

# Cardinal McCarrick High School

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## CURRICULUM GUIDE

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### 2012-2013

**Cardinal McCarrick/St. Mary's High School**  
South Amboy, NJ 08879  
[www.cardinalmccarrick.com](http://www.cardinalmccarrick.com)

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Principal

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Asst. Principal/Athletic Director

**Mr. William Ryan**  
Guidance Director

**Curriculum Guide**  
**2012-2013**

**Computer Science Department**

**English Department**

**Fine Arts and Design Department**

**Mathematics Department**

**Music Department**

**Physical Education/Health Department**

**Religion Department**

**Science Department**

**Social Studies Department**

**World Languages Department**

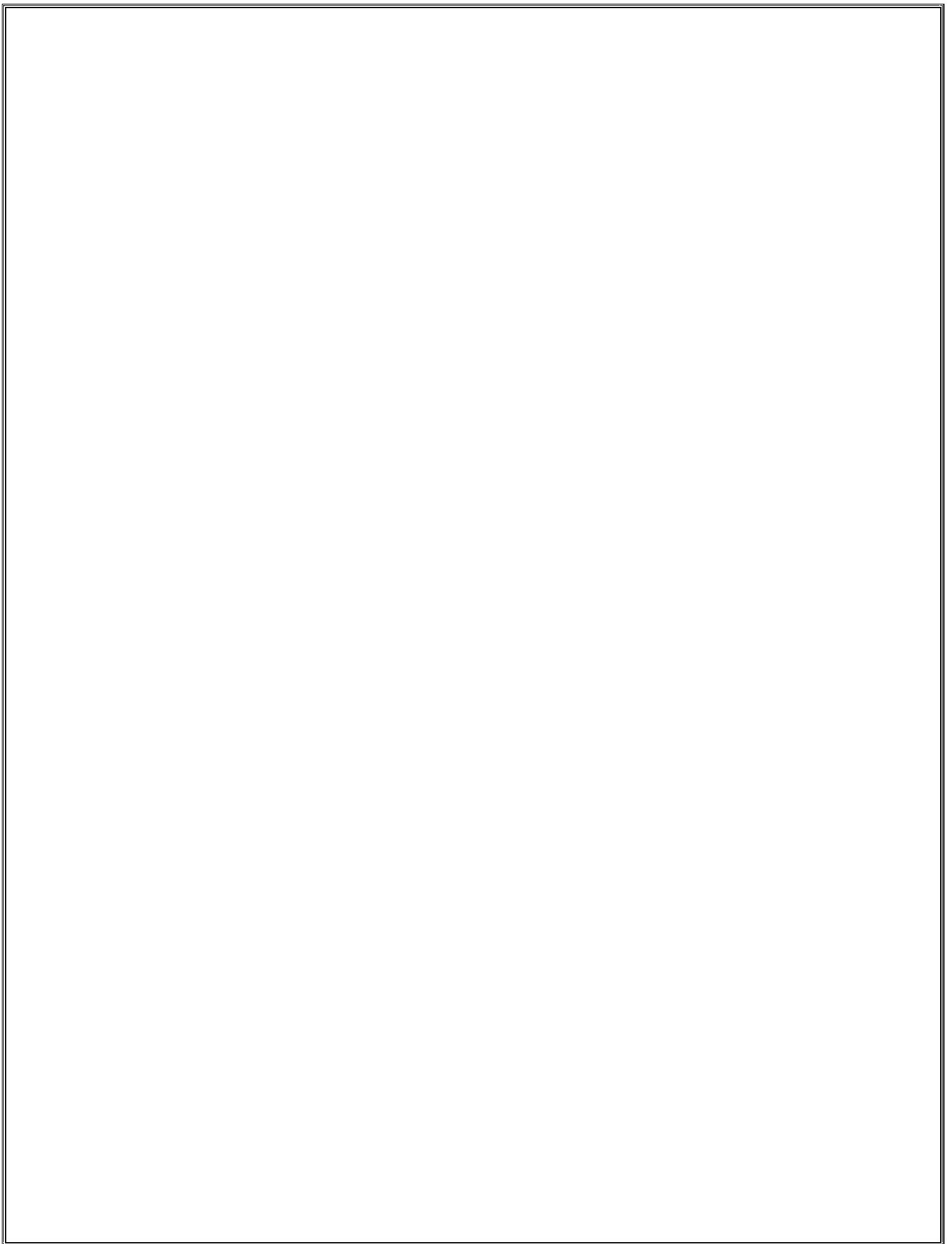
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## Curriculum Guide Introduction

### **ACADEMIC PROGRESS**

Cardinal McCarrick High School utilizes three methods to keep parents informed of their child's academic performance.

1. **Power School**, our on-line parent and student information program, provides up-to-date access to student's grades.
2. Teachers also post homework assignments and other pertinent class information on **Moodle**.
3. Teachers of any students who are failing at the half-way point of each marking period are asked to contact the parents via e-mail or phone to remind them to check Power School with regards to a failure. (individual progress reports are no longer sent to parents)

Parent-teacher conferences are held after the 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> marking periods. They are conducted after the student's report cards have been distributed. Parents are required to attend the **mandatory 2<sup>nd</sup>** marking period conference 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

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

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 (2<sup>nd</sup>) 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 SELECTION PROCEDURE**

Students are placed in courses based on entrance test scores, previous grades, department recommendations, etc. Before schedules are finalized, a parent signature is required on the Course Selection Sheet to verify the student's choices. Student schedules are distributed during the last week of August (provided all financial and documentation obligations are complete).

Classes may not be changed because of dislike for the subject, for meeting time of the class, or for the teacher. 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 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.

### **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	4 Years
English	4 Years
Mathematics	4 Years
Health/PE	2 ¼ Years

Science	3 Years
Social Studies	3 Years
Technology	¼ Year
Music/Art	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 Department.

### **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 70 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 High School.
- 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 Vice 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.

Extra-curricular 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 CMHS and 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/guardian, the Principal and the Vice Principal.
- 2) Any student who has three or more semester failures at the end of the first semester may 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 his/her course of study. 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. Specific information about NCAA eligibility is available through the Guidance Office and at <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 &amp; 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. Achieve 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 for 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.

## COMPUTER SCIENCE DEPARTMENT

### Basic Computer Applications

grade 9 quarter course

In this real-world exciting integrated simulation, students will take on the role of a Microsoft Office Specialist. Students will be challenged to use their knowledge and skills of the Microsoft Office Suite including Word, Excel, Access, Publisher, and PowerPoint to create, design, and print a variety of documents.

### Advanced Computer Applications for College

grades 11 & 12

Students will focus on the more advanced applications in the Microsoft Office Suite working independently at a fast pace. Students will apply their Microsoft Word skills to modify styles, generate a table of contents, add section breaks and format text in columns, create a SmartArt diagram, and modify clip-art pictures. In Excel, students will create and format budgets and an expense report, build formulas and use functions. Students will also learn how to use Access to set up databases and then find the information needed to perform specific tasks. 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

grade 9

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

grade 9

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

grade 9

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

grade 9

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. Students are expected to complete all class practice assignments to receive credit for this course.

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

**Honors English II/American Literature**

grade 10

Prerequisite: Department recommendation and “A” average in English 1 CP/”B+” average in English Honors 1

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**

grade 10

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**

grade 10

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. 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**

grade 11

Prerequisite: Department recommendation and “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**

grade 11

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

Prerequisite: Department recommendation and/or a minimum “A” in English III Honors. 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. A more challenging summer project is required.

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.

The course prepares the students to take the **required** 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 English IV/World Literature**

grade 12

Prerequisite: Department recommendation and “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**

grade 12

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**

grades 11 & 12

Prerequisite: Department recommendation and C+ average in English. Computer skills are required.

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.

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

### **Introduction to College Writing**

grade 12

*This is a freshmen college course, and accordingly will be taught at that level. Students successfully completing this course with a minimum “C” average will earn three college credits, pending approval from St. Peter’s College.*

Prerequisite: Department recommendation and 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.

### **Public Speaking/Performance**

grades 11 & 12

Prerequisite: Department recommendation and C+ average in English.

The objective of this course is to develop proficiency in public speaking and performance skills. Different forms of speeches, such as motivational, persuasive, descriptive, and narrative will be studied and presented in the classroom. Also, this class will strive to increase appreciation and understanding of the theatrical experience: reading, acting, and analysis of scripts, discussion of the elements of play production and the

business of theater. The course will enhance the student's self-confidence in front of an audience as well as improve presentation style and skills.

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

## **FINE ARTS AND DESIGN DEPARTMENT**

### **Art Exploration**

grade 9 quarter course

This course will expose students to the basic fundamentals of drawing and heighten their observational skills. Studio time will focus on still life sketching and creating artwork utilizing sense memory resulting in individualized pieces of art.

### **Themes and Foundations of Art**

grades 11 and 12

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

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

### **Drawing and Painting**

grades 11 and 12

This course will continue the exploration of various drawing and painting techniques. Students will be exposed to drawing methods such as blind contour drawings and drawings based on the study of nature. Further exploration and explanation of value, line, shape, form, tones, and perspective will be emphasized. Introduction to color theory and various painting methodologies will also be explored. Painting in gray scale, black and white, and color will be studied and explored.

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

### **Experimental Design Techniques**

grades 11 and 12

This course will expose students to various design techniques, such as, graphic design, textile design, and basic metal design. Graphic design will allow the students to explore visual perception, the creative process, tools and techniques, typography, and introduce them to successful graphic designers. Textile design will allow the students to explore the production of pattern making for cloth, paper designing, and other materials, such as wool and other natural fibers. Screen printing, block printing, roller printing, and mono printing will be explored. Basic metal design will expose the students to the fabrication of metal art. Students will learn techniques such as piercing and sawing, cold connecting, dyeing metal, beading, and wire wrapping.

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

### **Ceramics**

grades 11 and 12

This course develops basic skills in the creation of 3D forms and pottery from clays. With an emphasis on studio production, this course is designed to develop higher level thinking, art-related technology skill, art criticism, art history, and aesthetics. *Through the utilization of thematic schema, students will produce individualized art work.*

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

## MATHEMATICS DEPARTMENT

### Honors Algebra I

grade 9

This course will be a rigorous study of Algebra 1, with a great emphasis on complex problem solving. This course covers operations with polynomials, systems of equations, factoring, graphing, operations of radicals, solving quadratic equations. This is a course for students who have mastered all pre algebra topics and would benefit from a more intensive study of Algebra 1.

### College Prep Algebra I

grade 9

This is a more in-depth study of the fundamentals of Algebra 1. This course covers: order of operations, simplifying expressions, all operations with polynomials, factoring, graphing, solving of linear and absolute value equations and inequalities, and functions up to and including quadratics.

### Academic Algebra I

grade 9

This course covers the core elements of Algebra 1 and will emphasize proficiency in basic math skills. Taught at a slower pace, this course covers: fractions, decimals, percents, order of operations, simplifying expressions, all operations with polynomials, factoring, graphing, solving of linear equations and inequalities, and functions.

### College Prep Geometry

grades 9 & 10

Prerequisite: (Grade 10): Minimum of a “C” average in Algebra I or an “A” average in Academic Algebra I

Prerequisite: (Grade 9): “B” average in 8<sup>th</sup> grade Algebra 1 course and student must demonstrate competency on the Placement Test. Ninth graders will receive Honors credit.

This is a fast - paced course which will focus on the structure of Geometry. Spatial relationships in both two and three dimensions, will introduce deductive reasoning and proofs, work with geometric figures and practical applications. Previous topics in Algebra will be reinforced.

### Academic Geometry

grade 10

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Algebra I

The concepts, materials and the manner of presentation have been planned so that the student will have a rewarding experience in the geometry course. The topics of the course are: angles, triangles, polygons, circles, perimeter and area, solids, coordinate geometry and transformations. Previous topics in Algebra will be reinforced and connections to previous learned topics will be emphasized.

### Honors Algebra II and Trigonometry

grade 10

Prerequisite: Minimum of a “C” average in Honors Algebra I/Geometry

This is a rigorous Algebra 2 course with minimal review of Algebra I. Topics from Algebra I will be used to discover abstract theories and methods. This course will include inequalities, linear, quadratic, polynomial, rational, irrational, and exponential functions along with a study of conic sections. Logarithmic and trigonometric functions are introduced.

### College Prep Algebra II

grade 11

Prerequisite: Minimum of a “C” average in College Prep Algebra I and College Prep Geometry

This course offers the student a continuation of Algebra 1. Topics will include the study of inequalities, linear equations, and functions, polynomials, complex numbers, quadratic equations and systems of equations. A strong Algebra 1 background will be presumed.

**Academic Algebra II**

grade 11

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Algebra I and Geometry

This course is taught at a slower pace. Topics will include the study of inequalities, linear equations, and functions, polynomials, complex numbers, quadratic equations and systems of equations. Review of previously learned topics will be an integral part of this course.

**Honors Precalculus**

grades 11 &amp; 12

Prerequisite: Department recommendation and a minimum of a “C” average in Honors Algebra II and Trigonometry or an “A” average in CP Algebra II

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

**Precalculus:**

grade 12

Prerequisite: Minimum of a “C” average in CP Algebra II

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

**Advanced Placement Calculus**

grade 12

Prerequisite: Department recommendation and a minimum of an “A” average in Honors Precalculus

This course covers differentiation techniques and applications, integrations area under a curve, integration techniques and applications.

This course prepares students to take the **required** 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.

**Advanced Placement Statistics**

grade 12

Prerequisite: Department recommendation and a minimum of an “A” average in Honors Algebra II

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.

The course prepares the students to take the **required** 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.

**Statistics**

grade 12

Prerequisite: Minimum of a “C” average in Algebra II

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.

**Integrated Mathematics**

grade 12

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Algebra I, Algebra II and Geometry

This course includes introductory treatments of set theory, logic, number systems, probability, statistics, and preparation for college placement tests.

## MUSIC DEPARTMENT

### Music Discovery

grade 9 quarter course

This course is an introduction to the elements of music theory and basic creativity. A brief history of the roots of Jazz will also be explored. Assessment will be determined through projects, presentations, individual work, group work, and tests.

### Music Understanding and Application

grades 11 & 12

POSSESSION OF MUSICAL INSTRUMENT IS **NOT** REQUIRED.

This course serves as a foundation for those students interested in pursuing and appreciating the study of music in an academic capacity. Jazz and World Music will be explored in a historical and applicable perspective. Additionally, the fundamentals of music theory, arranging, and performance will be examined in depth.

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

### Music Performance Ensemble

grades 11 & 12

Prerequisite: Department recommendation

POSSESSION OF MUSICAL INSTRUMENT IS REQUIRED.

This music course focuses on instrumental performance in small and large group formats. There is a strong emphasis on the study and application of intermediate music theory through performance as well. Development of creative and technical abilities is a strong emphasis throughout the year. Students will be assessed by a combination of prepared and impromptu performances. Students will be required to participate in Christmas/Spring productions.

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

### Vocal Performance Ensemble

grades 11 & 12

Prerequisite: Department recommendation

This music course focuses on vocal performance in small and large group formats. The class will be based in the study and appreciation of intermediate music theory through vocal performance. Understanding body mechanics from a vocal perspective, development of ear training, and sight singing will be a strong emphasis throughout the year. Students will be assessed by a combination of prepared and impromptu performances. Students are required to perform in Christmas/Spring productions.

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

## PHYSICAL EDUCATION/HEALTH DEPARTMENT

### Physical Education I

grade 9 quarter course

Students will be introduced to various components of exercise and learn the importance of being physically fit. All students are required to participate in the daily exercises. Also, during the course of the quarter, the students will be tested in the "Presidential Challenge".

### Physical Education II/Driver Education

grade 10

Driver Education will be offered for one quarter of the year. In this course, the student will be introduced to all driving related issues including the Highway Transportation System, the I.P.D.E. Process, maneuvering a vehicle, and how alcohol and drugs may affect driving experience. Students will prepare to take the NJ State Driving test which will allow them to prepare for a learners permit. The course is a 30 hour program which makes the student eligible for driver education insurance discounts after they take the behind the wheel training.

The Physical Education part of the course will be offered three quarters of the year. Students will be introduced to various sports games and activities where they will learn skills and rules necessary to participate. Students will also learn the proper skills necessary to maintain a safe environment during Physical Education class.

### **Physical Education III/Health**

grade 11

Health will be required one quarter of the year. In this course, the 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 may face in the future. The students will learn how to perform the Heimlich maneuver and CPR chest compressions on adults and infants using the mannequins provided. Students will also learn the importance of nutrition, exercise, self image and negative effects of drugs and alcohol.

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.

## **RELIGION DEPARTMENT**

### **Religious Studies I**

grade 9

The purpose of this course is to give students a general knowledge and appreciation of the Sacred Scriptures. Through their study of the Bible they will come to encounter the living Word of God, Jesus Christ and come to understand how Sacred Scriptures relate to their lives. They will learn about the Bible, authored by God through Inspiration, and its value to people throughout the world. Particular attention will be given to the Gospels, where students may grow to know and love Jesus Christ more personally. Also In this course students are introduced to the mystery of Jesus Christ, the living Word of God, the Second Person of the Blessed Trinity. They will understand that Jesus Christ is the ultimate Revelation to us from God. In learning about who He is, the students will also learn who He calls them to be.

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

### **Religious Studies II**

grade 10

The purpose of this course is to help the students understand the person of Jesus Christ and his mission which he carried out on earth and is fulfilled through the Paschal Mystery. Further, they will learn that for all eternity, God has planned for us to share eternal happiness with him and this is made possible through the saving work of Jesus Christ which continues in the Church through the Sacraments. They will come to understand that in the sacraments, they can encounter Christ in a full and real way, especially through the Eucharist, the “source and summit” of our faith. Through an examination of each of the sacraments, they will see the manner in which they can receive grace and grow in discipleship throughout their lives.

### **Religious Studies III**

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 to 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.

\*\*There is a 10 hour service requirement for all juniors.

**Religious Studies IV: Morality, Family Life and Vocations** 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.

\*\*There is a 10 hour service requirement for all seniors.

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.

**Religious Studies IV Elective: Church and Culture** grade 12

Building on knowledge acquired in Religion I-III, this course is designed to develop in the student a deeper understanding of Catholic thought and worldview through a study of Christian spirituality found in the Tradition and history of the Church. This seminar style class will examine the writings of saints and holy people, spiritual classics (such as the Confessions of St. Augustine, Introduction to the Devout Life, and Story of a Soul), and Church documents. Students will also analyze Catholic themes found in various pieces of art, music, and film. Through readings, discussion, and written reflections, the topics covered will be proposed as tools to enable the students to grow in prayer, actively live their faith, and respond to the universal call to holiness.

**SCIENCE DEPARTMENT**

**Honors Biology (lab)** grade 9

Honors Biology is the study of fundamental concepts and principles of living organisms. This rigorous course explores ecology, cell biology and cellular respiration, evolution, molecular biology, genetics and taxonomy. Through laboratory experiences, independent project work, and class investigations, biology is taught as a way of critical thinking and a method of seeking answers.

**Biology (lab)** grade 9

Biology is the study of fundamental concepts and principles of living organisms. This challenging course explores ecology, cell biology, evolution, molecular biology, genetics. Through laboratory experiences, project work, and classroom demonstrations, biology is taught as a way of thinking and as a method of seeking answers.

**Honors Chemistry (lab)** grade 10

Prerequisite: Minimum of a "B" in Honors Biology and "B" in Honors Algebra I/Geometry

Honors Chemistry is a rigorous and challenging program with the objective of providing learners with the opportunity to obtain basic chemical principles that will prepare them for college chemistry program. The students will have a comprehension of fundamental chemistry processes, ability to integrate facts with concepts, and appreciation of how scientists work. Logical thinking, problem solving skills, critical thinking and hands on labs are major areas of interest. Chemistry explores atomic theory, periodic trends, bonding,

chemical formulas, qualitative and quantitative studies of chemical reactions (including basic chemical reactions and stoichiometry), and states of matter.

**Chemistry (lab)**

grade 10

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Biology and Algebra I

Chemistry is a college preparatory course in which students will be exposed to the fundamentals of basic chemistry. The students will have a comprehension of fundamental chemistry processes, ability to integrate facts with concepts and appreciation of how scientists work. Logical thinking, problem solving skills, critical thinking and hands-on labs are major areas of interest. Chemistry explores atomic theory, periodic trends, bonding chemical formulas, qualitative and quantitative studies of chemical reactions (including basic chemical reactions and stoichiometry), and states of matter.

**Human Anatomy and Physiology (lab)**

grades 11 & 12

Prerequisite: Minimum of a “C” in both Biology and Chemistry

This course is an introduction to Anatomy and Physiology which explores both anatomical and physiological angles at chemical, cellular, systemic and organism levels. Student will come away from this course with an understanding of how each of the body systems function and maintains life. Students will also acquire knowledge of the imbalances leading to various disorders and diseases.

**Environmental Science (lab)**

grades 11 & 12

Prerequisite: Successful completion of both Biology and Chemistry

Environmental Science is a course in which land, water, and air pollution are investigated and ideas for sustainable living are explored. The course examines modern resource allocation issues, scientific and technological solutions, individual impact and governmental control. Students should recognize their personal role in resource. It is a course that demands student research and comprehension as well as thoughtful introspection of modern lifestyles.

**Honors Physics (lab)**

grades 11 & 12

Prerequisite: Department recommendation and Honors Algebra II or an “A” in CP Algebra II

Physics is the study of the physical nature of the universe and of the interrelationships between matter and energy. This course is designed as an introductory survey of physics, covering topics such as: Newton’s law of motion, conservation of energy, heat, and electricity. This course is taught with a significant emphasis on understanding the mathematics behind the physics concepts. Included are laboratory activities designed to show direct connections between theory and real-life experiences.

**College Prep Physics (lab)**

grades 11 & 12

Prerequisite: Successful completion of College Prep Algebra II

Physics is the study of the physical nature of the universe and of the interrelationships between matter and energy. This course is designed as an introductory survey of physics, covering topics such as: Newton’s laws of motion, conservation of energy, heat and electricity. This course is taught using a conceptual approach but also included understanding some of the basic mathematics used in the study of physics. Included are laboratory activities designed to show direct connections between theory and real-life experiences.

**Forensic Science**

grade 12

*This is a freshman college course, and accordingly will be taught at that level. Students successfully completing this course with a minimum "C" average will earn three college credits, pending approval from St. Peter's College.*

Prerequisite: Department recommendation and a minimum of a "C" in both Biology and Chemistry

The students in this course are taught the fundamentals of a criminal investigation and how it is applied in the court of law. They learn by doing; they process crime scenes, analyze data, conduct scientific investigations, explore the Internet and become familiar with various texts. Students use technology to participate in activities that closely resemble those used by law enforcement personnel, forensic scientists and district attorneys.

**Advanced Placement Biology (lab)**

grade 12

Prerequisite: Department recommendation and a minimum of a "B" in Honors Biology

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 required 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.

**SOCIAL STUDIES DEPARTMENT****Honors World History**

grade 9

The Honors course, in addition to covering the requirements of College Prep World History, also examines history through a variety of media and literature. Students will learn to analyze and discuss historical events and cultures by using critical thinking skills. Students are required to write analytical essays and create numerous presentations.

**College Prep World History**

grade 9

The purpose of this course is to survey past civilizations and the major events that have shaped our modern world. There will be an emphasis on Western Civilization, along with the changing conditions in Asia, Africa, and Latin America and their impact on Western Civilization. Students will develop an understanding and acceptance of other cultures. The course reinforces basic skills, including reading and writing, and introduces the value clarifications in the area of Social Studies.

**Academic World History**

grade 9

The purpose of this course is to survey past civilizations and the major events that have shaped our modern world. Students will develop a foundation of understanding of different cultures and Western Civilization, along with the changing conditions in Asia, Africa, and Latin America and their impact on Western Civilization. The course reinforces basic skills, including reading and writing, and introduces value clarifications in the area of Social Studies.

**Honors United States History I**

grade 10

Prerequisite: Department recommendation and an "A" average in World History/a "B+" average in Honors World History

The course traces the development of United States history from the colonization of North America and the origins of the American Revolution through the Civil War and Reconstruction. Students will examine

critically the major issues of the period. The course will focus on critical thinking, geography skills, oral presentations, primary source examinations and essay writing.

**College Prep United States History I** grade 10

The course traces the development of United States history from the colonization of North America and the origins of the American Revolution through the Civil War and Reconstruction. Students will be asked to provide evidence to prove historical events in their written assignments and attempt to improve their critical thinking skills through various assessments.

**Academic United States History I** grade 10

The course traces the development of United States history from the colonization of North America and the origins of the American Revolution through the Civil War and Reconstruction. Improving evidence gathering will be emphasized in written assignments. Basic organizational skills will be stressed.

**Advanced Placement U.S. History** grade 11

Prerequisite: Department recommendation and an “A” average in United States Honors History I

With a focus on the second half of American History, this course will examine American foreign policy, World War I, the Depression, World War II, the Cold War, the Civil Rights movement, the Vietnam War and America in the 80’s, 90’s and today. 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 required 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** grades 11 & 12

Prerequisite: Department recommend and an “A” average in US History I/ a “B+” average in Honors US History I

This is a continuation of U.S. History I focusing on the 20<sup>th</sup> 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** grades 11 & 12

This is a continuation of U.S. History I focusing on the 20<sup>th</sup> 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** grade 12

Feature films provide an interpretation of historical events and are evidence of the society they are created in. In this course we will examine films which highlight significant events in the history of the world, separate fantasy from fact and attempt to determine whether or not a film itself is a valid piece of historical evidence.

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

**Criminal Law**

grades 11 &amp; 12

The course will investigate the basic concepts of crime and criminal justice. Students will focus on such topics as: elements of crimes, criminal defense, search and seizure, punishment, juvenile crime and famous court cases.

**Psychology**

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**

grades 11 &amp; 12

Challenging students to pose their own questions about today's society and to think critically about the world in which they live are the main objectives of the course called *Sociology*. Students will be introduced to various sociological theories and those individuals that have conducted various sociological studies. Among some of the topics that will be discussed will be social structure and social interaction, culture and socialization, global stratification, sex and gender and social networks to name a few.

**America at War – WWII/Holocaust & Vietnam**

grades 11 &amp; 12

This elective will take a much closer look two of the most studied, documented and controversial events in American History: WWII/Holocaust and Vietnam. Students will delve deeper into these topics through various resources, literature, and film. Some topics that will be explored include: causes and effects of WWII, the impact the war had on nations around the world, personal narratives of the Holocaust and its effects on the world as a whole, along with how the conflict in Southeast Asia was seen through the eyes of journalists, fiction writers, poets, historians, filmmakers, musicians, and other artists.

**WORLD LANGUAGES****NOTE: ALL LANGUAGE COURSES MUST BE TAKEN IN CONSECUTIVE YEARS.****French I**

grades 9, 10 &amp; 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**

grades 10, 11, &amp; 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**

grades 11 &amp; 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**

grades 11 &amp; 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**

grades 9, 10 &amp; 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.*

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. Cultural connections are built into the various lessons.

**Spanish II**

grades 9, 10, 11 &amp; 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**

grades 10, 11 &amp; 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**

grades 11 &amp; 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.

**Italian I**

grade 9

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 Italians. 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 Italian culture are also presented and contrasted with our own.

**Introductory German**

grade 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 and writing skills. 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.

