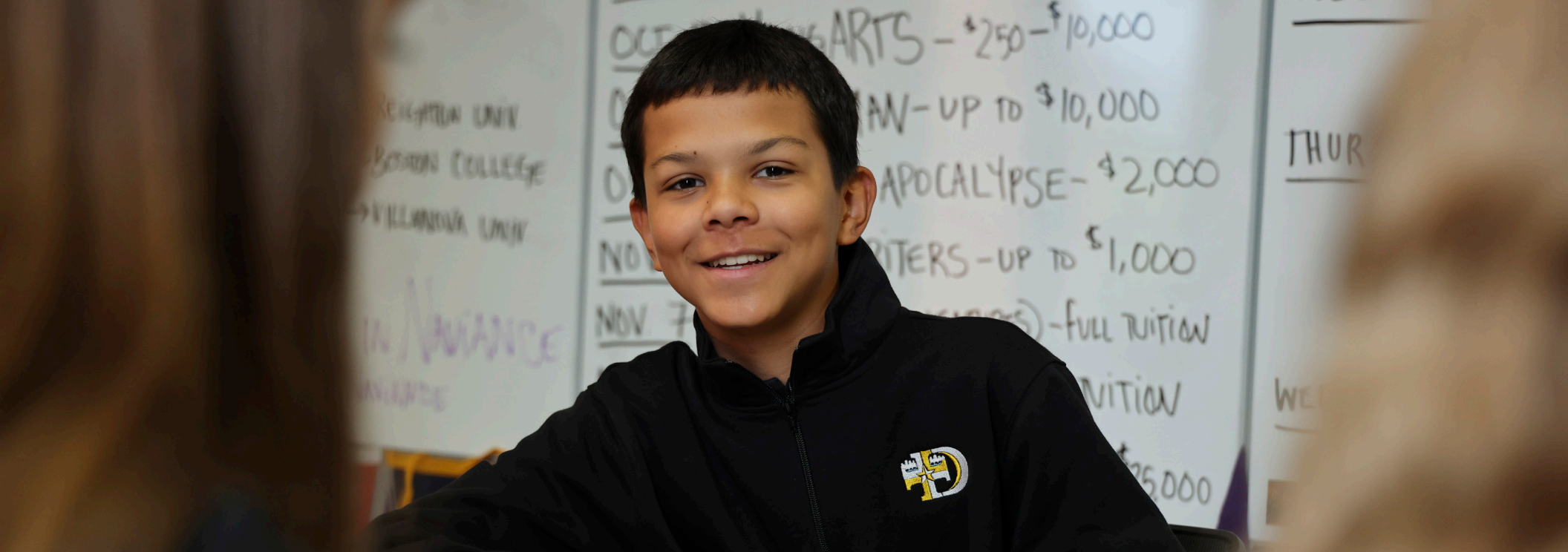
- » *Prerequisites: Geometry and a C or higher in both semesters of Algebra II with department approval. Some summer work is required. A TI-83 or TI-84 graphing calculator is required.*

## AP STATISTICS

2 SEMESTERS

Students will learn about the methods used for collecting, analyzing, and presenting data. This senior-level class will focus heavily on statistical inference, probability, and the relationship between data. Students will be expected to complete routine assignments to prepare for the AP Statistics Exam required at the end of the second semester.

- » *Prerequisites: Geometry and a B+ or higher in Precalculus with department approval. Summer work is required. A TI-83 or TI-84 graphing calculator is required.*



## ACCELERATING THE MATH SEQUENCE

Students wanting to take AP courses in mathematics may choose to accelerate their math sequence by taking two math classes at once or by earning prerequisites through summer learning.

### Double Math

Students may register to take Geometry and Algebra II at the same time as the content of Algebra II does not directly build upon the learning from Geometry. Taking honors level courses in both classes is discouraged and will only be approved on an individual student basis.

### Summer Prerequisite: Precalculus

Students registering for the AP Calculus AB course must demonstrate proficiency in Precalculus prior to enrolling in the course. Options for meeting the prerequisite include:

- Earning a B or better in Precalculus at DeLaSalle.
- Earning a 3 or better on the AP Precalculus exam.
- Passing the DeLaSalle AP Calculus Readiness Exam at 80% proficiency. Students may participate in any online program, software application, private tutoring, or other learning experience of their choosing. DeLaSalle does not endorse or maintain a list of approved or vetted providers. The readiness exam is aligned with the mathematical practices and learning objectives outlined in the CollegeBoard AP Precalculus course.
- Passing a summer Precalculus course offered at an accredited college or university with a B or better. Transcripts must be received prior to enrollment in the course. Students are responsible for fulfilling admission requirements and meeting any financial obligations assessed by the college or university. Summer college courses meet prerequisites but not graduation requirements. Students must have 6 semester credits in math at DeLaSalle High School to graduate.

# MODERN LANGUAGES

The ability to function competently in at least one language other than English is essential in the interdependent world of the twenty-first century. In addition to learning the structure and vocabulary of the target language, students will learn about daily life, social institutions, literature, art, culture, and contemporary and historical issues. Placement of students with prior language experience will be determined on an individual basis. Two years of a single modern language are required for graduation, but students are encouraged to take language classes beyond the two-year requirement. Three or four consecutive years of a single modern language are strongly recommended for students who plan to attend a four-year college or university.

## AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE I 2 SEMESTERS

Students in this course are introduced to American Sign Language and Deaf culture, focusing on frequently used signs, basic rules of grammar, introductory finger spelling, and non-manual aspects of ASL (e.g., facial expressions.). Upon completion of the course, students will be able to demonstrate a beginning conversational level of comprehension when receiving ASL and a beginning level of expressive fluency when using ASL. This course incorporates many experimental activities and successful second language acquisition among students with a variety of learning styles

» *Prerequisite: Preference is given to students with language-based learning disabilities.*

## AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE II 2 SEMESTERS

Students in this course build upon the foundational skills acquired in American Sign Language I, deepening their understanding of ASL and Deaf culture. The course emphasizes expanding vocabulary, mastering more complex grammatical structures, enhancing finger-spelling fluency, and incorporating advanced non-manual signals such as body posture and nuanced facial expressions. Students will engage in conversational practice designed to improve both receptive and expressive skills, allowing them

to communicate at an intermediate level. Additionally, the course explores cultural themes, including Deaf history, community norms, and storytelling traditions in ASL. Through interactive and experiential activities, students will further develop their confidence and competence in using ASL while fostering an appreciation for the diversity within Deaf culture. Upon completion, students will demonstrate improved conversational proficiency and a deeper cultural understanding.

» *Prerequisite: American Sign Language I.*

## MANDARIN CHINESE I 2 SEMESTERS

In this course students develop basic listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills in Mandarin Chinese. Simplified Chinese characters, Pinyin (pronunciation symbols) and simple sentence patterns will be taught. Students are introduced to the culture and traditions of Mandarin speaking countries.

## MANDARIN CHINESE II 2 SEMESTERS

In this course students will further acquire language skills in listening, speaking, reading, and writing. Comprehensible input will be applied in Mandarin Chinese to develop students' communication skills along with knowledge of Chinese culture.

## CIS - MANDARIN CHINESE III 2 SEMESTERS

This course allows students to further advance their Chinese language skills along with knowledge of Chinese culture. Students will learn vocabulary and sentence patterns to improve their listening, writing, speaking and reading skills. As a College in the Schools course, students will be eligible to earn University of Minnesota credits for a modest tuition fee. A limited number of seats will be available to students who opt to take the class for high school credit only.

» *Prerequisites: A grade of C or better is required in Mandarin Chinese II and the department approval.*

## CIS - MANDARIN CHINESE IV 2 SEMESTERS

This course allows students to further advance their Chinese language skills along with knowledge of Chinese culture. Students will learn vocabulary and sentence patterns to improve their listening, writing, speaking and reading skills. As a College in the Schools course, students will be eligible to earn University of Minnesota credits for a modest tuition fee. A limited number of seats will be available to students who opt to take the class for high school credit only.

» *Prerequisites: A grade of C or better is required in Mandarin Chinese III or CIS Mandarin Chinese IV and department approval.*

## HONORS PRE-AP CHINESE LANGUAGE AND CULTURE 2 SEMESTERS

This course, taught entirely in Chinese, allows students to further advance their Chinese language skills and knowledge of Chinese culture. Units are designed to incorporate students' daily lives, current events, and global issues embedded in age-appropriate context across the three communicative modes. Through guided reading, creative writing, spontaneous verbal conversation and scenario play, authentic materials will be used for students to develop an awareness and appreciation of the elements of Chinese culture.

» *Prerequisites: Completed Chinese Immersion middle school education and demonstrate proficient language skills or CIS Mandarin Chinese III and the department approval or a grade of B or better is required in Mandarin Chinese IV with department approval.*

## AP CHINESE LANGUAGE AND CULTURE 2 SEMESTERS

This course is a continuation of the Honors Pre-AP Chinese Language And Culture structure, taught entirely in Chinese. Students are provided with intermediate to advanced level tasks across the three communicative modes to attain the ACTFL intermediate-high to advanced-low levels of proficiency. The

course content includes all AP thematic topics: Families & Communities; Personal & Public Identities; Beauty & Aesthetics; Science & Technology; Contemporary Life; Global Challenges; and Current Events and News. Students are required to take the AP Chinese Language and Culture Examination in May.

» *Prerequisites: A grade of C or better in Pre-AP Language and Culture or completion of Chinese Immersion middle school education and demonstration of exceptional language skills.*

## **FRENCH I**

2 SEMESTERS

In this course students will develop the four communication skills listening, speaking, reading and writing in the target language. Pronunciation, spelling, and basic sentence structure are stressed. Students are introduced to the culture and traditions of the countries of the target language.

## **FRENCH II**

2 SEMESTERS

In this course students will review the basic vocabulary and grammatical structures learned in the first year. They will learn new grammar, expand their vocabulary, and improve their communication skills by practicing the target language. In addition, they will continue learning about the culture and traditions of the countries of the target language.

## **FRENCH III**

2 SEMESTERS

This course is designed to be a comprehensive in-depth review of the four communication skills in the French language. Students will increase their proficiency by reviewing grammar and reading abridged literary and historical selections in French. Students will improve their speaking and writing

abilities by formulating and expressing their personal thoughts.

» *Prerequisites: A grade of C or better and department approval are required in French II.*

## **HONORS FRENCH IV**

2 SEMESTERS

Honors French IV is a continuation of level III French in which students will expand their knowledge of French grammar, vocabulary, culture, literature, art, and media. This course serves as a bridge to post-secondary French courses.

» *Grade of C or better in French III and department approval.*

## **SPANISH I**

2 SEMESTERS

In this course students will develop the four communication skills listening, speaking, reading and writing in the target language. Pronunciation, spelling, and basic sentence structure are stressed. Students are introduced to the culture and traditions of the countries of the target language.

## **SPANISH II**

2 SEMESTERS

In this course students will review the basic vocabulary and grammatical structures learned in the first year. They will learn new grammar, expand their vocabulary, and improve their communication skills by practicing the target language. In addition, they will continue learning about the culture and traditions of the countries of the target language.

## **SPANISH III**

2 SEMESTERS

In this course students will review the vocabulary and grammatical structures learned in the previous year. New grammar structures and a variety of

vocabulary are introduced in the four communication skills to help students improve proficiency in the target language. Literature, art, and music will be presented at different points in the curriculum.

» *Prerequisites: A grade of C or better is required in Spanish II, and department approval.*

## **HONORS SPANISH III**

2 SEMESTERS

In this course students will proceed at a more accelerated pace than in previous levels, which will enable them to explore cultural and literary topics in greater detail. They will deepen into the four communication skills to continue improving proficiency in the target language.

» *Prerequisites: A test average of B or better and department approval are required in Spanish II.*

## **HONORS SPANISH IV**

2 SEMESTERS

In this course, students will increase their proficiency in the four communication skills through an in-depth review and expansion of grammar and vocabulary. Students will increase language and cultural understanding through authentic texts and multimedia resources. Students will improve their speaking and writing abilities with opportunities for formulating and expressing their personal thoughts.

» *Prerequisites: A grade of C or better in Spanish III or Honors Spanish III and department approval are required.*

## **HONORS SPANISH CULTURE AND COMMUNICATION**

2 SEMESTERS

This course is designed for students who are native or heritage speakers of Spanish, who have been immersed in

the Spanish language, and who have successfully completed Spanish III or Honors Spanish III. Through this course students will acquire a deeper, more comprehensive understanding of the language and culture. The goals are to expand grammar and vocabulary skills, to develop the four communication skills in-depth, and to think critically about the themes of study.

» *Prerequisites: A grade of C or better in Spanish III or Honors Spanish III and department approval are required.*

» *Prerequisite for incoming first-language Spanish speakers or students coming from an immersion program: a placement test will be required.*

## **AP SPANISH LANGUAGE AND CULTURE**

2 SEMESTERS

AP Spanish is the equivalent of a third-year college course in Advanced Spanish communication. The course draws on all of the student's previous language learning and emphasizes the use of the three modes of communication: interpretive, presentational and interpersonal. AP Spanish utilizes higher-level critical thinking skills, reading and listening comprehension, advance writing of compositions, and spontaneous verbal conversation. Students are required to take the AP Spanish Language and Culture Examination in May. In addition, students have the opportunity to participate in PACC, a program created with Saint Mary's University by which students can acquire additional credits.

» *Prerequisites: A minimum grade of A- in Honors Spanish III and the department approval are required. A minimum grade of B in Honors Spanish IV and/or Spanish Culture and Communication and the instructor's approval are required.*

# PHYSICAL EDUCATION AND HEALTH

The purpose of the Physical Education program is to develop an individual's ability to constructively use capacities for movement as a way of expressing, exploring, and interpreting oneself and one's relationship with the world. Students will develop skills and knowledge of how and why one moves effectively through games, sports, dance, and exercise. The student will become knowledgeable about the history, rules, strategy, organization, equipment, and safety factors of the various activities. The student should also acquire respect and appreciation for good physical conditioning and develop an interest and a desire to participate in lifetime recreational activities.

## 9th Grade Requirement:

For 2025–2026, students may request their Physical Education 9 course to be gender-inclusive or single-gender.

## Health Requirement

Students may select Traditional Health or Online Health. The Online Health course covers the same content, but the time to complete the coursework spans 2 semesters.

## Physical Education: Wellness Requirement

Students have options to meet the credit requirements for PE: Wellness including

- Personal Fitness I
- Strength & Conditioning I
- Teams Sports I
- Individual/Dual Sports I
- PE: Wellness Waiver

Students may enroll in Level II to deepen skill-work and advance their personal fitness.

## PHYSICAL EDUCATION 9

1 SEMESTER

This program is about “teaching learners to think on their feet,” providing them with 21st century skills of teamwork, problem solving and grit through the medium of physical activities. Students are required to learn the physical skills, rules, safety practices, and strategy of the various activities. All 9th graders are required to wear a standard uniform.

- » *This course is required of all 9th grade students.*
- » *Students may request their Physical Education experience to be coeducational or separated by gender.*

## HEALTH (TRADITIONAL OPTION)

1 SEMESTER

Developing a healthy lifestyle enables students to maximize their physical, mental and social well-being. Students will learn about the dimensions of health, decision making, substances (alcohol, nicotine products, and illicit drugs), social media, nutrition, abuse, how to research and identify biases in publications. A project-based approach, discussions, videos, and small group work are methods used for students to learn course concepts.

- » *Open to 10th, 11th and 12th grade students.*

- or students may choose -

## ONLINE HEALTH (ONLINE OPTION)

1 CREDIT, BUT TIME TO COMPLETE THE COURSE SPANS 2 SEMESTERS

Developing a healthy lifestyle enables students to maximize their physical, mental and social well-being. Students will learn about the dimensions of health, decision making, substances (alcohol, nicotine products, and illicit drugs), social media, nutrition, abuse, how to research and identify biases in publications. A project-based approach, discussions, videos, and small group work are methods used for students to learn course concepts.

- » *Open to 11th and 12th grade students.*

## PE WAIVER APPLICATION

Students may choose to fulfill the requirement by requesting a PE waiver application when they are completing their course requests for the following school year. Students who have completed one full season of participation on a DeLaSalle athletic team, beginning with the fall season of 10th grade through spring season of 11th grade, may apply for a waiver of the PE: Wellness credit. Students who play a sport not associated with DeLaSalle, because it is not offered by the school, may apply for a waiver through an administrative exemption. Students will be sent a link to the waiver application request that must be filled out completely and submitted no later than April 19, 2024.

## HYBRID WELLNESS (ONLINE/MODIFIED CLASS TIME OPTION)

2 SEMESTERS

Developing a healthy lifestyle enables students to maximize their physical, mental and social well-being. Students will learn about the dimensions of health, decision making, substances (alcohol, nicotine products, and illicit drugs), social media, nutrition, abuse, how to research and identify biases in publications. A project-based approach, discussions, videos, and small group work are methods used for students to learn course concepts.

- » *Open to 11th and 12th grade students.*

## PHYSICAL EDUCATION ELECTIVES

### TEAM SPORTS I & II

1 SEMESTER (FALL)

Team Sports is a comprehensive course designed to introduce students to the fundamentals of various team sports, with a focus on both individual and collective skills. This course will explore the strategic, physical, and psychological aspects of team play,

enabling students to develop a deeper understanding of teamwork, communication, and sport-specific tactics. Through hands-on participation, students will experience team dynamics, enhance their athletic abilities, and gain insights into the importance of cooperation and leadership in competitive settings.

Team Sports is offered in the Fall semester.

» *Open to 10th, 11th, and 12th grade students.*

## **INDIVIDUAL/DUAL SPORTS I & II**

1 SEMESTER (SPRING)

Individual/Dual Sports is a comprehensive course designed to introduce students to the fundamentals of sports that emphasize individual performance or partner-based competition. This course will explore the strategic, physical, and psychological aspects of personal skill development, self-discipline, and sportsmanship. Through hands-on participation, students will refine their athletic abilities, enhance their

decision-making skills, and gain a deeper understanding of goal setting, perseverance, and competitive play in individual and dual sports settings.

Individual/Dual Sports is offered in the Spring semester.

» *Open to 10th, 11th, and 12th grade students.*

## **STRENGTH TRAINING AND CONDITIONING I & II**

1 SEMESTER

Strength and Conditioning is designed to provide students with the knowledge and practical skills necessary to enhance athletic performance, improve physical fitness, and reduce the risk of injury through exercise programming. The course covers the foundational principles of strength training, conditioning, and movement mechanics. Students will learn how to assess an individual's fitness level, design appropriate training programs, and implement techniques to optimize both strength and endurance.

» *Open to 10th, 11th, and 12th grade students.*

## **PERSONAL FITNESS I & II**

1 SEMESTER

This course will concentrate on different fitness routines to increase physical fitness for a lifetime. Students will learn about and participate in a variety of fitness routines. Students will create a fitness plan. Activities will include Pilates, Yoga, Tae-Bo, weight training, power walking, circuit training, cardiovascular training, muscle toning, agility training, and stretches to increase flexibility.

» *Open to 10th, 11th, and 12th grade students.*



# SCIENCE

Students are required to complete Biology and Chemistry as part of their graduation requirements. It is recommended that students take four years of Science, as many colleges require three to four years of laboratory-based Science courses for admission. Completion of Physics is strongly recommended for students planning to pursue college programs in the physical sciences, life sciences, computer science, mathematics, engineering, psychology, or physical education.

## BIOLOGY

### 2 SEMESTERS

This course explores what it means to be a living thing. Students will learn about the biochemical and cellular components of life, patterns of genetic inheritance, the evolution of life on Earth, and the interdependence of species within dynamic healthy ecosystems. Throughout this course, students will develop laboratory skills including microscopy, scientific modeling, and field studies

- » *This course is required of all 9th grade students starting with the class of 2029.*
- » *10th grade students are required to complete this course for 2025-2026 as well.*

## CHEMISTRY

### 2 SEMESTERS

Chemistry is a laboratory-based science course. Students develop their critical thinking and qualitative problem-solving skills in a collaborative environment including modeling, graphing, and experimental investigations. Topics include atomic structure, physical states of matter, the periodic table, chemical bonding, chemical equations, properties of gases, reactions, solutions, acids and bases, and other appropriate topics.

- » *This course is required for graduation and is open to students*

*in grades 10-11. Students should have completed or be concurrently enrolled in Algebra II.*

## HUMAN SYSTEMS AND DISEASE

### 1 SEMESTER

By the end of this course, students will be able to demonstrate their understanding of human body systems, and how the chronic diseases that impact each system can be treated and/or prevented. Topics will include the major body systems: Cardiovascular, Skeletal, Muscular, Respiratory, Digestive, and Nervous. If there is time, other systems will be added as well. Major chronic disorders of each of these systems will be examined.

- » *Prerequisite: Biology*
- » *Open to 11th and 12th grade students.*

## MINNESOTA ECOLOGY

### 1 SEMESTER

Discover the intricate ecosystems, rich history, and pressing environmental challenges of Minnesota in this hands-on fall semester course. Minnesota Ecology explores the natural world of our state through both outdoor activities and classroom learning. Students will engage with Minnesota's diverse landscapes, analyze ecological challenges, and propose actionable solutions for protecting our natural resources.

- » *Prerequisite: Biology*



# HONORS AND AP SCIENCE PROGRAM AND ELECTIVES

## AP BIOLOGY

### 2 SEMESTERS

AP Biology is a rigorous course designed for the college bound student who is considering a major in science or medicine and who has a profound interest in the Biological Sciences.

The course will help students 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 and to prepare students to take the AP Biology exam in May.

- » *Open to 11th and 12th grade students*
- » *Prerequisites: Successful completion of Biology, an average of a B or better in Chemistry (Honors Chemistry preferred), and/or departmental approval.*

## AP CHEMISTRY

### 2 SEMESTERS

This course is designed to be the equivalent of the general chemistry course usually taken during the first year of college. Students will attain a depth of understanding of fundamentals and a competence in dealing with chemical problems. The course will contribute to the development of the students' abilities to think clearly and to express their ideas, orally and in writing, with clarity and logic. Topics of study will

include structure of matter, states of matter, reactions, descriptive chemistry, kinetics, equilibrium, thermochemistry, electrochemistry, organic chemistry, and chemical calculations. In this rigorous course, independent work is required and a significant amount of out-of-class reading and study time is expected. Students enrolled in AP Chemistry will prepare for the AP exam in May.

- » *Prerequisites: Successful completion of both Honors Chemistry and Algebra II and/or department approval.*

## AP ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE

### 2 SEMESTERS

AP Environmental Science is designed to be the equivalent of a one-semester, introductory college course in environmental science, through which students engage with the scientific principles, concepts, and methodologies required to understand the interrelationships within the natural world. The course requires that students identify and analyze natural and human-made environmental problems, evaluate the relative risks associated with these problems, and examine alternative solutions for resolving or preventing them.

- » *Open to 11th and 12th grade students.*

## AP PHYSICS I

### 2 SEMESTERS

This course is equivalent to the general physics course usually taken during the first year of college. Students will attain a depth of understanding fundamentals of physics and competence in dealing with physical science problems. The course will contribute to the development of the students' abilities to think clearly and to

express their ideas orally and in writing, with clarity and logic. Topics of study will include kinematics, dynamics, circular motion/gravitation, energy, momentum, simple harmonic motion, torque and rotational motion, and fluids.

In this heavily math-dependent, rigorous course, independent work is required and a significant amount of out-of-class reading and study time is expected. Students will prepare for the AP Physics Exam in May.

- » *Open to 11th and 12th grade students.*
- » *Prerequisites: Successful completion of Honors Chemistry, enrollment in Precalculus or Calculus, and/or department approval.*

## AP PHYSICS 2

### 2 SEMESTERS

Have you ever wondered how the interactions of microscopic particles cause observable phenomena like static electricity, thermodynamic processes, nuclear reactions, and atomic emission lines? In AP Physics 2, you'll learn about thermodynamics, electricity and magnetism, and quantum, atomic, and nuclear physics. While learning about the key course concepts, you'll do hands-on laboratory work to investigate specific phenomena.

- » *Prerequisites: AP Physics 1 and Precalculus*

## ASTRONOMY

### 1 SEMESTER

This is a one semester course that introduces students to theoretical and observational astronomy. Students will learn about the history of astronomy, telescopes (optical and radio), planetary motion, moon phases, the planets, stars,

galaxies, and the universe as a whole. Students will be required to attend at least one night observation session from a variety of options. Students will also make solar observations during class time.

- » *Open to 10th, 11th, and 12th grade students.*

## FORENSIC SCIENCE

### 1 SEMESTER

By the end of this course, students will be able to use the scientific method to solve compelling problems in a "real world" context. Topics will include crime scene analysis, biochemical analysis of evidence, microscopy, chromatography, fingerprint analysis, toxicology, forensic entomology, serology, DNA analysis, and forensic anthropology. This course will emphasize potential career pathways, collaborative work, observation, critical thinking, data collection, statistical analysis, and use of scientific technology.

- » *Open to 10th, 11th, and 12th grade students.*
- » *Prerequisite: Biology*

## HONORS BIOLOGY

### 2 SEMESTERS

Honors Biology is an accelerated course designed for students with strong language, reading comprehension, and reasoning skills. This course explores the fundamental principles of life sciences, including the biochemical and cellular foundations of life, patterns of genetic inheritance, evolutionary processes, and the interdependence of species within dynamic ecosystems. Emphasizing critical thinking and scientific inquiry, students will engage in advanced laboratory investigations, data analysis, and problem-solving activities. Through microscopy, scientific modeling, and field studies, students will deepen their understanding of biological concepts while developing essential skills in experimental design, evidence-based reasoning, and scientific communication. This rigorous course challenges students to apply their knowledge to real-world biological phenomena and prepares them for future advanced science coursework.

- » *Students will be enrolled into Honors Biology based on performance on PreACT entrance exam. Appeals may be granted by the science department and/or school administration.*
- » *Open to 10th graders for 2025–2026*
- » *Incoming 9th graders need a score of 22 for BOTH the science section and overall composite score of the spring PreACT.*
- » *Average of B or better in Physical Earth Science for 10th grade students.*

## HONORS CHEMISTRY

### 2 SEMESTERS

Honors Chemistry will stress topics related to matter and energy, scientific measurement, atomic structure, chemical names and formulas, problem solving, stoichiometry, states of matter, electron configurations, chemical periodicity, and other appropriate topics. The student will be made aware of how chemical processes and principles are related to everyday experiences. Students will be encouraged to assume more responsibility for their own learning by making experimentation and problem solving skills an integral part of the topics covered. Honors Chemistry or Chemistry fulfill the requirement for graduation.

- » *Prerequisites: Completion of – or concurrent enrollment in – Algebra II and department approval.*

## HUMAN ANATOMY AND PHYSIOLOGY

### 2 SEMESTERS

This is a lab-based practical course designed for students interested in a career in the medical fields such as nursing, physical therapy, veterinary science, or general medicine. The overarching theme of this course is the analysis of how structure (anatomy) determines function (physiology). Students will learn anatomical terminology, compare the histology of different types of tissues, and practice medical diagnoses in the form of case studies. Students will explore each of the major organ systems in the body on a unit-by-unit basis, comparing how these systems function normally, and how they respond to stress and

disease. Students will also gain practice in laboratory skills including microscopy and animal dissection.

- » *Open to 11th and 12th grade students.*
- » *Prerequisites: Successful completion of Biology.*

## PHYSICS

### 2 SEMESTERS

This course is recommended for 12th graders planning on majoring in a STEM discipline. Physics is a heavily math-dependent subject that studies the world around us. Students will study topics including motion in one and two dimensions, force, friction and Newton's laws, work and energy, momentum and collisions, vibrations and waves, sound, light, and reflection. Throughout the course, students will develop measuring and analytical modeling skills. \* Physics may be required by some colleges for admission.

- » *Prerequisites: Successful completion of both Chemistry and Algebra II and department approval.*



# SOCIAL STUDIES

The goals of the DeLaSalle Social Studies department are to enable students to possess the requisite skills to become informed, effective and involved members of their communities; students who have developed the research skills and content mastery needed to succeed in college; and students with an awareness and understanding of the diverse complexity that comprises our world. The core curriculum is three and one-half years of history, social science, geography and government. One semester of Social Studies in Grade 9 (World History), plus one full year in Grade 10 (Modern World History and Geography) and Grade 11 (U.S. History or AP U.S. History), and two course choices in Grade 12 (of which one course must be U.S. Government (one semester) or AP U.S. Government (full year), plus one course choice among Anthropology, AP African American Studies, Hispanic Culture and Society, or Psychology.

## WORLD HISTORY AND GEOGRAPHY

1 SEMESTER

This one semester class is a key component of the DeLaSalle Social Studies curriculum as it prepares an academic foundation for the department. The class begins with an overview of local and DeLaSalle history. Students will study selected areas within the Mediterranean region, Africa, India, China, Europe, and the Americas to examine the development of city-states, kingdoms and empires. Each unit of study will include map work and a project that could include written work, a work of art, or another creative assignment. The class will include role-playing, group work and short in-class student created presentations.

» *This course is required of all 9th grade students.*

## MODERN WORLD HISTORY AND GEOGRAPHY

2 SEMESTERS

This course will concentrate on the history, geography and geographical implications of modern politics and international relationships. Throughout the course there is an analysis of social, economic and cultural issues in the world through the lens of the five themes of geography: location, place, human-

environment interaction, movement and region.

» *This course is required of all 10th grade students.*

## UNITED STATES HISTORY

2 SEMESTERS

A theme-based study of U.S. history examining modern United States through the lens of our shared past, from pre-Columbian times to the present day. Special emphasis will be focused upon key thematic strands running throughout the nation's history. Specific themes to be explored include Exploitation & Reform, Immigration & Settlement, Politics & Government.

This approach is designed for deeper analysis of multiple perspectives, and greater attention to the experience of traditionally marginalized groups within the greater whole. Additionally, each US History student will create a History Day project that will require students to gather, organize, and evaluate primary and secondary sources.

» *This course is required of all 11th grade students.*

## UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

1 SEMESTER

This one semester course will examine the history, workings, and intricacies of the U.S. government. The a, structures,

and operations that will be examined include: the U.S. Constitution, separation of powers, significant U.S. Supreme Court cases, divisions between federal and state governments, political parties, civil and political rights, and the distinctions between the three branches of government. Emphasis will be placed on a practical understanding of how the government works and its effects on the citizenry.

» *This course is required of all 12th grade students.*

## HONORS AND AP SOCIAL STUDIES PROGRAM AND ELECTIVES

### AP UNITED STATES HISTORY

2 SEMESTERS

This is an in-depth and detailed look at U.S. history from European exploration and colonization to the present. Students will read a college or Advanced Placement (AP) text that will be supplemented by primary sources, selected readings, and specialized writings. Students will demonstrate an ability to acquire factual knowledge while critically analyzing various themes



and interpretations within the study of U.S. history through essays, exams, and projects. Like students in the U.S. History class, the students will create a History Day project. In the spring, students will have the opportunity to earn college credit upon successfully completing the AP U.S. History exam.

- » *Open to 11th grade students, this course fulfills the 11th grade Social Studies requirement.*
- » *Prerequisites: Department approval that will consider test scores, work ethic, consistency of performance and intellectual curiosity. Summer work is required.*

## AP UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

2 SEMESTERS

Advanced Placement (AP) U.S. Government provides an in-depth and detailed look at the workings of the U.S. government. This course goes into greater detail of the concepts and material taught in the College Preparatory course. The class is designed to afford students the opportunity to earn college credit. Students who take this course will be prepared to take the AP U. S. Government test offered in May.

- » *Open to 12th grade students, this course fulfills the 12th grade U.S. Government requirement.*
- » *Prerequisites: Departmental approval that will consider test scores, work ethic, consistency of performance and intellectual curiosity; Summer work is required.*

## AP AFRICAN AMERICAN HISTORY

2 SEMESTERS

This course largely is an introduction to the history of African Americans in the continental United States. Of course, it will open with an investigation of ancient Africa and the Mali and Songhai empires and introduce students to the ethos of West peoples such as the Yoruba, the Akan, and the Fon to name a few. The course will then exam the trans-Atlantic slavetrade, its economics and its effects. The majority of the course will then focus on African American history, culture, and literature from 1619 to the present moment. Finally, we will also pay close attention to the construction of African American Studies as an object of knowledge, that is, as an academic discipline.

- » *Prerequisites: Open to 11th and 12th grade students with teacher approval. The approval will take into consideration work ethic, consistency of academic performance, and intellectual curiosity.*

## ANTHROPOLOGY

1 SEMESTER

This course is designed to give students a comprehensive understanding of humanity by introducing them to the four subfields of anthropology: physical anthropology, archaeology, linguistics, and cultural anthropology. Students will participate in challenging and thought-provoking activities including discussions, observations, critical thinking, hands-on analysis, projects and fieldwork. This unique course examines a variety of cultural perspectives and causes students to evaluate their own culture at the same time.

- » *Open to 11th and 12th grade students.*

## PSYCHOLOGY

1 SEMESTER

This course provides a basic introduction to the science of psychology and covers the following topics: the biology of behavior with a focus on the brain; the role of heredity and environment in shaping such behaviors as intelligence and personality; consciousness and altered states of consciousness; the learning theories of Pavlov, Skinner, and various cognitive theorists; personality theories and their measurement; and abnormal psychology.

- » *Open to 11th and 12th grade students.*

## LAW AND SOCIETY

1 SEMESTER

This course exposes students to the law and the legal system and how this system impacts society. Units include discussions on the origins of law and lawmaking, criminal and civil laws, due process protections and forensics. Discussion topics in class and through various exercises are broad and may include forensics, the death penalty, racial profiling, mandatory minimum sentences, and mental health as it relates to crime.

- » *Open to 11th and 12th grade students.*

## HISPANIC CULTURE AND HISTORY

2 SEMESTERS

This course explores a wide range of cultural concepts in the context of Hispanic and Latinx communities focusing on historical issues that reverberate in the cultures of these communities and the United States.

- » *Open to 11th and 12th grade students.*



# THEOLOGY

In harmony with the philosophy of DeLaSalle High School and the National Catechetical Directory: Sharing the Light of Faith, the Theology Department endeavors to do the following for our students:

- Encourage each one to develop a personal faith response to the unconditional love of God,
- Provide them with an understanding of the Catholic tradition,
- Help them learn how to participate in a community of faith,
- Invite each one to live a life of service to others.

The Bible, the Word of God, is shared daily through classroom prayers, texts, activities and liturgies. Opportunities for participation in the sacramental life of the Catholic Church are made available in cooperation with Lasallian Ministry. Through the study of Jesus' life and mission, students encounter Christian values basic to life in all of its progressions and challenges. Students develop an awareness of the created world as a gift, but also recognize the need for redemption. Theology teachers seek to aid students in their search for God through the examination of world history, cultures, and customs. Emphasis is given to the Catholic Tradition, its historical development and ritual expression. These studies are positioned against the backdrop of contemporary times in order to furnish the values necessary for attaining a productive and fulfilled Christian life.

In partnership with the Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis, all grade levels will include curriculum components from the Office for the Protection of Children and Youth. These include boundaries and personal safety lessons with a focus on digital privacy & security, online relationships & communication, digital footprint & identity and cyberbullying & hate speech.

Our goal is to prepare students to navigate today's digital environment.

## SERVICE LEARNING

DeLaSalle's Service Learning program creates, fosters and supports opportunities for students to learn and grow as servant leaders in the world today. Through the Service Learning program, students begin to understand people in need and explore ways that they can make a difference on a local and global level. By volunteering at various service agencies, students gain insights and understanding of the economic, physical, and spiritual needs of community members. The goal is that students will develop a life-long desire to meet these needs and continue to work for solutions to unjust situations. All students, including those who transfer to DeLaSalle High School, must complete 60 Service Learning hours by February 1st of their 12th grade year; the hours are to be recorded through the online validation system. Upon completion students will receive a grade of "P" (passing) and 1 credit.

## SACRED SCRIPTURE

### 2 SEMESTERS

Students will be introduced to the study of Scripture using the historical critical method. They will learn the relationship between Scripture and Tradition, explore the religious truths behind the biblical accounts, and make connections to their lives. Students will study both the Old and New Testaments.

» *This course is required of all 9th grade students.*

## THE CHURCH: CREED, SACRAMENTS, AND HISTORY

### 2 SEMESTERS

With the Catechism as the primary text, students will study the Creed as a source of understanding the major historical events from the time of the Apostles to the Second Vatican Council. Liturgy and Sacraments are explored in depth as they relate to the Paschal Mystery, and students are exposed to the lives of the Saints and the development of Church practices.

» *This course is required of all 10th grade students.*

## CATHOLIC SOCIAL TEACHING

### 1 SEMESTER

This course is designed to help students acknowledge and embrace the responsibilities they have to the world. Each student will explore the seven themes of Catholic Social Teaching as they learn to broaden and deepen our understanding of what it means to love our neighbor. The students will connect theory to practice as each one understands the value of ethics in the family, Church, home, work-place, community, nation, and world.

» *This course is required of all 11th grade students.*

## CATHOLIC SOCIAL TEACHING (SUMMER)

### 8 WEEKS (4 DAYS PER WEEK; 2 HOURS PER DAY)

This course is designed to help students acknowledge and embrace the responsibilities they have to the world. Each student will explore the seven themes of Catholic Social Teaching as they learn to broaden and deepen our understanding of what it means to love our neighbor. The students will connect theory to practice as each one understands the value of ethics in the family, Church, home, work-place, community, nation, and world.

» *Summer Theology courses are available to students entering 11th or 12th grade to complete 11th grade requirements.*

## MORALITY

### 1 SEMESTER

This course explores the Christian life by helping students to conscientiously determine their morals as they relate to developing loving relationships with God, Self and Others. Students will explore their sense of morality while studying the prohibitions and aspirations of the Ten Commandments and related topics through a Catholic lens. This course will give students the opportunity to continue to develop their spiritual lives and recognize the process as a lifelong value, while teaching practical skills for conscience development and moral decision making.

» *This course is required of 12th grade students not in Campus Ministry.*

For the 2025-26 school year, 12th grade students must choose one of the following single-semester Theology electives in order to meet the Theology requirement. Students are invited to choose additional courses from this list as electives.

## CHRISTIANITY IN THE AMERICAS

1 SEMESTER

This class will explore the development and influence of Christianity in the Americas. Topics will include the influence of Christianity in European colonization and the founding of the United States; the role and impact of missionaries throughout the Americas; the syncretism of Christianity and other cultures/religious beliefs in Latin America; the progression of Liberation Theology and its place in contemporary Latin America. This class is primarily activity and project based, with an emphasis on in-class participation.

» *Open to 12th grade students and fulfills 1 semester of the Theology requirements.*

## COMPARATIVE RELIGIONS

1 SEMESTER

This course deals initially with the major questions confronting humankind: the nature of God, mystery, human destiny and purpose. Major world religions will be surveyed: Hinduism, Buddhism, Islam, Judaism, and Christianity. In each case, this survey will provide a treatment of basic underlying philosophical assumptions about life and about the basic beliefs of each religion.

» *Open to 12th grade students and fulfills 1 semester of the Theology requirements.*

## THEOLOGY IN THE ARTS

1 SEMESTER

This course explores the theological expressions in the arts. Students will compare and contrast religious themes as they are presented in a variety of artistic mediums. Students will develop an appreciation of classic and contemporary works in film, literature, architecture, and music over the course of the semester. The primary focus will be how the key components of the Catholic worldview present themselves and blend with cultural

and artistic influences.

» *Open to 12th grade students and fulfills 1 semester of the Theology requirements.*

## CAMPUS MINISTRY LEADERSHIP TEAM

2 SEMESTERS

This course provides opportunities for students to explore various components of engaging ministry and empowers them to implement programming to enhance faith, community and service within the greater DeLaSalle community. Core content will focus on liturgy, prayer, service, retreats, faith sharing and servant leadership through the lens of the 5 core Lasallian principles. Students in this course will be challenged to put their faith and leadership into action as they work together to research, plan, and lead Lasallian Ministry programming and events. A very high commitment to organization, management, faith development and service is needed for this course.

» *Open to 12 grade students only, and fills the Theology elective requirement for 12th graders.*

» *Prerequisites:*

> *Be in good academic standing.*

> *Have at least a C average in previous theology classes.*

- > *Registration for this course requires the recommendation of a Theology teacher and one other adult within the building (teacher, advisory, coach, activity moderator)*
- > *Student must complete an application requesting this course*

## VOCATIONS

1 SEMESTER

The purpose of this course is to help students to understand the vocations of Christian life. In this course, students will learn how each person's vocation is rooted in the universal call to holiness, and how this universal call will be lived out in a unique way in each person's life. After thoroughly examining the universal call to holiness and how one can discern their vocation, this course will focus on the particular vocations of consecrated life, priesthood, and marriage.

» *Open to 12th grade students and fulfills 1 semester of the Theology requirements.*





## ATHLETICS & ACTIVITIES

DeLaSalle provides education based activities that are a direct extension of the classroom. Students are provided with a wide variety of activities that offer an enriching experience, allow students to try something new, and develop a lifelong passion. Over 90 percent of students will join at least one activity, and over 75 percent will try at least two...or more.

Participation in our student activities gives each student an opportunity to learn and mature into a well-rounded young adult. Our student activity programs work hand in hand with our curriculum to teach values and lifelong skills.

# ADMISSION TO DELASALLE

---

DeLaSalle is a Catholic high school that seeks to create a community of students from various economic levels, academic abilities, racial communities, and ethnic backgrounds. In the Lasallian tradition of St. John Baptist de La Salle, the school strives to facilitate personal academic success but also to prepare students to be of service to society. Within the larger tradition of the Catholic Church, DeLaSalle regards spiritual development as a primary educational goal. All students are required to take Theology courses and attend school worship services.

Admission to Grade 9 is based on assessment of the following:

- Completion of application forms,
- At least one grade school teacher recommendation regarding academic potential and personal character,
- Entrance exam scores,
- Middle school transcripts

Admission may be unconditional, or probationary in which case additional conditions may need to be met before entering ninth grade. Students transferring to Grade 10, 11, or 12 must:

- Provide a high school transcript,
- Provide a letter from a counselor or teacher attesting to academic potential and personal character,
- Interview with the Executive Director for Enrollment and/or Principal,
- If an international student, demonstrate competence in English.

Transfer students are accepted at the start of a quarter/semester, except for special circumstances. To receive a DeLaSalle diploma, Grade 12 transfer students must normally be enrolled for the entire year.

## GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

Requirements for a DeLaSalle diploma include:

- 4 years of Theology (for transfers, credit required for each semester enrolled)
- 4 years of English
- 3.5 years of Social Studies
- 3 years of Mathematics
- 3 years of Science
- 2 years of a single Modern Language
- 1 year of Fine Arts
- 1 semester credit in Health is required in Grade 10, 11, or 12
- 1 semester credit of Physical Education 9
- 1 additional semester in Physical Education in Grade 10, 11, or 12 and may be fulfilled either as a course or by administrative exemption, upon fulfilling requirements for a waiver
- 1 semester of Economics/Personal Finance
- Passing the Service Learning requirements
- 46 minimum semester credits are required for graduation



# ISLANDERS ARE EVERYWHERE.

1 DeLaSalle Drive  
Minneapolis, MN 55401  
delasalle.com



@DLSIslanders