Notre Dame Preparatory
Course Description Guide 2026-2027

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Business Courses

*****Introduction to Entrepreneurship**

1 semester - 0.5 credit – Elective (10-12). *Prerequisite: Completion of English 1 or Honors English 1*

This Introduction to Entrepreneurship course is for more than students interested in business; this is a course for designers, engineers, techies, writers, and all students interested in starting their OWN business. Whether they want to start their own money-making business or create a non-profit to help others, this course helps students develop the core skills they need to be successful by learning how to come up with new business ideas, attract investors, market their business, and manage expenses. Students will also be exposed to different types of innovative entrepreneurial concepts, such as design thinking, rapid prototyping, and team building. Students will be challenged to identify and develop their professional strengths along with their innovative spirits.

*****Intro to Finance (Asynchronous Class)**

1 semester – 0.5 credit – Finance Requirement (11-12).

This course is the first half of the required Finance credit for the Class of 2027 and beyond and is the prerequisite course to the combined Econ/Finance class taken during senior year. This course is offered asynchronously via Canvas and can be taken during summer session or fall semester of senior year. Major units of study include financial planning, healthcare literacy, personal financial literacy, understanding debt, tax simulations, investing, and safe digital banking.

*****General Business Studies**

1 semester - 0.5 credit – Elective (11-12).

This course provides students with the opportunity to learn about a broad range of business topics at a high level. Students will be introduced to business language and concepts. They will use critical thinking skills to address various complexities and opportunities in the multifaceted world of business. Topics include: communication; leadership and management; financial management; marketing; human resources; ethics; and corporate social responsibility. Students will be studying already-established businesses, not learning how to start a new business.

*** **Marketing**

2 semesters - 1.0 credit – Elective (9-12). *Prerequisite: None.*

DECA introduces students to the fundamental aspects of business in a fun and interactive setting. In this class, students will participate in challenges, business strategy, community service, outreach activities, brand marketing, competitive events, listening to guest speakers, and more. This course prepares learners to market a range of ideas and projects to a range of marketing environments using direct and indirect approaches.

Engineering & Technology Courses

****Project Lead the Way (PLTW) - 4-year Engineering Program**

This series of courses focus on the processes of applying scientific, technological, engineering, and mathematical principles (STEM) in the design, production, and operation of products, structures, and systems. These hands-on courses are designed to provide students interested in engineering careers to explore experiences related to specialized fields, such as software, civil, mechanical, and materials engineering. Students will engage in research, development, planning, design, production, and project management to simulate a career in engineering. The topics of ethics and the impacts of engineering decisions are addressed. Classroom activities are organized to allow students to work in teams and use modern technological processes, computers, CAD software, and production systems in developing and presenting solutions to engineering problems. This is a four-year program designed to help students develop the skills needed to succeed in our global economy. PLTW courses are aligned with State Standards for Math and English Language Arts, Next Generation Science Standards, and other national and state standards. Courses and units are designed to complement math and science courses.

*****Engineering 1: Honors Engineering Essentials**

2 semesters - 1.0 credit - Elective (9-10). *Prerequisite: None.*

Course Description: Honors Engineering Essentials is an introductory course, which develops student problem solving skills with emphasis on the development of three-dimensional (3-D) solid models. Students will work both individually and in teams to design solutions to a variety of problems using 3D modeling software. Students use the design process, applying math, science, and engineering standards to hands-on projects. Models of product solutions are created, analyzed and communicated using CAD. This course also works in a variety of project-based learning activities such as The Innovation Challenge, Canstruction, and Mission to Engineer.

*****Engineering 2: Honors Civil Engineering and Architecture**

2 semesters - 1.0 credit - Elective (10-11). Prerequisite*: Engineering 1. PC laptop required – No MacBooks.*

Course Description: Civil Engineering and Architecture introduces students to the fundamental design and development aspects of civil engineering and architectural planning activities. Application and design principles will be used in conjunction with mathematical and scientific knowledge. Computer software programs (Revit) will allow students opportunities to design, simulate, and evaluate the construction of buildings and communities. During the planning and design phases, instructional emphasis will be placed on related transportation, water resources, and environmental issues. Activities will include the preparation of cost estimates, structure design, surveying, model building, as well as a review of regulatory procedures that would affect the project design.

*****Engineering 3: PLTW AP Computer Science Principles (APCSP)**

2 semesters - 1.0 credit - Elective (11-12). *Prerequisite: Two Engineering and Tech courses or permission from instructor.*

Follows Year 3 Engineering (PLTW Students). Using Python® as a primary tool, students learn the fundamentals of coding, data processing, data security, and task automation, while learning to contribute to an inclusive, safe, and ethical computing culture. The course promotes computational thinking and coding fundamentals and introduces computational tools that foster

creativity. Computer Science Principles helps students develop programming expertise and explore the workings of the Internet. Projects and problems include app development, visualization of data, cybersecurity, and simulation. PLTW is recognized by the College Board as an endorsed provider of curriculum and professional development for AP® Computer Science Principles (AP CSP). This endorsement affirms that all components of PLTW CSP's offerings are aligned to the AP Curriculum Framework standards and the AP CSP assessment. Students are required to take the AP Computer Science Principles exam in May and are responsible for exam fees.

*****Engineering 4: PLTW Capstone**
2 semesters - 1.0 credit - Elective (12). Dual Enrollment through the University of Arizona.
Prerequisite: Engineering 1,2 and 3.
Course Description: Engineering Design and Development is an engineering research course in which students work in teams to research, design, test, and construct a solution to an open-ended engineering problem. The product development life cycle and design process are used to guide the team to reach a solution to the problems. The team presents and defends their solution to a panel of outside reviewers at the conclusion of the course. The EDD course allows students to apply all the skills and knowledge learned in previous pre-engineering courses. This course also engages students in critical thinking and problem-solving skills, time management and teamwork skills, a valuable set for students' future careers.

*****Ethics in Technology**
1 semester – 0.5 credit. Elective (9-12).
This course provides students with a framework in ethical issues that modern businesses or organizations face relating to technology. Understanding how to identify ethical legal issues will equip students to assess how technology plays a role in our new world. Students will consider issues such as privacy, trust, and surveillance within technology. Becoming aware of these issues builds knowledge and skills to better use technology within education and business. Topics studied include: transparency in search results, privacy rights, social media and fake news, application of morals when designing for inclusion, misuse of artificial intelligence, appropriate and beneficial ways to use artificial intelligence, and biased artificial intelligence. By studying case studies and real-world examples, students will build a framework of skills applied in disciplinaries for technology, engineering, entrepreneurship, law, and business.

*****Introduction to Coding**
1 semester - 0.5 credit - Elective (9-12).
Computer programming is becoming a necessary skill throughout many career fields. Introduction to coding provides a complete introduction to program and game development using the Python programming language. By the end of this course, students will be able to demonstrate the application of programming Python. Guided by best practices, students will become proficient with syntax, object-oriented principles, memory management, functional concepts, and more in programming with Python. Starting from the ground up, students will work on a final product due at the end of the semester.

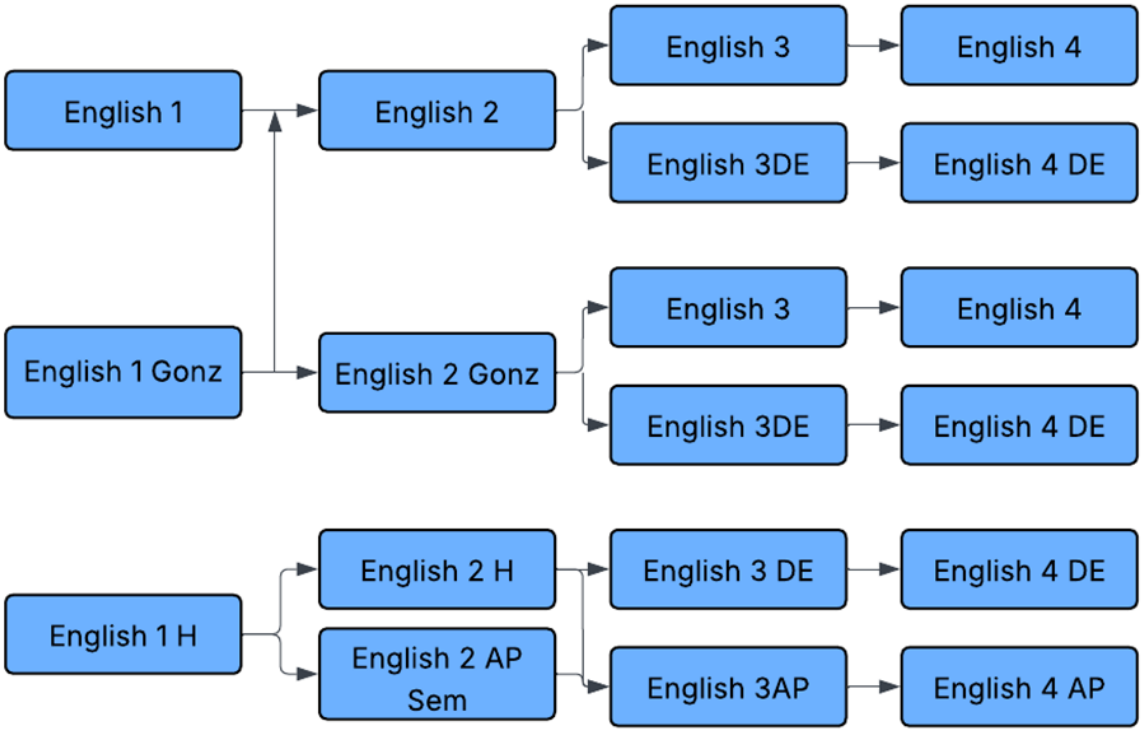
English Courses

English Scope and Sequence

There are several English pathways at NDP depending on student placement test results. Review carefully to plan schedules accordingly.

Please note:

- Review grade requirements for advancing to higher levels.
- Students are required to be in an English class every year at NDP.
- English 3 and English 4 have a Dual Enrollment (DE) option for Honors credit.



*****English 1 – Gonzaga Program**

2 semesters – 1 credit (.5 credit for concurrent Gonzaga 9 swing class with Algebra)

Placement determined by the admissions portfolio. Concurrent enrollment in Gonzaga 9.

This course is designed to assure that each student gains the skills necessary to master the English Language Arts standards for all ninth graders in the Diocese of Phoenix. Students will be taught study skills to become better critical readers, writers, and thinkers, as they study both literature and informational texts. Recognition of the key elements of the literary genres: autobiography, biography, short story, drama, poetry, and non-fiction are emphasized. The basics of research and research writing utilizing MLA style are taught. Outside reading choices are determined by the instructor. This year-long class provides additional support for students, strengthening their English grammar and composition skills. Work modifications can be individualized for each student in order to focus on specific reading, writing, and grammar skills based on skill and needs assessment. The goal of this class is to develop solid writers and more effective readers who can advance to English 2.

*****English 1**
2 semesters - 1 credit
Placement determined by admissions portfolio.
This course is designed to strengthen students' critical reading, writing, speaking, and listening skills through the study of both American and world literature. The curriculum integrates informational texts and technology projects to create a blended learning environment. Students will work to create more sophisticated writing skills, utilizing evidence and analysis to prove claims. Additional emphasis is placed on identifying individual and common writing weaknesses and solving and addressing those weaknesses. Mastery of the key elements of the literary genres: short story, fiction, poetry, and drama are emphasized. The basics of research and research writing following MLA style are taught. Outside reading choices are determined by the instructor.

*****Honors English 1**
2 semesters - 1 credit
Placement determined by admissions portfolio and HSPT scores.
This class is for students who choose to be challenged beyond the standard curriculum. Focus is on writing, grammar, critical thinking, public speaking, and vocabulary development. Students will develop writing skills to become more sophisticated writers. They will study the elements of fiction through short stories, novels, plays, and informational texts. Students will be required to read independently an average of 50 pages per week for each novel study. This course is designed to prepare students for Advanced Placement English courses, placing heavy emphasis on writing, particularly the development of sentence fluency and literary analysis. Successful completion of this course requires strong reading skills and a disciplined and conscientious work ethic.

*****English 2 – Gonzaga Program**
2 semesters - 1 credit (.5 extra for Gonzaga 9 swing class with Geometry)
Prerequisite: Completion of English 1 - Gonzaga Program. Concurrent enrollment in Gonzaga 10.
This world literature course is designed to ensure that each student has the skills necessary to master the English Language Arts standards for all tenth graders in the Diocese of Phoenix. Students will continue to develop study skills to become better critical readers, writers, and thinkers as they study both literature and informational texts. This class refines skills learned in English 1 Gonzaga, using the five-paragraph essay, with an emphasis on clear writing and the use of more complex sentences to extend meaning. Emphasis is placed on the development of the persuasive essay and personal narrative. Writing strengths are enhanced and writing weaknesses are addressed. Students will work to create more sophisticated writing skills, utilizing evidence and analysis to prove claims. Work will be individualized for each student in order to focus on specific reading, writing, and grammar skills. The goal of this class is to develop good, solid writers and more effective readers who can advance to English 3.

*****English 2**
2 semesters - 1 credit. *Prerequisite: Completion of English 1.*
This course will refine skills learned in English 1 while reading literature from throughout the world. The course offers students the opportunity to see other parts of the world through

literature and writing. Students read widely; sampling works from various literary genres representing various cultural perspectives. Much of the course material will emphasize cultures and voices which are often under-represented, thus challenging students to develop critical thinking skills and persuasive writing skills in response to all writers. The course will also include language and vocabulary development, evaluation and analysis of novels, poems, short stories, dramas, oral presentation and composition. Emphasis is placed on expository writing, including response to literature, comparison, and research-based writing. Research and research writing skills utilizing MLA style are developed as a part of their ongoing growth as writers. Writing strengths are emphasized and weaknesses addressed, with an emphasis on revision and writing process. This course is taught chronologically, following closely with the World history curriculum.

*****Honors English 2**

2 semesters - 1 credit. *Prerequisite: Completion of English 1 with an A in both semesters or completion of Honors English 1 with a B or better both semesters.*

The sophomore course in World Literature offers students the opportunity to enrich and expand their perspectives through studying literary works from around the world. Students will read widely; sampling works from various literary genres representing various cultural perspectives and time periods. Much of the course material will emphasize cultures and voices which are often under-represented, thus challenging students to develop critical thinking skills and persuasive writing skills in response to all writers. The course will also include language and vocabulary development, evaluation and analysis of novels, poems and plays, oral presentation, and composition. Research and writing skills utilizing MLA style are further developed as a part of their ongoing growth as academic writers. Writing skills are emphasized and weaknesses addressed, with an emphasis on revision and the writing process. Given that this is an honors course, it is fast-paced and requires a determined work ethic to not only achieve the level of work required, but to think in a deep and meaningful way about literature. The class is taught chronologically, closely following the World History curriculum which provides optimal cross-curricular connections as much as possible.

*****English 3**

2 semesters - 1 credit. *Prerequisite: Completion of English 2.*

English 3 focuses on an introduction to the foundations and diversity of American culture through a survey of its literature. Students will explore various facets of American culture from the Puritan and Colonial times to modern times, and will study ethnic, racial, and immigrant experiences as they relate to the American Dream. American Literature is divided into two semesters. During the fall semester, students will read plays and speeches by American authors, about American identity and history. First semester, students review foundational writing skills, resulting in a formal character development essay and an argument essay. The second half of semester one is dedicated to building language and skills related to rhetorical analysis. Second semester, students focus on student-led discussions with American novels and research skills. Students write a short research paper related to one of the essential questions of the course. A strong emphasis is placed on expanding and refining writing abilities to prepare for the SAT and ACT, which most students take during their junior year. This will include timed written essays as well as multi-draft essays. Vocabulary will be practiced through Membean and grammar will be enhanced through NoRedInk.

*****DE Honors English 3**

2 semesters - 1 credit. Dual Enrollment option. Prerequisite: Completion of English 2 with an A both semesters, or English 2 Honors/English 2: AP Seminar with a B or better both semesters.
This course allows students to receive high school credit for Honors English 3 at Notre Dame Preparatory and Dual Enrollment (DE) elective credit at Scottsdale Community College (SCC). The course is divided into two semesters. DE H English 3 focuses on American literature and covers the requirements for ENH 110 (Introduction to Literature) and ENH 111 (Literature and the American Experience) for dual enrollment. Both fiction and non-fiction will be studied, and students are expected to read outside of class regularly. A strong emphasis is placed on expanding and refining writing abilities to prepare for the SAT and the ACT. This will include timed written essays as well as multi-draft essays. Vocabulary will be practiced through Membean and grammar will be enhanced through NoRedink. As an Honors-level course, the class focuses on written expression as the primary method of demonstrating understanding.

*****AP English (3) - Language and Composition**

2 semesters - 1 credit. Prerequisite: Completion of Honors English 2/English 2:AP Seminar with a B+ or better both semesters or completion of English 2 with an A both semesters, writing sample & AP teacher approval. Transfer students will take a pre-test with an AP-style writing prompt to determine readiness for AP English courses before registration. Required: Completion of or concurrent enrollment in Honors Argumentation and Rhetoric or AP Seminar.

The AP English Language and Composition course is designed to enable students to become critical readers and writers who recognize rhetorical strategies in their analysis of non-fiction literature and who utilize rhetorical strategies in their own written work. AP students will increase their awareness of the interactions among a writer's purpose, audience expectations, and subjects as well as the way conventions and styles of language contribute to effective writing, speaking, and listening skills. This course emphasizes expository, analytical, and argumentative writing that forms the basis of academic and professional communications as well as personal and reflective writing which fosters the ability to write in a variety of contexts. In addition, this course will teach students to analyze primary and secondary sources, to synthesize materials from these texts in their own compositions, and to cite sources using conventions recommended by the Modern Language Association (MLA). Engaging in varied writing tasks, students will become acquainted with a wide variety of prose styles from many disciplines and historical periods and gain understanding of the connections between writing and interpretive skill in reading. Concurrently, to reflect the increasing importance of graphics and visual images in texts published in print and electronic media, students will analyze how such images both relate to written texts and serve as alternative forms of texts themselves. Students are required to take the AP exam in May and are responsible for exam fees.

*****English 4**

2 semesters - 1 credit. *Prerequisite: Completion of English 3.*
Students will read and study various articles, essays, a biography or an autobiography, poems, short stories and novels through thematic units. The approach to literature emphasizes discussion, in-class writing, and enrichment activities designed to engage students in the issues

and values of diverse narratives. Students are encouraged to make connections to other texts, characters, themes, the arts, ethics, current events and their own character development. Vocabulary growth is emphasized through novel studies and with the online system, Membean. Also, students will study the art of composition through various writing assignments, emphasizing organization through engaging hooks, topic sentences and transition, building clarity through drilling down on conventions (grammar and punctuation) and creating word images through descriptive and precise word choice, including figurative language. The narrative essay serves a dual purpose as prompts are used from the Common App essay for college applications. Literary analysis essays with MLA in-text citations are paired with novel studies. Writing strengths are enhanced and writing weaknesses are addressed. Development of speaking skills is facilitated through Socratic Seminar and speeches.

*****DE Honors English 4**

2 semesters - 1 credit. Dual Enrollment option. *Prerequisite: Completion of English 3 with A both semesters or English 3 DE/AP with B or better both semesters.*

This course allows students to receive high school credit for Honors English 4 at Notre Dame Preparatory and Dual Enrollment (DE) credit for ENG 101 and ENG 102 (First-Year Composition) at Scottsdale Community College (SCC). The course is divided into two semesters.

The primary purpose of English 101 is to help students conceptualize, organize, and compose their ideas on paper. Through various readings and research, students will explore how authors convey messages about issues in our world. Students will analyze the ideologies expressed in texts and consider the merit of each author's perspective; moreover, they will respond to texts in a way that shows their ability to synthesize multiple viewpoints with their own to construct well-rounded, coherent arguments. English 102 emphasizes and expands upon the necessary rhetoric and composition skills needed in college-level writing assignments with a focus on persuasive, research-based writing, and a deeper understanding of writing as a process and a craft. Students will develop advanced composition skills through four or more writing assignments comprising at least 4,000 words in total by the end of the semester.

*****AP English (4) - Literature and Composition**

2 semesters - 1 credit. *Prerequisite: Completion of AP English 3 with B or better, or English 3DE with a B+ or better both semesters, or completion of English 3 with an A both semesters, writing sample, and AP teacher approval. Transfer students will take a pre-test with an AP-style writing prompt to determine readiness for AP English courses before registration.*

The AP Literature and Composition course is part of the Advanced Placement Program sponsored by the College Board. In this college level course, both poetry and prose are studied throughout the year. Writing instruction enhances the student's ability to develop and organize ideas in clear, coherent, and persuasive language. Emphasis is placed on helping students develop stylistic maturity that is characterized by wide-ranging vocabulary, mastery of literary devices/figures of speech, variety of sentence structures, logical organization, and illustrative detail. Nightly reading is the norm, and the range of works studied is wide and deep, ranging from Ancient Greece to the 20th century. Close reading includes the experience (subjective), interpretation (analysis), and evaluation (assessment and artistic achievement) of literature. Students will complete in-class timed writes throughout the year. Students are required to take the AP exam in May and are responsible for exam fees.

*****AP Seminar - STA Sophomore Required Course**
2 semesters – 1.0 credit. English (10). *For St. Thomas Aquinas (STA) Scholars only.*
AP Seminar is a full-year course designed for highly motivated students. AP Seminar is a foundational course that engages students in cross-curricular conversations that explore the complexities of academic and real-world topics and issues by analyzing divergent perspectives. Using an inquiry framework, students practice reading and analyzing articles, research studies, and foundational, literary, and philosophical texts; listening to and viewing speeches, broadcasts, and personal accounts; and experiencing artistic works and performances. Students learn to synthesize information from multiple sources, develop their own perspectives in written essays, and design and deliver oral and visual presentations, both individually and as part of a team. Ultimately, the course aims to equip students with the power to analyze and evaluate information with accuracy and precision in order to craft and communicate evidence-based arguments. Required for St. Thomas the Aquinas Scholar sophomores. Students are required to take the AP exam in May and are responsible for exam fees.

*****AP Seminar - for non-STA students.**
2 semesters – 1.0 credit. English (10). *Prerequisite: Completion of English 1 Honors with an A and teacher recommendation.*
AP Seminar is a full-year course designed for highly motivated students. AP Seminar is a foundational course that engages students in cross-curricular conversations that explore the complexities of academic and real-world topics and issues by analyzing divergent perspectives. Using an inquiry framework, students practice reading and analyzing articles, research studies, and foundational, literary, and philosophical texts; listening to and viewing speeches, broadcasts, and personal accounts; and experiencing artistic works and performances. Students learn to synthesize information from multiple sources, develop their own perspectives in written essays, and design and deliver oral and visual presentations, both individually and as part of a team. Ultimately, the course aims to equip students with the power to analyze and evaluate information with accuracy and precision in order to craft and communicate evidence-based arguments. Students are required to take the AP exam in May and are responsible for exam fees.

*****AP Research - STA Senior Required Course**
2 semesters - 1.0 credit. Elective (12) *Prerequisite: Completion of AP Seminar.*
AP Research, the second course in the AP Capstone experience, allows students to deeply explore an academic topic, problem, issue, or idea of individual interest. Students design, plan, and implement a yearlong investigation to address a research question. Through this inquiry, they further the skills they acquired in the AP Seminar course by learning research methodology, employing ethical research practices, and accessing, analyzing, and synthesizing information. Students reflect on their skill development, document their processes, and curate the artifacts of their scholarly work through a process and reflection portfolio. The course culminates in an academic paper of 4,000–5,000 words, a presentation with an oral defense. Students' work is presented in front of the Notre Dame Preparatory Institutional Review Board, and students seek publication at the end of the year. Required for St. Thomas the Aquinas Scholar seniors. Students are responsible for College Board fees associated with this course.

*****Honors Argumentation and Rhetoric**
1 semester - 0.5 credit – Elective (10-12). *Prerequisite: Completion of Honors English or Social Studies classes with a B or better and regular level English or Social Studies classes with an A. Required: Must be taken prior to or concurrent with AP English 3 or AP History. Not for students who have or will take AP Seminar.*
This course is designed to help students develop the writing, critical reading and speaking skills necessary to be successful in AP English and AP History classes, and on AP exams. Students will learn how to make sense of difficult text, analyze arguments, and gather evidence to defend their arguments. They will write argument essays, displaying effective control of language and striving to upgrade word choice (more precise vocabulary). Students will "close read," including SOAPStone, analyzing non-fiction prose and speeches. Students will learn Aristotle's rhetorical appeals: persuasion through ethos, logos, pathos and Kairos. Students will learn a dozen types of logical fallacies and strive to identify them in text or while debating.

*****Creative Writing**
1 semester - 0.5 credit – Elective (9-12). *No prerequisite.*
Creative writing is a semester course offering both exposure to and practice in writing skills specific to fiction and poetry. Students will produce stories and poems that have been revised as much as time will allow, and each piece is subjected to a formal critique process called workshopping. Students will also participate in discussions of the writer's craft based on group and independent reading assignments. Students will gain confidence in their unique perspectives as well as develop skills that lead to mastering the power of language. The course will emphasize the diverse work of contemporary American writers because good writers are good readers first. An equal emphasis will be placed on the student's own work and the work of his/her peers.

*****Explore Manga and Anime!**
1 semester - 0.5 credit – Elective (9-12). *No prerequisite.*
This is a semester course focusing on exploring the diversity of manga and its film adaptation, and anime. We will read a variety of different manga according to student interests and cultural significance. Students will study the history and development of manga, its different genres, and the political and social philosophies demonstrated in the works. Students will also watch three anime adaptations of manga (at least one from the award-winning Studio Ghibli), focusing on the differences and unique strengths of each medium. At its heart, this is an appreciation course tailored for high school students.

*****Film Critique**
1 semester - 0.5 credit – Elective (9-12) *Prerequisite: None.*
This semester course is designed to give the student a basic "cineliteracy." Students will explore the major language systems and spectrum of techniques used by filmmakers in conveying meaning, all the while viewing, analyzing, critiquing, and appreciating several major works of the twentieth century. Students learn how to engage in close reading of films, the cinematic terminology associated with film and begin to build a historical knowledge of the development of film and film history. Using numerous film-clip examples as well as several full-length films,

students will learn the basics of film analysis and appreciation and the skills necessary to produce effective verbal and written critique of films as a piece of storytelling art.

*****Great Books**
1 semester - 0.5 credit – Elective (10-12).
This class will explore classic and modern literature through discussion, research, and analysis. Participants will read group-selected texts based on a particular time period or topic and explore the structure, characters, and theme of the book and its impact on society and popular culture. The aim of this class is to come away with a stronger knowledge base and enjoyment for well-known works and their importance to the literary canon. Regular reading outside of class is required. This class is for those students who enjoy reading and discussion!

*****Journalism**
1 semester – 0.5 credit – Elective (10-12). *Prerequisite: At least a B+ both semesters in most recent English class. Satisfies year-long Fine Arts requirement if taken before or after Photojournalism 1 or Broadcast 1. Counselor recommendation required.* ***Cross-listed with Fine Arts.***
This introductory course teaches students how to interview, photograph, and write like a journalist. This introductory class teaches interviewing and fact-gathering, writing news, features, sports, and opinion pieces, including movie and restaurant reviews--as well as photojournalism basics. Students in this course will examine how social media and new technologies have altered the reporter's toolkit. An examination of journalism ethics rounds out the course. Student work will be published on the school's website. This asynchronous class is an excellent opportunity to learn time management and interview and interpersonal skills while becoming more thoughtful writers.

*****Photojournalism 1**
1 semester - 0.5 credit – Elective (9-12). This is only offered in the spring semester.
Required: DSLR or point-and-shoot camera for Smartphone. ***Cross-listed with Fine Arts.***
Photojournalism introduces students to the world of photography and journalism, using digital images to tell a story. The different types of photojournalism will be studied: spot news, events, features, portraits, sports -- as well as nature (landscape and animal) photography, magazine photography, and basic video storytelling. Discussion topics will include photojournalism ethics and photojournalists as agents of social change. Work will include capturing people and events in and around NDP. How to take better photos with your Smartphone will be taught throughout the semester. There are no tests in this project-based class.

*****Public Speaking**
1 semester - 0.5 credit – Elective (9-12).
Public Speaking has been designed with the specific goal of enhancing the students' communication, developing their personal voice, and building confidence through communication. The course begins with an overview of the contexts and elements of communication and quickly progresses to the preparation and delivery of speeches. A variety of speeches will be reviewed and practiced, including oratory; expository, extemporaneous, and impromptu speaking; dramatic interpretation; oral interpretation (prose, poetry, and humorous); duo acting; and duo interpretation.

*****The Poetry of Bob Dylan**

1 semester - 0.5 credit – Elective (11-12). *Prerequisite: None.*

This course explores the poetry of Bob Dylan, the 2016 Nobel Prize Winner for Literature, including rhyme, allusions, and religious imagery in faith-filled songs. It will be a study of music as literature, exploring Dylan's Judeo-Christian roots, raised in the Jewish faith and later converted to Christianity. For example, a study of the lyrics in Dylan's songs such as "Oh Sister" reveals themes such as death, rebirth, redemption. Lyrics such as "our Father would not like the way that you act" and "is our purpose not the same on this Earth, to love and follow His direction" reveal religious imagery and themes and contain explicit references to scripture. "Gotta Serve Somebody" connects with Joshua 24:14-15, and "Every Grain of Sand" makes reference to biblical characters and themes: "Like Cain I must behold this chain of events that I must break." In "Forever Young" he paints a picture of a father's blessing over his children at the Sabbath table, invoking the story of Jacob: "May you build a ladder to the stars /And climb on every rung."

*****Honors Yearbook/Desktop Publishing 1**

2 semesters - 1 credit – Elective (10-12). ***Cross listed with Fine Arts and Technology.***
Prerequisite: Completion of Digital Photography or Graphic Design (or concurrent enrollment) with a B or better, and a B or better in all English classes and instructor approval. Students must have a basic knowledge of design layout. Required: A digital camera, preferably a DSLR with 8.0 megapixels or better and two SD (Standard Digital) cards of 32GB. Note: Students are required to attend at least three school events outside of class time (evenings and weekends).
Students will learn and apply the principles of journalism (interviewing subjects, choosing key quotes and facts from the interview to use in articles appearing in the yearbook). Students will emphasize the importance of accuracy (correct spelling of names, verification of facts, attention to detail). Students will learn and apply the principles of photojournalism (taking candid photos that illustrate the stories of the students and staff of Notre Dame Prep, including cut lines which describe the actions of the photo and accurately list the names of the students and staff in the photo). Students will learn and apply the principles of visual arts while choosing layouts to use for yearbook spreads and positioning the articles, photos, headlines and cutlines in an appealing manner. Students will use Adobe PhotoShop to crop and brighten photos. Students must meet deadlines and be willing to attend and photograph three or more events per semester that take place after school or on weekends.

*****Honors Yearbook/Desktop Publishing 2**

2 semesters – 1 credit – Elective (10-12). ***Cross listed with Fine Arts and Technology.***
Prerequisite: Summer Honors Yearbook/Desktop Publishing course or Honors Yearbook/Desktop Publishing 1. Required: A digital camera, preferably a DSLR with 8.0 megapixels or better and two SD (Standard Digital) cards of 32GB. Note: Students are required to attend at least four school events outside of class time (evenings and weekends).
Students will apply the principles of journalism (interviewing subjects, choosing key quotes and facts from the interview to use in articles appearing in the yearbook). Students will emphasize

the importance of accuracy (correct spelling of names, verification of facts, attention to detail). Students will apply the principles of photojournalism (taking candid photos that illustrate the stories of the students and staff of Notre Dame Prep, including cut lines which describe the actions of the photo and accurately list the names of the students and staff in the photo). Students will apply the principles of visual arts while choosing layouts to use for yearbook spreads and positioning the articles, photos, headlines and cutlines in an appealing manner. Students will use Adobe PhotoShop to crop and brighten photos. Students must meet deadlines and must be willing to attend at least four events per semester that are not during school hours. In this advanced course, students who have completed Honors Yearbook/Desktop Publishing 1 will be eligible for student leader roles on the yearbook staff, depending on several skills: consistently making deadlines, exceptional attention to detail, evident leadership qualities.

Exceptional Education Courses

*****ARC (Academic Resource Center)**

1 semester - 0.5 credits - Pass/Fail - Elective (9-12). *Prerequisites: Students are enrolled in this course if they meet the St. Joseph the Worker program requirements.*

This course combines knowledge on the concepts of executive function, metacognition, neurodiversity, and self-advocacy through practical application in the general curriculum. Rather than a "one-size fits all" approach, the goal is for each student to develop a better understanding of him/herself as a learner, acquire a toolkit of skills, and make strategic decisions about how and when to use the skills while working through their core academic courses. Teachers provide ongoing 1-1 coaching and feedback to support the development of skill development.

*****Gonzaga 9**

2 semesters - 1 credit - Pass/Fail

Open only to students in the Gonzaga Program.

This class provides support to students in English 1-Gonzaga and Algebra 1-Gonzaga.

*****Gonzaga 10**

2 semesters - 1 credit - Pass/Fail

Open only to students in the Gonzaga Program.

This class provides support to students in English 2-Gonzaga and Geometry-Gonzaga.

<u>Fine Arts: Visual Arts Courses</u>

Please note:

- Classes of 2027 and 2028 are required to take **four semesters** of Fine Arts. Required Fine Arts courses can be in either Visual or Performing Arts.
- It is highly encouraged that at least one year-long or two semester courses must be **from the same discipline; for example: dance, music, theater, or visual arts.**

*****The Art of Crafts**

1 semester - 0.5 credit – Elective (9-12). *No prerequisite.*

This domestic arts class is about living well—in body, mind, and spirit. Students will choose creative projects to match their interests, including but not limited to crocheting, decoupage, scrapbooking, beading, needlepoint, and upcycling/sustainable crafts. Journaling will play an important role, allowing students to reflect on personal growth, creativity, and overall well-being. Woven throughout the course is a focus on Bible scripture, connecting the arts with virtues such as gratitude, service, and simplicity. Students will also collect and use digital inspiration boards for inspiration and reflection. In today's fast-paced world, this class welcomes everyone—from beginners to more experienced crafters—who want to build practical skills and discover how creativity can strengthen both relationships and personal well-being to find balance and purpose.

*****Drawing 1**

1 semester - 0.5 credit - Elective (9-12).

Drawing 1 students are introduced to the universal elements of art and principles of design while developing their drawing skills. This is a beginning class and students do not have to know how to draw well upon entering. Students will learn how to render and shade to create the illusion of 3-D objects in space. Drawing projects include, but are not limited to: still life, free projects, pop culture portraits, Patron Saint drawings, animal and landscape themes. Students learn how to create value, space, line, texture, a focal point, shape, form, color, depth, pattern, movement, rhythm, and composition in their artwork. Students are encouraged to explore a variety of media to create both realistic and creative drawing techniques. Students will begin to respond, analyze, and interpret their artwork and the work of others using the vocabulary of the elements of art and principles of design. This class is a must for students interested in design and product design engineering. Media used in class include: pencil, charcoal, watercolor, colored pencil, pastel, pen and ink.

*****Drawing 2**

1 semester - 0.5 credit - Elective (9-12). *Prerequisite: Completion of Drawing 1 with a C or better. Satisfies year-long fine arts requirement if taken following Drawing 1.*

Drawing 2 continues the development of technical and perceptual skills relating to the basic elements of design for the advanced artist. It encourages the use of a variety of materials and increasing levels of advanced content. Emphasis is given to personal thematic development and advanced skill building, especially important for students wishing to pursue more art classes. Students are encouraged to experiment with mixed media and to work larger. Projects include but are not limited to: free projects, a still life, a positive/negative drawing, a human and animal portrait, and a Patron Saint drawing. Students will be introduced to the work of some old masters and some modern artists alive today. Students will have the opportunity to research their favorite

artist and use as inspiration for a project. Students will demonstrate their ability to respond, analyze, and interpret artwork through discussions and critiques. Media used include: charcoal, colored pastel, pen and ink, watercolor, acrylic ink, and linoleum block carving.

*****Fashion and Costume Design 1**
1 semester - 0.5 credit - Elective (10-12). Fall semester only. *Prerequisite: None.*
Fashion and Costume Design I is a course designed to introduce students to the basics of clothing design. Students will learn basic hand sewing skills, sewing machine skills, and how to sketch clothing for construction. Students will learn how to incorporate clothing design elements such as silhouette, structure, textile, and color theory. Students will be introduced to the history of fashion, how fashion has evolved over time, and how the fashion industry functions today.

*****Fashion and Costume Design 2**
1 semester - 0.5 credit - Elective (10-12). Spring Semester only. *Prerequisite: Fashion and Costume Design 1.*
Fashion and Costume Design 2 is a course designed to build upon the fundamental and foundational skills learned in Fashion and Costume Design 1. Utilizing the skills learned in the previous class students learn how to construct garments from their sketches and research. Students will construct garments from flat patterns or from draping fabric on a dress form or person.

*****Fashion and Costume Design 3**
2 semesters - 1 credit - Elective (11-12). *Prerequisite: Fashion and Costume Design 1&2*
Fashion and Costume Production is a yearlong course in which students who have taken both Fashion and Costume Design 1 & 2 are able to further develop their design skills and build a professional portfolio. In this class students will continue to improve their sewing skills, design skills, pattern making skills, and garment construction skills. Students will produce garments for stage, film, television, and everyday life. At the end of the year students will have created a fashion portfolio to use in interviews or to apply to fashion school as well as have the necessary skills to craft a full garment for themselves or another person.

*****Painting 1**
1 semester - 0.5 credit - Elective (9-12).
This is an introductory class where students will learn a variety of painting techniques, creative mixing, methods and techniques for paint application, current market trends, and the psychology of color used in advertising and design. In-class demonstrations, videos and one-on-one instruction are provided througout the semester. Painting projects include a basic color wheel, old master reproductions, a free project and a still life (if time permits). Students will broaden their understanding of concepts via artists from the past and the present by creating artist reproductions. This class is discovery-oriented and does not require any prior training or experience to be successful. The primary medium used is acrylic paint.

*****Painting 2**
1 semester - 0.5 credit - Elective (9-12). *Prerequisite: Completion of Painting 1 with C or better. Satisfies year-long fine arts requirement if taken following Painting 1.*

Students will be introduced to more advanced painting techniques and broaden their color theory knowledge as they explore a more developed personal narrative in their artwork. They will strengthen their skillsets, resulting in more powerful and engaging artworks. This class will challenge students to create larger works if desired and have the opportunity to build their own art portfolios. In-class demonstrations will provide students with one-on-one instruction as needed. Advanced painters will be granted greater freedom to make bolder decisions and support their interests and themes, while incorporating the 14 basic elements of design. Projects include, but are not limited to: Patron saint portraits, pop culture portraits, animal portraits, Catholic identity and free-themed projects of their choice. Students will respond to, analyze and interpret their own work and that of their peers through discussions and class critiques. This class is a must for anyone who is passionate about making art and enjoys color, art and design.
The primary media used are watercolor and acrylic.

*****Advanced Studio Art**
1 semester - 0.5 credit - Elective (10-12). *Prerequisite: Completion of two sequential studio art classes (either Drawing 1 & 2 or Painting 1 & 2 with a grade of B or better) and instructor approval. This course can be repeated as many times as you want for credit.*
This class is designed for motivated art students who have a strong desire for an art-related career or have a passion for making art. Students are encouraged to experiment with diverse media and techniques. Greater emphasis is placed on the progression of individual style, creative problem-solving skills, and larger-sized work. Students will expand their views of the art world as they learn about former old master artists and contemporary artists of today. Advanced students will develop a portfolio of artwork. Projects include an AI-inspired project, a still life, a famous person portrait, free-themed paintings, a landscape, a large animal portrait, and a Catholic identity artwork. Students will participate in class discussions and critiques via their work and that of their peers to gain insight into other modes of expression. Media used: a pencil, acrylic paint, watercolor, mixed media, lino-cuts, and both colored and black charcoal pastels.

*****Ceramics I**
1 semester - 0.5 credit - Elective (9-12).
Students will be introduced to the nature, functions, and techniques of the art of ceramics. They will learn the basic terminology and tools of ceramics as well as the three hand-building techniques used to create functional and decorative works. Through teacher-led demonstrations and videos, students will learn and execute various techniques used in construction, decoration, and surface treatment of clay. The elements of art and principles of design will be learned as they apply to 3-D art. Craftsmanship and creativity will be the focus of their work, as well as the traditions of great ceramic artists from past and present. Students will also learn to analyze and interpret their own artwork and the work of others through critique and discussion.

*****Ceramics II**
1 semester - 0.5 credit - Elective (9-12). *Prerequisite: Completion of Ceramics 1 with C or better. Satisfies year-long fine arts requirement if taken following Ceramics 1.* Students will use the skills from Ceramics 1 to create larger and more advanced hand-built vessels and sculptures as well as learn to make a variety of forms on the potter's wheel (if conditions permit). They will perfect their techniques in the use of the elements of art and principles of design in the formation and surface treatment of their art. Craftsmanship and creativity will be the focus of their work, as

well as the traditions of great ceramic artists from past and present. Students will also analyze and interpret their own work and the work of others through critique and discussion.

*****Ceramics: Pottery Wheel**

1 semester - 0.5 credit – Elective (10-12). *Prerequisite: Ceramics 1 with a C or better. Satisfies year-long fine arts requirement if taken following Ceramics I.*

Students will build on the foundational understanding of clay from Ceramics 1 to learn the process of wheel throwing on the pottery wheel. They will be on the pottery wheel for the entire semester and learning to create a variety of forms including cylinders, mugs, bowls, plates, and vases. The craftsmanship of the work will be emphasized as students develop the skills to be able to consistently produce quality functional work. Students will learn about the history of the ceramic process as well as modern production pottery. Students will analyze and interpret their own work and the work of others through critique and discussion.

*****Advanced Ceramics**

1 semester - 0.5 credit - Elective (10-12). *Prerequisite: Completion of Ceramics 1 and 2 with B or better. Can be repeated for credit. Pottery Wheel can be substituted for Ceramics 2.*

Students in this class will improve their skills from previous ceramics classes to create larger, more advanced, and challenging pieces. They may choose to spend most of their time on either hand building or wheel-throwing. Students will be encouraged to "think like an artist" as they build a portfolio of work. They will enlarge their views of the art world through discussions, art history, and critiques.

*****Mixed Media 1**

1 semester - 0.5 credit - Elective (9-12). *Prerequisite: None.*

Students will be introduced to the elements of art and principles of design, especially as they relate to both 2-D and 3-D design. They will develop their creative skills using a variety of media and techniques. The course will derive ideas from artists and art movements in history. Projects might include clay low relief sculpture, and multimedia 2-D design. Students can incorporate drawing, painting, ceramics, and design creatively as they model work from different art history movements. They will also participate in discussions and critiques of their work and the work of others.

*****Mixed Media 2**

1 semester - 0.5 credit - Elective (9-12). *Prerequisite: Mixed Media 1 (grade of C or better or instructor approval).*

Students will use a variety of media and techniques to further explore the art world through the lens of traditional art such as mosaics and more modern, multimedia art movements from the twentieth and twenty-first century. They will experiment with 2-D and 3-D design and build upon their own personal interpretations of thematic ideas based on art history. This course will provide the opportunity for students of all skill levels in the traditional arts of drawing and painting to advance and develop their artistic visions with multiple types of materials. Students will use drawing, painting, ceramics, and more. They will participate in discussions and critiques of their work and the work of others that will enhance their knowledge of art and its role in our world.

*****Digital Photography I**

1 semester - 0.5 credit - Elective (9-12). *Required: A digital camera, card reader, and preferably a DSLR with 8.0 megapixels or better.* ***Cross-listed with Technology.*** *Students must declare whether the course will count as Fine Arts or Technology credit.*

This class will teach the casual photographer more about the digital camera and its components. Characteristics of the visual arts will be discussed. Elements of photography will be taught and applied to assignments. Students will develop a basic understanding of photography techniques and editing. A digital portfolio of photographs will be developed by the end of the semester. The student will learn to use photo editing software including PhotoShop and AI editing tools. To be successful in this class, a student must have a digital camera and a laptop that meets the school's minimum technical requirements.

*****Digital Photography II**

1 semester - 0.5 credit - Elective (9-12). *Prerequisite: Digital Photography 1. Required: DSLR Camera with 8.0 megapixels or better.* ***Cross-listed with Technology.*** *Students must declare whether the course will count as Fine Arts or Technology credit.*

Digital Photography II will build upon the skills in which students gained in Digital Photography I such as photographic techniques and using technology such as PhotoShop and Lightroom. This course will advance those techniques by challenging the students in more rigorous ways, improving techniques used for focusing, framing, and light. The ethics of digital imaging will be emphasized. To be successful in this class, a student must use a DSLR camera.

*****Videography I**

1 semester - 0.5 credit - Elective (10-12). ***Cross-listed with Technology.*** *Students must declare whether the course will count as Fine Arts or Technology credit.*

This one-semester course is an entry-level, hands-on class to familiarize and enable students to use basic video/film/audio production. The course is for students who wish to develop the ability to capture video and audio as well as create and edit those two elements together to tell a story. Using classic, modern, and original techniques and theory, students will learn the essentials in creating, editing, and dissemination of video projects. During the course each student will learn how to operate a video camera, understand basic principles of capturing video and audio and how to narrate a story by combining video and audio. Students can focus on live events, staged events, and news-like productions.

*****Videography II**

1 semester - 0.5 credit – Elective (10-12). *Prerequisite: Videography I.* ***Cross-listed with Technology.*** *Students must declare whether the course will count as Fine Arts or Technology credit.*

This course is an extension of the basic skills learned in Videography I. The goal of this course is not only to continue to develop the student's interest in videography, but also to turn the basic skills and knowledge into practical applications for video creation and production. We will move from the global view of projects and mediums to more in-depth roles for video production crews, as well as postproduction practices.

*****Animation and Motion Arts**
1 semester - 0.5 credits – Elective (9-12). ***Cross-listed with Technology.*** *Students must declare whether the course will count as Fine Arts or Technology credit.*
This course teaches animation skills to begin preparing students for a variety of fields including entertainment, game design, the web, advertising, broadcasting, social media, and mobile apps. Using industry-standard 2D and 3D animation technologies from Adobe CC, students develop skills for creative expression and visual storytelling. Knowledge of Adobe Illustrator and PhotoShop, and basic drawing skills will ensure success in this class.

*****Advanced Animation AND 3-D Motion/Independent Study**
1 semester - 0.5 credit - Elective (9-12). *Prerequisite: Animation and 3-D Motion.* ***Cross-listed with Technology.*** *Students must declare whether the course will count as Fine Arts or Technology credit.*
Students will compare various styles of animation and will create and develop more comprehensive characters, storyboards, and elaborate environments to be animated. Writing and editing script for a specific audience will be practiced. Sound and audio files and will be created and edited for special effects.

*****Digital Painting**
1 semester - 0.5 credit - Elective (9-12). ***Cross-listed with Technology.*** *Students must declare whether the course will count as Fine Arts or Technology credit.*
This class focuses on the image manipulation and painting tools of PhotoShop and translates traditional painting techniques to the computer. This course will provide the knowledge necessary to use Adobe Photoshop CC software as a painting tool. Students will explore traditional artists and copy their techniques for creating digital art. The artwork will begin with simple projects to familiarize the students with paint tools and increase in difficulty and creativity in the class as the semester progresses.

*****Advanced Digital Painting**
1 semester - 0.5 credit – Elective (10-12). *Prerequisite: Digital Painting.* ***Cross-listed with Technology.*** *Students must declare whether the course will count as Fine Arts or Technology credit.*
This course is designed for students who have mastered the basics of digital art and are ready to refine their skills in painting with digital tools. Students will explore advanced techniques in color theory, lighting, texture, composition, and digital brushwork using industry-standard software such as Adobe Photoshop. Emphasis will be placed on developing a unique artistic style, creating professional-quality illustrations, and building a portfolio of original digital paintings.

*****Introduction to Graphic Design**
1 semester - 0.5 credit - Elective (9-12). ***Cross-listed with Technology.*** *Students must declare whether the course will count as Fine Arts or Technology credit.*
This course encourages students to use computer-based tools to explore creative uses of technology to produce graphic art. Students learn Illustrator and Photoshop to create various artistic and graphic images. When students complete the course, they will be able to take elements created in Illustrator and PhotoShop to create original artwork. Students will also learn to design using color theory, type, typefaces, images, and graphics following the essential

principles of design. Digital techniques will be taught to create visually pleasing and effective graphic communications. Custom projects will include magazine covers, movie posters, business cards, flyers, and brochures.

*****Advanced Graphic Design**
1 semester - 0.5 credit – Elective (10-12). *Prerequisite: Intro to Graphic Design.* ***Cross-listed with Technology.*** *Students must declare whether the course will count as Fine Arts or Technology credit.*
This course is designed for students who have successfully completed Intro to Graphic Design and are ready to take their creative and technical skills to the next level. Students will increase their understanding of visual communication, focusing on advanced design principles, typography, digital illustration, photo manipulation, and layout design. Emphasis will be placed on creativity and problem-solving. Students will gain hands-on experience using industry-standard software such as Adobe Illustrator, Photoshop, and InDesign, while also exploring emerging tools in digital art and design. Projects will include branding, advertising, poster and packaging design, digital illustration, motion graphics, and portfolio development.
By the end of the semester, students will have assembled a small digital portfolio showcasing their strongest work, preparing them for college-level art and design programs, internships, or freelance opportunities. Collaboration, critique, and presentation skills will be emphasized throughout the course to mirror real-world design industry practices.

*****Honors Yearbook/Desktop Publishing 1**
2 semesters - 1 credit – Elective (10-12).
Prerequisite: Completion of Digital Photography or Graphic Design (or concurrent enrollment) with a B or better, and a B or better in all English classes and instructor approval. Students must have a basic knowledge of design layout. Required: A digital camera, preferably a DSLR with 8.0 megapixels or better and two SD (Standard Digital) cards of 32GB. Students are required to attend at least three school events outside of class time (evenings and weekends). ***Cross-listed with Technology.*** *Students must declare whether the course will count as Fine Arts or Technology credit.*
Students will learn and apply the principles of journalism (interviewing subjects, choosing key quotes and facts from the interview to use in articles appearing in the yearbook). Students will emphasize the importance of accuracy (correct spelling of names, verification of facts, attention to detail). Students will learn and apply the principles of photojournalism (taking candid photos that illustrate the stories of the students and staff of Notre Dame Prep, including cut lines which describe the actions of the photo and accurately list the names of the students and staff in the photo). Students will learn and apply the principles of visual arts while choosing layouts to use for yearbook spreads and positioning the articles, photos, headlines and cutlines in an appealing manner. Students will use Adobe PhotoShop to crop and brighten photos. Students must meet deadlines and be willing to attend and photograph three or more events per semester that take place after school or on weekends.

*****Honors Yearbook/Desktop Publishing 2**
2 semesters – 1 credit – Elective (10-12).
Prerequisite: Summer Honors Yearbook/Desktop Publishing course or Honors Yearbook/Desktop Publishing 1. Required: A digital camera, preferably a DSLR with 8.0

megapixels or better and two SD (Standard Digital) cards of 32GB. Students are required to attend at least four school events outside of class time (evenings and weekends). ***Cross-listed with Technology.*** *Students must declare whether the course will count as Fine Arts or Technology credit.*
Students will apply the principles of journalism (interviewing subjects, choosing key quotes and facts from the interview to use in articles appearing in the yearbook). Students will emphasize the importance of accuracy (correct spelling of names, verification of facts, attention to detail). Students will apply the principles of photojournalism (taking candid photos that illustrate the stories of the students and staff of Notre Dame Prep, including cut lines which describe the actions of the photo and accurately list the names of the students and staff in the photo). Students will apply the principles of visual arts while choosing layouts to use for yearbook spreads and positioning the articles, photos, headlines and cutlines in an appealing manner. Students will use Adobe PhotoShop to crop and brighten photos. Students must meet deadlines and must be willing to attend at least four events per semester that are not during school hours. In this advanced course, students who have completed Honors Yearbook/Desktop Publishing 1 will be eligible for student leader roles on the yearbook staff, depending on several skills: consistently making deadlines, exceptional attention to detail, evident leadership qualities.

*****Broadcast 1**
2 semesters - 1.0 credit – Elective (10-12). *Prerequisite: B or better in English.* ***Cross-listed with Technology.*** *Students must declare whether the course will count as Fine Arts or Technology credit.*
This is a unique opportunity for students to write scripts for NDP Live Announcements and also focus on learning skills for being on-camera. This introductory course focuses on writing scripts, editing, and presenting on camera. Additional video requests, special projects and NDP Live video announcements will be introduced.

*****Broadcast 2**
2 semesters - 1.0 credit – Elective (11-12). *Prerequisite: Broadcast 1. Satisfies year-long fine arts requirement. Required: A minimum 500GB USB passport drive.* ***Cross-listed with Technology.*** *Students must declare whether the course will count as Fine Arts or Technology credit.*
This is a continuation advanced course for students who want to be either behind or in front of the camera with NDP Live. The course builds on the foundational skills in shooting video, synthesizing composition, and producing video communications. Students will continue to work with story planning, audio planning and recording, video editing, project scheduling, peer review, and redesign. As students advance through the course from semester to semester, they will build on and develop skills as well as more in-depth content and advanced editing, audio, and motion graphic techniques. They will develop video production skills that solve specific communication challenges and engage audiences and clients in creating videos, such as commercials, documentaries, PSAs, and scoreboard videos. Students develop a variety of videos focused on genres, such as an action video, a news story, and public service announcements. Students will be involved in creating videos for NDP events, including sporting events, Gala, Auction/Fashion Show, the website, and scoreboard. Students will be expected to attend functions that occur outside of the regular school day and on weekends. Students will also create a digital portfolio to display all their work.

*****Advanced Video Production**
1 semester - 0.5 credit - Elective (11-12). Spring semester only. *Prerequisite: Completion of Broadcast 1 and 2. Required: A minimum 500GB USB passport drive. Can be repeated for credit.* ***Cross-listed with Technology.*** *Students must declare whether the course will count as Fine Arts or Technology credit.*

This course will enhance the students' video editing and equipment use. Students will learn advanced video techniques by utilizing features of the camera, lighting, digital imaging, importing/exporting graphics, movies, animations, sound synchronization and other sound effects. Skills learned will include commercial making, marketing, music, and creating videos for classroom projects. Students will also create an advanced digital portfolio to display all their work.

*****Filmmaking 101**
1 semester – 0.5 credit – Elective (9-12). *Prerequisite: None. Recommended (not required) courses that provide helpful background include journalism, broadcast journalism, screenwriting. Students who do not have this experience may apply by indicating experience with video/film and provide recommendation from teacher or advisor to counselor.* ***Cross-listed with Technology.*** *Students must declare whether the course will count as Fine Arts or Technology credit.*
Students will begin this semester course by gaining background in film crew jobs (director, writer, producer, cinematographer, and editor) and the basics of film production (writing, developing, preparing, shooting, editing, and distribution). They will learn the process required to create short films, from start to finish including: planning, research, location, lighting, blocking, directing, storyboarding, copyright, green-screen, editing, distribution and more. Students will participate in group critiques for each project, learning from each other. Students will also be exposed to other award-winning student work, learning from them, plus engage in dialogue with industry professionals. Students will create a digital portfolio of their work at the end of each semester and will have opportunities to enter their work in a variety of contests.

*****Journalism**
1 semester – 0.5 credit – Elective (10-12). *Prerequisite: At least a B both semesters in English 1. Satisfies year-long Fine Arts requirement if taken before or after Photojournalism 1 or Broadcast 1. Counselor recommendation required.* ***Cross-listed with English electives.***
This course teaches students how to interview, photograph, and write like a journalist. This introductory class teaches interviewing and fact-gathering, writing news, features, sports, and opinion pieces, including movie and restaurant reviews--as well as photojournalism basics. Students in this course will examine how social media and new technologies have altered the reporter's toolkit. An examination of journalism ethics rounds out the course. Student work will be published on the school's website. This asynchronous class is an excellent opportunity to learn time management and interview and interpersonal skills while becoming more thoughtful writers.

*****Photojournalism 1**
1 semester - 0.5 credit – Elective (9-12). This is only offered in the spring semester.
Required: DSLR or point-and-shoot camera for Smartphone. ***Cross-listed as English elective.***
Photojournalism introduces students to the world of photography and journalism, using digital images to tell a story. The different types of photojournalism will be studied: spot news, events, features, portraits, sports -- as well as nature (landscape and animal) photography, magazine photography, and basic video storytelling. Discussion topics will include photojournalism ethics and photojournalists as agents of social change. Work will include capturing people and events in and around NDP. How to take better photos with your Smartphone will be taught throughout the semester. There are no tests in this project-based class.

Fine Arts: Performing Arts Courses

*****Guitar 1**

1 semester - 0.5 credit – Elective (9-12). *Required: An acoustic guitar.*

This is a course for beginning students with no previous experience, as well as for students with minimal experience on the guitar. An acoustic guitar is required, and neither electric guitars nor amps will be allowed. Students will learn to read music, learn basic chords, finger picking, and will perform in a guitar ensemble. Students will memorize fret boards, and by learning power chords and bar chords, the student will have a better understanding of the guitar fret board as well as increased technical facility. Students will be tested individually on class material. A public performance may be added. A mandatory concert performance will be given at the end of the semester, the date to be determined.

*****Guitar 2**

1 semester - 0.5 credit – Elective (9-12). *Prerequisite: Completion of Guitar 1. Required: An acoustic guitar.*

This is a course for intermediate students with some previous experience on the guitar. An acoustic guitar is required, and neither electric guitars nor amps will be allowed. Students will learn to read music, learn basic chords, finger picking, and will perform in a guitar ensemble. Students will memorize fret boards, and by learning power chords and bar chords, the student will have a better understanding of the guitar fretboard as well as increased technical facility. Students will be tested individually on class material. A public performance may be added. A mandatory concert performance will be given at the end of the semester, the date to be determined.

*****Guitar 3**

1 semester - 0.5 credit – Elective (10-12). *Prerequisite: Completion of Guitar 2 or instructor approval via audition. Required: An acoustic guitar. Offered second semester only.*

This course builds on the knowledge from the previous classes and incorporates a more in-depth view of chord and scale concepts. Emphasis will be placed on learning the art of improvisation as well as the disciplines of jazz and blues. This course will focus on advanced chords, scales, progressions, improvisation, and compositional techniques. Students will have performance exams on the material discussed in class. A mandatory concert performance, as well as an in-class project performance, will occur at the end of the semester.

*****Bass 1**

1 semester – 0.5 credit - Elective (9-12). *Required: Bass guitar.*

This is a course for beginning students with no previous experience, as well as for students with minimal experience on the Bass. An electric Bass, tuner, pencil and folder for materials is required. Instructor will provide all other learning materials. Students will learn to read music, vocabulary, fretboard understanding and musical function, style and technique. Students will be tested individually on class material. A public performance may be added. A mandatory final performance will be given at the end of the semester.

*****Bass 2**

1 semester – 0.5 credit - Elective (9-12). *Required: Bass guitar*. *Prerequisite: Bass 1 or teacher approval. Can be repeated for credit.*

This is a course for intermediate-level students who have completed Bass 1 or have auditioned out of Bass 1. An electric Bass, tuner, pencil, and folder for materials is required. Instructor will provide all other learning materials. Students will learn to read music, vocabulary, fretboard understanding and musical function, style and technique. In addition, students will have an opportunity for acoustic or Double Bass and may have the skills necessary to move into NDP Jazz Ensemble (Honors). Students will be tested individually on class material. A public performance may be added. A mandatory final performance will be given at the end of the semester.

*****Honors Jazz Ensemble**

2 semesters - 1 credit – Elective (9-12). *Prerequisite: Audition required. Can be repeated for credit.*

This course provides students with opportunities to develop musicianship skill in a small to large jazz ensemble setting. The program aims at developing a characteristic sound, tone, and performance techniques, such as phrasing, dynamics, tempo, and improvisation. The band literature explored includes jazz and blues from the early 20th century to the present. Students will study scales in all keys, utilizing rhythm and melody with emphasis on reading and improvisation. Critical listening skills continue to be developed. Students will need to rent instruments if they do not have their own. At least one public concert and competitions are required each semester. In each subsequent year of study, students will be required to accomplish increasingly difficult solo and ensemble repertoire, advance in sight reading skills, improvisation, stylization, and become section leaders with rehearsal responsibilities.

*****Piano 1**

1 semester – 0.5 credit – Elective (9-12). *Prerequisite: None.*

This course is for students who wish to learn to play piano in a group setting. Little to no experience is required as the course starts with training in basic skills. Students will learn beginning keyboard technique, music theory, note reading, and repertoire on an individual keyboard console. Students should be able to play simple melodies with a left-hand chorded accompaniment by the end of the first nine weeks of the course and continue their studies with intermediate level music on the piano by the end of the second nine weeks.

*****Piano 2**
1 semester – 0.5 credit – Elective (9-12). *Prerequisite: Piano 1 or individual audition.*
This course will build on skills and knowledge from beginner piano. This course will emphasize all qualities of triads and seventh chords, playing from lead sheets and development of a widening repertoire that includes Jazz, Blues and contemporary music. Students will achieve greater technical proficiency, interpretive skills, and good musicianship in solo and ensemble playing. Students will develop a widening repertoire and enjoy increased opportunities to perform.

*****Piano 3**
1 semester – 0.5 credit – Elective (10-12). *Prerequisite: Audition or teacher placement. Can be repeated for credit.*
This course will build on skills and knowledge from intermediate piano and can be taken by advanced students. Students will achieve greater technical proficiency, interpretive skills, and good musicianship in solo and ensemble playing. Students will continue to develop their repertoire and enjoy increased opportunities to perform. This course may be offered as an independent study and will require public performances as part of the final exam.

*****Dance 1**
1 semester - 0.5 credit – Elective. (9-12).
Course fee: $60.00 for costumes
This course is for beginner level dancers with little or no dance experience. Students will learn the fundamentals of dance by studying jazz dance, Broadway dance, and hip hop. Students will learn basic choreography skills and gain a solid understanding of rhythm, tempo, energy, alignment, and technique. Students will also learn the history of jazz, hip hop and Broadway dance. The class will participate in a mandatory dance concert at the end of each semester.

*****Dance 2**
1 semester - 0.5 credit – Elective. (9-12). *Prerequisite: Dance 1 or instructor approval. Can be repeated for credit. Will be offered both fall and spring.*
Course fee: $75.00 for costumes
Dance 2 is designed for students with some dance training. Students will study ballet, contemporary and jazz dance. Students will learn partnering and improvisational skills along with building on their choreography skills. Students will have a foundational knowledge of the history of contemporary dance. Students will be expected to participate daily in class, learn new movements and work on choreography projects. The class will participate in a mandatory dance concert at the end of each semester.

*****Honors Dance Company – Advanced**
2 semesters - 1.0 credit – Elective (9-12). *Prerequisite: Audition or instructor approval. Can be repeated for credit.* ***Cross-listed with P.E. for 11th and 12th grade only.*** *Students must declare whether the course will count as fine arts or P.E. credit.*
Course fee: $125.00 for costumes
This class is for advanced dancers. Throughout this course, students will be challenged to develop their performance abilities and artistry. Students will learn choreography created by the dance teacher, guest artists, as well as pre-selected student pieces. Students will perform in a

Winter and Spring Concert along with performances during specific school events. This class is designed as a preparatory class for a university dance program or commercial dance work.

*****Choreography for the Camera**
1 semester – 0.5 credit – Elective (10-12). This is only offered in the fall semester. *Prerequisite: Dance 2, H Dance Company, or previous dance experience.*
Cross-listed with Technology. *Students must declare whether the course will count as Fine Arts or Technology credit.*
Students will learn and develop their choreography skills for the camera. They will learn how to use Adobe's Premier Pro to edit their videos. Students will be expected to create numerous site-specific dance videos throughout the semester that will develop their ability to tell a cinematic story through dance. This is a fun class for dancers and actors wanting to develop movement ideas for film and video.

*****Intro to Podcasting**
1 semester - 0.5 credit – Elective (9-12). *No prerequisite.*
This hands-on course introduces the fundamentals of planning, recording, editing, and publishing a successful audio podcast. Students will learn the essentials of audio storytelling, technical production, and audience engagement, culminating in the launch of their own pilot podcast episode. Students will work to develop a unique and compelling podcast concept, niche, and format, demonstrate proper recording techniques using basic and intermediate equipment to capture high-quality audio, edit and mix audio using non-linear editing software to create a polished, broadcast-ready episode. Students will also learn how to write and structure content, including scripts, outlines, and compelling narrative segments and understand the process of publishing, distribution, and basic audience growth strategies.

*****Introduction to Theatre Arts**
1 semester - 0.5 credit – Elective (9-12).
This one-semester course is an introduction to theatre arts, the skills of acting, and basic performance practices. No previous performance experience is necessary. From onstage to backstage, theatre helps students build real-world skills for a lifetime; public-speaking experience, self-confidence, a sense of community and cooperation, motivation and commitment, respect for colleagues, and compassion for differences. Through theatre games, improvisation, play readings, and principles of production, students come to understand the relationship between theatre and other disciplines, and the importance of creative problem-solving, one of the most sought-after skills in today's job market. Students will participate in a mandatory department showcase at the end of the semester.

*****Honors Advanced Theatre Arts**
1 semester - 0.5 credit – Elective (9-12). *Prerequisite: Completion of Introduction to Theatre Arts or instructor approval. Can be repeated for credit.*
This is an intermediate acting class for students with previous stage experience or for those who have satisfactorily completed Acting 1. The goal is self-discovery through the creative process. In addition to essential ensemble-building, this class will compare plays and playwrights from different periods and styles to build an appreciation of theatre as both an actor and as an audience member. This class also includes improvisation, principles of directing, and an introduction to

Musical Theatre. There will be staged readings as well as performances open to the public. Students will participate in the mandatory department showcase at the end of the semester.

*****Honors Saints Theater Company**

2 semesters - 1.0 credit – Elective (11-12). *Prerequisite: Must have completed an advanced theater course or by instructor approval. Can be repeated for credit.*

Saints Theater is a full-year elective where students interested in acting, directing, designing, and playwriting come together to produce a full-length play. This is meant to be an honors elective and is intended for those who desire a career in theater and want to build their portfolios for college auditions or in order to enter into residency at a theater out of high school. Students in the troupe work in residency together to produce short plays and a full length play at the end of the school year. The design of this course is based on professional residency theaters like Steppenwolf in Chicago where you have a collective of actors, directors, designers, and playwrights working together toward the goal of producing plays and theatrical experiences.

*****Playwriting, Screenwriting, and Directing**

1 semester - 0.5 credit – Elective (9-12). *Prerequisite: None.*

Playwriting, Screenwriting, and Directing is designed to teach students the art of dramatic writing for stage and film as well as how to effectively implement a script primarily as a stage director. Students learn about play and film structure through analyzing films, recorded plays, and reading scripts. Students also develop dramatic writing skills in order to craft their own scripts. At the end of the semester the students will present their scripts in a live reading to be presented as part of the performing arts night. Throughout the semester students will have the opportunity to submit their scripts for playwriting competitions around the country.

*****Advanced Playwriting, Screenwriting, and Directing**

1 semester - 0.5 credit – Elective (9-12). *Prerequisite: Playwriting, Screenwriting, & Directing.*

Advanced Playwriting, Screenwriting, and Directing is a one semester course that builds upon the foundations learned in Playwriting, Screenwriting, and Directing. Students take the fundamentals from that course and implement them to craft longer form plays, screenplays, and how to produce and direct a full-length play. At the end of the semester students will either pitch their full-length screenplays to a live audience or pitch a stage play production at the Fine Arts Drama night.

*****Basic Staging and Technical Design**

1 Semester - 0.5 credit - Elective (9-12).

This course focuses on the foundations of design and introduces students to the world stage and technical design. Students apply design concepts to topics including set, costume, hair, make-up, and prop design. Students interpret the written word of plays into tactile design elements in order to bring a production to life on stage. Through analysis, interpretation, and creation, students will gain the necessary skills to begin their journey in the design world of theater.

*****Advanced Staging and Technical Design**

1 Semester - 0.5 credit – Elective (9-12). *Prerequisite: Basic Staging and Technical Design. Can be repeated for credit.*

This course expands upon the foundation created in Basic Staging and Technical Design. Students are introduced to sound and lighting design as well as deepening their skills and knowledge of set, costume, hair, make-up, and prop design. Students have the opportunity to specialize in a particular type of stage design in order to hone their skills. Through analysis, interpretation, and creation, students will develop their skills in order to enter into the collegiate or professional world of theatrical design.

*****Honors Bella Voce (Women's Chorus)**
2 Semesters - 1 credit – Elective (9-10). *Prerequisite: None.*
New Member Course Fee: Attire Expense of $50-$100
This course is a beginner-level choir. This performance-based class is for students of all ages who want to learn more about singing. Students will learn basic vocal technique, sight reading skills and introductory music theory knowledge. The choir will perform a variety of choral literature, including Classical, Broadway, jazz, and contemporary. Students will advance their vocal technique, sight singing, and musicianship and perform for school and community functions.

*****Honors Saints Chorale (Honors Choir)**
2 Semesters - 1 credit – Elective (9-12). *Prerequisite: Two semesters of high school choir or by audition and teacher recommendation.*
New Member Course Fee: Attire Expense of $50-$100
This course is a performance-based class and acceptance is by audition only. Students must exhibit advanced vocal technique, sight reading skills and music theory knowledge. The choir will perform a variety of choral literature, including Classical, Broadway, jazz, and contemporary. Students will advance their vocal technique, sight singing, and musicianship and perform for school and community functions. Performances may include off-campus events.

*****Honors Chamber Singers**
2 Semesters – 1 credit – Elective (9-12). *Prerequisite: Must be concurrently enrolled in Honors Saints Chorale.*
Chamber Singers is an auditioned, select choral ensemble for students who are already enrolled in Honors Saints Chorale. This ensemble will focus on advanced choral repertoire, ranging from acapella pop arrangements to sacred vocal selections.

*****DE Music Theory and Composition**
1 semester - 0.5 credit – Elective (9-12). Dual Enrollment option
This course is for students who have a basic knowledge of music theory and want to expand and develop their theoretical understanding of musical concepts. These concepts will then be applied directly to the compositional process and students will have the opportunity to compose in various styles. This course is highly encouraged for students interested in pursuing music in college or career. This course is equivalent to an introductory collegiate music theory course.

*****DE Rock Music and Culture**
1 semester - 0.5 credit – Elective (9-12). Dual Enrollment option
This course is devoted to understanding the cultural, social, political, and economic conditions that shaped popular music in America through the twentieth and twenty-first centuries. By the

completion of this course all students should be able to explain the development of popular music in the United States noting important contributors, controversies and contradictions; outline the roots, influence, and impact of rock music on our society; as well as identify influential individuals and representative songs connected with the development of American popular music.

Mathematics Courses

Math Scope and Sequence: There are several math pathways at NDP depending on student placement test results. Review carefully to plan schedules accordingly.

Please note:

- Students are required to be in a math class every year at NDP.
- Honors PreCalculus and Honors Calculus have a Dual Enrollment (DE) option.
- With Department Chair approval, a student may be able to accelerate through math classes by taking summer school.

*****Algebra 1 – Gonzaga Program**

2 semesters - 1 credit. *Placement determined by admissions portfolio. Concurrent enrollment in Gonzaga 9.*

The topics will include algebraic expressions, solving linear equations in one and two variables, operations on polynomials, factoring polynomials, function notation, solving rational equations, graphing and interpreting one- and two-variable equations and functions, solving quadratic equations, simplifying radical expressions, and extended problem solving. Conceptual reasoning and problem-solving skills are emphasized.

*****Algebra 1**

2 semesters - 1 credit.

This is a college preparatory class The topics will include algebraic expressions, solving linear equations in one- and two variables, operations on polynomials, factoring polynomials, function notation, solving rational equations, graphing and interpreting one and two-variable equations and functions, solving quadratic equations, simplifying radical expressions, and extended problem solving. Conceptual reasoning and problem-solving skills are emphasized.

*****Honors Algebra 1**

2 semesters - 1 credit. *Placement determined by admissions portfolio and placement test results.*

This is an accelerated college preparatory class that goes into greater depth in the following topics: algebraic expressions, solving linear equations in one and two variables, operations on polynomials, factoring polynomials, function notation, solving rational equations, graphing and interpreting one- and two- variable equations and functions, solving quadratic equations, simplifying radical expressions, and extended problem solving. Conceptual reasoning and problem-solving skills are emphasized.

*****Geometry – Gonzaga Program**

2 semesters - 1 credit. *Prerequisite: Completion of Algebra 1 - Gonzaga. Concurrent enrollment in Gonzaga 10.*

The major studies include deductive reasoning and proofs, properties of angles, properties of parallel lines and perpendicular lines, properties of triangles, congruent and similar triangles, properties of special quadrilaterals, similarity, right triangles and basic trigonometry, circles, areas of polygons and circles, and surface area and volume, and coordinate geometry. Conceptual reasoning, problem solving skills, and algebra skills are emphasized.

*****Geometry**
2 semesters - 1 credit. *Prerequisite: Completion of Algebra 1.*
This course is the study of Euclidean Geometry. The curriculum aims to develop logical reasoning and to affirm the continuity of the mathematical system. The major studies will include deductive reasoning and proofs, the properties of angles, parallel and perpendicular lines, congruent and similar triangles, special quadrilaterals, characteristics of circles, the areas of polygons, the surface area and volume of solids, coordinate geometry and basic trigonometry.

*****Honors Geometry**
2 semesters - 1 credit. **Incoming freshmen: placement by admissions portfolio and placement test results.** *Prerequisite: Completion of Algebra 1 with an A each semester or Honors Algebra 1 with a B or better each semester.*
This course stresses strong logical reasoning and deductive analysis. In a manner consistent with the analytical process, it covers properties of angles, parallel and perpendicular lines, triangles (congruent and similar), special quadrilaterals, similarity, right triangles and basic trigonometry, circles, areas of polygons and circles, surface area volume, and coordinate geometry. It fosters rigorous analysis of concepts and proofs. Conceptual reasoning and problem-solving skills are emphasized.

*****Algebra 2**
2 semesters - 1 credit. *Prerequisite: Geometry.*
This course is based on the basic axioms of algebra. The curriculum aims to develop logical reasoning and to affirm the continuity of the mathematical system. The major studies will include applying Algebraic Linear Equations, Inequalities Functions and Systems in one and two variables. Solving and graphing Quadratic, Exponential, Logarithmic and Rational Functions. Counting Methods, Probability, Data Analysis, and Statistics will be applied and modeled.

*****Honors Algebra 2**
2 semesters - 1 credit. *Prerequisite: Completion of Geometry and Algebra 1 with an A each semester or Honors Geometry and Honors Algebra 1 with a B or better each semester. Honors Geometry may also be taken concurrently with Honors Algebra 2. A summer assignment is mandatory for continued enrollment in the course. The summer assignment is distributed to students in May. Any student joining the course after this must request the assignment from the teacher or the counseling department. Students will be taking a Diagnostic Test on the summer work on the second day of school.*
The curriculum aims to develop logical reasoning and to affirm the continuity of the mathematical system. The major studies will include applying Algebraic Linear Equations, Inequalities Functions and Systems in one and two variables. Solving and graphing Quadratic, Exponential, Logarithmic, Rational, Conic, and Trigonometric Functions.

*****Algebra 3**
2 semesters - 1 credit. *Prerequisite: Completion of Algebra 2 with a C+ or lower for at least one semester. **This course is not available to students who completed Honors Algebra 2***
Algebra 3 builds on the skills students learned in Algebra 2 and moves
them into deeper, more practical applications. The focus of this course is to strengthen algebraic

understanding through real world modeling, financial literacy, and problem-based learning. Students will revisit familiar topics like functions, polynomials, exponentials, logarithms, and trigonometry, but they will use these ideas to solve problems connected to daily life, business, science, and personal finance.

*****Pre-Calculus**
2 semesters - 1 credit. *Prerequisite: Completion of Algebra 2 with a B- or better each semester.*
This course explores more advanced algebraic and geometric topics and prepares students for the concepts and design of a college calculus class. The curriculum aims to develop logical reasoning and to affirm the continuity of the mathematical system. Major studies include elaboration on analyzing, graphing, and applying models of algebraic quadratic, polynomial, exponential, logarithmic, rational, and trigonometric functions. Polar coordinates, vectors, analytic geometry, and a preview of calculus limits, derivatives, and integrals of a function will be introduced. Students will build mathematical literacy and incorporate mathematical reasoning, analysis, and communication skills into real-world applications.

*****DE Honors Pre-Calculus**
2 semesters - 1 credit. Dual Enrollment option. *Prerequisite: Completion of Honors Algebra 2 with a B or better each semester. A summer assignment is mandatory for continued enrollment in the course. The summer assignment is distributed to students in May. Any student joining the course after this must request the assignment from the teacher or the counseling department. Students will be taking a Diagnostic Test on the summer work on the second day of school.*
This accelerated course is designed to prepare students for the rigors of AP Calculus. Topics of study include graphic and algebraic applications of polynomial, exponential, logarithmic, and trigonometric functions, analytic trigonometry, analytic geometry, linear systems and matrices, limits, and a brief introduction to differential calculus. Conceptual reasoning and problem-solving skills are emphasized.

*****Probability and Statistics**
2 semesters - 1 credit. (12) *Prerequisite: Seniors who have completed Algebra 2.*
Students will work with probability, data collection, descriptive and inferential statistics, probability, and technological tools to analyze statistics. The main focus of the course will be exploring data, planning a study, producing models using probability theory, and making statistical inferences. Students will work with statistical measures of centrality and spread, methods of data collection, methods of determining probability, binomial and normal distributions, hypothesis testing, and confidence intervals. Students will use multiple representations to present data including written descriptions, numerical statistics, formulas, and graphs. Conceptual reasoning and problem-solving skills are emphasized.

*****AP Statistics**
2 semesters - 1 credit. (12) *Prerequisite: Completion of or concurrent enrollment in Pre-Calculus or DE Honors Pre-Calculus.*
The AP Statistics course is part of the Advanced Placement Program sponsored by the College Board. AP Statistics is equivalent to a one-semester, introductory, non-calculus-based college course in statistics. The course introduces students to the major concepts and tools for collecting, analyzing, and drawing conclusions from data. There are four themes in the AP Statistics course:

exploring data, sampling and experimentation, anticipating patterns, and statistical inference. This course involves extensive reading comprehension, writing and logical reasoning. Students will become familiar with statistical software and bring their studies to life with dynamic applets on their computers. Students are required to take the AP Exam in May and are responsible for exam fees.

*****DE Honors Calculus**
2 semesters - 1 credit. Dual-enrollment option. *Prerequisite: Completion of Pre-Calculus with a B+ or DE Honors Pre-Calculus with a C+ or better each semester.*
This accelerated course is designed to introduce students to the fundamental principles of differential calculus, while providing algebraic review. Topics covered include limits, continuity, differentiation of polynomial, exponential, logarithmic, and trigonometric functions, maxima-minima related-rate applications, and various integration techniques. Conceptual reasoning and problem-solving skills are emphasized. This course is not intended as preparation for the Advanced Placement Calculus exam; however, a dual enrollment option is available.

*****AP Calculus (AB)**
2 semesters - 1 credit. *Prerequisite: Completion of DE Honors Pre-Calculus with a B+ or better each semester OR completion of DE Honors Calculus.*
The AP Calculus course is part of the Advanced Placement Program sponsored by the College Board. This course is a rigorous analysis of Calculus AB in line with the AP requirements. Combining a theoretical and application approach, this course discusses differentiation and integration with special emphasis on mathematical modeling. The fundamental concept of limits and its importance in the analysis of quantifiable phenomena are prominent features of this course. Conceptual reasoning and problem-solving skills are emphasized. Students are required to take the AP exam in May and are responsible for exam fees.

*****AP Calculus (BC)**
2 semesters - 1 credit. *Prerequisite: Completion of AP Calculus (AB) with a B or better each semester, or DE Honors Pre-Calculus with an A each semester AND department recommendation.*
AP Calculus BC begins with a brief review of functions, limits, continuity, an extension of derivatives and their applications, and continues with integration. Topics include the calculus of polynomial, rational, exponential, trigonometric, polar, and parametric functions; the calculus of vectors; infinite series; and an introduction to differential equations. Graphing calculators are used extensively in this course. Conceptual reasoning and problem-solving skills are emphasized. Students are required to take the AP exam in May and are responsible for exam fees.

*****Math and Money Management**
1 semester - 0.5 credits – Elective (12).
This course focuses on real-world applications of mathematics. Students apply math concepts to topics including personal income, taxes, savings, loans and payments, car leasing and purchasing, home mortgages, retirement planning and more. Through problem solving, communication, quantitative reasoning skills and mathematical connections, students will gain the confidence and knowledge necessary to begin their journey towards financial success.

Physical Education Courses

*****Personal Health and Wellness**

2 semesters - 1 credit. (9th grade). Required course: Open to freshmen only.

The purpose of this course is to provide students with opportunities to promote and increase lifetime physical fitness. This will be achieved through participation in many activities, including individual, dual, and team sports with other forms of cardiovascular activities. This course also provides students with the opportunity to develop and enhance critical life management skills necessary to make sound decisions and take positive actions for healthy and effective living. Topics include positive emotional development, interpersonal relationships and communication skills, functions of the body, nutrition, substance abuse, and first aid. Study skills will be incorporated into this class throughout the year.

*****Team Sports**

1 semester - 0.5 credit. (10-12). *Prerequisite: Completion of Personal Health and Wellness/PE. Can be repeated for credit.*

This class is designed for students who would like to continue to participate in a physical education course that emphasizes team sports play. Activities include basketball, volleyball, football, pickleball, badminton, among other sports. The course grade is based upon a student's participation.

*****Stretching and Pilates (All-Boy or All-Girl sections)**

1 semester - 0.5 credit. (10-12). *Prerequisite: Completion of Personal Health and Wellness/PE. Can be repeated for credit.*

This class is designed to provide students with different types of movement activity and to gain an understanding and appreciation for the different forms of stretching. It is a blend of Pilates, sports-related stretching, mind Body stretches and athleticism. The different dynamics of the movement performed in this class will increase the knowledge in areas of focus, strength, balance, flexibility, agility, and reflection. The Stretching and Pilates course offers strategies that will help the student to be aware of the kinesthetic concepts to help enhance performance ability and reduce the risk of injury. In addition to the different types of stretches, the class is designed to provide instruction about the human body, how to apply anatomical and biochemical principles, as well as understanding the function of the muscular system. The student will participate in various physical activities and learn fitness habits that promote a healthy lifestyle. No prior experience is necessary. The course grade is based upon a student's participation, tests, and projects.

*****Sports Medicine 1**

1 semester – 0.5 credit (10-12). *Prerequisites: Completion of Personal Health and Wellness, and Biology. Biology may be taken concurrently.*

Recommended: First Aid/CPR training.

In this course, students will learn the basics of anatomy, physiology, biomechanics, kinesiology, general nutrition, and basic athletic training procedures. Instructional materials and activities support attainment of National Safety Council, American Sports Medicine Association, and The National Athletic Trainers' Association industry standards. Lab sessions cover training-room operations, taping and wrapping, athletic injury assessment, advanced First Aid, use of heat and cold modalities, record-keeping, rehabilitation, and time management skills.

*****Sports Medicine 2**
1 semester – 0.5 credit (10-12). *Prerequisite: Completion of Sports Medicine 1.*
Recommended: First Aid/CPR training
In this course, students will build upon those attained in Sports Medicine 1-2. Students will learn rehabilitation strategies, indications and contraindications of modalities, advanced nutrition, myology (muscle physiology), protocols, and others. Also included are job shadow and internship opportunities. Extended hours are required per instructor's specifications.

*****Weightlifting 1 (Co-Ed or All Girl sections)**
1 semester- 0.5 credit (10-12). *Prerequisite: None*
This introductory course is designed for students seeking to build a strong foundation in strength training. Emphasis is placed on proper technique for core lifts, movement preparation, spotting, and injury prevention. Students will learn basic programming principles, mobility drills, and performance tracking through training logs. The goal is to develop safe, efficient lifting habits that support athletic success.

*****Weightlifting 2**
1 semester- 0.5 credit (10-12). *Prerequisite: Weightlifting 1*
Can be repeated for credit
This course advances the principles learned in Weightlifting 1 by introducing intermediate programming strategies, progressive overload, and accessory lifts tailored for athletic performance. Students will explore Weightlifting progressions, plyometrics, and sport-specific conditioning. Emphasis is placed on goal setting, and continuing to develop safe, efficient lifting habits that support athletic success.

*****Advanced Weightlifting**
1 semester- 0.5 credit (10-12). *Prerequisite: Successful completion of Weightlifting 1 and 2, athletic teams are to sign off by Instructor*
Can be repeated for credit
This course builds on skills and knowledge from Weightlifting 1 and 2 focusing on advanced techniques and individualized program development. Students will explore progressive overload, periodization, and specialized training methods to enhance strength, power, and muscular endurance. Emphasis is placed on refining techniques, understanding advanced fitness concepts, and tracking progress toward personal fitness goals. This course is ideal for student athletes looking to deepen their expertise in weight training and achieve higher levels of performance and physical fitness.

Science Courses

Science Scope and Sequence: There are several science pathways at NDP depending upon student placement test results. Review carefully to plan schedules accordingly.

Please note:

- Review grade requirements for advancing to higher levels.
- Students must take Physical Science or Physics, Biology or Honors Biomedical Science, Chemistry, and one required elective choice during senior year. Please note that either Physics or Physical Science is a requirement to graduate. (4 credits total, Class of 2027 & 2028 Only)
- Starting with the class of 2029, students must take 3 credits of Science- Physical Science or Physics, Biology or Honors Biomedical Science, and Chemistry.

*****Physical Science**

2 semesters - 1 credit. Required for all freshmen unless placed into Honors Biology or joining PLTW Biomedical Science Cohort. *Students who do not take this course will be required to take Physics to meet graduation requirements.*

An active approach to problem solving and scientific reasoning are at the core of this lab science course. Students will use algebraic physics and chemistry concepts as they apply knowledge to synthesize solutions, create models and solve real-world problems. Different technology tools are embedded throughout the class to enhance scientific communication. Course content includes: forensics, matter, motion, energy, and waves. Students will complete a design project that includes inquiry and analysis of a design opportunity, conceptual design development, refinement, testing, and evaluation.

*****PLTW Biomedical 1: Honors Principles of Biomedical Science**

2 semesters - 1.0 credit – (9-10). First course of 4-year Biomedical Science Cohort Program. Students who take this course will be required to take Chemistry and Physics to meet graduation requirements

*Prerequisite: **9th grade** – None.**10th grade** – Must have teacher approval.*

Principles of Biomedical Science (PBS) is a full-year high school course in the Project Lead The Way (PLTW) Health Sciences Program. This course is designed for freshmen and serves to provide foundational knowledge and skills in fields such as biology, anatomy & physiology, genetics, microbiology, and epidemiology as well as engage students in how this content can be applied to real-world situations, cases, and problems. Through both individual and collaborative team activities, projects, and problems, students will tackle real-world challenges faced by biomedical professionals in the field. They will work with the same tools and equipment used in hospitals and labs as they engage in relevant hands-on work. Students will develop skills in technical documentation to represent and communicate experimental findings and solutions to problems. In addition, students will explore how connections to other disciplines such as computer science and engineering shape the future of medicine and practice collaboration techniques that will help them connect with professionals across any field. This is the first course in a series of 4 for students with a strong interest in health science careers. This course is considered a Biology lab science.

*****PLTW Biomedical 2: Honors Human Body Systems**
2 semesters - 1 credit – Elective (10-11). *Prerequisite: PLTW Biomedical 1.*
Students experience real-world scenarios and cases to see medicine in action – as they diagnose and provide treatment and rehabilitation to patients at an outpatient center, keep clients safe and healthy on adventure medicine trips in remote locations, and work in a research center to design laboratory investigations to explore development and aging.

*****PLTW Biomedical 3: Honors Medical Interventions**
2 semesters - 1 credit – Elective (11). *Prerequisite: PLTW Biomedical 2.*
Medical Interventions allows students to investigate the variety of interventions involved in the prevention, diagnosis, and treatment of disease as they follow the lives of a fictitious family. The course will explore how to prevent and fight infection, how to screen and evaluate the code in our DNA, how to prevent, diagnose, and treat cancer, and how to prevail when the organs of the body begin to fail. Through these scenarios students will be exposed to the wide range of interventions related to immunology, surgery, genetics, pharmacology, medical devices, and diagnostics. Students must complete Principles of Biomedical Science and Biomedical 2: Human Body Systems as prerequisites to complete this course.

*****PLTW Biomedical 4: Honors Biomedical Innovations (Asynchronous Class)**
2 semesters- 1 credit- Elective (12). *Prerequisite: PLTW Biomedical 3*
This course is offered asynchronously via Canvas. Students apply their knowledge and skills to answer questions or solve problems related to biomedical sciences. Students design innovative solutions for the health challenges of the 21st century as they work through progressively challenging open-ended problems, addressing topics such as clinical medicine, physiology, biomedical engineering, and public health. They will work on an independent project and may work with a mentor or advisor from a university, hospital, physician's office, or industry. Throughout the course, students are expected to present their work to an adult audience that may include representatives from the local business and healthcare community

*****Biology**
2 semesters - 1 credit. *Prerequisite: Completion of Physical Science or as determined by placement test results.*
The course covers the general spectrum of biology, including but not limited to introductory biology concepts, chemistry of life, cell structure and function, genetics, and ecology. It includes laboratory procedures and investigations that provide a hands-on experience of topics covered in class. Students will be expected to complete one or more projects. Lab skills will be stressed.

*****Honors Biology**
2 semesters - 1 credit. *Prerequisite: Completion of Physical Science with an A both semesters or as determined by placement test results.*
In-depth studies of the standard spectrum of biology are explored and lab skills are stressed. Topics include, but are not limited to: introductory biology concepts, chemistry of life, cell structure and function, genetics, and ecology. This course is designed for academically motivated students. Individual and/or group projects are required. Students are expected to do extra readings, projects, or term papers.

*****AP Biology**
2 semesters - 1 credit. *Prerequisite: Completion of Honors Biology/Honors Principles of Biomedical Science (PLTW) and Honors Chemistry with a B+ or better each semester or completion of Biology and Chemistry with an A both semesters.*
The AP Biology course is part of the Advanced Placement Program sponsored by the College Board. This is a full-year course for students who wish to pursue a college level biology course in high school. The course follows the AP Biology program. The lab work includes descriptive and experimental exercises that will encourage students to develop important science skills and higher order thinking which are most often found in general college biology courses. Students are required to take the AP exam in May and are responsible for exam fees.

*****Chemistry**
2 semesters - 1 credit. *Prerequisite: Completion of Biology or Honors Principles of Biomedical Science (PLTW).*
Chemistry is a course based on regular laboratory investigations of matter, chemical reactions, and the role of energy in those reactions. Students enrolled in Chemistry compare, contrast, and synthesize useful models of the structure and properties of matter and the mechanisms of its interactions. In addition, students enrolled in this course are expected to (1) gain an understanding of the history of chemistry, (2) explore the uses of chemistry in various careers, (3) investigate chemical questions and problems related to personal needs and societal issues, and (4) learn and practice laboratory safety. As an applied math class, this course also includes mathematical problem solving. Students will be required to design and carry out laboratory experiments.

*****Honors Chemistry**
2 semesters - 1 credit. *Prerequisite: Completion of Honors Biology or Honors Principles of Biomedical Science (PLTW) with a B or better each semester or Biology with an A both semesters. Students must also earn a B or better both semesters in Honors Geometry or an A both semesters in Geometry OR be concurrently enrolled in Geometry WITH an A both semesters in Algebra I or a B both semesters in Honors Algebra I.*
The course is structured and designed for students with strong interests in math and science. It uses experiments to introduce the principles of chemistry. The course content includes the study of atomic structure, chemical bonding, reactions, mass relationships in reactions, gasses, liquids, solids, solutions, acids and bases, kinetics and equilibrium, oxidation and reduction, organic and nuclear chemistry. Laboratory experiments will be used to reinforce topics studied. Students will be expected to produce projects and design experiments.

*****AP Chemistry**
2 semesters - 1 credit. *Prerequisite: Completion of Honors Chemistry with a B+ or better both semesters or Chemistry with an A both semesters AND completion or concurrent enrollment in Algebra 2.*
The AP Chemistry course is part of the Advanced Placement Program sponsored by the College Board. AP Chemistry is a full-year course for students who wish to pursue a college-level chemistry course in high school. This course follows the AP Chemistry program. The lab work includes exercises in both quantitative analysis as well as those exercises typically found in a

general college chemistry course. Students are required to take the AP exam in May and are responsible for exam fees.

*****Physics**
2 semesters - 1 credit. *Prerequisite: Completion of Chemistry.*
This course focuses on the physical nature of our world. This course requires some basic algebra and basic trigonometry (taught and/or reviewed in class as needed) to work out numerical problems applying the concepts learned. The course is designed as an introduction to physics for the college-bound student. The class involves frequent labs with appropriate lab reports. Topics include motion, force, work, energy, and waves.

*****Honors Physics**
2 semesters - 1 Credit. *Prerequisite: Open to juniors and seniors who have completed Honors Chemistry with a B or higher both semesters or Chemistry with an A both semesters; AND who have completed Honors Algebra 2 with B+ or better both semesters and will be concurrently enrolled in Pre-Calculus or higher*
This advanced course involves a more rigorous application of mathematics to mechanics. The class involves frequent labs with appropriate reports/presentations. Topics include: Motion, Force, Work, Energy, Momentum, Circular Motion, and Waves. This is for the student who is preparing for a college major in science.

*****AP Physics 1**
2 semesters - 1 credit. *Prerequisite: Honors Physics; B or better both semesters in all Honors science and math courses through Honors Pre-Calculus; OR an A both semesters in all science and math courses through Pre-Calculus.*
The AP Physics 1 course is part of the Advanced Placement Program sponsored by the College Board. AP Physics 1 is equivalent to a first-semester college course in algebra-based physics. The course covers Newtonian mechanics (including rotational dynamics and angular momentum); work, energy, and power; and mechanical waves. Students are required to take the AP exam in May and are responsible for exam fees.

*****Anatomy and Physiology**
2 semesters - 1 credit. *Prerequisite: Completion of Biology OR Honors Principles of Biomedical Science (PLTW) and Chemistry.*
This year-long course presents a study of human anatomy. The nine systems of the body will be studied, focusing upon the themes of homeostasis, the inter-relationship of body systems, and the balance of structure and function. Throughout the course, students will exercise their analytical and problem-solving skills. Classroom learning is accompanied by required laboratory dissection.

*****Honors Anatomy and Physiology**
2 semesters - 1 credit. *Prerequisite: Completion of Biology and Chemistry with an A both semesters or Honors Biology/ Honors Principles of Biomedical Science (PLTW) and Honors Chemistry with a B or better both semesters.*
This course is for students interested in a science or health-related career. A detailed study of the structures and functions of the human body from the cellular level through the systems level will

be included. Major components of this class are dissection lab work and writing in-depth lab reports. Classroom learning is accompanied by required laboratory dissection.

*****Astronomy**
2 semesters - 1 credit. *Prerequisite: Completion of Biology OR Honors Principles of Biomedical Science (PLTW); and Chemistry.*
This inquiry-based science class will focus on the fundamental study of the universe. Students will investigate the foundation and tools of astronomy. The composition and peculiarities of the planets and our moon will be examined. The students will investigate stars and the dynamics of the solar system. The creation of the universe, including different theories, will be explored. Students will investigate these phenomena and others through a sequence of lab activities where they will make observations, analyze data, and complete research in order to develop an understanding of how these forces affect the Earth.

*****AP Environmental Science**
2 semesters - 1 credit. *Prerequisite: Open to juniors and seniors who have completed Biology and Chemistry with an A both semesters or Honors Biology/ Honors Principles of Biomedical Science (PLTW) and Honors Chemistry with a B+ or better both semesters OR teacher recommendation.*
The AP Environmental Science course is part of the Advanced Placement Program sponsored by the College Board. Students will 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. As Environmental Science is interdisciplinary, a wide variety of topics from different areas of study will be examined, including earth systems, the living world, ecology, natural resources, energy resources, natural resource consumption, and pollution. Oral and written reports and laboratory experiments are incorporated into this course. Students are required to take the AP exam in May and are responsible for exam fees.

Social Studies Courses

Social Studies Scope and Sequence: There are several social studies pathways at NDP depending on student placement test results. Review carefully to plan schedules accordingly.

Please note:

- Review grade requirements for advancing to higher levels.
- Economics and Honors U.S. History have a Dual Enrollment (DE) option.

*****Freshman Seminar**

1 semester - 0.5 credit. Required for all freshmen.

This course has been designed to equip students with the skills necessary to establish a successful middle school to high school transition and beyond. Students will learn both personal and academic skills to help them navigate the social and academic aspects of high school in order to be a successful, contributing member of both the NDP community and beyond. Major topics to be covered are: organization, time management, note taking, study skills, college preparation, and career and life skills.

*****World Geography**

1 semester - 0.5 credit. Placement determined by admissions portfolio.

This course focuses on the themes of geography (location, place, movement, region and Human Environment Index) and their influences on the historical development of religion, philosophy, technology, and the arts throughout the world. Along with learning about the importance of geography and its effects on human behavior, this course provides a broad-based overview of the development of eastern and western cultures. This course will be intermixed with current events throughout the year, allowing the students to make a modern-day connection to the countries of the world.

*****Honors World Geography**

1 semester - 0.5 credit. Placement determined by admissions portfolio.

This is a one-semester world geography course for students who would like to prepare for Honors or AP level work. In addition to covering the major aspects of world geography, the course takes students to higher levels of research and study. The course goes beyond merely memorizing places and focuses upon understanding and explaining some of the political, historical, economic, and cultural relationships that bind people together. There is the inclusion of more detail in all areas, including population, migration, language, development, agriculture and industry, urban patterns, and resource problems. Socratic seminars, current events, oral presentations, and debates are additional forms of assessment in this course. The student must have excellent reading, writing, and speaking skills.

*****World History**

2 semesters - 1 credit. *Prerequisite: Completion of World Geography*

This course is a survey of world history from prehistoric times to the present emphasizing both content and thinking skills. The course introduces all regions of the world, although special emphasis is given to those regions which are particularly important in shaping today's culture and issues, including Europe, the Middle East, and China. The role of Catholicism throughout

history is emphasized. The historical development of religion, philosophy, technology, and the arts are also studied.

*****Honors World History**
2 semesters - 1 credit. *Prerequisite: Completion of Honors World Geography with a B+ or better* ***and*** *a B+ or better in English 1, or World Geography with an A* ***and*** *an A both semesters in English 1.*
The purpose of this course is to provide students with a comprehensive understanding of world history, from the earliest times to the present day. Implicit in this is an understanding of the historical method, the inquiry process, historical reasoning and interpretation, and the manner in which the modern historian works. In the first semester, particular attention will be paid to the development of civilization by studying examples of cultures found in each region of the world. In this process, particular attention will be paid to the role of religion in the development and spread of these civilizations. In the second semester, focus will be placed upon the appearance of modern political ideologies; and the roles they have played, independently and interdependently, in shaping the modern world. This course will maintain a fast pace as it proceeds through the material. It is expected that the students will do outside work in order to be prepared for class. Writing will be a major component of all exams. It is further expected that the students in this course will contribute frequently and positively to class discussion. In addition to the textbook, supplementary readings are required.

*****AP World History: Modern**
2 semesters - 1 credit (10). *Prerequisite: Completion of Honors World Geography with an A- or better and completion of or concurrent enrollment in Honors Argumentation and Rhetoric along with an A- or better both semesters in English 1; OR be in the STA program.*
AP World History is a course designed for highly motivated students of World History. In AP World History, students will develop a greater understanding of the evolution of global processes and contacts, focusing on the time period from 1200 A.D. to present after offering a brief overview of earlier times. The course highlights the nature of changes in international frameworks and their causes and consequences. In this course, students will learn how historians create the story of our past, thus developing habits of mind that help refine their analytical abilities and critical thinking skills. These include making arguments using primary source evidence, making informed comparisons, and developing interpretations of cause and effect in human society. One goal for the course is to provide an engaging and rigorous curriculum that motivates students. The long-term objective is for students to demonstrate an understanding of how the big picture of world history assists in understanding the complexities of today's global arena. The course imposes a heavy reading and writing load throughout the year, and the demands on students are equivalent to a full-year introductory college course. Students must purchase *Ways of the World, Fifth Ed.* by Strayer and Nelson, are required to take the AP exam in May, and are responsible for exam fees.

*****U.S. History**
2 semesters - 1 credit. *Prerequisite: Completion of World History.*
This course is a one-year survey course of American History from the Colonial Period and American Revolution through the 21st Century, with an emphasis on the major social, political, economic, and military changes throughout the time period. The course will analyze the causes

and effects of historical events through critical thinking of assigned readings, supplemental primary and secondary sources, and documentaries. Students will be expected to work individually and in groups to write, present, and discuss critically the conventional accounts of history.

*****DE Honors U.S. History**
2 semesters - 1 credit. Dual Enrollment with SCC option. *Prerequisite: Completion of Honors World History with a B+ or better both semesters* ***and*** *a B+ or better both semesters in English 2; or World History with an A both semesters* ***and*** *an A both semesters in English 2. A writing sample as indicated and evaluated by the teacher and Department Chair may be required.*
This course is an in-depth, college-level investigation of American history from the Colonial Period through the 21st Century. Students develop and use skills and methods of historical analysis to analyze primary and secondary sources, develop historical arguments, and make historical connections. This course will emphasize a series of key themes throughout the year. These themes are essential to a comprehensive study of the United States history. The themes will include discussions of American diversity, the development of the unique American identity, the evolution of American economic trends and transformations, environmental issues, the development of political institutions and the components of citizenship, social reform movements, the role of religion in the making of the United States and its impact on the multicultural society, the history of slavery and its legacies in this hemisphere, war and diplomacy, and finally, the role of the United States in an increasingly global arena. Students will be expected to write, present, and discuss in a historically critical manner. Frequent and positive contributions to class discussions are a requirement for this course.

*****AP U.S. History**
2 semesters - 1 credit. *Prerequisite: Completion of Honors World History with an A both semesters or AP World History with a B or better both semesters* ***and*** *an A both semesters in English 2 or a B+ or better both semesters in Honors English 2. Also, completion or concurrent enrollment in Honors Argumentation and Rhetoric.*
The AP U.S. History course is part of the Advanced Placement Program sponsored by the College Board. This is a college-level course which requires a great deal more reading than the regular American History, with an emphasis on critical reading and problem-solving through the use of stimulus-based questioning. Essay writing and research with a focus on analysis and synthesis of information will be the primary learning style for this course. All tests are sample AP tests from previous years. Even multiple-choice questions will require critical thinking. Frequent and positive contributions to class discussions are a requirement for this course. Students are required to take the AP exam in May and are responsible for exam fees.
A summer assignment is mandatory for continued enrollment in the course. The summer assignment is distributed to students in May. Any student joining the course after this must request the assignment from the teacher or the counseling department.

*****Economics / Personal Finance**
1 semester - 0.5 credit. *Prerequisite: Completion of U.S. History, and completion or concurrent enrollment in Intro to Finance (Asynchronous).*
This course will be a combination of both traditional economic concepts and the continuation and application of the introduction to finance concepts. The first half of the semester will include

a continuation of finance concepts introduced in the summer or fall asynchronous course including financial well-being, managing money, earning money and paying taxes, saving and investing, spending money and building credit, philanthropy, and estate planning. All lessons will be activity and project-based. The second half of the semester will include traditional economic themes such as scarcity and choice, opportunity cost and tradeoffs, productivity, supply and demand, economic systems, the role of government in the economy, monetary and fiscal policy, philanthropy, and related global issues.

*****DE Honors Ethics, Economy, and Entrepreneurship**
1 semester - 0.5 credit. Dual Enrollment through the University of Arizona. Meets AZ state graduation requirements for Economics. *Prerequisite: Completion of AP US History or Honors US History with a B or better both semesters, and completion or concurrent enrollment in Intro to Finance (Asynchronous).*
The goal of this college level class is to enable students to make reasoned judgments about both personal economic questions and broader questions of economic policy. Students will develop an economic way of thinking and problem-solving to understand and apply basic economic principles to decisions they will make as consumers, members of the workforce, citizens, voters, and participants in a global marketplace. Students will learn to weigh both short-term and long-term effects of decisions as well as possible unintended consequences. Students will analyze current issues and public policies and understand the complex relationships among economic, political, and cultural systems. All of the above will be examined through basic economics, microeconomics, and macroeconomics. A portion of the semester will also include a continuation of finance concepts introduced in the asynchronous course including financial well-being, managing money, earning money and paying taxes, saving and investing, spending money and building credit, philanthropy, and estate planning. All lessons will be activity and project-based.

*****United States Government**
1 semester - 0.5 credit. *Prerequisite: Completion of U.S. History.*
This course explores the development of the United States Constitution and how it functions through the legislative, executive, and judicial branches, the foundations of American government, civil liberties and rights, and state and local governmental structure and functions. This class will look at government in action from both historical and current perspectives. In addition to this, the course seeks to continuously develop and foster higher-level critical thinking skills that emphasize analysis, synthesis, and evaluation. Students are expected to be open-minded as belligerence during discussion time is not tolerated. As a result, students will learn how to support their positions with credible and factually based evidence. In doing so, students will learn how to accept the critiques and varying viewpoints of their classmates on a pathway toward academic excellence. Finally, this class will look at government in action from both historical and current perspectives.

*****AP United States Government & Politics**
1 semester - 0.5 credit. *Prerequisite: Completion of AP U.S. History with a B+ or better both semesters; or completion of Honors US History with an A- or better both semesters. Offered in the spring semester only.* ***Students taking AP United States Government and Politics are***

required ***to take DE Honors Ethics, Economy, and Entrepreneurship in the fall semester.***
Required: Completion or concurrent enrollment in Intro to Finance (Asynchronous).
The AP U.S. Government course is part of the Advanced Placement Program sponsored by the College Board. This course covers topics such as the institutions and policy processes of the federal government, the federal courts and civil liberties, political parties and interest groups, political beliefs and behavior, and the content and history of the Constitution. Oral discussion and writing focusing on analysis and synthesis of information will be the primary learning style for this course. Students are required to attend review sessions prior to the test. Students are required to take the AP exam in May and are responsible for exam fees.

Social Studies Electives

*****Current and Future Issues**
1 semester – 0.5 credit – Elective (11-12)
Students will study the ever-changing panorama of current events and issues that affect the United States and people around the world. Topics may include political, economic, social, and environmental issues that affect their lives now and will continue to affect them in the future. Class discussion and group presentations will be utilized.

*****Psychology**
1 semester - 0.5 credit – Elective (11-12)
Psychology is a science that studies the processes of the human mind through one's behavior and social patterns. This course covers such topics as learning, emotions, intelligence, heredity, environmental differences between individuals, and the nature and development of personalities. Through individual and group projects, oral and written reports, discussions, and multimedia material, students will better understand how we influence others and their influence on us. Supplemental materials will be used.

*****Sociology**
1 semester - 0.5 credit – Elective (11-12).
Sociology will study the interaction of groups and individuals in a society. This course studies the sociologist's perspectives, theories, and challenges of an ever-changing population. It looks at the socialization process and the influence of family, peers, school, media, religion, and government. Through multimedia material, discussions, debates, and individual and group projects, students will learn to better understand their roles and influence in their society.

*****Street Law**
1 semester - 0.5 credit – Elective (11-12). This course discusses the laws that are of practical use in everyday life. The course is designed to provide the students with an understanding of their legal rights and responsibilities, knowledge of everyday legal problems, and the ability to analyze, evaluate, and, in some situations, resolve legal disputes. This course addresses general problems in the areas of criminal and juvenile justice, torts, and consumer, family, and individual rights law. The course will also help the student become a better and more active citizen.

*****The Evolution of Popular Culture: 1955-2025**
1 semester - 0.5 credit – Elective (11-12).

The purpose of this course is to introduce students to popular culture, and the various strands that combine to make up this culture today. These strands will be studied in isolation as well as by examining how they act upon and interact with each other. The primary focus will be on the popular culture of the United States, and by necessity it will take on a global perspective. The dominant theme of the course is the ways in which culture remains "popular" by having successive generations "push back boundaries." In the course of studying this material, students will be exposed to a variety of learning media: art, photography, advertising, literature, textbooks, music, film, television, and internet resources. It will combine such aspects of the social sciences as history, sociology, economics, political science, and geography. Students will be graded based upon written assignments, presentations, class contribution, and tests.

*****Veterans Oral History: Lessons of Leadership and Civic Responsibility**

1 semester - 0.5 credit. Elective (9-12). Fall semester only.

In this course, students will be assigned to interview a veteran of the United States military, and to turn that interview into a written essay. Since this course is taught in partnership with the nonprofit organization Imprints of Honor (IOH), students will become published authors when their respective essays are published in a hardbound book entitled *Since You Asked**. (Stories are also archived in the Library of Congress.) In the process of completing their essays, students will learn the skills of interviewing, writing, and editing. Moreover, students will also learn important details about the branches of the United States military, and the specific conflicts and events that the veterans engaged in, thus engaging with civic education & responsibility, and learning the importance of Oral History.

Theology Courses

Please note:

- All Theology classes are listed chronologically (Theology 1, Theology 2, etc.)
- All students are required to take Theology each semester at Notre Dame Preparatory, in accordance with Diocesan school standards.

*****Theology 1**

2 semesters - 1 credit

1st semester - The Revelation of Jesus Christ in Scripture (History of Scripture I)

The purpose of the course is to give students a general knowledge of and appreciation of Sacred Scripture. Through the study of the Bible, students will come to encounter the living Word of God, Jesus Christ. They will learn about the Bible, authored by God through Inspiration, and its value to people throughout the world. Students will learn how to read the Bible and will become familiar with the major sections of the Bible and the books included in each. They will pay particular attention to the Gospel so that they may grow to know and love Jesus Christ more personally.

2nd semester - Who Is Jesus Christ? (History of Scripture II)

The purpose of the course is to introduce students to the mystery of Jesus Christ, the living Word of God, the Second Person of the Blessed Trinity. In this course students will understand that Jesus Christ is the fullness of revelation to us from God. In learning about who Jesus is, the students will also learn who He calls them to be.

*****Theology 2**

2 semesters - 1 credit

1st semester - The Mission of Jesus Christ (The Paschal Mystery)

The purpose of the course is to help students understand all that God has done for us through His Son, Jesus Christ. Students will learn that for all eternity God has planned for us to share eternal happiness with Him and that this is brought about through the act of redemption. Students will learn further that they share in this redemption only in and through Jesus Christ. Finally, they will be introduced to what it means to be a disciple.

2nd semester - Jesus Christ's Mission Continues in the Church

The purpose of the course is to help students understand that in and through the Church they encounter the living Jesus Christ. They will be introduced to the fact that the Church was founded by Christ through the Apostles and is sustained by Him through the Holy Spirit. The students will come to know that the Church is the living Body of Christ today. This Body has both divine and human elements. In this course, students will learn not so much about events in the life of the Church but about the sacred nature of the Church.

*****Theology 3**
2 semesters - 1 credit.
1st semester - Sacraments as Privileged Encounters with Jesus Christ
The purpose of the course is to help students understand that they can encounter Christ today in a full and real way in and through the sacraments, and especially through the Eucharist. Students will examine each of the sacraments in detail so as to learn how they may encounter Christ throughout life.
2nd semester - Responding to the Call of Jesus
The purpose of the course is to help students understand the vocation of life: how Christ calls us to live. In this course, students will learn how all vocations are similar and how they differ. The course is structured around married life, single life, priestly life, and consecrated life. Students learn what it means to live life for the benefit of others and the value in considering a vocation in service to the Christian community.

*****Theology 4**
2 semesters - 1 credit
1st semester - Life in Jesus Christ
This course assists the students in their reflection on a thematic question: What kind of person am I becoming and what kind of person do I want to become? The students will be presented a basic Christian vision of morality with Jesus as their model of humanness as a way to respond the above question. This course will explain what it means to be a person of conscience and each person's responsibility for conscience formation. Catholic moral teaching on a variety of issues will be presented. This course will give the students the tools to achieve the goal of a properly formed conscience. It will use the theological and cardinal virtues, scripture, and Church teaching as the basis for moral decision-making. The purpose of the course is to help students understand that it is only through Christ that they can fully live out God's plan for their lives. Students are to learn the moral concepts and precepts that govern the lives of Christ's disciples.
2nd semester - Catholic Church History
The purpose of the course is to supply students with a general knowledge of the Church's history from apostolic times to the present. They will be introduced to the fact that the Church was founded by Christ through the Apostles and is sustained by Him throughout history through the Holy Spirit. The students will come to know that the Church is the living Body of Christ today and, as such, has both divine and human elements. Students will learn about the Church's 2,000 years of history and about how the Church is led and governed by the successors of the Apostles.

<u>Theology Electives:</u>
*****Christian Leadership**
1 semester - 0.5 credit - Elective (9-10).
Emphasis in this class will be on learning and developing leadership skills that mirror Jesus Christ such as servant leadership qualities, leading from the heart, and discernment. This course is scripture based and will allow students to develop Christian leadership skills such as: leadership styles, listening skills, conflict resolution, and leadership and discipleship. This class helps all students in their day-to-day lives to recognize their own worth and potential.

World Language Courses

World Language Scope and Sequence: There are several world language pathways at NDP depending on student placement test results. Review carefully to plan schedules accordingly.

Please note:

- New students will be tested to determine appropriate placement in a world language. Students who do not take the placement test will automatically be placed in the first level course.
- Review grade requirements for advancing to higher levels such as Honors and AP.
- Students must take the same language for three consecutive years.
- Students who wish to pursue the Seal of Biliteracy on their diplomas will have to demonstrate proficiency in English and World Language through standardized testing results.

*****American Sign Language (ASL) 1**

2 semesters - 1 credit. (9-12)

This course is an introduction to American Sign Language (ASL) and is designed for students with no or minimal sign language skills to develop basic skills according to the ACTFL Can-Do Statements and the 5 C's (Communication, Culture, Connection, Comparison, and Culture) standards in use of ASL. Emphasis is upon acquisition of comprehension, production, and interactional skills using basic grammatical features. ASL will be taught within contexts and related to general surroundings and everyday life experiences. This course is recognized as a World Language credit.

*****American Sign Language (ASL) 2**

2 semesters - 1 credit. *Prerequisite: ASL 1 or instructor approval.*

This course builds on the foundations of American Sign Language (ASL). It is designed for students who have passed ASL 1 or possess basic sign language skills. This course supports sign language skills development and a continuation of studying Deaf Culture. Emphasis is upon acquisition of comprehension, production, and interpersonal interactional skills using grammatical features along with types of classifiers. ASL 2 will be taught within contexts and related to general surroundings and everyday life experiences. This course is recognized as a World Language credit.

*****American Sign Language (ASL) 3**

2 semesters - 1 credit. *Prerequisite: ASL 2 or instructor approval.*

Continues the study of American Sign Language (ASL) whereby students develop expressive and receptive language skills with an increased emphasis on complex vocabulary, grammatical structures, and cultural awareness. The outcomes and the World Language standards are aligned with the American Council Teaching of Foreign Language WL standards. This course is recognized as a World Language credit.

*****American Sign Language (ASL) 3 Honors**
2 semesters - 1 credit. *Prerequisite: Grade of B+ or better both semesters in ASL 2 or instructor approval.*
Continues the study of American Sign Language (ASL) whereby students develop expressive and receptive language skills with an increased emphasis on complex vocabulary, grammatical structures, and cultural awareness. This is an honors course which focuses more on reflexive narratives, ASL Literature that includes a Drama Critique, poetry, ABC Story, and Classifier Story. Students can choose to apply for the National ASL Honor Society (ASLHS). ASLHS provides scholarships and national competition opportunities. With expanded vocabulary and grammatical patterns, students continue to develop their ASL competencies in numerous conversational settings where they can function comfortably in a wide variety of situations in the Deaf community. The outcomes and the World Language standards are aligned with the American Council Teaching of Foreign Language (ACTFL) world language standards applying the 5 C's: Communication, Culture, Connections, Comparisons, and Community. This course is recognized as a World Language credit.

*****American Sign Language (ASL) 4 Honors**
2 semesters - 1.0 credit. *Prerequisite: ASL 3/3H or equivalent. Instructor approval required.*
Advanced American Sign Language skills including continued vocabulary. Emphasis on conversational techniques in a cross-cultural framework. Continued work on conceptual accurate signing of English idioms and words with multiple meanings. Continues to develop cultural awareness, comprehension and production skills, and emphasizes a variety of sentence structures in American Sign Language with a continued focus on interactive communicative competence. This course provides students with the opportunity to continue to become skilled in ASL conversational fluency while developing an understanding and awareness of the culture, heritage, and civic values of the U.S. Deaf community. Advanced American Sign Language - continues to develop cultural awareness, advanced comprehension and production skills including a variety of complex sentence structures in American Sign Language. In addition, continued focus on advanced interactive communicative competence and continue to expand vocabulary.

*****French 1**
2 semesters - 1 credit.
French 1 is designed for those students who have never learned French or have a limited exposure to the language. We use a multimedia approach to meet the American Council on Standards for World Languages. Through the development of listening skills, the student begins to converse in the French language. Listening, speaking, reading, writing, and responding exercises are based on communicative objectives. Cultural narratives help the student learn about the customs and ideas of French or Francophone culture. All course objectives are aligned with the Diocesan World Language Standards.

*****French 2**
2 semesters - 1 credit. *Prerequisite: Successful completion of French 1 or as determined by placement test results.*
French 2 students continue to develop skills in listening, speaking, reading and writing, allowing them to express themselves more freely in the oral and written skills of the target language. There are continued multimedia components that meet the American Council on Standards for

World Languages. Each chapter has communicative objectives. Added cultural notes and supplements will allow students to become familiar with dress, customs, and value systems through broadening their realm of experience. Students may be required to purchase supplementary materials. All course objectives are aligned with the Diocesan World Language Standards.

*****Honors French 2**
2 semesters - 1 credit. *Prerequisite: Completion of French 1 with a B+ or better both semesters and instructor approval; or as determined by placement test results.*
Students continue to develop skills in listening, speaking, reading, and writing, allowing them to express themselves more freely in the oral and written skills of the target language and at higher levels. There are continued multimedia components that meet the American Council on Standards for World Languages. Each chapter has rigorous communicative objectives. Added cultural notes and supplements allow students to become familiar with various Francophone cultures. Students may be required to purchase supplementary materials. All course objectives are aligned with the Diocesan World Language Standards.

*****DE French 3**
2 semesters - 1 credit. Dual Enrollment option. *Prerequisite: Successful completion of French 2 or Honors French 2 with a C- or better both semesters; or as determined by placement test results.*
French 3 students continue to develop skills in listening, speaking, reading and writing. A reading component is emphasized, and a stronger focus is placed on written expression. Instruction is mostly in French, and students are expected to build to an intermediate level of fluency. Students may be required to purchase supplementary materials. All course objectives are aligned with the Diocesan World Language Standards.

*****DE Honors French 3**
2 semesters - 1 credit. Dual Enrollment option. *Prerequisite: Successful completion of French 2 or Honors French 2 with a B+ or better both semesters; or as determined by placement test results.*
DE Honors French 3 students continue to develop skills in listening, speaking, reading and writing, practicing these skills at an accelerated pace. This course is intended for students who would like to also continue studies in French after the third year. A literature component is introduced, and a stronger focus is placed on written expression. Instruction is mostly in French, and students are expected to build to an intermediate level of fluency. Students may be required to purchase supplementary materials. Students may be required to purchase supplementary materials. All course objectives are aligned with the Diocesan World Language Standards.

*****DE Honors French 4 – Language, Literature, and Culture**
2 semesters - 1 credit. Dual Enrollment option. *Prerequisite: Completion of DE Honors French 3 with a C+ or better both semesters and instructor approval.*
This class will incorporate language learning and the culture of French and Francophone countries. Students will study the history of France and will also be required to read authentic written works in French. Students will read Francophone novels in order to better understand Francophone culture. Students will be required to speak French during class. Students may be

required to purchase supplementary materials. All course objectives are aligned with the Diocesan World Language Standards.

*****DE Honors French 5**
2 semesters - 1 credit. Dual Enrollment option. *Prerequisite: Successful completion of DE Honors French 4 with a C+ or better both semesters and instructor approval.*
DE Honors French 5 is designed for high school students who have successfully completed DE Honors French 4 (B or higher) or its equivalent and wish to continue enhancing their proficiency in French language and culture. This advanced course focuses on refining students' speaking, listening, reading, and writing skills, with an emphasis on critical thinking and cultural analysis. Students will engage with authentic French materials, including literature, film, and articles, to deepen their understanding of Francophone cultures as well as maintain and improve their language skills in real-world contexts.

*****Spanish 1**
2 semesters - 1 credit.
Spanish 1 is a course designed to introduce the student to all aspects of target language study. Grammar, reading, writing, and listening skills are included. Emphasis is placed on basic conversation, vocabulary building, and correct use of the language. Correct pronunciation and oral proficiency are primary goals. This requires a daily emphasis on listening and speaking. The Spanish 1 class will provide an appreciation and development of cultural awareness through various authentic materials. All course objectives are aligned with the Diocesan World Language Standards.

*****Spanish 2**
2 semesters - 1 credit. *Prerequisite: Completion of Spanish 1 or as determined by placement test results.*
Students continue to develop skills in listening, speaking, reading, and writing, allowing them to express themselves more freely in the oral and written skills of the target language. Correct pronunciation and oral proficiency are primary goals. There are continued multimedia components that meet national standards. Each chapter has communicative objectives. Added cultural notes and supplements will allow students to become familiar with dress, customs, and value systems through broadening their realm of experience. All course objectives are aligned with the Diocesan World Language Standards.

*****Honors Spanish 2**
2 semesters - 1 credit. *Prerequisite: Completion of Spanish 1 with an A both semesters and skills assessment.*
Students continue to develop skills in listening, speaking, reading, and writing, allowing them to express themselves more freely in the oral and written skills of the target language and at higher levels. Correct pronunciation and oral proficiency are primary goals. There are continued multimedia components that meet national standards. Added cultural notes and supplements will allow students to become familiar with dress, customs, and value systems through broadening their realm of experience. All course objectives are aligned with the Diocesan World Language Standards. Honors Spanish 2 is distinguished from Spanish 2 because of the greater complexity

of assignments and learning objectives that include more in-depth essays and oral communication.

*****Honors Spanish 2 Heritage: Exploring the Hispanic World (Culture and Identity)**
2 semesters- 1 credit. *Prerequisite: Written and oral placement test.*
Taught for fully fluent or heritage students 9-10 grade, this course is designed to strengthen language skills while deepening appreciation for the diversity, bilingualism and unity of the Spanish-speaking world. This is a journey through the rich cultures, bilingualism pride and vibrant traditions of Spain and Latin America. This course explores music, art, film, literature, history, and daily life from Madrid to Mexico City, from the Andes to the Caribbean. Students will read short stories, learn from artists, cultural themes, make connections between language and identity, and improve written communication. Class activities include discussions, creative projects, and multimedia presentations to bring the Hispanic world to life.

*****Spanish 3 Conversational**
2 semesters - 1 credit. *Prerequisite: Completion of Spanish 1 and Spanish 2*
The objective of this engaging and highly participatory course is to improve student's speaking ability and expand knowledge of Spanish vocabulary. Through dynamic conversational activities and daily opportunities for spontaneous conversation practice, students will improve comprehension and expression techniques, widen vocabulary base, and improve fluency. Designed for Intermediate Spanish learners, this course is perfect for students who have previously studied grammatical structures such as the present, past, and informal future tenses and wish to focus on increasing fluidity. In this course, students will learn new words and idiomatic expressions, listen to audio of Spanish conversations to improve auditory skills, deepen knowledge of Latin American culture, and converse about a broad range of topics.

*****DE Honors Spanish 3**
2 semesters - 1 credit. Dual Enrollment option. *Prerequisite: Completion of Honors Spanish 2 with a B or better both semesters or Spanish 2 with an A both semesters along with written and oral skills assessment approved by department chair or DE Honors Spanish 3 teacher.*
In this course, the student achieves a higher conversational level of oral proficiency in the language. A greater variety of reading selections are discussed in the target language according to the student's ability. Opportunities for enjoyment of the customs, ideas, and heritage increase. Students will be able to compare and contrast the different customs and celebrations within the Hispanic world. Literature is also introduced at this level, while continuing to use multimedia components. All course objectives are aligned with the Diocesan World Language Standards. Honors Spanish 3 is distinguished from Spanish 3 because of the greater complexity of assignments and learning objectives that include more pre-AP activities, oral communication and assessment

*****Spanish 4 Conversational**
2 semesters - 1 credit. (11-12) *Prerequisite: Completion of Spanish 3 Conversational.*
The primary objective of this course is to develop the student's ability to communicate in Spanish in order to utilize intermediate-level conversational skills, pronunciation and oral proficiency. Emphasis on Hispanic Culture, including music, art, dance, food and cultural traditions will be used as a mode to entice oral discussion, vocabulary building, listening and reading skills as well

as cultural awareness. This course is intended for juniors and seniors who wish to sharpen pronunciation and speaking fluency in a collaborative environment. All course objectives are aligned with the Diocesan World Language Standards.

*****DE Honors Spanish 4**
2 semesters - 1 credit. (12) Dual Enrollment option. *Prerequisite: Completion of DE Honors Spanish 3 with a B or better both semesters or Spanish 3 Conversational with an A or better both semesters.*
The primary objective of this course is to develop and reinforce the student's ability to communicate in Spanish in order to improve conversational skills, pronunciation and oral proficiency. Emphasis on Hispanic Culture, including music, art, dance, food and cultural traditions will be used as a mode to entice oral discussion, vocabulary building, listening and reading skills as well as cultural awareness. This course is intended for seniors who wish to sharpen pronunciation and speaking fluency in a collaborative environment. All course objectives are aligned with the Diocesan World Language Standards.

*****AP Spanish Language and Culture**
2 semesters - 1 credit. *Prerequisite: Completion of DE Honors Spanish 3 with a B or better both semesters.*
This AP Spanish course is designed for students who have mastered the fundamentals of the Spanish language and who are now ready to apply those skills in all subject areas in the target language. The teacher will conduct the majority of the class exclusively in Spanish and students will also be expected to and required to interact with their teacher and peers in the Spanish language through casual conversations and formal discussions throughout the class period. Both oral and written communication and comprehension in Spanish are emphasized through various assignments and class discussions. Students will be exposed to the Spanish language through various means, such as exclusive use of the target language in class, authentic listening comprehension activities, challenging and authentic reading assignments, formal and informal writing prompts, extensive review of Spanish grammatical concepts, and through AP practice tests, thus increasing proficiency in reading, writing, speaking, and listening. New:When communicating, students in the AP Spanish Language and Culture course demonstrate an understanding of the culture(s), incorporate interdisciplinary topics (Connections), make comparisons between the native language and the target language and between cultures (Comparisons), and use the target language in real-life settings (Communities). Students are required to take the AP exam in May and are responsible for exam fees.

*****AP Spanish Literature and Culture**
2 semesters - 1 credit (11-12). *Prerequisite: Completion of AP Spanish Language with a B or better both semesters.*
Following the College Board curriculum, this course is designed to provide students with a learning experience equivalent to that of an introductory college course in literature written in Spanish. The course introduces students to the formal study of a representative body of texts from Peninsular Spanish, Latin American, and U.S. Hispanic literature. The course provides opportunities for students to demonstrate their proficiency in Spanish across the three modes of communication (interpersonal, interpretive, and presentational) and the five goal areas (communication, cultures, connections, comparisons, and communities) outlined in the Standards

for Foreign Language Learning in the 21st Century. The overarching aims of the course are to provide students with ongoing and varied opportunities to further develop their proficiencies across the full range of language skills — with special attention to critical reading and analytical writing — and to encourage them to reflect on the many voices and cultures included in a rich and diverse body of literature written in Spanish. Students are required to take the AP exam in May and are responsible for exam fees.

Miscellaneous Electives

*****Leadership For Positive School Culture**
2 semesters - 1 credit. Elective (12: *Open to Senior House prefects only*.)
In this class, senior House prefects will develop, implement and refine skills such as collaborative leadership, consensus decision-making, delegation of tasks, goal setting, compromise, team building, problem-solving, communication, time management, and decision-making. Students will plan and implement all aspects of House events and spiritual formation, respecting and complying with all school policies and procedures. They will develop methods to work cooperatively to ensure a sense of belonging for all students while instilling House pride, Saintly virtues, and friendly competition. Methods of surveying, opinion-gathering, evaluation of events and activities and statistics gathering will be developed and implemented.

*****Student Council Leadership**
2 semesters - 1 credit. Elective (10-12: *Open to Dog Pound Student Council members only*.)
In this class, student council leaders will develop, implement and refine skills such as collaborative leadership, consensus decision-making, delegation of tasks, goal setting, compromise, team building, problem-solving, communication, time management, and decision-making. Students will plan and implement all aspects of student council school-wide events such as pep rallies, dances, and the student "Dog Pound" cheering sections for athletic events, respecting and complying with all school policies and procedures. They will develop methods to work cooperatively while instilling healthy school pride and friendly competition. Methods of surveying, opinion-gathering, evaluation of events and activities and statistics gathering will be developed and implemented.

*****The Psychology of Well-being**
1 semester - 0.5 credit – Elective (11-12) *Prerequisite: None.*
In this course, students will engage in a series of challenges designed to increase their own happiness and build more productive habits. As preparation for these tasks, students will learn about and discuss misconceptions about happiness, annoying features of the mind that lead us to think the way we do, and the research that can help us change. Students will ultimately be prepared to successfully incorporate one or more specific wellness activities into their own lives. This course is based on Yale University's most popular psychology course. Students will engage in conversations about how to take care of ourselves and our mental health, and each week a different theme will be covered such as our expectations about happiness, overcoming our biases, increasing our grit and resilience, the importance of service, practicing gratitude and savoring, the benefits of prayer, and many other topics related to social-emotional learning.

*****Office Aide - Counseling**
1 semester = 5 hours of service to Notre Dame Prep. This course is not for credit.
Open to sophomores, juniors, and seniors with a 3.0 unweighted GPA or higher. Must be responsible and self-motivated individuals in good academic standing. For more details, talk to your counselor. Can be repeated once for up to 10 hours of service to NDP and hours will be credited at the end of the semester. Office Aides serve Notre Dame Prep teachers and staff by carrying out tasks such as assisting with clerical work, delivering passes, and running errands.

Students will help in various locations, depending on the need. Students are only permitted to take one non-credit bearing course a semester.

*****Free Period**
1 semester - 0 credit (12). This course is not for credit. Seniors only.
Seniors may elect to take 8th period as a free period with the approval of parents and counselor. This may not be taken concurrently with a non-credit bearing course such as Office Aide. Students are only permitted to take one non-credit bearing course a semester. Freshmen, Sophomores, and Juniors are not allowed a free period.
**Please note: If a senior has a free 8th period, he or she will need to leave campus at the end of 7th period. Plan transportation accordingly.