



JOLIET

CATHOLIC

ACADEMY



*Inspiring Growth in Knowledge & Faith*

2011-2012 Curriculum Guide

# *2011-2012 Course Selection Process*

Dear Parents and Students,

This Curriculum Guide contains course descriptions and other necessary information about required and elective courses that JCA will be offering during the 2011-2012 school year. Please read, very carefully, the course descriptions while paying close attention to the prerequisites that are required for some courses. In addition to the course descriptions, this guide contains the appropriate graduation requirements for each grade level, a progression chart for math, science and art courses, the qualifications for the Honors Program, minimum public university/college requirements and NCAA guidelines.

## *Part I: Parents*

1.) We request the parents to assist their son/daughter in the selection of courses for the 2011-2012 school year. Please use this guide to assist you. You may also call your child's counselor and/or the chairperson for the respective departments for assistance (815-741-0500).

2.) The students have been instructed to discuss their course choices with their parents, teachers, and counselor before marking their final requests on the course selection form. It is strongly recommended that the student maintains his/her academic placement status—Honors, Upper College Prep or College Prep curriculum. Many of JCA's courses are offered in a sequential pattern. Once a student breaks the sequence, it becomes very difficult to re-enter the progression of courses.

3.) After the students have identified the courses they want for the next school year, the current core curriculum teacher and/or counselor will initial the form to indicate concurrence. It is the teacher's responsibility to identify courses and the curriculum which is the best match for the student based on his/her current academic performance. Parents that have concerns with the teacher's placement may schedule an appointment with the student's teacher or counselor to discuss a possible revision.

4.) The course selection form should be returned to your son's/daughter's homeroom teacher on/before ***Tuesday, February 22***. The non-refundable registration fee of \$300.00 will be included in your March tuition billing. Please mark the appropriate response on the course selection form regarding your son's/daughter's anticipated attendance status at JCA for the 2011-2012 school year.

## ***Part II: Students***

1.) Please use the course selection form to mark the courses you want to enroll in for the 2011-2012 school year. The front side of the form lists the required courses. The elective courses are printed on the back side of the form.

2.) Use the Curriculum Guide to assist you in the selection of courses. Please note, there may have been changes made in the courses that will be offered for next year. You are not eligible to enroll in a course if you have not met the prerequisite. For your convenience, the prerequisites are listed in the guide and on the course selection form. Please review the math, science and art flow charts in the guide to assist you in selecting these appropriate courses.

3.) You are strongly advised to maintain your present placement status—Honors, Upper College Prep or College Prep— when selecting your courses. However, it is possible that your current core curriculum teacher will place you in a different curriculum for next year based on this year’s level of academic achievement.

4.) Please review the Curriculum Guide immediately upon receipt. Begin marking the courses you want to enroll in for next year. On the course selection form place an “X” in front of the courses you want. You should take your form home and discuss your selections with your parents.

5.) Students may enroll in an elective course only once for credit. In other words, a student may not take any elective course (such as Strength Training, Drawing and Painting I, English Handbells, etc.) more than once while enrolled as a JCA student. The exceptions are Tapestry, Band, and Advanced Handbells, a course that has a curriculum content which changes annually.

6.) The completed course selection form must be returned (***Thursday, February 17***) to your first period teacher. He/She will walk around the room and place his/her initials beside the course you selected OR the one he/she is recommending that you take next year. JCA reserves the right to have the teachers place students in a course that parallels their current level of academic achievement. The course selection form must be taken, by the student, from class to class to obtain the signature of the respective teachers or counselor, when applicable. Final placement will be determined by the faculty and administration.

7.) Once completed, the student must take the form home for his/her parents to sign. The form should be turned in ***to the homeroom teacher on or before Tuesday, February 22.***

8.) Students requesting placement in an ***advanced*** art or music course, desktop publishing, yearbook, journalism, and band will need to obtain the signature of these teachers before or

after school or during homeroom. Students interested in tapestry must complete the audition process.

9.) In late spring you will receive a computer printout of the classes to which you have been tentatively assigned. You will have an opportunity to discuss your placement if you have questions or concerns. There are no guarantees for course enrollment until the master schedule has been established in June/July. The master schedule will determine your final placement.

10.) Due to the early date we are registering for the 2011-2012 school year, it is possible a teacher's recommendation for placement will change by late spring. If there is a change, it will appear on the computer printout.

11.) *Sophomores must register for 7.0 credits, and juniors and seniors must register for at least 6.0 credits. Sophomores should register for one art and one music class, P. E. and health education.*

12.) You will not be officially registered for classes until this procedure is completed. Failure to do so may also result in closed courses. Even if there is some doubt about your return to Joliet Catholic Academy, we ask that the course selection form be completed, since it is easier to withdraw than to add courses after everyone has completed the process.

13.) *Juniors and seniors:* Because juniors and seniors have the option to enroll in a variety of elective courses, it becomes critical they understand the following admission guidelines, adhered to by a majority of colleges and universities.

14.) *Seniors* must enroll in a minimum of **four core curriculum** courses their senior year.

For purposes of this requirement, Religion is defined as a "core" course.

College admissions personnel use various criteria to determine acceptance of a student for enrollment. In addition to class rank, GPA, ACT/SAT scores, and involvement in extra-curricular activities, the admissions office evaluator will examine the transcript for the number and quality of "core curriculum courses" taken by the student. The more "core courses" successfully completed by the student, the better are the odds that he/she will be accepted by the college of choice. Students who complete a more demanding curriculum are also more likely to succeed in college and finish their degrees in a reasonable period of time.

Thus, all juniors and seniors are strongly advised, and encouraged, to enroll in as many of the core curriculum courses (math, science, social studies, etc.) as possible, and then choose other non-core electives (strength training, junior/senior P.E., desktop publishing, etc.) to complete their schedule. The four beginning level art courses and the four beginning level

music courses are reserved for **sophomore** placement, unless the course is needed to meet a graduation requirement. It is recommended that all students discuss the college admissions process with their counselor. The counselor will provide the best information possible with respect to what courses one should take to enhance the opportunity for admission to and success at the college of choice.

### **REQUIREMENTS FOR COLLEGE ADMISSION**

Minimum subject requirements for admission to PUBLIC Illinois colleges and universities have been established by the Illinois State Board of Higher Education. Private and out-of-state colleges and universities may have different admission requirements. Students should review the admission requirements for their anticipated college of choice as early as possible during their high school career. This essential, pre-planning will better guarantee admission and improve the student's chances of successfully completing a baccalaureate degree program. Students who have not taken the required courses may still be admitted to a public college or university on a provisional basis. Because each college's provisional policy may differ, it is the responsibility of the student to contact the college/university for more information.

The basic high school level courses may not meet all of a college's admission requirements. Other criteria will include GPA, class rank, ACT/SAT scores and participation in co-curricular activities. Applicants must contact each college or university individually for details regarding admission requirements.

### **ILLINOIS PUBLIC COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY REQUIREMENTS**

The following secondary school courses are usually the minimum required for entering an Illinois Public college (junior or 4 year) university.

<b><u>Credits</u></b>	<b><u>Course</u></b>
4	English
3	Social Studies
3	Mathematics
3	Science (Lab courses)
2	Foreign Language <b>or</b> Fine Arts (Music/Art). (Requirements may vary from college to college).

Students interested in obtaining an athletic scholarship should know that the NCAA has its own set of approved core courses for initial eligibility. All credits must be earned through a regular program of studies from an approved high school before completion of the senior year.

**GUIDELINES ESTABLISHED BY THE NCAA**  
(National Conference Athletic Association)

Students interested in earning an athletic scholarship and engaged in an interscholastic sport at a Division I or II college/university must earn a specific GPA (based on a 4 point scale. See JCA guidance department for explanation) in a core curriculum of at least **16 academic courses**:

4 years of English

3 year of mathematics (Algebra I or higher)

2 years of natural/physical science (one must be a lab science)

1 year of additional English, math or science

2 years of social studies

4 years of additional core courses (from any area listed above, or from foreign language, nondoctrinal religion or philosophy)

Please visit the NCAA website for more detailed information.

Finally, we would like to reiterate the following policies for all students:

a.) ***You have until May 9, 2011 to request a course change. After that date, no change may be made unless a selected course becomes unavailable. For students initiating a schedule change, a \$75.00 fee will be charged.***

b.) We reserve the right to drop any course for which an insufficient number of students register. (Should this occur, no charge will be incurred.)

Sincerely,

Mr. Jeffrey Budz  
Principal/CEO

# *Joliet Catholic Academy Honors Program*

The intent of the Honors Program is to challenge academically gifted students and provide them with a demanding program to meet their needs and encourage them to reach their full academic potential. Enrollment in Honors courses and membership in the Honors Program is not synonymous.

Freshmen will be placed, based on their EXPLORE placement test scores, combined with their grade school recommendations in an “Accelerated Prep” curriculum for their first year at JCA. At the end of their freshman year, the student’s performance is evaluated. Upon the recommendation of the freshman teachers, the Administration will “officially” invite the student to join the Honors Program prior to the start of their sophomore year. The student must have completed the following freshman Accelerated courses: English I, Algebra I or Geometry-H, World History and Biology I, with a grade of A or B for both semesters. NOTE: With reference to mathematics, if the student was enrolled in Algebra I - Accelerated as an eighth grader, and earned an A or B, and was enrolled in Geometry-H as a freshman, and received an A, B or C, he/she would qualify for the Honors Program, assuming the grades for the three aforementioned classes were A or B.

Enrollment in and completion of the following Accelerated/Honors subjects are required:

1. Four years of English
2. Three years of Science, Math, and Social Studies
3. Four years of the same Foreign Language
4. A fourth year Honors course in Science, Math, or A.P. European History.

Membership in the Honors Program is only available to JCA freshmen students who complete the above criteria. Upperclassmen and/or transfer students will not be eligible for membership. Students must meet all of the above criteria to remain in the Honors Program. In addition, each student must complete a total of 60 hours of Christian service to be eligible for graduation.

Students receiving more than one “C” and/or any single grade of “D” or “F” **per semester** in any course will not be eligible to continue in the Honors Program.

Honors Program students are expected, but not required, to enroll in Advanced Placement-level courses, when available. Students who complete the four-year program will receive an Honors diploma. The transcript, which will be forwarded to colleges, will indicate membership in and completion of the Honors Program.

**Note:**

Full time students  
must register  
for a minimum of  
**6.00 credits per year.**

**Grading Scale:**

Advanced Placement... A=5.5 points  
Accelerated/Honors.... ..A = 5.0 points  
Upper College Prep... ..A = 4.5 points  
College Prep.....A = 4.0 point

# **GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS**

<b>Subject</b>	<b>Credit</b>
Theology <i>(also need 60 hours of Christian service)</i>	4.00
English	4.00
Mathematics	3.00
Social Studies	3.00
Science	3.00
Foreign Language	2.00
<i>(or 2 year sequence in Fine Arts or 2 year sequence in Reading)</i>	
Physical Education	1.00
Music	0.50
Art	0.50
Health	0.50
Computer Applications	0.50
<u>Electives <i>(Includes one core course the Senior year)</i></u>	<u>3.00</u>
<b>Total Credits <i>(Minimum needed for graduation.)</i></b>	<b>25.00</b>

## **SEQUENCES OF COURSES**

### **Freshman Year**

Theology	1.00
English	1.00
Mathematics	1.00
Science	1.00
Foreign Language	1.00
<i>(or 2 yr. sequence in Fine Arts/Rdg.)</i>	
World History	1.00
Computer Applications	0.50
<u>Physical Education</u>	<u>0.50</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>7.00</b>

### **Sophomore Year**

Theology	1.00
English	1.00
Mathematics	1.00
Science	1.00
Foreign Language	1.00
<i>(or 2 yr. sequence in Fine Arts/Rdg.)</i>	
Health	0.50
Physical Education	0.50
Art	0.50
<u>Music</u>	<u>0.50</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>7.00</b>

### **Junior Year**

Theology	1.00
English	1.00
Mathematics	1.00
Science	1.00
U.S. History	1.00
<u>Electives</u>	<u>1.00</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>6.00</b>

### **Senior Year**

Theology	1.00
English	1.00
Economics	0.50
U.S. Government	0.50
<u>Electives <i>(Including 1 core course)</i></u>	<u>3.00</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>6.00</b>

## Grades

The goals of education are accomplished by the pursuit of knowledge and understanding rather than the pursuit of grades. Grades are recognized at JCA as a necessary element for charting academic progress and because colleges/universities utilize grades in their equation for student admission. JCA assigns the following numeral point values to letter grades for the purpose of calculating the GPA:

Grade Point					
Grade	Quality	Grade	Quality	Grade	
A+	4.00	A	3.75	A-	3.50
A	3.75	B+	3.25	B	3.00
A-	3.50	B	3.00	B-	2.75
B+	3.25	B-	2.75	C+	2.50
B	3.00	C+	2.50	C	2.25
B-	2.75	C	2.25	C-	2.00
C+	2.50	C-	2.00	D+	1.75
C	2.25	D+	1.75	D	1.50
C-	2.00	D	1.50	D-	1.25
D+	1.75	D-	1.25	F	0.00
D	1.50	F	0.00		
D-	1.25				
F	0.00				

A Excellent Achievement  
 B Above Average Achievement  
 B- Below Average Achievement  
 C Good  
 C- Fair

D Below Average  
 D- Below Average  
 F Failing  
 F- Failing

# ***ART***

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## **DRAWING and PAINTING - U**

**Credit:** 0.50

**Elective:** Sophomores (fulfills art graduation requirement)

**Prerequisite:** None

This beginning level course teaches basic drawing skills as well as design theory. It includes **realistic drawing** with pencils and ink, painting with watercolor and tempera, and value studies in pencil.

## **JEWELRY/WEAVING I - U**

**Credit:** 0.50

**Elective:** Sophomores (fulfills art graduation requirement)

**Prerequisite:** None

This beginning level course applies design elements and principles to create both jewelry and weavings. Projects will involve designing, execution and finishing techniques unique to the media used. Finished work could be functional or decorative.

## **3-D DESIGN - U**

**Credit:** 0.50

**Elective:** Sophomores (fulfills art graduation requirement)

**Prerequisite:** None

This beginning level course teaches 3-D design through the use of a variety of materials including clay, paper, wood and cardboard. Students will learn to use the appropriate tools and finishing techniques for each material used. The course will involve both additive and subtractive techniques.

## **2-D DESIGN - U**

**Credit:** 0.50

**Elective:** Sophomores (fulfills art graduation requirement)

**Prerequisite:** None

In this beginning level course **non-representational** work will be created. Students will become acquainted with terminology as well as techniques, and will use basic art media such as cut paper, colored pencils, markers and ink.

## **COMPUTER DESIGN - U**

**Credit: 0.50**

**Elective: Juniors, Seniors**

**Prerequisite: "B" average in Drawing & Painting or 2-D Design, instructor approval**

This second level course may be taken after either Drawing and Painting I or 2-D Design. The students will use the computer and a variety of software to generate original graphic designs. Emphasis is placed on the application of design elements and principles.

## **DRAWING II - U**

**Credit: 0.50**

**Elective: Juniors, Seniors**

**Prerequisite: "B" average in Drawing and Painting and instructor approval**

This second level course may be taken after Drawing and Painting I. The emphasis is on increased drawing skills with the use of pencils, pastels and ink. A variety of subjects will be explored including the human form.

## **GRAPHIC DESIGN - U**

**Credit: 0.50**

**Elective: Juniors, Seniors**

**Prerequisite: "B" average in Drawing and Painting or 2-D Design and instructor approval**

This second level course may be taken after 2-D Design or Drawing and Painting. Students will learn how to artistically apply the elements and principles of art to commercial design. Includes work in the art room and computer lab with computer graphics, product advertising, illustration and layout design.

## **JEWELRY/WEAVING II - U and JEWELRY/WEAVING III- U**

**Credit: 0.50**

**Elective: Juniors, Seniors**

**Prerequisite: "B" average in Jewelry/Weaving I and instructor approval**

These courses are a continuation for those who have taken Jewelry/Weaving I. **Students must be capable of independent work.** These courses require a basic understanding of the techniques used in metal and fiber work. The students will continue working on the looms, using more advanced processes. The metal work could include soldering and centrifugal casting.

### **POTTERY DESIGN I - U**

**Credit:** 0.50

**Elective:** Juniors, Seniors

**Prerequisite:** “B” average in 3-D Design and instructor approval

This second-level course may be taken after 3-D Design. The course deals with the hand-building methods of pinch, coil, soft slab, hard slab and carving. Students work directly with the clay and are introduced to the potter’s wheel. They are also taught the correct methods for glaze application.

### **POTTERY DESIGN II - U**

**Credit:** 0.50

**Elective:** Juniors, Seniors

**Prerequisite:** “B” average in Pottery Design I and instructor approval based on work from Pottery I

This is a second semester of pottery for those who have taken the first. This course requires basic mastery of the potter’s wheel while throwing bowls and closed forms or pitchers and mugs. Students will continue to refine hand-building techniques by creating functional and decorative pieces.

### **POTTERY DESIGN III - U**

**Credit:** 0.50

**Elective:** Juniors, Seniors

**Prerequisite:** “B” in Pottery Design II and instructor approval based on work from Pottery II

Third semester pottery for those who have completed Pottery II. Students will do advanced work on potters wheel and explore sculptural methods with hand building techniques. Students must be capable of working independently.

### **STUDIO ART - H**

**Credit:** 1.00

**Elective:** Juniors, Seniors

**Prerequisite:** “B” average in Drawing II and either Computer Design, Graphic Design, or 2-D Design and instructor approval

This is a full year of art for those who have taken Drawing II and either Computer Design, Graphic Design, or 2-D Design. Students will experience working with sculpture and will improve their skills with dry and water-based media. Students will be assisted in developing a portfolio. There will be an “A” set of projects and a “B” set of projects, which will alternate each year. The course may be repeated for credit.

# MUSIC

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## MUSIC APPRECIATION - U

**Credit:** 0.50

**Elective:** Sophomores (fulfills music graduation requirement)

**Prerequisite:** None

This course is designed for the student who wants an overview of music. Many phases of music will be studied: note and rhythm reading, recorders, keyboards, singing, history, instruments, musical theater, handbells, and styles of music.

## WORLD MUSIC - U

**Credit:** 0.50

**Elective:** Sophomores (fulfills music graduation requirement)

**Prerequisite:** None

The world music course will study the cultures and music from the African countries, the west Indies, Latin America, etc. This course is a performance course where students will learn how to play instruments that are native to the countries that are being studied. This is a classroom performance class. No concert appearance is required.

## BEGINNING HANDBELLS - U

**Credit:** 0.50

**Elective:** Sophomores (fulfills music graduation requirement)

**Prerequisite:** None

In this introductory course, the student will learn music fundamentals through the ringing of handbells. Proper bell technique and ensemble ringing will be taught through a variety of literature. **Students will perform in one major concert at the end of the semester.**

## INTERMEDIATE HANDBELLS - U

**Credit:** 0.50

**Elective:** Juniors, Seniors

**Prerequisite:** Beginning Handbells Class

This course is the second step in the handbell curriculum where students will be introduced to intermediate handbell techniques and continue the study of music theory. Performance opportunities will be provided for school and community events. **Students will perform in one major concert at the end of the semester.**

## **ADVANCED ENGLISH HANDBELLS - U**

**Credit:** 0.50

**Elective:** Juniors, Seniors

**Prerequisite:** Intermediate or Advanced Handbells

This performance course is for the student with handbell, choral or instrumental experience. Advanced handbell techniques and literature will be studied. **This group will perform for various school and community events and one major concert at the end of the semester.**

## **CHOIR - U**

**Credit:** 0.50

**Elective:** All years (fulfills music graduation requirement)

**Prerequisite:** None

This performance course is open to any student with an interest in singing. **No audition is required.** Students will learn proper singing techniques. A variety of musical styles will be studied. **This group will perform in one major concert at the end of the semester.**

## **MUSIC THEORY - U**

**Credit:** 0.50

**Elective:** Sophomores, Juniors, Seniors (fulfills music graduation requirement)

**Prerequisite:** Some prior knowledge of music is recommended.

This non-performance music class will teach students to distinguish, describe, comprehend, and employ basic musical materials and processes. The course is designed to provide students with the tools and concepts to analyze, compose, and listen to music. Units/concepts to be covered will be the basics of notation, Writing music notation, scales, intervals, transposition, harmonization, chord progressions, voice leading, 4-part writing, chord inversions, seventh chords, writing melodies, augmented and diminished intervals, secondary dominants, modulation, altered chords, nonharmonic tones, analyzing musical scores. This class is for the music students interested in learning the more technical aspects of music, in writing music, and in pursuing music in college.

## **TAPESTRY - U**

**Credit:** 1.00

**Elective:** Sophomores, Juniors, Seniors (fulfills music graduation requirement)

**Prerequisite:** Proficiency audition/instructor approval

This advanced performance course is open to any student with previous music experience and necessary music skills. There will be a heavy emphasis on performing through singing and ringing handbells. **A variety of performances will be scheduled throughout the year including one major concert at the conclusion of each semester.**

## **GUITAR - U**

**Credit:** 0.50

**Elective:** Sophomores (fulfills music graduation requirement)

**Prerequisite:** None

This is an elective course for guitarists with or without experience on the instrument. Students who already play will have the opportunity to fine tune their skills while beginners will be exposed to a new music form. Students will learn chords, melody playing, accompaniment techniques, and a variety of playing techniques and styles, including fingerstyle and pickstyle. The course will also include music fundamentals, theory, songs, performances, listening, improvising, and learning to read standard music notation and tablature. Students will either need to bring their own guitar or use one of the classroom guitars.

## **BAND - U**

**Credit:** 1.50

**Elective:** All years (fulfills music graduation requirement)

**Prerequisite:** Skill and previous experience playing a band instrument.

This course is open to any student who plays a band instrument (wind, brass or percussion). Students must be proficient with an instrument and must be able to read music. **This group will perform in a minimum of one major concert per semester.** The first semester will focus on a combination of marching/pep band and concert band. The second semester will include concert band (theory, playing and conducting), jazz band, soloistic playing, and small ensemble playing. Pep band is still available to participate but not a requirement. A variety of compositions will be played and there will be several performing venues (football games, basketball events, concerts, etc). Please note: Freshmen and sophomore band members will meet during 4B. Junior and senior band members will meet during 5B. All band members will meet for a full period during the school day. Freshmen and sophomore band members may have to postpone taking their P.E., health and computer courses until their junior or senior year.

# **PHYSICAL EDUCATION**

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## **PHYSICAL EDUCATION FR/SOPH - U (separate classes for boys and girls)**

**Credit:** 0.50

**Required:** Freshmen, Sophomores (fulfills graduation requirement)

**Prerequisite:** None

This course stresses the importance of learning through the total development of each student in a wide variety of sports and exercises. Students will participate in a program with emphasis on fundamental skills, self-control, teamwork, and knowledge of each sport and activity.

## **PHYSICAL EDUCATION JR/SR - U (separate classes for boys and girls)**

**Credit: 0.50**

**Elective: Juniors, Seniors**

**Prerequisite: FR/SOPH Physical Education**

This course is designed to help students begin, continue, and supplement their lives with a life-long program of physical fitness. Students will participate in a program of activities with emphasis on teamwork, sportsmanship, knowledge and self-esteem. **This course can be taken only once during the junior or senior year.**

## **STRENGTH TRAINING - U (co-ed classes)**

**Credit: 0.50**

**Elective: Juniors, Seniors**

**Prerequisite: FR/SOPH Physical Education, instructor approval**

This course is designed for students who wish to improve their muscular strength and endurance. Each student will discover physical fitness through weight training and cardiovascular conditioning. Students will help design a program to fit his/her specific needs. They will chart their personal progress and will gain knowledge on the latest developments in training.

**This course can be taken only once during the junior or senior year. Note: Students cannot be enrolled in this course and be engaged in weight training at a private gym simultaneously.**

## **FIRST AID - U (co-ed classes)**

**Credit: 0.50**

**Elective: Juniors, Seniors**

**Prerequisite: FR/SOPH Physical Education, instructor approval**

The first nine weeks of this course will be devoted to learning the concepts of sports injuries i.e. sprains, fractures, dislocations; and ways to prevent injuries, psychological aspects of injuries and nutritional aspects of performance. The second nine weeks will be devoted to learning what type of injuries occur to specific regions of the body i.e. head, neck, shoulder, leg and foot. In addition, how to assess and treat the injury. Also, students will be learning basic techniques of the ankle and wrist.

This will be a classroom course. After school observation hours in the training room will be expected of all students. Homework and reading will be assigned. Written and practical exams will be utilized as student assessment instruments. Guest speakers and possible field trips will be used to support and supplement the instruction provided by the classroom teacher.

## **HEALTH - U**

**Credit: 0.50**

**Required: Sophomores (fulfills graduation requirement)**

**Prerequisite: None**

This course deals with a variety of topics which stress the advantages of living a healthy lifestyle. Topics studied and discussed will deal with such issues as nutrition, drugs, body systems, and mental and social health. The students will work on various individual and group projects with emphasis on decision making and alcohol and tobacco abuse.

## **THEOLOGY**

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### **THEOLOGY I - U**

**Credit: 1.00**

**Required: Freshmen**

**Prerequisite: None**

During Semester one of freshmen year the course will focus on The Revelation of Jesus Christ in Scripture. The purpose of this course is to give students a general knowledge and appreciation of the Sacred Scriptures. Through their study of the Bible they will come to encounter the living word of God, Jesus Christ. In the course they will learn about the Bible, authored by God through Inspiration, and its value to people throughout the world. If they have not been taught this earlier, they will learn how to read the Bible and will become familiar with the major sections of the Bible and the books included in each section. The students will pay particular attention to the Gospels, where they may grow to know and love Jesus Christ more personally. Second semester of freshmen year will answer the question, “Who is Jesus Christ?” The purpose of this 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 ultimate Revelation to us from God. In learning about who he is, the students will also learn who he calls them to be. This course is in conformity with the United States Conference of Catholic Bishop’s High School Curriculum.

## **THEOLOGY II - U**

**Credit: 1.00**

**Required: Sophomores**

**Prerequisite: Theology I**

The Paschal Mystery of Jesus Christ and Jesus Christ's Mission Continues in the Church.

During sophomore year the two semester course will help students understand all that God has done for us through his son, Jesus Christ. Through this course of study students will learn for all eternity, God has planned for us to share eternal happiness with him, which is accomplished through the redemption Christ won for us. Students will learn that they share in this redemption only in and through Jesus Christ. They will also be introduced to what it means to be a disciple of Christ and what that life entails. Additionally in the second semester students will understand that it is through the Church that they encounter the living Jesus Christ. Students will be introduced to the fact the Church was founded by Christ through the Apostles and is sustained by him through the Holy Spirit. 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. This course conforms to the United States Conference of Catholic Bishop's High School Curriculum.

## **THEOLOGY III - U**

**Credit: 1.00**

**Required: Juniors**

**Prerequisite: Theology II**

Students will begin their first semester with *Church History* in order to contextualize where the Church has been and the meaning of the Church today in the 21st century. During the second semester students will focus on the study of *Catholic Moral Theology* as it considers the foundations and challenges of living a moral life in Christ.

## **THEOLOGY IV - U**

**Credit: 1.00**

**Required: Seniors**

**Prerequisite: Theology III**

Seniors will conclude their Theological Studies with an examination of *The Christian Vocation*. *The Christian Vocation* is a discovery of the call to be married, single, religious or ordained members of the Church. In the second semester seniors will continue to study their pursuit of faith and knowledge with a review of *Catholic Social Teachings*.

# ENGLISH

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## **ENGLISH I - A**

**Credit:** 1.00

**Required:** Freshmen

**Prerequisite:** Administrative Placement

In this course, students will enhance their reading and vocabulary skills to prepare for upper level courses by reading and studying two novels, poetry, and a Shakespearean play, as well as other modern and traditional classic literature. They will review grammar mechanics and usage in order to refine their writing. Students will practice effective writing as they compose paragraphs, a literary analysis, and a research report.

## **ENGLISH I - U**

**Credit:** 1.00

**Required:** Freshmen

**Prerequisite:** Administrative Placement

This course concentrates on introducing such literary genres as the novel, poetry, mythology, epic characters and a Shakespearean drama. Library skills and grammar review are emphasized. Writing will emphasize the development of sentences into clear, logical paragraphs. Narrative, descriptive, and expository modes of writing will be studied.

## **ENGLISH I - C**

**Credit:** 1.00

**Required:** Freshmen

**Prerequisite:** Administrative Placement

This course includes library orientation, a review of study skills and the fundamentals of grammar. Reading activities include mythology, poetry and drama. Student writing activities will emphasize the development of correct sentence structure and paragraph writing. Students enrolled in this class will be automatically enrolled in the Reading I-C companion course.

## **READING I - C**

**Credit: 1.00**

**Required: Freshmen by assignment**

**Prerequisite: Administrative Placement**

This course is designed for students who do not meet expected levels of achievement in reading and who require a review or a complete re-learning of unmastered skills. Placement is determined by the reading scores from the JCA Placement Exam and junior high school reports. Students enrolled in English I- C are automatically enrolled in this course in lieu of being enrolled in a foreign language.

## **ENGLISH II - H**

**Credit: 1.00**

**Required: Sophomores**

**Prerequisite: Grade of "A" or "B" in English I- A and placement by previous English instructor**

This course includes literature, grammar, speech, and composition and builds upon skills developed in English I. It involves a study of grammar usage and punctuation and the writing of themes. Literature includes several literary genres.

## **ENGLISH II - U**

**Credit: 1.00**

**Required: Sophomores**

**Prerequisite: Placement by previous English instructor**

This course includes the study of grammar usage and punctuation and the writing of paragraphs and themes. The course includes vocabulary and the study of several literary genres.

## **ENGLISH II - C**

**Credit: 1.00**

**Required: Sophomores**

**Prerequisite: Placement by previous English instructor**

This course covers grammar and writing fundamentals, both in review and as a continuation of the freshman course, including literature.

## **READING II - C**

**Credit: 1.00**

**Required: Sophomores**

**Prerequisite: Placement by previous Reading I instructor**

This course is designed to complete the Reading I sequence by teaching reading skills and strategies. Individual choice of books gives practice in daily reading, writing about reading, and interpreting reading. Students enrolled in English II- C are usually enrolled in this course in lieu of being enrolled in a foreign language.

### **ENGLISH III - H**

**Credit: 1.00**

**Required: Juniors**

**Prerequisite: Grade of “A” or “B” in English II-H and placement by previous English instructor**

This course is designed to teach the following: chronological development of American literature, critical thinking skills, vocabulary skills and writing and research skills. Students will study novels in addition to the assigned literature text. A variety of writing assignments will be submitted in addition to a research paper on a literary topic.

### **ENGLISH III - U**

**Credit: 1.00**

**Required: Juniors**

**Prerequisite: Placement by previous English instructor**

This course is designed to cover the following: chronological development of American literature, improvement of grammar and vocabulary skills, and improvement of writing on literary topics. A variety of writing assignments will be required to develop the student’s analytical writing skills. Students will read two additional literary works.

### **ENGLISH III - C**

**Credit: 1.00**

**Required: Juniors**

**Prerequisite: Placement by previous English instructor**

This course is a survey of American Literature from the formation of the colonies through modern times. Emphasis will be placed on identifying major writers within specific historical periods, practicing and improving critical thinking and writing skills, and recognizing literary elements.

### **A.P. ENGLISH IV - H**

**Credit: 1.00**

**Required: Seniors**

**Prerequisite: Grade of “A” or “B” in English III-H and placement by previous English instructor**

Students will learn to read both poetry and prose with greater facility, with an eye towards the interpretation of specific texts and an understanding of the diction, structure and style of each work’s author. Five works are assigned for summer reading. Students will write themes, and a research paper is a course requirement. Students enrolled in this course will **be required to** take the Advanced Placement exam in English.

## **ENGLISH IV - H**

**Credit: 1.00**

**Required: Seniors**

**Prerequisite: Grade of “A” or “B” in English III-H and placement by previous English instructor**

This course focuses on the history and development of British literature from Anglo-Saxon to modern times. British poetry, drama and novels will be studied. Students will write themes, and a research paper is a course requirement.

## **ENGLISH IV - U**

**Credit: 1.00**

**Required: Seniors**

**Prerequisite: Placement by previous English instructor**

This course includes a study of British literature from Anglo-Saxon to modern times, including the historical and linguistic background. Great examples of British poetry, drama and novels will be read. Writing will cover literary analysis, research and persuasive essays.

## **ENGLISH IV - C**

**Credit: 1.00**

**Required: Seniors**

**Prerequisite: Placement by previous English instructor**

This course examines highlights in British literature. Through the study of literature, vocabulary building, writing clarity and reading comprehension are emphasized. The research paper is a course requirement.

## **JOURNALISM / NEWSPAPER - U**

**Credit: 1.00**

**Elective: Seniors**

**Prerequisite: 1.) Previous experience writing for the school paper or English instructor’s recommendation 2.) Submission and acceptance of a writing portfolio with examples of news, feature and editorial writing 3.) Approval of Journalism Advisor**

In this two semester course, students will further develop their writing skills in areas of news, feature, sports and opinion writing. They will analyze additional news articles and related audio visual materials. In addition, they will learn to interview people, proofread, edit and revise stories. Furthermore, they will learn basic principles of design, layout and photo cropping by employing PageMaker software to produce *The Victory View*. During production weeks, students are required to spend two additional sessions outside of class time. Students are strongly urged to take desktop publishing during their junior year.

## **JOURNALISM / YEARBOOK - U**

**Credit:** 1.00

**Elective:** Juniors, Seniors

**Prerequisite:** Approval of Yearbook Moderator

Students will work together on a daily basis to produce the school yearbook. Focus will be on photography, digital photography, reporting, writing and computer use. During the class period, students will layout and design the yearbook on the computer and produce appropriate graphics and photographs. Students are encouraged to have desktop publishing experience.

## **LITERATURE OF THE HOLOCAUST - U**

**Credit:** 0.50

**Elective:** Juniors, Seniors

**Prerequisite:** Enrollment in the previous year's/semester's U or above level of English and course instructor's approval

This course will concentrate on the profound accounts of victims and survivors of Nazi persecution. Using fiction and memoirs, students will examine the significance of human suffering, the consequences of apathy, and the meaning of the Holocaust in today's world.

# **FOREIGN LANGUAGES**

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## **SPANISH I - U**

**Credit:** 1.00

**Elective:** Freshmen, Sophomores, Juniors

**Prerequisite:** Administrative Placement for Freshmen

This course will develop foreign language skills in the four areas of listening, speaking, reading and writing of basic compositions. This course will also promote an awareness, appreciation and understanding of the Spanish-speaking world's way of life, history and traditions.

## **SPANISH I - C**

**Credit:** 1.00

**Elective:** Freshmen, Sophomores, Juniors

**Prerequisite:** Administrative Placement for Freshmen

This course will be similar in content to Spanish I- U. However, the instructional pace will be slower to provide more time for review and reinforcement. In addition, more time will be devoted to the study of the culture, history, geography and traditions of the people in Spanish-speaking regions of the world. The same textbook will be utilized for two years (Spanish I- C and Spanish II- C). Students will be placed in this course based on their standardized test scores, teacher recommendation and instructor approval.

## **SPANISH II - U**

**Credit:** 1.00

**Elective:** Sophomores, Juniors, Seniors

**Prerequisite:** Spanish I -U and a minimum grade of “C”

This course provides intense development of audio-lingual proficiency along with a continued emphasis on reading, writing and composition skills. An expanded vocabulary and structures necessary for personal communication are emphasized. The cultural aspects of the course help the student to appreciate the customs and traditions of the Spanish-speaking world. This course is designed for those students who wish to continue and complete a three or four-year program in Spanish.

## **SPANISH II - C**

**Credit:** 1.00

**Elective:** Sophomores, Juniors, Seniors

**Prerequisite:** Spanish I U or C and instructor approval

This course provides intense development of audio-lingual proficiency, along with a continued emphasis on reading, writing, and composition skills. An expanded vocabulary and structures necessary for personal communication are emphasized. The cultural aspects of the course help the student to appreciate the customs and traditions of the Spanish-speaking world. This course is designed for those students who wish to continue and complete a 2-year program in Spanish.

## **SPANISH III - H**

**Credit:** 1.00

**Elective:** Juniors, Seniors

**Prerequisite:** Spanish II-U and a minimum grade of “C”

This course furthers proficiency in the areas of listening, speaking, reading and writing. Also, the study of grammatical structures is emphasized. Audio-lingual skills are cultivated through listening comprehension exercises, pronunciation drills and oral practice. Spanish life and culture are continuous parts of the course.

## **SPANISH IV - H**

**Credit:** 1.00

**Elective:** Seniors

**Prerequisite:** Spanish III -H and a minimum grade of “C”

This course enhances communication skills and presents more advanced grammatical structures. Reading skills are strengthened through exposure to culture and literary Spanish works. Importance is placed on guided paragraph writing. Study of the civilization and culture of Spanish-speaking people is included.

## **FRENCH I - U**

**Credit:** 1.00

**Elective:** Freshmen, Sophomores, Juniors

**Prerequisite:** Administrative Placement for Freshmen

This course offers an introduction to the language and culture of the French speaking world. It is designed to help the student attain an acceptable degree of proficiency in the areas of listening, speaking, reading and writing. The grammar and French vocabulary reinforce and develop the students' English proficiency.

## **FRENCH II - U**

**Credit:** 1.00

**Elective:** Sophomores, Juniors, Seniors

**Prerequisite:** French I-U and a minimum grade of “C”

This course provides further development of audio-lingual proficiency along with a continued emphasis on reading and writing skills. An expanded vocabulary and structures necessary for personal communication are emphasized. The cultural aspects of the course help the student to appreciate the customs and traditions of the French speaking world.

## **FRENCH III - H**

**Credit:** 1.00

**Elective:** Juniors, Seniors

**Prerequisite:** French II -U and a minimum grade of “C”

This course develops proficiency in reading and comprehension through texts related to the history and literature of France. The grammar is reviewed and expanded. The essay topics improve students' writing proficiency. The audio and video program “French in Action” is added to develop listening skills.

## **FRENCH IV - H**

**Credit:** 1.00

**Elective:** Seniors

**Prerequisite:** French III-H and a minimum grade of “C”

This course offers an in-depth study of the finer points of grammatical structures. Importance is placed on guided paragraph writing. This course offers an insight into French literature and history from the Renaissance to the contemporary times through the texts offered in the textbook. The Little Prince will be read. The “French in Action” program will continue to develop students’ comprehension skills.

## **LATIN I - U**

**Credit:** 1.00

**Elective:** Freshmen, Sophomores, Juniors

**Prerequisite:** Administrative Placement for Freshmen

Students are introduced to the unique inflection of the Latin language, including an initial understanding of basic grammar, syntax and vocabulary. Students will learn to pronounce words, read and translate simple Latin sentences, with an emphasis on understanding the connection between Latin and English vocabulary. Knowledge and appreciation of ancient Roman culture will be a continuing component of the first year program.

## **LATIN II - U**

**Credit:** 1.00

**Elective:** Sophomores, Juniors, Seniors

**Prerequisite:** Latin I-U and a minimum grade of “C”

A more in depth understanding of grammar, syntax, and vocabulary will be provided to the student. The translation of Latin to English will continue, along with a growing ability to translate from English to Latin. Students will learn to analyze more complex Latin structures, including subordinate clauses and new verb forms. Students will learn to distinguish all five noun declensions, all five verb conjugations, and the indicative, infinitive, imperative, and participle verb forms. Latin culture will continue to be investigated with more emphasis on comparing and contrasting to modern day culture.

## **LATIN III - H**

**Credit:** 1.00

**Elective:** Juniors, Seniors

**Prerequisite:** Latin II-U and a minimum grade of “C”

Continued growth in grammar, syntax and vocabulary will be undertaken. An extensive review of the first two years will be undertaken before students begin study of the ancient Latin masters; philosophers, poets and statesmen who developed the classical Latin style. The life and times of these Latin masters will be explored to better appreciate the complexity and beauty of their prose and poetry. Ancient Roman history and culture will continue to be explored with ongoing application to our own civilization, with special comparisons to art and government.

## **LATIN IV - H**

**Credit:** 1.00

**Elective:** Seniors

**Prerequisite:** Latin III-H and a minimum grade of “C”

New vocabulary is introduced for each lesson to better understand the classical writing selection of a renowned Latin author. Specific Roman events are explored in the fields of warfare, politics, government, mores and culture. Students gain an appreciation of the events contributing to the rise and fall of Roman culture and civilization. Particular emphasis is given to the various cultural, religious and literary connections between the Romans and Greeks.

# **MATHEMATICS**

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The Mathematics Department’s description of Honors level math courses at JCA:

Honors courses progress at a very fast pace covering the greatest breadth and depth of topics. Students are expected to have mastered the skills and thoroughly understood the concepts covered in prior courses. They are expected to have retained this past knowledge, which will generally not be reviewed in the course. Mathematical concepts are often introduced at an abstract and theoretical level. New ideas are sometimes developed through student investigation with minimal guidance from the teacher. Students will be expected to apply their knowledge to open-ended and non-routine problems. Students will sometimes be expected to learn material by reading the textbook and/or solving problems on their own. Typical classes include minimal review of homework and previously covered material. Students are expected to be highly self-motivated, taking the fullest responsibility for their own learning and seeking help when needed. The course is designed to meet the needs of a student who thrives in a more independent learning environment.

## **ALGEBRA I - A**

**Credit:** 1.00

**Required:** Freshmen

**Prerequisite:** Administrative Placement

This course includes the study of real numbers, both rational and irrational. Operations of polynomials are presented along with careful study of graphing solution sets of open sentences in two variables. Functions and quadratic equations are also studied. The “why and the how” of Algebra are surveyed in this course.

### **ALGEBRA I - U**

**Credit: 1.00**

**Required: Freshmen**

**Prerequisite: Administrative Placement**

This course is intended as a traditional Algebra I course and serves as a basis for all further high school math studies. This course includes the study of real numbers, both rational and irrational. Operations of polynomials are presented along with careful study of graphing solution sets of open sentences in two variables.

### **ALGEBRA I - C**

**Credit: 1.00**

**Required: Freshmen**

**Prerequisite: Administrative Placement**

This course includes all the essential topics studied in Algebra I, including operations, the real number system, equations and inequalities with application and factoring trinomials. The study of rational expressions, graphing, and systems of equations are also included. Numerous examples and exercises are employed to ensure each student with the opportunity for success. Upon completion of the course, students are prepared for further advanced math courses.

### **ALGEBRA I, PART A - C**

**Credit: 1.00**

**Required: Freshmen**

**Prerequisite: Administrative Placement**

This course is the first year of a two-year Algebra I course. It will provide students with the first half of the fundamentals of a standard one-year course. Since this course extends over a two-year period, it allows for a more intense emphasis on fundamental Algebra I topics. Taking both parts, A and B, this course will satisfy two of the three required math credits needed for graduation, however, it fulfills only one college admission credit.

## **GEOMETRY - H**

**Credit: 1.00**

**Required: Freshmen, Sophomores**

**Prerequisite: Sophomores: Algebra I - A, grade of “C” or above and instructor approval. Freshmen: successful completion of Advanced Math Placement Exam and associated prerequisites, or for eighth graders who were enrolled in JCA’s Algebra I - A class, with a grade of “C” or above and instructor approval.**

This course begins with an introduction to the basic concepts and encompasses all the conventional topics included in an Euclidean geometry course. It provides a rigorous and indepth approach to covering geometric ideas and formal proofs as well as enhancing logical thinking and creativity.

## **GEOMETRY - U**

**Credit: 1.00**

**Required: Sophomores**

**Prerequisite: Algebra I - U, grade of “C” or above and instructor approval**

This course is intended as the second required course in math for the majority of students. It is the traditional treatment of Euclidean Geometry and is designed to develop clear thinking, as well as understanding of basic Geometry concepts.

## **GEOMETRY - C**

**Credit: 1.00**

**Required: Sophomores, Juniors**

**Prerequisite: Algebra I- C or Algebra I (Part A and B) - C and instructor approval**

This course provides students with the basic concepts of Geometry in a step-by-step approach and meets the standards set by the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics. The course is designed for students who need extra assistance grasping new concepts, and provides an instructional approach that places an increased emphasis on various learning styles. Algebra review sections are used to reinforce skills needed for this course and future courses.

### **ALGEBRA I, PART B - C**

**Credit: 1.00**

**Required: Sophomores**

**Prerequisite: Algebra I (Part A) - C and instructor approval**

This course is the second year of a two-year Algebra I course. It provides students with the second half of the fundamentals of a standard one-year course. Since this course extends over a two-year period, it allows for a more intense emphasis on fundamental Algebra I topics. Taking both parts, A and B, this course satisfies two of the three required math credits needed for graduation; however, it fulfills only one college admission credit.

### **ALGEBRA II/TRIGONOMETRY - H**

**Credit: 1.00**

**Required: Sophomores, Juniors**

**Prerequisite: Geometry - H and Department invitation**

This course solidifies Algebra I concepts and introduces new ones: including complex numbers, series and sequences, exponential and logarithmic functions, trigonometric and circular functions, matrices and determinants, some concepts in analytic geometry, and an introduction to probability and statistics. The concept of function plays an extremely prominent role. The course offers a solid foundation for advanced high school and college math courses. A graphing calculator is required for the course. (The TI-83 PLUS or TI-84 PLUS is strongly recommended).

### **ALGEBRA II - H**

**Credit: 1.00**

**Required: Sophomores, Juniors**

**Prerequisite: Geometry - H, grade of "C" or above, and instructor approval**

This course expands concepts covered in Algebra I and develops a deeper understanding, while introducing more advanced algebra topics including complex numbers, series and sequences, exponential and logarithmic functions, matrices and determinants, some analytic geometry concepts, and an introduction to probability and statistics. This course lays a solid foundation for more advanced high school and college math courses. A graphing calculator is required. (The TI-83 PLUS or TI-84 PLUS is strongly recommended).

## **ALGEBRA II - U**

**Credit: 1.00**

**Required: Juniors**

**Prerequisite: Algebra I - U and Geometry - U, grade of “C” or above in both courses and instructor approval**

This course, designed as a requirement for the majority of students, contains a review of Algebra I concepts and introduces more advanced ideas including complex numbers, exponential and logarithmic functions, series and sequences and some Analytic Geometry. Providing drill in mathematical concepts through problem solving, it offers a solid foundation for advanced high school and college math courses. A calculator is required. (The TI- 83 PLUS or TI-84 PLUS is strongly recommended).

## **ALGEBRA II - C**

**Credit: 1.00**

**Required: Juniors**

**Elective: Seniors**

**Prerequisite: Geometry - C and instructor approval**

This course reviews and broadens Algebra I. It introduces more advanced topics through abundant examples and exercises, including complex numbers, exponential and logarithmic functions and some analytic geometry. Real life applications stress the value of algebra through problem solving. Upon completion of this course, students will be prepared to progress to courses involving concepts in higher mathematics. A calculator is required. (The TI- 83 PLUS or TI-84 PLUS is strongly recommended).

## **A.P. CALCULUS - H**

**Credit: 1.00**

**Elective: Seniors**

**Prerequisite: Pre-Calculus - H, grade of “B” or above, or Pre-Calculus - A, grade of “B+” or above, or Algebra II/Trig. - H, grade of “A” all with instructor approval**

This course offers a solid background in differential and integral Calculus to the mathematically talented student. Techniques and applications are emphasized, and proofs are also discussed. The course covers all necessary topics of the “AB” A.P. Calculus test. All students enrolled in this course will **be required to** take the A.P. exam. A graphing calculator is required for the course. (The TI-83 PLUS or TI-84 PLUS is strongly recommended).

## **PRE-CALCULUS - H**

**Credit:** 1.00

**Elective:** Juniors, Seniors

**Prerequisite:** Algebra II/Trigonometry - H or Algebra II - H, and department invitation

This course, designed for the mathematically talented student, offers a solid foundation for a further study of math, such as Calculus, vector analysis, complex variables and abstract algebra. Understanding of ideas and concepts is stressed, along with additional computational skills. A graphing calculator is required for the course. (The TI-83 PLUS or TI-84PLUS is strongly recommended).

## **PRE-CALCULUS - A**

**Credit:** 1.00

**Elective:** Juniors, Seniors

**Prerequisite:** Algebra II - H, grade of "C" or above and instructor approval

This course places an emphasis on the study of various functions, trigonometry and its applications, analytic geometry, mathematical induction, vectors, polynomial and transcendental functions, along with other mathematical topics. Upon successful completion of this course, a student should be adequately prepared to continue any required college math course. A graphing calculator is required for the course. (The TI -83 PLUS or TI-84 PLUS is strongly recommended).

## **PRE-CALCULUS - U**

**Credit:** 1.00

**Elective:** Seniors

**Prerequisite:** Algebra II - U, grade of "C" or above and instructor approval

This is a one year, senior level math course. The topics studied are functions, trigonometry, logarithmic and exponential functions, analytic geometry, matrices and probability and statistics. Upon the successful completion of this course, a student should be well prepared to continue with any required math course in college. A graphing calculator is required for the course. (The TI-83 PLUS or TI-84 PLUS is strongly recommended).

## **STATISTICS - U**

**Credit:** 1.00

**Elective:** Seniors

**Prerequisite:** Algebra II - U, Grade of "C" or above and instructor approval

This course is designed to enhance the student's understanding of beginning statistics by providing summaries of concepts and methods. The exercises and problems touch on applications appropriate to a wide range of interesting real world applications using data sets and information on using technology. A background of mathematics through Algebra II is required for the course. A graphing calculator is recommended for the course. (The TI-83 PLUS or TI-84 PLUS is strongly recommended).

## **ALGEBRA III - C**

**Credit: 1.00**

**Elective: Seniors**

**Prerequisite: Algebra II - C and instructor approval**

This course is intended for those students who began high school math on the college level and desire to take a fourth year in math. It strives to increase math skills in problem solving involving linear, quadratic, and exponential functions, and provides a review of the fundamental properties and operations utilizing numerical investigations as a base. A graphing calculator is required for this course. (The TI-83 PLUS or TI-84 PLUS is strongly recommended).

# **COMPUTER SCIENCE**

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## **COMPUTER APPLICATIONS - U**

**Credit: 0.50**

**Required: Freshmen (fulfills graduation requirement)**

**Prerequisite: None**

Students report to the Computer Center daily to extend their proficiency in word processing, spreadsheet, database, and graphic skills. Other topics covered will include desktop publishing and the Internet.

## **DESKTOP PUBLISHING - U**

**Credit: 0.50**

**Elective: Juniors, Seniors**

**Prerequisite: "B" in Computer Fundamentals or Computer Applications and teacher approval**

This semester course is designed for students with basic word processing skills who want to create documents using desktop publishing software. Publications such as business cards, greeting cards, calendars, newsletters, newspaper ads, web pages, web animation and e-portfolios will be created. Upon completion of this course, the student will be able to apply this knowledge to personal as well as business use. Prior successful completion of this course is highly recommended for students considering enrollment in the Journalism and/or Yearbook courses.

# SCIENCE

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## **BIOLOGY - A**

**Credit:** 1.00

**Required:** Freshmen

**Prerequisite:** Administrative Placement

This course offers a phylogenetic approach to the study of molecular and cellular biology. This leads to an understanding of the continuity of characteristics of offspring by hereditary determinations, which gives meaning to organic variation and scientific classification. It includes a hands-on laboratory course dealing with various topics, as well as a methods course to acquaint students with the use of the microscope, balance, and other scientific instruments.

## **ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE - U**

**Credit:** 1.00

**Required:** Freshmen

**Prerequisite:** Administrative Placement

This course is an applied science which analyzes the various interactions occurring between humans and their environment. It is a balanced approach to the diverse study of environmental issues, including topics such as energy, resources, pollution and biodiversity.

## **ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE - C**

**Credit:** 1.00

**Required:** Freshmen

**Prerequisite:** Administrative Placement

This course is a practical study of the various interactions occurring between humans and their environment. Emphasis is placed on a balanced approach to environmental issues such as energy, resources, pollution and biodiversity.

## **BIOLOGY - U**

**Credit:** 1.00

**Required:** Sophomores

**Prerequisite:** Environmental Science - U

This relevant and vital course in the study of life includes such topics as: microbiology, biochemistry, genetics, natural selection, cell structure and function, principles of heredity, evolution, classification of organisms, and characteristics of moneran, protist, fungi, plants and animals. Laboratory investigations pertinent to each topic area are used to stress scientific principles.

## **BIOLOGY - C**

**Credit:** 1.00

**Required:** Sophomores

**Prerequisite:** Environmental Science - C

This course is a practical study of the characteristics and functions of living things. The class emphasizes current knowledge, processes which keep organisms alive, and ecological relationships between organisms. Topics include: cell, plant and animal structure functions, microbiology, classification of organisms, bacteria, viruses and disease, animal behavior, genetics, reproduction, evolution and human anatomy. Pertinent laboratory investigations are used to stress scientific principles.

## **A.P. Chemistry - H**

**Credit:** 1.00

**Elective:** Seniors

**Prerequisite:** Grade of “A” or “B” in Chemistry - H, Physics-H and Pre-Calculus - H and instructor approval

In this course students will apply chemical principles and investigate those principles by independent research, observations, methods and measurements; they will be able to verify and justify characteristic structures, functions and interdependence of matter and energy. Students should be prepared to arrive at school during the zero hour (7:00-7:45 a.m.) periodically to begin lab experiments that cannot be completed in the traditional 45-minute class period. All students enrolled will be **expected** to take the A.P. Chemistry exam.

## **CHEMISTRY - H**

**Credit:** 1.00

**Required:** Sophomores

**Prerequisite:** Accelerated Biology - I, Algebra II - U or above (completion of or current enrollment in) and instructor approval

This course emphasizes basic chemistry principles and scientific reasoning. Labs are used to reinforce concepts and to allow students to discover some principles by “doing.” Material covered includes atomic structure, bonding, properties of elements and compounds, theories underlying reactions, nuclear chemistry and introductory organic chemistry.

## **CHEMISTRY - U**

**Credit:** 1.00

**Required:** Sophomores, Juniors, Seniors

**Prerequisite:** Sophomores: Accelerateds Biology I and instructor approval;  
Juniors and Seniors: Algebra II - U or above (completion of or current enrollment in) and instructor approval

This course emphasizes laboratory experimentation to illustrate ideas and concepts discussed in the text and class. The student discovers that scientific ideas and facts arise from experimentation. Fundamental principles presented are energy, reactions, molecular structure, chemical bonding of solids, liquids and gases, atomic structure, chemical periodicity and nuclear chemistry.

## **PHYSICS - H**

**Credit:** 1.00

**Required:** Juniors

**Prerequisite:** "B" or above in Honors Chemistry and instructor approval

**Prerequisite:** Successfully completed or currently enrolled in Algebra II/  
Trigonometry - H or Algebra II - H

A physical science concerned with the relationship between matter and energy. The goal of this course is to explain the physical universe in terms of its basic interactions. Particular emphasis is placed on the development of theories/principles, problem solving, and demonstrations and experiments. Areas of study with laboratory experience will include: classical mechanics, heat, waves, sound, light, electricity and magnetism, and nuclear physics.

## **PHYSICS - U**

**Credit:** 1.00

**Elective:** Juniors, Seniors

**Prerequisite:** Algebra II - U, "C" in Chemistry-U and instructor approval

A physical science concerned with the relationship between matter and energy. The goal of this course is to explain the physical universe in terms of its basic interactions. Particular emphasis is placed on conceptual development, demonstrations and experiments. The course also stresses the application of physics in everyday life. Areas of study with laboratory experience will include: classical mechanics, heat, waves, sound, light, electricity, magnetism, relativity and nuclear physics.

## **CHEMICAL ISSUES - C**

**Credit:** 1.00

**Elective:** Juniors, Seniors

**Prerequisite:** Algebra I - C, Environmental Science and instructor approval

This course provides a basic overview of Chemistry. It emphasizes the basic concepts of molecules and structure dealing with application and problem solving. Laboratory work will be utilized to verify concepts and applications.

## **HUMAN ANATOMY and PHYSIOLOGY - U**

**Credit:** 1.00

**Elective:** Seniors

**Prerequisite:** “C” or above in Chemistry - U or Physics - U, or instructor approval

This course provides a comprehensive study of human systems, their origin, structure and function. Laboratory investigations include several representative dissections to further illustrate the relationship between structure and function.

## **HUMAN BIOLOGY - U**

**Credit:** 1.00

**Elective:** Seniors

**Prerequisite:** Grade of “C” or above in Chemical Issues or instructor approval

This course introduces students to the sciences of anatomy and physiology. The student will study the human body’s internal and external structures and the body’s functions. Students will leave the course with a firm grasp of how their bodies function in both health and disease.

## **A.P. BIOLOGY - H**

**Credit:** 1.00

**Elective:** Seniors

**Prerequisite:** Grade of “B” or above in Biology -A, Chemistry - H & Physics - H and Algebra II - H or above and instructor approval

This class is designed to prepare seniors for the A.P. biology exam. Topics covered include cell biology, biochemistry, energy reactions, ecology, molecular genetics, population genetics, diversity, evolution, and plant and animal structure and function. Labs are designed to meet A.P. biology requirements, introducing students to techniques and reasoning appropriate to a college level course. Students should be prepared to arrive at school during the zero hour (7:00-7:45 a.m.) periodically to begin lab experiments that cannot be completed in the traditional 45-minute classperiod. All students enrolled will be **expected** to take the A.P. exam.

# **SOCIAL STUDIES**

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## **WORLD HISTORY - A**

**Credit:** 1.00

**Required:** Freshmen

**Prerequisite:** Administrative Placement

This course takes a chronological approach to examine key periods in the history of the world from the earliest human communities to the very recent past. Cultural, economic, political, intellectual and geographic concepts are emphasized. Special attention is paid to the themes of both change and continuity over time.

## **WORLD HISTORY - U**

**Credit: 1.00**

**Required: Freshmen**

**Prerequisite: Administrative Placement**

In this course, the development of civilization is traced from the ancient Middle East to the latter half of the twentieth century. Special emphasis is placed on the common elements that cultures have shared over time as well as the diversity that has made each civilization unique.

## **WORLD HISTORY - C**

**Credit: 1.00**

**Required: Freshmen**

**Prerequisite: Administrative Placement**

In this course, selected periods of world history are examined in chronological sequence. Emphasis is placed on understanding the characteristics that typified each important epoch of world history and comparing these characteristics to conditions that exist today.

## **A.P. U.S. HISTORY - H**

**Credit: 1.00**

**Required: Juniors**

**Prerequisite: Placement by sophomore level English teacher (Demonstrated exemplary writing and reading comprehension skills and strategies).**

This course is designed to prepare students to take the Advanced Placement exam for U.S. History. Students are expected to demonstrate the highest levels of reading, writing, thinking, speaking and research skills. Special emphasis is placed upon historiography and an examination of the craft of the historian. All students enrolled in this course will **be expected** to take the A.P. exam.

## **U.S. HISTORY - H**

**Credit: 1.00**

**Required: Juniors**

**Prerequisite: Placement by sophomore level English teacher**

This course is a chronological examination of the events and developing themes which mark the history of the United States of America. Students are challenged to attain high levels of research, writing conceptualization and understanding.

## **U.S. HISTORY - U**

**Credit: 1.00**

**Required: Juniors**

**Prerequisite: Placement by sophomore level English teacher**

This course is designed to cover the traditional periods, major themes and achievements within a chronological frame. The course begins with the movement of people to the Americas and ends with an evaluation of the current administration and world affairs.

## **U.S. HISTORY - C**

**Credit: 1.00**

**Required: Juniors**

**Prerequisite: Placement by sophomore level English teacher**

This survey course is designed to cover the traditional periods, major themes and achievements of the American people within a chronological frame. It emphasizes development of study skills within the context of the course.

## **AP U.S. GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS - H**

**Credit: 0.50**

**Elective: Seniors**

**Prerequisite: AP U.S. History or Junior level U.S. History instructor**

This AP U.S. Government and Politics course will give students an analytical perspective on government and politics in the United States. This course includes both the study of general concepts used to interpret U.S. politics and the analysis of specific examples. It also requires familiarity with the various institutions, groups, beliefs, and ideas that constitute U.S. politics. All students enrolled in this course will **be expected to** take the A.P. exam. Students must pass the Illinois and U.S. Constitution tests as a graduation requirement.

## **U.S. GOVERNMENT - H**

**Credit: 0.50**

**Required: Seniors**

**Prerequisite: Placement by Junior level U.S. History instructor**

This course deals with the theory, structure and function of our American government. Particular attention is given to our Federal and State Constitutions. Students are made aware of their rights and duties as citizens of the United States. An emphasis on inquiry and interpretation of key issues is an important part of this course. Students must pass both the Illinois and U.S. Constitution tests as a graduation requirement.

## **U.S. GOVERNMENT - U**

**Credit: 0.50**

**Required: Seniors**

**Prerequisite: Placement by Junior level U.S. History instructor**

This course deals with the theory, structure and function of our American government. Particular attention is given to our Federal and State Constitutions. Students are made aware of their rights and duties as citizens of the United States. Students must pass both the Illinois and U.S. Constitution tests for graduation.

## **U.S. GOVERNMENT - C**

**Credit: 0.50**

**Required: Seniors**

**Prerequisite: Placement by Junior level U.S. History instructor**

This course deals with the theory, structure and function of our American government. Particular attention is given to our Federal and State Constitutions. Students are made aware of their rights and duties as citizens of the United States. Students must pass both the Illinois and U.S. Constitution tests for graduation.

## **ECONOMICS - H**

**Credit: 0.50**

**Required: Seniors**

**Prerequisite: Placement by Junior level U.S. History instructor**

This course introduces fundamental economic concepts such as scarcity, GNP, inflation, budgeting, etc. Other basic concepts include the functions performed by an economic system and the way the tools of supply and demand can be used to analyze a market economy.

## **ECONOMICS - U**

**Credit: 0.50**

**Required: Seniors**

**Prerequisite: Placement by Junior level U.S. History instructor**

This course aims to provide an understanding of our private enterprise system as it relates to the individual. In the American economic system, decision making is shared by consumers, producers and governments. Students will acquire a background which will equip them to make informed and intelligent decisions.

## **ECONOMICS - C**

**Credit: 0.50**

**Required: Seniors**

**Prerequisite: Placement by Junior level U.S. History instructor**

The economy is fast becoming a familiar topic to students growing up in the U.S. today. Their attention is being drawn increasingly to the day-to-day functioning of our free enterprise system. In this course, students are given a more rounded account of how our economy functions through a study of the economic system.

## **A.P. EUROPEAN HISTORY - H**

**Credit: 1.00**

**Elective: Juniors, Seniors**

**Prerequisite: A.P. U.S. History or Junior level U.S. History instructor approval**

This course will analyze European history from four distinct historical perspectives: 1) international and military; 2) political; 3) social and economic and 4) cultural and intellectual. These perspectives will enable the student of history to study the past, understand the present and explore the future through contemporary historical methods. Students who enroll in this course **will be expected to take the A.P. Exam at the completion of the course.**

## **INTRODUCTION TO SOCIOLOGY - U**

**Credit: 0.50**

**Elective: Juniors, Seniors**

**Prerequisite: None**

The study of human social behavior is the focus of this course. This course is also designed to stimulate the sociological imagination so students can better perceive how the pieces of society fit together, and what that means for their own lives. This course will help make today's multicultural, global society come alive for the student. From the international elite dividing up global markets to the intimacy of family, friendship, and the social institutions, the student can see how sociology is the key to understanding modern life and his or her own role in it.

## **INTRODUCTION TO PSYCHOLOGY - U**

**Credit: 0.50**

**Elective: Juniors, Seniors**

**Prerequisite: Instructor approval**

This semester course is an introduction to human behavior and a survey of selected topics. A student will become familiar with the vocabulary and concepts of personality development, the human life cycle, states of consciousness, and stress and mental disorders. Some of the issues covered in this course will include child abuse, sleep and dreams, the brain and perception, personality theories, major mental disorders and criminal profiling.

## **PSYCHOLOGY II - U**

**Credit:** 0.50

**Elective:** Juniors, Seniors

**Prerequisite:** Successful completion of Introduction to Psychology

This course is a continuation of the introductory course. Students will examine more topics in human development, brain studies and neuroscience, animal studies, and memory. Further topics will include human relationships; coercion, and brainwashing; the power of emotions, and forensic (criminal) psychology.

## **INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS - U**

**Credit:** 0.50

**Elective:** Juniors, Seniors

**Prerequisite:** Instructor approval

In today's world, no nation acts in isolation. Decisions made by one nation's leaders - about agricultural production, regulation of industry, or military expenditures - can have a dramatic effect on other nations. The interdependence of nations makes the study of international relations complex and ever changing. This course will help you understand why nations compete, why they cooperate, and why they sometimes go to war.

# **BUSINESS**

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## **ACCOUNTING I - U**

**Credit:** 1.00

**Elective:** Juniors, Seniors

**Prerequisite:** None

This course provides students with a background in basic financial accounting procedures and principles. The class covers concepts including analyzing business transactions, worksheets, calculating depreciation, taking inventory, types and forms of businesses, taxes, and preparing financial statements. This course is an excellent choice for students who anticipate entering into business-related fields in the future.

## **GENERAL BUSINESS - U**

**Credit:** 1.00  
**Elective:** Juniors, Seniors  
**Prerequisite:** None

This course provides background information for students interested in business subjects and serves as an introduction to the real world. Areas covered include our economy, types of business ownership, marketing, saving and investing options, government spending, preparing resumes, interviewing, and banking functions. The Computer Center is also utilized for various student presentations.

## **BUSINESS LAW - U**

**Credit:** 1.00  
**Elective:** Juniors, Seniors  
**Prerequisite:** None

This course studies our American legal system and the basics of contract law. Students will learn about civil and criminal law and the rights and responsibilities of the individual and minor. Case laws are reviewed and mock trials will be performed in class. Principles discussed are applicable to personal as well as business use; so non-business students wanting to acquire more knowledge about the law are strongly encouraged to enroll.