

Course Catalog

2026 -2027



Saint Mary's College High School
Berkeley, California

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Curriculum Overview

The program of study described in this *Course Catalog* embodies the educational mission and philosophy of Saint Mary's College High School. The curriculum, as a whole, provides the intellectually rigorous course work students need as part of an integrated, well-rounded, college preparatory education offered in the Lasallian Catholic tradition.

Each year, the curriculum is evaluated in light of the School's philosophy, current state educational framework, college and university prerequisite and requirements, and program requirements prompted by student need and interest. Our goal is to provide for each student the most vital and comprehensive educational program possible.

All Saint Mary's students are required to take core courses designed to introduce them to the arts, humanities, sciences and social sciences, while simultaneously fulfilling the entrance requirements of colleges and universities. Requirements beyond the core program may be fulfilled by the courses listed in the elective lists for lower-division and upper-division students.

COMMUNITY BLOCK AND ENRICHMENT WEEK

In addition to the core academic program, Saint Mary's offers students required programs that fulfill our mission to educate the whole person.

Community Block (often referred to as C-Block) is a program in which students and faculty group leaders follow a curriculum designed by the Guidance & Counseling Department to foster students' personal, social, emotional, and academic growth.

In keeping with our mission, the **Enrichment Week** program in March promotes the intellectual, spiritual, and social development of each student while at the same time creating community. The curriculum for Enrichment Week is developed by the faculty and contains a mix of academic, immersive, travel, career-based, and recreational classes. Students are expected to explore each type of class over the course of their four years at Saint Mary's. Upper-division students may also design their own course of study, subject to administrative approval.

For more details regarding these programs, please see the *Student-Parent Handbook*.

Using this Course Catalog

This Course Catalog contains brief descriptions of the courses Saint Mary's College High School will offer for the next two academic years. The information in this Catalog will aid students and parents in the selection of an appropriate course of study at Saint Mary's. Parents and students alike should take seriously the responsibility of understanding this academic catalog.

In planning their academic program, students are asked to identify the **required** courses that they must take, the courses they must choose as **selectives**, and the ones that are optional as **electives**.

Three major factors must be considered when selecting courses:

- First, review the **graduation requirements** of Saint Mary's (overall and by department) in terms of the number of credits and the specific curriculum areas in which the credits must be taken.
- Second, consider the **requirements for admission** to the range of colleges and universities suitable to the student.

- Third, evaluate the readiness of the student as indicated by grades in prerequisite classes before attempting to enroll in courses. Eligibility requirements are noted when applicable.

It is the student's responsibility to sign up for the proper courses to ensure that all graduation requirements are fulfilled. However, it is also important for the school to maintain the pace and academic integrity of the program by monitoring students' eligibility for all courses. The Assistant Principal for Academics, counselors, and faculty are available to assist students whenever explanation and clarification are needed. Finally, students need to be agents of their own learning; the ultimate responsibility for education rests with each student.

Because elective courses offered are limited, it is impossible to guarantee that students will receive their first- or second-choice requests; however, the school will make every effort to honor students' preferences when possible. Actual course offerings depend upon school enrollment, course enrollment, and teacher availability.

Guide to Terms and Abbreviations

(P) college preparatory courses which satisfy UC/CSU subject requirements

(H) honors and Advanced Placement (AP) level academic courses

(A) courses whose grades are calculated in a student's **academic** GPA

(N) courses that are not calculated in a student's academic GPA

(credits) number of term credits (or units) awarded upon successful completion of a course. Term course equals 5 credits; year-long courses equal 10.

Saint Mary's Graduation Requirements

Each student must successfully complete required courses and the specified number of electives indicated below to be eligible for graduation. The School offers students information and guidance regarding their academic program. A student's academic program will depend on their academic performance (grades), habits of scholarship, individual and family goals, and co-curricular commitments.

A minimum of 300 credits is required for graduation. To be eligible for graduation, a senior student's transcript must show passing grades in all courses. Any F grades in term marking periods in grades 9-12 must be remediated through the successful completion of courses matching those they failed. No diploma will be awarded until any F grades have been remediated.

Grade Level and Typical Course Load Requirements

Freshman Year (75 credits)	Sophomore Year (75 credits)	Junior Year (75 credits)	Senior Year (75 credits)
1. Faith & Religion (10)	1. Scripture (10)	1. Religion (10)	1. Religion (10)
2. English 1-2 (10)	2. English 3-4 (10)	2. English (10)	2. English (10)
3. Human Geography (10)	3. World History (10)	3. U.S. History (10)	3. History/Social Science (10)
4. World Languages (10)	4. World Languages (10)	4. Mathematics (10)	4. History/Social Science (5)
5. Mathematics (15)	5. Mathematics (10)	5. Science (10)	5. Elective (i.e. Science) (10)
6. Biology (10)	6. Chemistry (10)	6. Epistemology (5)	6. Elective (i.e. Language) (10)
7. Visual & Performing Arts (10)	7. Visual & Performing Arts (10)	7. History Course (10)	7. Elective (i.e. Math) (10)
	8. Epistemology (5)	8. Elective (i.e. Language) (10)	8. Lasallian Capstone (10)

Five (5) term credits are awarded for the successful completion of each regular term course. Courses for which fewer credits are awarded are noted as such. Academic courses recognized by the University of California as being college preparatory in content are designated by **(P)**. Courses recognized by UC as being college preparatory and AP or honors level in content are designated by **(H) (P)**. All other courses calculated in a student's academic GPA are designated by **(A)**. Courses that are not specifically academic in nature and not calculated in the academic GPA are designated by **(N)**.

Graduation and College Entrance Minimum Requirements Comparison Chart

Note: This chart represents minimum requirements only.

For a full list of approved courses in Areas a-g,
go to <https://hs-articulation.ucop.edu/agcourselist#/list/search/institution>

Academic Areas	Saint Mary's Graduation Requirements		UC and CSU Requirements
	Years	Credit	Years
Electives*		55	1
English (Area "b")	4	40	4
World Languages (Area "e")	2	20	2
Mathematics (Area "c")	3.5	35	3
Religious Studies	4	40	0
Science** (Area "d")	3	30	2
History/Social Science (Area "a")	3.5	35	2
Visual & Performing Arts (Area "f")	2	20	1
Philosophy	3	15	0
Lasallian Capstone	1	10	0
Total Core		300	15

*Any course taken beyond the department requirements is considered an elective. (e.g., AP Precalculus, French 7-8, etc.)

**UC requires at least two of the following: biology, chemistry, or physics. CSU requires at least two years of a lab science in two different areas, biological and physical.

College Entrance Requirements

Saint Mary's College High School graduates are prepared to continue their education at the college or university level. Admission standards vary depending on the college or university. While Saint Mary's makes every effort to see that students take courses commensurate with their ability and future goals, the final responsibility for meeting entrance requirements rests with students and their parents. Students should consult Saint Mary's college counselors for information and guidance.

University of California (UC)

This system consists of nine undergraduate campuses. Minimum eligibility requirements for all nine schools are the same. The University defines a "freshman applicant" as a student who has graduated from high school but who has not enrolled since graduation in any collegiate-level institution.

Minimum Freshman Admissions Requirements

To be eligible for admission to the University as a freshman, one must meet the Subject Requirement, the Scholarship Requirement, and the Examination Requirement. Academic college preparatory credits consist of courses in English, mathematics, laboratory science, world languages, history, social science, and visual and performing arts.

I. Specific Course Requirements

Specific course requirements are referred to as the "a-g" subject requirements (see the chart on p. 8).

II. Scholarship Requirements:

In calculating the grade point average for admission, grades for all (P) courses taken in grades 10-11 are counted as follows: A = 4, B = 3, C = 2.

A. All courses used to satisfy the a-g requirements must be completed with a grade of C- or better. Students must achieve a GPA of 3.0 or higher; they must also achieve the necessary college entrance test scores indicated in the Eligibility Index to meet admissions eligibility requirements. Consult with the college counselor regarding the Eligibility Index.

B. Accordingly, the University gives extra weight to grades earned in Advanced Placement and *upper division* honors classes in grades 10 and 11 if these courses are approved by the University. Honors courses are designated by an (H).

III. Examination Requirement:

The following tests are required of all freshman applicants: The SAT or the ACT.

IV. Examination Recommendation:

The University of California recommends that students who have completed Advanced Placement courses complete the related AP examination to demonstrate subject mastery.

California State Universities (CSU)

Minimum eligibility requirements for all undergraduate schools are the same. Students will qualify for regular admission as first-time freshmen if they:

1. meet the eligibility index with their grade point average and test scores (see college counselor), and
2. have completed with grades of C or better the courses in the comprehensive pattern of college preparatory a-g subject requirements (courses approved by UC are also approved by the CSU system).

Students may be required to meet higher admission requirements for impacted programs (see college counselor).

Subject Requirements: The California State University requires that first-time freshman applicants complete, with grade of C or better, a comprehensive pattern of college preparatory study totaling 15 credits. A "unit" is one year of study in high school.

Honors Level Courses: CSU gives extra weight to grades earned in Advanced Placement and *upper division* honors classes in grades 10 and 11 if these courses are approved by the University. Honors courses are designated by an (H).

Examination Requirements: Either SAT or ACT.

Subject Area	University of California & California State University Subject Requirements
a. History/Social Science	Two years of history/social science to include: one year U.S. History or one term of U.S. History and one term of Civics or American Government and one year of world history, cultures, or geography.
b. English	Four years of college preparatory English literature and composition

c. Mathematics	Three years of elementary algebra, geometry, and intermediate algebra <i>Four years of mathematics are recommended.</i>
d. Laboratory Science	Two years of a laboratory science in at least two of these three areas: biology, chemistry, and physics CSU requires at least one year of biological science and one year of physical science. <i>Three years of laboratory science are recommended.</i>
e. World Languages	Two years of a language other than English <i>Three years of study of the same world language are recommended.</i>
f. Visual and Performing Arts	One year of visual or performing arts: art, dance, drama, music
g. College Preparatory Electives	One year to be chosen from the following areas: History, English, advanced mathematics, laboratory science, languages other than English (a third year in the language used for the "e" requirement or two years of another language), History/S\social Science, and visual and performing arts.

California Community Colleges (CCC)

This system is composed of numerous two-year colleges located throughout the state of California. Admission is granted to high school graduates, those achieving Certificates of Proficiency, or those who have reached 18 years of age.

Private Colleges and Universities

Private colleges and universities have varying admissions policies and expectations. They give individual attention to the student profile, allowing consideration for various factors. These factors include examinations (SAT Reasoning Test or ACT), a solid college preparatory program, and involvement in co-curricular activities. Individual college catalogs should be consulted for specific requirements and procedures. Consult the Saint Mary's college counselors for information regarding private colleges and their admissions policies.

Academic Office Procedures

Transfer Students: Students transferring into Saint Mary's must take all the courses listed from the time of their entrance and may be required to make up during the summer certain Saint Mary's requirements not indicated on their transcript of record from the previous school. They will not usually be required to make up specific course requirements from earlier grade levels. They will need to meet the requirements for the grade level in which they enroll and in succeeding grade levels. Transfer students will have their transcripts evaluated in light of college and university requirements.

Trimester Grades: Trimester grades are the only grades recorded on a student's permanent transcript. The six-week grades, which are actually progress reports, are not recorded on a student's permanent transcript. Grades recorded on the transcript cannot be removed or replaced by supplemental course work.

Term F grades must be made up through a program of studies authorized by the Vice Principal of Academic Affairs. This usually involves a student's attending a recognized summer school or concurrent enrollment program. The grades received in summer school or concurrent courses are noted on the transcript, but not calculated into the student's GPA. The parent must request that the school send the grades to Saint Mary's before the student may register for the next level of a course or be considered to be in good standing. Certain courses offered on-line may be approved by the Vice Principal of Academic Affairs to make up D or F grades.

D Grades (Non-recommending to colleges): Since a D grade is not a recommending grade for entrance to college, students with a grade of D are strongly encouraged to attend summer school to repeat the subject. Additionally, many of the Saint Mary's courses require as prerequisites a proficiency in the previous level course as designated by a specific grade earned (D grades will disqualify). Please note the required prerequisite/guideline for continuing in each subject and for eligibility to AP and honors courses. Refer to "Standards and Guidelines" (p. 41), for more detailed information.

F Grades (Failing): If a student earns an F term grade, the course must be made up before the student returns in the fall in a summer school or concurrent enrollment equivalency course recognized by Saint Mary's. A grade of "D" or better must be earned before continuation at Saint Mary's is allowed. If students fail both trimesters of such a course, they will be required to make up both trimesters. Retaking the spring term course in summer will not necessarily eliminate the requirement of repeating the other term as well. In year-long or term-long English, religion, History/Social Science, Health, and Visual & Performing Arts courses, an F grade earned for a term must be repeated in a summer school or a concurrent enrollment equivalency course recognized by Saint Mary's.

Students are subject to expulsion or dismissal if they receive three or more term F grades during an academic year or if they lose the equivalent of 15 term credits during an academic year. See the *Student-Parent Handbook* for further information on probation, eligibility and conditions of continuation.

Summer Programs: Summer school classes are for make-up or enrichment purposes only. Students cannot accelerate their program sequence with summer school courses. Math and Science are the exception and only with approval of the Assistant Principal for Academics and the administration. A written request must be made by the student and parent to the administration prior to April 15th.

Concurrent Enrollment Programs: Courses required by Saint Mary's must be taken on campus during the school year. Students may wish to take classes to get an early start on their college careers, make up for poor marks received earlier, or for their own personal enrichment. In general, a student may not take concurrently more than one off-campus course while taking courses at Saint Mary's. Only classes offered outside the school day (afternoons, evenings and on Saturday) are acceptable for Saint Mary's students. Previous commitments to the regular course of studies, interscholastic athletic teams, visual and performing arts programs, or other important co-curricular responsibilities may preclude a student from entering off-campus programs. Students will not be allowed to drop courses at Saint Mary's in the middle of a term to enter an off-campus program conducted on a quarterly basis.

Please Note: *Exceptions to these policies will only be made if warranted by extraordinary circumstances. Requests for exceptions may be made by parents, in writing, to the Assistant Principal for Academics.. For more information on all academic office matters, please refer to the Student-Parent Handbook.*

COURSE AND SCHEDULE CHANGES

Every effort is made to grant students their course preferences, but due to scheduling constraints and space limitations, not every request can be accommodated. After the academic schedules are made available, students may request changes before the end of the school year.

Changes in course selection will be granted only if substantial need is demonstrated and space in the requested course(s) is available.

- Requests for specific teachers will not be accepted.
- There will be a specified time/date to add/drop classes during the summer. These times/ dates will be included in an email to students and parents in June. Please note that there will be no add/drop period once school begins in August.
- Students enrolled in a year-long course may not drop the course in the second term.

Advanced Placement and Honors Courses

The Advanced Placement Program® consists of 34 college-level courses and exams in 19 subject areas designed for highly motivated students in secondary schools. A passing score on an AP exam usually entitles students to some degree of credit or advancement during their freshman year in college (check with the college or university in question, as specifics vary widely). Most schools offer some of the subjects for which exams are available and offer preparation for the exams in addition to course content in the subject. Although students may sign up to take any exam at any participating test center based on independent study, most prefer to enroll in an AP course and take the exam in May with their classmates. Every year, interested and qualified Saint Mary's students take AP exams in various subjects. Students may elect to enroll in one or more of the various AP courses offered to upper division students. (Available AP courses are titled as such and designated by an (H) throughout this *Course Catalog*).

Advanced Placement and Honors courses generally require more in-depth and time-consuming preparation (homework, projects, reading, writing, tests, and quizzes) than regular classes. An AP course requires approximately 60 minutes of homework each school night. Therefore, careful consideration must be given to an individual student's academic workload and their involvement in co-curricular and other outside activities. When selecting courses, students should consider taking AP classes in subjects that particularly interest them rather than taking a restrictive course load that may leave little time for real engagement with the subject.

Students qualify for Advanced Placement and Honors courses by earning a grade of A- or higher in prerequisite college preparatory courses or a grade of B- or higher in prerequisite Honors or Advanced Placement Courses AND have no U marks in Habits of Scholarship.

High academic achievement is not the only standard students must exhibit to qualify for admission to an AP or Honors course. Students must also exhibit advanced habits of scholarship in order to be admitted to an AP or Honors course. This includes consistent diligence and seriousness in class and in one's evening studies, as determined by the student's teachers in prior coursework.

In order to meet both the expectations of the College Board and be in keeping with the SMCHS academic mission and philosophy, all AP courses are subject to the following:

- AP courses will have prerequisite/guideline grade requirements to be determined by the department in which the course is taught.
- AP course grades will be based on mastery of course content and completion of assignments, not a student's performance on the AP exam in May.
- Students enrolled in AP courses will have weighted *internal* GPAs; the GPA on official school transcripts is unweighted (see *Student-Parent Handbook* for weighted grading scale).
- Students enrolled in AP courses are required to take the AP exam in May.
- AP course content will be taught through the end of the term, regardless of the date of the AP exam.
- Families will be billed directly for the AP exam(s) fees, along with tuition, to facilitate payment over several months. Fee reductions are available to those who qualify (see the business office for details).

GUIDELINES: NUMBERS OF AP AND HONORS COURSES AND MAINTAINING STUDENT WELLNESS

AP and Honors course placements will be based on a student's GPA, standardized test results (EXPLORE, PLAN, PSAT), and Habits of Scholarship marks. A student who takes multiple AP and/or Honors courses should expect to do double the amount of homework/study per night. This is an ambitious workload that students and parents must carefully consider in deciding courses. A student's cumulative academic performance provides reliable data for selecting how many AP courses a student should take. Specifically:

- 3 APs and/or Honors courses - Students with a 3.75 and above
- 2 APs and/or Honors courses - Students with a 3.50 and above
- 1 AP and/or Honors course - Students with a 3.20 and above
- Students below a 3.20 may take an AP and/or Honors course pending approval from the Assistant Principal for Academics after recommendation from the student's counselor.

The Philosophy of the AP Program at Saint Mary's

Consistent with its mission as a Lasallian Catholic college preparatory school, Saint Mary's offers a number of Advanced Placement courses to its students. An established, nationally recognized program, Advanced Placement courses are available to students who are willing to undertake more complex, challenging course work. The foundation for the skills and knowledge a student must master to succeed in an Advanced Placement course is laid in the college-prep program beginning in the Saint Mary's student's freshman year and built upon in each succeeding year. In general, superior performance in appropriate college-preparatory courses suggests readiness for Advanced Placement work. While Advanced Placement courses often emphasize a broad range of topics to study, Saint Mary's Advanced Placement teachers may emphasize additional topics and skills students need to succeed at the college level.

The Expectations and Challenges of Advanced Placement for Saint Mary's Students

Saint Mary's is committed to the education of the whole person, and the school works with students and parents to balance students' academic, spiritual, and co-curricular demands so that they can ably manage the challenges of high-school life. All students who meet the graduation requirements of Saint Mary's are prepared for college coursework. AP courses are very rigorous, and they accelerate students' preparation for college. Each AP course poses its own distinct challenges, and, as a result, departments have identified specific prerequisite and guidelines to assist faculty, administrators, students, and parents in determining whether a student is prepared for the challenges of an AP course. These prerequisites and guidelines may include minimum grade point averages, course prerequisites, placement examinations, portfolios of student work, and instructor approvals.

While Saint Mary's encourages students to challenge themselves academically, we also counsel prudence in course selection so that academic challenges are beneficial and not detrimental to student development. Once admitted to an AP course, a Saint Mary's student must be committed to completing the course and any preparatory summer work. Students will not be dropped from an AP course roster without the approval of the Administration. Saint Mary's requires that students enrolled in an AP course will take the culminating AP exams. In cases when the school is concerned a student is overextending himself/ or herself by taking an AP course, parents and students may be asked to agree in writing that the student and parents understand the challenges of AP coursework and that the student will complete the course.

Interpretation of Individual and School-Wide AP Exam Performance

In addition to achieving the Saint Mary's learning outcomes, a key goal for Advanced Placement students is performing successfully on the Advanced Placement exams. Saint Mary's recognizes that students who successfully complete AP courses and the subsequent AP exams may derive a benefit in gaining admission to the colleges and universities of their choice. While Saint Mary's is proud of the success of its students on AP exams, "pass rates" alone do not indicate instructional excellence. More significant is the high number of Saint Mary's students willing and able to take on the educational challenge of AP courses.

The Effect of AP Courses on Grade-Point Averages

Saint Mary's students' grade-point averages, as published on student transcripts, are unweighted. Students' grades in Advanced Placement & Honors courses at Saint Mary's do carry an additional grade point value, which is used internally for academic honors and recognition and is not published. It is important to note that colleges and universities determine for themselves how much added value an AP course should carry during their admissions process.

AP Courses in the Trimester System

Most AP courses will take place during the Fall and Winter terms. There will be scheduled review times for each AP course in the Spring term prior to the exams in May. Students will be expected to attend these review sessions. Schedules for review sessions will be published before the end of the Winter term.

All students interested in taking an AP course are encouraged to attend the AP Information Night in March. Check website for exact date and time.

English

Graduation requirement: Four years (40 credits)

Please note: To be considered for AP and Honors courses, in addition to meeting the course prerequisites, a student's cumulative academic GPA, historical Habits of Scholarship marks, and standardized test scores will also be reviewed for placement.

Freshman Curriculum

English 1-2 10 credits

- Or -

English 1-2 Honors 10 credits

Sophomore Curriculum

English 3-4 10 credits

- Or -

English 3-4 Honors 10 credits

Junior Curriculum

American Literature 10 credits

- Or -

AP Language and Composition 10 credits

Senior Curriculum

Senior Literature 10 credits

- Or -

AP Literature and Composition 10 credits

Summer reading will be required for each grade level.

ENGLISH 1-2 (P)

Course Number: 20111/2012

Credits: 10/two terms

In the Freshman English course, all students read, analyze, and write about literature. The course focuses on close reading and analysis of literature, as well as the study of how various literary elements and techniques function within a text, while studying the historical context and present-day connections of each literary work. The writing component focuses on exposition and analysis, beginning with the elements of a well-structured paragraph and the development of clear, solid thesis statements. Students then move toward mastery of the multiple paragraph essay. Formal thesis-based essay writing is taught in a step-by-step process designed to give students a structure for placing their ideas. Grammar, punctuation, and vocabulary are a focus throughout the course. Written work is assessed in categories including Thoroughness of Content, Depth of Analysis, and Adherence to the Rules of Writing Mechanics.

ENGLISH 1-2 (H) (P)

Course Number: 2021/2022

Credits: 10/two terms

Prerequisite: Grade 9. Placement determined by HSPT and English Assessment Test.

English 1-2 Honors is an Honors-level course for freshmen who demonstrate excellence in all phases of reading and writing in grade 8 and on their entrance exam. Students read, analyze, and write about literature at an accelerated pace. Students generate ideas based on their identification of theme, followed by similar standards for being precise and concise in revising and editing their writing. An emphasis is placed on understanding the historical context of literature and how the

literary works reflect universal themes and are relevant to students' lives. Formal, thesis-based essay writing is taught in a step-by-step process - along with grammar and vocabulary - designed to give students a structure for placing their ideas. Written work is assessed in categories including Thoroughness of Content, Depth of Analysis, and Adherence to the Rules of Writing Mechanics.

ENGLISH 3-4 (P)

Course Number: 2111/2112
Credits: 10/two terms

This course builds upon the skills and knowledge learned in English 1-2. The reading on this level focuses on longer works of literature such as the novel and the play. Critical reading and analysis are emphasized, as well as the skill of linking knowledge cross-curricularly, through the integration and synthesis of literature with the disciplines of History, Religion, and Foreign Language. The writing component of this level focuses on Persuasion, Argumentation, and Literary Analysis, examining and employing the modes of comparison/ contrast, cause/effect, and problem/solution. Development, refinement, and sophistication of the multiple paragraph essay is the ultimate goal of Sophomore writing. Correct grammar, punctuation, and the study of SAT level vocabulary are emphasized.

ENGLISH 3-4 (H) (P)

Course Number: 2121/2122
Credits: 10/two terms
Prerequisite: Grade 10. Grade of A- or higher in both terms of English 1-2, or B- or higher in both terms of English 1-2 Honors AND no U marks in Habits of Scholarship.

This course builds upon the skills and knowledge learned in English 1-2. Students read, analyze, and write about literature at an accelerated pace. Reading on this level focuses on longer works of literature such as the novel and the play. Critical reading and analysis are emphasized, as well as the skill of linking knowledge across curriculum, through the integration and synthesis of literature with the disciplines of History, Religion, and Foreign Language. The writing component of this level focuses on Persuasion, Argumentation, and Literary Analysis, examining and employing the modes of comparison/ contrast, cause/effect, and problem/solution. Development, refinement, and sophistication of the multiple paragraph essay are the ultimate goals of Sophomore writing. Correct grammar, punctuation, and the study of SAT level vocabulary are emphasized.

JUNIOR CURRICULUM

In the junior year, students take American Literature or, if eligible, AP English Language & Composition. American Literature continues to build upon skills in the core curriculum and focuses on a number of themes in the American literary tradition. Many of the texts will expand and complement ideas that students are learning in American History.

AP ENGLISH LANGUAGE & COMPOSITION (H) (P)

Course Number: 2511/2512
Credits: 10/two terms
Guideline: Grade 11. Grade of A- or higher in both terms of English 3-4, or B- or higher in both terms of English 3-4 Honors AND no U marks in Habits of Scholarship.

The AP Language & Composition course provides students with college-level instruction in the study and writing of various kinds of analytical and persuasive essays. The course will focus on both literary and non-literary topics. Language, rhetoric, and techniques in both exposition and persuasion will be explored and employed in the students' writing. This course will prepare students for the AP Exam by providing them with the skills to read, comprehend, analyze, and write about complex and sophisticated texts and subject matter.

All students enrolled in this course are required to take the Advanced Placement exam. See "AP and Honors Courses" (pg. 10,11) for more information.

Summer work is required.

AMERICAN LITERATURE (P)

Course Number: 2441/2442
Credits: 10/two terms

This course explores American literature from the 19th century through present day, paying specific attention to the history of the periods and the influences of race, class, and gender on society. This course, through the analysis of each work, will study history through literature. Texts include the novel, drama, non-fiction, and poetry.

SENIOR CURRICULUM

In the senior year, students will be given the choice of a number of courses. Students will choose a pair of courses or AP Literature and Composition.

AP ENGLISH LITERATURE & COMPOSITION (H) (P)

Course Number: 2501/2502
Credits: 10/two terms
Prerequisite: Grade 12. Grade of A- or higher for both terms of American Literature OR grade of B- or higher for both terms of AP Language and Composition AND no U marks in Habits of Scholarship.

The AP Literature course is a vigorous college-level study of prose and poetry. This course will focus on close reading and analysis, as well as critical, insightful writing. The practice of deliberate and thorough reading is expected of students upon entering the course and will be honed in order to be able to grasp a work's complexity, its richness of meaning, and how that meaning is embodied in its literary form. This course will prepare students for the AP Exam by providing them with the tools of literary criticism and the skills of intra-textual reading.

All students enrolled in this course are required to take the Advanced Placement exam. See "AP and Honors Courses" (pg. 10,11) for more information.

Summer work is required.

SENIOR LITERATURE AND COMPOSITION (P)

Course Number: 2521/2522
Credits: 10/two terms

The purpose of this course is to help students write effectively and confidently. Over the course of the year, students will become skilled readers, as well as skilled writers, who compose for a variety of purposes. Recognizing and appreciating literary elements in the selections they read, students will be able to produce increasingly more sophisticated pieces on their own. Students will therefore explore common ideas, motifs, and the importance of symbolism across various texts and genres with an emphasis on the individual and his/her interactions with society.

Additionally, the course aims to examine social, political, historical, and cultural beliefs that shape the stories studied, while making significant connections to contemporary issues. This two-term course will therefore require students to produce one narrative, one project, and several essays. In addition, students will engage in frequent discussions about the course materials.

RELATED COURSES TO CONSIDER

The course below does not fulfill the graduation requirements in this department. It is part of a series of electives designed to enhance the required course of study in English.

VERSE IN POETRY AND BEYOND (P)

Course Number: 2460
Credits: 5/term
Prerequisite: Grades 11, 12

Clearly the oldest, and perhaps the most expressive form and economical use of language, poetry can provide the student with a unique view of human nature, world history, and the evolution of ideas. The course will include representative poetry from around the globe. Sensitive to diversity and various points of view, the course will include poetry that reflects diversity of gender and culture.

Mathematics

Graduation requirement: Three years (30 credits)

Please note: To be considered for AP and Honors courses, in addition to meeting the course prerequisites, a student's cumulative academic GPA, historical Habits of Scholarship marks and standardized test scores will also be reviewed for placement.

Student placement in the mathematics sequence is based upon placement test results and grades. Electives are available to students who have completed Algebra 3-4 or Algebra-Trigonometry 3-4 Honors. Honors courses are available for qualified students. ***Students interested in advancing to a higher level of math must complete, with a grade of B or higher, a full 10-credit math course at UC Berkeley's Academic Talent and Development Program (ATDP) during the summer. Students can see their counselor or college counselor for more information.***

THINKING MATHEMATICALLY (A)

Course Number: 6050
Credits: 5/term
Prerequisite: Grade 9.

This one-term course for freshmen addresses the question: How can we encourage students to invest time and effort in solving challenging problems in mathematics, and in related subjects like computing, engineering, science, and the humanities? Students will explore the process of solving problems by engaging with key historic issues in mathematics and other related disciplines. Students will explore the following essential questions: What does it mean to solve a problem? How can teachers use problems and problem-solving to make math and related subjects come alive and seem relevant to students? This will be a one term class during freshman year.

ALGEBRA 1-2 (P)

Course Number: 6011/6012
Credits: 10/two terms

This first course in algebra includes a review of basic arithmetic skills, solving equations, factoring, fractions, linear and quadratic equations, functions, inequalities, word problems, and rational and irrational numbers. Emphasis is placed on problem solving and application principles. Students who have a record of generally satisfactory achievement in mathematics are placed in this class.

ADVANCED ALGEBRA WITH GEOMETRY HONORS

ALGEBRA 1-2 (H) AND GEOMETRY (H) (P)

Course Number: 6021/6022
Credits: 10/two terms
Prerequisite: Grade 9. Placement determined by HSPT and Math Assessment Test.

This three-term course covers the second half of Freshman Algebra Honors in one term and a full year of Geometry Honors in two terms. This course will explore operations on algebraic expressions and apply mathematical properties to algebraic equations. Students will problem solve using equations, graphs and tables and investigate linear relationships, including comparing and contrasting options and decision-making using algebraic models. Reinforcement of topics from two-dimensional Geometry is integrated into this curriculum. Geometry topics will include reasoning and proof, the areas of area and perimeter, the Pythagorean Theorem, lines, angles, triangles, quadrilaterals, circles, polygons, solids, elementary trigonometry, and transformations.

GEOMETRY (P)

Course Number: 6111/6112
Credits: 10/two terms
Prerequisite: Grade of C- or higher in Algebra 1-2.

This standard first course in geometry covers the required concepts of Euclidean geometry including definitions, postulates, and theorems. Areas of study include angles, parallel lines, congruent and similar triangles, rectilinear figures, polygons, circles and arc, and the Pythagorean Theorem. Special topics covered include coordinate and spatial geometry, and introductory trigonometry. In addition to including problems which serve to review algebra, the process of "proving" theorems is introduced.

GEOMETRY (H) (P)

Course Number: 6121/6122
Credits: 10/two terms
Prerequisite: Grade 9: Placement determined by HSPT and Math Assessment Test.
Grade 10: Grade of A- or higher in both terms of Algebra 1-2 or B- or higher in both terms of Algebra 1-2 Honors AND no U marks in Habits of Scholarship.

This accelerated course in geometry covers the standard content of Euclidean geometry including congruence, similarity, polygons, circles, and coordinate geometry. This standard content is explored with greater intensity and emphasis on proof and analytical thinking. Additional topics may include transformations and further investigations of three-dimensional figures such as polyhedra.

ALGEBRA 3-4 (P)

Course Number: 6211/6212
Credits: 10/two terms
Prerequisite: Grade of C- or higher in Algebra 1-2 and Geometry.

This standard course in second year algebra is designed to move at a moderate pace. The course includes a thorough review of important topics covered in a first course in algebra as well as the development of related skills. New topics may include exponential functions and logarithms, sequences and series, and matrices. Some basic trigonometric concepts may be included. Emphasis is placed on both understanding and the development of important algebraic skills.

ALGEBRA-TRIGONOMETRY 3-4 (H) (P)

Course Number: 6221/6222
Credits: 10/two terms
Prerequisite: Grade of A- or higher in both terms of Algebra 1-2 or B- or higher in both terms of Algebra 1-2 Honors and grade of A- or higher in both terms of Geometry or B- or higher in both terms of Geometry Honors AND no U marks in Habits of Scholarship.

This accelerated mathematics course combines a second, or advanced, course in algebra with an introductory study of trigonometry. Topics include linear equations in one and two variables, systems of linear equations, polynomials, and rational expressions, quadratic equations in one and two variables, quadratic systems, logarithms, and trigonometric functions.

Summer work is required.

AP PRECALCULUS (H) (P)

Course Number: 6521/6522
Credits: 10/two terms
Prerequisite: Grade of A- or higher in both terms of Algebra 3-4 or grade of B- or higher in both terms of Algebra-Trigonometry 3-4 Honors, or a grade of A- or higher in both terms of Math Analysis AND no U marks in Habits of Scholarship.

AP Precalculus is designed to be the equivalent of a first semester college precalculus course. AP Precalculus provides students with an understanding of the concepts of college algebra,

trigonometry, and additional topics that prepare students for further college level mathematics courses. This course explores a variety of function types and their applications—polynomial, rational, exponential, logarithmic, trigonometric, polar, parametric, vector-valued, implicitly defined, and linear transformation functions using matrices. Throughout the course, the mathematical practices of procedural and symbolic fluency, multiple representations, and communication and reasoning are developed. Students experience the concepts and skills related to each function type through the lenses of modeling and covariation and engage each function type through their graphical, numerical, analytical, and verbal representations.

All students enrolled in this course are required to take the Advanced Placement exam. See “AP and Honors Courses” (pg. 10,11) for more information.

Summer work is required.

MATH ANALYSIS (P)

Course Number: 6311/6312

Credits: 10/two terms

Prerequisite: Grade of B- or higher in both terms of Algebra 3-4 or grade of C- or higher in both terms of Algebra-Trigonometry 3-4 Honors.

This course will prepare students for college mathematics while reviewing important topics from algebra, geometry, and trigonometry. Areas of study will also include permutations, combinations, statistics, probability and limits.

STATISTICS (H) (P)

Course Number: 6721/6722

Credits: 10/two terms

Prerequisite: Grade 12 only.

Grade of B- or higher in both terms of Algebra 3-4 or grade of C- or higher in both terms of Algebra-Trigonometry 3-4 Honors.

This fast-paced and rigorous course will focus on two major areas of Statistics; Descriptive and Inferential Statistics. The focus of the first trimester will be on Descriptive Statistics. Students will spend a great deal of time with procedures used to summarize and describe important characteristics of a set of measurements. Topics will include graphing data, describing data with numerical calculations, finding the measures of center and variability, describing bivariate data, looking at discrete and normal distributions, and probability and a variety of probability distributions. In the second term, the focus will shift to Inferential Statistics. Students can make inferences about population characteristics from information contained in a sample drawn from a population. An emphasis will be upon large and small sample estimation, testing hypothesis, linear regression and correlation, and some basic principles of game theory. Students will be expected to put in 45-60 minutes of work nightly, as well as spend additional time working on research and extended problems during the second term.

AP CALCULUS BC (H) (P)

Course Number: 6613/6614/6615

Credits: 15/three terms

Prerequisites: Grade of B- or higher in both terms of AP Precalculus AND no U marks in Habits of Scholarship.

This course is roughly equivalent to a first-semester college calculus course devoted to topics in differential and integral calculus. The AP course covers topics in these areas, including concepts and skills of limits, derivatives, definite integrals, and the Fundamental Theorem of Calculus. The course teaches students to approach calculus concepts and problems when they are represented graphically, numerically, analytically, and verbally, and to make connections amongst these representations. Students learn how to use technology to help solve problems, experiment, interpret results, and support conclusions.

All students enrolled in this course are required to take the Advanced Placement exam. See “AP and Honors Courses” (pg. 10,11) for more information.

Summer work is required.

FINITE MATH AND PROBLEM SOLVING (P)

Course Number: 6411/6412

Credits: 10/two terms

Prerequisite: Grade 12. Grade of C- or higher in both terms of Algebra 3-4.

This is an advanced course for students who wish to continue the study of mathematics but do not plan to major in a discipline requiring calculus. The course emphasizes developing reasoning skills and systematic problem-solving strategies. As students pursue solutions to real and challenging problems, the major concern is to understand the validity of the process and to communicate clearly. Applications include: business and economics, biology and medicine, social sciences, data analysis, probability, and methods of counting. Strategies include: diagrams and systematic lists, matrix logic, unit analysis, Venn diagrams, and linear programming.

RELATED COURSES TO CONSIDER

The course below does not fulfill the graduation requirements in this department. It is part of a series of electives designed to enhance the required course of study in math.

AP COMPUTER SCIENCE PRINCIPLES (H) (P)

Course Number: 6813/6814

Credits: 10/two terms

Prerequisite: 11, 12. Grade of B -or higher in Algebra 1-2 Honors or grade of A- or higher in both terms of Algebra 1-2.

AP Computer Science Principles introduces students to the foundational concepts of computer science and the impact of computing on the world. Through hands-on projects and collaborative problem-solving, students explore how computers process information, how the internet works, and how data can be used to discover patterns and make decisions. Students learn to design algorithms, develop programs, and analyze computing innovations while considering ethical, social, and cultural implications. The course emphasizes creativity, critical thinking, and real-world applications of technology rather than advanced programming alone. AP Computer Science Principles prepares students to succeed on the AP Exam and equips them with essential computational thinking skills applicable across disciplines and future careers.

All students enrolled in this course are required to take the Advanced Placement exam. See "AP and Honors Courses" (pg. 10,11) for more information.

Philosophy

Graduation requirement: 4 years (25 credits)

10th grade:	Sophomore Epistemology
11 th grade:	Junior Epistemology
12th grade:	Lasallian Capstone

SOPHOMORE EPISTEMOLOGY (P)

Course Numbers: 9520
Credits: 5/term

This sophomore course focuses on the specific ways that biases, heuristics, and fallacies lead to mental mistakes. The assumption of the class, supported by recent brain research, is that thinking is naturally prone to cognitive traps and distortions. Spotting these cognitive distortions in everyday life is the first step in learning to reason in a more deliberate and systematic manner. The essential question of the course is "how do we recognize--and ultimately minimize--these cognitive distortions in our academic and everyday thinking?"

JUNIOR EPISTEMOLOGY (P)

Course Numbers: 9530
Credits: 5/term

This junior course focuses on reasoning about evidence, specifically exploring how we construct knowledge from the observation of evidence. Generally known as inductive reasoning, it is the kind of reasoning that is typically involved in scientific inquiry, but can be used in any field that relies on making and testing predictions. The course also explores the habits and dispositions necessary to be an evidenced-based thinker.

INTRODUCTION TO PHILOSOPHY (P)

Course Number: 4440
Credits: 5/term
Prerequisite: Grade 11, 12

This course will introduce students to the most prominent people, movements, and methods of Western philosophy from ancient times to the present. We will examine the fundamental problems that philosophers have dealt with, as well as the various approaches and arguments they have used. Students will become familiar with the terminology used in philosophical discourse, learn about the historical development of the discipline, and develop their own skills for philosophical argumentation.

INTRODUCTION TO PSYCHOLOGY (P)

Course Number: 8450
Credits: 5/term
Prerequisite: Grade 11, 12

How do we study the mind? What makes you? What are the natural stages of a human life? How do we learn and remember things? Why do people feel, think, and act the way they do in certain groups? What are mental disorders, and what causes them? In this course, students investigate these types of questions through a survey of the major areas in the field of psychology. We will cover how psychology has evolved from ancient philosophy to modern empirical science, how modern psychologists study human thought and behavior, and students will independently research current studies, debates, and sociocultural issues in psychology that affect our lives.

LASALLIAN CAPSTONE

Course Number: 9553/9554
Credits: 10/two terms

The Lasallian Capstone is the capstone of Saint Mary's students' college preparatory education. It is designed so that students apply the knowledge and skills they have acquired throughout their high school career in a real-world context. Over the course of two terms, students will pursue individual research on a topic of personal interest and curiosity. Students will be guided by a mentor-teacher as they explore their own area of intellectual passion, develop their own learning outcomes, revise their plans to meet new challenges, and reflect upon their achievements.

RELATED COURSES TO CONSIDER

The courses below do not fulfill the graduation requirements in this department. They are part of a series of electives designed to enhance the required course of study in social science. These courses are "g" electives with the University of California.

PERSPECTIVES ON DIVERSITY (P)

Course Number: 8430
Credits: 5/term
Prerequisite: Grade 11, 12

Our growing diversity as a people and our increasing awareness of the potential richness and possible difficulties that diversity brings are current realities for people in America. More and more, people are realizing that they live in a society that is multicultural, global, and that there is no single "American Experience" that America is composed of many subgroups, each with its own experience. This course offers students a chance to explore the multi-faceted experience of being a particular ethnicity, a person of color, a specific gender, a certain social class, or an immigrant to the United States. Because people need to understand themselves and their society before they can interact effectively with others, this course will focus on the concept of identity and identity development... as well as explore issues surrounding racism, classism, and sexism in America. Through reading, writing, large and small discussion groups, lectures, films, and individual and group projects, students will explore how people of different backgrounds are affected by, adapt to, and shape "American Culture".

Religious Studies

Graduation requirement: Four years (40 credits)

Lower Division Core Curriculum

9th grade: Faith in the Modern World
10th grade: Scripture

Upper Division

11th & 12th grades: Selective Term Courses. Course offerings change year-to-year.

The Religious Studies Department is central to the Lasallian Catholic school. While students are invited to internalize the values discussed in these courses, grading is based on the students' academic achievement.

LOWER DIVISION

FAITH IN THE MODERN WORLD (A)

Course Number: 4011/4012
Credits: 10/two terms

This is a two-trimester course that serves as the foundation for the religious studies curriculum at Saint Mary's College High School. The course seeks to introduce students to the Lasallian Catholic charism of the school and the beliefs and practices of Lasallian Catholic tradition through the core principles of Faith in the Presence of God, Concern for the Poor and Social Justice, Respect for All Persons, and Inclusive Community. Students from all different faith backgrounds and religious affiliations will be required to think critically about the role of religion in society, to examine the story of humanity's search for God, and to reflect on their personal experience of faith and spirituality.

SCRIPTURE (P)

Course Number: 4021/4022
Credits: 10/two terms

This course investigates the Christian scriptural tradition. During the first term, students will begin with a historic study of the origins of the Bible and will study themes and stories found in the Hebrew scriptures including learning the history of the Hebrew people from Abraham to the birth of Jesus. In the second term, the focus is shifted to the New Testament where the person and divinity of Jesus as recorded in the four Gospels, as well as early Christian writings by Paul and other New Testament authors are studied. An emphasis is placed on the themes of Jesus such as inclusion of all people as sons and daughters of God, love of enemy, service to others, and the reign of God.

UPPER DIVISION

Juniors and seniors will be given the choice of a number of upper division Religious Studies selective courses. Courses are offered in two-year cycles.

DOES RELIGION MATTER? (P)

Course Number: 4490
Credits: 5/term

Using insights from philosophy, theology, science, history, and sociology, as well as each student's personal experience, students in this course will explore the question: "Does Religion Matter?" This question and many others will guide our inquiry through a variety of topics. Students will be asked to examine their own beliefs, the beliefs of their peers, and the beliefs operating in our pluralistic society. Students will chart a path to recover the spiritual and ethical riches of traditional religious wisdom in

the context of all of the advances of the modern era. Additionally, students will have the opportunity to voice their own perspectives on the important issues of where and why religions have failed, as well as how religions are successfully meeting the needs of today's young adults.

JESUS' PROPHETS AND PEACEMAKERS (A)

Course Number: 4520
Credits: 5/term

Jesus' Prophets and Peacemakers invites students to consider the radical dimensions of Jesus' ministry in the 1st Century—a ministry of inclusion, love, nonviolence, and compassion. Students will explore the teachings of several diverse individuals who have lived out their vocation as followers of Christ in pursuit of a more just world, including figures such as Dorothy Day, Oscar Romero, Desmond Tutu, and many more. Students of all backgrounds will consider their own journey in life, exploring the ways in which they might be prophets and peacemakers in their own right.

WOMEN IN THE BIBLE (A)

Course Number: 4480
Credits: 5/term

This course invites students to explore the often-overlooked wisdom, experience, and hope of women in the biblical text. The course also invites students to consider questions of gender, relationships, and power in the Bible. How do Shiphrah and Puah—the humble Hebrew midwives of Exodus who stood up to a brutal pharaoh—inspire us to act with courage against oppressive forces today? What does the boundary-breaking love of Ruth and Naomi teach us about loyalty, family, and commitment? How does Mary—the inspiration for our school's name—teach us to have courage and say "yes" to God's invitation to love? These explorations will raise historical, theological, spiritual, and sociological questions relevant not only for the interpretation of the Bible, but also for how all students live out our universal call to faith, love, and inclusion.

CHURCH HISTORY (P)

Course Number: 4481
Credits: 5/term

Church History is more than dates and events. It is community and conflict. Tradition and transformation. Scandal and reconciliation. It is a living story that continues today. This course explores the dramatic story of the Catholic Church across two thousand years of history. Beginning with the early Christian community, the course traces the Church's journey through times of growth, conflict, reform, and renewal to the present day as a diverse global community. Students will encounter saints, martyrs, scholars, and leaders whose faith and courage helped shape the Church's teachings and mission. Alongside historical study, students are encouraged to reflect on how this dynamic history informs their own lives and offers wisdom for pressing issues facing our world today.

SOCIAL JUSTICE (P)

Course Number: 4410
Credits: 5/term

This course seeks to empower students to wrestle with some of the most compelling, disturbing, engaging, and complex questions that face humanity. These are questions of power, war, violence, racism, poverty, oppression, sexism, economic inequality, and instances of inexplicable callousness toward human life. These are also questions of resistance, hope, joy, community, creativity, and peace. This course will introduce students to the basic philosophical principles of justice and Catholic Social Teaching. We will do so while seeking to privilege the perspectives of oppressed people whose voices and stories are too often marginalized by the unjust social structures governing our world. This course will also create opportunity for students to reflect on our human response to injustice in light of Catholic tradition and our relationship with God.

WORLD RELIGIONS (P)

Course Number: 4450
Credits: 5/term

In humankind's search for truth and meaning, different peoples and cultures have contemplated their experiences of life, death, suffering, and joy and wrestled with the Big Questions of human origin, place, and destiny. Through the ages peoples and cultures have found numerous ways to express the truths and wisdom discovered in this search. This course emphasizes the academic study of the origins, beliefs, practices, and lived experience of the world's major religions including Hinduism, Buddhism, Taoism, Judaism, and Islam.

Science

Graduation requirement: Three years (30 credits)

Please note: To be considered for AP and Honors courses, in addition to meeting the course prerequisites, a student's cumulative academic GPA, historical Habits of Scholarship marks and standardized test scores will also be reviewed for placement.

The scope and sequence of the science program is as follows:

9th Grade:	Biology
10th Grade:	Chemistry
11th Grade:	Chemistry, Physiology, Physics, AP Chemistry*, AP Biology*, AP Environmental Science, AP Physics C*: Mechanics, Sports Medicine, and Marine Biology*
12th Grade:	Chemistry, Physiology, Physics, AP Biology*, AP Chemistry*, AP Environmental Science, AP Physics C*: Mechanics, Sports Medicine, and Marine Biology*

* May be offered in alternate years

Student placement in the upper division sequence is based upon testing results and grades.

BIOLOGY (P)

Course Number: 5021/5022
Credits: 10/two terms

This laboratory science course covers the important aspects of biology related to plants and animals and shows their relationship to humanity. The course will conclude with the study of human anatomy and the various systems, including how humanity affects the environment. A practical application approach characterizes this course: students are introduced to the technique of laboratory investigation as a vital source of learning.

CHEMISTRY (P)

Course Number: 5301/5302
Credits: 10/two terms
Prerequisite: Grade 10, 11, 12.

This standard college preparatory chemistry course is designed for students with above-average skills in mathematics and scientific reasoning. It is suited to the needs of students who intend to pursue their study of chemistry at the college or university level. The course format will include lecture, discussion, extensive problem-solving, and a full range of laboratory work.

MARINE BIOLOGY (P)

Course Number: 5911/5912
Credits: 10/two terms
Prerequisite: Grade 11, 12. Grade of C- or higher in both terms of Biology.

The Marine Biology course is an introduction to Oceanography and the complexity of marine ecosystems. The first trimester focuses on the abiotic factors that affect marine life and an exploration of the diverse ecosystems that have evolved in Earth's oceans. In the second trimester, the course content will emphasize oceans as a resource and the impact of human activity on our ocean environment. The course will highlight the environmental, ecological and evolutionary relationships between life forms in the marine biome, including the flow of energy and cycling of nutrients. Supplemental course work may include off-campus field trips and lab experiences outside of the regular school day. Students will also create and carry out independent research projects and take action on issues that affect oceans and their inhabitants.

PHYSIOLOGY (P)

Course Number: 5201/5202
Credits: 10/two terms
Prerequisite: Grade 11, 12. Grade of C- or higher in both terms of Conceptual Physics or Chemistry.

This course will cover in detail all the systems of the human body: the cellular system, the musculoskeletal system, the circulatory system, the nervous system, the excretory system, the digestive system, the endocrine system, and the respiratory system. The format will include lecture, discussion, and a full range of laboratory assignments.

PHYSICS (P)

Course Number: 5501/5502
Credits: 10/two terms
Prerequisite: Grade 11,12. Grade of B- or higher in both terms of Chemistry and concurrent enrollment in Math Analysis, AP Precalculus or AP Calculus.

This course is designed for students with a strong foundation in mathematics and the physical sciences. The format will include lecture, discussion, problem-solving, and laboratory work. Quantitative skills learned in second year algebra/trigonometry and chemistry will be employed in the problem-solving concepts covered. General areas of study will include concepts of mechanics, motion, astronomy, heat, light, sound, magnetism, and electricity.

AP BIOLOGY (H) (P)

Course Number: 5701/5702
Credits: 10/two terms
Prerequisite: Grade 11, 12. Grade of A- or higher in both terms of Chemistry AND no U marks in Habits of Scholarship.

This course is designed to be the equivalent of a college introductory biology course and to prepare the student for the advanced placement exam given in May. This course is an in-depth, content intensive study of biological principles which include laboratory investigations dealing with cell biology, genetics, DNA technology, enzyme catalysis, photosynthetic rate, ecology, evolution and physiology. AP Biology students will be required to meet during a weekly A-block lab.

In addition to extensive reading of a college biology textbook, the students will have several other assignments intended to master or clarify the material. Students will also be required to read and write summaries of scientific articles, perform and write numerous laboratory reports, and write short research essays.

Students begin their experience during the summer with reading and discussion that enriches first trimester of study. We will continue to use the A-block for AP test preparation activities with the students between the conclusion of our second trimester (first week of March) and the AP Biology test date in May.

Students must submit a paragraph-length statement of interest explaining why they wish to study AP Biology.

All students enrolled in this course are required to take the Advanced Placement Exam. See "AP and Honors Courses" (pg.10,11) for additional information.

AP CHEMISTRY (H) (P)

Course Number: 5321/5322
Credits: 10/two terms
Prerequisite: Grade 11, 12.
Rising 11th: Grade of A- or higher in both terms of Chemistry and must be concurrently enrolled in Algebra-Trigonometry 3-4 Honors or higher-level math AND no U marks in Habits of Scholarship.
Rising 12th: Grade of A- or higher in both terms of Chemistry AND no U marks in Habits of Scholarship.

The AP Chemistry course is equivalent in content, depth, and complexity to an introductory chemistry course at the college level. This course is designed to prepare the student to excel on the AP exam offered in May, and follows the AP curriculum closely. AP Chemistry is an in-depth, content-intensive study of chemical principles that allows students the opportunity to engage hands-on in scientific experimentation. Credits of study include chemical reactions, modern atomic theory, molecular bonding, hybridization, organic chemistry, stoichiometry, thermodynamics, kinetics, aqueous equilibrium, acids, bases, precipitation, reduction, oxidation, electrochemistry, and nuclear chemistry. Above average proficiency in algebra will be assumed. Students will be required to attend a weekly A-block lab. **Summer work may be required.**

All students enrolled in this course are required to take the Advanced Placement Exam. See "AP and Honors Courses" (pg.10,11) for additional information.

AP ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE (H) (P)

Course Number: 5901/5902
Credits: 10/two terms
Prerequisite: Grade 11, 12. Grade of A- or higher in both terms Chemistry AND no U marks in Habits of Scholarship.

The goal of AP Environmental Science is to use scientific principles, concepts, and methodologies to understand the interrelationships of the natural world, to identify and analyze environmental problems both natural and human-made, to evaluate the relative risks associated with these problems, and to examine alternative solutions for resolving or preventing them. Environmental science is interdisciplinary; it embraces topics from different areas of study. Several major unifying themes cut across the many topics in the study of environmental science.

We will use some A-blocks for AP test preparation from March to the test date in May. All students are required to take the College Board AP Environmental Science Exam that will determine their eligibility for advanced placement and/or credit in college courses. Students enrolled in this course are required to remain in it through the year.

Students must submit a paragraph-length statement of interest explaining why they wish to study AP Environmental Science.

All students enrolled in this course are required to take the Advanced Placement Exam. See "AP and Honors Courses" (pg.10,11) for additional information.

AP PHYSICS C: MECHANICS (H) (P)

Course Number: 5611/5613
Credits: 10/two terms
Prerequisite: Grade 11, 12. Grade of B- or higher in both terms of AP Precalculus AND no U marks in Habits of Scholarship. Concurrent enrollment in AP Calculus AB and BC.

AP Physics C: Mechanics is primarily intended for students who expect to major in physical science, engineering, medicine, mathematics, or architecture in college. This course is recommended for

students who have demonstrated exceptional ability and the self-discipline necessary to perform at a high level. Students of strong academic ability may also wish to take this course if they feel they will not be adequately challenged in a lower-level class. In keeping with the outline provided by The College Board, AP Physics C: Mechanics helps students develop a deep understanding of the foundational principles that shape classical mechanics. By confronting complex physical situations or scenarios, the course is designed to enable students to develop the ability to reason about physical phenomena using important science practices, such as explaining relationships, applying and justifying the use of mathematical routines, designing experiments, analyzing data, and making connections across multiple topics within the course.

To foster this deeper level of learning, students will practice reasoning skills used by physicists by discussing and debating, with peers, the physical phenomena investigated in class, as well as by designing and conducting inquiry-based laboratory investigations to solve problems through first-hand observations, data collection, analysis, and interpretation.

All students enrolled in this course are required to take the Advanced Placement exam. See "AP and Honors Courses" (pg. 10,11) for more information.

RELATED COURSES TO CONSIDER

The courses below do not fulfill the graduation requirements in this department. They are part of a series of electives designed to enhance the required course of study in science.

The University of California considers these classes to be "g" electives, not "d" science courses. See pg. 8 for a description of the a-g requirements.

SPORTS MEDICINE (P)

Course Number: 5101/5102
Credits: 10/two terms
Prerequisite: Grade 11, 12. Grade of C- or higher in both terms in Biology.

This course provides students with a general overview of sports medicine and the athletic training profession. It includes introductory information about the AT's scope of practice: injury prevention, treatment, rehabilitation, emergency injury management and administrative functions. This course is intended to help students gain an understanding of human musculo-skeletal anatomy and physiology, sports medicine, various associated disciplines and the role they play in the physically active community. Students will learn about injury management, biomechanical concepts, CPR/FIRST AID, and soft tissue injuries. Students enrolled in this class will not provide patient care.

The University of California considers this class to be a "g" elective, not a "d" science course. See pg. 8 for a description of the a-g requirements.

STRENGTH & CONDITIONING (A)

Course Number : 7060
Credits: 5/term
Prerequisite: Grade 11, 12

This course is designed to improve the core strength and cardio-vascular fitness, agility, and flexibility of students playing interscholastic sports. This course will focus on development of the major muscle groups through free weight training as related to sport specific movements, as well as speed and agility development. The students will learn about training intensity and volume, training zones, Olympic lifting, kettle bells, plyometric training, basic speed and agility work, as well as, sports nutrition and use of ergogenic aids.

Science Categories to meet UC/CSU requirements

Students are required to take three years of science to fulfill their Saint Mary's graduation requirements: 1 year of a biological (life) science, 1 year of a physical science and 1 year in either category, including as an elective.

Biological Science (Lab) (Life)	Physical Science (Lab)	Interdisciplinary Science	Elective
Biology (9 th)	Chemistry (10 th , 11 th , 12 th)	AP Environmental Science (11 th , 12 th)	Sports Medicine
Physiology (11 th , 12 th)	Physics (11 th , 12 th)		Marine Biology
AP Biology (11 th , 12 th)	AP Chemistry (11 th , 12 th)		
	AP Physics C: Mechanics (11 th , 12 th)		

History/Social Science

Graduation requirement: Three years (30 credits)

Please note: To be considered for AP and Honors courses, in addition to meeting the course prerequisites, a student's cumulative academic GPA, historical Habits of Scholarship marks and standardized test scores will also be reviewed for placement.

- 9th Grade: Human Geography **OR** AP Human Geography
- 10th Grade: World History **OR** AP World History
- 11th Grade: United States History **OR** AP United States History
History Elective (Junior and/or Senior Year)
- 12th Grade: AP United States Government **OR**
Government & Law (Required Term Course) **and** Economics (Required Term Course)
Lasallian Capstone
"History Through Another's Eye" (Junior and/or Senior Year)

Courses in the History/Social Science Department address the following themes: change over time; economic transformations/globalization; revolutions, war, and diplomacy; the changing role of government; and American identity and the growth of democracy.

Courses in the social science department stress skill development in the following skills: active and critical reading; various types of writing; note-taking; interpreting data, including charts and maps; researching; presenting; test-taking; and unique, creative, individual, and critical thinking.

FRESHMAN CURRICULUM

HUMAN GEOGRAPHY (P)

Course Number: 8471/8472
Credits: 10/two terms

Human Geography introduces students to the ways people shape—and are shaped by—the world around them. Students explore topics such as population, culture, migration, urbanization, agriculture, and global economic systems through maps, case studies, and guided discussion. Emphasis is placed on developing foundational academic skills, including reading and interpreting geographic data, writing clear analytical responses, and engaging in collaborative learning. With structured support and scaffolding, students practice applying geographic concepts to real-world issues such as sustainability, globalization, and cultural interaction. This course is designed to support students transitioning to high school coursework while building global awareness, critical thinking skills, and confidence in academic inquiry.

AP HUMAN GEOGRAPHY (H) (P)

Course Number: 8481/8482
Credits: 10/two terms
Prerequisite: Grade 9. Placement based on course registration.

AP Human Geography examines how humans understand, use, and shape the world around them. Students explore patterns and processes related to population, culture, political organization, agriculture, urban development, and economic activity. Using maps, spatial data, and case studies from around the world, students analyze how geography influences human behavior and how human actions transform places and environments. The course emphasizes critical thinking, data interpretation, and the application of geographic models to real-world issues such as migration, globalization, and sustainability. AP Human Geography prepares students for success on the AP Exam while developing analytical skills and global awareness essential for informed citizenship in an interconnected world.

All students enrolled in this course are required to take the Advanced Placement exam. See "AP and Honors Courses" (pg. 10, 11) for more information.

SOPHOMORE CURRICULUM

WORLD HISTORY (P)

Course Number: 8011/8012
Credits: 10/two terms

World History is a year-long required survey course in which students examine how our diverse and complex world has come to be. The first term explores the origins of human civilization and interaction. The second term examines the development of the modern world since the Industrial Revolution.

This course will illuminate connections between our lives and those of our ancestors around the world. Students will uncover patterns of behavior, identify historical trends and themes, explore historical movements and concepts, and test theories. Students will refine their ability to read for comprehension and critical analysis; summarize, categorize, compare, and evaluate information; write clearly and convincingly; express facts and opinions orally; and use technology appropriately to present information.

AP WORLD HISTORY (H) (P)

Course Number: 8111/8112
Credits: 10/two terms
Prerequisite: Grade of A- or higher in both terms of English 1-2 or B- or higher in both terms of English 1-2 Honors, and grade of A- or higher in Geography AND no U marks in Habits of Scholarship.

AP World History is offered to motivated students who, according to the College Board, wish to "develop greater understanding of the evolution of global processes and contacts in different types of human societies." Students will combine selective factual knowledge and skills of analysis to examine the nature, causes, and consequences of changes in global frameworks. Students will also compare major developments in and among major societies. The course "emphasizes relevant factual knowledge, leading interpretive issues, and skills in analyzing types of historical evidence" and "offers balanced global coverage, with Africa, the Americas, Asia, Europe, and Oceania all represented."

All students enrolled in this course are required to take the Advanced Placement exam. See "AP and Honors Courses" (pg. 10,11) for more information.

Summer work is required.

JUNIOR CURRICULUM

UNITED STATES HISTORY (P)

Course Number: 8211/8212
Credits: 10/two terms

This course provides a one-year survey of American history from the Colonial Period and the American Revolution to the present day, with an emphasis on the twentieth century. Using the textbook and primary documents and current events, students learn about the various political, social, religious, and economic developments that have shaped and continue to shape the United States. Essay writing and critical thinking are emphasized as integral ways of understanding how the past relates to the present and future. A major research paper is required in the second term.

AP UNITED STATES HISTORY (H) (P)

Course Number: 8311/8312
Credits: 10/two terms
Prerequisite: Grade 11. Grade of A- or higher in both terms of World History, or B- or higher in both terms of AP World History AND no U marks in Habits of Scholarship.

AP US History is designed to give students a thorough understanding of United States History, requiring students to master historical and analytic skills, including chronological and spatial thinking, historical

research, and historical interpretation. The class strives to prepare students to assess historical materials, evaluate relevance and reliability, and deal critically with problems and materials in United States History. The course is equivalent to a full-year introductory college class, thus preparing students for intermediate and advanced college courses. Students have an opportunity to demonstrate content mastery by taking the AP Exam in May.

All students enrolled in this course are required to take the Advanced Placement exam. See "AP and Honors Courses" (pg.10,11) for more information.

Summer work is required.

SENIOR CURRICULUM

AP UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT & POLITICS (H) (P)

Course Number: 8501/8502

Credits: 10/two terms

Prerequisite: Grade 12. Grade of A- or higher in both terms of US History, or B- or higher in both terms of AP US History AND no U marks in Habits of Scholarship.

AP US Government & Politics is an intensive study of formal and informal structures of government, as well as of the political theory and practice that direct the daily operation of government and shape public policy. The express purpose of this course is to prepare students to take the corresponding AP Exam in May. To this end, the course is taught on a college level and it requires a substantial amount of reading and preparation for every class. Students will read approximately 30 pages a week from a college level text book. The course is divided into daily lectures, discussions, and assessments. A research paper may be assigned in the second term. Summer reading and writing will be required prior to the course. Students should expect a stimulating, fast-paced and rigorous course with approximately one hour of homework each night.

All students enrolled in this course are required to take the Advanced Placement Exam. See "AP and Honors Courses" (pg. 10,11) for additional information. This course fulfills the government requirement for graduation.

Summer work is required.

GOVERNMENT AND LAW (P)

Course Number: 8440

Credits: 5/term

Required for students NOT taking AP US Government

This course is viewed as a source of civic literacy and will survey the principles, philosophies, practices and institutions that comprise the United States system of government and law. Students are expected to apply knowledge gained in previous social science courses to pursue deeper understanding of American government. Contemporary issues will frame conversations about the Constitution, the courts, legislative and executive branches, federalism, and a review of major political philosophies around the world. Emphasis is also given to the dynamics of political decision-making and the degree to which citizens participate in political processes.

ECONOMICS (P)

Course Number: 8420

Credits: 5/term

Required for students NOT taking AP US Government

This course provides a one-term study of Economics in which students learn the fundamental concepts of micro-, macro-, and international economics and apply them in intellectually and engaging ways. Using Niall Ferguson's "The Ascent of Money", as well as other articles and resources, students will gain a general understanding of economics and economic philosophy that will enable them to assess and evaluate the U.S. economy and their personal finance more successfully. Essay writing, critical thinking, active reading and note taking will be emphasized as important means for fully participating in the class.

HISTORY COURSES

Students are required to take one of the following courses as part of the History/Social Science graduation requirement. Students are able to take these classes either junior OR senior year. Students may take more than one of these courses.

AFRICAN HISTORY (P)

Course Number: 8510
Credits: 5/term
Prerequisite: Grade 11, 12

African History is designed to provide a history of the world through African eyes. The course surveys major movements and historical problems in the development of the civilizations of Africa from prehistoric times to the twentieth century as well as the impact of Islam on African societies. Although changes since 1500 are viewed against the backdrop of challenges from abroad—including European colonialism, westernization, and above all, the Atlantic slave trade—it is the initiatives and responses of Africans and the evolution of African institutions which occupy center stage in the course. Common myths and misconceptions about Africa held by the West are examined.

AMERICAN SOCIAL HISTORY (P)

Course Number: 8530
Credits: 5/term
Prerequisite: Grade 11, 12

This five-credit elective course is an introduction to American social and labor history from World War I to the present day. It will focus on the experiences of ordinary people, addressing various aspects of how American life changed during this period. We will stress inclusion and exclusion from participation in American political and economic life. Major themes include the creation and destruction of a mass middle class, the establishment of a welfare state and political backlash that it provoked, and the reconstitution of gender norms and race relations. For example, the course will focus on such important but often overlooked topics as labor, race & ethnicity, immigration, women, gender, family and popular culture.

EAST ASIAN HISTORY (P)

Course Number: 8490
Credits: 5/term
Prerequisite: Grade 11, 12

This course is designed to expose students who are about to vote and go out into the World to events in a continent that has over half of the World's population. It is also about making students aware of different points of view and seeing history from an alternate vantage than the standard one. This course explores the geographic background and the impact of communism across Asia with special focus on Russia, China (and Tibet), North Korea and Cambodia. In addition, we will investigate the crises and conflict in the Middle East and Central Asia with emphasis on Israel, Afghanistan, Iraq and Iran. We will also learn about the emergence of democracies across Asia with Turkey, India, Pakistan, Burma (Myanmar) and Indonesia being studied.

ISLAMIC HISTORY (P)

Course Number: 8480
Credits: 5/term
Prerequisite: Grade 11, 12

Islamic History is a one-term (five-credit) course that surveys the last 1,500 years from the perspective of the Islamic civilizations. Like all good history courses, it is designed to link past to present. In doing so, it provides new understanding of major global events and current political conflicts, from 9/11 to the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan, from the Somali pirates to the Israeli Palestinian conflict. Beginning with the life of the Prophet Muhammad and the subsequent Arab conquests, the course covers the first Muslim world empire (the Caliphate), the Crusades, and the dramatic arrival of Mongol armies in the mid-thirteenth century. The course will also present the rise of the powerful empires of the

Ottomans, Safavids, and Mughals and the expansion of Islam into Africa and Central & South Asia. Finally, the course will examine the intersection of the Western and Islamic worlds since the fifteenth century, the consequences of which, says author Tamim Ansary, "are better understood as the friction generated by two mismatched world histories intersecting."

LATIN AMERICAN HISTORY (P)

Course Number: 8520
Credits: 5/term
Prerequisite: Grade 11, 12

Latin American History is designed to explore history through the perspectives of the peoples of Latin America and the Caribbean. This course surveys the history of Latin America from the pre-Columbian period to about 1830. It focuses on pre-Columbian civilizations, the conquest, the establishment of the Spanish and Portuguese empires, the evolution of Latin culture, the struggle for, and the first attempts at modernization and intellectual independence in Latin America. We will examine the different regions of Latin America and the Caribbean. These credits explore key topics such as class, race, gender, colonialism, dependency and intervention, arts, music and literature, to name a few.

RELATED COURSES TO CONSIDER

The courses below do not fulfill the graduation requirements in this department. They are part of a series of electives designed to enhance the required course of study in social science. These courses are "g" electives with the University of California.

INTRODUCTION TO SOCIOLOGY (P)

Course Number: 8460
Credits: 5/term
Prerequisite: Grade 11, 12

Sociology is offered as a survey course for one term to expose students to various disciplines of the social sciences and assist them in understanding the organization of our culture. Human beings and their groups in the USA will be analyzed. The course incorporates the anthropological approach to culture, the psychological approach to the individual, plus the sociological approach to group behavior. Students explore various aspects of American society and analyze their impact in a historical setting.

PUBLIC POLICY AND CONTEMPORARY ISSUES (P)

Course Number: 8470
Credits: 5/term
Prerequisite: Grade 11, 12.

This course is a critical survey of American Government and Public Policy that is designed to introduce students to the types of questions and that perplex political scientists. Through an ongoing analysis of the news and contemporary ("current") events, students will examine the various roles that government and policy-makers play in their lives with the hope of becoming more active and informed citizens. An introduction to the methods of social inquiry, political problems, institutions, and processes will be covered, as well as a more general account of the impact that various public policy decisions have on contemporary American society. Generally, topics of study will include the distribution of power in America, the influence of Political Action Committees, the separation of Church and State in public policy-making, contemporary issues surrounding the criminal justice system (including resource allocation, punishment and rehabilitation), legal matters for women (including privacy, reproduction, and pay equity), racial and ethnic discriminatory laws, education reform, environmental issues, and the ongoing debate about entitlement programs and Affirmative Action.

AP ART HISTORY (H) (P)

Course Number: 1763/1764
Credits: 10/two terms
Prerequisite: Grade 11, 12.

AP Art History introduces students to the study of art across cultures and historical periods, from prehistory to the present. Students learn to analyze and interpret works of art, considering elements such as form, technique, style, and context, while exploring the social, political, religious, and cultural factors that shape artistic expression. The course emphasizes visual literacy, critical thinking, and the ability to make connections across time and geography. Students examine architecture, sculpture, painting, photography, and other media, developing skills in visual analysis, research, and written communication. AP Art History prepares students for the AP Exam while fostering an appreciation for the diversity of human creativity and cultural achievement, equipping them with insights and analytical tools applicable in art, history, and broader interdisciplinary studies.

All students enrolled in this course are required to take the Advanced Placement exam. See "AP and Honors Courses" (pg. 10,11) for more information.

Visual and Performing Arts

The department offers courses in five areas:

Visual Arts, Instrumental Music, Vocal Music, Dance, Theater Arts

**Some Visual and Performing Arts courses will be billed for class supplies and materials.
This is in place of a textbook.**

INTRODUCTION TO VISUAL ARTS (P)

Course Number: 1711/1712
Credits: 10/two terms

This is the foundation course in the visual arts. Students are introduced to drawing, painting and other art forms with the emphasis on the elements and principles of art and design. Students engage in studio production, explore themes in art history and are challenged with basic art criticism and aesthetic valuing.

Students will be billed \$80 for supplies and materials.

INTERMEDIATE VISUAL ARTS (P)

Course Number: 1721/1722
Credits: 10/two terms
Prerequisite: C- or higher in both terms of Introduction to Visual Arts.

Intermediate art students explore illustration techniques in drawing, painting and graphic design. This course combines together studio production and world art history while placing emphasis upon reinforcing techniques, skills and content knowledge covered in the Introduction to Visual Arts class. Students increase their proficiency of expression in various media and the understanding of historical themes and artistic movements through time.

Students will be billed \$80 for supplies and materials.

ADVANCED VISUAL ARTS (P)

Course Number: 1731/1732
Credits: 10/two terms

The advanced art class is a course for students interested in advanced studies in fine arts or design. Students explore universal themes and ideas in this class. Through this exploration students will develop their own unique pieces that delve into social, expressive, spiritual, psychological and political ideas. Completed art works will be shared with the community in art exhibitions so students can celebrate their artistic accomplishments with others. Prior experience in art is highly recommended. Sketchbooks are required.

Students will be billed \$80 for supplies and materials.

AP DRAWING (H) (P)

Course Number: 1741/1742
Credits: 10/two terms
Prerequisite: A- or higher in both terms of Advanced Visual Arts OR instructor approval AND no U marks in Habits of Scholarship.

This course is designed to assist the advanced drawing/painting or 2-D design student in fulfilling the requirements to complete a first-year college-level art portfolio. In addition, this course will prepare the student to take the AP Studio Art exam in May. The portfolio is compressed of a breath section and a concentration section. First term, AP art students concentrate on the breath section which consists of 12 pieces. Second term, the focus is a concentration chosen by the student and is of personal interest to the student. A-Block is available as an open studio time for students to work on their art works with the aid of the instructor on site.

All students enrolled in this course are required to take the AP Studio Arts College Board exam at the end of the school year. See "AP and Honors Courses" (pg. 10,11) for more information.

Summer work is required.

Students will be billed \$120 for supplies and materials.

AP 2-D ART AND DESIGN (H) (P)

Course Number: 1751/1752

Credits: 10/two terms

Prerequisite: A- or higher in both terms of Advanced Visual Arts OR instructor approval AND no U marks in Habits of Scholarship.

This course is a studio art and design theory class. It explores basic elements, principles of design and the creative process. In this class students look at design inspirations through reading, creative design skill builders and design problems/projects. Composition issues and strategies to approach composition issues of visual design are explored. In AP Art 2D, students work to understand and analyze design problems, develop concept statements and then create and refine designs that express the concept. Students who are interested in fine arts, graphic design, interior design, art therapy, theater design, web and interactive web design, advertising and marketing, as well as other professional fields, can benefit from 2-D design. Students who would like to create effective school presentations would also benefit. Students will create a portfolio of work for submission to the AP college board, college applications, work or for personal growth. Students are expected to be self-starters.

All students enrolled in this course are required to take the AP Studio Arts College Board exam at the end of the school year. See "AP and Honors Courses" (pg. 10,11) for more information.

Summer work is required.

Students will be billed \$120 for supplies and materials.

AP 3-D ART AND DESIGN (H) (P)

Course Number: 1761/1762

Credits: 10/two terms

Prerequisite: A- or higher in both terms of Advanced Visual Arts OR instructor approval AND no U marks in Habits of Scholarship; Multimedia Design highly recommended.

This course is a two-semester course designed to challenge students at a highly advanced level. Students in this course have a deep understanding of visual problem solving and have demonstrated readiness for the challenge of three-dimensional artistic development and already have technical proficiency in the art studio. This combination of studio production and theory class will explore form, depth, space, volume and surface. Student will work with a range of approaches that address a broad interpretation of three-dimensional space. Three-dimensional design involves purposeful decision-making on how to use the elements and principles of art in a 3-D context. Students are asked to demonstrate proficiency in 3-D design using a variety of art forms and media. These include but are not limited to, clay, wire, found object, paper, papier mâché and wood. Part of the course is focused on structured assignments and part of the course is driven on developing student's personal voice. Students must have completed Advanced art or equivalent as well as having a strong background working with a 3-D material. Students will create a portfolio of work for submission to the AP college board, college applications, work or for personal growth. Students must be highly motivated self-starters and have permission from the instructor to enroll.

All students enrolled in this course are required to take the AP Studio Arts College Board exam at the end of the school year. See "AP and Honors Courses" (pg. 10,11) for more information.

Summer work is required.

Students will be billed \$120 for supplies and materials.

BEGINNING BAND (P)

Course Number: 1211/1212
Credits: 10/two terms
Prerequisite: *Prior musical training is preferred for enrollment, not required.*

Beginning Band provides the foundations of musicianship as an introduction to the Instrumental Music Program. Students will be counseled as to the selection of an instrument to study, and be given instruction toward the development of understanding, manipulation, and proficiency on the instrument. Primary emphasis will be placed on developing skills in reading music and performing on the instrument. There are no audition requirements for this ensemble, however prior experience in music and sight-reading is recommended.

INTERMEDIATE BAND (P)

Course Number: 1221/1222
Credits: 10/two terms
Prerequisite: *Enrollment by audition for incoming freshmen who may qualify for higher placement. For continuing students, a C- or higher in both terms of Beginning Band.*

Intermediate Band continues to explore the foundations and fundamentals of music while providing experience and musical training as students prepare for the performance of music in the symphonic, classical, and contemporary idioms. Students will learn to read both treble and bass music clefs, to understand various time signatures and meters and to understand and manipulate a chosen instrument. Students will also: develop proficiency on an instrument of choice by learning to play major and minor scales in all 12 keys; learn to understand complex rhythms and time signatures; and develop full musicianship by reading and interpreting any given piece of symphonic music. Auditions for Intermediate Band consist of sight reading, playing scales, and playing a prepared solo on your instrument. Prior participation in Beginning Band is recommended.

ADVANCED BAND (P)

Course Number: 1231/1232
Credits: 10/two terms
Prerequisite: *Audition with the music instructor is required.*

This ensemble, requiring student mastery of the instrument, is a performance-oriented course. Students are exposed to and explore the elements of festival performances and the business of musicianship. Students will: study complex syncopation, read in both treble and bass clefs, study how scales relate to the harmonic construction of compositions, and conduct small ensembles of musicians. Musical interpretation, advanced ensemble techniques, elements of composing and arranging as well as other advanced topics will also be explored. Participation in this ensemble is by audition only. An audition consists of sight reading, playing scales, and playing a prepared solo on your instrument. Prior participation in Intermediate Band is recommended.

ADVANCED JAZZ ENSEMBLE (P)

Course Number: 1241/1242
Credits: 10/two terms
Prerequisite: *Audition with the music instructor is required.*

This ensemble allows students to explore the harmonic, rhythmic, and melodic basis for jazz and pop composition and performance. Students will analyze and perform jazz standards and arrangements in preparation for festival and school-related performances. Students will gain a thorough knowledge of scales and harmonic construction and exhibit their knowledge of composition and arrangement through performances of standard repertoire and their own compositions (where appropriate) throughout the school year. All jazz ensemble students are also expected to perform with the pep band during the year. Participation in this ensemble is by audition only. Prior experience in Advanced Band and playing in the jazz idiom is highly recommended.

CHORUS (P)

Course Number: 1101/1102
Credits: 10/two terms

Students in this performance-oriented ensemble study and exhibit the elements of vocal training in the preparation of popular, liturgical, and classical choral music. Students will prepare for a concert each term and cooperate with Campus Ministry by singing at school liturgies. Students will: learn basic music notation and read treble and bass clefs; proper physical mechanics for choral singing; demonstrate and apply the basic principles of sight-singing in the reading of choral music; prepare for performances and vocal competitions. Additional out-of-class rehearsal time, dedication and desire are required. No audition is necessary to participate in this ensemble, however, prior musical experience is highly recommended.

INTRODUCTION TO DANCE (P)

Course Number: 1611/1612
Credits: 10/two terms

This course is an introduction to movement as an expressive art form. It will present the basic elements related to traditional forms of dance, including ballet, jazz, Afro-Haitian, folk, and contemporary idioms. Students will be required to demonstrate a basic mastery of forms and techniques presented, as well as to prepare written research projects related to the study of specific forms of dance and performance. Students will also prepare for concerts, performances and special school events.

Students will be billed \$80 for supplies and materials.

INTERMEDIATE DANCE (P)

Course Number: 1621/1622
Credits: 10/two terms
Prerequisite: C- or higher in both terms of introduction to Dance.

This intermediate course is an extension of Introduction to Dance. It will focus on increasingly challenging approaches to movement as a medium of expression. Emphasis will be placed upon the study and analysis of choreographic interpretation. Students will be required to study and research a variety of choreographic styles and to develop original choreographic expressions collectively and individually. They will prepare for concerts, performances and special school events.

Students will be billed \$80 for supplies and materials.

ADVANCED DANCE (P)

Course Number: 1631/1632
Credits: 10/two terms

This is an advanced level upper division elective dance course which is designed as an extension of the intermediate 3-4 studies. Emphasis in this course will be upon the development of student choreography in a variety of established dance idioms (jazz, ballet, modern, etc.). Research projects, both written and choreographic analysis of various styles of dance will be required as well as the study of dance interpretation. Students will prepare for concerts, performances and special school events.

Students will be billed \$80 for supplies and materials.

INTRODUCTION TO THEATER ARTS (P)

Course Number: 1511/1512
Credits: 10/two terms

This course will study the range of experiences related to the art of acting. Through lecture, discussion, and demonstration, students will experience and explore acting. Class activities include exercises in pantomime, improvisation, text analysis, character development, collective scene work

and individual performance. Students will be involved with self and peer evaluations in oral critiques and written forms through assignments and will prepare for final project performances.

INTERMEDIATE THEATER ARTS (P)

Course Number: 1521/1522
Credits: 10/two terms
Prerequisite: C- or higher in both terms of introduction to Theater Arts.

This intermediate course of study is an extension of Theater Arts 1-2. It will focus upon continued development of acting techniques through the study and analysis of theater and film works, intensive scene works, and performance preparations. Students will study script analysis, principles of blocking and staging, and will be introduced to the practical applications of stagecraft elements related to mounting a theatrical production. In addition, students will apply skills in the writing, staging designing and the presenting of original works to elementary school groups as learning service projects.

ADVANCED THEATER ARTS (P)

Course Number: 1531/1532
Credits: 10/two terms

This advanced course of study is an extension of Theater Arts 3-4 with emphasis being placed upon the practical application of directing skills for theatrical performances. Students will learn the practical application of the elements of theatrical direction, advanced acting techniques in preparation for public performances such as the Annual Student-Directed One-Act Play and Film Festival Series.

RELATED COURSES TO CONSIDER

The courses below do not fulfill the graduation requirements in this department. They are part of a series of electives designed to enhance the required course of study in Visual and Performing Arts.

MULTIMEDIA DESIGN (A)

Course Number: 1470
Credits: 5/term
Prerequisite: Grade 11, 12

Multimedia design introduces students to cutting edge programs used in the computers arts industry including Photoshop and Illustrator. Students learn to edit and create pixel-based images and design vector-based graphics. Traditional media will be compared and contrasted with computer arts. Simple webpage creation will be covered. Some prior art experience is suggested but not required.

AP ART HISTORY (H) (P)

Course Number: 1763/1764
Credits: 10/two terms
Prerequisite: Grade 11, 12

AP Art History introduces students to the study of art across cultures and historical periods, from prehistory to the present. Students learn to analyze and interpret works of art, considering elements such as form, technique, style, and context, while exploring the social, political, religious, and cultural factors that shape artistic expression. The course emphasizes visual literacy, critical thinking, and the ability to make connections across time and geography. Students examine architecture, sculpture, painting, photography, and other media, developing skills in visual analysis, research, and written communication. AP Art History prepares students for the AP Exam while fostering an appreciation for the diversity of human creativity and cultural achievement, equipping them with insights and analytical tools applicable in art, history, and broader interdisciplinary studies.

All students enrolled in this course are required to take the Advanced Placement exam. See "AP and Honors Courses" (pg. 10,11) for more information.

World Languages

Graduation requirement: Two years (20 credits)

Three years recommended for college admission.

Please note: To be considered for AP and Honors courses, in addition to meeting the course prerequisites, a student's cumulative academic GPA, historical Habits of Scholarship marks and standardized test scores will also be reviewed for placement.

The department offers Spanish and French. Student placement in the sequence of courses is based upon testing results and/or prior grades.

Colleges and universities have varied world languages requirements for entrance, but nearly all require at least two years of the same language and many institutions require three or four years. Colleges and universities also have exit requirements in world languages that may be met by study in high school. Students should consult with the college counselor and individual institutions regarding entrance and exit requirements in world languages.

All students are strongly encouraged to take the language placement test when entering as freshmen. Students who are placed in the third year of a language as freshmen can then take the fourth year as sophomores, followed by the Advanced Placement course as juniors, provided that they meet the prerequisites.

Proficient speakers of French or Spanish should carefully plan a course of study for their four years at Saint Mary's. The department recommends that students who enter at an advanced level complete their world language series, including the Advanced Placement course, before moving to another language.

FRENCH COURSES

FRENCH 1-2 (P)

Course Number: 3011/3012

Credits: 10/two terms

The study of French begins with the introduction of communicative functions required to meet basic needs. The student learns skills such as ordering food, meeting people and getting information about them, providing basic personal information, describing people and things and asking for information. Students learn to relate activities in the present, passé composé, and near future. Cultural, nonverbal aspects of communication are approached as well. Because communication is the goal of the foreign language class, a significant portion of classroom interaction is expected to take place in French. Classroom activities blend the four skill areas of listening, speaking, reading and writing and may consist of individual responses or group work, including skits and role-playing. Grammar is presented not for its own sake, but as a means of transmitting a spoken or written message as accurately as possible. Receptive skills of reading and listening are developed as well; audio materials, which stress listening comprehension and oral response, are used in the classroom. Film, music, and video are used for cultural enrichment.

FRENCH 3-4 (P)

Course Number: 3021/3022

Credits: 10/two terms

Prerequisite: Grade of C- or higher in both terms of French 1-2

During the second year of foreign language study, students continue to develop foreign language skills in the areas of listening, speaking, reading, and writing. Communicative functions are expanded to include discussion of common leisure activities, common foods and quantities, talking about one's health and fitness, and narrating about the past. Accuracy of communication becomes more important as students learn to use past tenses, object pronouns, and reflexive verbs. As in the first year, students will be expected to participate in varied classroom activities individually and in groups. Most classroom interaction is expected to take place in French.

FRENCH 5-6 (P)

Course Number: 3031/3032
Credits: 10/two terms
Prerequisite: *Grade of B- or higher in both terms of French 3-4*

This course continues to develop the communicative skills begun in the first two years of study as well as introducing analysis and cultural comparison conducted in the target language. Grammar includes study of the subjunctive mood, relative pronouns and further study of object pronouns. Greater emphasis is placed on reading and writing skills this year. Reading becomes more complex and varied and includes authentic supplemental texts such as news articles and short fiction. Study of cultural and historical aspects of the French-speaking world continues. French is the working language of this class, which *requires a solid foundation* in the grammar and vocabulary learned in the first two years.

FRENCH 7-8 (P)

Course Number: 3041/3042
Credits: 10/two terms
Prerequisite: *Grade of B- or higher in both terms of French 5-6*

The fourth-year course of study continues the advanced study of grammar and syntax. However, more emphasis is placed on exploring contemporary issues and ideas through reading, writing, audio and video sources. One longer work will be explored each trimester. French is the working language in this course. Little to no English is permitted in the classroom and significant oral contributions are expected. Preparation for the Advanced Placement Examination in French Language may be available for qualified students.

AP FRENCH LANGUAGE & CULTURE (H) (P)

Course Number: 3061/3062
Credits: 10/two terms
Prerequisite: *Grade of A- or higher in both terms of French 5-6 or French 7-8 AND no U marks in Habits of Scholarship*

Students enrolled in AP French will participate in their regular upper division French class and also be required to attend supplemental test preparation sessions throughout the school year. Students will refine their reading, writing, speaking and listening skills as they explore contemporary themes and issues. Materials will include college level texts and primary reading sources as well as supplementary video and audio materials. Students should demonstrate the ability to work independently as well as in community. The course is taught in French.

All students enrolled in this course are required to take the Advanced Placement exam. See "AP and Honors Courses" (pg. 10,11) for more information.

SPANISH COURSES

SPANISH 1-2 (P)

Course Number: 3511/3512
Credits: 10/two terms

The study of a foreign language begins with the introduction of communicative functions required to meet basic needs. The student learns skills such as providing basic personal information, ordering food, meeting and getting information about people, and giving and receiving directions and information. Students learn to relate activities in the present, present progressive, and near future. Cultural, nonverbal aspects of communication are approached as well. Because communication is the goal of the foreign language class, classroom interaction is expected to take place in Spanish. Classroom activities are frequently oral and may consist of individual response or group work,

including skits and role-playing. Grammar is presented not for its own sake, but as a means of transmitting a spoken or written message as accurately as possible. Receptive skills of reading and listening are developed as well; audio, which stresses listening comprehension, is used in the classroom.

SPANISH 3-4 (P)

Course Number: 3521/3522
Credits: 10/two terms
Prerequisite: Grade of C- or higher in both terms of Spanish 1-2

During the second year of Spanish, students continue to develop vocabulary and grammar of increasing complexity. Students learn to communicate using the past tenses, object pronouns and reflexive verbs. Equal emphasis is placed on speaking, listening, reading, and writing. As in the first year, classroom interaction is expected in Spanish; students will participate in oral activities in the classroom, individually and in groups. These activities may include dialogue role-playing, creative skit writing, oral presentations and the writing of original work. Throughout the course, students explore the cultures of the Spanish-speaking countries.

SPANISH 5-6 (P)

Course Number: 3541/3542
Credits: 10/two terms
Prerequisite: Grade of B- or higher in both terms of Spanish 3-4

The third-year course reviews and completes the introduction of all the major grammar points of the Spanish language. Spanish is the working language in this course, which *requires a solid foundation* in grammar and vocabulary learned in the first two years. The course develops and refines the students' proficiency in the four language skills (speaking, listening, reading and writing) by discussing and writing about cultural and current events and everyday situations using thematic credits. This course is designed ideally for the student who will conclude their Spanish language study. Students who are considering enrolling in Spanish 7-8 should consider Spanish 5-6 Honors.

SPANISH 5-6 HONORS (H) (P)

Course Number: 3551/3552
Credits: 10/two terms
Prerequisite: Grade of A- or higher in both terms of Spanish 3-4 AND no U marks in Habits of Scholarship.

This advanced third year course completes the introduction of all the major grammar points of the Spanish language. Spanish is the working language in this course, which *requires a solid foundation* in grammar and vocabulary learned in the first two years. Students will refine their proficiency in the four language skills (speaking, listening, reading and writing) by discussing and writing about cultural and current events and everyday situations using thematic credits. Emphasis will be placed on vocabulary, syntax, correct usage of grammar in writing while using the TCECC model (topic, context, evidence, commentary, conclusion) as well as speaking and listening. Only students who successfully complete Spanish 5-6 Honors are encouraged to enroll in Spanish 7-8.

SPANISH 7-8 (P)

Course Number: 3561/3562
Credits: 10/two terms
Prerequisite: Grade of A- or higher in both terms of Spanish 5-6 or B in both terms of Spanish 5-6 Honors.

This advanced, fourth year course continues the advanced study of grammar and vocabulary as needed for reading and communicative proficiency. The focus of the course is to apply all Spanish learned in previous years into real-life scenarios. Another focus is the analysis of literature by well-known authors from various Spanish-speaking countries. Literary works and cultural issues related to the Spanish-speaking world will be explored through short essays and reflections, class discussions,

short oral reports, and feature-length films. Grammar is reviewed periodically and students are required to know and use the following verb tenses: present, preterit, imperfect, future, conditional, perfect tenses, imperative and subjunctive. All writing conducted in this course employs the TCECC (topic, context, evidence, commentary, conclusion) writing model. Students will be required to think and write critically and analytically in the context of the language and culture they will be studying. Spanish is the working language of this class.

AP SPANISH LANGUAGE & CULTURE (H) (P)

Course Number: 3581/3582

Credits: 10/two terms

Prerequisite: Grade of A- in both terms of Spanish 7-8 AND no U marks in Habits of Scholarship.

Using materials from college-level texts and primary sources, students in this course refine their listening, reading, writing, and speaking skills so that they are prepared to take the AP Spanish Language exam. A thorough review of grammar is conducted, and numerous expository writing assignments are given. Video and audio materials provide authentic sources for listening practice. Students read articles, as well as stories and poems, usually drawn from AP course recommendations. Students taking AP Spanish must be prepared to complete significant class work and homework. The course is taught in Spanish and all writing conducted in this course employs the TCECC model (topic, context, evidence, commentary, conclusion). Students will be required to think and write critically and analytically in the context of the language and culture they will be studying.

All students enrolled in this course are required to take the Advanced Placement exam. See "AP and Honors Courses" (pg. 10,11) for more information.

Summer work is required.

SUMMER ENRICHMENT

All students are eligible to earn 2.5 course credits through mastery of the contents of the Summer Reading Program. The courses are Global Geopolitics (9th grade), Nationalism & Geopolitics (10th grade), The American Idea (11th grade), and Geopolitics in the Twenty-first Century (12th grade). See course descriptions below. Students will be required to write a journal of reflections and insights, complete two content-based exams and one free-response (i.e., essay) exam which are offered in the first weeks of the Fall Term. While the Summer Reading is required of all students, earning course credit is voluntary.

GLOBAL GEOPOLITICS (P)

Course Number: SR09
Credits: 2.5/one term
Grade: 9
Textbook: Tim Marshall, *Prisoners of Geography: Ten Maps That Explain Everything About the World* (2015)

This course examines how the physical characteristics of nations affect their strengths and vulnerabilities and the political decisions made by their leaders. In addition, it explores the complex geo-political strategies that shape the globe. Why has Russia embraced military expansion into former Soviet regions? Why was the United States destined to become a global superpower? Why is China's emerging superpower status likely to continue? Why will Europe never be united? What factors prevent Africa nations from establishing stability and economic growth? What hinders Brazil from asserting itself as Latin America's leading power?

NATIONALISM & GEOPOLITICS (P)

Course Number: SR10
Credits: 2.5/one term
Grade: 10
Textbook: Tim Marshall, *The Age of Walls: How Barriers Between Nations Are Changing Our World* (2018)

This course examines the roles nationalism and isolationism play in contemporary politics, both domestic and foreign. While the world has been shaped by globalization and technological change, recent years have witnessed a nationalist and isolationist backlash across the globe. Mass immigration, political terrorism, poverty, and growing economic inequality are four major factors that will be explored. The course will examine how nationalism and isolationism have influenced the political landscape for centuries. A particular emphasis will be placed on how they influence diplomatic relations and geo-political events today.

THE AMERICAN IDEA, 1492-1799 (P)

Course Number: SR11
Credits: 2.5/one term
Grade: 11
Textbook: Jill Lepore, *These Truths: A History of the United States* (2018)

This course examines the origins and the rise of the United States, a nation born out of division. It will examine the United States' commitment to three main ideas—political equality, natural rights, and the sovereignty of the people—while exploring the extent to which it realized, and was committed to, the meaning of that promise. Beginning with the first European incursions in the Americas and concluding with the end of George Washington's terms as President, this course asks students to consider the question asked by the nation's founders: Can a political society be governed by reflection, election, reason, and truth, rather than by accident, violence, prejudice, and deceit? As recent history has shown, ideology separates contemporary Americans. Are Americans so clearly divided that they no longer agree about the core ideas the United States was founded upon? This course will explore those two essential questions.

GEOPOLITICS IN THE TWENTY-FIRST CENTURY (P)

Course Number: SR12

Credits: 2.5/one term

Grade: 12

Textbook: Tim Marshall, *The Power of Geography: Ten Maps That Reveal the Future of Our World* (2021)

This course examines contemporary geopolitical factors shaping global politics in this current age of great-power rivalry. It will examine emerging political, economic, and military developments, some of which are responses to globalization, but which are also shaped by racial, economic, religious, environmental, national, and neocolonial politics as well.

Interdepartmental/Co-curricular Electives

Interdepartmental and co-curricular electives are scheduled during the 5-period day. Prerequisite/guideline grading policies and meeting times vary by course. Some courses are college preparatory (UC approved) and some are nonacademic. Please read the course descriptions carefully and consult the academic office for clarification, if necessary.

AP COMPUTER SCIENCE PRINCIPLES (H) (P)

Course Number: 6813/6814
Credits: 10/two terms
See pg. 18 for complete course description.

INTRODUCTION TO PHILOSOPHY (P)

Course Number: 4440
Credits: 5/term
See pgs. 19 for complete course description.

INTRODUCTION TO PSYCHOLOGY (P)

Course Number: 8450
Credits: 5/term
See pg. 19 for the course description.

INTRODUCTION TO SOCIOLOGY (P)

Course Number: 8460
Credits: 5/term
See pg. 32 for complete course description.

AFRICAN HISTORY (P)

Course Number: 8510
Credits: 5/term
See p. 31 for the course description.

AMERICAN SOCIAL HISTORY (P)

Course Number: 8530
Credits: 5/term
See p. 31 for the course description

EAST ASIAN HISTORY (P)

Course Number: 8490
Credits: 5/term
See p. 31 for the course description.

ISLAMIC HISTORY (P)

Course Number: 8480
Credits: 5/term
See p. 31 for the course description.

LATIN AMERICAN HISTORY (P)

Course Number: 8520
Credits: 5/term
See p. 32 for the course description.

MARINE BIOLOGY (P)

Course Number: 5911/5912
Credits: 10/two terms
See pg. 24 for complete course description.

MULTIMEDIA DESIGN (A)

Course Number: 1470

Credits: 5/term

See pg. 38 for complete course description.

PERSPECTIVES ON DIVERSITY (P)

Course Number: 8430

Credits: 5/term

See p. 20 for the course description.

PUBLIC POLICY AND CONTEMPORARY ISSUES (P)

Course Number: 8470

Credits: 5/term

See p. 32 for the course description.

AP ART HISTORY (H) (P)

Course Number: 1763/1764

Credits: 10/two terms

See pgs. 38 for complete course description.

SPORTS MEDICINE (P)

Course Number: 5101/5102

Credits: 10/two terms

See pg. 27 for complete course description.

STRENGTH & CONDITIONING (A)

Course Number : 7060

Credits: 5/term

Prerequisite: Grade 11, 12

See pg. 27 for complete course description.

THINKING MATHEMATICALLY (A)

Course Number: 9540

Credits: 5/term

See pg. 15 for complete course description.

VERSE IN POETRY AND BEYOND (P)

Course Number: 2460

Credits: 5/term

See pg. 14 for complete course description.

Online Education

Learning for Enrichment and Acceleration

Saint Mary's College High School offers a complete curriculum to all students at each grade level which the University of California (UCs), Private Colleges & Universities and California State University (CSUs) recognize. All courses that are approved by the above institutions are recognized in the Course Catalog with a "P". You can find the complete Course Catalog listed by departments on the Saint Mary's website under Academics.

We recognize the desire for some students to have additional choices in their junior and senior year. There are many online institutions to choose from – please make sure that the course you choose is UC approved.

Juniors and seniors may only take courses online if the specific course is NOT offered as part of the Saint Mary's curriculum.

Transcripts: The course will appear on a student's schedule and transcript as Independent Study. Colleges and universities recognize that the student is not enrolled in a traditional class but has instead chosen to challenge him or herself by enrolling in an online class.

College Recognition of Online Coursework: Colleges and Universities recognize online coursework. Students need to obtain an official transcript from the online institution and submit them directly to the colleges and universities of which they are applying for admission.

Remediation: Saint Mary's requires that students remediate D and F grades in the summer. Courses taken to remediate a D or F grade earned at Saint Mary's during the school year must be taken in addition to the full course load.

Grades: Students will earn a Pass/No Pass; there will not be a letter grade.

Fees: Students are responsible for any fees associated with taking an online course. Fees are paid directly to the online school site or will be billed through Saint Mary's Business Office. In addition to the fees for the course, families will be billed if the student needs a teacher from Saint Mary's to proctor an exam.

Prerequisites: A student needs to have established good habits of scholarship during their time at Saint Mary's, and is self-directed and motivated in order to be successful while taking online courses. Students will not be allowed to take online courses if they have earned U's during the school year.

Credits: Students will earn 5 credits for each term.

AP Test in May: Students taking an online AP course are required to take the AP test in May and will also be billed for this test; results are sent out in July from College Board.

Textbooks: Students will need to purchase the appropriate books for their course.

Standards and Guidelines

Courses Listed by Department

Please note: To be considered for AP and Honors courses, in addition to meeting the course prerequisites, a student's cumulative academic GPA and standardized test scores will also be reviewed for placement.

***In addition, a student's Habits of Scholarship marks must reflect satisfactory effort, diligence and, behavior and will be considered in determining placement in Honors and AP courses.**

English

English 1-2 Honors

Grade 9. Placement determined by HSPT and English Assessment Test.

*English 3-4 Honors

Grade 10. Grade of A- or higher in both terms of English 1-2, or B- or higher in both terms of English 1-2 Honors AND no U marks in Habits of Scholarship.

*AP English: Language and Composition

Grade 11. Grade of A- or higher in both terms of English 3-4, or B- or higher in both terms of English 3-4 Honors AND no U marks in Habits of Scholarship.

*AP English: Literature and Composition

Grade 12. Grade of A- or higher for both terms of American Literature or grade of B- or higher for both terms of AP Language and Composition AND no U marks in Habits of Scholarship.

Mathematics

Advanced Freshman Algebra with Geometry Honors

Grade 9. Placement determined by HSPT and Math Assessment Test.

Geometry

Grade of C- or higher in Algebra 1-2.

*Geometry Honors

Grade 9: Placement determined by HSPT and Math Assessment Test.

*Grade 10: Grade of A- or higher in both terms of Algebra 1-2 OR B- or higher in both terms of Algebra 1-2 Honors AND no U marks in Habits of Scholarship.

Algebra 3-4

Grade of C- or higher in both Algebra 1-2 and Geometry.

*Algebra-Trigonometry 3-4 Honors

Grade of A- or higher in both terms of Algebra 1-2 or B- or higher in both terms of Algebra 1-2 Honors and grade of A- or higher in both terms of Geometry or B- or higher in both terms of Geometry Honors AND no U marks in Habits of Scholarship.

*AP Precalculus

Grade of A- or higher in both terms of Algebra 3-4 or grade of B- or higher in both terms of Algebra-Trigonometry 3-4 Honors, or a grade of A- or higher in both terms of Math Analysis AND no U marks in Habits of Scholarship.

Statistics Honors

Grade 12 only.

Grade of B- or higher in both terms of Algebra 3-4 or grade of C- or higher in both terms of Algebra-Trigonometry 3-4 Honor AND no U marks in Habits of Scholarship,

Math Analysis

Grade of B- or higher in both terms of Algebra 3-4 or grade of C- or higher in both terms of Algebra-Trigonometry 3-4 Honors.

*AP Calculus BC

Grade of B- or higher in both terms of AP Precalculus AND no U marks in Habits of Scholarship.

Finite Math and Problem Solving

Grade 12. Grade of C- or higher in both terms of Algebra 3-4.

*AP Computer Science Principles

Grade 11, 12. Grade of B- or higher in Algebra 1-2 Honors or grade of A- or higher in both terms of Algebra 1-2.

ATDP ~ Students interested in advancing to a higher level of math must complete, with a grade of B or higher, a full 10-credit math course at UC Berkeley's Academic Talent and Development Program (ATDP) during the summer. Students must submit a Course Plan from ATDP to the College Counselor once they are accepted into ATDP. Students can see their counselor or college counselor for more information.

Science

Physiology

Grade 11, 12. Grade of C- or higher in both terms of Conceptual Physics or Chemistry.

Physics

Grade 11, 12. Grade of B- or higher in both terms of Chemistry and concurrent enrollment in Math Analysis, AP Precalculus or AP Calculus.

*AP Biology

Grade 11,12. Grade of A- or higher in both terms of Chemistry AND no U marks in Habits of Scholarship.

*AP Chemistry

Grade 11, 12.

Rising juniors - grade of A- or higher in both terms of Chemistry and must be concurrently enrolled in Algebra-Trigonometry 3-4 Honors or higher-level math AND no U marks in Habits of Scholarship.

Rising seniors - grade of A- or higher in both terms of Chemistry AND no U marks in Habits of Scholarship.

*AP Environmental Science

Grade 11,12. Grade of A- or higher in both terms of Chemistry AND no U marks in Habits of Scholarship.

*AP Physics C: Mechanics

Grade 11, 12. Grade of B- or higher in both terms of AP Precalculus AND no U marks in Habits of Scholarship.
Concurrent enrollment in AP Calculus.

Marine Biology AND Sports Medicine

Grade 11, 12. Grade of C- or higher in both terms of Biology.

History/Social Science

*AP Human Geography

Grade 9. Placement based on course registration.

*AP World History

Grade 10. Grade of A- or higher in both terms of English 1-2 or B- or higher in both terms of English 1-2 Honors, and grade of A- or higher in Geography AND no U marks in Habits of Scholarship.

*AP United States History

Grade 11. Grade of A- or higher in both terms of World History, or B- or higher in both terms of AP World History AND no U marks in Habits of Scholarship.

*AP United States Government & Politics

Grade 12. Grade of A- or higher in both terms of US History, or B- in both terms of AP US History AND no U marks in Habits of Scholarship.

Visual and Performing Arts

Intermediate Visual Arts

C- or higher in both terms of Introduction to Visual Arts.

*AP Drawing

A- or higher in both terms of Advanced Visual Arts OR instructor approval AND no U marks in Habits of Scholarship.

*AP 2-D Art and Design

A- or higher in both terms of Advanced Visual Arts OR instructor approval AND no U marks in Habits of Scholarship.

*AP 3-D Art and Design

A- or higher in both terms of Advanced Visual Arts OR instructor approval AND no U marks in Habits of Scholarship;
Multimedia Design highly recommended.

Beginning Band

Prior musical training is preferred for enrollment, not required.

Intermediate Band

Enrollment by audition for incoming freshmen who may qualify for higher placement. For continuing students, a C- or higher in both terms of Beginning Band.

Advanced Band

Audition with the music instructor is required.

Advanced Jazz Ensemble

Audition with the music instructor is required.

Intermediate Dance

C- or higher in both terms of introduction to Dance.

Intermediate Theater

C- or higher in both terms of Introduction to Theater Arts.

World Languages

French 3-4

Grade of C- or higher in both terms of French 1-2.

French 5-6

Grade of B- or higher in both terms of French 3-4.

French 7-8

Grade of B- or higher in both terms of French 5-6.

***AP French Language & Culture**

Grade of A- or higher in both terms of French 5-6 or French 7-8 AND no U marks in Habits of Scholarship.

Spanish 3-4

Grade of C- or higher in both terms of Spanish 1-2.

Spanish 5-6

Grade of B- or higher in both terms of Spanish 3-4.

***Spanish 5-6 Honors**

Grade of A- or higher in both terms of Spanish 3-4 AND no U marks in Habits of Scholarship.

Spanish 7-8

Grade of A- or higher in both terms of Spanish 5-6 or grade of B- in both terms of Spanish 5-6 Honors.

***AP Spanish Language & Culture**

Grade of A- or higher in both terms of Spanish 7-8 AND no U marks in Habits of Scholarship.



Mission Statement

As a Christ-centered community striving to live the mission of Saint John Baptist de La Salle, Saint Mary's College High School is a Catholic school where diversity and inclusion are essential and quality education is our active ministry.

With community support and faith grounded in love, Saint Mary's students pursue a life of virtue and scholarship that extends beyond the completion of a college preparatory curriculum to assuming societal roles of responsibility and service.



Lasallian Educational Outcomes (LEOs)

A Saint Mary's College High School graduate...

Spiritual: engages life consciously and acquires a Catholic and Lasallian worldview inspired by the Gospel, the teachings of the Catholic Church, and the mission of Saint John Baptist de La Salle.

Physical: demonstrates respect for truth and goodness of God's universe

Emphasis: • *Acquiring scientific knowledge and method* • *Concern for the environment, health and fitness* • *Participation in athletics and dance* • *Relating to the materials of artistic expression*

Emotional: responds positively to the creative potential of emotion

Emphasis: • *Skillful, authentic expression in the arts* • *Coping with adversity and prosperity* • *Developing empathy* • *Setting goals, realizing hope*

Intellectual: is academically prepared for college; is curious about the world; and demonstrates disciplined, imaginative thinking

Emphasis: • *Critical thinking and problem solving* • *Effective oral and written communication* • *Accessing and analyzing information* • *Transferring skills and knowledge to new situations* • *Service learning*

Communal: actively contributes to communities, ranging from local to global, based on the recognition that we are responsible for each other

Emphasis: • *Concern for the poor* • *Social justice* • *Building community amid diversity* • *Community service*

Integral: seeks to become an independent, responsible, and reflective person, supported by the Saint Mary's community

Emphasis: • *Developing discernment and sound moral judgment* • *Developing resiliency*

Lasallian Core Principles

