

**Academy of Our Lady of Mercy
Lauralton Hall**

Course Descriptions 2010-2011

ART DEPARTMENT

(301 & 3011) Fundamentals of Art

Year

.5 Credit

Open to freshmen and sophomores.

This class meets every other day. It is offered to those students who have an interest in pursuing the Fine Arts. This course is an introduction to art concepts through a variety of media.

(302) Ceramic Sculpture (CP1)

Semester

.5 Credit

Open to juniors and seniors. May be taken for non-academic credit.

This course necessitates a grasp of form in the third dimension. Students learn specific methods and processes of sculpture as they work with clay.

(305) Drawing (CP1)

Semester

.5 Credit

(Prerequisites: Art 301 or 3011) Open to juniors and seniors. May be taken for non-academic credit.

This course assists students to develop hand and eye coordination while they advance from a simple contour line drawing to exercises involving value and color. Students use a variety of media in producing projects like still life compositions, figure drawing, illustration, and portraits.

(306) Painting (CP1)

Semester

.5 Credit

(Prerequisite: Art 305) Open to juniors and seniors. May be taken for non-academic credit.

This course is an introduction to acrylic and watercolor painting. Materials, methods and techniques of handling varying subjects and styles are included. The course is a structured introduction in which emphasis is on handling and application of the media aiming toward a satisfying conclusion.

(307) Art History (CP1)

Semester

.5 Credit

Open to juniors and seniors.

This is an introductory survey of painting from the Renaissance to modern day. The survey allows for the study and evaluation of the art and styles of different historic periods and encourages the student's own response to the works under consideration. Students will gain an appreciation and understanding of art, past and present.

(308) Senior Art Workshop (CP1)

Semester

.5 Credit

(Prerequisites: Art 305 and 306 and departmental approval) May be taken for non-academic credit.

The concentrated instruction in this course is designed to assist the art student intending to pursue further art studies. Each student assists in the planning of her curriculum in the area of her special interest, e.g., Graphic Design, Painting, Drawing or Printmaking. The students learn to resolve advanced problems in all related art divisions of study.

(309) World Art (CP1)

Semester

.5 Credit

Open to juniors and seniors. May be taken for non-academic credit.

This course explores art from various cultures, continents, and time periods. Students learn to use these art works as inspiration to then create their own interpretations. Possible projects include Aboriginal dot painting, Celtic knot designs, paper mache masks, Asian scroll painting, and paper mosaics.

(3100) Graphic Design (CP1) **Year** **.5 Credit**

(Prerequisite: Art 301 or 3011) Open to sophomores.

This class meets every other day. This second-level art course challenges the student in visual problem solving. It explores the multi-faceted field of graphic design and the role it plays as a vehicle for visual communication. Design projects are for the higher-level thinker and the computer program %Photoshop+ is used to create the projects. Some projects may include: designing company logos (trademarks), movie and concert posters, snowboard designs, advertising pieces and fashion design.

(310) Graphic Design (CP1) **Semester** **.5 Credit**

(Prerequisite: Art 301 or 3011) Open to juniors and seniors for non-academic credit.

This class meets every other day. This second-level art course challenges the student in visual problem solving. It explores the multi-faceted field of graphic design and the role it plays as a vehicle for visual communication. Design projects are for the higher-level thinker and the computer program %Photoshop+ is used to create the projects. Some projects may include designing company logos (trademarks), movie and concert posters, snowboard designs, advertising pieces and fashion design.

(312) Mixed Media, Two and Three Dimensional Creations **Semester** **.5 Credit**

Open to juniors and seniors. May be taken for non-academic credit.

This course combines different art materials to help students express themselves in a wide variety of ways. Projects can include collage/assemblage, carved foam sculpture, ceramic mask making, weaving and textiles, and cardboard constructions.

BUSINESS DEPARTMENT

(638) Introduction to Business (CP1) **Year** **1 Credit**

Open to juniors and seniors.

In this course students will survey the operation of business in our free enterprise system. Topics covered will include the economy, owning and operating a business, marketing, human resource management, financial and technological management, consumerism and business ethics.

ENGLISH DEPARTMENT

The English Department requires that all students take four credits of English. The normal sequence includes English I, English II, English III and English IV. Advanced Placement options may replace English III and English IV for qualified students.

Students must have an A average to move from CP1 to Honors. To remain in an Honors level course, students must maintain at least a C+ average.

(111) English I Honors - Language and Literary Genres **Year** **1 Credit**

Freshmen will examine a variety of literary types including poetry, drama, the novel, and the short story and recognize the literary techniques employed in each. Analysis through discussion and writing will help hone students' critical thinking skills. Honors students will write a variety of expository paragraphs and proceed to generate thesis statements which they will develop into full length essays. Students will review basic grammar, particularly parts of the sentence and consider vocabulary in context from works covered.

(112) English I (CP) - Language and the Elements of Literature **Year** **1 Credit**
College prep students will examine several genres and work to recognize the literary techniques employed in each. Analysis through discussion and writing will enhance students' critical thinking skills. Students will study parts of speech, sentence patterns, and usage and will explore, through writing, various paragraph structures. Students will also work to broaden their active vocabulary through the use of selected exercises

(121) English II Honors - Sophocles to Shakespeare **Year** **1 Credit**
(Prerequisite: English 111)
Literature covered will include a study of comparative mythology, the epic, the Arthurian legend, a Shakespearean comedy, and a close study of a modern novel with emphasis on thematic and symbolic levels. Students will review sentence structure and combining and apply these skills to papers of literary analysis. Students also create a personal essay and individual pieces after applying the ideas in *An American Childhood* to their own experiences. Testing will emphasize short answer and essay questions and involve applying literary principles to new material. Students will work to expand active vocabulary.

(122) English II (CP) - Sophocles to Shakespeare **Year** **1 Credit**
(Prerequisite: English 111 or English 112)
Literature covered includes a study of Greek mythology, the epic and Greek tragedy, the Arthurian legend, a Shakespearean comedy, and a modern novel. Students will review phrases, clauses and sentence structure and apply these skills to short papers of literary analysis. Students will work to broaden their active vocabularies through the use of selected exercises.

(1501) English Language and Composition Advanced Placement **Year** **1 Credit**
(Prerequisite: English 121 with a minimum final average of a B+)
This course closely analyzes a wide variety of American authors within a historical framework and concentrates on the relationship between reading and writing. The course stresses inferential skills, careful analysis of literary techniques, and critical writing. Emphasis is given to the writing process with students producing several analytical essays, revising original drafts, and exploring the structures and conventions used by different authors in their works. The course stresses attention to the nuances of words, the characteristics of style, the principles of logical argument, the manipulation of language, the importance of detail, sentence structure, and organizational patterns. Students take the AP exam at the conclusion of the course.

(131) English III Honors - The American Experience **Year** **1 Credit**
(Prerequisite: English 121)
Students cover a chronological study of American literature within an historical framework. Students write a number of expository essays in conjunction with the literature studied. Works include *The Scarlet Letter*, *Billy Budd*, *Walden*, *The Sun Also Rises*, and *The Women of Brewster Place*. Attention is given to the short story as a special genre. In preparation for the SAT, students develop their vocabulary from assigned exercises. They review grammar in conjunction with written analysis and prepare for the essay section of the test.

**(132) English III (CP) - The American Experience –
Dream, Journey, and Reality** **Year** **1 Credit**
(Prerequisite: English 121 or 122)
Students cover a chronological study of American literature within an historical framework. The course places special emphasis on major movements and authors, including women and minority writers. Major works studied include *The Crucible*, *Huckleberry Finn*, *The Great Gatsby*, and *The Joy Luck Club*. In addition to emphasizing writing skills, the course reviews grammar, sentence structure, and usage in student papers and expands student vocabulary in preparation for the SAT.

(1332) Once Upon a Time:

A History and Examination of Fairy Tales as Literature (CP1) Semester .5 Credit

Open to juniors and seniors.

Students will examine characterization, imagery, setting, motifs, narration, and symbols in the fairy tales of Perreault (France), Hans Christian Anderson (Sweden), and the Brothers Grimm (Germany). Students will read a variety of short tales, write and illustrate at least two tales of their own, and explore the concept of %factured+fairy tales in modern literature including *WICKED* and *Ella Enchanted*. Class discussions will include a feminist perspective, religious imagery, biographical and Freudian analysis, and an examination of archetype in the tales.

(1342) Introduction to Film Studies

Semester .5 Credit

Open to juniors and seniors.

Using The Story of Movies project, a curriculum designed to expose new generations to classic cinema and to teach students about the cultural, artistic, and historical significance of film, this course will introduce students to the language of film and visual imagery, with emphasis on methods of characterization, the link between history and culture, the function of music, and the principles of composition in film.

(1322) Shakespeare Semester (CP)

Semester .5 Credit

Open to juniors and seniors.

This elective is designed for students who will closely read, hear and speak the words of Shakespeare in two tragedies and two comedies. The course is designed to explore characters and themes of particular relevance to young women. Students will write analytical essays, respond to performances and prepare their own readings.

(135) Writer's Workshop (CP1)

Semester .5 Credit

Open to juniors and seniors.

This elective is designed as a writing workshop for students who wish to further develop their writing skills and refine their sentence structure. Students have the resources of peer conferencing and group sharing available to them, as well as individualized editing of their writing. This course will allow the students the opportunity to practice a variety of techniques and writing styles. Writing for an audience and communicating ideas effectively are goals for this course.

(1361) Modern Literature I Honors

Semester .5 Credit

(Prerequisite: English 121 or 131) Open to juniors and seniors.

This elective is designed for students who wish to explore contemporary philosophical thought in literature through fiction and drama. Students will complete the course work of English 136 and be required to complete additional independent outside reading.

(136) Modern Literature I (CP)

Semester .5 Credit

Open to juniors and seniors.

This elective is designed for students who wish to explore contemporary thought in literature through fiction and drama. Through writing and in-class discussions, students develop confidence in literary perception and critical analysis. The focus of the literature is on self-identification. Group projects, student presentations, and other student-centered work as well as tests and essays are used to analyze the literature.

(1371) Modern Literature II Honors

Semester .5 Credit

Open to juniors and seniors.

Like Modern Literature I Honors, the focus continues to be placed on contemporary philosophical thought in literature . the novel, in particular; however Modern Literature I is not a prerequisite in order to take Modern Literature II Honors. Students will complete the course work of English 137 and be required to complete additional independent outside reading.

(137) Modern Literature II (CP)

Semester .5 Credit

Open to juniors and seniors.

Like Modern Literature I, the focus continues to be placed on contemporary philosophical thought in literature . the novel, in particular; however Modern Literature I is not a prerequisite in order to take Modern Literature II. Group projects, student presentations, and other student-centered work as well as tests and essays are used to analyze the literature.

(1601) English Literature and Composition Advanced Placement

Year 1 Credit

(Prerequisite: English 1501 with a minimum final average of B- or English 131 with a minimum final average of B+) Open to seniors.

Designed for seniors, who are motivated, articulate and highly disciplined, this college level course closely analyzes a wide range of American and British authors with attention to a work's structure, style, and theme. Through close critical reading, students examine ways in which figurative language, imagery, symbolism, connotation, and tone contribute to the meaning of a work. Significant time is devoted to the process of composition; in addition to numerous expository essays, each student submits a research paper. Practice is given in taking both multiple choice and essay sections of the AP Exam, which is required of all students.

(141) English IV Honors - The British Tradition, Epic to Romance

Year 1 Credit

(Prerequisite: English 131)

A chronological study of British literature within a historical framework beginning with the Anglo-Saxon Period and ending with contemporary literature. The works are varied and include epic poetry, lyric poetry, drama, short stories, and major novels. Students analyze the philosophical, stylistic, and psychological aspects of the works. Honor students also read independently a variety of critical essays about the works throughout the course. Writing includes learning writing techniques to develop personal style. Writing projects include critical writing, creative writing, and a major research paper.

**(142) English IV (CP) - Man, Monster and Meaning
in the British Tradition**

Year 1 Credit

(Prerequisite: English 131 or 132)

A chronological study of British literature within a historical framework beginning with the Anglo-Saxon Period and ending with contemporary literature. The works are varied and include poetry, drama, short stories, and major novels. Particular attention is paid to improving comprehension and appreciation of style. Writing includes practicing a variety of sentence structures and writing techniques to develop style. Writing projects include critical writing, creative writing, and a major research paper.

GUIDANCE DEPARTMENT

Guidance 1

The primary goal of Guidance 1 is to help with the transition to high school and a college preparatory curriculum through discussions and support groups with counselors and peer mentors. Topics include: study skills, preparation for tests, stress management, problem solving and conflict resolution. The results of the Explore test administered in the fall are explained by counselors. Students are introduced to the Naviance web-based program to create a personality profile. Counselors oversee course selection for sophomore year.

Guidance 2

Guidance 2 focuses on a review of academic skills and the development of life skill strategies. Academic skills include a review of study skills, exploration of individual learning styles and time management. Orientation to the PSAT is given. Life skills topics include decision making, self esteem building and communication techniques. Topics are covered in discussion format with handouts and personal inventories. Through the Naviance program, careers are explored based on the results of their personality profile and interests. Counselors oversee course selection for junior year.

Guidance 3

Guidance 3 focuses on the college process starting in the fall with preparation for PSAT $\text{\$}$. Students use the Naviance program to begin to explore college options and to develop a list of prospective colleges. Extracurricular resumes are developed and essay topics are discussed in preparation for college application. Counselors oversee course selection for senior year.

Guidance 4

First semester of Guidance 4 focuses on the college application process. Students share insights to facilitate the selection process. Visitations, interviews, application preparation, essay writing and a variety of guidelines are presented to the seniors. The financial aid process and scholarship opportunities are presented. In the second semester, graduation and the transition to college are discussed with topics of time management, nutrition and health, and managing personal finances.

MATHEMATICS DEPARTMENT

The Mathematics Department requires that all students take three credits of high school math; four credits are recommended for most students.

Students must have an A average to move from CP1 to Honors. To remain in an Honors level course, students must maintain at least a C+ average.

(411) Algebra I Honors

Year

1 Credit

(Prerequisite: Administration determines placement)

This course stresses the structure of Algebra and the development of computational and problem solving skills. Topics include properties of real numbers, simplifying expressions, solving equations and inequalities, factoring, fractions, polynomials, and graphing. A graphing calculator is required for this course.

(412) Algebra I (CP1)

Year

1 Credit

(Prerequisite: Administration determines placement)

This course stresses the use of linear equations and inequalities to represent real-world data. The student's knowledge is further enhanced through an introduction to quadratic, polynomial, exponential, and rational functions. A graphing calculator is required for this course.

(413) Algebra I (CP2)

Year

1 Credit

(Prerequisite: Administration determines placement)

This course is similar to Mathematics 412; it is differentiated by presentation, book and difficulty.

(421) Geometry Honors **Year** **1 Credit**
(Prerequisite for freshmen: Administration determines placement. Students should have successfully completed a full year of Algebra I at the honors level in Grade 8)
(Prerequisite for sophomores: Math 411)

This course introduces students to deductive reasoning and logical problem solving. Topics include angles, perpendicular and parallel lines, congruent and right triangles, similar polygons, area and volume of polygons and solids. Other topics include coordinate geometry and transformations.

(422) Geometry (CP1) **Year** **1 Credit**
(Prerequisite for freshmen: Administration determines placement. Students should have successfully completed a full year of Algebra 1 in Grade 8.)
(Prerequisite for sophomores: Math 412; or Math 413 with a recommended minimum final average of 85.)

This course is similar to Math 421; it is differentiated by presentation, book and difficulty.

(423) Geometry (CP2) **Year** **1 Credit**
(Prerequisite: Math 413 or Math 412)

This course is similar to Math 422; it is differentiated by presentation, book and difficulty.

(431) Algebra II and Trigonometry Honors **Year** **1 Credit**
(Prerequisite: Math 421)

This course focuses on the study of linear, quadratic, exponential, logarithmic, and trigonometric functions. Within this context, properties of polynomials, rational expressions, radicals and complex numbers are explored. Additional topics include matrices, conic sections, sequences, series and combinatorics. A graphing calculator is required for this course.

(432) Algebra II (CP1) **Year** **1 Credit**
(Prerequisite: Math 422; or Math 423 with a recommended minimum final average of 85.)

This course is a study of functions - linear, quadratic, exponential and logarithmic functions with focus on graphing and applications. It also includes matrices, equations, systems of equations, the complex number system, and abstract exercises useful for SAT preparation. A graphing calculator is required for this course.

(433) Algebra II (CP2) **Year** **1 Credit**
(Prerequisite: Math 423 or Math 422)

This course is a review of Algebra I and introduces the student to quadratic equations, rational expressions, word problems, graphing, exponents and radicals. The student is also given assignments to specifically prepare for SAT test taking. A graphing calculator is required for this course.

(441) Pre-Calculus Honors **Year** **1 Credit**
(Prerequisite: Math 431; or Students with an A average in Alg 2 CP1 who elect 441 must complete independent work before September.) This course studies functions as models of change. It focuses on a thorough knowledge of functions . linear, exponential, logarithmic, trigonometric, polynomial, and rational . their graphs, and their uses as models for real world situations. It also includes additional pre-calculus topics, such as limits, as time permits. A graphing calculator is required for this course.

(4042) Pre-Calculus (CP1) **Year** **1 Credit**
(Prerequisite: Math 432-with a recommended minimum final average of 85.) This course is similar to Pre-Calculus Honors; it is differentiated by presentation and difficulty. A graphing calculator is required for this course.

(4421) Elementary Discrete Mathematics Honors Semester .5 Credit

(Prerequisite: Math 432 with a grade of B- or better, or Math 431)

Problem solving and reasoning skills are developed in an interactive setting while covering voting methods, apportionments, mathematics of finance, counting, probability, and graph theory. A graphing calculator is required for this course.

(4412) Trigonometry (CP1) Semester .5 Credit

(Prerequisite: Math 432 - May not be taken if a student has taken a math course that includes trigonometry- 431, 441, 4042)

This course is designed for students who will be required to take math in college. The trigonometric functions will be explored both as they relate to right triangles and the unit circle. The six functions will be analyzed, graphed and applied to real world situations. A graphing calculator is required for this course.

(4403) Applications of Mathematics (CP1) Semester .5 Credit

(Prerequisite: Math 432 or 433.) Open to seniors.

Students use the technology of scientific and graphing calculators, computer application programs, the internet, and spreadsheets to investigate real life applications of mathematics. Students model applications using linear and exponential functions in Excel and present their findings in portfolios requiring Word and Excel documents. Probability and statistics are used to explore and analyze data. A unit on practical financial knowledge is also included. Portfolios are used in addition to traditional methods of assessment.

(442) Personal Financial Literacy (CP1) Semester .5 Credit

(Prerequisite: Math 433 or 432)

This course introduces students to the study of personal finance. Topics include income, money management, spending and credit, and saving and investing. Students must be able to access the Internet outside of class to complete assignments and research topics.

(451) Calculus Advanced Placement Year 1 Credit

(Prerequisite: Math 441 with at least a B final average.)

The AP Calculus course follows the AP curriculum for Calculus AB (approved by the College Board AP Audit). Students are required to take the Advanced Placement Calculus exam in May. A graphing calculator is required for this course.

MUSIC DEPARTMENT

(324) Freshman Choir Year .5 Credit

Open to freshmen.

This class meets three days a cycle. The students will work towards team-building, sharing responsibility, and respect for others. They will learn and improve proper vocal production, range, breath support, music reading skills, and listening skills. Appreciation for various styles of Choral Music is stressed. There are two major performances per year. The purchase of a choir dress and folder are required.

(325) Concert Choir Year .5 Credit

Open to sophomores, juniors and seniors.

This class meets three days a cycle. The students will work towards team-building, sharing responsibility, and respect for others. They will improve vocal production, range, breath support, music reading skills, and listening skills. Expanded appreciation for various styles of Choral Music is stressed. There are two major performances per year. The purchase of a choir dress and folder are required for those who were not members of freshman choir.

(329) Advanced Vocal Ensemble **Year** **.5 Credit**

Open to members of Concert Choir by audition.

This class meets three days a cycle. This is a Chamber Choir that serves as musical ambassadors to Lauralton Hall and the community. Emphasis is on proper vocal production, intonation, musicality, solo and choral repertoire, and music reading. Students will work towards team-building, sharing responsibility, and respecting others. There are many opportunities for performances throughout the year. The purchase of a choir dress and folder are required.

(3311) Fundamentals of Music Theory - Honors **Year** **1 Credit**

(Prerequisite: A grade of 75 or higher in all previous math classes.) Open to juniors and seniors.

This class offers an introduction to the basic concepts of music theory. Scales, chords, intervals and meter will be studied. Students will work toward gaining a fuller understanding of the basic concepts of how music is written and put together. This class requires the same thought process as many math classes and does require memorization.

(3301) Music Theory - Advanced Placement **Year** **1 Credit**

(Prerequisite: Music 3312 or by Entrance Exam. A grade of 75 or higher in all previous math and music theory classes.) Open to juniors and seniors.

This class is an advanced music theory course designed to prepare students for the AP Music Theory Exam. Students will be required to learn written, aural and keyboard skills. Although no prior keyboard experience is required, there is extensive keyboard work in the class. Students must take the Advanced Placement Music Theory exam in the spring.

(3332) Instrumental Ensemble **Year** **.5 Credit**

Open to students in all grades.

This class meets three days a cycle and is designed for the student with previous playing experience. Students will work together to learn how to perform as a group. There will be two major concerts per year.

(3362) Introduction to Theatre **Semester** **.5 Credit**

Open to juniors and seniors.

This class will introduce students to all aspects of theatrical performance. Staging, character development and performance techniques will be included, as well as some historical background of the development of theatre. A final performance will be required.

(3432) Non-traditional Percussion Ensemble **Semester** **.5 Credit**

Open to juniors and seniors.

This class is designed for students with or without previous music experience. Students will learn to read, write and play rhythmic notations. Students will write their own percussion pieces to be performed at the end of the semester. Students will experiment with various non-traditional percussion instruments, eventually choosing ones that best suit the pieces they have written for performance.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION/HEALTH DEPARTMENT

(001) PE/Health I

Year

.5 Credit

Required of all freshmen.

Physical Education I engages students in a variety of activities for the purposes of exercise, recreational enjoyment, improving skill and physical fitness levels, learning how to work with others in non-competitive and competitive situations and releasing physical and emotional tension. The Health program focuses on the importance of good physical, emotional and social health, including developing a positive self-image; making healthy choices and stress management.

(002) PE/Health II

Year

.5 Credit

Required of all sophomores.

Physical Education II, an extension of Physical Education I, applies more emphasis on lifetime activities and physical fitness, including the understanding of the body and its function through exercise. The Health program focuses on healthy relationships, making healthy choices, human growth and development/sex education, substance abuse education and girls/women's health issues.

(0091 0092) Physical Education Leaders

Semester

.25 credit

(Prerequisite: PE I and II and departmental approval.)

Open to juniors and seniors.

Students with an interest in pursuing a Physical Education career and/or continuing with their Physical Education activities during high school assist PE teacher as a PE Leader in PE I or II classes. Responsibilities may include assistance with taking attendance, class preparation and class participation. Pass/Fail grading based on student's overall performance as a leader, mentor, participator or assistant, including journal of class activities and student's active role with each class.

RELIGIOUS STUDIES DEPARTMENT

Service Requirement

Religion credit is dependent upon satisfactory completion of service hours.

Freshmen:

Fifteen hours of community service.

Sophomores:

Thirty hours of community service outside Lauralton Hall.

Juniors/Seniors:

Fifteen hours of community service each year, of which at least ten hours must be served outside Lauralton Hall. Up to five hours may be served within the Lauralton Hall community.

(0102) Introduction to Catholicism

Year

1 Credit

Required of freshmen.

This year-long course presents an overview of the basic tenets of the Catholic Church. Following the major themes outlined by the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, this course will cover the nature of God's revelation, an introduction to the dogma of the Trinity, information about the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus, an introduction to the Catholic Church and its sacraments, and an overview of the 10 Commandments. Time will also be devoted to the life of Catherine McAuley, the works of the Sisters of Mercy, and the seasons of the Church year.

(0202) Hebrew and Christian Scriptures

Year

1 Credit

Required of sophomores.

This course will offer an introduction to the Old and New Testament. In the first semester students will focus on the Old Testament, which will help them understand God's call to be a chosen people. The second semester will focus on the New Testament and will help students to know the life of Jesus Christ and what this message means in the life of a Christian woman of the 21st century. During both semesters special attention will be paid to prominent women of faith, including the foundress of the Sisters of Mercy, Catherine McAuley.

(0342) Catholic Writers

Semester

.5 Credit

Open to juniors and seniors.

Throughout the centuries, Catholics have written about their awareness that of God's presence permeates all of reality. Catholic Writers is a course that celebrates the compositions of such writers through four areas of exploration: thought, literature, spirituality and social action. This course is designed to develop analytical skills through reading and careful examination of the texts while emphasizing Christian principles.

(0352) The Church: The Good, The Bad, and The Awesome

Semester

.5 Credit

Open to juniors and seniors.

This course takes an honest look at the history of the Catholic Church from Jesus to the present day. It pinpoints certain time periods when the Church struggled to fulfill her mission. Yet, this course reveals how the Church is not just human - it is also divine. As you study how the Catholic Church overcame its difficulties, you will discover the Catholic Church's awesome saints, amazing miracles, and influence on Western Civilization.

(0422) Comparative Religions

Semester

.5 Credit

Open to juniors and seniors. Required for graduation.

Comparative Religions is an exploration of the basic elements of the world's major religious traditions as they influence history, culture and society. The beginning of the course is devoted to the foundations of Religious Studies and continues with a brief overview of ancient religions. The core of the course is dedicated to the study of Hinduism, Buddhism, Chinese Religions (Confucianism, Taoism), Japanese Religions (Shinto, Zen Buddhism), Judaism, Islam and Christianity (including various denominations). The course concludes with a brief overview of new religious movements. This course teaches an appreciation of diversity, as well as respect for the values of these religious traditions. The curriculum of Comparative Religions is structured with significant attention directed toward women's roles in religion and an emphasis on Christian principles.

(0432) Christian Peace and Justice

Semester

.5 Credit

Open to juniors and seniors. Offered 2011-2012.

This course explores the call to peace and justice based on the life and teachings of Jesus as expressed in the principles of Catholic Social Teaching. Local and global issues will be explored in relation to the principle of the life and dignity of the human person. Topics explored include the development of Catholic Social Teaching, prejudice, racism, poverty, nonviolence, and the consistent ethic of life.

(0452) Women and Christianity

Semester

.5 Credit

Open to juniors and seniors.

One of the core values of a Mercy education is concern for women and women's issues. In this course, students will explore the historical presence of women in the Catholic Church and will appreciate the diversity of ways that women have lived out their Christian vocations. Topics include women of the Bible, the presence of women in early Christianity, the monastic tradition, women in active religious life, and women as theologians. In addition, students will examine the situation of women in the US and around the world in conjunction with the Christian call to justice.

(0462) Spirituality and Art

Semester .5 Credit

Open to juniors and seniors.

This course's goal is to strengthen and nurture each student's spiritual growth using art and meditation as its vehicle. We will explore religious art from the Byzantine era through the Renaissance period of art history. Emphasis is placed on critical analysis of these religious works as well as guided meditation, creating original works of art, group projects, and classroom discussions about relevant issues.

SCIENCE DEPARTMENT

The Science Department requires that all students take a minimum of three credits of high school science; most students take four credits and some students take five credits.

Students must have an A average to move from CP1 to Honors. To remain in an Honors level course, students must maintain at least a C+ average.

(5111) Newtonian Physics Honors

Year

1 Credit

(Prerequisite: Algebra Honors; or Geometry taken concurrently)

This is an in-depth physics course, which is designed to develop a working vocabulary and a sound foundation in the major divisions of physics. This course includes the interpretation and the application of mathematical concepts needed to understand the laws of physics. Central to the course is the establishment of proper experimental procedure and proficient interpretation and reporting of observed phenomena. Concepts are reinforced through hands-on activities, virtual and actual demonstrations and one lab per cycle.

(5122) Newtonian Physics (CP1)

Year

1 Credit

Algebra based, introductory physics course designed to introduce the student to fundamental physics concepts and how they apply to real-world situations. Topics include, force and motion, energy, thermodynamics, and fluids. Concepts will be reinforced through hands-on activities, virtual and actual demonstrations and one lab per cycle.

(5123) Newtonian Physics (CP2)

Year

1 Credit

This course explores the same basic concepts as Physics CP1. This course is designed to provide more individualized instruction through simulations and web-based learning with an emphasis on vocabulary and concepts. There is one lab per cycle.

(5231) Chemistry Honors

Year

1 Credit

(Prerequisite: Physics Honors)

This course covers the fundamental principles and classical laws of chemistry. Students will master concepts through utilizing skills learned in Honors Physics: mathematical interpretation, analysis and experiential lab activities. Scientific reading and writing skills are reinforced throughout the course. Lab work is included in every cycle.

(5232) Chemistry (CP1)

Year

1 Credit

(Prerequisite: Physics)

This course is a study of the structure and interaction of matter. Emphasis is placed on reinforcement of skills learned in physics: problem solving, vocabulary, formula writing, chemical equations, nomenclature and the atomic theory. The course includes one lab per cycle, which allows for the observation and study of chemical processes.

(5233) Chemistry (CP2) <i>(Prerequisite: Physics)</i> This course covers the same basic topics and skills in chemistry as Science 5222, with more emphasis on descriptive chemistry, and less emphasis on mathematical concepts. One lab is included every cycle.	Year	1 Credit
(5311) Cellular and Molecular Biology Honors <i>(Prerequisite: Chemistry Honors)</i> This introductory course in biology emphasizes the molecular and cellular processes of organisms through utilization of skills and concepts learned in Honors Chemistry. In addition, it includes an exploration of biological kingdoms, ecology, genetics and evolution. Participation in discussion and proficiency in analytical scientific writing are expected. Concepts presented in lecture are reinforced in one lab per cycle.	Year	1 Credit
(5332) Cellular & Molecular Biology (CP1) <i>(Prerequisites: Physics and Chemistry)</i> A comprehensive exploration of cellular biology includes such topics as cell transport, cell respiration, photosynthesis, protein synthesis, genetics and evolution. Students will build on skills and concepts learned in chemistry. The lab serves to reinforce topics covered during the week.	Year	1 Credit
(5333) Cellular & Molecular Biology (CP2) <i>(Prerequisites: Physics and Chemistry)</i> This course covers the same basic concepts and skills as Science 5332. The course is designed to provide more individualized instruction with an emphasis on biological vocabulary and concepts. Course content is reinforced through lab activities and demonstrations.	Year	1 Credit
(551) Biology Advanced Placement <i>(Prerequisite: Minimum final average of a B in Biology Honors)</i> Three general areas of study include: Molecules and Cells, Heredity and Evolution, and Organisms and Populations. Students will typically be responsible for two chapters per week of science reading, and thus make a commitment to extended homework time. The course will include extended lab time to cover the lab work included on the advanced placement exam. Students will take the AP Biology exam in May.	Year	1 Credit
(5401) Physics Advanced Placement <i>(Prerequisites: juniors: Algebra 2/Trig Honors and a minimum final average of a B in Physics Honors seniors: completion of Algebra 2 – any level – and a minimum final average of a B in Physics Honors.)</i> As part of the advanced placement program, AP Physics is designed to be the equivalent of a college introductory course. The general areas of study include: mechanics, heat, kinetic theory and thermodynamics, and electricity and magnetism, as well as wave theory and modern particle physics. Students will further the mastery of concepts learned in Physics I, with an integration of concepts from Chemistry and Biology. Concepts presented in lecture are reinforced in one lab per cycle to cover lab work included on the advanced placement exam. Students will take the Advanced Placement Physics exam in May.	Year	1 Credit
(5421) Anatomy and Physiology Honors <i>(Prerequisite: Biology Honors)</i> This advanced biology course is designed for students planning to major in science or enter a premedical program. The course consists of a detailed study of the structure and function of the human systems and stresses biochemical mechanisms. Lab work is reinforced with lab practical exams. Dissection, virtual dissection and data-collection technology is required by all students.	Year	1 Credit

(5422) Anatomy and Physiology (CP1)

Year

1 Credit

(Prerequisite: C+ average in Biology CP1, or minimum final average of a B in Biology CP2.) Open to seniors.

This course is designed for students with an interest in continuing their study of biology, or who plan to major in an allied health field. The course concentrates on the function of the human systems with an emphasis on homeostasis and regulation. Lab work reinforces concepts presented in class and is designed to relate body structure and function. Virtual dissection and data-collection technology will be explored and actual dissection is required by all students.

(5412) Oceanography (CP1)

Year

1 Credit

(Prerequisite for seniors: completion of Chemistry CP1 or at least a C- in Chemistry CP2)

(Prerequisite for juniors: may only be taken concurrently with any junior Honors science course)

An interdisciplinary course is designed for students concerned about the environmental issues impacting the marine environment. Students will be required to investigate issues such as global warming, over-fishing, invasive species, and marine disasters by integrating topics from across the sub-disciplines of oceanography. Students will collect, measure, analyze, and evaluate data as well as complete an independent study of current research regarding a selected issue of personal interest. Students will present their research to assess proficiency.

(5431) Introduction to Forensic Science (Honors)

Year

1 Credit

(Prerequisite: Biology Honors) Open to seniors.

This advanced Forensic Science course is the application of science to the examination of physical evidence obtained in the investigation of a crime scene. This course will cover many topics such as crime scene analysis, collection of physical evidence, firearm analysis, DNA analysis, blood typing and spatter analysis, fingerprints, hair and fiber analysis, toxicology and pathology. Both the lecture and laboratory emphasize the role of forensic science within the criminal justice system. Lab work is reinforced with lab practical exams. When possible, guest lectures by forensic professionals will supplement the class.

(5432) Introduction to Forensic Science (CP1)

Year

1 Credit

(Prerequisite: minimum final average of a C+ in Biology CP1) Open to seniors.

This course is the application of science to the examination of physical evidence obtained in the investigation of a crime scene. This course will cover many topics such as crime scene analysis, collection of physical evidence, firearm analysis, DNA analysis, blood typing and spatter analysis, fingerprints, hair and fiber analysis, toxicology and pathology. Both the lecture and laboratory emphasize the role of forensic science within the criminal justice system. When possible, guest lectures by forensic professionals will supplement the class.

(5441) Environmental Science Advanced Placement

Year

1 Credit

(Prerequisite for seniors: minimum final average of a C+ in Biology Honors, or minimum final average of a B in Biology CP1)

(Prerequisite for juniors: may only be taken concurrently with Biology Honors)

As part of the advanced placement program, AP Environmental Science is designed to be the equivalent of a one-semester college introductory natural resources course taught over the entire high school year. The course is designed to provide students with the content and skills needed to understand the various interrelationships in the natural world, to identify and analyze environmental problems and to propose and examine solutions to these problems. Course content encompasses human population dynamics, interrelationships in nature, energy flow, resources, environmental quality, human impact on environmental systems and environmental law. Students are required to take the Advanced Placement Environmental Science exam in May.

(5481) Chemistry Advanced Placement **Year** **1 Credit**

(Prerequisites: Minimum Final Average of B in Honors Chemistry)

This course is designed to provide a foundation for more advanced courses in chemistry; topics include atomic theory, the physical and chemical behavior of gases, liquids, solids, and solutions, properties of some of the more familiar elements and their compounds, quantitative measurements illustrating the laws of chemical combination and equilibrium in solutions and qualitative reactions of the common cations and anions. Concepts presented in lecture are reinforced in one lab per cycle. Students are required to take the Advanced Placement Chemistry exam in May.

(5461) Environmental Explorations Honors **Year** **1 Credit**

(Prerequisites: a strong interest in research, self-motivating student, a strong sense of curiosity about the world around you; approved research proposal.) Open to seniors. Students must submit a proposal for a research project and have it approved before registering for this class.

Environmental Explorations is a project based class that allows students time and opportunity to satisfy their curiosity about an environmental topic. Students create their own project . from planning to presentation stages. Students investigate background information, design project parameters, conduct experiments, analyze peer generated projects and conduct presentations. Students also have ample opportunities to learn and practice methods common to environmental research, as well as participating in many environmental service projects at school and within the local community.

SOCIAL STUDIES DEPARTMENT

The Social Studies Department requires that each student take 3 credits on the high school level. Required courses include World History, Modern World History, U.S. Government and U.S. History.

Students must have an A average to move from CP1 to Honors. To remain in an Honors level course, students must maintain at least a C+ average.

(211) World History Honors **Year** **1 Credit**

This survey course traces civilization in traditional Western societies as well as in Asia, Africa, and the Middle East from the 6th Century AD to the early 19th Century. Skill development in note-taking, essay writing, outlining, and mapping will be emphasized. Students will receive detailed instruction in research methods and will be required to complete a documented thesis-driven research paper. Supplemental book reports and primary source readings will provide opportunity for further analysis.

(212) World History (CP1) **Year** **1 Credit**

This survey course traces civilization in traditional Western societies as well as in Asia, Africa, and the Middle East from the 6th Century AD to the early 19th Century. Skill development in note-taking, essay writing, outlining, and mapping will be emphasized. Students will receive detailed instruction in research methods and will be required to complete a documented research paper. Special attention will be paid to the development of computer research skills.

(2211) European History Advanced Placement **Year** **1 Credit**

(Prerequisite: Final grade of an A- in a preceding honors level social studies course, or final grade of B- AP U.S. History) Open to juniors and seniors.

Advanced Placement European History is a survey course open to high-achieving, motivated 11th or 12th grade students who have completed an honors level history course. European History examines major trends and events from the Age of Discovery to the fall of communism. Extensive use will be made of primary source documents and college level secondary materials, and emphasis will be placed on analysis of historical evidence and the development of research and writing skills in history. Students will be required to take the Advanced Placement examination in the spring.

(241) Modern World History Honors Semester .5 Credit
(Prerequisite: History 211)

This course is a survey of 19th and 20th Century forces of modernization on traditional Western and non-Western societies. Topics include the impact of the Industrial Revolution; Western imperialism in Asia, Africa and the Middle East; the causes and consequences of the Great War and Russian and Chinese Revolutions; and the origins and consequences of the rise of fascism. Essay writing, note-taking, debating and geography skills will be emphasized, and multiple book reports and historical source readings will be required.

(242) Modern World History (CP1) Semester .5 Credit
(Prerequisite: History 211 or 212)

This course is a survey of 19th and 20th Century forces of modernization on traditional Western and non-Western societies. Topics include the impact of the Industrial Revolution; Western imperialism in Asia, Africa and the Middle East; the causes and the consequences of the Great War and Russian and Chinese Revolutions; and the origins and consequences of the rise of fascism. Essay writing, note-taking, and geography skills will be emphasized, and outside book reports will be required. Special attention will be paid to the development of Internet information gathering skills.

(2221) United States Government Honors Semester .5 Credit
(Prerequisite: History 211)

This course will include the study of the executive, legislative and judicial branches of the United States government and an examination of the Constitution with special emphasis on the development of the Bill of Rights and its application in recent years. Students will continue to refine research gathering, outlining, and note-taking skills and will produce a thesis-driven, documented multiple source paper.

(2222) United States Government (CP1) Semester .5 Credit
(Prerequisite: History 211 or 212)

This course includes the study of the executive, legislative, and judicial branches of the government and examines the constitutional history of the United States with special emphasis on the application of the Bill of Rights in recent years. Students will continue to refine research gathering, outlining, and note-taking skills and will be required to produce a documented, multiple source position paper.

(2301) United States History Advanced Placement / UCONN ECE Year 1 Credit
(Prerequisite: a final grade of at least a B- in AP European History or at least an A- in preceding honors social studies course) Open to juniors and seniors.

Advanced Placement/UCONN ECE United States History is a one year course beginning with the Columbian explorations and concluding with the post Cold War 90s. Designed to challenge disciplined students who demonstrate talent and interest in history, the course requirements will include the writing of expository essays, book reports and a comprehensive research project. Practice will be provided in taking the objective test, free-choice essay, and documents-based essay sections of the AP examination that will be administered in May. Sound writing skills are highly recommended. Students taking this course for AP credit will be required to take the Advanced Placement examination at the conclusion of the course. UCONN credit students must take the midterm and final exams for this course. A student may elect to take this course for AP credit, UCONN ECE credit (3 UCONN credits per semester), or both.

(231) United States History Honors Year 1 Credit
(Prerequisite: History 2211 or 2221.) Open to juniors and seniors.

This course presents an economic, social, and political survey of the history of the United States beginning in the Jeffersonian period and concluding with the end of the Cold War. The development of essay writing, primary source analysis, and computer research skills will be emphasized. Multiple book reports, supplementary historical readings and an extended documented research paper with a thesis statement will be assigned.

(232) United States History (CP1)

Year

1 Credit

Open to juniors and seniors.

This course is a survey of selected topics in the history of the United States beginning in the Jeffersonian period and concluding with the end of the Cold War. The development of essay writing and computer research skills will be emphasized. Book reports and a documented research paper with a thesis statement will be required.

(2511) Microeconomics Advanced Placement

Semester

.5 Credit

(Prerequisites: Open to juniors [with permission] and seniors with a final grade of B- in preceding AP level social studies course or an A- in preceding honors level social studies course and Algebra 2)

This course is a one-semester elective course which is designed to approximate an introductory college level course in microeconomics. The course emphasis will be on the development of research, presentation and writing skills in economics, and students will be required to take the Advanced Placement examination at the conclusion of the course. This course will only be available on-line.

(251) Microeconomics Honors

Semester

.5 Credit

(Prerequisite: Final grade of a B+ in preceding honors level social studies course and Algebra II; Algebra II may be taken concurrently) Open to juniors (with permission, depending on availability) and seniors.

This course is a one-semester elective course which is designed to approximate an introductory college level course in microeconomics. The course emphasis will be on the development of research, presentation and writing skills in economics,

(252) Introduction to Economics (CP1)

Semester

.5 Credit

Open to juniors and seniors.

This elective course will include topics in macroeconomics and microeconomics. Book report, essay writing and computer-generated researching skills will be emphasized in addition to student participation in a stock market simulation.

(262) Business Law (CP1)

Semester

.5 Credit

Open to juniors and seniors.

Business Law is for anyone exploring a career in business, law, contracts, employment/consumer protection, and/or insurance. To gain awareness in these practical areas, current pertinent examples and simulations are used to address contracts, business operations/formation, buying and selling procedures, consumer rights, employment laws, warranties and guarantees, and a concentration on many civil law issues. Students will be made aware of their legal rights as an employer/employee/contractor/agent, consumer, and as a member of society. Real contracts, leasing/renting agreements, labor negotiations, large item purchases are provided. This is a highly recommended course for the junior or senior interested in pursuing a career in business, law, sales, labor, or becoming an aware and informed consumer.

(272) Current Issues (CP1)

Semester

.5 Credit

Open to seniors.

The goal of this seminar is to have open discussions of political and social issues and raise awareness of current world events. Students will be required to research, report and write often. They will learn how to be critical consumers of media and will focus on research-based news writing and presenting a well-informed and balanced view of an issue. Discussions will be supplemented by readings, films and public speakers. Classroom discussion, presentation skills and critical thinking skills will be stressed.

(281) Global Studies Honors Semester .5 Credit

Open to juniors and seniors.

This elective will focus on the history and culture of selected areas of Asia, Africa, and the Middle East emphasizing connections to current world issues and events. Computer-generated research and presentation skills, essay writing, and critical thinking skills will be stressed.

(282) Global Studies (CP1) Semester .5 Credit

Open to juniors and seniors.

This elective will focus on the history and culture of selected areas of Asia, Africa, and the Middle East emphasizing connections to current world issues and events. Essay writing and mapping skills will be stressed as well as debating skills and computer-generated researching skills.

WORLD LANGUAGES DEPARTMENT

Two credits of high school language are required for graduation; three or four credits are highly recommended.

Students must have an A average to move from CP1 to Honors. To remain in an Honors level course, students must maintain at least a C+ average.

(712) Latin I (CP) Year 1 Credit

This course is an introduction to the Latin language. Emphasis is placed on acquiring reading facility in Latin. Traditional forms and inflections are taught along with vocabulary. Through textbook readings, students are introduced to aspects of daily life in ancient Rome. Attention is also given to vocabulary building and word derivation.

(721) Latin II Honors Year 1 Credit

(Prerequisite: A minimum final average of an A- in Latin 712)

This course reviews grammar and syntax presented in Latin I and completes the student's study of basic forms, including passive voice, subjunctive forms and additional uses of the Latin cases. The text continues the theme of daily life in ancient Rome, and supplemental readings present mythological, historical and cultural materials.

(722) Latin II (CP) Year 1 Credit

(Prerequisite: Latin 712)

This course reviews and completes Latin grammar. It continues the students' involvement in the aspects of Roman Life.

(731) Latin III Honors Year 1 Credit

(Prerequisite: Latin 721)

This course commences with a review of syntax and grammar presented in Latin I and II. The primary focus will be the translation of Apuleius' *Cupid and Psyche* with supplemental readings. Emphasis is placed on vocabulary building, English derivatives and mythology.

(732) Latin III (CP) Year 1 Credit

(Prerequisite: Latin 721 or 722)

A review of grammar and syntax presented in Latin I and II and the translation of *Cupid and Psyche* are the basic elements of the course. Emphasis is placed on vocabulary building, English derivatives and mythology.

(741) Latin IV Honors **Year** **1 Credit**

(Prerequisite: Latin 731)

This course will basically follow the AP curriculum with suitable modifications in assignments and assessments. At this level, students will not be required to take the AP Exam in May.

(7501) Latin Advanced Placement **Year** **1 Credit**

(Prerequisite: Latin 731 with a minimum final average of A-)

Advanced Placement Latin offers a course in either Vergil or Latin Literature (with a choice of authors). The aims of the course are in general conformity with college Latin studies in the fourth through sixth semester. The basic objective is progress in reading, translating, and understanding, analyzing and interpreting Latin in the original. Students will take the Advanced Placement Exam in May.

(812) French I (CP) **Year** **1 Credit**

This course is an introduction to the rich French language and culture and offers a firm foundation for subsequent French classes. The four language skills are developed: reading, writing, listening and speaking, through a multi-faceted textbook series that includes an interactive video that is very popular with students. Emphasis is placed on vocabulary, sentence structure and pronunciation. Supplemental materials are used to enhance the primary series.

(821) French II Honors **Year** **1 Credit**

(Prerequisite: A minimum final average of an A- in French 812)

After a brief review of French I vocabulary, grammar and conversational idioms emphasizing proficient use of the language, original conversational and written usage is cultivated. Good pronunciation is stressed. Comprehension of the written language is integrated into the curriculum through poetry and short literary excerpts, as well as through articles pertaining to various francophone cultures and to current events. During this year honors level students advance at a pace which allows them to be introduced to many of the essential points of French grammar.

(822) French II (CP) **Year** **1 Credit**

(Prerequisite: French 812)

This course begins with a thorough review of French I vocabulary, grammar and conversational idioms. Emphasis is placed on the four basic skills of listening, speaking, reading and writing in the target language. Good pronunciation is stressed. Lessons pertaining to the cultures of various francophone countries are regularly integrated into the curriculum.

(831) French III Honors **Year** **1 Credit**

(Prerequisite: French 821 or French 822)

This course is designed to give the student an advanced understanding of the French language and civilization. Exposure to a variety of oral and print contemporary French media, an intensive study of verb tenses and their usage, the development of reading comprehension skills and an understanding of complex grammatical structures prepare the student to broaden and to perfect the four skills of listening, speaking, reading and writing.

(832) French III (CP) **Year** **1 Credit**

(Prerequisite: French 821 or 822)

In this course, cultural and high interest reading materials integrate a review of grammar and structures from French I and II.

(841) French IV Honors **Year** **1 Credit**

(Prerequisite: French 831 or French 832)

This course will basically follow the AP curriculum with suitable modifications in assignments and assessments. At this level, students will not be required to take the AP Exam in May.

(842) French IV (CP) **Year** **1 Credit**

(Prerequisite: French 831 or 832)

This course is designed for students who want to expand their understanding of the French language and culture. Reading, writing and conversational skills are further developed. Verb tenses are reviewed. French Classical, Romantic and Impressionist Periods are studied in art, music and literature.

(8501) French Language Advanced Placement **Year** **1 Credit**

(Prerequisite: French 831 with a minimum final average of an A- or French 841 with a minimum final average of a B+)

This course, which requires the use of the French language for active communication, is designed to refine the students' ability to understand spoken French in various contexts, to expand their vocabulary toward the reading of various non-technical texts without a dictionary, and to enable them to express themselves with coherence and accuracy in both written and spoken French. Students take the Advanced Placement French Language Exam in May.

(912) Spanish I (CP) **Year** **1 Credit**

This course is designed to give students the vocabulary and grammatical structures needed to communicate in the situations they are most likely to encounter in everyday life. From the onset, interaction in the target language occurs between students as well as between student and teacher, and soon after that they begin writing paragraphs, so that by the end of the year they can write short compositions. The students are also taught reading strategies, which they employ in short readings about some of the history and culture of the Spanish-speaking world.

(921) Spanish II Honors **Year** **1 Credit**

(Prerequisite: A minimum final average of an A- in Spanish 912)

This course briefly reviews the grammar and vocabulary presented in Spanish I and introduces the student to some of the more complex structures of the language. Skills are developed through oral and written exercises with a follow up of reading strategies and listening exercises. Students study Hispanic cultures and countries.

(922) Spanish II (CP) **Year** **1 Credit**

(Prerequisite: Spanish 912)

This course reviews vocabulary and grammar studied in Spanish I and augments student proficiency through the study of more complex grammar as well as regular practice in speaking, reading, writing, and listening. Topics used, such as shopping, personal relationships and leisure activities are of particular interest to adolescents. Students study Hispanic culture and countries.

(931) Spanish III Honors **Year** **1 Credit**

(Prerequisite: Spanish 921 or Spanish 922)

The purpose of this course is to develop skills acquired by the students during the first two years with emphasis on increasing vocabulary and understanding of more complex grammar. Conversational skills stress originality and fluency, and writing skills are developed to include essays. Included in this course are comprehension and appreciation of some authentic works of 20th century Hispanic authors and the culture of various Spanish-speaking countries, with some literary analysis.

(932) Spanish III (CP) **Year** **1 Credit**

(Prerequisite: Spanish 922)

In this course grammar of Spanish I and II is reviewed, and some new grammar introduced. Short readings serve to develop skills and vocabulary, as well as to familiarize students with people, places, events and cultures of the Spanish-speaking world.

(941) Spanish IV Honors **Year** **1 Credit**

(Prerequisite: Spanish 931 or Spanish 932)

This is an advanced course taught in the target language. Students study and analyze Spanish poetry and short stories. Through these and other readings, as well as through independent research, students develop an understanding of some of the social, political and economic concerns of Spanish-speaking peoples through time. Writing and conversation are stressed, and grammar is reviewed.

(942) Spanish IV (CP) **Year** **1 Credit**

(Prerequisite: Spanish 931 or 932)

This course, taught primarily in the target language, is designed for further development of reading, writing, and conversational skills, as well as understanding and an appreciation of Hispanic culture. Readings about Spanish and Spanish-American history, art and culture, and 20th century short stories by famous Hispanic authors are the foundation of the course. Grammar is reviewed as necessary.

(9501) Spanish Language Advanced Placement **Year** **1 Credit**

(Prerequisite: Spanish 931 with a minimum final average of an A- or Spanish 941 with a year end average of a B+)

This course is intended as the final course for qualified students who study Spanish on the high school level. This course is comparable to an intermediate level college course in Spanish language. The goals of this course are to raise the level of proficiency of the four language skills (listening, speaking, reading, and writing) in an integrated manner and to synthesize written and aural materials. These materials include historical & cultural topics and a variety of authentic resources, from literary texts to newspapers, magazines, films, music, etc. in preparation for the AP Spanish examination. Students are required to take the Advanced Placement exam in May.