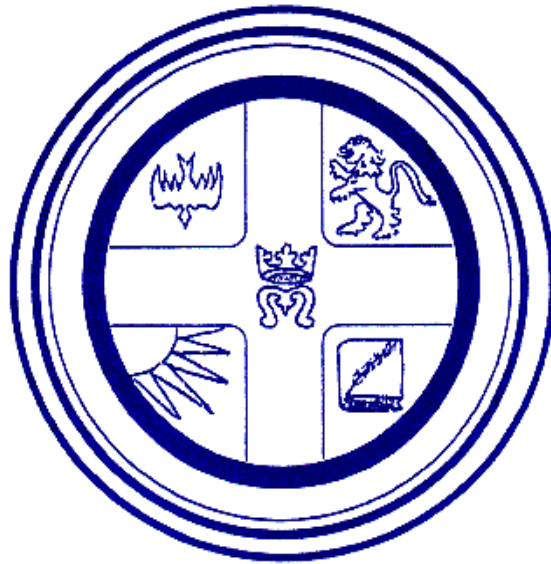


Cardinal McCarrick High School

310 Augusta Street
South Amboy, NJ 08879



Curriculum Guide

Main Office 732-721-0748
Guidance Office 732-721-3110
FAX# 732-727-7018

2009-2010

**GRADE 9
COURSE SELECTION**

During your course selection appointment a Guidance Counselor will make recommendations as to placement in the following subject areas:

REQUIRED COURSES – Choose one from each area

Honors Religious Studies (Inter-disciplinary) Religious Studies	Basic Computer Applications (Semester) Art/Music Cycle (Semester)
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Academic English I CP Honors English I (Inter-disciplinary) CP English I	Academic Algebra I Honors Algebra I/Geometry CP Algebra I
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Academic World History Honors World History (Inter-disciplinary) CP World History	CP Biology Honors Biology Concepts in Science
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ELECTIVE COURSES: - Choose one

Spanish I French I	Composition Skills
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**GRADE 10
COURSE SELECTION**

During your course selection process faculty members will make recommendations as to placement in the following subject areas:

REQUIRED COURSES – Choose one from each area

Religious Studies II	Academic Geometry
Honors English II / American Literature	Honors Geometry Geometry
CP English II / American Literature	CP Biology
Academic English II / American Literature	Honors Chemistry Chemistry
Honors U.S. History I	
CP U.S. History I	
Academic U.S. History I	Phys. Ed. II/Driver Ed.

NOTE: U.S. History I and II may be taken Sophomore-Junior years or Junior-Senior years.

ELECTIVE COURSES – Choose one or two

Advanced Computer Applications	Honors Algebra II / Trig
Spanish I	Music Appreciation
Spanish II	Music Ensemble
Honors Spanish III	Two Dimensional Design
French I	Themes & Foundations of Art
French II	Foundations of Graphic Design
Honors French III	

GRADE 11 COURSE SELECTION

During your course selection process faculty members will make recommendations as to placement in the following subject areas:

REQUIRED COURSES – Choose one from each area

Religious Studies III	Academic Algebra II
Honors English III / British Literature	Honors Algebra II / Trig
CP English III / British Literature	Algebra II
Honors Advanced English	Honors PreCalculus
	PreCalculus
Honors U.S. History I	Phys. Ed. III / First Aid
CP U.S. History I	
Honors U.S. History II	
CP U.S. History II	
AP U.S. History	

ELECTIVE COURSES – Choose Two

Advanced Computer Applications	Honors Chemistry
Web Design and Development	Chemistry
	Honors Physics
	CP Physics
Spanish I	Honors Human Anatomy & Physiology
Spanish II	CP Human Anatomy & Physiology
Honors Spanish III	Environmental Science
Honors Spanish IV	
French I	Music Appreciation
French II	Music Ensemble
Honors French III	Two Dimensional Design
	Portfolio I
Criminal Law	Themes & Foundations of Art
Sociology	Three Dimensional Design
	Foundations of Graphic Design

**GRADE 12
COURSE SELECTION**

REQUIRED COURSES – Choose one from each area

Religious Studies IV	Honors U.S. History II
Honors English IV-World Literature	CP U.S. History II
CP English IV – World Literature	AP U.S. History
AP English Literature	AP Calculus
	Discrete Math
	Honors PreCalculus
	PreCalculus
	Statistics

ELECTIVE COURSES – Choose three or four

Advanced Computer Applications	Chemistry
Web Design & Development	Honors Physics
Journalism / Yearbook	CP Physics
Spanish II	Honors Human Anatomy & Physiology
Honors Spanish III	CP Human Anatomy & Physiology
Honors Spanish IV	Environmental Science
French II	AP Biology
Honors French III	Music Appreciation
Honors French IV	Music Ensemble
Psychology	Two Dimensional Design
Criminal Law	Portfolio I, II
The Western Tradition	Themes & Foundations of Art
Phys. Ed. IV	Three Dimensional Design
History through Film	Foundations of Graphic Design
	Sociology

On-line Course Offerings:

Through services provided by Educere, CMHS is able to supplement its curriculum with well-developed web-based courses that provide educational opportunities for students in grade 12. On-line courses allow students to choose from a variety of semester courses as well as full year Advanced Placement courses. The brochure for on-line courses is available upon request.

INTRODUCTION

The curriculum of Cardinal McCarrick High School is designed to provide its students with those understandings, skills and appreciations that will prepare them for their future. The challenging course of study will lead to personal fulfillment, and is necessary for responsible citizenship in the school community and in wider society. The design of the curriculum considers the needs, abilities and interests of individual learners. Advanced Placement, Honors, College Preparatory and Academics Skills courses are offered.

Cardinal McCarrick High School is accredited by the Middle States Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools. The requirements for graduation are:

- a) four credit-years of English
- b) four credit-years of Mathematics
- c) two credit-years of United States History/one credit year of World History
- d) three credit-years of Science (one of which must be Biology)
- e) two years of Physical Education & Health
- f) one half credit-year of Fine Arts
- g) one half credit-year of Computer Literacy
- h) one credit-year of Religious Studies for each year of enrollment
- i) two credit- years of Language

Students must demonstrate proficiency in reading, mathematics and writing on a standardized test. Students must accumulate a minimum of 130 credits to graduate.

A rich and varied program of electives is offered to complement the required courses. These electives afford students the opportunity to expand their knowledge in specialized areas, to develop and pursue vocational interests, and to explore career possibilities. It is recommended that students not take more than two (2) electives in a department in any given year.

The Guidance Department, together with subject teachers, department chairpersons and the administration, assists the student in the selection of an appropriate course of study. Each student's selection must receive teacher/department approval if required. Freshmen programs of study are determined by preliminary testing, consultation with the Guidance Department and parental consent.

It is essential that serious consideration be given to course selection, for students must pursue their chosen programs to completion. Schedule changes will not be made for such reasons as teacher preference or lunch preference. The school reserves the right to change schedules in order to equalize class size and place students in appropriate ability-level groups. It is also strongly recommended that students make curriculum choices within the framework of a projected four-year program design. Student choices will be sent to parents for approval.

COMPUTERS

Basic Computer Applications

Required – semester course-grade 9

Prerequisite: None

In lieu of exams, projects will be assigned.

Course Description

This course will explore many topics that prepare students for further understanding of computers, technology, and their use in today's world. Using the Microsoft Office operating environment and suite of applications, students will strengthen keyboarding skills while using Microsoft Word; they will be introduced to Excel by learning how to create charts and graphs; they will use PowerPoint to create meaningful presentations; and they will use Publisher to create items such as a brochure or newsletter.

Advanced Computer Applications

Elective – full year – open to 10th, 11th & 12th grades

Prerequisite: Department approval; “B” average in Basic Computer Applications.

In lieu of midterm and final exams, projects will be assigned.

Course Description

Students electing to take this course will continue to learn the components of Microsoft Office Professional. Advanced word processing topics will be explored using Word to include macros, mail merge, forms and desktop publishing. Students will use Excel to work in a detailed spreadsheet environment and they will learn the usefulness of a database using Access. Students will also integrate all of these components, including PowerPoint. All projects are based on actual business usage of these applications.

Web Design and Development

Elective – full year – open to 11th & 12th grades

Prerequisite: Advanced Computer Applications and/or department approval; a minimum of “B+” average in Algebra I.

In lieu of midterm and final exams, projects will be assigned.

Course Description

Students will develop the skills needed to create a website for personal or professional use. Design skills will include navigation techniques, audience needs, browser/platform concerns and connection speeds.

Topics covered include: HTML language fundamentals, HTML editors (notepad and Dreamweaver), graphics editors (MS Paint and Photoshop), and an introduction to JavaScript programming and Cascading Style Sheets (CSS). This course is appropriate for all students who wish to develop web pages. Students will be required to conceptualize, code, and deliver a static web site.

ENGLISH

Honors English I

Required: grade 9

Prerequisite: Placement determined by Entrance Test and Guidance Department recommendation.

Course Description

The Honors course, in addition to covering the requirements of College Prep English I, also includes creative writing and expository writing. Students will learn to edit and evaluate the work of their peers and use an abstract level of thinking to examine literature.

In addition, teachers of freshmen English, Religion, and History Honors classes collaborate to design a multitude of interrelated academic topics that are taught in conjunction with each other. Students create projects that incorporate the key elements of each of those interrelated academic topics, and students are required to compose detailed essays, perform oral presentations, and utilize technology in the creation of these projects.

College Prep English I

Required: grade 9

Prerequisite: Placement determined by Entrance Test and Guidance Department recommendation.

Course Description

The purpose of this course is to provide a solid foundation in grammar, structure and usage, writing, reading and critical thinking. The use of vocabulary in the context of literature as well as specific writing selections is stressed. There will be an emphasis on the writing process and the development of a five-paragraph, well-written essay. Students will be introduced to the steps in writing a research paper. Through the study of literature by genre, students will enhance their comprehension and critical thinking skills. One summer reading with additional assessments is required. In addition, several outside readings will be required throughout the year.

Academic English I

Required: grade 9

Prerequisite: Placement determined by Entrance Test and Guidance Department recommendation.

Course Description

The purpose of the course is to provide a solid foundation in grammar, structure and usage, writing, reading, and comprehension. The use of vocabulary in the context of literature as well as specific writing selections is stressed. The writing process and the development of a three-paragraph well-written essay are addressed. Students will be introduced to the steps in writing a research paper. Through the study of literature by genre, students will enhance their comprehension skills and begin to use critical thinking skills. One summer reading with additional assessments is required. In addition, several outside readings will be required throughout the year.

Composition Skills

Elective: grade 9

Prerequisite: Placement Test scores and the recommendation of the Guidance Department. In lieu of midterm and final exams, projects will be assigned.

Course Description

Emphasis will be placed on reading skills, reading comprehension, organizational skills, note-taking, and writing skills. These skills will be developed by using the students' normal course work and additional reading and exercises found in the textbook and workbook as a basis for skills practice. Subject teachers are consulted and provide practice exercises for material being studied in the other disciplines. Some homework time is also provided on an as-needed basis. Students are expected to complete all class practice assignments to receive credit for this course.

Honors English II/American Literature

Required: grade 10

Prerequisite: An “A” average in English I CP/ a “B+” average in English Honors I and/or department recommendation.

Course Description

In addition to the requirements of English II/American Literature, strict structural analysis of literature will be developed. Stress will be placed on the analytical development of writing through literature. Two summer readings with additional assessments are required. In addition, several outside readings will be assigned throughout the year.

College Prep English II/ American Literature

Required: grade 10

Prerequisite: Successful completion of English I

Course Description

The purpose of this course is to continue the development of writing skills and grammar. Analytical writing procedures will be emphasized. Students will be expected to produce research papers from the literature of American authors during the school year. Process writing and peer editing will be utilized. Continued emphasis is placed on writing and vocabulary in the context of literature as well as specific writing selections. One summer reading with additional assessments is required. In addition, several outside readings will be assigned during the school year.

Academic English II/American Literature

Required: grade 10

Prerequisite: Successful completion of English I

Course Description

The aim of the course is to continue the development of a solid base of writing skills and grammar. Analytical writing skills will be emphasized. Students will be expected to produce a research paper using a specific format during the second semester. There will be continued work in vocabulary in the context of the literature and student writing. Process writing and peer editing will be utilized. Vocabulary prep for SATs will be introduced. Students will be required to complete one outside reading during the summer and an assignment related to the reading. In addition, several outside readings will be assigned throughout the year.

Advanced Honors English III

Required: grade 11

Prerequisite: Department recommendation and/or a minimum “A” in English Honors II.

Student must display an exceptional ability in the area of English.

Reading and writing proficiency must be established and the student must be self-motivated.

Course Description

This course focuses on the intense analysis of both fiction and nonfiction works. Students read sophisticated texts and compose pedantic essays in several drafts. Students are required to write numerous research and analytical papers throughout the year. Advanced Honors focuses more on composition than a standard honors course. Limited class size and seminar format enable students to develop as extraordinary writers and readers. A more challenging summer reading project is required.

Honors English III/ British Literature

Required: grade 11

Prerequisite: Department recommendation and/or “A” average in English II CP/”B+” average in English II Honors.

Course Description

In addition to the requirements of English III/British Literature, strict structural analysis of literature will be developed. Stress will be placed on the analytical development of writing through literature. Two summer readings with additional assessments are required. In addition, several outside readings will be assigned throughout the year.

College Prep English III/ British Literature

Required: grade 11

Prerequisite: Successful completion of English II

Course Description

The purpose of this course is to read and interpret various themes and styles of prose and poetry of British writers. The course stresses analytical thinking and writing about literature. The research paper is reviewed and students are required to produce research papers from the literature of British authors. Continued emphasis is placed on writing and vocabulary in the context of literature as well as specific writing selections. One summer reading with additional assessments is required.

In addition, several outside readings will be assigned throughout the school year.

Advanced Placement English Literature and Composition – Grade 12

Required: grade 12

Prerequisite: Department recommendation and/or a minimum “A” in English III Honors or Advanced Honors English III.

Student must display an exceptional ability in the area of English.

Reading and writing proficiency must be established and the student must be self-motivated. Department recommendation and/or a minimum “A” in English III Honors or Advanced Honors English III.

Course Description

This course contains intensive writing and close textual analysis of prose as well as poetry. The selection of literature is drawn from all genres, periods, and cultures. Limited class size and seminar format enable students to contribute ideas, opinions, and judgments. Peer editing and teacher-student conferencing are an integral part of this course. Students are required to write numerous research and analytical papers throughout the year. Intense poetry analysis is also done. The course prepares the students to take the Advanced Placement exam in May. Upon successful completion of this course and the required score on the AP exam, college credit may be issued by many colleges and universities. A more challenging summer project is required.

Honors English IV/World Literature

Required: grade 12

Prerequisite: Department recommendation and/or “A” average in CP English III/”B+” average in English Honors III.

Course Description

In addition to the requirements of English IV/World Literature, strict structural analysis of literature will be developed. Stress will be placed on the analytical development of writing through literature. Two summer readings with additional assessments are required. In addition, several outside readings will be assigned throughout the year.

College Prep English IV/World Literature

Required: grade 12

Prerequisite: Successful completion of English III

Course Description

The purpose of the course is to read and analyze various themes and styles of prose and poetry of world writers. The course stresses analysis and interpretation as well as discussion. Students are expected to successfully complete research papers. All types of essays based on the literature are developed. A continuation of vocabulary is studied in the context of the literature as well as specific writing selections. One summer reading with additional assessments is required. In addition, several outside readings will be assigned throughout the year.

Journalism/Yearbook

Elective: grade 12

Prerequisite: By recommendation of English teacher and/or C+ average in English. Computer skills are required. In lieu of midterm and final exams, projects will be assigned.

Course Description

This elective course is designed to have students explore the world of journalism with hands-on experience in creating the school yearbook. Deadlines are an extremely important part of the field of journalism and must be strictly adhered to in this class. Students must be computer literate and able to navigate through new programs. Class will learn journalism procedures, copy fitting, photography, editing, layout, and design procedures.

MATHEMATICS

Preface:

- 1) Each student must take at least one mathematics course freshman, sophomore, junior and senior years.
- 2) Each student will receive material in preparation for the SAT'S throughout their four years of mathematics.
- 3) TI-83 Plus or TI-84 Plus Graphing calculator required for Honors Precalculus and AP Calculus; other courses may require a scientific calculator.
- 4) Honors students may take two math courses during their sophomore year which are Honors Geometry and Honors Algebra II. Department approval is required for sophomores and seniors who wish to take two math courses. The purpose of this is to enable the students to complete all their required courses and AP Calculus.

Honors Algebra I / Geometry

Required: open to 9th grade

Prerequisite: Placement determined by Entrance Test and Guidance Department recommendation. Students must have knowledge of the Algebra I concepts.

Course Description

This course will be a rigorous approach to the following topics: directed numbers, all operations with polynomials, the solving of equations and inequalities, problem-solving, functions, quadratics, factoring, graphing, all operations of radicals, inductive and deductive reasoning, measuring and constructing angles and segments, geometric figures, all types of transformations, investigating various triangles, finding perimeter and areas of polygons and circles, finding lateral area, surface area and volume of solid figures, parallel lines related to angles, proving triangles congruent, investigating right triangle trigonometry and chords, secants, tangents, and angle relationships of a circle. It will be an intense study of the Geometry concepts interwoven with Algebra concepts.

Algebra I

Required: open to 9th grade

Prerequisite: Placement determined by Entrance Test and Guidance Department recommendation

Course Description

This is a college prep course covering the following topics: directed numbers, all operations with polynomials, factoring, graphing, solving of equations and inequalities, problem-solving and functions up to and including quadratics.

Academic Algebra I

Required: open to 9th grade

Prerequisite: Placement determined by Entrance Test and Guidance Department recommendation

Course Description

This is a college prep course covering the following topics: integers, equations, inequalities, polynomials, factoring and graphing.

Honors Geometry

Required: open to 10th grade

Prerequisite: Honors Algebra I with at least a “B” average or “A” average in Algebra I with department approval.

Course Description

This is a college prep course covering the following topics: inductive and deductive reasoning, measuring and constructing angles and segments, geometric figures, all types of transformations, investigating various triangles, finding perimeter and areas of polygons and circles, finding lateral area, surface area and volume of solid figures, parallel lines related to angles, proving triangles are congruent, investigating right triangle trigonometry and chords, secants, tangents and angle relationships of a circle. These topics proceed at a more rigorous pace and there is an in-depth study of each concept.

Geometry

Required; – open to 10th grade

Prerequisite: A “C” average in Algebra I, or an “A” average in Academic Algebra I with department approval.

Course Description

This is a college prep course covering the following topics: inductive and deductive reasoning, measuring and constructing angles and segments, geometric figures, types of transformations, investigating various triangles, finding perimeter and areas of polygons and circles, finding lateral area, surface area and volume of solid figures, parallel lines related to angles, proving triangles are congruent, investigating right triangle trigonometry and chords, secants, tangents and angle relationships of a circle.

Academic Geometry

Required: open to 10th grade

Prerequisite: Academic Algebra I with department approval.

Course Description

The concepts, materials and the manner of presentation have been planned so that the student will have a rewarding hands-on experience in the geometry course. The topics of the course are: angles, triangles, polygons, circles, perimeter and area, solids, coordinate geometry and transformations.

Honors Algebra II and Trigonometry

Required: open to 10th and 11th grades

Prerequisite; A “B” average in Honors Algebra I/a “B” average in Honors Geometry with department approval.

Course Description

This course will review topics introduced in Algebra I and promote a deeper understanding and greater facility in these areas. In addition to the usual topics of Algebra II, a study of conic sections is included. Logarithmic and trigonometric functions are introduced.

Algebra II

Required: open to 11th grade

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Algebra I and Geometry or an “A” average in Academic Geometry with department approval.

Course Description

This course offers the student the basic concepts of intermediate algebra. The properties of the real numbers are reconsidered and the techniques for solving equations in inequalities are reviewed. Polynomials and rational functions are considered and the quadratic relations are introduced.

Academic Algebra II

Required; open to 11th grade

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Academic Algebra I and Academic Geometry with department approval.

Course Description

This course is an integrated approach to mathematics including algebra and geometry concepts. The main topics of the course are: systems of equations, slope, polynomials, quadratic functions and matrices.

Honors Precalculus

Elective: open to 11th and 12th grades

Prerequisite: A “B” average in Honors Algebra II and Trigonometry with department approval.

Course Description

This course is an advanced study of functions including polynomial, rational, exponential, logarithmic and trigonometric proofs and identities. Limits are introduced.

Precalculus

Elective: open to 11th and 12th grades

Prerequisite: Algebra II with at least a “C” average and department approval

Course Description

This course is a study of functions including polynomial, rational, exponential, logarithmic and trigonometric proofs and identities.

Advance Placement Calculus

Elective: open to 12th grade

Prerequisite: A “B” average in Honors Precalculus with department approval.

Course Description

This course covers differentiation techniques and applications, integrations area under a curve, integration techniques and applications. Limit theory is carefully developed. This course prepares students for the AP Examination. This course prepares students to take the Advanced Placement exam in May. Upon successful completion of this course and the required score on the AP exam, college credit may be issued by many colleges and universities.

Discrete Math

Elective: open to 12th grade

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Algebra I, Algebra II and Geometry with department approval.

Course Description

This course is divided into two sections. The first section is a review of math concepts, algebra and geometry in preparation for the SAT test and standardized tests. The second section is the study of discrete math, which includes networking, scheduling, coding and graph theory.

Statistics

Elective: open to 12th grade

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Algebra I and Algebra II, Geometry with department approval.

Course Description

This course is a study of an introduction to Statistics, descriptive statistics, probability, Normal distributions, variance and standard deviation, hypothesis testing, and correlation and regression. Included within the course will be a variety of real-life applications.

MUSIC

Fine Arts - Music

Required - quarter course-grade 9

Prerequisite: None

Course Description

This single quarter course is a general music survey which explores the roots of American popular music and introduces the fundamentals of basic music theory. Students will be assessed by a variety of projects, presentations, and conventional examination methods in lieu of mid-term and final exams.

Music Appreciation

Elective – open to 10th, 11th, and 12th grades.

POSSESSION OF MUSICAL INSTRUMENT IS NOT REQUIRED.

Course Description

This course serves as a comprehensive introduction for those students interested in pursuing the study of music in an academic capacity. Rock/pop, jazz and blues, as well as various folk styles and eras of classical music will be explored from a historical perspective. Additionally, the fundamentals of music theory, arranging, and performance will be examined in depth. Students will be assessed by a variety of projects, presentations, and conventional examination methods in lieu of mid-term and final exams.

Music Ensemble

Elective – open to 10th, 11th, and 12th grades.

Prerequisite: Permission of the music instructor

POSSESSION OF MUSICAL INSTRUMENT IS REQUIRED.

Course Description

This is an advanced music course focusing on instrumental performance in group and solo formats, with a strong emphasis on the study and application of intermediate music theory. Development of creative abilities will be an additional theme. Students will be assessed by a combination of prepared performances and conventional examination methods in lieu of mid-term and final exams.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION/HEALTH

Physical education is an integral part of the total education program and contributes to the development of the individual through the natural medium of physical activity; human movement. The physical education experience should be a positive motivating force that will help develop a lifestyle of physical activity. Each student will have the opportunity to participate in sport, components of overall fitness, and life long activities that can be enjoyed now and in the future.

Outcomes For Physical Education:

1. Students will demonstrate an understanding of the principles of personal fitness.
2. Students will actively participate in physical activity and show improvement in physical fitness and skills.
3. Students will demonstrate good safety techniques, sportsmanship and fair play.
4. Students will demonstrate knowledge of rules and strategies.
5. Students will promote respect and acceptance of self and others.
- 6.. Students will display positive social skills.
7. Students will demonstrate positive expression and communication.
8. Students will adequately complete physical fitness testing each year.

Driver Education/Physical Education

Required – 10th grade – 1 quarter in addition to 3 quarters of physical education. In lieu of midterm and final exams, projects will be assigned.

Prerequisite: None

Course Description

The student learns the rules of the road, the operation of a car, and defensive driving attitudes. The course is a 30-hour program which makes the student eligible for driver education insurance discounts after they take a behind-the-wheel training.

First Aid/Physical Education

Required – 11th grade – 1 quarter in addition to 3 quarters of physical education. In lieu of midterm and final exams, projects will be assigned.

Prerequisite: None

Course Description

Students are introduced to basic first aid and safety skills related to accidents, sudden illness, disasters and home safety. Practical application of these skills instills knowledge and confidence in dealing with situations the students must face in the future.

Physical Education

Elective – 12th grade. In lieu of midterm and final exams, projects will be assigned.

Prerequisite: Permission of instructor

Course Description

See description listed on previous page.

RELIGION

Honors Religious Studies I

Required: grade 9

Prerequisite: Placement determined by Entrance Test and Guidance Department recommendation.

Course Description

The student deepens his knowledge and love of Christ through the systematic overview of the Catholic faith. Focus is on personal prayer life, the teachings of the Faith as professed in the Creed and the central role of the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass. The course also focuses on how prayer and the sacraments strengthen each one to practice Christ-like virtue and how to morally live the Catholic faith in today's society. In addition, teachers of Honors English, Religion, and History classes collaborate to design a multitude of interrelated academic topics, and students are required to compose detailed essays, perform oral presentations, and utilize technology in the creation of these projects.

Religious Studies I: Catholicism

Required: grade 9

Prerequisite: none

Course Description:

The purpose of this course is to help the students deepen their knowledge and love of Christ through a systematic overview of the Catholic Faith. The first semester will focus on developing a personal prayer life, the teachings of the Faith as professed in the Creed and the central role of the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass in that Faith. The second semester will focus on how prayer and Sacraments strengthen us to practice Christ-like virtue and morally live the Catholic Faith in today's society. Participation in Church/spiritual activities and service outside the classroom will be required.

Religious Studies II: Scripture Studies

Required: grade 10

Prerequisite: None

Course Description:

This course focuses the student to develop and deepen his knowledge of and love for Sacred Scriptures. The first semester explores the Old Testament and its historical background. The course begins with an overview of Bible history, including background information on biblical times, places and customs. Selected readings from the Old Testament complete the first semester. The second semester explores the New Testament, with an emphasis on the person of Jesus Christ. This entails a detailed study of the Gospels, as well as selected readings from the Acts of the Apostles, the Epistles and Revelation. In both semesters, students will come to understand how Sacred Scripture relate to their lives. Participation in Church/spiritual activities and service outside the classroom will be required.

Religious Studies III: Encountering Christ in the Church

Required: grade 11

Prerequisite: None

Course Description: This course focuses on the nature of the Church (Ecclesiology) and encountering Christ in Sacraments in order to help students deepen their knowledge and love of Christ and His Church. Students will also study the lives of saints and examine current social issues and world religions from a Catholic Christian perspective in order to better participate in the life of the Church and bring Christ to the world. ****THERE IS A 10 HOUR SERVICE REQUIREMENT FOR ALL JUNIORS.**

Religious Studies IV: Morality, Family Life and Vocations

Required: grade 12

Prerequisite: None

Course Description:

The purpose of this course is to help the student develop and deepen his/her innate knowledge of the moral law in light of the teachings of Jesus Christ and His Church. As a way of fostering spiritual growth and maturity, the student will study the basis of morality as rooted in the personhood of each individual human being created in the image and likeness of God. Current social topics and the ethical response to each will be explored within the context of ever-widening relationships.

The first semester will cover basic principles of Christian morality and the second semester will cover the application of those principles to the personal lives of the students as they begin to chart the course of their future. The Senior Religion course contains a Christian Service component. Seniors are required to perform 20 hours of volunteer service during the course of their senior year. Proposed service projects/services must be approved by the Senior Religion teacher and the Religion Department Chairperson. If a student cannot arrange service hours outside the school, the Campus Ministry department and the Religion Department can assist the student in arranging his/her service. Service hours must be documented and validated by the person supervising the service. **COMPLETION OF THIS SERVICE COMPONENT IS A REQUIREMENT FOR GRADUATION FROM CARDINAL MCCARRICK HIGH SCHOOL.**

SCIENCE

Honors Biology (lab)

Required: open to 9th

Prerequisite: Placement determined by Entrance Test and Guidance Department recommendation.

Course Description

Biology, the study of life, explores the major kingdoms, their interaction to each other and the environment. Topics include cells, genetics, diversity and continuity, biochemistry, and taxonomy. Students will learn through current events and technology, using critical thinking skills and applied knowledge. Both laboratory and computer activities will enhance the learning experience and stimulate discovery and inquiry.

Biology (lab)

Required: open to 9th or 10th grade

Prerequisite: 9th grade placement determined by Entrance Exam

Course Description

Biology, the study of life, explores the major kingdoms and their interaction to each other and the environment. Levels of development from simple to complex, ranging from cells to systems, will be studied. Classifications determined through structure and function will be emphasized in the course. Current events related to Biology will be discussed. Laboratory will enhance the understanding of concepts through experiments and contact with the organisms being studied.

Concepts in Science

Required: open to 9th grade

Prerequisite: Placement determined by Entrance Test and Guidance Department recommendation.

Course Description

Concepts in Science will serve as an introduction to physics, chemistry, biology, earth science and astronomy. Topics will include the properties and patterns of matter involving atoms and elements, Newton's Laws of Motion, gravity, genetics, the cell, biological diversity, ecosystems, space exploration and history of earth. Teacher demonstrations will reinforce lecture topics, as well as, enable students to relate science concepts to the world around them. This integrated approach to science is geared toward preparing students for future courses in biology and chemistry.

Honors Chemistry (lab)

Required: open to 10th & 11th grades

Prerequisite: “B” average in Honors Biology/“B” average in Honors Algebra I.

A student **MUST** be in Honors Math to be in Honors Chemistry.

Course Description

Chemistry studies the behavior of matter and its quantitative value related to technology today. The atom, nuclear chemistry, stoichiometry, acid and bases will be explored. This course will include laboratory experiments that will stimulate critical thinking. Honors Chemistry prepares the student to pursue a science career.

College Prep Chemistry (lab)

Required: open to 10th and 11th grade

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Biology and Algebra I

Course Description

Chemistry is a course for upperclassmen WHO plan to study science in college, anticipate a science-related career, or wish to extend their knowledge of the physical world. The course includes units of general chemistry dynamics and acid-base reactions. An effort is made throughout to relate the studies to everyday experiences, ecology and technology. Laboratory work supplements all class work.

Honors Human Anatomy and Physiology (lab)

Elective: open to 11th & 12th grades

Prerequisite: A minimum of an “A” in Biology and “B⁺” in Chemistry

Course Description

This course is an introduction to Anatomy and Physiology. major levels of organization in living organisms will be organized. This course will be geared to the student who is thinking of embarking on a career in the medical or biological field. This course will review all systems of the body in detail along with the physiology of each system. The organ systems and their components will be explained through lecture, projects, reports and dissections. This course will include microbiology and the growth and examination of the cells. This level will require memorization.

College Prep Human Anatomy and Physiology (lab)

Elective: open to 11th & 12th grades

Prerequisite: A minimum of a “B” in both Biology and Chemistry

Course Description:

This course is an introduction to Anatomy and Physiology. Levels of organization in living organisms will be examined. This course will review the systems of the human body along with how each system works. The organ systems will be explained through lecture, projects, reports, dissections, and other labs that pertain to how the human body works.

Environmental Science (lab)

Elective: open to 11th & 12th grades

Prerequisite: Successful Completion of both Biology and Chemistry. Juniors must have Department approval.

Course Description

The Earth will be studied as a single interacting unit and the relationships between organisms and the environment will be explored. Specific topics will include the history of environmental science, biodiversity, sustainability, stewardship, cycles, food webs, endangered species, biomes, population from the Catholic perspective, environmental health issues, air pollution, waste management, energy, ethics, law, current issues in environmental science and careers. This course will include projects, laboratory and field experiences.

Honors Physics (lab)

Elective: open to 12th grade

Prerequisite: “B” in Honors Algebra II & Trigonometry/“B” in Chemistry

Course Description

Physics is recommended for those students who intend to study the science of engineering or pursue a science major in college. The course includes units on kinetic motion, light and sound motion, thermodynamics, electricity, and electronics. Once students have acquired basic concepts, they will have an opportunity to explore and apply these principles in laboratory settings.

College Prep Physics (lab)

Elective: open to 11th & 12th grades

Prerequisite: Successful Completion of Algebra II and Chemistry

Course Description

This course will include kinetic motion, forces, energy, light and waves, lenses and electricity. There will be accompanying laboratory experiences so that students can see the applications of the physics principles learned in the lecture. Most topics will utilize mathematical equations to solve the problems.

Advanced Placement Biology (lab)

Elective: open to 12th grade

Without sufficient numbers the course will not be offered.

Prerequisite: A minimum of an “A” in Honors Biology/“B” in Chemistry/“A” in Anatomy and Physiology Honors

Course Description

The AP Biology course is designed to be the equivalent of a two-semester college introductory course usually taken by biology majors during their first year. AP Biology will include topics regularly covered in a college biology course for majors. This will provide students with the conceptual framework, factual knowledge, and analytical skills necessary to deal critically with the rapidly changing science of biology. The course prepares the students to take the Advanced Placement exam in May. Upon successful completion of this course and the required score on the AP exam, college credit may be issued by many colleges and universities. There will be a summer assignment due the first day of school for this course.

SOCIAL STUDIES

Honors World History

Required: grade 9

Prerequisite: Placement determined by Entrance Test and Guidance Department recommendation

Course Description

This course studies the major events which influenced the shaping of our modern world. A survey of ancient civilizations is followed by a study of classical Greece and Rome, leading to an examination of Medieval Europe, the Renaissance, the Reformation, the Enlightenment, nationalism, imperialism, total war and the modern world. Western civilization is emphasized, but the course devotes time to major events in Asia, Africa, and Latin America. Students will examine world history through a variety of media, and be required to read two major historical works. Examinations, presentations, and essay writing is used in assessments that emphasize critical thinking skills.

In addition, teachers of freshmen Honors English, Religion, and History classes will collaborate to design a multitude of interrelated academic topics that will be taught in conjunction with each other. Students will create a project that incorporates the key elements of each of those interrelated academic topics, and students will be required to compose detailed essays, perform oral presentations, and utilize technology in the creation of these projects.

College Prep World History

Required: grade 9

Prerequisite: Placement determined by Entrance Test and Guidance Department recommendation

Course Description

This course studies the major events which influenced the shaping of our modern world. A study of classical history is followed by a look at Renaissance, the Reformation, the Age of Exploration, Absolutism, The Enlightenment, nationalism, imperialism, total war and international dependency. Western Civilization is emphasized, but the course examines changing conditions in Asia, Africa, and Latin America and their impact on Western Civilization. Special emphasis is given to the need to understand and accept cultures which are different from our own. This course also serves as an introduction to skill development and value clarification in the area of Social Studies.

Academic World History

Required: grade 9

Prerequisite: Placement determined by Entrance Test and Guidance Department recommendation

Course Description

This course studies the major events which influenced the shaping of our modern world. A study of classical history is followed by a look at the Renaissance, the Reformation, the Age of Exploration, nationalism, imperialism, total war and international dependency. Western Civilization is emphasized, but the course examines changing conditions in Asia, Africa and Latin America and their impact on Western Civilization. Special emphasis is given to the need to understand and accept cultures which are different from our own. Emphasis will be placed on the reinforcement of basic skills and students will be introduced to value clarifications in the area of Social Studies.

Honors United States History I

Required: open to 10th & 11th grades

Prerequisite: An "A" average in World History/a "B+" average in World History Honors and/or department recommendation.

Course Description

This course traces the development of our nation's history from the origins of the American Revolution to the Reconstruction. Students will examine critically the major issues of the period. Critical thinking and geography skills will be emphasized. Students will be required to present oral reports, examine primary sources, as well as to write essays for the evaluation process.

College Prep United States History I

Required: open to 10th & 11th grades

Prerequisite: Successful completion of World History.

Course Description

The course traces the development of our nation's history from the origins of the American Revolution to the Reconstruction, giving knowledge of the events involved, while reinforcing certain skills from freshman year, and clarifying a value system useful in a democratic society.

Academic United States History I

Required: open to 10th grade

Prerequisite: Successful completion of World History

Course Description

Students will explore the important issues surrounding the developments in American history from the Revolution to the Reconstruction. Writing will be emphasized. Students will be expected to give clear and concise explanations of major historical events studied. Basic skills will be stressed.

Advanced Placement U.S. History

Elective: open to 11th & 12th grades

Prerequisite: An “A” average in United States Honors History I and department recommendation. A writing sample evaluation is required.

Course Description

United States History will be explored in more depth from the colonial period to the present with an emphasis on major themes. Students will become more knowledgeable in their use of primary sources, including documents, maps, statistical tables, and pictorial and graphic evidence of historical events. There will be extensive practice in writing free response essays, document based essays, and in answering multiple choice questions of Advanced Placement level. This course prepares students to take the Advanced Placement exam in May. Upon successful completion of this course and the required score on the AP exam, college credit may be issued by many colleges and universities.

Honors United States History II

Required: open to 11th & 12th grades – consecutively following U.S. History I

Prerequisite: An “A” average in US History I/ a “B+” average in US History I Honors and/or department recommendation.

Course Description

This is a continuation of U.S. History I focusing on the 20th Century. Among the topics to be discussed are: American foreign policy, World War I, the Depression, the rise of dictatorships, World War II, the Cold War, the Sixties, the Civil Rights Movement, the Vietnam War, and the America of the 80’s and 90’s. Current events will be discussed. An emphasis will be placed on critical thinking and geography skills.

College Prep United States History II

Required : open to 11th & 12th grades – consecutively following U.S. History I

Prerequisite: None

Course Description

This is a continuation of U.S. History I focusing on the 20th Century. Topics to be discussed are: American foreign policy, World War I, the Depression, Rise of Dictatorships, World War II, the Cold War, the Sixties and the Civil Rights Movement and Vietnam. Current events will be related to the topics discussed.

History through Film

Elective: open to 12th grade

Successful completion of US History I & US History II

Course Description

The course will examine historical events and ideas through the analysis of films. The first semester will deal with themes in World History. Second Semester will focus on American history. Students will be required to write essays and present reports for evaluation of their progress. **THIS COURSE IS OPEN TO SENIORS 17 YEARS OLD OR OLDER.**

Criminal Law

Elective:open to 11th & 12th grades

Prerequisite: none

Course Description

The course will investigate the basic structure of government for the purpose of understanding how laws are made. Students will focus on such topics as: search and seizure, the rights at arrest, due process, punishment, juvenile crime and famous court cases.

Psychology

Elective: open to 12th grade

Prerequisite: none

Course Description

This course explores the research and theories of a wide range of scientists and practitioners of behavioral, developmental and physiological psychology. Topics will be explored in the context of research methods, case studies, lecture, and discussion.

Sociology

Elective: open to 11th and 12th grades

Prerequisite: none

Course Description

This course will challenge students to pose their own questions about society and to think critically about the world in which they live. Among the topics covered will be social structure and society, inequalities of gender, ethnicity and age, and social change in modern society. Students will learn about sociological research by creating their own sociological survey to analyze the values, attitudes, and beliefs of the CMHS student body.

The Western Tradition

Elective: open to 12th grade students. *This is a freshman college course, and accordingly will be taught at that level. Students successfully completing this course will earn three college credits, pending approval from St. Peter's College.*

Prerequisites: A minimum of "A" average in World History, United States History I, United States History II/AP US History/or department approval.

Course Description

This course is an examination of trends from classical Greece to the eighteenth century that created the Western World, enabling students to gain an in-depth understanding of Western Civilization from the political, intellectual, social, military, and economic perspectives. A study of classical history (emphasis on Ancient Greece and Rome) is followed by examination of the rise of Medieval Europe, the Renaissance, the Protestant Reformation, the Scientific Revolution, the Age of Exploration, the Age of Absolutism, the Enlightenment, the American and French Revolutions, and the Industrial Revolution. Teaching strategies will include lecture and discussion, small group and individual presentations, and various media. Students will develop critical thinking skills such as analysis, interpretation, and synthesis, and will utilize historical research skills using primary and secondary sources. Assessments will include examinations, essays, group and individual presentations, class participation, and homework assignments.

VISUAL ART

Fine Arts - Art

Required - quarter course- 9th grade

Prerequisite: None

In lieu of midterm and final exams, projects will be assigned.

Course Description

This course will expose students to the fundamentals of drawing from observation "Seeing" and recording accurately through exercises in drawing objects, environments and the human figure. The text will be "Drawing on the Right Side of the Brain."

Themes and Foundations of Art

Elective-full year - open to 10th, 11th, and 12th grades.

Prerequisite: None

In lieu of midterm and final exams, projects will be assigned.

Course Description

This course prepares students for the study of art through intensive practice looking at, discussing, studying and writing about art. Students learn the tools of art history, its terminology, and various critical and historical methodologies, studying work of all periods and cultures. Students will develop visual expression, skill in using various materials, growth of critical evaluative abilities and the use of technology for research and assignments.

Two-Dimensional Design

Elective - full year - open to 10th, 11th, & 12th grades

Prerequisite: Themes and Foundations of Art

In lieu of midterm and final exams, projects will be assigned.

Course Description

This course is a focused introduction to the two-dimensional plane and its elements. The first semester defines the terminology and sharpens the ability to discern and use the visual elements of point, line, shape and pattern. These fundamental elements are studied as independent units and brought together supporting and animating one another in a variety of formats. Skills in the use of black and white media such as inks and acrylic pigments, equipment including technical pens, brushes, drafting tools and the computer are developed in the first semester.

Second semester is devoted to the introduction and extended study of color. The major works of the semester are based in the use of acrylic paints and

require skills of mixing and application. Other color mediums, such as collage, pastels, watercolors, and oil sticks are also explored. Color theories are discussed, projects requiring tinting, shading and toning clarify these basic concepts and master works of color are studied. Ideas and work developed in this class will be shared with other classes and put on the student's web page.

Three Dimensional Design

Elective - full year - open to 11th & 12th grades

Prerequisite: Themes and Foundations of Art

In lieu of midterm and final exams, projects will be assigned.

Course Description

Introduction to concepts of mass, volume, space and the properties of three-dimensional form are included in this course. The introduction of three-dimensional webs and related terminology is combined with the instruction in the use of materials such as paper, wood, plaster, clay and the use of computer programs. Students develop the practical experiences needed to make objects which counteract and respond to forces and answer visual requirements. Students will have access to a new language as they learn to see, think and plan three-dimensionally. Although traditional methods of conceptualizing are used within a thorough visual process, extensive computer work is involved and posted on the student's web page.

Foundations of Graphic Design

Elective - full year - open to 10th, 11th & 12th grades

Prerequisite: Themes and Foundations of Art

In lieu of midterm and final exams, projects will be assigned.

Course Description

This course is a survey of the development of graphic design from pictorial symbols of the Neolithic period to the computer technology of the present with emphasis given to writing, type and printing. Drawing techniques common to graphic design will be studied and skills in theoretical and practical design appreciation both by hand and on the computer will be developed. Students will also learn how to use typography in current technology with an emphasis on retaining the expressive power of type in today's computerized formats.

Portfolio I, II

Elective - full year – Portfolio I open to 11th grade and Portfolio II open to 11th & 12th grades.

Prerequisite: Permission of the department.

In lieu of midterm and final exams, projects will be assigned.

Course Description

This course is only for students who plan to pursue art in college. They will produce a body of work intended for eventual presentation in a school exhibition and college portfolio. Students will complete their visual works for a CD presentation. With guidance, the student is responsible for an exhibition site, curating, planning and installing his/her exhibition. The artist's statement and slide presentation of the work accompanies his/her exhibition. A computer will be used for the digital presentation.

WORLD LANGUAGES

NOTE: ALL LANGUAGE COURSES MUST BE TAKEN IN CONSECUTIVE YEARS.

French I

Elective :open to 9th, 10th and 11th grades

Prerequisite: Students with a prior knowledge of French who wish to be considered for Level II are required to take the proficiency test and to achieve a score of 85 or above.

Course Description

The language skills of listening and speaking are stressed throughout this beginning course. Communication in the language is the primary goal. Students are encouraged to communicate using common colloquialisms and idioms spoken by the French. Vocabulary building and the mastery of basic grammar are also important aims. As proficiency develops, students will master basic reading and writing skills. Various aspects of French culture are also presented and contrasted with our own.

French II

Elective: open to 10th, 11th & 12th grades

Prerequisite: Successful completion of French I

Course Description

A continuation of French I emphasizes the language skills of listening and speaking as well as reading and writing, with communication in the language is the primary goal. Important aims are also increased vocabulary building, reading comprehension writing skills and intermediate grammar. French culture continues to be an integral part of this course.

Honors French III

Elective: open to 11th & 12th grades

Prerequisite: Successful completion of French II with a minimum of a “C” average.

Course Description

A continuation of French II is geared toward the more serious language student who has mastered the basics of listening, speaking, reading and writing in the foreign language. Communication on all levels is stressed.

Honors French IV

Elective: open to 11th & 12th grades (Without sufficient numbers, the course will not be offered.)

Prerequisite: Successful completion of French III Honors with a minimum of a “C+” average.

Course Description

This course is designed to prepare the students for further study and continued use of the language. French literary passages and poetry are presented for appreciation and comprehension.

Spanish I

Elective: open to 9th, 10th & 11th grades

Prerequisite: Students with a prior knowledge of Spanish who wish to be considered for Level II are required to take the proficiency test and to achieve a score of 85 or above. Those students who have completed a comprehensive Spanish Level I in the eighth grade will automatically be placed in Spanish Level II.

Course Description

Spanish I introduces students to the basic vocabulary, structure, pronunciation, comprehension and communication skills of Spanish as a foreign language. This is an introductory program that makes communication in Spanish a natural, personalized enjoyable and rewarding experience. This level is a basis for sequence of studies that continues through Levels II, III & IV. Cultural connections are built into the various lessons.

Spanish II

Elective: open to 9th, 10th, 11th, & 12th grades

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Spanish I

Course Description

This course is designed to further develop the student’s ability to use Spanish in real-life situations through oral, audio, visual, and written skills. Exposure to Hispanic cultures will be developed through student research and project work.

Honors Spanish III

Elective: open to 11th & 12th grades

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Spanish II and a minimum of a “C” average.

Course Description

At this level written and oral conversations are emphasized. Students will further develop grammar, as well as the audio-lingual skills. Literature will be introduced.

Honors Spanish IV

Elective: open to 11th & 12th grades. (Without sufficient numbers, the course will not be offered.)

Prerequisite: Completion of Spanish III Honors with a minimum of a C+ average.

Course Description

This course affords the student the opportunity to explore advanced Spanish and Hispanic literature as well as other advanced areas of study. Reading and writing skills are developed through the study of the Arts, Literature, and related historical events. The target language is used exclusively for all instruction. Extensive project work will supplement the course of study.