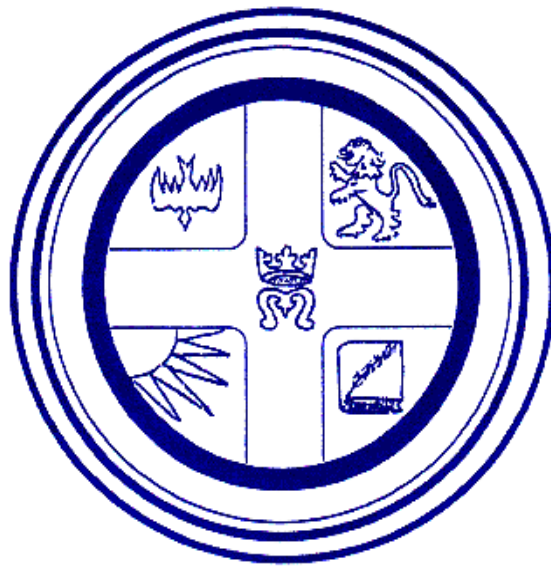


Cardinal McCarrick High School

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South Amboy, NJ 08879



Curriculum Guide

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2010-2011

Cardinal McCarrick High School
South Amboy, NJ 08879
www.cardinalmccarrick.com

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Mr. Edward Twomey
Guidance Director
Junior/Senior

Mr. Michael Foley
Counselor
Freshman/Sophomore

Mr. William Ryan
Counselor
Junior/Senior

Curriculum Guide
2010-2011

Computer Science Department

English Department

Mathematics Department

Physical Education/Health Department

Religion Department

Science Department

Social Studies Department

Visual Art/Music Departments

World Languages Department

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Curriculum Guide Introduction

ACADEMIC PROGRESS

Cardinal McCarrick High School utilizes three methods to keep parents informed of their child's academic performance. *PowerSchool*, our on-line parent and student information program, provides up-to-date access to student's grades. Teachers also post homework assignments and other pertinent class information on PowerSchool and Moodle. Individual progress reports are emailed to parents or mailed home at the halfway mark of each academic quarter. The intent of the notice is to alert parents that their son/daughter may be in jeopardy of failing a course. However, even if a progress report is not received, a student can still fail the marking period by having his/her grade drop during the last half of the academic quarter. The bottom portion of the progress report should be signed by a parent/guardian and returned to the subject teacher.

All parents are welcome to attend parent-teacher conferences which are held after the 1st and 2nd marking periods. A mandatory parent conference for students who fail any course will be held after the 3rd marking period. They are conducted after the student's report cards have been distributed. Parents are encouraged to attend these conferences to ensure that strategies can be devised to improve the student's academic performance. The dates for these conferences are posted on the school calendar on the website.

GRADING POLICY

The school year is divided into four marking periods and two semesters. Semester I is made up of marking periods one and two and the mid-term examination. Semester II includes marking periods three and four and the final examination. The final grade for the year is the average of Semester I and II. The dates for the 4 academic quarters are posted on the school website.

The school employs the following grading system:

A + = 97-100	C + = 80-84
A = 93-96	C = 75-79
B + = 89-92	D = 70-74
B = 85-88	F = 69 & below

I = Incomplete

X = Medical excuse (no credit earned)

W = Withdrew (no credit earned)

HONOR ROLL

Honor Roll is determined by a student's grades in each of the four quarters. The requirements for honor roll are as follows:

- 1) Principal's List: No grade less than "A"
- 2) Honor Roll: No grade less than a "B"

Students will receive a certificate after their report cards have been distributed to indicate which level of honor roll was achieved.

CLASS RANK

The guidelines governing class ranking are based on the recommendations of the National Association of Secondary School Principals which are explained below.

Cardinal McCarrick's Class Ranking is determined by three factors:

- 1.) Quality Points
- 2.) Weight of the class
- 3.) Number of Credits

$QP \times W \times Cr = \text{Total QP}$

$G.P.A. = \frac{\text{Total QP}}{\text{Credits}}$

1. The cumulative GPA will be carried out to four (4) decimal places.
2. If a tie in GPA should result, the student with the highest number of Quality Points will be the Valedictorian and the student with the second highest number will be the Salutatorian.
3. Valedictorian and Salutatorian will be determined at the end of the second (2nd) semester of senior year.

<u>Quality Points</u>	<u>Weight</u>
A+ = 4.33	AP Course=1.50
A = 4.00	Honors=1.35
B+ = 3.33	College Prep=1.20
B = 3.00	Academic=1.05
C+ = 2.33	
C = 2.00	
D = 1.00	
F = 0	

COURSE CHANGES POLICY/PROCEDURE

Student schedules are distributed during the last week of August (provided all financial and documentation obligations are complete). Students who wish to make a schedule change must make an appointment to meet with a Guidance Counselor during the first week of school and discuss the schedule change. **No parent request for schedule changes will be made without written parental consent and will only be made after the first two weeks of school in extreme situations.** All schedule changes are contingent on space availability. The administration reserves the right to make schedule changes to equalize class size or to place the student in an appropriate ability level class based upon teacher recommendation.

EXAMINATIONS

Exams are administered at mid-year and at year's end. All exam dates are posted on the calendar. If a student is absent for an exam, a doctor's note must be sent into school. **Students with outstanding financial obligations may not be permitted to take semester exams.** In order to be exempt from the final exam:

- (1) Students must attain a minimum of an "A" average for all 4 quarters.
- (2) A student must have a minimum of an "A" average for the entire academic year. This includes averaging of the midterm exam as well.

MAKE-UP WORK/TESTS

Students who miss work and/or tests because of a legitimate absence are permitted to make them up. **However, it is the responsibility of the student to make arrangements with the teacher to make-up missed work and tests.** The teacher is not responsible for seeking out students who were absent, suspended or on a class trip to inform them of work missed or to arrange dates for make-up tests. Suspended students must make up missed tests, projects, labs and quizzes.

In the event that a student receives a grade of I (Incomplete), he/she will have a grace period to make up the work as deemed fit by the instructor. However, this grace period cannot exceed two weeks. If the academic requirements for the course are not made up during the grace period, the grade of Incomplete becomes a grade of zero "0".

CHEATING

Cheating is always considered a serious matter. When the cheating involves homework or class work, no credit will be given to anyone involved. A student found cheating on a quiz, test or exam will receive a zero grade and not have the opportunity for a make-up. This applies to the student giving the answers as well as the one taking the information.

PLAGIARISM

Plagiarism is stealing and presenting someone else's work as your own, whether taken from books, periodicals and/or the internet. A student who commits plagiarism will receive a grade of zero and will not be eligible to make up that grade.

GRADUATION POLICY

The school reserves the right to issue diplomas only to those students who, in the school's judgment, reflect the philosophy of the school, pass the required course of study, accumulate the necessary credits for graduation, and pay all tuition and fees. Any senior who has not met the requirements for graduation by June of his/her senior year may be refused participation in commencement exercises. A diploma may be granted at the discretion of the Principal and/or Assistant Principal after the senior has met the graduation requirements.

Required Course of Study:

1) Students must have a successful academic standing in the following areas:

Religious Studies	I, II, III, and IV
English	I, II, III, IV
Mathematics	4 full yr. courses
Health/PE	II and III
Science	3 full yr. courses
Social Studies	World History, United States History I and II
Technology	½ Year
Fine Arts	½ Year
World Language	2 Years

2) Students must accumulate a minimum of 130 credits and receive a passing grade in ALL required and elective courses.

3) Seniors and Juniors will complete 10 hours of community service each year as approved by the Religion Chairperson.

YEAR-END FAILURES/SUMMER SCHOOL POLICY

A year-end failure is defined by Cardinal McCarrick High School as an academic course where a student's year end average is below seventy (70). Therefore, it is possible for a student to fail for a quarter or fail an exam and still pass the course for the year. However, those students who do not achieve a grade above sixty-nine (69) for the year will fall under the following sanctions:

1) All year-end failures will be reviewed by the Administration.

2) Any student with a year-end failure may be required to withdraw from Cardinal McCarrick.

3) **NO STUDENT WILL BE ALLOWED TO REPEAT A COURSE DURING THE FOLLOWING YEAR.**

4) All failed courses must be made up during the summer. Parents must contact the Assistant Principal or Guidance Director to discuss which strategy will be approved (summer school, certified tutor, on-line course etc.) to make up a failure.

ACADEMIC ELIGIBILITY AND PROBATION

A student's eligibility to participate in extracurricular activities is determined at the end of each quarter. Any student who has two or more failures at the end of a quarter (marking period) will be academically ineligible to participate in any extracurricular activity scheduled during the next marking period (quarter). The official date of ineligibility (or re-instatement of eligibility) will be the day the report card is distributed in school. Extracurricular activities are defined as athletics, student government, school plays, clubs, dances, and non-subject related trips. Students already involved in an activity at the time will be suspended from the activity. Academic eligibility for athletics assumes that a student has fulfilled the credit requirement of the NJSIAA for participation in interscholastic athletics.

ACADEMIC PROBATION CRITERIA

- 1) Any student who is placed on academic probation will be required to have a conference with their parent(s)/guardian(s) and the Principal and the Assistant Principal(s)
- 2) Any student who has four or more semester failures at the end of the first semester will be required to withdraw from Cardinal McCarrick High School at the end of the first semester.
- 3) The Administration reserves the right to remove any student whose academic achievement is seen as unsatisfactory.

ACADEMIC SUPPORT

Teachers provide needed academic support in order for every student to successfully complete the personalized achievement plan. Each teacher has specific times posted on Moodle when they are available to provide tutorial help related to improved achievement. Peer tutors and on-line math and language arts programs are also available to ensure that every student has the tools to reach their goals.

ACADEMIC ELIGIBILITY FOR NCAA DIVISION I OR DIVISION II COLLEGE

College bound athletes also need to be sure that they have the kind and number of courses required to meet NCAA eligibility requirements. Students should check with their counselors at the end of the junior year for NCAA information or go to <https://web1.ncaa.org/eligibilitycenter/common> to see which of our courses are authorized core courses. In addition, the NCAA uses a sliding scale in regard to GPA and SAT/ACT scores.

Many high school athletes are hopeful of a college scholarship once they graduate from CMHS. The following academic eligibility for NCAA Division I and II colleges is printed below that should serve as a reference for athletes when selecting subjects.

General Requirements

To be a qualifier at **Division I** institution and eligible for financial aid, practice and competition during the first year the student must:

1. Graduate from high school
2. Present a minimum combined test score on the SAT critical reading and math sections or a sum of the four sections (English, math reading and science) on the ACT as indicated on the index scale below:

<u>CORE GPA</u>	<u>SAT (verbal & math only)</u>	<u>ACT</u>
2.500 and above	820	68
2.375	870	72
2.250	920	77
2.150	960	80
2.00	1010 and above	86

3. Present a minimum grade point average (GPA) in at least 16 core courses in the following areas: 4 years of English, 3 years of mathematics (Algebra I or higher), 2 years of natural/physical science (1 year of lab if offered by high school), 1 year of additional English, mathematics, or natural/physical science, 2 years of social studies, 4 years of additional courses (from any area above, world language or nondoctrinal religion/philosophy).

To be a qualifier at a **Division II** institution, you must:

1. Graduate from high school
2. Present a minimum grade-point average of 2.000 in at least 14 core courses in the following areas: 3 years of English, 2 years of mathematics (Algebra I or higher), 2 years of natural/physical science (1 year of lab if offered by high school), 2 years of social science, 3 years of additional courses (from any area above, world language or nondoctrinal religion/philosophy)
3. Present a minimum 820 combined score on the SAT critical reading and math sections only or an ACT sum score of 68. The writing section of the SAT is not used.

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

Computer Skills/Fine Arts Cycle

Academic English I
Honors English I
CP English I

Academic Algebra I
Honors Algebra I/Geometry
CP Algebra I

Academic World History
Honors World History (Inter-disciplinary)
CP World History

CP Biology
Honors Biology

ELECTIVE COURSES: - Choose one

Spanish I
Spanish II
French I

Composition Skills

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 Algebra II & Trigonometry
Geometry

Honors English II / American Literature
(Inter-disciplinary)
CP English II / American Literature
Academic English II / American Literature

Biology
Honors Chemistry
Chemistry

Honors U.S. History I (Inter-disciplinary)
CP U.S. History I
Academic U.S. History I

Physical Education/Driver's Education

Spanish I
Spanish II
Honors Spanish III
French I
French II

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

Honors English III / British Literature
CP English III / British Literature

Honors U.S. History II
CP U.S. History II
AP U.S. History

Honors Chemistry
Chemistry
Honors Physics
Honors Human Anatomy & Physiology
Environmental Science

Academic Algebra II
Honors Algebra II / Trig
Algebra II
Honors PreCalculus

Physical Education III / First Aid

ELECTIVE COURSES – Choose Two

Microsoft Office for College

Journalism

Spanish I
Spanish II
Honors Spanish III
Honors Spanish IV
French I
French II
Honors French III
Honors French IV
Introduction to German

Music Appreciation
Music Ensemble

Two Dimensional Design
Portfolio I
Themes & Foundations of Art
Three Dimensional Design
Foundations of Graphic Art

GRADE 12 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 IV	Honors U.S. History II CP U.S. History II
Honors English IV-World Literature CP English IV – World Literature AP English Literature	AP Calculus Integrated Math Honors PreCalculus AP Statistics Statistics

ELECTIVE COURSES – Choose three or four

Microsoft Office for College	Honors Physics Honors Human Anatomy & Physiology Environmental Science AP Biology
Introduction to College Writing Journalism	
Spanish II Honors Spanish III Honors Spanish IV French II Honors French III Honors French IV Introduction to German	Music Appreciation Music Ensemble
Psychology Criminal Law The Western Tradition History through Film Sociology	Two Dimensional Design Portfolio I, II Themes & Foundations of Art Three Dimensional Design Foundations of Graphic Design Physical Education IV

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.

COMPUTER DEPARTMENT

Basic Computer Applications **Required** grade 9 semester course
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. In lieu of midterm and final exams, projects will be assigned.

Microsoft Office for College **Elective** grades 11 & 12
Prerequisite: Department approval
Students will focus on the more advanced applications in the Microsoft Office Suite working at a fast pace. 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 will incorporate formulas and macros into their spreadsheets. They will learn the usefulness of a relational database using Access. Integration of Word and Excel will be emphasized, along with Access. PowerPoint will allow students to prepare top-quality presentations for professional looking reports, slides, overheads, and handouts. The course will give the college-bound student an advantage when preparing reports, graphic designs, projects, and activities for college. In lieu of midterm and final exams, projects will be assigned.

ENGLISH DEPARTMENT

Honors English I **Required** grade 9
Prerequisite: Placement determined by Entrance Test and Guidance Department recommendation.
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. Two summer readings with additional assessments are required. Also several outside readings will be assigned throughout the school year.

College Prep English I **Required** grade 9
Prerequisite: Placement determined by Entrance Test and Guidance Department recommendation.
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 well-written five-paragraph essay. Students will be introduced to the steps of 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.
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 well-written three-paragraph essay are addressed. Students will be introduced to the steps of 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.

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.

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.

In addition, teachers of sophomore English and US History I Honors classes will collaborate to design a multitude of interrelated academic topics that are taught in conjunction with each other. Students will create projects that incorporate the key elements from American literature and US History. Furthermore, students will be required to compose detailed essays, perform oral presentations, and utilize technology in the creation of these interrelated projects.

College Prep English II/ American Literature

Required grade 10

Prerequisite: Successful completion of English I

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

The purpose 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.

Honors English III/ British Literature and Advanced Writing

Required grade 11

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

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 dynamic writing about literature, close analysis of text, a deep understanding of literary devices, the use of rhetoric in texts, and the college application and writing process. 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. Two summer readings will be required. In addition, several outside readings will be assigned throughout the school year.

College Prep English III/ British Literature**Required** grade 11**Prerequisite:** Successful completion of English II

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 as well as the college application and writing process. 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 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.

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.

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

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**Elective** grades 11 & 12**Prerequisite:** By recommendation of English teacher and C+ average in English. Computer skills are required. In lieu of midterm and final exams, projects will be assigned.

This elective course is designed to have students explore the world of journalism with hands-on experience in creating the school yearbook and newspaper. 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.

Introduction to College Writing

Elective grade 12

This is a freshmen 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.

Prerequisite: By recommendation of English teacher and/or C+ average in English.

This elective course is designed to focus on instruction and practice in writing essays with special emphasis on individual development and grammar review. Course requirements include several types of essays, oral presentations, and an extensive MLA-style research paper. Teaching strategies will include peer editing and group discussion.

MATHEMATICS

Honors Algebra I / Geometry

Required grade 9

Prerequisite: Placement determined by Entrance Test and Guidance Department recommendation. Students must have knowledge of the Algebra I concepts, such as operations with real numbers, order of operations, simplifying expressions, solving multi-step equations involving variables on both sides.

This course will be a rigorous approach to the following topics: all operations with polynomials, the solving of inequalities, solving of absolute-value equations and inequalities, systems of equations, solving quadratic equations, problem-solving, linear functions, factoring, graphing, all operations of radicals, measuring angles and segments, geometric figures, all types of transformations, investigating various triangles and polygons, finding perimeter and areas of polygons and circles, finding lateral area, surface area and volume of solid figures, parallel and perpendicular lines related to angles, proving triangles congruent, investigating right triangle trigonometry and investigating various segments, lines and angles related to the circle. It will be an intense study of the Geometry concepts interwoven with Algebra concepts.

Algebra I

Required grade 9

Prerequisite: Placement determined by Entrance Test and Guidance Department recommendation

This is a college prep course covering the following topics: operations with real numbers, order of operations, simplifying expressions, all operations with polynomials, factoring, graphing, solving of linear and absolute value equations and inequalities, systems of equations, and functions up to and including quadratics.

Academic Algebra I

Required grade 9

Prerequisite: Placement determined by Entrance Test and Guidance Department recommendation

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

Geometry

Required grade 10

Prerequisite: a "C" average in Algebra I or an "A" average in Academic Algebra I with department approval.

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 and polygons, finding perimeter and areas of polygons and circles, finding lateral area, surface area and volume of solid figures, parallel and perpendicular lines related to angles, proving triangles are congruent, investigating right triangle trigonometry and various segments, lines and angles related to a circle.

Academic Geometry

Required grade 10

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Academic Algebra I

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 grades 10 & 11
Prerequisite: A “B” average in Honors Algebra I and Honors Geometry.
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 grade 11
Prerequisite: Successful completion of Algebra I and Geometry
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 grade 11
Prerequisite: Successful completion of Algebra I and Geometry.
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 grades 11 & 12
Prerequisite: a “B” average in Honors Algebra II and Trigonometry and/or “A” average in CP Algebra II.
This course is an advanced study of functions including polynomial, rational, exponential, logarithmic and trigonometric proofs and identities.

Advanced Placement Calculus Elective grade 12
Prerequisite: A “B” average in Honors Precalculus with department approval.
This course covers differentiation techniques and applications, integrations area under a curve, integration techniques and applications. 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.

Integrated Mathematics Elective grade 12
Prerequisite: Successful completion of Algebra I, Algebra II and Geometry
This course is a study of polynomial and rational expressions, complex numbers, relations and functions, exponential functions, basic trigonometry, matrices, sequences and series, problem solving applications including networks and patterns. It will also include a review of Algebra and Geometry in preparation for the college placement test.

Statistics Elective grade 12
Prerequisite: a “B” average in Algebra II and Geometry.
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.

Advance Placement Statistics Elective grade 12
Prerequisite: Department Approval
This course is a study of Statistics in preparation for the Advanced Placement exam in May. Topics for this course include descriptive and inferential statistics, probability, normal and standard distributions, variance, standard deviation, hypothesis testing and correlation and regression. Upon successful completion of this course and the required score on the AP exam, college credit may be issued by many colleges and universities.

MUSIC

Fine Arts - Music

Required grade 9 quarter course

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 I (Appreciation)

Elective grades 11 & 12

POSSESSION OF MUSICAL INSTRUMENT IS NOT REQUIRED.

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 II (Ensemble)

Elective grades 11 & 12

Prerequisite: Permission of the music instructor

POSSESSION OF MUSICAL INSTRUMENT IS REQUIRED.

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

Driver's Education/Physical Education

Required grade 10

Driver's Education will be offered for one quarter of the year. In this course, 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.

The Physical Education part of the course will be offered for 3 quarters of the year. Students will learn the skills and rules of various sports program. They are required to demonstrate safety techniques, sportsmanship and fair play. In lieu of midterm and final exams, projects will be assigned

First Aid/Physical Education

Required grade 11

First Aid will be offered for one quarter of the year. In this course, 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.

The Physical Education part of the course will be offered for 3 quarters of the year. This section of the course will reinforce the strategies and the rules of tournaments and sportsmanship.

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

Health/Physical Education

Elective grade 12

Prerequisite: a minimum of "A" in junior physical education

The Health component of this course will support programs that prevent violence in and around school. It also includes instruction on the illegal use of alcohol, tobacco, and drugs.

Each student will have the opportunity to participate in sports, components of overall fitness, and physical activities that can be enjoyed now and in the future. In lieu of midterm and final exams, projects will be assigned.

RELIGIOUS STUDIES

Honors Religious Studies I: Sacred Scripture Required grade 9

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

This course focuses the student to develop and deepen his knowledge and love for Sacred Scripture. The first semester explores the Old Testament and its historical background. An overview of Bible history, including background information on biblical times, places and customs is presented with selected readings from the Old Testament. The second semester explores the New Testament with an emphasis on the person of Jesus Christ. This includes 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 relates to their lives. Participation in Church/spiritual activities and service outside the classroom are required. In addition, teachers of Honors History and Religion 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 are required to compose detailed essays, perform oral presentations, and utilize technology.

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Religious Studies II: Catholicism Required grade 10

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. Participation in Church/spiritual activities and service outside the classroom are required.

Religious Studies III: Encountering Christ in the Church Required grade 11

The purpose of this course is to help the students understand that in and through the Church they encounter the living Jesus Christ. They will be introduced the sacred nature of the Church as founded by Christ through the Apostles and sustained by his Holy Spirit who works through the Magisterium. Students will study the manner in which the Catholic Church, founded by Christ, relates to non-Catholic Christians as well as to other religions of the World and study the progress that has been made in Ecumenical efforts and dialogue. Finally, the students will come to understand the Church as the living Body of Christ, whose mission is carried forth in the world today through evangelization and works of charity in accord with Catholic Social Teaching, which is based on Christ's concern for others and the innate dignity of the human person.

Religious Studies IV: Morality, Family Life and Vocations Required grade 12

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 Junior and Senior Religion courses contain a Christian Service component. Juniors and Seniors are required to perform 10 hours of volunteer service during the course of their Junior and Senior years. Proposed service projects/services must be approved by the 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.

SOCIAL STUDIES DEPARTMENT

Honors World History

Required

grade 9

Prerequisite: Placement determined by Entrance Test and Guidance Department recommendation

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 are used in assessments that emphasize critical thinking skills.

In addition, teachers of freshmen Honors 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

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

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

grade 10

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

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.

In addition, teachers of sophomore US History I Honors and Honors English 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 from American literature and US History. Furthermore, students

Psychology**Elective**

grade 12

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**

grades 11 & 12

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**

grade 12

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.

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

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.

SCIENCE**Honors Biology (lab)****Required**

grade 9

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

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**

grades 9 & 10

Prerequisite: 9th grade placement determined by Entrance Test and Guidance Department recommendation

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.

Honors Chemistry (lab)**Required**

grade 10

Prerequisite: "B" average in Honors Biology/"B" average in Honors Algebra I.

Chemistry is the study of matter and the inherent properties of matter. The atom, stoichiometry, behavior of gases, solution chemistry, and acid/base chemistry will be explored. This course will include laboratory experiments that are designed to stimulate critical thinking. Honors Chemistry is designed to prepare a student for the pursuit of a science-related major in college.

Chemistry (lab) **Required** grades 10 & 11

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Biology and Algebra I

Chemistry is the study of matter and the inherent properties of matter. The branches of chemistry, the atom, properties of ions, stoichiometry and solution chemistry will be explored in this course. An effort is made throughout the course to relate the studies to everyday experiences and products. This course will include laboratory experiments to reinforce the material covered in lecture.

Honors Human Anatomy and Physiology (lab) **Elective** grades 11 & 12

Prerequisite: a minimum of a “C+” in Biology and “C” in Chemistry

This course is an introduction to Anatomy and Physiology. This course is 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. As a result, memorization is required.

Environmental Science (lab) **Elective** grades 11 & 12

Prerequisite: Successful Completion of both Biology and Chemistry.

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** grades 11 & 12

Prerequisite: a minimum of a “B” in Algebra I, “C” in Chemistry

Physics is recommended for anyone planning on pursuing a science or engineering program in college. It is also highly encouraged for those who are undecided or may go into management fields. The core of the program involves vector analysis, motion in one and two dimensions, projectile motion, energy and forces. Specialty areas of physics that are covered include Thermodynamics, Fluid Mechanics, Vibrations and Waves, and Electromagnetism. One major lab/project each marking period provides hands-on experience in demonstrating and using learned concepts.

Advanced Placement Biology (lab) **Elective** grade 12

Prerequisite: A minimum of a “B” in Honors Biology and “A” in Honors Anatomy and Physiology and department approval.

The AP Biology course is designed to be the equivalent of a two-semester college introductory course. Therefore independent study will be required. 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.

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

WORLD LANGUAGES

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

French I **Elective** grades 9, 10 & 11

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.

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** grades 10, 11, & 12

Prerequisite: Successful completion of French I

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** grades 11 & 12

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

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** grades 11 & 12

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

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** grades 9, 10 & 11

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.

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** grades 9, 10, 11 & 12

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Spanish I

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**

grades 10, 11 & 12

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

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**

grades 11 & 12

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

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.

Introductory German**Elective**

grades 11 & 12

This course is designed to prepare students to communicate in the German language in situations of daily living and working as well as building a solid foundation for further study. Based on situational scenarios, students will build a basic vocabulary, conversational and reading skills. Students will progress to the study of grammar and improved writing skills. Weekly lessons will be supplemented with German TV and films, online news, and songs. The course will also cover cultural aspects of Germany and other German speaking countries and the importance of the German language in the world of international business, finance, and science.