



MATER DEI CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL OF SAN DIEGO, INC.

CURRICULUM GUIDE

2022-2023

Fr. Boom Martinez, President

Mr. Aaron Gonzalez, Principal

1615 Mater Dei Drive
Chula Vista, CA 91913-3953
PHONE (619) 423-2121
FAX (619) 423-6910
www.materdeicatholic.org

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Why Do We Exist? (Core Purpose)

We exist to inspire & educate the hearts, minds and souls of our students.

What Do We Do?

We provide a Catholic college preparatory education for high school students.

INTEGRAL STUDENT OUTCOMES

Mater Dei Catholic High School prepares its graduates to be:

Christ-Centered Persons who:

- Are dedicated to the Catholic values of dignity, humility, and compassion
- Possess a generous heart and are committed to a spirit of service
- Embody a love of God and love of neighbor

Life-Long Self- Directed Learners who:

- Are determined to pursue higher education
- Demonstrate integrity as they form identity and discover their purpose
- Embody a growth mindset and apply their learning to real world issues

Effective Communicators who:

- Exemplify emotional and spiritual sensitivity
- Articulate ideas clearly, creatively, and logically
- Possess the skills to resolve conflicts in a global society

Collaborative Individuals who:

- Respect and value individuals from diverse backgrounds and abilities
- Demonstrate social awareness and good judgment
- Engage in a variety of leadership and supportive roles

MDCHS GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

COURSE	SEMESTER UNITS
Theology	40
English	40
Mathematics	30
Social Science	30
Science	20
World Language	20
Physical Education	10
Visual & Performing Arts	10
Speech/Academic and Technical Literacy	10
Other Elective Courses	70
<i>100 Christian Service Hours are required for Graduation. They are to be twenty-five (25) per year.</i>	
<i>Successful completion of AWP Competency Exam or subsequent writing workshop.</i>	

1. Students must carry seven classes (35 units) at minimum each semester and PASS each class they attempt while in attendance at MDCHS.
2. A student who fails a course (i.e. receives an "F" grade) receives no credit for that course and must make up the course in summer school at MDCHS during the FOLLOWING summer. A grade of "D" is unacceptable for colleges and universities. (See Course Failure and Retake Policy section below.)
3. In addition to the eight-semester Theology requirement, students must complete a Christian Service component, which is implemented through the Theology department. Students must complete 100 hours of Christian Service (25 hours of service per school year) and a corresponding written component, which is assigned through select Theology classes. Students' Christian Service is part of their academic grade for those select Theology classes.
4. Students must successfully complete a Senior Capstone Project.
5. Students must pass the Analytical Writing Program (AWP) Competency Exam. (See below)
6. Students must complete two semesters of Physical Education. A student may earn 5 PE units for participation on an interscholastic team (including stats personnel and managers) or cheerleading for one full season. The credit is approved through the Principal's office.
7. Any students who have not fulfilled the requirements listed above will not graduate from MDCHS.

Valedictorian and Salutatorian

In order to be considered for Valedictorian or Salutatorian, the student must have attended MDCHS for at least three years and in that time frame, all classes must have been taken at MDCHS . Only classes taken at MDCHS beginning in freshman year through the fall of senior year will be calculated toward the Valedictorian and Salutatorian GPAs. Credit can be granted for courses taken outside MDCHS or before freshman year, but those classes will NOT be included in Valedictorian and Salutatorian GPA calculation.

Course Failure and Retake Policy

Any student enrolled in MDCHS who fails a course(s) MUST retake the course during the summer IMMEDIATELY following the failed course. If a failed course is offered through MDCHS summer school program, then the student must retake the failed course at MDCHS. If MDCHS does not offer the failed course through the summer school program, then the student must obtain written approval from a MDCHS counselor BEFORE enrolling in the course at another educational institution to receive credit for the course. For Science courses not offered through MDCHS summer school program, students must obtain prior written approval from their counselor and take the course at a community college. Any student who fails a course and wishes to return to MDCHS the following August must make up all credits lost due to these failures before he/she is reinstated.

The Senior Capstone Project

The Senior Capstone Project is a graduation requirement that serves as a culminating academic experience. Its purpose is to reflect on the student's personal, academic and spiritual accomplishments and growth at Mater Dei Catholic High School, and to provide an opportunity for the student to expand and apply knowledge for future endeavors with the guidance of a professional mentor.

ANALYTICAL WRITING PROGRAM (AWP) COMPETENCY EXAM

All sophomores (10th graders) are required to take and pass the AWP Competency Exam, which is administered to all English 2 students near the end of the second semester. The exam consists of a prompt to which students must respond in AWP format. Students who do not pass the exam must retake it on final exam make up day.

If a student fails the AWP Competency Exam, but passes English 2, he/she will only have to take and pass a writing intensive course for a minimum of the first semester of junior year. If a student fails both English 2 and the AWP Competency Exam, he/she will have to re-take and pass English 2. Academic grades for English 2 will remain separate from the AWP Competency Exam. Thus, performance on the exam will not affect the English 2 grade.

TYPICAL FOUR-YEAR STUDY PLAN

	SEMESTER ONE	SEMESTER TWO
GRADE 9	Theology English Mathematics World Language World Cultures Academic and Technical Literacy Biology	Theology English Mathematics World Language World Cultures Speech Biology
GRADE 10	Theology English Mathematics World Language Biology//Earth Science/Chemistry Visual & Performing Arts Physical Education	Theology English Mathematics World Language Biology/Earth Science/Chemistry Visual & Performing Arts Physical Education
GRADE 11	Theology English Mathematics Chemistry/Earth Science/Science U.S. History World Language Elective(s)	Theology English Mathematics Chemistry/Earth Science/Science U.S. History World Language Elective(s)
GRADE 12	Theology English American Government Mathematics Science World Language Elective(s)	Theology English Economics Mathematics Science World Language Elective(s)

REQUIREMENTS FOR UNIVERSITIES/COLLEGES

In planning your high school program, you should know the subject and grade requirements for the university and/or college you may be selecting.

University of California (UC) Requirements

To determine the minimum eligibility of a student, the University of California computes a GPA based on the following A-G courses. *Only grades of "C" or higher are accepted by the UC System.*

A. Social Science - Two years required

Two years of social science, including one year of world history, cultures and geography; and one year of U.S. History or one-half year of U.S. History and one-half year of civics or American Government.

B. English - Four years required

Four years of college preparatory English that include frequent and regular writing and reading of classic and modern literature. Not more than two semesters of ninth grade English can be used to meet this requirement.

C. Mathematics - Three years required, four years recommended

Three years of college preparatory mathematics that include the topics covered in elementary and advanced algebra and two- and three-dimensional geometry. Approved integrated math courses may be used to fulfill part or all of this requirement, as may math courses taken in the seventh and eighth grades that your high school accepts as equivalent to its own math courses.

D. Laboratory Science - Two years required, three years recommended

Two years of laboratory science providing fundamental knowledge in two of these three core disciplines: biology, chemistry and physics. The latter two years of an approved three-year integrated science program may be used to fulfill this requirement. Not more than one year of ninth grade laboratory science can be used to meet this requirement.

E. Language Other Than English - Two years required, three years recommended.

Two years of the same language other than English. Courses should emphasize speaking and understanding, and include instruction in grammar, vocabulary, reading, composition and culture. Courses in language other than English taken in the seventh and eighth grades may be used to fulfill part of this requirement if your high school accepts them as equivalent to its own courses.

F. Visual and Performing Arts (VAPA) - One year required

One year of visual and performing arts chosen from the following: dance, drama/theater, music or visual art.

G. College Preparatory Electives - One year required

One year (two semesters), in addition to those required in "a-f" above, chosen from the following areas: visual and performing arts (non-introductory level courses), history, social science, English, advanced mathematics, laboratory science and language other than English (a third year in the language used for the "e" requirement or two years of another language.)

In deciding admission to the UC System, 10th and 11th grade GPA is used with SAT I or ACT scores.

California State University (CSU) Requirements

Subject Requirements: You must complete (with a grade of “C” or better) the following pattern of college preparatory subjects totaling 15 units. A unit is one year of study in high school.

Four years	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> English
Three years	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mathematics (Algebra 1, Geometry, and Algebra 2; or integrated mathematics including these)
Two years	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Social Science, including one year of U.S. History or U.S. History and Government Science with a laboratory (one year biological and one year physical) World Language (the same language)
One year	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Visual and Performing Arts: Art, Dance, Theatre/Drama, or Music Elective chosen from the subject areas listed above or approved college preparatory elective courses. 2 years preferred
15 units total subjects	
https://admission.universityofcalifornia.edu/admission-requirements/freshman-requirements/subject-requirement-a-g.html	

Students and parents please note: The University of California does NOT accept a higher weighted Grade Point Average for any 9th or 10th grade Honors class, nor does it accept a higher weighted Grade Point Average for any 11th or 12th grade English Honors class, IF that high school also offers an Advanced Placement course in the same subject. If a student takes the Honors course and not the Advanced Placement course, the University of California will not give extra weighted credit for the Honors course.

Other Universities and Colleges

Subject requirements are usually met by our graduation requirements. However, these institutions set their own admission requirements. Check the college catalog of the college in which you are interested to find out the requirements for admission.

ADVANCED PLACEMENT (AP) PROGRAM GUIDELINES

Advanced Placement is a program of college-level courses and exams offered for secondary students in American high schools for potential college/university credit. The following one-year Advanced Placement courses are offered at Mater Dei Catholic High School:

- The History of Art and Architecture
- Biology
- Calculus AB
- Calculus BC
- Chemistry
- Computer Science A
- Computer Science Principles
- English Literature
- English Language and Composition
- Environmental Science
- World History
- French Language and Culture
- Physics 1
- Spanish Language and Culture
- Spanish Literature
- Statistics
- United States History

Requirements for the Advanced Placement (AP) Program

1. Mater Dei supports the social and emotional wellbeing of their students and believes in the importance of providing balance for students in their academic choices. For this reason, students are permitted a maximum of 4 Advanced Placement and Southwestern College courses per semester. A student may choose to take 4 Advanced Placement courses or choose a combination of Advanced Placement courses and Southwestern College courses, but this CANNOT exceed a total of 4 courses.
2. Students are admitted to Advanced Placement courses based on grades from previous courses.
3. Students are expected to maintain a minimal grade of B- (80%) in that Advanced Placement course. If a student receives a first semester grade of less than a B-(80%), that student may be asked to drop that class at the semester. Fees for AP testing will not be refunded.
4. All students are encouraged to maintain perfect attendance in order to better achieve success in the course. Accordingly, the following guidelines will be in effect:
 - a. After three (3) absences in any given grading period, the teacher may initiate a meeting with the student and his/her academic counselor concerning the student's eligibility in the course.
 - b. Students may not miss a class for an extra-curricular activity such as sports, ASB meeting, etc., unless prior notification has been given to the Advanced Placement teacher.
5. Students enrolled in an AP class must take the National Advanced Placement Exam in May.
6. The National Advanced Placement Exam fee must be paid for by October 15th. Students will not be allowed to continue in their AP class without this payment.
7. If, for any reason, the student does not take the National Exam, they will not receive Advanced Placement notation or weighting in their GPA or their transcript. These students will also not receive a refund for the AP exam.
8. Students signing up for an Advanced Placement class may expect to receive a summer reading list of selected works that they will be held accountable for in that course. Failure to be prepared may result in a poor academic beginning to that semester and may result in a low fall semester grade.
9. If a student NOT ENROLLED in an AP course wishes to take an Advanced Placement Exam, he/she must notify the Advanced Placement coordinator in writing BEFORE November 1st so that we may order that exam.

ACADEMY OF SCIENCE

The Academy of Science is a unique and unparalleled collaborative educational experience in which high achieving students are challenged to expand their intellect, and to develop skills in scientific inquiry, critical thinking, problem solving and work-based learning. The Academy's academically rigorous learning environment focuses on science, technology, engineering, arts, and mathematics (STEAM), while fostering a culture of innovation based on leadership, social justice and serving our global community.

Entrance into Academy of Science as a Sophomore

Freshmen Year Requirements

- Must earn a B+ above in math, science & English classes.
- Must complete Algebra 1 with a B+ or above.
- Must have a cumulative 3.25 GPA.
- Did not receive a D or F in the Freshman year.

Entrance as a Junior or Senior

Sophomore, Junior Year Requirements

- Must receive a B+ or above in Math, Science & English classes.
- Must complete Geometry with a B+ or above.
- Must have a cumulative 3.50 GPA.
- Did not receive a D or F in the sophomore year.
- Must meet with Dr. Till first week of classes Fall semester. Students must bring a transcript and be ready to explain why they desire to be in the Academy of Science.
- Counselors will only accept students into the Academy of Science when they bring backtranscripts approved by Dr. Till.
- Academy of Science internship strongly recommended.
- Students entering for the first time Academy of Science as a Senior will not receive an Academy of Science diploma.

Participation in Science Academy 1, 2, 3 Classes

Science Academy 1

Students are strongly encouraged to take Science Academy 1 as an elective.

- Provides students math, science reading comprehension, data analysis and science communications skills required to succeed in college.
- Exposes students to many science, technology, engineering, arts, and mathematics (STEAM) career opportunities.
- Allows students time to complete STEAM projects and participate in STEAM competitions that are great for college resumes.
- Teaches students how to create a college resume.
- Provides students opportunities to participate in STEAM summer internships.
- Provides field trips in cooperation with many STEAM professionals and organizations throughout California.

Junior Year Science Academy

Students must complete with a passing grade of C or above one of the following year-long STEAM classes:

- Select any AP Science Course
- AP Calculus
- Human Geography
- Physical Geography
- Anatomy
- Physics
- Computer Graphics
- Drama
- Journalism
- Students are also exposed to STEAM summer science internships.

Science Academy 3

Designed for Seniors, especially those who have completed a summer internship.

Entrance into SA 3 (as a Senior) Prerequisites

- 3.75 GPA
- Science Academy internship and completion of portfolio strongly recommended.
- Science Academy Honors students have priority (see below).
- Regular SA diploma students, only if space available.

Required for Academy of Science Honors Diploma:

- Students will create a college undergraduate level research poster based upon the summer internship, or a student research topic.
- Students will present the poster at STEAM Poster Night in October.
- Students will research STEAM major options at Cal State Universities, Universities of California and private universities.
- Students will learn how to input Academy of Science activities into the resume section of the college application.
- Students will learn how to transform the research poster into a college application essay.
- Students will complete at least one scholarship application.
- Field trips are provided along with resume enhancing STEAM activities.

To participate in the Academy of Science and receive an Academy of Science Diploma, there are two different tracks to follow: Academy of Science and Academy of Science with Honors. The below table explains the requirements for each track.

TRACK:	Academy of Science with Honors	Academy of Science	Mater Dei Requirements
DIPLOMA:	MDCHS Academy of Science diploma with Honors distinction. MDCHS Cum GPA: 3.75 or above	MDCHS Academy of Science Diploma MDCHS Cum GPA: 3.25 or above	MDCHS diploma
REQUIRED CLASSES AND GRADES: *	2 years laboratory science. With a passing grade of B. 3 years mathematics. 4 years English. With a passing grade of B.	2 years laboratory science with a passing grade C 3 years mathematics. 4 years English. With a passing grade C	2 years of Science 3 years of Math
	Science Academy 1, Junior year requirement & Science Academy 3	Two Science Academy classes	None
SOPHOMORE YEAR	Science Academy 1	Science Academy 1	
JUNIOR YEAR	Complete one AP or college level <i>Science</i> class with a passing grade of B	Complete one AP or college level class with a passing grade of C	None
SENIOR YEAR**	Science Academy 3		
STEAM SUMMER INTERNSHIP	Participate in STEAM internship/project. 30 hours. Internship portfolio required.	STEAM internship required, 30 hours, if students desires to take SA 3	None
FIELD TRIPS/ COMPETITIONS	One field trip or competition grades 10-12 with Academy of Science.	Same as Honors	None

*Grades to determine Science Academy recognition for graduation ceremonies are determined at the end of the 3rd grading period Senior year.

**Certain internships require that a student must enroll in Science Academy 3. If a student is in a 2 -5-week internship at a university and Science Academy faculty have assisted with the student in placement at this internship, this student is strongly encouraged to take Science Academy 3. All paid internships from the Academy of Science require students to take Science Academy 3. For a full listing of required internships for Science Academy 3 see the listing of internships on the Science Academy page on Schoology.

LANGUAGE ACADEMY

The Language Academy provides additional instruction and support for students who are English Language Learners. The program was developed to assist students in achieving the academic English necessary for success in a college preparatory high school environment. Students will gain proficiency in English, as well as receive additional academic support. Coursework through the Academy is mandatory for any student who lacks English proficiency. Students are placed in the Language Academy based on High School Placement Test language scores. An interview takes place with the coordinator during the summer before the student begins at MDCHS.

Aquinas Center for Learning

The Aquinas Center for Learning (“Aquinas Center”) provides accommodations for students with learning disabilities. The Aquinas Center is designed to promote academic inclusion of MDCHS’s curriculum. Cultivating a support network between families, teachers, and our program, we strive to nurture each student’s unique gifts while developing strong study skill habits, such as self-advocacy, effective communication, time-management, organization and SMART (Specific, Measurable, Attainable, and Timely) goal coaching. Enrolled students are offered study skills courses and tutoring, which allows for individualized re-teaching, revision, and strategy implementation for students with disabilities. In addition, we create individualized, appropriate accommodations crafted to support and enrich their education.

SPECIAL POLICIES AND PROGRAMS

1. **Schedule Change:** Schedules are changed within reason if it is logistically possible: parent permission is necessary. Students may change their schedule only during the FIRST WEEK OF THE SEMESTER. A year course may be dropped at the mid-year point only with parental permission and administrative approval. A teacher may initiate a course change if a student is inappropriately placed in a class. AP classes may be dropped up to the end of the SECOND week of the class. If a student decides to drop an AP class in January, the exam fee can be refunded but a \$40 fee is charged from College Board to Mater Dei. Currently, that would result in a \$54 refund.
2. **Summer Session:** Summer session is open to ALL students including incoming ninth graders. Summer session is also an opportunity for Honors and regular track students to take elective courses to open up opportunities to take additional courses. It is also a chance for students to retake courses in which they did not earn a passing grade. All summer session classes MUST be approved by a Mater Dei Catholic High School counselor prior to enrollment in order for credit to be accepted by MDCHS.
3. **Course Waivers:** Juniors who plan their program to include four years of Mathematics, four years of World Language and four years of science and are unable to complete all graduation requirements, may petition to have a course waived. Petitions must be made in the junior year for course waivers.

GRADING POLICIES FOR MATER DEI CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

Late Work

Late work will be accepted, but only on large projects, labs, papers. This does NOT include homework. Teachers will contact parents of work not turned in and students are given an opportunity to turn in work. Students are given two class blocks to turn in the late work and understand there will be a 10% penalty per block period, maximizing at 20%. Student should communicate with teacher on the day the assignment is due that it will be turned in by the next block period and the reason it is late.

Zeros on Work

Students can make up large projects, labs, or papers if they have earned a zero if they follow the late work policy. Teachers will communicate with parents if a student has failed to turn in an assignment. In large projects and papers teachers will create benchmarks along the way to help students in the learning process.

Retake Policy

Students will be allowed to retake a test or rewrite a paper or lab to show mastery of learning. Retakes may take the form of test corrections, rewriting a paper, or retaking a similar exam. No reduction of points will be given for a student taking a retake. Students must send an email to the teacher of the class they want the retake in and add their Study Hall teacher to the email. The teacher of the class of the retake will respond with the date during study hall they are assigning the student to do the retake. The study hall teacher will send the student to the teacher's classroom during that study hall to do the retake by giving them the appropriate Study Hall Retake pass. If a student does not arrive to the teacher's classroom within 10 minutes of the beginning of the study hall period, no retake will be given. There will be NO retake options two weeks before final exams or on work that is turned in late. This policy does not include AP courses and Aquinas students who test in the library with extra time.

COURSE LISTINGS BY DEPARTMENT

THEOLOGY DEPARTMENT

Course #	Title	Grade
113	Divine Revelation	9
114	Introduction to Christology	9
123	Paschal Mystery	10
125	Introduction to Ecclesiology	10
134	Catholic Morality	11
135	Campus Ministry Practicum I	12
136	Campus Ministry Practicum II	12
137	Sacraments	11
141	Social Justice	12
142	Christian Call	12
150	Senior Capstone Project	12

113. Divine Revelation | Fall Semester | Grade 9

This semester course is an introduction to the Word of God. It aims to focus the foundation of our faith in God the Father, Son and Holy Spirit. While this course includes a study of both the Old and New Testament, it begins by centering the study of Scripture on a person's natural instinct to search for God. The purpose of this course is to give students a general knowledge and appreciation of Sacred Scriptures. In the course they will learn about the Bible authored by God through Inspiration, and its value to people throughout the world. They will learn how to read the Bible and will become familiar with the major sections of the Bible. Through their study of the Bible, they will come to encounter the living Word of God, Jesus Christ.

114. Introduction to Christology | Spring Semester | Grade 9

After a semester of Scripture, this course deepens the study of Jesus, highlighting key events in his earthly ministry while unpacking his teachings about God the Father, Jesus the Son and the Holy Spirit, the Trinity, and Mary. Students will be introduced to key vocabulary terms, explore relevant questions of faith, profile famous Christian disciples, and offers several applications to put the lessons of discipleship into action. The purpose of this course is to introduce students to the mystery of Jesus Christ as the living Word of God and to begin experiencing discipleship as a life of grace and holiness which will lead them to experience God's everlasting Kingdom. This course calls on teens to "pick up their cross" and follow the Lord in this life and beyond.

123. Paschal Mystery | Fall Semester | Grade 10

This course proclaims the Good News of the Paschal Mystery of Christ's Cross and Resurrection. In this course students will explore in greater depth the saving actions of the Lord. This course unpacks and studies the meaning of God's sacred and mysterious plan from creation, onward to the consequences and the promises of a Savior, while ultimately focusing on the Life, Passion, Death, and Resurrection of Jesus Christ. Students will learn that they share in this redemption only in and through Jesus Christ. They will also be introduced to what it means to be a disciple of Christ and what life as a disciple entail. The purpose of this course is to help students understand all that God has done for us through his Son, Jesus Christ. Students will seek to understand God's plan for us to share eternal happiness with him, which is accomplished through the redemption Christ won for us.

125. Introduction to Ecclesiology | Spring Semester | Grade 10

This course will provide a means for understanding the interrelationship of the various components of the Catholic Church. While acknowledging the importance of the historical perspective this course emphasizes the living Church and what it is in the present moment. The course is constructed around those themes that represent Church practice and belief such as the Church as the People of God, the Church as servant, and the Church as sacrament. Each theme has a historical component tracing the theme through major periods of Church history and providing insights as to how the Church has come to its contemporary expression.

134. Catholic Morality | Spring Semester | Grade 11

The purpose of this course is to present the essential message of Christ's moral teaching. This course focuses on love of God and love of neighbor and is presented in manner that is clear and applicable to the lives of today's teenagers. Students will learn the moral concepts and precepts that govern the lives of Christ's disciples. Students will be challenged to develop a well-formed conscience and incorporate virtue into their lives, which will serve them as Catholic Christian adults to make moral choices and grow in their faith. The course covers the major points of the "Life in Christ" section of the Catechism of the Catholic Church. It pulls together these elements by using specific step to take on the road to becoming a moral Christian living within the context of Catholic teaching and incorporates the discussion of general principles of morality and focuses on real world scenarios to help students understand how their actions and choices contribute to a moral Christian living within the context of Catholic teaching.

135. Campus Ministry Practicum I | Year | Grade 11

Students will learn the purpose and meaning of the seven Sacraments in the Church and their lives. In addition, students will learn Liturgical Theology. Students will also learn how to plan, organize, and facilitate on-campus liturgical celebrations. Second semester, students are challenged to develop a well-formed conscience and incorporate virtue into their lives. The course incorporates the discussion of general principles of morality and focuses on real world scenarios to help students understand how their actions and choices contribute to a moral society. In addition, students will begin their leadership training to organize retreats as senior campus ministers. *Prerequisites: Application, letter of intent, interview, teacher recommendation.*

136. Campus Ministry Practicum II | Year | Grade 12

Students will come to an understanding of the Roman Catholic Church's teachings on social justice and Christian life choices as described in both the Catholic Social Justice and course Christian Call courses. In addition, students will learn the Christian theology and spirituality of retreats. Students will learn the basic leadership skills in planning, organizing, and facilitating retreats to students of various grade levels at MDCHS. Students will use these skills to lead student facilitated and organized retreats to their peers. Throughout the year, students will put to practice their instruction of Catholic Social Teaching by implementing campus wide social justice education and charity drives. Students assume active ministerial roles to their peers and leadership roles on campus. *Prerequisites: At least one semester of Campus Ministry Practicum I with a grade of B or better.*

137. Sacraments | Fall Semester | Grade 11

This course emphasizes the seven Sacraments as the definitive way Jesus remains present to the Church and the world today. It expresses concrete ways for understanding the Sacraments, participating in their rites, and benefiting from their graces. The four dimensions of each Sacrament including memorial, celebration, communion, and transformation will be emphasized. Each of these elements offers students the opportunity to further their relationships with Christ and the Church. The purpose of this course is to help students examine each of the Sacraments to understand that they can encounter Christ today and throughout their life, especially through the Eucharist.

141. Social Justice | Fall Semester | Grade 12

This course introduces high school students to issues surrounding the key principles of the Church's rich body of social teaching that comes to us from the strong tradition of the writings of the popes, especially since Pope Leo XIII. This course awakens students to the social commitment of our Catholic Christian faith and begins to empower students to respond to the critical collective and ethical issues of our day. This course aims to examine the essential elements required in creating a just society as expressed in the Scriptures, and the mission and social teaching of the Catholic Church. Two important principles, including the life and dignity of the human person and respect for life, are the foundational principles for this course. A strong emphasis will be placed on Christ's concern for others, especially the poor and vulnerable members of our domestic and global society as

witnessed in the Gospel, the common good, solidarity, and stewardship. Topic and issues studied will include right to life, poverty, hunger, economic justice, housing, employment and the rights of workers, power, racism, oppression, conflict and war, peaceful resolutions, and an ecological mandate for stewardship.

142. Christian Call | Spring Semester | Grade 12

Young adulthood is an important transitional period in every person's life. This course is designed to aid high school senior in facing the challenges of young adulthood so that they can shape a future that is hopeful, healthy and fulfilling. The belief that underlies this course is that as Catholic Christians, each student is being called by God to proclaim the Good News of the coming Kingdom and to enthusiastically live a life of service. This course will focus on topics that are of utmost importance to seniors as they grow towards young adulthood, as well as offer tools that will be useful in their mission of vocational discernment to grow in living a fully committed Christian life.

150. Senior Capstone Project | Spring Semester | Grade 12

The Senior Capstone Project class serves as a culminating academic experience. Its purpose is to reflect on the student's personal, academic, and spiritual accomplishments and growth at Mater Dei Catholic High School, and to provide an opportunity for the student to expand and apply knowledge for future endeavors through the "Passion Project" practicum process with the guidance of a professional mentor

ENGLISH DEPARTMENT

Course #	Title	Grade
210	English 1: Composition & Literature	9
212	English 1 Honors: Composition & Literature	9
810	Academic and Technological Literacy	9
820	Speech	9
220	English 2: World Literature	10
222	English 2 Honors: World Literature	10
230	English 3: American Literature Survey	11
232	English 3 Honors: American Literature Survey	11
235	English 3: AP Language and Composition	11
240	English 4: British Literature	12
243	English 4: AP Literature and Composition	12
245	World Fiction	12
246	English 115	12
247	English 116	12
251	Yearbook	10-12
252	Creative Writing	10-12
253	Expository Reading and Writing Course (ERWC)	12
260	Expository and Analytic Writing (EAW)	10-11
819	Communications 103	11-12

210. English 1: Composition & Literature | Year | Grade 9

English 1 is an in-depth study of grammar, composition, and literature. The study of literature will emphasize the five genres of epic/oral tradition, fiction, non-fiction, drama, and poetry. Students will study both contemporary literature and the literary classics. Students will be introduced to the Analytical Writing Program (AWP), a structured writing system that helps students develop comprehensive planning, writing and critical thinking skills. Students also progress in oral communication and collaborative skills.

212. English 1 Honors: Composition & Literature | Year | Grade 9

English 1 Honors covers all topics of English 1 but is taught at a more demanding and accelerated pace. Students will read many more literary classics, have more written assignments, and will learn how to better analyze literary works in greater depth.
Prerequisite: Performance above 85th percentile on HSPT in Reading Comp and above 75th percentile in Verbal and Language.

810. Academic and Technological Literacy | Year | Grade 9

Academic and Technological Literacy is intended to strengthen the basic academic and technological skills students need to perform confidently and effectively in courses across the curriculum. The course introduces students to the literacy expectations of high school/ college preparatory education by cultivating essential academic skills such as critical inquiry, research deliberation, argument, reading, writing, listening, and speaking. Completion of this entry-level course provides the base for subsequent courses in general and specialized curricula which continue building technology, rhetoric, and composition skills. This course fulfills an MDCHS requirement but DOES NOT fulfill one of the four-year English requirements.

820. Speech | Semester | Grade 9

This course instructs students in various methods and styles of public speaking. Students learn to plan, organize, and deliver public messages. Logical reasoning, listening, collaborative, and critical thinking skills are cultivated. This course fulfills MDCHS requirement but DOES NOT fulfill one of the four-year English requirements.

220. English 2: World Literature | Year | Grade 10

English 2 is a survey of world literature with an emphasis on non-British and non-American works. The course covers ancient Greece to present day works. Students further develop critical thinking and analysis skills by using advanced Analytical Writing Program (AWP) concepts. Literary terminology, writing, vocabulary, grammar, and SAT preparation are also embedded in instruction.

222. English 2 Honors: World Literature | Year | Grade 10

This course covers all topics of English 2, above, but is structured to challenge the more advanced student. Students read more material and analyze literary pieces with greater depth, maturity, and intensity. Just as in English 2, this is a survey course of world literature that exposes students to masterpieces from ancient Greece to contemporary literature. Students further develop critical thinking and analysis skills by using more demanding, advanced Analytical Writing Program concepts. Literary terminology, writing, and SAT preparation are also primary components. *Prerequisite: "B-" in English 1H or "B+" in English 1.*

230. English 3: American Literature Survey | Year | Grade 11

English 3 is a survey course of American literature that exposes students to significant American literary pieces from the early 17th century to the present. Students examine American heritage and culture as presented in literary form across novels, short stories, dramatic pieces, poetry, and nonfiction accounts. Students further practice critical thinking, drafting, peer editing, and revision skills by using more advanced Analytical Writing Program concepts and research processes. The year culminates in a research paper.

232. English 3: Honors: American Literature Survey | Year | Grade 11

This is an advanced course in American Literature intended to challenge students with more developed, mature analytical prowess and ability. Like English 3, it is a survey course of American literature that exposes students to significant American literary pieces from the early 17th century to the present. Students examine American heritage and culture as presented in literary form across novels, short stories, dramatic pieces, poetry, and nonfiction accounts. Students further hone their already strong critical thinking, drafting, peer editing, and revision skills by using more advanced Analytical Writing Program concepts. *Prerequisite: "B-" in English 2H or "B+" in English 2.*

235. English 3: AP Language and Composition | Year | Grade 11

In accordance with the College Board's AP description, this year-long course enables "students to read complex texts with understanding and to write prose of sufficient richness and complexity to communicate effectively with mature readers." This course explores the complexities of writing in America with the goal of making students critical thinkers and readers of 'culture.' Although the course includes poetry and fiction prose literature, the course emphasizes readings in oratory, visual argument (including advertising), and non-fiction prose literature. As a composition course, this offering will require frequent expository, analytical, argumentative, and personal writing through which students will learn to express themselves convincingly in a variety of contexts. *Pre-requisite: B+ in English 2 or B- in English 2 Honors.*

240. English 4: British Literature | Year | Grade 12

This is a survey of English/British Literature from the writings of Beowulf around 800 A.D. to the present. Students study works representing the six genres of literature, including Medieval epics and folk tales, short stories, poems, plays, and novels. These genres are studied along with literary movements and trends and analyzed and applied in various written forms. Students demonstrate mastery of writing concepts, critical thinking, and analysis skills through continued use of the structured writing program. Students engage in various collaborative projects, oral presentations, and research processes. The year culminates in a term paper.

243. English 4: AP Literature and Composition | Year | Grade 12

Advanced Placement Literature and Composition a college level course established by The College Board in Princeton, New Jersey. Students will read selections of poetry and prose fiction according to the Board's high standards of "recognized literary merit" from the early Classical Greeks to the present. This course focuses on close reading for literary content and interpretation. The course will test a student's ability to comprehend and interpret both the form and the substance of poetry and prose selections. Students are expected to write clear, concise, and persuasive interpretive papers and exams in which you demonstrate your understanding of the broad implications of works of literature. *Prerequisites: "B-" in English 3H or "B+" in English 3.*

245. World Fiction | Year | Grade 12

Students may take World Fiction instead of English/British Literature for their Senior English requirement. This course is a survey of fiction from around the world. Students will read a diverse range of critically acclaimed short stories and classical novels by world renowned authors thematically, not chronologically. Students will discuss, analyze, and write about these works as they impact personal relationships, environmental and cultural change, one's own free will, racism, gender discrimination, existentialism, and the ravages of war as it relates to nations, communities, and the individual human psyche. Students will increase their understanding of all peoples around the world as well as their reasoning and writing skills, vocabulary, language usage, analytical thinking, reading comprehension and research techniques. Students engage in various collaborative projects, oral presentations, class discussions and research processes. Students further practice advanced analytical writing program concepts.

246. English 115 | Southwestern College Course | Semester | Grade 12

Provides instruction and practice in reading and writing expository, analytical, and argumentative essays. Emphasizes textual analysis, writing analytically, logical reasoning, research techniques, information literacy, and documentation. Includes drafting, revising, and editing written work. [D; CSU; UC; C-ID ENGL 100]

247. English 116 | Southwestern College Course | Semester | Grade 12

Provides instruction in argumentation in critical writing, critical thinking, and analytical evaluation of complex texts. Emphasizes rhetorical analysis in terms of a text's social, historical, and critical contexts. Includes the writing process, research strategies, information literacy, and proper documentation. [D; CSU; UC; C-ID ENGL 105]

251. Yearbook | Semester | Year | Grades 10-12

This elective course is open to students who wish to demonstrate their ability to produce the school yearbook. This course offers instruction and practice in copy writing and editing, proofreading, writing of feature stories, captions, reviews, and human-interest articles; headline writing, makeup, reporting, interviewing, typing in Microsoft Word, layout design, photography, and business management, including advertising. Students also demonstrate their ability to write well under pressure, gather information independently and organize it cooperatively, and work effectively with their peers. Through extensive rewriting, students exhibit mastery in composition skills. *Prerequisite: Counselor/Instructor approval.*

252. Creative Writing | Semester | Year | Grades 10-12

Creative Writing is a semester elective course where students will explore the craft of creative writing, including nonfiction, short story, drama and poetry. Students will develop observation, analytical and writing skills, as well as their knowledge and ability to use common literary devices. The students will read literary works critically to aid them in their own writing process. Students will learn to use their imagination, senses, memories, the textbook readings, and the world around them in order to become inspired. The focus will be on helping the students develop a unique, personal voice and style within their writing. *Prerequisite: English 1. This course earns English elective credit only.*

253. Expository Reading and Writing Course (ERWC) | Semester | Year | Grade 12

Expository Reading and Writing Course (ERWC) engages students in the discovery of who they are as persons, the realization of the ways in which they can participate in society, and their development as critical consumers and effective communicators within society. Teachers and schools build and personalize the yearlong course by selecting from approximately 40 modules (instructional units) to meet rigorous, college-preparatory learning goals in reading, writing, listening, and speaking for all

students while promoting student interest and motivation. Employing a rhetorical, inquiry-based approach that fosters critical thinking, student agency, and metacognition, the course includes five to six full-length modules drawn from three categories: 1) Shakespeare drama; 2) full-length books; and 3) contemporary issues (three to four modules). In addition, the course includes two short portfolio modules and at least three mini-modules that address transferable skills applicable to conceptual development and practice across all modules, e.g., genre awareness, goal setting and self-assessment, rhetorical situation, Aristotelian appeals. The core structure of all the modules—the Assignment Template—progresses along an “arc” from reading rhetorically (preparing to read, reading purposefully, and questioning the text) to preparing to respond (discovering what you think) to writing rhetorically (composing a draft, revising rhetorically, and editing). By the end of the course, students will have read a range of literary and nonfiction text genres and produced 10-12 culminating projects, including academic essays, creative writing and performances, and multimedia presentations/research reports, from initial draft to final revision and editing. Students who take this course and attend a CSU will not be required to take the writing entrance test as this class waives that requirement..

260. Expository and Analytical Writing (EAW) | Semester | Grades 11-12

EAW is a writing support class for students who need additional support in writing. Students will use the writing process to create essays and multimedia presentations with attention to audience, expository writing structure, development of a thesis with supporting arguments and evidence as well as the use of appropriate academic vocabulary and conventions of AWP & MLA format.

819. Communications 103 | Southwestern College Course | Semester | Grade 11-12

This is a Southwestern College course and earns college credit. Covers concepts of communication, with emphasis on public speaking; methods of researching and outlining speeches; group discussion techniques; theories of interpersonal, nonverbal, and listening techniques; and issues of language use and perception. [D; CSU; UC; C-ID COMM 180]

WORLD LANGUAGE DEPARTMENT

Course #	Title	Grade
310	Spanish 1	9-12
320	Spanish 2	9-12
332	Spanish 3	9-12
330	Spanish 3 Honors	9-12
340	Spanish 4	10-12
350	AP Spanish Language and Culture	10-12
352	AP Spanish Literature and Culture	11-12
311	French 1	9-12
321	French 2	10-12
331	French 3	10-12
334	French 3 Honors	11-12
351	AP French Language and Culture	11-12

310. Spanish 1 | Year | Grades 9-12

Spanish 1 is an introductory course intended to develop the student's ability to listen, speak, read and write Spanish correctly. Major emphasis is placed upon the ability to speak with accurate pronunciation. This course fulfills the first year of the World Language graduation requirement.

320. Spanish 2 | Year | Grades 9-12

Spanish 2 is intended to extend the student's ability in listening, speaking, reading, and writing. Major emphasis is placed upon developing fluency and accuracy of speech. Also included in this course will be topics emphasizing Hispanic culture. This course fulfills the second year of the World Language graduation requirement. *Prerequisite: Completion of Spanish 1 with a passing grade. Incoming students may gain entrance to this class through performance on the Spanish Placement Exam.*

332. Spanish 3 | Year | Grades 9-12

This is an advanced Spanish course. The material covered is a reinforcement and advancement of that covered in Spanish 1 and 2. There is continued emphasis on pronunciation, writing, speaking, and listening skills with a focus on conversation. Advanced grammar points are introduced, and students are exposed to literary works of Spanish and Latin-American writers. *Prerequisite: Grade of "C-" or better in Spanish 2. Incoming students may gain entrance to this class through performance on the Spanish Placement Exam.*

330. Spanish 3 Honors | Year | Grades 9-12

This is a more accelerated pace in reading and writing in Spanish with the reading selections more numerous and advanced in vocabulary and interpretive issues. See Spanish 3 above for the general course description. *Prerequisite: Grade of "B+ or better in Spanish 2. Incoming students may gain entrance to this class through performance on the Spanish Placement Exam.*

340. Spanish 4 | Year | Grades 10-12

This is an advanced course in the Spanish language. Students will focus on a broad range of Spanish literature selected to enrich the understanding of Spanish culture. Emphasis on developing an advanced degree of proficiency in listening, speaking, reading, composition, vocabulary, grammar, and analytical methods in Spanish will be of prime importance. *Prerequisite: Grade of "C-" or better in Spanish 3.*

350. AP Spanish Language and Culture | Year | Grades 11-12

Advanced Placement Spanish Language is comparable to an advanced level college Spanish language course. This advanced Spanish course will continue to offer a continued emphasis on developing optimum proficiency in listening, speaking, reading, composition, vocabulary, spelling, grammar, and critical thinking in the Spanish language. It will also expose the student to a broad range of Spanish writings selected to promote understanding of Hispanic literature and its place in Hispanic culture. The AP Spanish student is expected to take the AP Exam in May. *Prerequisite: Grade of B- in Spanish 3 Honors or B+ in Spanish 3 or Spanish 4.*

352. AP Spanish Literature and Culture | Year | Grades 11-12

Advanced Placement Spanish Literature is taken after AP Spanish Language and is comparable to a college course on the introduction to Hispanic literature. It is based on a required reading list. The works on the list are of literary significance and represent various historical periods, literary movements, genres, geographic areas, and population groups within the Spanish-speaking world. The objective of the course is to help you interpret and analyze literature in Spanish. The AP Spanish student is expected to take the AP Exam in May. *Prerequisite: Grade of "B-" or better in AP Spanish Language.*

311. French 1 | Year | Grades 9-12

This introductory course in French is intended to provide students with the ability to listen, speak, read and write French correctly. Major emphasis is placed upon the ability to speak with accurate pronunciation. An introduction to French culture is integrated into the language study.

321. French 2 | Year | Grades 9-12

French 2 is intended to extend the student's ability in listening, speaking, reading, and writing. Major emphasis is placed upon developing fluency and accuracy of speech. Also included in this course will be topics emphasizing French culture. Required for those who meet prerequisite. *Prerequisite: Grade of "C-" or better in French 1.*

331. French 3 | Year | Grades 10-12

French 3 will review grammar previously studied and emphasis will be placed on the reading of short stories, conversation, and the writing of free composition. Individual projects will allow students to research cultural aspects that interest them personally. *Prerequisite: Grade of "C-" or better in French 2.*

334. French 3 Honors | Year | Grades 11-12

This is a more accelerated pace in reading and writing in French with the reading selections more numerous and advanced in vocabulary and interpretive issues. See French 3 above for the general course description. *Prerequisite: Grade of "B-" or better in French 2.*

351. AP French Language and Culture | Year | Grades 11-12

This Advanced Placement French course exposes the student to third year university level French. A broad range of literature and an in-depth review of grammar are integral to this course. An advanced emphasis is placed on proficiency in listening, speaking, reading, composition, vocabulary, and grammar. The AP French student is expected to take the AP French Language exam in the spring. *Prerequisite: Grade of "B+" or better in French 3 or B- in French 3 Honors.*

MATHEMATICS DEPARTMENT

Course #	Title	Grade
410	Pre-Algebra	9
420	Algebra 1	9-10
421	Geometry Honors	10
430	Geometry	10-11
431	Algebra 2/Trigonometry Honors	10-11
440	Algebra 2/Trigonometry	11-12
441	Pre-Calculus Honors	11-12
442	Pre-Calculus	11-12
446	Financial Algebra	11-12
451	AP Statistics	10-12
452	AP Calculus AB	11-12
453	AP Calculus BC	12

410. Pre-Algebra | Year | Grade 9

This course is designed to facilitate student preparedness in pre-algebra for higher mathematics. It covers an introduction to numbers and numerals, sets, variables, addition of real numbers, solving equations and problems, inequalities, and equations in two variables, basic linear graphing, and factoring. Placement in this course is based on entrance examination results. Freshmen entering MDCHS who are placed in pre-algebra are required to take four years of mathematics. *Prerequisite: Performance below the 30th percentile on the HSPT in Math.*

420. Algebra 1 | Year | Grades 9-10

Algebra 1 introduces the student to mathematics beyond arithmetic. It is the first course working with abstract concepts, the use of symbols other than numerals, and translating word problems into mathematical symbols. The basic topics include number sets, factoring, operations of algebraic expressions, equations of lines and their graphs, and quadratic functions and their graphs. Placement in this course is based on entrance examination results or successful completion of pre-algebra. SAT Prep is included in the curriculum.

421. Geometry Honors | Year | Grade 10

This course covers the same topics as Geometry but includes more emphasis on formal proofs and constructions and more challenging problems and applications. SAT Prep is included in the curriculum. *Prerequisite: Completion of Algebra 1 with a grade of "B+ or higher. Incoming freshmen must score above the 95th percentile on the HSPT in Math.*

430. Geometry | Year | Grades 10-11

Geometry is a course concerned with inductive and deductive proof, angles, perpendicular and parallel lines, congruent triangles, similar polygons, circles, and constructions, right and congruent triangles, areas of volumes and solids, coordinate Geometry and areas of plane figures. SAT Prep is included in the curriculum. *Prerequisite: Completion of Algebra 1. Incoming freshmen must score above the 90th percentile on the HSPT in Math.*

431. Algebra 2/Trigonometry Honors | Year | Grades 10-11

This course covers the same topics as Algebra 2/Trigonometry but with more challenging problems and applications. SAT Prep is included in the curriculum. *Prerequisite: Completion of Geometry honors with a "B-" or higher, or Geometry with an "B+" or higher.*

440. Algebra 2/Trigonometry | Year | Grades 11-12

Algebra 2/Trigonometry is concerned with the axioms of the real number system, solving equations, relations and functions, polynomials and their graphs, the complex number system, logarithms, and trigonometric functions. SAT Prep is included in the curriculum.

441. Pre-Calculus Honors | Year | Grades 11-12

Pre-Calculus Honors provides a more accelerated preparation for Calculus by continuing the development begun in the Algebra courses. Practice in the topics covered in the previous courses is interspersed with more advanced topics in logarithms and exponential functions, trigonometry, vectors, polynomial functions and an introduction to limits and derivatives. *Prerequisite: Completion of Algebra 2/Trigonometry Honors with a "B-" or higher, or Algebra 2/Trigonometry with a "B+" or higher.*

442. Pre-Calculus | Year | Grades 11-12

Pre-calculus provides preparation for calculus by continuing the development begun in the algebra courses. Practice in the topics covered in the previous courses is interspersed with more advanced topics in logarithms and exponential functions, trigonometry, vectors, polynomial functions and an introduction to limits and derivatives. *Prerequisite: Completion of Algebra 2/Trigonometry Honors or Algebra 2/Trigonometry*

446. Financial Algebra | Year | Grade 12

Financial Algebra is an application-based math elective course that introduces students to the importance of financial literacy. The course is designed to develop a strong foundation in logical thinking and problem solving that will enable students to make informed decisions regarding matters of money and finance in their daily lives. Financial Algebra tackles real-world topics such as banking, budgeting, consumer credit, investments, taxes, as well as the important concept of stewardship. Concepts from Algebra 1, Algebra 2, and Geometry are incorporated while exploring practical and finance applications. Financial Algebra is designed as an option for the 4th-level math course for seniors or as an additional math elective course for 12th-grade students.

451. AP Statistics | Year | Grades 10-12

AP Statistics is an introductory college-level statistics course that introduces students to the major concepts and tools for collecting, analyzing, and drawing conclusions from data. Students cultivate their understanding of statistics using technology, investigations, problem solving, and writing as they explore concepts like variations and distribution, patterns and uncertainty, and data-based predictions, decisions, and conclusions. *Prerequisite: Completion of Algebra 2/Trigonometry Honors with a B- or Algebra 2/Trigonometry with a B+.*

452. AP Calculus AB | Year | Grades 11- 12

Advanced Placement Calculus is a rigorous, in-depth course which includes functions and their inverses, limits, continuity, derivatives of algebraic, transcendental, and trigonometric functions, anti-derivatives and definite integrals, and applications of both derivatives and integrals. *Prerequisites: Completion of Pre-Calculus Honors with a "B-" or higher, Pre-Calculus with an "B+" or higher.*

453. AP Calculus BC | Year | Grades 11-12

Advanced Placement Calculus is a rigorous, in-depth course which includes functions and their inverses, limits, continuity, derivatives of algebraic, transcendental, and trigonometric functions, anti-derivatives and definite integrals, and applications of both derivatives and integrals. *Prerequisites: Completion of Calculus A/B with a "B-" or higher.*

SCIENCE DEPARTMENT

Course #	Title	Grade
520	Biology	9-10
521	Honors Biology	9-10
530	Chemistry	10-12
531	Honors Chemistry	10-12
532	Anatomy & Physiology	11-12
533	AP Biology	11-12
534	AP Chemistry	11-12
540	Physics	11-12
545	AP Physics 1	11-12
544	Science Academy 1	10-12
547	Science Academy 3	10-12
550	AP Environmental Science	11-12
551	Forensic Science	12
552	AP Computer Science Principles	11-12
553	Sports Medicine	11-12
556	Earth and Space Science	10-12
562	Geography 120 (Human Geography)	11-12
563	Geography 100 (Physical Geography)	11-12
564	Geography 101 (Physical Geography Lab)	11-12
568	Introduction to Engineering	11-12
569	AP Computer Science A	11-12

520. Biology | Year | Grades 9-10

This course is a general survey of Biology. It includes a study of cell anatomy and physiology, genetics, taxonomy and surveys the major biological kingdoms. Students engage in a variety of laboratory activities to enhance, discover, and confirm their knowledge of Biology. *Prerequisite: 9th grade: Performance on the HSPT above the 35th percentile in Math and the 50th percentile in English.*

521. Honors Biology | Year | Grades 9-10

Biology Honors provides an accelerated survey of general Biology. It includes all of the topics covered in the Biology course, as well as protein synthesis, advanced genetics, and statistical methods as applicable to the biological sciences. *Prerequisites: 10th Grade: Previous English and Math classes with B+ or better. 9th grade: Performance above 90th percentile on the HSPT in cognitive.*

530. Chemistry | Year | Grades 10-12

This is a general, college preparatory Chemistry course designed for students with a sufficient background in mathematics. Topics covered include the nature and behavior of matter, atomic theory, the periodic law, the gas laws, the mole, chemical reactions and equilibrium, and acid and bases. Students engage in a variety of laboratory activities with an emphasis on problem solving and the scientific method. *Prerequisites: Completion of a full year of Biology and Geometry with a C- or higher. Concurrent enrollment in Algebra II/Trig.*

531. Honors Chemistry | Year | Grades 10-12

This is a general, college preparatory Chemistry course designed for students with a sufficient background in mathematics. Topics covered include the nature and behavior of matter, atomic theory, the periodic law, the gas laws, the mole, chemical reactions and equilibrium, and acid and bases. Students engage in a variety of laboratory activities with an emphasis on problem solving and the scientific method. *Prerequisites: Received a B- or better in Honors Biology; a B+ in Biology; completion of both semesters of Geometry, with a "B-" or higher; and concurrent enrollment in Algebra 2/Trigonometry (or Honors Geometry for 10th graders.)*

532. Anatomy & Physiology | Year | Grades 11-12

Anatomy and Physiology is an advanced, college preparatory elective course, equivalent to a first-year college level course, focused on human biological structure and function. Topics covered include all the human body systems, in addition to immunology and histology. There is a major laboratory component to this course and students will be tested through laboratory practical examinations. *Prerequisites: Completion of both Biology and Chemistry with a C or higher.*

533. AP Biology | Year | Grades 11-12

Advanced Placement Biology is an advanced elective course designed to be the equivalent of a college-level introductory Biology course. The intent of the course is to expose students to higher-level biological principles, concepts, and skills and to allow them the opportunity to apply their knowledge to real-life applications. Following an accelerated curriculum, the course content adds breadth and depth to previous science classes, namely Honors Biology and Honors Chemistry; the course content, however, is largely determined by the College Board, in preparation for the national AP exam in May. Through rigorous studies, laboratory activities and projects, students are expected to learn not by memorization of facts, but through content and concept applications. *Prerequisites: Successful completion of Honors Biology and Honors Chemistry, with a "B-" or higher or Biology with a B+.*

534. AP Chemistry | Year | Grades 11-12

Advanced Placement Chemistry is an advanced elective course designed to be the equivalent of a college-level introductory Chemistry course. The intent of the course is to expose students to higher-level Chemistry principles, concepts, and skills and to allow them the opportunity to apply their knowledge to real-life applications. Following an accelerated curriculum, the course content is largely determined by the College Board and adds breadth and depth to previous science classes, namely Honors Chemistry. Topics covered are aimed at preparing students effectively for the national AP exam in May. Rigorous laboratory work is used to enhance student learning throughout the course. *Successful completion of Honors Biology, Honors Chemistry with a B- or Biology, Chemistry with B+ and Algebra 2/Trigonometry Honors with a "B-" or Algebra 2/Trigonometry with an B+ . Concurrent enrollment in Pre-Calculus.*

540. Physics | Year | Grades 11-12

Physics is an introductory, college preparatory elective course, equivalent to a lower-level college course in the subject matter. The course focuses mainly on classical Newtonian mechanics and covers a variety of topics, including kinematics, dynamics, optics, electricity, magnetism, wave properties, and atomic physics if time permits. Throughout the course, students will engage in a variety of laboratory and hands-on activities to demonstrate, reinforce, and clarify basic Physics concepts and principles. *Prerequisites: Completion of both Biology and Chemistry with a C or higher and enrolled in Pre-Calculus.*

545. AP Physics 1 | Year | Grades 11-12

AP Physics is an introductory, college preparatory elective course, equivalent to a lower-level college course in the subject matter. The course focuses mainly on classical Newtonian mechanics and covers a variety of topics, including kinematics, dynamics, optics, electricity, magnetism, wave properties, and atomic physics if time permits. Throughout the course, students will engage in a variety of laboratory and hands-on activities to demonstrate, reinforce, and clarify basic Physics concepts and principles. *Prerequisites: Completion of both Honors Biology and Honors Chemistry with a B- or Biology and Chemistry with B+ or higher and enrolled in Pre-Calculus.*

544. Science Academy 1 | Year | Grades 10-11

Students will engage in interdisciplinary learning of Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Math through a hands-on Project-Based Approach. Students will receive introductory level exploratory instruction on topics including but not limited to proper use of machinery tools, foundation in applied physics, basic concepts of mechanical and electrical engineering, designing

and creating models, using Computer-Aided Design (CAD), and real-world applications of classroom concepts. Acquiring knowledge will be demonstrated through a series of projects starting with research and initial design and culminating with the completion of a project that is geared toward solving real-world problems.

The overall purpose of this introductory course is to develop highly cognitive problem-solving skills through integrated learning by showing how the different subjects in school are not independent of each other but cohesively work together to create a large-scale understanding of the functional world. The purpose is also to capture student imagination, invigorate student interest, and prepare them for college majors and careers in the flourishing fields of Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Math. Each of the units is designed to build upon the previous one while incorporating multiple skills from the various STEAM fields. Each unit will begin with an introduction to basic concepts and terminology, but through Project-based learning will culminate with students being able to envision, design, create, test, and implement solutions to real-world problems.

Prerequisites: Admission into the Academy of Science. Entrance to Science Academy for Sophomores includes: Earning a B+ or above in Algebra or higher math class, science and English classes in the students' Freshman year and have a GPA of 3.25. No D's or F's in freshmen year.

547. Science Academy 3 | Year | Grade 12

Science Academy 3 is a Senior Capstone course and is the culmination of a program of study where the students now have the skills and opportunity to integrate their learning and demonstrate the extent to which they have attained the educational goals of Mater Dei's Academy of Science program (Science Academy 1 and Science Academy 2). The Capstone class will consist of three main parts: the Research paper, the College Research poster and STEAM Night presentation, and self-reflection through college essay writing. The first part of the class showcases the student's initiative in creating and following through on a research topic interesting or influential in their lives. The second component demonstrates the ability of the scholar to write and present their research using appropriate rhetorical writing and verbal skills when presenting at STEAM Night. STEAM Night will be used as a means of community outreach, students will participate by presenting it to prospective students and parents through posters and oral presentations. STEAM Night will provide excellent critical thinking opportunities for the students and encourage community engagement in the students' work. Finally, the third portion of the class will exhibit the student's ability to reflect upon his or her learning throughout the high school years and write and deliver a college essay they can utilize for college and scholarship applications.

550. AP Environmental Science | Year | Grades 11-12

Advanced Placement Environmental Science is a course designed to be the equivalent of a one semester, introductory college course in environmental science. It integrates a wide variety of science disciplines including geology, biology, chemistry, and geography. The course content is designated by the College Board. Students who complete this course will learn scientific principles, concepts and methodologies required to understand the interrelationships of the natural world and analyze and identify environmental problems, both natural and man-made. This course has a significant laboratory component, conducted both in and out of the classroom, which is aimed at enhancing student learning and achievement. *Successful completion of Biology (Honors preferred), Chemistry (Honors preferred) with a "B-" or higher; and concurrent enrollment in Algebra 2 or higher.*

551. Forensic Science | Semester | Grade 12

Forensic Science is an introductory-level, semester-long elective course aimed at the exploration of a wide range of scientific topics and principles related to forensics and crime scene investigation. The focus of the course will be to provide students with the basics of some of the specialized fields of forensic science, the principles of science and technology upon which they are based (Biology, Chemistry and Physics will all be emphasized), and the application of these principles to various analyses of crime scene evidence. This course will hopefully make science real for the CSI generation, while also introducing students to the many career choices related to forensics. The fundamental objective of this semester course will be to teach a foundation on the subject to solve specific multidisciplinary problems using the scientific method. *Prerequisites: Completion of Biology and Chemistry.*

552. AP Computer Science Principles | Year | Grades 10-12

This course is designed to be equivalent to a first semester introductory college computing course. In this course, students will develop computational thinking vital for success across all disciplines, such as using computational tools to analyze and study data and working with large data sets to analyze, visualize, and draw conclusion from trends. The course is unique in its focus on fostering student creativity. Students are encouraged to apply creative process when developing computational artifacts and to think creatively while using computer software and other technology to explore questions that interest them. They will also develop effective communication and collaboration skills, working individually and collaboratively to solve problems, and discussing and writing about the importance of these problems and the impacts to their community, society, and the world.

Prerequisites: B- or better in English classes and Math classes (concurrent or previous enrollment in Algebra 2/ Trigonometry, with successful completion of previous math courses with B- or better).

553. Sports Medicine | Semester | Grades 11-12

The Sports Medicine curriculum at Mater Dei Catholic High School is to provide an opportunity for the study and application of the components of sports medicine including but not limited to athletic training, physical therapy, medicine, nurse, fitness, physiology of exercise, kinesiology, nutrition, EMT and orthopedics. It is offered as a classroom and lab course to provide students with an avenue through which to explore these fields of study. Through classroom engagement and hands-on experience, students will become familiar with the concepts relevant to sports medicine. Students will learn to prevent, treat, and evaluate athletic injuries and maintain an efficient, professional athletic training facility. Students may also demonstrate a basic knowledge of applied anatomy. Labs include spine boarding, wrapping, taping, first aid/AED and CPR concepts. *Prerequisites: Completion of both Biology and Chemistry.*

556. Earth and Space Science | Year | Grades 10-12

Earth Science is the study of the Earth and its neighbors in space. Nearly everything we do each day is connected in some way to the Earth: oceans, atmosphere, plants, animals, and the environment. This course will cover topics from the areas of Earth Science: geology, oceanography, meteorology, and astronomy. This is an exciting science with many interesting and practical applications, which will be looked at in more detail. Students will explore scientific method, structure and models of the Earth, properties of the ocean floor, atmospheric forces dealing with climate and weather, as well as the night sky as it relates to our solar system. *Prerequisite: Completion of Biology and Algebra I.*

The following courses are offered in conjunction with Southwestern College's College Bound Program:

562. Geography 120 (Human Geography) | Semester | Grades 11-12

This class receives college credit upon completion. Surveys the world's regions and nations, including physical, cultural, and economic features. Emphasizes regional similarities and differences in human ethnicity, language, religion, urban systems, and political organizations. Includes cultural and historical influences on population growth, transportation networks, and natural environments. *Student must have a minimum GPA of 2.50 with no F's.*

563. Geography 100 (Physical Geography) | Semester | Grades 11-12

This class receives college credit upon completion. Focuses on the physical forces that help shape the landscape. Analysis of Earth's interior and exterior characteristics, including oceanographic, climate, pedologic, and biographic patterns. Includes map reading and interpretation. *Student must have a minimum GPA of 2.50 with no F's*

564. Geography 101 (Physical Geography Lab) | Semester | Grades 11-12

This class receives college credit upon completion Provides laboratory exercises to solidify concepts learned in physical geography. *Student must have a minimum GPA of 2.50 with no F's*

568. Introduction to Engineering | Semester | Grades 11-12

This course will begin with a reiteration of general scientific concepts and indicate how these are the basis for applications to real-world problems. Geometry concepts will be used to show the design of aero foils and low-friction projectiles. Students will get a true hands-on introduction. Rather than merely learn from a book the concepts, they will be expected to design, build, test, and finalize real projects with actual functions. *Prerequisites: Chemistry or Chemistry H (required), Biology or Biology H (required), Algebra II or Algebra II Honors (required). This course fulfills Science Academy 2 requirements.*

569. AP Computer Science A | Semester | Grades 11-12

AP Computer Science A is an introductory college-level computer science course. Students cultivate their understanding of coding through analyzing, writing, and testing code as they explore concepts like modularity, variables, and control structures. *Prerequisites: B- or better in English classes and Math classes (concurrent or previous enrollment in Algebra 2/ Trigonometry, with successful completion of previous math courses with B- or better).*

SOCIAL SCIENCE DEPARTMENT

Course #	Title	Grade
610	World Cultures	9
630	United States History	11
631	AP United States History	11
641	AP American Government	12
642	AP World History	10-12
645	Microeconomics	11-12
651	U.S. Government	12
652	Economics	12
840	Psychology 101 (Southwestern College Course)	11-12
846	Sociology 101 (Southwestern College Course)	11-12
849	American Pop Culture	10-12

610. World Cultures | Year | Grade 9

World Cultures is the study of the origins, development, and history of major civilizations from prehistoric times to today. The geographic, religious, economic, scientific, cultural, social, and political factors influencing these civilizations are examined.

630. United States History | Year | Grade 11

United States History helps students understand the political, economic, and social development of our nation. The first semester emphasizes the visions and realities experienced by Americans from the Colonial Period through the 19th century. The second semester focuses on events throughout the 20th century with an emphasis on setting priorities for the American of the future. The influence of geographical factors such as climate, landforms and physical regions are discussed in this course.

631. AP United States History | Year | Grade 11

Advanced Placement United States History is a college level program of studies in American History focusing on the components, methods, problems, and consequences facing the United States from colonization to the present day. College level texts and primary source documents are used, providing students with the analytical skills and factual knowledge necessary to deal critically with topics significant to American history. Advanced Placement American History requires extensive reading and study. All students enrolled in the class take the Advanced Placement exam in American History in May (an additional fee is required.) *Prerequisite: Grade of "B-" or better in all previous history classes and B- in Honors English 1 and 2 or B+ in English 1 and 2.*

641. AP American Government | Year | Grade 12

Advanced Placement American Government is a survey course designed to provide students with the analytic skills and factual knowledge equivalent to an introductory college course in Political Science or American Government. The students will trace the development of our Government from the Constitution through today's major civil rights battles. They will examine in-depth the three branches of our government as well as everyone's role in Government. Students will take the Advanced Placement exam in American Government in May *Prerequisite: "B-" or higher in AP U.S. History or "B+ or higher in U.S. History, "B-" or higher in English 3 Honors or "B+ or higher in English 3.*

642. AP World History | Year | Grades 10-12

This full-year college level is a survey of global history from ca. 1200 CE to the present. AP World History: Modern will focus on the regional histories of Africa, the Middle East, Asia, the Americas and Europe. It will emphasize interaction between cultures and regions as well as the causes and consequences of global relationships. Although the focus is 1200 CE to the present, the course will include cultural, religious, economic, and social development from previous eras that influence the modern world. Students who take AP World History: Modern will be expected to handle a rigorous curriculum as well as intensive reading assignments. In addition to covering course content, the class will emphasize the historical thinking skills and writing skills. It is assumed that students enrolling in this course are willing to assume university-level responsibility. *Prerequisite: Grade of "B+" or better in World Cultures and English or B- in English 1 Honors.*

645. Microeconomics | Semester | Grades 11-12

Microeconomics is a one semester course with emphasis on how individuals, families and organizations make decisions to allocate their resources, how these decisions affect the supply and demand for goods and services, which determines prices which, in turn, determines the supply and demand of goods and services.

651. U.S. Government | Semester | Grade 12

This is a one semester class which surveys the functions of the United States Government. Emphasis is placed on the organization and function of foreign, domestic, and economic policies and their problems are also studied.

652. Economics | Semester | Grade 12

Economics provides the student with the basic concepts of the economic systems and institutions of the nation and the world. To make sensible decisions on a variety of economic principles and concepts, students will develop skills based on the knowledge of fundamental economics, comparative economic systems, micro and macroeconomics.

840. Psychology 101 | Semester | Grades 11-12

This course is offered through Southwestern College in conjunction with their College Bound Program. Introduces the student to the scientific study of human behavior through the analysis of facts, theories, and concepts. Emphasizes biological, social, and cognitive influences on behaviors, such as learning, memory, perception, sexuality, personality, development, psychological disorders, and group behavior. Attention also given to historical developments and experimental techniques. *(Elective class only.) Student must have a minimum GPA of 2.50 with no F's*

846. Sociology 101 | Semester | Grades 11-12

This course is offered through Southwestern College in conjunction with their College Bound Program. Examines the central concepts and perspectives of sociology. Includes the basics of sociological theory, socialization, culture, groups and organizations, the mass media, deviance and social control, social stratification, racial and ethnic inequality, family, religion, education, government, the economy, the environment, population, health, social movements, and social change. *(Elective class only) Student must have a minimum GPA of 2.50 with no F's.*

849. American Pop Culture | Year | Grades 10-12

American Popular Culture Popular culture – or pop culture – is the term used to describe cultural behaviors and patterns that are favorites of large numbers of people. This course will explore what American pop culture from the 1950s-2000s reveals about society and how pop culture is shaped by history. Students will consider the interplay between history and topics such as music, television, movies, fashion, sports, print media, celebrities, fads, and technology.

VISUAL & PERFORMING ARTS DEPARTMENT

Course #	Title	Grade
701	Introduction to Theatre	9-12
702	Advanced Theatre	10-12
704	Stagecraft	10-12
705	Advanced Theatre Honors	10-12
714	Choral Music	9-12
716	Computer Graphics	10-12
718	Introduction to Music	9-12
719	Advanced Music	10-12
726	Yearbook	10-12
730	Art	10-12
731	Ceramics	10-12
732	AP Art History	10-12
740	Studio Art	10-12
741	Film Study	10-12
742	3-D Design	10-12
743	Introduction to Digital Photography	9-12
744	Video Production	10-12
746	Digital Photography 2	10-12

701. Introduction to Theatre | Year | Grades 9-12

In the words of William Shakespeare, “All the world’s a stage.” In theatrical and dramatic arts, we observe the world around us and perceive how art and life imitate each other. Introduction to Theatre is a year-long elective course designed to introduce students to a variety of theatrical areas, including acting, directing, production, and theatre history. Students will learn theatre terminology, will participate in performances and class discussions, and will undertake projects and activities. These activities will expand students’ imaginations, strengthen life skills, and help students to gain an appreciation of the theatre as a tangible art form. Class is UC approved.

702. Advanced Theatre | Year | Grades 10-12

In Advanced Theatre students will be taking a “Styles of Acting and Directing” approach. The course is designed to support theatre practitioners as they deepen their understanding of style, context, audience, and point-of-view from the perspective of actor, director, and designer. Using seminal plays from particular periods of artistic work, participants will engage in research, direction, analysis, design, and performance.

704. Stagecraft | Year | Grades 10-12

This course trains the student in all areas of theatre practice except acting. Students will have both exposure to and experience in all elements of technical theatre, including scenery, props, lighting, sound, costume, and makeup. The four strands emphasize creating, performing/presenting, responding, and connecting. In Creating, students generate ideas and original tangible works. In performing and presenting, students perform tasks associated with technical theatre and present their work to others. Through responding, students examine works already created by themselves, their peers, or others to analyze the artistic merit and refine work. Through connecting, students discover connections between theatrical works and historical, societal, and cultural context. Additionally, students will be able to identify terminology, tools, and procedures used in basic technical applications within a theater production.

705. Advanced Theatre Honors | Year | Grades 10-12

In Advanced Theatre Honors students will build on previous scaffolding in prior theatre courses on topics including, but not limited to; dramatic action, character development, monologues, scene study and analysis including relevant acting theories, elements of style, improvisation, directing, production design and implementation, classical theatre including Shakespeare, dramaturgy, voice, movement, and theatre history. Students will participate in collaborative and individual projects, resume writing, research and technical theatre projects, scene performance, presentations, show performances, and pre-production portfolio from page to stage as well as exams and written analysis of both self and peer performances. The course culminates in a capstone performance where students will collaborate within an ensemble to cast, direct, design, act, tech, and manage the production utilizing skills acquired and refined throughout the year. The performance may be from an existing text or a devised original piece of theatre. Students will then critically critique both themselves and the work of their peers in addition to comprehensive instructor evaluation of the capstone performance.

714. Choral Music | Semester | Grades 9-12

Students learn the art of solo and choral singing. They also study choral harmony, music notation, intonation, diction, vocalization exercises and vocal repertoire. Two performances per semester are required: one choral concert and one vocal recital including music from the contemporary and classical repertoire. Two consecutive semesters will fulfill the Visual & Performing Arts Department requirement.

716. Computer Graphics | Year | Grades 10-12

Graphic Design is a course for students who are interested in pursuing dynamic concepts and learning how to develop them into the business world by utilizing the computer through software such as Adobe Photoshop, Adobe InDesign and Adobe Illustrator. Students will develop an understanding of the elements and principles of art and explore the difficulties in how to maintain those standards by completing numerous projects. Students will develop basic skills in how to create design from simple sketches to final presentation quality. Students will respond to and judge design through their own knowledge of art and how they believe the concepts could be used in the corporate world. In addition, students will study and research the development of design through cultural and historical context. Students will then relate those experiences and knowledge into their own life experiences and design creations. *Recommended prerequisite: Art.*

718. Introduction to Music | Year | Grades 9-12

This course is designed for the introduction of basic musicianship. This includes elementary music theory, basic singing, and instrumental performance. This course will give the student a basic comprehension of music and should ease transition into the following courses: Beginning Guitar, Beginning Piano and Choral Music

719. Advanced Music | Year | Grades 10-12

Advanced Instrumental Music is a yearlong course for students who already have a solid foundation of musicianship, music theory, and performance. Students will broaden their understanding of tonal music through the analysis of chords, chord progressions, and music history of the 20th and 21st centuries. This analysis will occur through collaborative projects, a set of repertoires selected by the teacher for each end of the semester concert, a music theory textbook, and an overview of music in the modern world. This course will give students all the necessary tools to effectively participate in any musical, creative environment, whether they choose to continue their studies in college, or continue as a hobbyist.

726. Yearbook | Year | Grades 10-12

Yearbook is a year-long course designed to enhance students' creative and critical thinking while understanding the role of visual art and design in publication mediums. Students will use online publishing software to develop skills in writing, written and visual communication, art design and page layout, photography, and typography. Throughout the course, students will use creativity in design elements by creating layouts, coordinating colors, fonts, shapes, and photos, to artistically create pages for the school yearbook. The artistic element is prevalent in all units and aspects of the course, including photography, through the basics of and the more advanced elements of photography as art and in representing the culture and meaning of the school and its activities and events. Students will collaborate on all elements of the design process.

Throughout the year and within each unit, students will focus on the editing process by collaborating with peers in the classroom, adviser, staff members, and local business representatives. Small assignments within and throughout the year will

model and aid in collaborating to complete the final product, a publication exemplifying the school's memories through stories, interviews, photographs, themes, motifs, and other visual representations.

Additionally, part of this course focuses on advertising and marketing. Tributes to seniors will be designed to provide a meaningful culmination, and students will design advertisements for business sponsors. Following completion of the yearbook, students will design marketing materials and a theme-based video showcasing the design of the year to present to the school and community. The yearbook class is a small business within the school, focusing on designing a historically accurate and visually appealing record of the school year. *Prerequisite: English (grade of C or higher).*

730. Art | Year | Grades 10-12

Art is a survey course involving the elements and principles of perspective drawing techniques using live models, copying the work of master artists and original work. The class includes work in pencil, charcoal, ink, pastels, and acrylic paint. Exhibition of work is expected. Students are critiqued individually, and oral presentations/essays are required, as well as artwork.

731. Ceramics | Year | Grades 10-12

Students learn basic techniques such as pinch, slab and coil by making various functional pieces of pottery. They learn surface decoration and glazing. Drawings of pottery and sculpture from ancient cultures are studied. Students receive demonstrations, lectures, and critiques, including beginning wheel work. Students learn coil building on a larger scale, carved sculpture and slab technique, surface decoration and glazing. They are expected to use some of the art from ancient cultures as inspiration. Students learn to throw several types of pots on the wheel.

732. AP Art History | Year | Grades 10-12

This one-year Advanced Placement course has the same requirements as a college survey course in art history. It is a historical and cultural world-wide context from the Classical World of the East and the West to the modern 21st Century. Students will be expected to objectively identify and write comprehensive essay exam answers on extensive works of art, the artist, the various schools and/or stylistic characteristics of that historical period and their collective impact on our world-wide civilization. *Prerequisite: "B-" or higher in World Cultures.*

740. Studio Art | Year | Grades 10-12

Studio Art explores the principles of design concepts through assignments and projects in various two-dimensional and three-dimensional media, as well as the expression of ideas and feelings through art. The course will build upon prior art knowledge, going into depth with creative expression, cultural context, artistic perceptions, and aesthetic valuing. The course will expose students to various art media including drawing, painting, arts history, and mixed media. In addition, students will learn new techniques attributed to the media. Students learn and apply skills through experimentation and refinement of new techniques and develop personal preferences from observation and participation.

741. Film Study | Year | Grades 10-12

This course is an introduction to the language of film. It examines the broad questions of form and content, aesthetics and meaning, and history, and culture. We will combine weekly film screenings that you watch with discussions about issues such as imagery and characterization, the use of symbolism, and the effect of realism, and fantasy in motion pictures. We will also consider thematic coherence, structural unity, technical achievement, and visual beauty. Topics include modes of production, narrative and non-narrative forms, visual design, editing, sound, genre, ideology and how the business of making film can influence cinema as an art form. Film Studies is structured to develop students' understanding of the impact of film across the world and throughout history. Students will become familiar with the basic terminology and elements of filmmaking and narrative structure to improve their critical thinking, as well as their ability to communicate critical responses to films. Through class demonstrations, hands-on assignments, and critiques, students will be exposed to concepts such as the aesthetic, compositional, technical, and sensory properties of film. In-depth study of several movements in film will broaden the student's knowledge of the medium's history and evolution. Students will analyze films and study filmmakers from various cultures and eras. They will apply the standards and language of art criticism when critiquing filmmakers' works.

742. 3-D Design | Year | Grades 10-12

Three-Dimensional Design is a course that blends academic and technical understanding with creative development. Students will explore aesthetic perception, creative expression, historical and cultural context, as well as aesthetic valuing and connections, relationships, and applications. Through this course, students will build confidence in their artistic ability, as well as build communication skills, heighten sensitivity to one's environment and increase aesthetic awareness. Additive, subtractive, and manipulation techniques will be used with a variety of media, including clay, to explore the sculptural form. Students will investigate the history of Three-Dimensional Design as well as view work by historically significant and contemporary artists as they develop sculptural forms. Using the language of visual art, students will evaluate, analyze, and respond to their own works, the works of peers and works of professional artists.

743. Introduction to Digital Photography | Year | Grades 9-12

Digital Photography is an introductory, year-long Art / VAPA course intended for students in 9-12 grades. In Digital Photography the student will gain a working knowledge in digital image creation, from designing a class photography shoot, through post-photo image editing using professional software such as Adobe Photoshop and other related photo-editing programs. Students will also learn the technical computer process of image editing tools, color correction, special effects, printing options, and more. The emphasis in the course is on content and design, and a good working knowledge of the different uses of lighting on different photo images and locations. The careers in Photography will also be covered. Basic computer literacy is highly recommended. Students will be exposed to the important elements of photographic composition and design, including use of color and black and white selections, conceptual and technical computer skills. The program includes classes in computer software programs such as Adobe Photoshop, Adobe Illustrator, and various digital image-enhancing programs.

744. Video Production (MDTV) | Year | Grades 10-12

Video Production is a college and career technical education course which integrates Visual and Performing Arts and CTE standards for the Media Arts Production Pathway. Video Production students will be taking a "Video Production and Directing" approach and is focused on digital media that includes both visual and audio concepts in preparation for a career in the video/film/broadcast industries. Students will channel their knowledge into the creation of original works, in alignment with the visual principals that they learn. This will include building techniques in writing for film, capturing character and scene with various camera techniques, and video editing with using Adobe's Creative Cloud Suite. Focus is placed on story structure, shot lists, and on-set production. Students will generate a digital portfolio demonstrating their abilities for college entrance for the film production strand of the Visual and Performing Arts Concentration.

746. Digital Photography 2 | Year | Grades 10-12

The Digital Photography 2 course builds on the skills learned in Introduction to Digital Photography. Students will strengthen technical abilities and further develop individual photographic style. It offers a continued study of photographic theory, composition, content development, digital camera/hardware handling, studio lighting, and industry standards for color management and printing techniques.

Students explore photography as a visual language and expressive medium, and they observe industry practices through on-site visits in their local community. The course combines creation and production to result in a professional level portfolio of photographs. Instruction is based on the California State Standards for the Visual Arts and CTE Arts, Media and Entertainment. Work examples will include weekly shooting assignments, demonstrations, discussions and class critiques.

The first semester of Digital Photography 2 incorporates a review and refinement of skills. Included are basic lessons on lighting, composition, design, and technical skills. We will delve further in to Adobe Photoshop and comparable software. The history of photography and contemporary photography will be covered. Students will connect with career paths in the field of photography and begin to create a portfolio.

The second semester provides students with the opportunity to apply the fundamental lessons of the first semester. Students will participate in collaborate assignments, develop their unique photographic style, explore career paths, connect with the community and opportunities related to the photography industry. Finally, students will end the semester with the completion and review of their sophisticated portfolio. Students will exhibit their work in campus and (potentially) local community art shows.

Students in Digital Photography 2 will assist Yearbook in taking photos at school functions.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

Course #	Title	Grade
910	Physical Education 9-10	9-10
911	Physical Education 11-12	11-12
914/915	Swim PE	10-12
952	Team Participation	9-12
953	Weight Training	10-12
961	Introduction to Dance	10-12
962	Mind, Body Wellness	11-12

910. Physical Education (9-10) | Semester | Grades 9-10

This is a beginning course designed to target fitness, health and wellness for life and life-long physical activities through a variety of fitness activities, recreational activities, and individual and team sports. Students will be introduced to the rules, skills, and strategies of a variety of team sports. Students will also participate in fitness testing and activities, weight training, and conditioning. This course seeks to enhance lifetime wellness by improving physical competence, health-related fitness, self-responsibility and enjoyment of physical activity so students can be physically active for a lifetime.

911. Physical Education (11-12) | Semester | Grades 11-12

This course is designed to give students the opportunity to learn basic weight training concepts and techniques used for obtaining optimal physical fitness. Students will benefit from beginning weight training and cardiorespiratory endurance activities. Students learn the fundamentals of weight training, strength training, aerobic training, and overall fitness training and conditioning. Students will be empowered to make wise choices, meet challenges, and develop positive behaviors in fitness, wellness, and movement activity for a lifetime. Students will also participate in fitness testing and activities, weight training, and conditioning.

914/915. Swim PE | Semester | Grades 10-12

Beginning: This course includes instruction in aquatic skills in the following: rhythmic breathing, floating, kicking, front and back crawl, jumping and diving, in addition to basic water safety.

Intermediate: This course includes instruction in the following four competitive strokes: freestyle, backstroke, breaststroke, butterfly and two non-competitive strokes – elementary backstroke, side stroke. Additionally, starts, turns, treading and basic water safety skills will be taught. Knowledge of basic water polo rules, skills, and game philosophy.

953. Weight Training | Semester | Grades 10-12

This course is designed to give students the opportunity to learn basic weight training concepts and techniques used for obtaining optimal physical fitness. Students will benefit from weight training and cardiorespiratory endurance activities. Students learn the fundamentals of weight training, strength training, aerobic training, and overall fitness training and conditioning. Students will be empowered to make wise choices, meet challenges, and develop positive behaviors in fitness, wellness, and movement activity for a lifetime. *Prerequisite: Student must be a Varsity or Junior Varsity athlete.*

961. Introduction to Dance | Semester | Grades 10-12

Introduction to Dance is a course in which students will learn the beginning skills and fundamental basics of dance in a variety of styles including jazz, ballroom, Hip Hop, and modern. Students will improve flexibility, coordination, range of motion, musicality, and poise. Students will also develop greater self-confidence, self-expression, and body awareness. Students will learn how and be required to compose and choreograph dances. Presentations in class will be held as a part of the course. Participation is required.

962. Mind, Body Wellness | Semester | Grades 11-12

Mind and Body Wellness is a course designed to focus on building strength, flexibility and balance through the practice of daily yoga postures and mindfulness exercises. Through discussions, meditation exercises, and consistent exercise, students will gain a better understanding in how stress impacts their daily lives and will learn coping skills for stress management.

Alternative Ways to Gain Course Credit:**952. Team Participation**

A student may earn five P.E. units for participation on an interscholastic team (including stats personnel and managers) or cheerleading for one full season. The credit is approved through the Principal's office.